

OGSTON MONTHLY SIGHTINGS REPORT - MARCH 2015

The Saturday Morning Bird Walk on the 4th April was led by Peter Faulkner and attracted a dozen brave souls who walked to Clattercoates Farm, White Carr Lane and Brackenfield. A commendable total of 55 species were seen by the group as a whole.

Highlights of the month:

A lone Black Tailed Godwit appeared on the 28th & 29th, Buzzards were plentiful with a high of 10 on the 21st, 12 Common Gulls were seen on the 2nd with an odd one on two later occasions, a Common Scoter made a brief appearance on the 1st & 7th, Common Sandpipers were around on 6 days with a high of 5 on the 16th, a solitary Common Tern on the 21st & 22nd, a solitary Crossbill on the 21st, up to 4 Curlews were seen on 8 days throughout the month, up to 5 Dunlin were seen on most days towards the end of the month, 2 Egyptian Geese appeared on the 9th with one on the 20th, around 100 Golden Plovers made a brief visit on the 2nd, 37 late Fieldfares were seen on the 8th, a single Goldcrest on the 2nd, 6th & 12th, a Goshawk was reported on the 18th, a Green Woodpecker was reported on the 13th, a "Greenland" Wheatear (verified by two people) was seen on the 19th & 24th, a Jay was seen on 4 occasions, a Linnet on 3 days, a Little Egret was seen on the 4th. The Little Owl continued to be seen near Brackenfield Church, Little Ringed Plovers were seen on most day with a high of 5, large numbers of Meadow Pipits were seen early in the month, an Osprey flew high over on the 18th, a Peregrine was spotted on the 1st & 14th, 3 Red Breasted Mergansers made a surprise visit on the 28th, a Redshank appeared briefly on the 3rd & 5th, up to 3 Ringed Plovers appeared on several days, and we had a Skylark on the 6th & 8th. A Treecreeper crept in on the 8th, a Whooper Swan flew over on the 17th and a Whimbrel was seen on the 23rd & 26th. The Willow Tit made a welcome return on the 23rd & 26th, a common Wheatear was around on most days towards the end of the month. Pied Wagtails were around on most days with up to 4 Yellow Wagtails in the second half of the month and a White Wagtail on the 28th. It was good to see the Warblers returning, with Chiffchaff most days with a high of 12 on the 10th, Garden Warbler on the 27th, Reed Warbler from the 25th, Whitethroat from the 16th with a high of 5 on the 22nd and Willow Warbler most days from the 9th, with a high of 9 on the 22nd.

A total of 102 species were recorded in April 2015, as follows:-

Black Headed Gull; Black Tailed Godwit; Blackbird; Blackcap; Blue Tit; Bullfinch; Buzzard; Canada Geese; Carrion Crow; Chaffinch; Chiffchaff; Coal Tit; Common Gull; Common Sandpiper; Common Scoter; Common Tern; Coot; Cormorant; Crossbill; Curlew; Dunlin; Dunnock; Egyptian Goose; Fieldfare; Gadwall; Garden Warbler; Goldcrest; Goldeneye; Goldfinch; Goosander; Goshawk; Great Black Backed Gull; Great Crested Grebe; Great Spotted Woodpecker; Great Tit; "Greenland" Wheatear; Greenfinch; Grey Heron; Grey Wagtail; Greylag Geese; Herring Gull; House Martin; Jackdaw; Jay; Kestrel; Kingfisher; Lapwing; Lesser Black Backed Gull; Linnet; Little Egret; Little Grebe; Little Owl; Little Ringed Plover; Long Tailed Tit; Magpie; Mallard; Mandarin; Meadow Pipit; Merlin; Mistle Thrush; Moorhen; Mute Swan; Nuthatch; Oystercatcher; Peregrine; Pheasant; Pied Wagtail; Pintail; Pochard; Raven; Red Breasted Merganser; Redshank; Reed Buntings; Reed Warbler; Ringed Plover; Robin; Rooks; Sand Martin; Sedge Warbler; Shovelers; Skylark; Snipe; Song Thrush; Sparrowhawk; Swallow; Swift; Tawny Owl; Teal; Tree Sparrow; Treecreeper; Tufted Ducks; Wheatear; Whimbrel; Whitethroat; White Wagtail; Whooper Swan; Willow Tit; Willow Warbler; Woodpigeon; Wren; Yellow Wagtail; Yellowhammer.

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A total of 108 species have been recorded in 2015 so far.