

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT JANUARY 2010.

Highlights for January were unusually high numbers of Lapwings and Black-headed Gulls, and the first record of Goldeneye for 4 years.

Site maximums this month include 1 Little Grebe seen on several dates, 2 Grey Herons on 25th and 26th, 4 Cormorants on 29th, 2 juvenile Mute Swans seen most days, 129 Canada Geese on 21st, 37 Greylags also on 21st, c60 Wigeon on 29th and 30th, 3 Gadwall on 19th, 42 Teal also on 19th, 22 Mallard on 21st, 4 Shoveler on 26th, 5 Pochard on 19th, 12 Tufted Duck on 28th, 2 female Goldeneye turned up on 19th, one remained on 21st, this is the first record of Goldeneye since November 2006, 22 Goosander on 18th.

Raptors include a Buzzard seen on many dates, a male Sparrowhawk on 2nd, a female on 26th, 3 Kestrels were seen on 20th.

Lapwing totalled 383 on 5th which is high for Wyver Lane and maybe as a result of the freezing weather, the other Wader noted was Snipe with 6 on 2nd.

Black-headed Gulls peaked at 563 on 26th which again is rather high for this site. 4 Common Gulls on 5th and 17 Lesser Black backed Gulls flew over on 25th.

Other counts include 6 Stock Doves on 12th, 10 Blackbirds on 5th, 2 Song Thrush on 5th, 2 Mistle Thrush on 19th, also a single bird singing on 26th, c15 Redwings on 27th, 3 Fieldfare also on 27th, c12 Long-tailed Tit on 15th, both Green Woodpecker and Great Spotted Woodpecker seen on several dates, Meadow Pipit on 5th, Grey Wagtail on 5th, 10 Goldfinch on 12th, a site rare Greenfinch on 19th, a good record of 9 Lesser Redpoll on 26th, and 3 Reed Buntings on 26th.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT FEBRUARY 2010.

Highlights for February include Goldeneye, Egyptian Goose, Pink-footed Goose, Shelduck and Oystercatcher.

Site maximums this month include 3 Cormorants on 3rd, 5 Grey Heron on 16th, 5 Mute Swans on 18th, 3 Pink-footed Geese with c140 Canada Geese on 17th, 60 Greylag Geese on 18th, 4 Egyptian Geese on 7th, 4 Shelduck on 18th, 72 Wigeon on 18th, 2 Gadwall on 19th, 22 Teal on 16th, 18 Mallard on 1st, 4

Shoveler seen on many dates, 5 Pochard on 6th, 10 Tufted Duck on 28th, 2 female Goldeneye seen on several dates and probably the same two from last month. If not on the Wyver pools they're often seen on the River Derwent nearby. 13 Goosander on 6th and 17th.

Buzzards were seen on almost a daily basis and 3 were seen on 23rd, 2 Kestrels also on 23rd and single Sparrowhawks seen on several dates.

A returning Oystercatcher was seen on 15th and that or another bird seen on 19th, 63 Lapwings were present on 16th and c150 flew over the reserve on 5th. A maximum of 8 Snipe were counted on 25th.

Last month's high of 563 Black-headed Gulls was surpassed this month with c750 on 16th, also on 16th was 10 Common Gulls.

13 Stock Doves were seen on 9th, a single Little Owl on 6th, both Green and Great Spotted Woodpeckers were seen regularly with drumming noted in the latter. A Skylark flew over west on 16th, Grey Wagtail seen on several dates, 5 Blackbirds on 3rd, c150 mixed Fieldfare and Redwing on 8th, 3 Song Thrush on 3rd, 3 Mistle Thrush on 18th, 5 Long-tailed Tit on 23rd, 2 Jays on 23rd, 24 Carrion Crow on 21st, 2 Raven over on 19th, 12 Goldfinch on 23rd, 5 Siskin on 3rd, a Linnet over on 23rd and 2 male Reed Buntings in song on 23rd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2010.

The main highlights for March are the return of summer migrants.

Maximum counts for March include 1 Little Grebe seen on several dates, 6 Cormorants on 28th, 7 Grey Heron on 21st and 22nd and 8 on 25th with several nests now occupied in nearby woods, 3 immature and 1 adult Mute Swan on several dates, 62 Greylag Geese on 13th, c70 Canada Geese on 12th, 64 Wigeon on 4th, a drake Gadwall on 31st, 19 Teal on 9th, 4 Shoveler on 4th, 3 Pochard on 1st, 10 Tufted Ducks on 2nd, female Goldeneye on 19th and 10 Goosander on 12th.

A pair of Sparrowhawks were seen on 21st, also on 21st and several other dates were a pair of Kestrel, and a maximum of 8 Buzzards also on 21st.

A single Oystercatcher seen on 28th and 31st, 19 Lapwing on 4th, also 23 flew east on the same date, 14 Snipe on 2nd, the first Curlew of the year was a single bird flying north on 13th and 1 on 24th.

Gulls this month include c200 Black-headed Gulls on 2nd, and a Common Gull flew north on 13th.

Other birds of note include 5 Stock Doves on 22nd, both Green Woodpecker and Great Spotted Woodpecker seen regularly, the first Sand Martins of the year was 3 birds on 22nd, and 8 on 24th, the first Swallows seen were 3 birds on 24th which equals the earliest record of Swallow for Wyver Lane, on the 29th c15 were seen including 9 together, an early House Martin on 31st. A single Meadow Pipit flew north on 29th. 90 Fieldfare on 24th and c 120 mixed flock of Redwing and Fieldfare on 26th, a singing Blackcap on the lane on 29th and 31st, a Chiff Chaff on 22nd, 24th, 28th and 29th. 5 Long-tailed Tits on 16th, a Willow Tit on 2nd, 2 Treecreeper on 17th, 5 Jay on 28th, 2 Ravens north on 15th and a single on 17th, c50 Starlings south on 24th, a good record of a Crossbill in pines at the bottom of the lane on 21st, and 5 Reed Buntings on 2nd and 16th.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT APRIL 2010.

Highlights include Marsh Harrier, Hobby, Yellow Wagtail, White Wagtail and Grasshopper Warbler.

Counts this month include 26 Wigeon on 1st, 8 on 8th and the last record was of a single bird on 9th. A pair of Gadwall seen for most of the month and were still present until at least 28th. 16 Teal on 20th and a female on 29th. A pair of Shoveler seen up until 11th. Female Pochard until 6th. A Little Grebe on several dates at the start of the month. A pair of Mandarin on 23rd. 7 Tufted Duck on 29th. 4 Goosander on 6th.

67 Canada Geese on 8th. 30+ Greylag Geese on 28th. 2 Pink-footed Geese on 2nd. 5 Grey Heron on 11th and 21st. Up to 4 Mute Swans have been seen on various dates, 2 adults and 2 immatures. 3 Cormorants on 8th. The first brood of Mallard was noted on 26th, and a second brood on 28th. 10 Coots on 12th.

A female Marsh Harrier was seen by one lucky observer on the morning of the 16th drifting over the reserve. An early Hobby flew through and down the valley on 20th, and another bird seen the next day. 5 Buzzard on 6th. A pair of Kestrel seen on several dates. A pair of Sparrowhawks on 27th with single bird sightings on other dates.

Waders include a pair of Oystercatchers seen all month. A Common Sandpiper seen on several dates from 20th. 7 Lapwing on 29th and a single Snipe on 27th.

The first Swift sighting was of 1 bird on 29th. 50+ Swallow on 20th. Also on 20th was 30+ Sand Martin and 10+ House Martin. A Yellow Wagtail was seen around the upper pool area on 20th. A White Wagtail in the same area on 15th. 2 Grey Wagtails on 11th and 15th. 3 Pied Wagtails on 5th and 20th. A Meadow Pipit was seen/heard on 1st, 7th, 20th and 21st. The first Sedge Warbler was seen on 27th, a week later than last year. A Grasshopper Warbler was heard briefly 'reeling' on the morning of 25th. 3 Whitethroat on 27th and 29th. 5 Chiff Chaff on 3rd. A Willow Warbler on 5th. 2 Blackcap on 6th and 21st. A Garden Warbler on 22nd. 2 Willow Tits were seen on 5th which is a rare bird for Wyver Lane. 5 Stock Doves on 29th. 5 Reed Buntings on 21st. 12 Goldfinch on 2nd. 6 Black-headed Gull on 3rd. 2 Coal Tits on 6th. A Treecreeper on 7th. 6 Song Thrush in song on 26th. 2 Mistle Thrush on 15th. 3 Linnets on 20th and 7 on 15th and 4 Jays on 23rd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2010.

Highlights for May include Spotted Flycatcher, Hobby, Peregrine, and Grey Herons and Grey Wagtails successfully breed.

Wildfowl counts include 23 Mallard on 23rd and maximum of 4 broods, pair of Shoveler on 17th and 23rd. 8 Tufted Duck on 25th and 31st. A female Teal seen on and off throughout the month. 4 Goosander on 15th. 12 Grey Herons on 25th including 3 juveniles. The pair of Canada Geese which nested on the island finally produced 6 young on the 4th. A further 21 young were seen by 27th. 16 Greylag Geese on 18th and a maximum of 16 young seen on 23rd. A single Cormorant on 31st.

2 Hobbies were heading north on the morning of the 11th. Also a pair of Sparrowhawks on 11th. 5 Buzzards seen on 4th and 27th. An immature Peregrine flew east on 23rd and a pair of Kestrel on 4th.

3 Oystercatchers were seen on 9th, a pair appeared to be nesting on the island but towards the end of the month they had abandoned and left, although a single bird was seen on 25th. 7 Lapwings on the 20th.
A single Curlew on the evening of the 17th.

50+ Swift were seen on 2nd, 4th and 25th. c30 Swallow on 9th, 11th and 27th, 20+ Housemartin on 25th and 10 Sandmartin on 9th. A family of Grey Wagtails were seen on 27th including 2 adults and 2 juveniles. 2 Pied Wagtails on 4th. A site rare Spotted Flycatcher was seen feeding from the riverside trees on 27th. Warblers this month include 3 Sedge Warblers on several dates, 4 Whitethroats on 11th. A Lesser Whitethroat was heard singing on 25th. A Willow Warbler on 20th. 3 Black Headed Gulls on 6th, 4 Stock Doves on 27th, 6 Long-tailed Tits on 11th, 5 Reed Buntings on 20th, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers on 23rd, 2 Pheasants also on 23rd and a juvenile Robin on 31st.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT JUNE 2010.

Highlights for June include Hobby, Green Sandpiper and Cuckoo.

The first Coot broods of the year was two on 8th, a pair with 3 young on the Tern raft, and a pair with 2 young on the upper pool. Moorhens showed 7 young on 21st with another pair showing 4 young on 28th. 2 new broods of Mallard this month including 9 on 8th, and 11 on 23rd.

A site record of 13 Grey Herons including 6 juveniles was recorded on 22nd. Another site record was 6 Gadwall on 15th. 48 Mallard on 22nd, 2 female Teal on 22nd and 28th, 7 drake Tufted Duck on 1st, 40 Greylag Geese on 8th, c50 Canada Geese on 10th, 2 Cormorants on 1st.

Hobby was seen on 1st and 23rd, 5 Buzzard on 15th, female Sparrowhawk on 22nd and 23rd, and a single Kestrel seen on several dates.

A Green Sandpiper was on the upper pool on 23rd and c100 Lapwing were on site on 21st. An Oystercatcher on 4th, 8th and 10th.

A Cuckoo was seen flying south over the reserve on 16th. c30 Swallows on 1st. c25 Swift on 25th, 4 Black-headed Gulls on 25th, 2 Grey Wagtails on 28th, also a juvenile on 25th. 2 Pied Wagtails on 28th, 5 Stock Doves on 23rd, 5 Linnet on 23rd. A Lesser Whitethroat in song on 25th, 2 Blackcaps on 22nd and 25th, 2 Chiff Chaffs also on 22nd and 25th. 7 Whitethroat on 22nd including a pair with 3 young. 6 Sedge Warblers on 28th including at least 1 young. Reed Bunting and Dunnock both feeding young on 21st. And finally 2 Mistle Thrush on 1st.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT JULY 2010.

Highlights for July include Water Rail, Little Ringed Plover, Black-tailed Godwit, Common Terns, Grasshopper Warbler and Reed Warbler.

What is normally regarded as a quiet month has in fact been quite productive with a few firsts for the year with the odd surprise thrown in for good measure.

Wildfowl this month include 91 Mallard on 31st, 5 Teal on 12th, 13th and 15th. A Shoveler seen on several dates from the 3rd, female Gadwall on 3rd, 12th, 28th and 30th. Female Mandarin on 12th and 16th, 3 Tufted Duck on 14th. Also 2 Mute Swans on several dates, 2 Cormorants throughout the month. 3 Grey Heron on 12th and 30th. 102 Canada Geese on 30th and 78 Greylag Geese also on 30th. A Water Rail was seen on the evening of the 12th. 11 Pheasants on 20th including 2 males and a female with 8 well grown young.

Raptors include a Sparrowhawk on 7th, 10th and 31st. 3 Buzzard on 13th and 28th. 4 Kestrel in the air together on 28th. Hobby on 1st, 8th, 21st and 31st. A Peregrine on 21st, 28th and 31st.

Waders include a Little Ringed Plover on 1st, this bird was also seen on the last day of June but was mistakenly left off the notes. c250 Lapwing on 21st. A Black-tailed Godwit on 12th and 3 Common Sandpipers on 15th.

A maximum of 41 Black-headed Gulls on 19th including 3 juveniles. 3 adult Common Gulls made a brief appearance on the afternoon of the 26th. A single Lesser Black-backed Gull on 11th. An adult Common Tern on 3rd and an adult and 2 juvenile Common Terns on 10th, 12th, 19th, 22nd, 24th and 26th. Then 2 adults and 2 juveniles on 20th. An adult and the 2 juveniles still remained at the end of the month.

16 Stock Doves including 9 juveniles were feeding in the field next to the hide on 31st. A Little Owl was heard calling on 12th. 30+ Swift on 10th. A Kingfisher on 12th, 20th and 31st. 4 Green Woodpeckers on 10th and a juvenile on 21st. A juvenile Great Spotted Woodpecker on 22nd. 40+ Housemartins on 21st and c100 Swallow on 10th. 3 Grey Wagtails on 7th and 12th. 3 Pied Wagtails on 12th. 25+ Mistle Thrush on 16th and 20th. A Grasshopper Warbler was heard reeling on 10th increasing to 3 birds on 24th. Juvenile Sedge Warbler on 3rd. A Reed Warbler seen and heard from 10th. 8 Whitethroat on 22nd. Garden Warbler feeding young on 17th. 2 Blackcaps on 7th. 5+ Chiff Chaff on 7th. A Willow Warbler on 20th. 5 Jays on 30th. A Linnet over on 8th and 3 on 20th. 3 Bullfinch flew over on 31st.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT AUGUST 2010.

Highlights include Garganey, Grasshopper Warbler, Water Rail, Hobby and Tree Pipit.

The first Garganey since July 2006 was seen briefly on the morning of the 1st. The bird swam out of view on the right hand side of the main pool and was not seen again. 2 Teal on 1st then numbers had increased to c60 on 26th. 4 Shoveler on 16th, 18th and 23rd. A female Mandarin on 9th and then 3 on 23rd. 5 Grey Heron on 22nd. 38 Greylag Geese on 1st. 3 adult Mute Swans also on 1st and 2 Cormorants on 26th. A Water Rail has been seen on several dates and 2 including an adult and a juvenile were seen on 28th. 5 Pheasants including a female and 4 young on 16th.

4 Buzzards were seen on 16th and 23rd. 3 Kestrel on 1st, a Peregrine on 6th and 23rd. Hobby on 4th, 13th and 16th. Sparrowhawk on 3rd, 10th, 16th, 19th and 28th.

Waders include 250+ Lapwing on 23rd, a Snipe on 3rd, 2 on 10th and 11th and then 3 on 26th. 2 Common Sandpipers on 4th.

19 Black-headed Gulls were seen on 16th and a juvenile Common Gull on 9th. A juvenile Common Tern on 1st. A Tree Pipit was in the large oak tree at the northern end of the reserve on 18th. Kingfisher which has been hard to come by throughout the year finally started to show well with many sightings during the month. 6 Stock Doves on 9th. 4 Jay on 6th. Grasshopper Warbler on 1st and 3rd, Whitethroat on 1st and 18th and a Chiff Chaff on 23rd. 6 Swift on 19th, c20 Housemartins on 11th and c300 Swallows on 23rd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2010.

Maximum counts for Wildfowl for September include 9 Cormorants on 12th, 8 Grey Heron on 1st, 105 Greylag Geese on 30th, c40 Canada Geese on 25th, female Mandarin on 22nd, 11 Wigeon on 3rd, 7 Gadwall on 7th, 100+ Teal on 8th, 350+ Mallard on 22nd, 9 Shoveler on 26th, a Pochard on 3rd, 10 Tufted Duck on 22nd, 4 drake Goosander on 13th and 8 female types on 30th.

2 Water Rails were seen on 2nd, 150+ Black-headed Gulls on 1st. 25 Coots were counted on 16th.

4 Buzzards were in the air on 30th, 2 Sparrowhawks also on 30th. 300+ Lapwings on 1st and 18 Snipe on 22nd and 30th.

On the 22nd there were c200 Swallows and c150 House Martins moving south. 2 Sand Martins on 7th. A Sedge Warbler was seen on 5th, 3 Chiff Chaff, 2 Blackcap and a Whitethroat all on 7th. c30 Goldfinch on 7th. 5 Pheasant on 15th, and 2 Green Woodpeckers on 22nd.

On the morning of the 30th the reserve was blanketed in fog with very little movement noted. As soon as the fog lifted, at least 60 Meadow Pipits were noted moving south or east. Also 2 Skylarks flew over heading east. Many more flocks of small Passerines were seen moving down the valley but apart from several Linnets that were heard the majority of the rest were not calling.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 2010.

Highlights include Yellowhammer and Autumn migration

Wildfowl counts for the month include Little Grebe on 5th and 15th. 9 Cormorants on 25th, 4 Grey Heron on 12th and 16th. 2 Mute Swans on 28th. 2 probable Whooper Swans over south west on 12th. A single Pink-footed Goose with Greylags on 16th. Greylag Geese have been seen in good numbers this month with 142 on 7th. This figure was surpassed on 12th when 163 noisily flew in and on to the main pool. 74 Canada Geese on 19th. Wigeon have been in short supply and the best count was just 7 on 16th and 19th. Teal fared better with 53 on 21st. 40 Mallard on 5th. 9 Shoveler also on 5th. 11 redhead Goosanders on 7th.

A probable male Goshawk flew south over the reserve on 10th. 4 Buzzard on 7th and 10th. One was seen with Moorhen prey on 19th.

5 Pheasants on 12th. A Water Rail on 7th and 28th. 7 Moorhen on 25th. 14 Snipe on 16th and 22 on 24th. Gulls this month include 192 Black-headed Gulls on 7th, 8 Lesser black Backed Gulls on 10th and 12 on 15th.

The viewing mound has proved to be a good addition to the reserve as it makes a good vantage point to watch and listen for Autumn migration. Counts from the 7th include 70+ Meadow Pipit, 4 Skylark, 22 Redwing, 21 Pied Wagtail, 45 Swallow, 1 Housemartin, 20+ Chaffinch, 9 Greenfinch and 5 Linnet. 100's more birds were flying through on this date without calling. Other counts include 29 Meadow Pipit, 10 Skylark, 9 Linnet and 9 Siskin all on 19th. Also 35 Fieldfare, 30 Redwing, 11 Skylark and 5 Pied Wagtails on 28th and 8 Skylark on 25th.

The last Hirundine of the year was 2 Swallows on 12th. Kingfishers have been seen regularly and 2 were seen on 16th. Other birds of note this month include a Chiff Chaff on 12th, Little Owl seen on several dates and 2 were heard calling to each other on 28th. A Tawny Owl was sitting on the Wyver Lane Reserve sign on 7th. 2 Green Woodpeckers on 5th and 15th. 32 Redwing on 12th. 4 Jays on 7th and 19th. 10 Stock Doves on 15th. 27 Long-tailed Tits on 15th. 4 Raven on 15th and a site rare male Yellowhammer flew south on 10th.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT NOVEMBER 2010.

The Only real highlights for November was a Pintail which was on the upper pool on 11th, and a female Goldeneye which made a brief appearance on 2nd. Other Wildfowl counts include a Little Grebe seen on several dates. 6 Cormorants on 18th, 2 Grey Herons on 9th, 3 Mute Swans on 9th, c200 Pink-footed Geese flew West at 09.50 hrs on 18th. 18 Greylag Geese on 15th, 110 Canada Geese on 13th. 12 Wigeon on 13th and 23rd, 57 Teal on 11th, 42 Mallards on 9th, 6 Shoveler on 23rd, 2 Tufted Ducks on 22nd, 16 Goosander on 15th and 11 Moorhen on 16th.

Raptors this month include regular Sparrowhawk and Kestrel sightings and a maximum of 3 Buzzards on 2nd. Waders include 56 Lapwing on 29th and 8 Snipe on 2nd. c300 Black-headed Gulls on 18th and 22nd, a Common Gull on 11th and 2 Lesser-black Backed Gulls on 9th.

4 Stock Doves on 22nd, c250 Wood Pigeons on 18th, 2 Little Owls were calling on 16th, Green Woodpecker seen or heard on several dates, 2 Skylark over on 9th, 3 over on 11th and 2 more on 16th. Grey Wagtail on 2nd, 3 Pied Wagtails also on 2nd. 130 Fieldfare on 18th, 56 Redwing also on 18th, 3 Mistle Thrush on 16th. 2 Goldcrests on 5th, 22 Long-tailed Tits on 11th, a Treecreeper on 9th. Raven over on 16th, c200 Starling on 9th, 2 Greenfinches on 16th, c20 Goldfinch on 9th, 19 Siskin on 16th, 2 Linnets on 13th, 3 Lesser Redpoll on 18th and 4 Reed Buntings on 23rd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE MONTHLY REPORT DECEMBER 2010.

December produced fewer records than normal due to the severe weather that was affecting much of the country. For much of the month both pools were frozen and at times even access down the lane itself was near impossible due to snow. The one stand out highlight of the month was also a first for Wyver Lane. On the afternoon of the 15th, 17 Waxwings landed briefly in the large ash tree north east of the main pool.

Maximum counts for the month include 4 Cormorants on 30th. Grey Heron on 14th and 15th, 2 MuteSwans on 17th, 5 Greylag Geese on 2nd, 26 Canada Geese on 2nd, 16 Teal on 14th, 8 Mallard on 14th, 3 Shoveler on 17th, 4 Pochard (on river) on 2nd and 4 Tufted Duck (on river) on 2nd. On the 9th, 9 Goosander were seen flying down river and the following day 15 were on the river.

No records of Kestrel all month but a Sparrowhawk was seen on 11th and 17th and 2 were in the air together on 14th. Only a handful of single Buzzard sightings were noted.

56 Lapwings were recorded on 2nd and a single Snipe on the same date. c 300 Black-Headed Gulls on 15th, 5 Common Gulls on 14th, 9 Stock Doves on 14th, 2 Collared Doves on 11th, a Little Owl on 15th, 8 Blackbird on 14th, 26 Fieldfare on 15th, c20 Redwing on 11th, Goldcrest on 14th, 3 Long-Tailed Tits on 15th, Treecreeper on 14th and 5 Siskin on 15th.