

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES JANUARY 2011

It was nice to get back to some sort of normality this month after the severe weather we all experienced in December. The ice slowly receded paving the way for the return of some birds that were missing or in short supply last month.

Maximum counts this month include a Little Grebe on 11th and 18th. 7 Cormorants on 2nd. 3 Grey Heron on 17th and 25th. 2 Mute Swans on 10th. Three skeins of Pink-Footed Geese totalling between 500-600 flew over West on 25th. 26 Greylag Geese on 11th, 115 Canada Geese on 13th. 18 Wigeon on 16th. This is the best count of the winter which is surprising considering most winters Wigeon numbers total more than 100. A drake Gadwall on 14th. c40 Teal on 13th, 3 Shoveler on 18th, 10 Pochard on 18th which is a high number for Wyver. 11 Tufted Duck on 11th, 2 female Goldeneye on 9th. 10 Goosander on 10th and 25th. 13 Coot on 14th.

There were many Buzzard sightings but the maximum was just two on 14th. Singles of Kestrel and Sparrowhawk on several dates. There were two records of Peregrine, one on 14th and another seen with prey on 11th being mobbed by a Kestrel.

c200 Black-Headed Gulls on 11th, 17th and 18th and 220 on 25th. A single Common Gull on 18th and 25th.

7 Fieldfare on 14th, 5 Redwing on 14th, 2 Reed Buntings on 11th and 14th. 3 Stock Doves on 14th, 5 Long-tailed Tits on 14th, 2 Pheasants on 14th, a Jay on 25th and a Raven on 2nd and 18th.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES FEBRUARY 2011

Highlights include Pink-Footed Goose, Mandarin, Pintail and Herring Gull.

Site maximums for February include 5 Cormorants on 1st, 6 Grey Heron on 12th, 2 Mute Swans on 21st, 25th and 28th. 3 Pink-footed Geese on 10th, c100 Greylag Geese on 7th, 149 Canada Geese on 5th, 2 Shelduck on 9th, 4 Mandarin on 7th, 8th and 21st, 43 Wigeon on 27th, drake Gadwall on 21st, 19 Teal on 25th, 85 Mallard on 7th, a pair of Pintail on 21st which is only the third record since 2007.

11 Shoveler on 2nd, 2 drake Pochard on 21st, and a female seen on several dates. 8 Tufted Duck on 5th, 21 Goosander on 5th, 21 Coots on 5th, 10th and 28th, 6 Moorhen on 25th.

2 Sparrowhawks were seen in the air on 1st and 2 Buzzards were recorded on 5th. 43 Lapwing on 7th and 3 Snipe on 5th.

630 Black-headed Gulls on 21st, 3 Common Gull on 7th, 6 Lesser-Black Backed Gulls on 21st. An adult Herring Gull which is extremely rare for Wyver was around the main pool on the afternoon of the 7th.

6 Stock Doves on 25th, 21 Long-Tailed Tits on 1st, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers on 1st, a Green Woodpecker on 1st, a Willow Tit on 8th, 2 Mistle Thrush on 1st, a Brambling on 1st, 17 Magpies on 28th, c50 Fieldfare on 28th, 17 Redwing on 10th, c20 Siskin on 15th and 7 Reed Buntings on 20th.

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES MARCH 2011

March highlights include Barnacle Goose, Pintail, Avocet, Wheatear and the return of Summer migrants.

A relatively dry month which also had its fair share of misty days with the latter no doubt contributing to the appearance of the star bird of the month.....The Avocet!

Totals this month include 5 Cormorants on 6th. At the beginning of the month there was a total of 12 Grey Herons around the Heronry including at least 5 platforms. As the month went on it was apparent that they had been disturbed and there were only 1 or 2 birds being seen with no activity around the woods. This is a little disappointing after the success of last year.

A pair of Mute Swans have been present all month, 97 Greylag Geese on 10th, 62 Canada Geese on 17th, a single Barnacle Goose from 19th. 4 female Mandarin on 2nd and then 2 pairs seen on several dates until the end of the month. Wigeon peaked at 38 on 6th and just 2 remained on 29th. 2 pair of Gadwall all month, 53 Teal on 29th, female Pintail on 29th, 5 Shoveler on 10th, 3 Pochard on 6th, 10 Tufted Duck on 17th, 13 Goosander on 6th, 20 Coot on 1st and 7 Moorhen on 1st and 6th.

A site record count of 9 Buzzards were seen on 21st, a pair of Kestrel have been seen successfully hunting from the mound. Single Sparrowhawk sightings throughout the month.

The first Oystercatcher of the year returned on 10th with 2 birds on 17th but no sign of either bird at the end of the month. Around lunchtime on the 15th and in very misty conditions around 100 Black-headed Gulls flew in. As they approached the main pool the unmistakable call of an Avocet was heard. Among the Gulls were not 1 but 5 Avocets. After a minute or two the Avocets and Gulls landed on the pool and almost immediately started feeding. News was quickly put out and up to 20 birders managed to see them.

They were present until dusk but there was no sign the following morning. This is the first record of this cracking Wader for Wyver Lane and is also one of the largest flocks ever recorded in the county. Lapwing numbers peaked at 60 on 1st and by the end of the month only a few pairs remained with several birds seen displaying. A Dunlin made a brief appearance on 17th. 4 Snipe on 28th, 3 Curlew over on 15th and a Redshank also on 15th.

c500 Black-headed Gulls on 1st, also 9 Common Gulls on 1st. 14 Stock Doves on 10th, 2 Green Woodpeckers on 17th, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers on 22nd, a Skylark over on 8th and 17th. The first Sand Martins to arrive were 6 on 15th, also 6 on 29th, the first Swallows were 4 on 26th. A Meadow Pipit over on 15th and 2 over on 22nd, The first Grey Wagtail of the year appeared on 1st and a pair seen towards the end of the month. 2 Pied Wagtails on 28th. A male Wheatear dropped down in front of the mound on 25th, c75 Fieldfare on 15th, 30 Redwing on 15th, the first Chiff Chaff of the year was heard on 15th with at least 3 singing by the months end, a Willow Tit has been coming to the feeding station in the latter part of the month, 5 Jay on 24th and 29th, 18 Magpies on 6th, c300 Jackdaw on 15th, a Raven on 8th and 24th, c100 Starling on 15th, a Greenfinch on 29th, a Siskin on 17th and up to 5 Reed Buntings seen almost daily.

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES APRIL 2011

Highlights include Barnacle Goose, Red Kite, Red-Legged Partridge, Cuckoo, Wheatear, Redstart, Yellow Wagtail and Grasshopper Warbler.

A dry month throughout but a good selection of passage birds were found. Maximum counts this month include 2 Cormorants on 3rd, 5 Grey Heron on 23rd. 2 Mute Swans all month, 32 Greylag Geese and 38 Canada Geese on 16th, a pair of Canada Geese nesting on the island successfully hatched 6 young on 26th, a Barnacle Goose on 2nd and 7th. Up to 4 Mandarin seen on several dates. 3 Wigeon on 18th, 4 Gadwall up to 3rd then a pair to the end of the month. 39 Teal on 3rd and 6 by the end of the month. Up to 4 Mallard broods were seen. 5 Shoveler on 1st, 3rd and 6th and a pair still present at the months end. 5 Tufted Duck on 16th, 6 Goosander on 15th.

A Red Kite was seen on 6th. This is only the 4th record for Wyver Lane. 4 Buzzards on 2nd and 12th. 2 Sparrowhawks on 2nd, 7th, 9th and 16th. 2 Kestrel on 9th.

A Red-Legged Partridge on 21st. 5 Pheasants on 15th. 5 Oystercatchers on 10th which is a site record. A pair were still present at the end of the month and were showing signs of possibly nesting on the island. 10 Lapwing on 23rd. 2 Snipe on 9th and 19th, and a Curlew on 12th and 15th. 13 Black-Headed Gulls on 2nd, 5 Lesser Black-Backed Gulls on 12th. 6 Stock Doves on 15th. 2 Collared Doves on 23rd, a Cuckoo was heard calling on 23rd. A Little Owl on 2nd, a Skylark over on 2nd, 30+ Sand Martins on 7th, 50 Swallows on 7th and 14th. 6 Housemartins on 12th.

4 Meadow Pipit on 2nd, a Yellow Wagtail on 10th and 19th, 3 Grey Wagtails on 1st, 2 Pied Wagtails on 5th. A Redstart was heard singing near Wyver Woods in the fields behind the hide on 14th, a second male was then seen nearby. On the 16th one male was seen with a female. A female Wheatear seen from the viewing mound on 2nd, 5 Mistle Thrush on 2nd, a Grasshopper Warbler was heard briefly reeling between the two pools on 19th. The first Sedge Warbler of the year was heard on 23rd. A Whitethroat on 14th and 3 on 28th, a Garden Warbler on 12th and 26th, 4 Blackcap on 15th, 6 Chiff Chaff on 6th, 2 Willow Warbler on 6th.

2 Willow Tits were at the feeding station on 5th, 4 Jay on 7th and 14th, 8 Magpies on 2nd, a Brambling by the hide on 15th and a pair in Wyver Woods on 16th. 5 Goldfinch on 1st, a Siskin on 2nd, 2 Linnets on 9th, a Lesser Redpoll on 9th and 5 Reed Buntings on 1st.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANES BIRD NOTES MAY 2011

Highlights include Marsh Harrier, Red Kite, Green Sandpiper Grasshopper Warbler and Cuckoo.

There were two new additions to the year this month taking the figure for the year to 107 species. This is already two more than last years 105.

May's maximum counts include 2 Cormorants on several dates. A maximum of 2 Grey Herons. 2 Mute Swans seen on and off throughout the month. 43 Greylag Geese on 27th, 58 Canada Geese on 28th. A Barnacle Goose on 9th and 10th. A Greylag Canada Goose hybrid on 10th. 2 Shelduck on 22nd, then 2 from 26th and were still there at the end of the month. A pair of Mandarin seen on several dates including a female entering an Owl box. 2 Teal on the 2nd and 3rd, pair of Shoveler all month. 4 Tufted Duck on 17th and 21st. 8 Goosander on 27th.

The 13th was an exceptional day for Raptors. Just after 10.00hrs a Marsh Harrier was seen flying in from the north and slowly drifted south over the reserve. At nearby Ambergate 2 Red Kites were seen and one of these birds were seen from Wyver. A little later in the day the first Hobby of the year was seen, as were 2 Sparrowhawks. Other Raptors were 4 Buzzards on 10th, 12th and 13th. A male Peregrine on 12th and regular Kestrel sightings.

2 Oystercatchers on many dates and 3 on 17th and 30th. 8 Lapwings on 2nd and 24th. A Green Sandpiper on 2nd and 3rd. A Common Sandpiper on 1st and 2 Curlew on 28th.

5 Black-headed Gulls on 12th, 17th and 28th. 7 Lesser-Black backed Gulls over on 12th. 4 Stock Doves on 26th, a Cuckoo on 13th, 110 Swifts on 30th, 6 Sand Martins on 7th, 30+ Swallows on 7th, c80 House Martins on 30th. 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers on 26th, 2 Grey Wagtails on 9th and 10th, the pair of Redstarts still remain near Wyver Woods on 21st, 2 Mistle Thrush on 17th and 28th. A Grasshopper Warbler on 14th, 4 Sedge Warbler on 17th and 26th, a Lesser Whitethroat on 9th 17th and 27th. 5 Whitethroat on 7th, A Garden Warbler on 17th, 3 Blackcaps on 7th, a Willow Warbler on 3rd and 17th and 6 Chiff Chaffs on 28th.

9 Long-Tailed Tits on 26th, 4 Magpies on 8th, 42 Jackdaw on 17th. 13 Rook on 7th, a Greenfinch on 17th and 28th, 4 Goldfinches on 17th, a Linnet on 26th, 2 Bullfinch on 21st and 4 Reed Buntings on

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES JUNE 2011

Highlights include Great Crested Grebe, Shelduck, Common Tern and Spotted Flycatcher.

Maximum counts for June include a single Great Crested Grebe which flew in at dusk on 17th. This is a rare bird for Wyver, although a pair was seen displaying on the river nearby recently. 2 Cormorants on 10th, 23rd and 28th. 2 Grey Herons on 9th, 12th and 16th. 73 Greylag Geese including 55 adults and 18 young on 2nd, and 50 on 13th including 25 young. 55 Canada Geese including 40 young on 23rd. The pair of Shelduck that turned up in May stayed throughout June. 3 Mandarin on 23rd and 4 on 17th. 3 Gadwall on 7th, 11th, 12th, 14th and 17th. The first returning Teal was a drake on 10th, then 5 present on 16th and 17th and 6 on 25th. 49 Mallard on 17th and up to 5 broods noted. A pair of Shoveler on several dates and the female last seen on 17th. 5 Tufted Duck on 25th. 2 Goosander on 17th. 8 Coots on 17th including 1 young, 2 to 3 broods of Moorhen by the end of the month. 4 Pheasants on 2nd and 7th.

Raptors include 4 Buzzards on 7th, 9th and 14th. 2 Kestrel on 20th. Hobby's were noted on 1st, 20th, 22nd and 23rd. Single Sparrowhawk sightings on many dates and 2 were seen on 7th.

2 Oystercatchers for most of the month and 3 on 21st and 28th. 62 Lapwing on 26th. A Curlew on 2nd, 4th, 7th and 11th. A Common Sandpiper on 25th and 29th.

4 Black-Headed Gulls on 10th. A Common Tern arrived on 23rd, 2 were present briefly on 25th and 1 was still present at the end of the month. 4 Stock Doves on 10th, 2 Kingfishers were around the upper pool on 10th, and 1 on 21st. These are the first records since October last year. 8 juvenile Swallows near the viewing mound on 9th. 35 House Martins on 25th. 2 Grey Wagtails on 14th and an adult and juvenile on 10th. 4 Pied Wagtails on 17th including 2 adults and 2 juveniles. A male Redstart near Wyver Woods on 14th. A report of 2 Reed Warblers on 25th, 5+ Whitethroat on 9th, 11th, 13th and 14th. A Garden Warbler on 13th, 14th and 16th, 3 Blackcaps on 4th and 9th. 3 Chiff Chaffs on 4th and 28th, a Goldcrest on 11th and 13th, a Spotted Flycatcher on 4th and 11th, 6 Mistle Thrush on 16th, 20 Long-Tailed Tit on 20th, a Willow Tit on 13th and 21st, 2 Treecreepers taking food to a nest on several dates. 2 Raven on 13th, 6 Goldfinch on 7th, an unseasonal Siskin flew over on 11th, 5 Reed Buntings on 25th and 2 juveniles on 23rd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES JULY 2011

Highlights include Little Egret, Crossbill and Raven.

Maximum counts for July include 3 Cormorants on 23rd, a Little Egret on 22nd and 26th and could well relate to the same individual. 4 Grey Heron on 19th and 23rd, an adult Mute Swan on 18th, 65 Greylag Geese on 23rd, 111 Canada Geese on 23rd, The pair of Shelduck that turned up at the end of May was last seen on 4th. Mandarins have been present all month with a maximum of 4 female ype on 19th, 27th and 29th. A female Gadwall on 1st and 2nd, 9 Teal on 2nd, 4th and 5th. 47 Mallard on 2nd. A female Shoveler all month and will be with us for even longer as it appears she has a broken left wing. 2 Goosander on 16th. A female Pheasant was seen with 10 young on 2nd, 8

Moorhen including 3 juveniles on 16th and 4 juveniles on 19th.

Raptors include 2 Sparrowhawks on 26th including a female that took a Lapwing that was happily feeding in the field behind the hide. 4 Buzzard on 23rd, 3 Kestrel on 5th and a Hobby on 10th.

Water Levels are at their lowest for several years and Lapwings have been taking advantage with a peak of 218 on 26th. 2 Oystercatchers on 1st and 18th. A Common Sandpiper on 7th and 13th, and a Green Sandpiper flew in on the evening of 13th.

Black-Headed Gulls increased to 50+ on 7th. 8 Lesser-Black Backed Gulls flew over on 16th. A Common Tern on several dates, 2 on 19th and 4 seen on 7th.

5 Stock Doves on 19th, 12 Swift on 1st, a Kingfisher on 18th and 19th. A Green Woodpecker on 26th. c80 House Martin on 16th. 2 Pied Wagtails on 5th and 29th. 4 Raven were seen from the hide soaring over Crich Lane Woods on 23rd. 2 Jays on 10th, 6 Starling on 2nd and 2 Reed Buntings on 23rd. Crossbills have been moving across many parts on Britain in good numbers and there were two records at Wyver. 3 flew over the viewing mound on 10th and at least 1 was heard calling flying over on 23rd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES AUGUST 2011

August highlights include Little Egret, Green Sandpiper, Common Tern and Raven.

Maximum counts for the month include 3 Cormorants on 2nd, 6th and 11th, 4 Grey Herons on 1st, 2 Mute Swans on 15th, a Little Egret on 14th, 53 Greylag Geese on 9th, 71 Canada Geese on 2nd, 2 Mandarin on 2nd and 6th, Teal numbers started with 7 on 1st and had risen to 28 by 25th, 26 Mallard on 25th, a Shoveler on 2nd, 6th and 25th, a Goosander on 1st and 11th, 9 Moorhen on 25th, and 5 Coot on 1st.

Raptors include Sparrowhawk on 2nd, 9th, 11th and 17th, 2 Buzzards on 11th and 17th, Kestrel on 9th and 17th and a Hobby on 6th.

Lapwing numbers increased to 147 on 6th, the only other Wader was a Green Sandpiper on 9th.

There were 31 Black-headed Gulls on 2nd, a Common Tern on 14th, 3 Stock Doves on 2nd, 6 Swifts on 11th and the last record was of one on 17th, Kingfisher on 2nd and 29th, c50 Swallows on 9th, 300+ House Martin on 11th, 2 Pied Wagtails on 29th, 3 Whitethroat on 11th, a Lesser Whitethroat on 9th, a Willow Warbler on 2nd, 9th and 11th, 9 Chiff Chaffs on 9th, 18 Magpie on 11th, 2 Ravens on 14th, c40 Goldfinch on 29th and a Reed Bunting on 17th.

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES SEPTEMBER 2011

Highlights include Little Ringed Plover, Ringed Plover, Greenshank, Sandwich Tern and visible migration.

Maximum counts for September include 6 Cormorants on 28th, 7 Grey Herons on 24th and 28th, 3 Mute Swans on 12th and 13th, 184 Greylag Geese on 22nd (this is a site record), 38 Canada Geese on 15th, an escape Cape Shelduck on 19th and up to the 27th, a drake Mandarin on 20th, the first Wigeon of the Autumn on 18th and singles recorded on 20th and 28th. 40 Teal on 8th, 177 Mallard on 22nd, 6 Shoveler on 16th, 2 Gadwall on 28th and 2 female Goosander on 27th.

Raptors include a report of a Marsh Harrier on 25th, 3 Sparrowhawks on 13th and 15th, 6 Buzzards on 22nd, 2 Hobbies on 17th and singles on 14th and 22nd. A Little Owl has been present in the field behind the hide for most of the month.

A Greenshank was a brief visitor on 27th, 4 Snipe on 27th, c250 Lapwings on 27th, 2 Ringed Plover on 7th, and a juvenile Little Ringed Plover on 13th.

Visible migration has been quite exceptional in the latter part of the month. Meadow Pipits were moving through in small numbers including 17 on 13th, 21 on 22nd, 53 on 24th, 20 on 28th and 24 on 29th, but, on the 27th in foggy conditions 540+ were noted in around 3 hours. Also on this date was 114 Swallows, 49 Pied Wagtails, 50+ Linnets, 3 Skylark and small numbers of Redpoll and Siskins.

Other sightings of note include c150 House Martins on 8th and 13th, 240 Swallows on 15th, the only Sand Martin was of one on 8th, 2 Sandwich Terns on 28th were only brief visitors and were later seen at Carsington Water. 110 BH Gulls on 28th, 2 Common Gulls on 27th, 12 Stock Doves on 29th, Kingfisher on 18th, 22nd and 29th, 5 Chiff Chaffs on 8th, a Whitethroat on 1st, a Grey Wagtail on 20th and 29th, 6 Skylark on 28th and 29th, 21 Long-tailed Tits on 27th, 3 Greenfinches on 24th, 2 Yellowhammers on 25th and one on 29th, 4 Jays on 28th and 29th, c40 Goldfinches on 8th, 40 Siskin on 8th, a Goldcrest on 8th, 10 Mistle Thrush on 22nd and 3 Raven also on 22nd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES OCTOBER 2011

Highlights include: Late Swallow and Hobby, Herring Gull (rare for Wyver), and visible migration.

Maximum counts for the month include a Little Grebe on several dates, 5 Cormorants on 2nd, 2 Mute Swans on 20th, c150 Greylag Geese on 2nd, 130 Canada Geese on 20th, 21 Wigeon on 16th, 115 Teal on 25th, 198 Mallard on 13th, 2 Shoveler on 14th, 7 Goosander on 11th and 20th and 12 Moorhen on 12th.

Raptors include singles of both Sparrowhawk and Kestrel seen throughout the month, 5 Buzzards on 18th and a late Hobby also on 18th. A Tawny Owl was heard on 12th and a Little Owl heard on several dates.

As usual at this time of year the only 2 species of Wader recorded are Lapwing and Snipe. Lapwing peaked at 137 on 12th, and the best count of Snipe was 8 on 16th. There were 327 Black-headed Gulls on 25th, a single Common Gull on 20th and a site rare Herring Gull on 12th.

Visible migration has again been good, and on the 13th, 101 Skylarks were recorded flying over with most heading West in a 3hr period. The biggest flock being 37. Smaller numbers were recorded throughout the month including 26 on 15th.

Other notable sightings include 7 Meadow Pipits on 1st, 10 Pied Wagtails on 7th and 11th, a Grey Wagtail on 13th and 25th, 8 Stock Doves on 1st, c20 House Martins on 11th, 6 Swallows on 11th, 2 on 18th and 2 on 20th, a Kingfisher on 15th and 16th, Green Woodpecker on 11th and 15th, 330 Wood Pigeons on 20th, 12 Mistle Thrush on 7th, 15 Long-tailed Tits on 15th, 2 Coal Tits on 20th, 3 Greenfinch on 7th, 140 Fieldfare on 13th, 21 Redwing on 13th, also a mixed flock of 300 of both Fieldfare and Redwing on 13th. 14 Siskin on 20th, 3 Bullfinch on 20th, 3 Jay on 11th, 3 Lesser Redpoll on 15th, a Linnet on 15th and a Treecreeper on 25th. A Daubenton's Bat was seen flying around the main pool on the evening of 2nd.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES NOVEMBER 2011

Highlights include Bewick's Swans, record count of Stock Dove and a very late Housemartin.

Maximum Wildfowl counts include 9 Mandarin on 29th, 19 Wigeon on 3rd, a drake Gadwall from 15th to 19th, several 100+ counts of Teal with the best being 175 on 17th, 52 Mallard on 3rd, 8 Shoveler on 27th and 29th, a Pochard on 4th, 4 Tufted Duck on 9th and 12 Goosander on 27th. 64 Canada Geese on 27th, 33 Greylag Geese also on 27th, 3 Cormorants on 4th and 15th, 6 Moorhen on 22nd, 2 adult Mute Swans on 14th and an adult and immature for most of the month.

On the 14th, 2 Bewick's Swans dropped in onto the main pool. These stayed for the remainder of the day and over night but were flushed by a JCB early the next morning. This is the first record of Bewick's at Wyver since October 1990.

Raptors this month include 2 Sparrowhawks on 12th and a female with prey on 10th, 3 Buzzard on 27th, 2 Kestrel on 22nd and a Peregrine on 13th.

There were 117 Lapwings on 4th, 11 Snipe on 19th and 29th, and Golden Plover were heard in thick fog on 22nd.

On the 17th, 2 observers were lucky enough to see Wyver Lane's latest ever Housemartin. It was seen from the viewing mound feeding around the large Ash Tree. It didn't quite beat the latest ever for Derbyshire though. That was at Drakelow on Nov 23rd 1997.

Gulls this month include a massive 750 Black-headed Gulls on 4th and 10 Lesser Black-backed Gulls on 1st.

Other counts include 6 Pheasant on 24th, a report of a Stonechat on 11th and 25th, a site record 86 Stock Dove on 4th, also c50 on 10th, 33 Skylark over on 12th, also 21 over on 17th, 19 on 10th and 15 on 19th, a Little Owl on 1st, a Kingfisher on 22nd and 24th, 4 Pied Wagtails on 3rd, a Grey Wagtail on 3rd and 19th, c200 Starling on 3rd, c60 Goldfinch on 17th, 950 Wood Pigeon over on 12th, c100 Fieldfare on 17th, 2 Yellowhammers on 12th, 19th and 24th, 2 Jays on 17th and 22nd, 14 Magpies on 3rd, c1000 Jackdaw on 3rd, 2 Raven on 13th, 22nd and 29th, a Goldcrest on 1st, 14 Siskin on 13th, 5 Lesser Redpoll on 24th and 2 Reed Buntings on 17th.

Dave Newcombe

WYVER LANE BIRD NOTES DECEMBER 2011

Highlights include Goldeneye, large numbers of Mandarin and Little Owl.

Counts for December include a maximum of just 2 Cormorants on 6th and 20th, 8 Moorhen on 6th, a Grey Heron on 3rd, 3 immature Mute Swans on 12th and 15th and 3 adults on 20th, 60 Greylag

Geese on 12th, 166 Canada Geese on 20th. Mandarin were noted going over at dusk in good numbers. The month started with just 5 birds on 1st but then 40+ were observed on 20th and then 44 on 26th including a flock of 23. Other Wildfowl counts include 13 Wigeon on 15th, 117 Teal on 3rd, 15 Mallard on 26th, 8 Shoveler all month, 7 Tufted Duck on 30th, a site rare female Goldeneye on 30th and 31st, the first record for 12 months, and 10 Goosander noted in the roost on several dates.

A maximum of just 2 Buzzards on 3rd, 15th and 30th. A female Peregrine was a very brief visitor on 6th, 2 Sparrowhawks on 3rd. A Little Owl on 1st and 15th. No records of Kestrel all month.

There were 5 Snipe on 1st and 34 Lapwings flew over the reserve on 6th.

Other counts include 460 Black-headed Gulls on 9th, 5 Common Gulls on 31st and 5 Great-black Backed Gulls over on 12th. A Kingfisher on 1st and 3rd, 11 Stock Doves on 27th, 16 Starling on 15th, 3 Skylark over on 1st, 135 Fieldfare on 15th, 120 Redwing on 9th, 60 Goldfinch on 11th and 20th, 3 Greenfinch on 1st, 10 Siskin on 12th, 10 Lesser Redpoll also on 12th, 5 Blackbirds on 12th, Mistle Thrush on 12th, a Linnet on 9th, a Yellowhammer on 1st, 2 Reed Buntings on 9th and 2 Raven on 30th.

Dave Newcombe

