



Your Committee 2014/15

Chairman	Keith Turton 07552 944121	Committee member	Martin Kaye
Vice Chairman	John Parlby 01773 861262	Committee member	Frank Wharram
General Secretary	Pete Birley 01332 753078	Committee member	Jeff Davies
Membership Secretary	Pete Birley 01332 753078	Committee member	Jenny Marshall
Treasurer	Keith Turton 07552 944121	Committee member	David Marshall
Publicity Officer	Steve Slack 07599 845298		

Since the last Newsletter we have recruited yet more new members.

CLIFFORD MOSLEY of LANGLEY MILL, NOTTS; JEFF ALLSEBROOK of SHEFFIELD; Mr Bryan & Mrs LINDA DOWNES of CHILWELL, NOTTS; Mrs WILDE of MATLOCK DERBYSHIRE; Mr DAVID & Mrs PAMELA SMITH of CHESTERFIELD DERBYSHIRE; Mrs REBECCA GAUHL of LOUGHBOROUGH; Mrs CHRISTINE & Mr MIKE EDWARDS of ALFRETON DERBYSHIRE; Mr DAVID & Mrs LYNDA SLACK of RIPLEY DERBYSHIRE; Ms KERRIE HOLLAND of DRONFIELD DERBYSHIRE; Ms STEPHANIE HILL of SHEFFIELD

Welcome to one and all!

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU CARRY YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS AT ALL TIMES WHEN ON SITE.

Members should never reveal the lock number to non members. Please remember that non-members on site are not covered by Public Indemnity insurance.

AGM – Thursday May 14th 2015 – North Wingfield Community Centre, Whiteleas Avenue, Northwingfield, S41 5PW, starting at 7.30 pm

After the formal proceedings are over, we welcome Paul Bennett to talk to us about the new RSPB Reserves at Langford Lowfields & Beckingham Marshes.

The following 2014/15 Committee members have confirmed that they are prepared to stand for the 2015/16 Committee and have been Proposed and Seconded as shown below.

Keith Turton	- Proposed - John Parlby,	Second - Peter Birley
John Parlby	- Proposed - Peter Birley,	Second - Steve Slack
Peter Birley	- Proposed - Steve Slack,	Second - Jeff Davis
Steve Slack	- Proposed - Jeff Davis,	Second - Martin Kaye
Geoff Davis	- Proposed - Martin Kaye,	Second - Mike Conroy
Martin Kaye	- Proposed - Mike Conroy,	Second - Jenny Marshall
Mike Conroy	- Proposed - Jenny Marshall,	Second - Dag Marshall
Jenny Marshall	- Proposed - Dag Marshall,	Second - Frank Wharram
Dag Marshall	- Proposed - Frank Wharram,	Second - Keith Turton
Frank Wharram	- Proposed - Keith Turton,	Second - John Parlby

Any fully paid up member of Club who wishes to stand for the Committee must write to the Secretary to apply.

The application should also include a proposer and seconder who should be fully paid members of Club.

Full names, addresses of the proposer and seconder must be included on the application which must be signed by both.

The application should be with the Secretary should be received 14 days before the AGM date.

Our Club Website

We hope you enjoy visiting the Club's ever popular website. If not, please check it out. It contains lots of local bird reports, details of upcoming trips, Club News etc.

The site is being refreshed to make it easier to navigate so please bear with us during this period.

Many thanks to Nikki Mahadevan and Paul Beard for their IT wizardry in making these changes!

[OBC Hats & caps](#) are still available from John Parlby. Keep your tabs warm this winter! A bargain at £6!

For more info, contact John on 01773861262, or, 07767652036

Site Improvements

As you may all be aware considerable habitat restoration has taken place at Ogston in the last few months. This involved the removal of willow scrub, bramble, and cutting the grass area between the public hide and the members hide. The island and runway has also been cleared. A willow screen has been erected by the Sue Worsey hide, and willow and scrub removed. All other restoration work included in future plans will now have to wait until the end of the breeding season.

We would like to thank all members who attended the work parties for all their hard work and commitment.

Thank you! Dag and Martin.

John Tagg Memorial Trip to Bempton – Tue 28th April

In November 2014, a former well known member of Ogston Bird Club, John Tagg, sadly passed away. John bequeathed some bird watching equipment to the club, which was subsequently sold for around £900.00. His family suggested that the money might be used for a bird watching trip for Ogston Bird Club members.

After discussion, the Committee decided it would be fitting for some of the money to be used to set up a picnic table and plaque in memory of John at RSPB Bempton Cliffs, John's favourite birding venue. This is now in hand with the RSPB. In this connection the club is also organising a coach trip to Bempton on Tuesday 28th April, when there will be a short dedication ceremony.

Frank Wharram is now taking bookings for the trip and we are asking for a donation from club members of a minimum of £5.00 per person towards the cost of the coach. The previously arranged trip to Bempton on Sun 10th May will continue to be available for those members who can't manage a mid-week slot and on this occasion there's also the possibility of linking up with the local Flamborough Group, courtesy of 2 members of OBC who've recently moved to Flamborough.

Contact Frank for more details by email at frankwharram@gmail.com or call him on 01246 250559 / 07872695398

Jim Mart Nature Reserve

Reserve management activity continued throughout the winter with three organised work parties since the last newsletter. In addition some members just turned up when time, weather and inclination coincided and got on with uncompleted tasks. Dry stone walling and hedge laying along the roadside, rebuilding the stone weir, lowering the ground level around the pumphouse, levelling paths, raking out accumulated thatch, and controlling rapidly spreading bramble kept us busy.

Nest Box Survey

During the work parties the reserve's nest boxes were checked and cleaned out. Six boxes (26%) held a bird's nest, this is double the number from last year (i.e. the 2013 breeding season) but not yet back at the occupancy rates of 2010 and 2011. Two boxes had a domed rather than cupped nest, similar to ones found in two previous years. This mystery appears to be resolved as both boxes also contained a Wood Mouse, and they may also have been used last spring by nesting birds (although this couldn't be confirmed without disturbing the mouses' winter quarters).

The nest boxes put up in Liz's Wood on the adjacent farm were also surveyed, with nests being found in eight (40%). Eight nests is the same as two seasons ago, having dropped to just four last year (2013 breeding season).

Species records for 2014

The reserve records for 2014 have been collated and the total number of species recorded for the reserve has now reached 585, up from 500 at the end of 2013. The number of Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Action Plan species recorded stands at 39 (up from 35 at the end of 2013).

The moth list increased by 34 to a total of 132, whilst one new butterfly was added - Purple Hairstreak. The category of 'miscellaneous insects and spiders' increased by just under 30% to 138, assisted by interest being shown in identifying plant galls and their causers. Two species of bird - Greylag Goose and Mute Swan - were added to the site list giving a total of 70, and one species of mammal - a Brown Rat - brings us up to 24 (including 7 bat species). It is not every year that a fish can be added, so we were glad to have had two separate records of Bullhead (Miller's Thumb).

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making the Jim Mart Nature Reserve a success again in the past year, whether it was by identifying the wildlife, straining a few muscles, or donating (and breaking) tools.

Monthly Highlights

At the start of this year Frank Wharram took on responsibility for collecting and collating bird sightings into our regular Monthly Reports. Our previous Recorders were Steve Mann and Tim Sexey who have provided a great service to the Club for several years. They deserve a well-earned break and on behalf of the Club I thank them very much.

A welcoming note from Frank, our new Recorder.....

"A big thank you to the increasing number of members who are entering their sightings in the Sightings Book in the main hide. This is invaluable information in maintaining the records of the club and helps with things like our status as a SSSI. Can I please ask you to go a small step further? Can you please indicate the number of each species recorded, even the humble Blue Tits etc. I know it is hard to accurately count Blue Tits as they wizz around but a best estimate is fine. Similarly with e.g. Black Headed Gulls, a note such as c50 is very useful. If we are to keep records then the more accurate we can make them, the better for the club.

Thank you all for your input and co-operation! Frank Wharram, Recording Secretary"

December 2014 Species recorded = 81

Running Total = 163

Mild weather continued through December until the last week which was much colder. Heavy snow fell on Boxing Day and persisted to year end. Just one flock of Pink-footed geese flew through. Other wildfowl of interest included a Scaup and a Common Scoter. A male Peregrine was seen twice, hunting successfully. A Water Rail was seen just once. A Jack Snipe showed on 12th and a Woodcock was seen on 3rd. Few gulls of interest apart from occasional Caspian and Yellow-legged Gulls. A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker was seen on 14th, the only 1 of the year and a Chiffchaff was seen on 17th, a particularly mild day.

Canada Goose	-	Maximum count of 96 on 31st.
Caspian Gull A	-	1stW on 3rd, a 2ndW on 5th, a different 1stW on 12th/13th and again on 18th.
Chiffchaff	-	One on the West Bank on 17th.
Common Scoter	-	A female on 1st.
Fieldfare	-	Maximum count of 58 on 16th.
Gadwall	-	One from 18th- 24th and seven on 31st.
Goldeneye	-	Small numbers were present on most days, the maximum count being of five on 1st.
Goosander	-	One on 6th and one on 7th.
Great Black-backed Gull	-	At least 830 in the roost on 21st.
Greylag Goose	-	Maximum count of 41 on 31st.
Jack Snipe	-	One showing well from the Members Hide on 12th.
Lapwing	-	Counts of 194 on 6th, c250 on 7th, 252 on 8th and 270 on 10th.
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	-	One at the south end of the West Bank, opposite the Fishermans car park on 14th.
Peregrine	-	An adult male killed a Moorhen on 9th then on 20 th killed a Teal on.

Pink-footed Goose	-	59 flew W at 12:00 hrs on 13th.
Pochard	-	One on 3rd, one on 8th, one on 16th and five on 30th.
Redwing	-	Highest count of C70 on 21st.
Scaup	-	A first-winter drake on 18th.
Siskin	-	Maximum of 15 on 16th.
Snipe	-	Maximum count of 30 on 26th.
Teal	-	Good numbers present most days with a maximum count of 112 on 7th.
Water Rail	-	One on 4th was the only record.
Wigeon	-	Small numbers intermittently through the month with a max count of eight on 2nd,
Woodcock	-	One on the roadside verge by Carr Wood at dusk on 3rd.
Yellow-legged Gull	-	A 1stW roosting on 1st, 2 adults on 3rd, 1 on 4th - 6th, 1stW on 7th, 2 in roost on 8th, 1 on 9th, 1 on 12th.

Escapes

Yellow-billed Teal Present again on 6th and 8th.

January 2015 Species recorded = 62

Running Total = 62

Barn Owl	Black Headed Gulls	Blackbirds	Blue Tits
Bullfinch	Buzzard	Canada Geese	Carrion Crow
Caspian Gull	Chaffinch	Coal Tit	Common Gull
Coots	Cormorants	Duncock	Egyptian Geese
Gadwall	Glaucous Gull	Goldcrest	Goldeneye
Goldfinch	Goosander	Great Black Backed Gulls	Great Crested Grebe
Great Spotted W/pecker	Great Tit	Greenfinch	Grey Heron
Grey Wagtail	Greylag Geese	Herring Gulls	Jackdaw
Lapwings	Lesser Black Backed Gulls	Little Grebe	Long Tailed Tit
Magpies	Mallards	Mediterranean Gull	Moorhens
Mute Swan	Nuthatch	Peregrine	Pheasant
Pied Wagtail	Pochard	Raven	Reed Bunting
Robin	Siskin	Snipe	Song Thrush
Sparrowhawk	Teal	Treecreeper	Tufted Ducks
Willow Tit	Woodcock	Woodpigeon	Wren
Yellow Legged Gull	Yellowhammer.		

Highlights of the month :-

01 January :	Glaucous Gull seen in roost
02 January :	Mediterranean Gull in roost at dusk; Woodcock over Carr Wood at dusk; Peregrine
03 January :	Glaucous Gull and Yellow Legged Gull in roost; c50 Snipe flushed from West Bank by boats; Barn Owl over fields at dusk
05 January :	Caspian Gull in roost; 17 Long Tail Tits flew over West Bank car park
06 January :	Goldcrest
08 January :	Sparrowhawk
09 January :	Goldfinch
10 January :	Adult and 2nd winter Caspian Gull in roost
12 January :	Treecreeper in FCP
14 January :	Buzzard over hall
17 January :	2 Siskin in FCP
18 January :	Peregrine; Goldcrest
20 January :	Song Thrush
22 January :	45+ Snipe; 2 Ravens; Sparrowhawk. Huge numbers of gulls roosting at dusk. Min. 100 BHGs, min. 100 LBBGs, min. 100 GBBGs plus many immature gulls unidentified, and who knows what else! 2 Cirl Bunting were reported but this is extremely doubtful – probably Yellowhammers!
23 January :	Goosander
24 January :	2 x 1st W. Yellow Legged Gulls & 1 Eucistic Black Headed Gull in roost

25 January : 1 juv. Iceland Gull; 1st Winter Yell. Legged Gull; Prob. Glaucous/Herring Gull hybrid in the roost; 4 Goosanders;
1 Jackdaw
26 January : 7 Long Tailed tits
2 x Egyptian Geese were seen on the 8th & 25th
A Peregrine was spotted on the 2nd, 18th and 2 on the 27th
Herring Gulls were reported on the 5th & 24th

February 2015 Species recorded = 72

Running Total = 78

Black Headed Gulls	Blackbirds	Blue Tits	Bullfinch
Buzzard	Canada Geese	Carrion Crow	Caspian Gull
Chaffinch	Coal Tit	Collared Dove	Common Gull
Coots	Cormorants	Curlew	Dunnock
Gadwall	Goldcrest	Goldeneye	Goldfinch
Goosander	Goshawk	Great Black Backed Gull	Great Crested Grebe
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Great Tit	Green Woodpecker	Greenfinch
Grey Heron	Grey Wagtail	Greylag Geese	Herring Gull
Iceland Gull	Jackdaw	Jay	Kestrel
Kingfisher	Lapwing	Lesser Black Backed Gull	Little Grebe
Long Tailed Tits	Magpie	Mallard	Mistle Thrush
Moorhen	Mute Swan	Nuthatch	Oystercatcher
Peregrine	Pheasant	Pied Wagtail	Pink Footed Geese
Pochard	Raven	Redwing	Reed Bunting
Robin	Rook	Shelduck	Siskin
Snipe	Song Thrush	Sparrowhawk	Teal
Treecreeper	Tufted Duck	Whooper Swans	Wigeon
Woodpigeon	Wren	Yellow Legged Gull	Yellowhammer.

Highlights of the Month:-

01 February : Adult Iceland Goose in roost ; 1 x 1st winter Caspian type hybrid in roost ; Peregrine attacked Coot by public hide. Collared Dove ; Goldcrest ; Kingfisher
02 February : 2 Long Tailed Tits ; Song Thrush ; Sparrowhawk
03 February : Kingfisher
04 February : 1 Pochard
06 February : Iceland Gull in roost ; 2 Raven ; 6 Whooper Swans
07 February : 2 Goosanders ; Green Woodpecker ; Jay ; Yellowhammer
08 February : 48 Great Crested Grebe ; c130 Pink Footed Geese flew high over, heading NW ; 2 Buzzards ; 3 Goldeneye ; 1 Goosander
09 February : 2 Shelduck
10 February : 1st W Yellow Legged Gull ; 4 Pochard
11 February : 1st W Yellow Legged Gull
12 February : Pochard
14 February : Goldcrest
15/16 February : Mistle Thrush
17 February : First Oystercatchers (3) of the year, rising to 4 on the 28th
18 February : 2 Raven
20 February : Adult Yellow Legged Gull & Adult Iceland Gull in roost ; Collared Dove
23 February : Adult Iceland Gull in roost
25 February : Juvenile female Goshawk attacking Collared Doves in spruce plantation at N. end of lake : Curlew ; Goldcrest ; Kingfisher ; c70 Redwings. Also Weasel.
27 February : Shelduck ;
28 February : Short Tailed Vole under feeders.

A Sparrowhawk was seen on the 2nd, 13th, 15th, 16th, 19th and a Treecreeper on the 1st, 12th, 14th & 27th

Highest daily counts this month :-

Black Headed Gulls :	c450 on 16th (Note there are many more Gulls in the roost at dusk but without a specific count we have no better record.)
Canada Geese :	c65 on the 2nd.
Cormorants :	62 on the 10th
Great Crested Grebes :	56 on the 11th
Grey Herons :	20+ on the 25th
Greylag Geese :	56 on the 3rd.
Lapwing :	c173 on the 16th
Pink Footed Geese (flying over)	c130

March 2015 Species recorded = 87

Running Total = 96

Black Headed Gull	Blackbird	Blackcap	Blue Tit
Bullfinch	Buzzard	Canada Geese	Carrion Crow
Chaffinch	Chiffchaff	Coal Tit	Common Gull
Coot	Cormorant	Curlew	Dunlin
Dunnock	Egyptian Goose	Fieldfare	Gadwall
Goldcrest	Goldeneye	Goldfinch	Goosander
Great Black Backed Gull	Great Crested Grebe	Great Spotted	Woodpecker
Great Tit	Green Woodpecker	Greenfinch	Grey Heron
Grey Wagtail	Greylag Geese	Heinei (Russian) Gull	Herring Gull
House Sparrow	Iceland Gull	Jackdaw	Kestrel
Kittiwake	Lapwing	Lesser Black Backed Gull	Little Grebe
Little Owl	Little Ringed Plover	Long Tailed Tit	Magpie
Mallard	Mandarin	Meadow Pipit	Moorhen
Mute Swan	Nuthatch	Oystercatcher	Peregrine
Pheasant	Pied Wagtail	Pintail	Pochard
Raven	Red Kite	Redpoll	Redshank
Redwings	Reed Buntings	Ringed Plover	Robin
Rooks	Ruddy Duck	Sand Martin	Shelduck
Shovelers	Skylark	Snipe	Song Thrush
Sparrowhawk	Tawny Owl	Teal	Tree Sparrow
Tufted Ducks	Whooper Swan	Willow Tit	Woodcock
Woodpigeon	Wren	Yellowhammer	

The Saturday Morning Bird Walk led by Paul Beard attracted 24 hardy souls who braved a biting wind to walk up to Milltown Quarry, where nesting Ravens were seen as well as several hundred Jackdaws. Buzzards, a Kestrel and a Peregrine were also spotted as well as the first Ringed Plover of the season. A total of 40 species were seen by the group as a whole.

Highlights of the month : A Blackcap was seen on the 22nd with 2 on the 25th, 3 Chiffchaff at Chapel Bay on 13th) with other sightings on most days from the 18th, ; Common Gull (1 on 6th & 60 on 14th) ; Curlews on 7 days ; Dunlin (on 8th/12th/13th) ; 2 Egyptian Geese on the 19th, 1 Fieldfare on the 7th and 12 on the 22nd, Goldcrest (5th, 7th, 11th, 17th, 18th & 20th), 1 to 3 Goosanders on 3rd, 4th (3), 6th; 8th, 9th, 13th & 14th; Green Woodpecker on 2nd, 16th & 19th (2) ; 1 Heinei (?) Gull (Russian) on 14th ; on the 21st a leucistic Herring Gull was spotted by our eagle eyed gull expert, Adult Iceland Gull on 3rd & 4th , plus a 2nd winter bird on the 15th & 16th and a 3rd winter specimen on the 20th ; Jackdaw (7th), a Kestrel was sighted on 8 days, Linnets were recorded on the 22nd & 26th, with 92 on the 27th, a first Little Ringed Plover of the year on the 21st, seen again on the 29th, Mandarin Duck (8th & 9th) ; 32 Meadow Pipits seen on the 223rd with 16 on the 25th, a Merlin on 27th, Peregrine (7th, 11th & 13th), the first Pintail of the year on thr 19th, Pochard (12th & 17th) ; Raven (7th, 9th, 10th (2), & 12th); a Red Kite was around on the 23rd, Redpoll (9th) ; Redshank (13th) ; 50 Redwings were seen on the 13th, with 20 on the 15th and 50 on the 23rd, a Ringed Plover (6th & 7th) ; a rare Ruddy Duck on the 25th, a Sand Martin on the 13th with 3 on the 20th, 4 Shovelers on the 13th and 5 on the 20th, ; Skylark (8th) ; Sparrowhawk (2nd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th & 11th) Tawny Owl (9th), with another calling on the 16th & 17th ; 2 Tree Sparrows on the 17th, Treecreeper (11th and 20th) ; c40 Whooper Swans flew NW on the 14th, with another 120 birds flying northwest on the 22nd, quite a spectacle!, Willow Tit (4th, 6th & 7th) ; 12 Woodcock on the 18th, an adult Yellow Legged Gull was seen on the 16th , with 2 on the 21st , Yellowhammer on the 5th & 7th with 3 on the 27th.

Club Trips for 2015

Once again, Martin Kaye has arranged a full year of Club trips. Please see the list below.

Note that transport is usually by members cars. It is possible to pair up those who do not wish to drive with those who have spaces in cars. Petrol costs are usually shared.

To secure a place on any of the trips shown below, please contact **Martin Kaye** with your names and contact details (ideally this should be landline, mobile email address and house address).

Martin can be contacted by phone on 01246 279785,
by e-mail at martin.kaye@icloud.com
or at 21 Longedge Rise, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, S42 6NX.

Trip	Date	Meeting Point	Time	Dist from Chesterfield	Leader	Limit on No.s	notes and target species
Old Moor / Adwick Washlands RSPB	19-Apr-15	RSPB Old Moor carpark, S73 0YF, SE422022	09:30	33 miles	Martin Kaye	No	Sun Full day. Packed lunch or eat in reserve restaurant. Water birds galore and may be a Bittern.
Bempton Cliffs RSPB	10-May-15	RSPB Bempton carpark, YO15 1JF TA197738	09:30	100 miles 2 hours	Martin Kaye	No	Sun Full day. Packed lunch. Yorkshire coast. Short flat walk. Nesting sea birds really close, Corn Bunting, Peregrine.
Avenue Washlands, Wingerworth	05-May-15	End of Mill Lane, S42 6NG SK397671	09:00	2 miles	Martin Kaye	No	Tues Half day. Warbler migrants e.g. blackcap, willow/garden/grasshopper warblers, linnets, wetland and woodland species.
Little Don	19-May-15	Car park 1 mile NW Langsett village SE201011	09:30	36 miles	Martin Kaye	No	Tues Full day. Packed lunch. 5 mile walk, woodland, stream and moor. Dipper, Redstart, Ring Ouzel, Wheatear, Cuckoo.
Padley Gorge and Lawrence Field	07-Jun-15	Grindleford train station SK250788	09:00	14 miles	Paul Beard	20	Sun Full day. Packed lunch. 4 mile walk. Flycatchers, Redstart, Goldcrest, Wood Warbler.
Annesley Pit Top / Attenborough	23-Jun-15	Newstead SK523530 / NG9 6DY SK515339	10:00	20 miles	Martin Kaye	No	Tues Half day. Packed lunch / café restaurant at Attenborough. Exploring a local nature reserve. Black Necked Grebe.
Clumber	25-Jun-15	Clumber Park SK619752	19:00	20 miles	John Parlby	5	Thurs evening. Nightjars and woodcock.
Clumber	01-Jul-15	Clumber Park SK619752	19:00	20 miles	John Parlby	5	Wed evening Nightjars and woodcock.
Bleaklow, Alport Castles	14-Jul-15	Snake Pass (A57) near Ladybower SK142895	09:30	26 miles	Martin Kaye	No	Tues Full day. Packed lunch. 4 mile walk. Raptors, Raven, Red Grouse, migrants inc. redstart.
Frampton RSPB	09-Aug-15	RSPB reserve PE20 1AY TF356392	10:00	75 miles 2 hour	Dag Marshall	No	Sun Full day. Packed lunch. Returning migrant waders in breeding plumage
Frampton RSPB	13-Sep-15	RSPB reserve PE20 1AY TF356392	10:00	75 miles 2 hour	Frank Wharram	No	Sun Full day. Packed lunch. Returning migrant waders and wildfowl including early geese and shelduck
Blacktoft RSPB	24-Nov-15	RSPB reserve SE843232	11:00	60 miles 1 hour 15	Martin Kaye	No	Tues Full day. Packed lunch. Variety of birds then Harrier roost including Hen Harriers at dusk.
Langford Lowfields RSPB / Stoney Middleton	06-Dec-15	Details to be announced later	14:00	40 miles/ 15 miles	Martin Kaye	No	Sun - late afternoon for Starling murmuration

Steve Slack
Publicity Officer