

Blithfield Bird Report- January 2019

January 2019 Was cold and dry with plenty of sunshine mainly and some hard frosts at the end of the month the water levels were high.

The following birds were present throughout the month:-

Mute Swan, Hybrid Goose, Greylag Goose, Farmyard Goose, Canada Goose, Mallard, Tufted Duck, Pheasant, Cormorant, Grey Heron, Great Crested Grebe, Little Grebe, Buzzard, Kestrel, Moorhen, Coot, Lapwing, Black Headed Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Stock Dove, Woodpigeon, Collared Dove, Little Owl, Tawny Owl, Jackdaw, Jay, Carrion Crow, Raven, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Coal Tit, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Nuthatch, Treecreeper, Wren, Starling, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush, Robin, Dunnock, Pied Wagtail, Chaffinch, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Reed Bunting, Linnet, Tree Sparrow.

Counts extracted from Diary, Staffs Birders WeBS on the 19th and Personal counts.

The star bird of the month was the Lesser Scaup which was first recorded on the 6th and then daily from the 13th to the 29th.

Waders:-

Lapwing. Present throughout the month with a highest count of 250 on the first.

Oystercatcher. A single bird was present throughout the month and 2 were seen on the 31st.

Common Snipe. Just one count of a single bird on the 4th.

Gulls and Terns

Black Headed Gull Present throughout the month in good numbers with 2100 at the roost on the 16th.

Common Gull. A count of 6 on the 13th and 7 at the roost on the 16th.

Lesser Black-backed Gull. Present throughout the month with 1000 at the roost on the 16th.

Herring gull. A count of 8 on the 1st and 12 at the roost on the 16th.

Caspian Gull. Counts of 1s and 2s on a number of days with 3 counted on the 3rd, 4th, 13th and 14th.

Yellow-legged Gull. Singles on a number of days with 3 on the 13th and 4 on the 6th.

Great Black-backed Gull. A maximum count of 20 on the on the 13th.

Ducks, Geese, Swans, Grebes, Herons, etc.

Barnacle One record of a single bird on the 1st and a count of 22 on the 4th.

Whooper Swan. A single bird was recorded on the 5th and 19th, 2 on the 6th and a flock of 32 flew over on the 20th.

Mute Swan. One record of 20 on the 3rd.

Canada Goose. Present throughout the month with a maximum count of 250 birds on the 31st.

Greylag Goose. A maximum count of 350 on the 9th.

Farmyard Goose. 4 birds present throughout the month.

Teal. Present throughout the month in good numbers with a maximum count of 400 on the 1st.

Mallard. Present throughout the month with a maximum of 407 birds on the 19th.

Shoveler. Present throughout the month with a maximum of 33 birds on the 1st.

Shelduck. Up to 11 present for most of the month with a maximum count of 15 on the 31st.

Wigeon. Present throughout the month in good numbers with a maximum count of 400 birds on the 1st.

Gadwall. Just one count of 7 on the 5th.

Pintail. One count of 2 on the 21st.

Tufted Duck. Present throughout the month with a maximum of 120 birds on the 2nd.

Lesser Scaup. First seen on the 6th and then daily from the 13th to the 29th.

Pochard. Present throughout the month with a maximum of 9 birds on the 1st and the 5th.

Goldeneye. Present throughout the month with a maximum of 60 birds on the 31st.

Goosander. Present throughout the month with maximum counts of 16 birds on the 13th.

Cormorant. Present throughout the month with a maximum of 215 on the 19th.

Grey Heron. Present throughout the month with maximum count of 12 on the 31st.

Little Egret. 5 were recorded on the 5th, 4 on the 6th and 14 on the 28th.

Great white Egret. Just 1 bird on the 13th.

Great Crested Grebe. Present throughout the month with a maximum count of 120 birds on the 27th.

Coot. Present throughout the month with a maximum count of 132 birds on the 19th.

Raptors and Owls

Buzzard. Present throughout the month with a maximum of 2 birds on the 31st.

Kestrel. Present throughout the month with up to 1 bird recorded on the 19th.

Peregrine. Present throughout the month with 2 birds seen on a number of days.

Passerines

Fieldfare. A flock of 60 birds on the 22nd.

Redwing. A count of 40 birds on the 22nd.

Missel Thrush. A count of 2 birds on the 31st.

Song Thrush. A single bird on the 31st.