

BIRD NEWS FROM CARR VALE NATURE RESERVE
AND SURROUNDING AREA

NOVEMBER 2013

November was a quiet month with just 79 species recorded although one new species for the year was seen taking the year list to 150, equalling the previous best. No adverse incidents came to our attention during the month.

A Peregrine (over the reserve), two Water Rails and 16 Golden Plovers were logged on the 1st when the last of the autumns Chiffchaffs was heard calling. Also on the 1st 540 Fieldfare flew west. 54 Gadwall, 12 Shoveler, two Water Rails, 50 Stock Doves, 40 Sky Larks, 100 Redwings (south) and ten Lesser Redpolls (south) were counted on the 2nd and late in the day a female Goldeneye was found. Single Water Rails were subsequently logged on nine other dates. Two female Goosanders were present on the 3rd, 310 Pink-footed Geese flew south-east and a female Goosander flew south on the 4th when the Peregrine was seen again and the last Peacock Butterfly and Common Darters (four) of the year were seen. 14 Snipe were counted on the 5th on which date a Rock Pipit flew south. 20 Golden Plover were recorded on the 6th but the highlight of the day was a flock of five Black-tailed Godwits that was present for 40 minutes before they flew west. 400 Fieldfare also flew west on the 6th with ten Lesser Redpolls north. A flock of 300 Linnets was present on the 7th and 8th (with 150 – 200 on several other dates) and 50 Stock Doves were still present on the 8th when a Stoat was seen. 250 Wood Pigeons flew south-west on the 9th and the same day the first of the wintering Chiffchaffs was discovered (with a single bird being recorded on five more dates).

Ten skeins totalling 1020 Pink-footed Geese flew south-east and 280 Wood Pigeons flew south-west on the 10th, a Dunlin flew over Meadow Flash on the 11th and the same day there was a count of 16 Lesser Redpolls. 520 Starlings flew west on the 12th, the last Little Grebe sighting for the year was made on the 16th, two female Roe Deer were seen on the 18th and a Goldeneye was seen on the 20th. Two Chiffchaffs were seen on the 21st, a Pink-footed Goose joined the Canada Goose flock from the 22nd and the same day two Goosanders were present (with singletons on three further dates). A Jack Snipe was seen on the 24th, another Goldeneye was seen on the 25th and Wigeon peaked at 152 on the 27th on which date two Chiffchaffs were seen.

MARK BEEVERS