

BIRD NEWS FROM CARR VALE NATURE RESERVE  
AND SURROUNDING AREA.

JUNE 2014

92 Species were recorded during June but the year list only moved on one to 134. The weather remained benign and there were no incidents to report. The daily coverage was maintained although Ian had to cover the last few days of the month on his own.

One or two Grey Lag Geese were present daily during June, a male Mandarin Duck was seen daily until the 9th and intermittently until the 14th, Sparrowhawks were seen on 11 dates, Common Buzzards were seen on 27 dates, one or two Peregrines were logged on eight dates from the 16th but Hobbies were scarce with records on just four dates including two on the 2nd. Up to three Oystercatchers were seen daily with single Redshanks being seen on five dates, a breeding pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls were resident all month as were a pair of Common Terns with up to four adults and two chicks although only one survived to fledge. Single Kingfishers were seen on 15 dates, Green Woodpeckers were seen on 12 dates, Great-spotted Woodpeckers successfully raised two young whilst the new Sand Martin bank was fully occupied with plenty of young produced. One or two male Garden Warblers were singing on six dates until they went quiet after the 9th.

The male Garganey was seen daily from the 1st until the 7th when a female Pochard and a 2nd summer Common Gull were also present. On the 1st two juvenile Tawny Owls were seen at Mill farm whilst the only Roe Deer of the month was also seen. Three Mandarin Ducks were seen on the 2nd when a Cormorant flew west as did the second Osprey of the year. Four Cormorants flew north-west on the 3rd when a Common Sandpiper was present and an unseasonal Siskin flew east. A second summer Herring Gull was seen on the 5th, a Water Rail was heard on the 6th, a Cormorant flew north on the 7th and another Siskin flew south on the 8th. A Curlew on the 10th was unusual and the same day a Tawny Owl was also seen. A thorough survey of farmland to the west of the reserve produced an exceptional ten Yellow Wagtail territories.

A Goldcrest singing on the 11th was unusual and single Brimstone and Broad-bodied Chasers were seen on the 12th. Also on the 12th a Red-eared Slider was seen. The female Garganey returned on the 13th and was then seen daily until the 18th and on the latter date a Grey Partridge was found, which remained until the following day. The American Bullfrog was also heard on the 13th (and again on the 14th and 22nd). A Water Rail was calling on the 14th, a Goldcrest was seen again on the 16th, an Essex Skipper was seen on the 18th and a Grey Wagtail was found on the 19th (and seen again the following day). A female Shelduck was present on the 20th when a flock of seven Cormorants arrived from the south-east and two Coal Tits were recorded (with singles on four other dates). The last ten days of the month were very quiet with just a Cuckoo reported on the 24th, a Marbled White was seen on the 28th and the first Green Sandpiper of the autumn was seen on the 29th.

Mark Beevers.