



Annual Report

2001 No18

The Birds Of Sheepwash Nature Reserve



The Water Rail

Tivdale Birding Group The Birds of Sheepwash Nature Reserve



The Birds of Sheepwash Nature Park (No18) 2001

Compiled By Dave Waite and Geoff Williams

Tividale Birding Group.

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The Birds of Sheepwash Nature Reserve (No18)

Welcome to the 18th Report for the area, 102 Species were Recorded Throughout the year. With no new species being Added to the list.

The current list for the nature reserve stands at 181.

Common Terns bred successfully for the third year running raising three young.

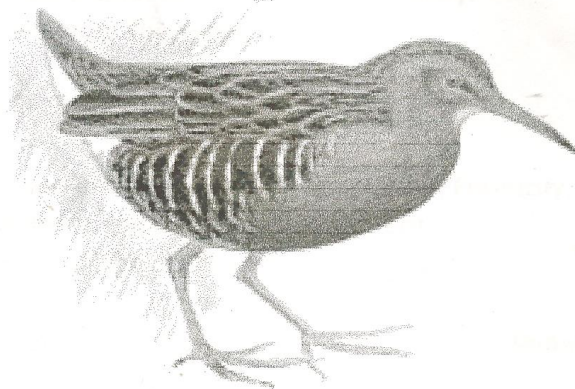
Chaffinch now stay's all year round and breeds in the reserve

Chiff Chaff is another spices added to the breeding birds of the reserve. On a sad note Lapwing's, did not attempt to breed in the reserve.

Observer coverage was down this year.

All Record's of sighting's are welcome.

Dave Waite



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1. Little Grebe : Not recorded until the 1st of July.
When a pair moved in and breeding followed with 4 juvs^{جود} on the 5th August.
2. Great Crested Grebe : Recorded all year. One pair bred raising two juvs^{جود}.
3. Cormorant : Recorded in January, March, May, June, July August, September and December
4. Grey Heron : Resident. Up to 15 birds are to be seen loafing on the islands at times.
5. Mute Swan : Recorded all month's except in July and August.
15 on the 1st January. The most seen. Did not breed in the Park this year.
6. Canada Goose : Resident. Breeding here on the islands of the pool's.
This year 14 nest's had their egg's pricked. But still 20 gosling's Managed to hatch out.
7. Teal : Small number's recorded all year except May.
30 on the 2nd of March, The highest count.
8. Mallard : Resident breeding species.
9. Shoveler : Recorded in small number's in January, February, March, August, September, October, November and December.
With five on the 8th February. The Maximum Count.
10. Pochard : Recorded in small number's. Monthly Total's Below.

J	F	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	O	N	D
22	20	15							5	17	24

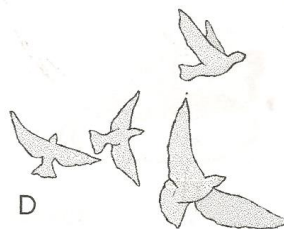


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11. Tufted Duck : Recorded all month's. Bred this year.
With a brood of five on the 27th July.

12. Goosander : Winter visitor in small number's.
Monthly Maximum.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
12	16	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6



13. Gadwall : Scarce visitor . A Drake on the 19th of February.
The only record.

14. Shellduck : A family party of seven on the 30th of July was a nice sight.
An adult and six juvenile's. One on the 17th of December.

15. Wigion : Scarce winter visitor. Two on the 15th December.

16. Sparrowhawk : One pair in the area, The commonest raptor of the park.

17. Kestrel : Resident species.
Much Declined species in the area. Once a common sight.
Now you are lucky if you see one in a month.

18. Buzzard : Another good year for sighting's of this spices.
With one on the 26th March one on the 15th April one on the 21st April.
And one on the 18th of October.

19. Perytine Falcon : Scarce.
Single bird's on 21st May 29th October the 12th December 15th December.

20. Little Owl : Scarce. One on the 18th February around the rose lane area.

21. Pheasant : One on 1st January 2 on 11th March 1 on 16th April 2 11th August

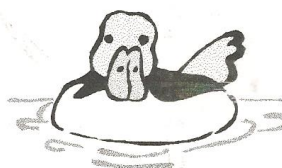
22. Water Rail : Winter visitor. January to March October to year's end.

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23. Moorhen : Resident breeding species

24. Coot : Resident breeding species. Common

A count of 50 on 24th March. A maximum count.



25. Oyster catcher. : Just one record of one, on the 14th of March.

26. Little Ringed Plover : Summer visitor First bird on the 20th of March

Three on the 25th March, Five on the 20th of April, Last seen on 11th August.
No breeding this year.

27. Golden Plover : 80 Flying over on the 8th November 7 Flying over on 19th Dec.

28. Lapwing : No breeding attempts this year. A sharp decline in numbers this year.

Monthly Maximum.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
15	37	2	2	2	3	1	2	0	4	4	25

29. Dunlin : Just one record of one on the 6th October.

30. Jack Snipe : One on the 1st January, One on the 29th March

And one on the 10th November.

31. Common Snipe : Winter visitor. Sharp decline in numbers this year.

Monthly Maximum

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
7	4	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	2

32. Woodcock : Scarce winter visitor. One on the 9th March

And one in November.

33. Redshank : Scarce visitor. Two records this year, One on the 16th March

And one on 23rd of June.

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34. Common Sandpiper : Passage Migrant.
First bird on the 15th April
The last date the 1st September.
35. Greenshank : Scarce visitor. One on the 22nd August.
The only record of this elegant of wader's.
36. Black Headed Gull : Recorded all year a count of two hundred on 28th of July.
37. Common Gull : Not so common at sheepwash. Just three record's
One on the 1st of January, One on the 26th of August and one on the 4th Nov.
38. Lesser Black Backed Gull : Recorded all year round. 100 on the 20th January,
60 on the 19th of March and 50 on the 28th of July. The Highest Count's.
39. Herring Gull : Another gull species which has started to stay in the Midlands
All year round. But in March smaller number' 50 on the 6th Jan The highest count
40. Greater Black Backed Gull : Scarce winter visitor.
One on the 20th January. The Highest Count.
41. Common Tern : Bred here for the forth year. This year fledgling 3 chick's.
First arrived on the 28th of April. The family group departed on the 20th of July.
42. Feral Pigeon : Recorded all year round.
43. Stock Dove : Scarce in the area. With bird's being seen in March, May and July.
44. Wood Pigeon : Common breeding bird in the area.
Showing an increase in number's.

Mallard





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45. Collard Dove : Resident breeding species. A count of 20 on the 8th August.
Another species that is increasing in the area.
46. Common Swift : Summer visitor. First birds on the 25th April.
Same date as last year. The last bird on the 2nd September.
100 on the 29th April and 80 on the 3rd of May. The Highest Counts.
47. Kingfisher : Seen all months except May. 1st pair bred along the river Tame,
In the area. Ad and one juvenile were seen on the 9th of August.
48. Green Woodpecker : One was seen from the 2nd of August into December.
49. Great Spotted Woodpecker : One seen in January. Then seen from
The 14th of July into December.
50. Skylark : Sadly lost as a breeding species inside the nature reserve
But found on the adjoining tip area. Recorded from January till years end.
51. Sand Martin : Summer Migrant. Spring passage started on the 25th of March
Birds coming through till the 22nd April. Return passage started on 18th July
Last bird on the 1st October. Highest Count 30 on the 22nd of April.
52. Swallow : The first swallow came through on the 30th March.
Spring passage lasted into May with 150 on the 29th April and 100 on the 3/5th.
The Highest Counts. Autumn passage started in August and lasted into early Oct.
53. House Martin : Summer visitor . Breeding in the local area.
First arrived on 22nd April. Last birds seen on the 3rd October.
50 on the 3rd of May and 50 on the 18th September The Highest Count.

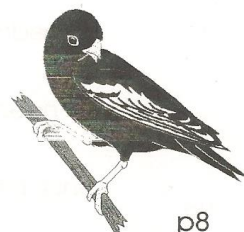


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54. Meadow Pipit : Former breeder. Now a scarce winter visitor.
The highest counts were 30 on the 23rd March and 50 on the 13th of October.
55. Yellow Wagtail : Scarce migrant. Has bred in the past.
Birds seen on the 17th, 18th, 22nd, 23rd April and one on the 6th May.
And finally a bird on the 1st August.
56. Grey Wagtail : Recorded all months except April May and June.
This bright wagtail , Brightens up a winter walk. In the Nature Reserve.
57. Pied Wagtail : Recorded all months. A species which seems to have declined
In the area . No juveniles seen this year. White Wagtail. One or Two birds seen April
58. Wren : Resident breeder fairly common.
59. Dunnock : Resident breeder. A small decline noticed this year.
60. Robin : Common resident Breeding within the Nature Reserve. 
61. Common Redstart : A male on the 29th of April. The only record.
62. Whinchat : Two on the 29th April and one on the 3rd of September.
The only Records.
63. Stonechat : Winter visitor passage migrant.
The habitat on the Rattlechain Tip. Which this species favoured.
Is disappearing under a mound of rubble. Due to development.
Records relate to passage birds.
18 on the 17th February, 5 birds on the 7th March, 1 male on the 12th March.
18 from the 13th to 18th October and 1 on the 18th November. 
64. Northern Wheatear : Passage birds seen on the 25th March
One on the 25th April and one on the 13th October.

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65. Blackbird : Breeding resident. Winter visitor.
66. Fieldfare : Winter visitor.
Recorded in January, October, November and December.
67. Redwing ; Winter visitor. Recorded from January - March and from October - Dec.
With 50 on the 28th October and 50 on the 17th November.
68. Song Thrush : Resident breeding species.
2 Singing in February. Population in the Nature Reserve Remains Stable.
69. Mistle Thrush : Recorded all months except September.
Bred in the local area.
70. Sedge Warbler : Passage migrant. The only record of the year.
Was three on 29th of April.
71. Reed Warbler : Summer visitor. First arrival on the 18th May.
Three singing in June One pair feeding juveniles 8th July.
72. Garden Warbler : Scarce summer visitor. 2 on the 29th April.
The only Record.
73. Lesser Whitethroat : Summer visitor. Has Bred. Just one record this year.
One on the 5th of May.
74. Common Whitethroat : Summer visitor. Bred in the park at least 4 pairs.
A family party on the 20th of June.
75. Blackcap : Summer visitor. First arrived on the 1st of April.
Seven singing on the 15th of April.
Bred in the Nature Reserve.



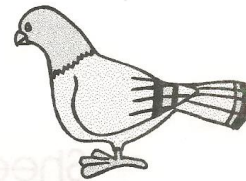
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76. Chiff Chaff : Recorded from the 20th March till November.
One pair bred in the reserve.
77. Willow Warbler : Summer visitor. First arrived on the 2nd of April.
A decline in singing birds this year, With 6 singing on the 13th April.
The Highest Count. Bred with adult's feeding juveniles in July.
78. Goldcrest : Winter visitor to the reserve. Recorded from January to April.
And from October to December.
79. Spotted Flycatcher : Mainly Autumn passage migrant.
Just one record of one on the 29th of August.
80. Pied Flycatcher : Scarce migrant.. A male on the 15th of April.
The only record.
81. Long Tailed Tit : Resident breeding species. Birds observed nest building.
On the 25th of March.
82. Willow Tit : Resident Very Scarce. A family party on the 1st of July.
83. Blue Tit : Common Resident.
84. Great Tit : Common Resident.
85. Coal Tit : Scarce winter visitor. 2 birds were seen from the 20th October.
Till into December.
86. Jay : Scarce visitor. One from the 2nd of October into December.
87. Magpie : Common resident. winter roost's of 200 birds have been counted.
88. Jackdaw : Fly over records of 2 on the 12th March 2 on the 3rd June.
3 on the 10th of June and four on the 28th of October.



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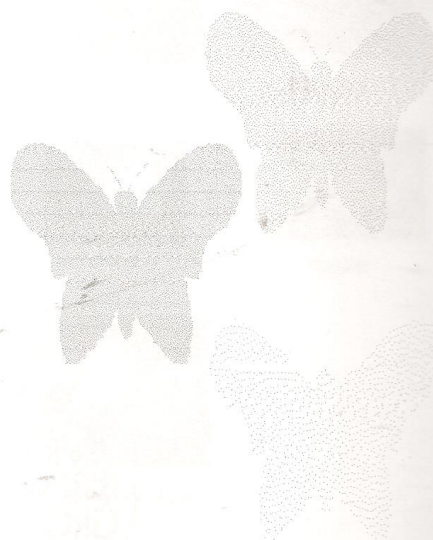
9. Rook : Two on the 25th of May. The only Record.
10. Carrion Crow : Resident breeding species.
11. Starling : Resident. Counts of 100 on the 31st March. 150 on the 16th September. 300 on the 13th October.
12. House Sparrow. : Resident. No large counts this year.
13. Tree Sparrow : 2 on the 13th October. The first birds for ten years.
14. Chaffinch : bred THIS YEAR. small NUMBERS RECORDED ALL YEAR.
15. Brambling : Scarce winter visitor. One on the 21st October.
16. Greenfinch : Breeding resident in small numbers.
17. Goldfinch : Recorded all months except June and August. In small numbers.
18. Siskin : Winter visitor in small numbers. Recorded from January - March. With 4 on the 1st July and from October - December.
19. Lesser Redpoll : Winter visitor. Recorded from January till May and October till. December. With 100 on the 25th March and 50 on the 13th October.
20. Linnet : Massive decline. Recorded in March and April and October. 40 on the 18th March. Were passage migrants.
21. Bullfinch : Resident breeding species. 1 pair feeding juveniles on the 25th May.
22. Reedbunting : Resident. 1 pair bred. 1 pair feeding juveniles on the 2nd of June.



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Butterflies And First Date's

1. Brimstone.	30th March.
2. Small Torteshell	30th March
3. Peacock	1st April.
4. Green Veined White	1st May.
5. Coma.	1st May.
6. Orange Tip	1st May.
7. Large White	18th May.
8. Small White.	18th May.
9. Small Copper.	25th May.
10. Holly Blue	26th May
11. Common Blue	6th June.
12. Small Heath.	Mid June.
13. Large Skipper.	20th June.
14. Small Skipper.	24th June.
15. Meadow Brown	30th June.
16. Red Admiral.	2nd July.
17. Gatekeeper.	13th July.



Other Wildlife Reported

Fox

Grey Squirrel

Brown Rat

Water Vole Only one sighting of one on the 24th May.

Grass Snake.

Smooth Knewt.

Common Frog.

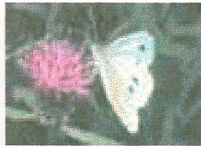
Toad.

Report Compiled By Dave Waite & Geoff Williams

Tivdale Birding Group

p11

Butterflies



Large White



Specwood



sm-Tort



Red Admiral



Peacock



Common Blue



Brimstone



Skipper



Peacock



Painted Lady



Common Blue

That Conclude's our Information For this Year.
Thank You For Reading.

Dave Waite



Geoff Williams