

## Wildlife Report – April 2021

After what seems a very long time, this Thursday at the Park – 22/04/2021 - we held our first gathering for several months,.

Weather was fine and sunny but with a pretty cold wind. Walking along the being refurbished track to the car park, a Great Tit was singing at the main gates, together with 2 Dunnocks and the first of many Robins heard during the day. A Goldfinch flew overhead and then a Woodpigeon before a Common Whitethroat was seen at the top of a bush on the left. The first recorded this year. A few Starlings flew overhead before we reached the park itself and headed off towards the boardwalk.

Lots of birds were singing in the trees and bushes, Blue Tits, Wrens and a couple of House Sparrows. 2 Collared Doves were sat in the alder trees and we heard our first Chiffchaff of the day followed quickly by a Blackbird and a Blackcap – our third migrant warbler of the day. Moving along the hedgerows towards the lake, we picked up more Robins, and the usual Carrion Crows and Magpies in the fields. At the lake we saw, Coots, Moorhen, Mallards and only 5 Canada Geese – perhaps some were nesting on the island?

Moving around the lake we added our fourth warbler of the day – Reed Warbler with at least 2 heard singing from the reed-bed. Here also we saw our only gull of the day – a single Black Headed Gull flying overhead. Quite amazing when you think during the winter we had well over 100 gulls in the park most days!

Heading back to the pavilion we didn't add any more species to the list but got a good close view of a Chiffchaff – a really nice little bird that you hear often but only normally see as a speck at the top of a tree hiding behind a leaf! We stopped at the overgrown dipping pond where we added our first butterfly of the day – a Peacock – and also spotted a nice male Great Spotted Woodpecker in the trees.

Finally, as we wandered back home, a Small Tortoiseshell butterfly flew across the path. Overall, a good morning despite the cold wind, with four warblers seen/heard and a couple of new butterflies for this year. Our walk in May should produce more migrant birds, some more new butterflies and perhaps even some dragonflies.

Next walk will be on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May and hope to see a few of you there.

regards

**Martin**

## Birds – 24 Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date	Total Count
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	22/04/2021	1
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	22/04/2021	5
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	22/04/2021	3
Common Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	22/04/2021	3
Common Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	22/04/2021	4
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	22/04/2021	2
Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	22/04/2021	18
Common Whitethroat	<i>Curruca communis</i>	22/04/2021	1
Common Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	22/04/2021	3
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	22/04/2021	4
Eurasian Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	22/04/2021	4
Eurasian Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	22/04/2021	3
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	22/04/2021	2
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	22/04/2021	2
Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	22/04/2021	11
Eurasian Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	22/04/2021	2
Eurasian Wren (British)	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes indigenus</i>	22/04/2021	8
European Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	22/04/2021	8
European Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	22/04/2021	15
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>	22/04/2021	1
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	22/04/2021	3
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	22/04/2021	9
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	22/04/2021	4
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	22/04/2021	8

## Butterflies – 2 Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date	Total Count
Peacock Butterfly	Inachis io	22/04/2021	1
Small Tortoiseshell	Aglais urticae	22/04/2021	1