

## Wildlife Walk – November 2022

Our latest wildlife walk took place on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November. Despite a forecast for showers, we enjoyed a very pleasant sunny morning for November and managed to see some nice birds around the park. The highlight of the day being not one but two Peregrine Falcons overhead near the large mound! As is normal with Peregrines, we heard them before we saw them, moving fairly fast away from the Park, but while in flight they displayed “claw to claw” mid-air. Presumably, a pair and a very good record for the Park. Peregrines have been breeding in the Wickford area for a few years now and are hopefully increasing – there are certainly enough pigeons to keep them well fed! The resident Park birds are busy getting ready for winter with both Robins and Blue Tits, plus Goldfinches very active. A friendly Robin posed very nicely for me, and a couple of photos are included below. The lake was fairly quiet with only three Canada Geese there and the usual Mallards were away or hiding. As we were leaving the Park a bird flew across the road to Fanton Hall, and this turned out to be a very nice Song Thrush, a good end to the day. Details of all species seen/heard have been tabulated below.

### **Just a reminder of the remaining dates for the walks this year:**

December – 14<sup>th</sup>

**All starting at 10.30am from the Pavilion car park.** Please note these dates in your diaries but as usual I will confirm by email / WhatsApp whether the walks will go ahead depending on weather etc.

The dates are also available on the [Friends of the Wick Country Park Website](#).

## Martin Singleton

### **Birds – 20 Species**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date	Total Count	Notes
Black-headed Gull	Chroicocephalus ridibundus	16/11/2022	19	Three at the lake and at least 16 overhead near the large mound
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	16/11/2022	3	Just three at the lake
Carrion Crow	Corvus corone	16/11/2022	5	Usual birds around the park
Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	16/11/2022	7	A few seen feeding on berries in the hedgerows
Common Chaffinch	Fringilla coelebs	16/11/2022	2	Nice to see a couple of Chaffinch in the park
Common Moorhen	Gallinula chloropus	16/11/2022	4	At the lake
Common Wood Pigeon	Columba palumbus	16/11/2022	18	Usual guess of how many we saw around the Park
Dunnock	Prunella modularis	16/11/2022	1	Near the road to Fanton Hall
Eurasian Blue Tit	Cyanistes caeruleus	16/11/2022	9	Several seen and heard in the hedgerows
Eurasian Collared Dove	Streptopelia decaocto	16/11/2022	1	Seen from the pavilion car park
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	16/11/2022	2	At the lake
Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica	16/11/2022	4	Only a few today - perhaps last year's youngsters have moved on
Eurasian Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	16/11/2022	1	One seen behind the large mound
European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	16/11/2022	13	Several seen feeding in the hedgerows and flying overhead
European Robin	Erithacus rubecula	16/11/2022	13	Very vocal and active today
Long-tailed Tit	Aegithalos caudatus	16/11/2022	2	Just two behind the large mound
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	16/11/2022	2	Two birds heard calling and then seen overhead displaying - from the path behind the large mound
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos	16/11/2022	1	Seen from the road to Fanton Hall
Western Jackdaw	Coloeus monedula	16/11/2022	3	Three overhead from the car park
White Wagtail (Pied)	Motacilla alba yarrellii	16/11/2022	1	One overhead at the lake

## Mammals - 1 Species

Common Name	Scientific Name	Date	Total Count	Notes
Eastern Grey Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	16/11/2022	2	One in the hedges near the bridge and one near the "kestrel" box

Photos taken on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at The Wick Country Park (by Martin Singleton)

