



‘What’s About’

No 44
Summer and Autumn 2016
The catch-up edition

Dates are shown as: day/month. Number of each species is shown in brackets.

Mid April, May and June

Mute Swan 30/4 (1) immediately in front of Debenair

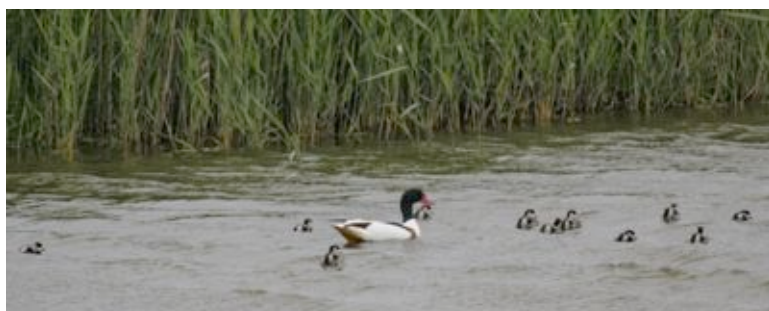
Black Swan 30/4 (1) immediately in front of Debenair

Egyptian Goose 27/5, 1/6, 9/6, 18/6 (2) Wetland Reserve



Egyptian Geese

Shelduck 6/6 pair of adults with 8 juveniles on Wetland Reserve waterway, 8/6 adults with 7 juvs, 18/6 adults with 5 juvs, 27/6 adults with 4 juvs



Shelduck with 11 hatchlings in early June.
Photo: Chris Morton

Red Kite 11/6 Bunny King watched a Red Kite being harassed by a Buzzard which was being harassed by Crow over the cricket field valley.

Marsh Harrier 25/4 (1) over dinghy park; 16/6 (1) hunting over fields by Chapel crossroads and recently seen over field by Sailing Club and Church Field.

Sparrowhawk 30/4 (1) took Goldfinch off Max Pemberton's bird feeder and remained to finish meal.



*Sparrowhawk
in Max and Margaret
Pemberton's garden
Photo:
Max Pemberton*

Buzzard 14/4 (2) over cricket field valley. 1/5 (1) chased by **Rook** Sandy Lane valley; 12/5 (1) frequently seen over cricket field valley

Kestrel 19/5 (1) attending nest box Manor Cottage track; 2/6 (1) hunting over field behind Sunnyhill; 9/6 (1) often seen around nest box Manor Cottage track

Peregrine 4/6 (1) over saltmarsh and village

Hobby seen occasionally over village in summer



Marsh Harrier

*Photo:
Chris Morton*

Oystercatcher 9/6 (2) Wetland Reserve
Ringed Plover 19/6 successful hatching of 3 juvs on Wetland Reserve island
Whimbrel 27/4 (1) saltmarsh below Wetland Reserve; 3/5 & 12/5 (3) calling over saltmarsh; 1/6 (1) saltmarsh
Turtle Dove 5/5, 6/5, 19/5, 23/5, 5/6 (1) calling Fishpond Rd
Cuckoo 18/4 (1) calling village through to Manor Cottage; 20/4 (1) Wetland Reserve; 25/4 (1) Clappits Pit; 1/5 (1) heard behind Sullivan Place; 1/6, 5/6 Waldringfield Heath; 8/6 (1) reservoir; 14/6 (1) towards solar panel field; 17/6 (1) river valley area
Barn Owl 18/5 (1) Whitehall garden then along hedge towards Hemley
Tawny Owl 18/5 (1) calling 3.15pm Sandy Lane
Little Owl 20/4 (1) Church Field; 25/5 (1) lane adjacent to golf course
Swift 4/5 (1) over Fishpd Rd; 7/5 (2) over Fishpd Rd; 17/5 (2) over Sunnyhill; 24/5 (4) over Sunnyhill; 28/5 (7) over Sunnyhill, some 'screaming'; 10/6 (4) over quay
Great Spotted Woodpecker 9/6 (1) bird feeder Fishpond Rd
Goldcrest 30/4 (1) feeding in conifer Fishpond Rd
Swallow 14/4 (2) over Fishpond Rd; 20/4 (1) Baptist Chapel; 21/4 (1) on Cross Farm Cottage tv aerial; 28/4 (1) Hemley Cottages
House Martin 10/4 (c12) Bretts Pit; 14/4 (3) over Fishpond Rd
Cettis Warbler 28/4 (1) Kirton Creek; 31/5 (1) Kirton Creek;
Blackcap 16/4 (1) Waldringfield Heath, (1) Fishpond Rd
Whitethroat 20/4 (1) hedge near Plum Tree Cottage, then two calling regularly.
Spotted Flycatcher 17/5 Churchyard; 30/5 (1) carrying building material Christine's garden;
Nightingale 13/4 (1) heard in the woodland at the northern end of the Wetland Reserve; 18/4 (1) Manor Cottage; 27/4 (1) Manor Cottage close to oak with swing; 3/5 (1) Wetland Reserve wood; 6/5 reservoir; 16/5 (2) Wetland Reserve at the back of the gorse and in the thicket behind the bench; 2/6 near entrance to solar panel field; 22/6 a few notes arising from the back of the gorse on the Wetland Reserve
Wheatear 16/4 (1) Church Field; 8/5 (1) field below Sandy Lane
Linnet 19/4 pair on Church Field gorse
Brambling 24/4 (1) on sunflower feeder Fishpond Rd
Redpoll 16/4 (1) Waldringfield Heath
Bullfinch 30/5 (1) male Fishpond Rd; 11/6 (1) seen several times in Joe Lubbock's garden and in Sally's garden; 25/6 adult and juv feeding in garden in Fishpond Rd;
Yellowhammer 17/5 (1) Church Field; 18/5 (2) river wall; 20/5 Whitehall hedge

Small Tortoiseshell 14/4 (1) field near Hill Farm; 26/6 very recent hatching produced 25 nectaring in garden in Fishpond Rd
Peacock 14/4 (1) Fishpond Rd
Small White 14/4 (1) Fishpond Rd
Brimstone 17/4 (1) Fishpond Rd; 20th (1) Waldringfield Heath
Holly Blue 20/4 (1) Wald Heath; 5/5 (1) Fishpond Rd
Orange-tip 21/4 (1) Fishpond Rd fem. very small individual; 1/5 (1) Fishpond Rd
Speckled Wood 20/4 (1) Fishpond Rd
Comma 30/4 (1) rd edge near Old School House

Green-veined White 6/5 (1) Manor Cottage
Cinnabar Moth 19/5 several grass field Holly Corner
Painted Lady 4/6 (1) Church Field & (2) Fishpond Rd
Hummingbird Hawkmoth 28/6 (1) seen on Valerian in Plum Tree Cottage garden

Hornet 11/5 (1) Fishpond Rd;
Stag beetle 30/5 (1) Ipswich Rd by Low Farm entrance; 24/6 (1) male Woodbridge Rd, (1) fem Woodbridge Rd near golf course; 30/6 5 road casualties a 1 male alive in Woodbridge Road; (1) Cross farm Cottage garden

Fallow Deer 18/4 (5) fields between Plum Tree Cottage and Hemley
Hedgehog April - one, possibly two, seen occasionally in gardens near School Rd hill; 28/6 hedgehog droppings reported in Chris Welling's garden
Common Seal 28/4 (3) Early Creek
Brown Hare 5/5 (2) field towards Hemley; 23/5 (1) on beet field below Sandy Lane
Muntjac 25/5 (1) barking Holly Corner; 27/5 (2) barking Sally's garden
Stoat 26/5 (1) crossed rd by Cross Farm Cottage; 8/6 (2) chasing rabbit on Woodbridge Rd

Tadpoles 16/4 several 1" long in Christine's pond

Bluebells 10/5 flowering along woodland path adjacent to school and, together with **Stitchwort**, along lane adjacent to golf course
Poppies 31/5 glorious show along Kirton Creek's river wall
Bee Orchid 2/6 (14) flowers opening on Church Field
Sulphur Cinquefoil 13/6 flowering in field entrance next to Rudds Barn

July, August September

Brent Goose 30/9 (200+) Hemley
Shelduck 24/7 (8) young birds on Wetland Reserve; 10/8 (20) Wetland Reserve
Teal 19/8 (5) Wetland Reserve; 31/8 (12) Wetland Reserve
Red Kite 29/7 (1) over Church Field, and over river in early August
Buzzard 12/8 (2) over Waldringfield Heath; 4/9 (2) circling towards river; 22/9 over Sailing Club
Sparrowhawk 26/8 (1) Fishpond Rd; 12/9 (2) Fishpond Rd
Osprey 30/8 (1) towards Methersgate; 6/9 (1) flying along river Methersgate to Stonner Point and back to Methersgate; 9/9 (1) 10.00am Pettistree Hall to Early Creek
Kestrel 17/7 (2) noisy, food-demanding juveniles over field below Sandy Lane
Ruff 6/9 (2) Wetland Reserve
Jack Snipe 4/9 (1) Wetland Reserve
Black-tailed Godwit 10/8 (1) Wetland Reserve; 10/8 (30+) flying up-river; 4/9 (20+) Wetland Reserve; 23/9 (15) Wetland Reserve
Whimbrel 21/7 (1) saltmarsh Manor cottage; 28/7 saltmarsh below Wetland Reserve

Curlew 21/7 number increasing as non-breeders and migrants arrive



Newly arrived Curlews over the river Photo: Alexis Smith

Common Sandpiper 6/9 (1) Wetland Reserve

Green Sandpiper 10/8 (1) Wetland Reserve; 19/8 (1) Wetland Reserve; 23/9 (2) Wetland Reserve

Spotted Redshank 4/9 (1) Wetland Reserve; 6/9 (1) Wetland Reserve

Greenshank 11/7 (1) calling over village and saltmarsh; 18/7 (1) calling saltmarsh below dinghy park; 21/7 (1) calling saltmarsh Manor Cottage; 10/8 (1) Wetland Reserve; 31/8 (1) Wetland Reserve; 4/9 (1) Wetland Reserve; (2) on saltmarsh; 23/9 (1) Wetland Reserve

Lapwing 19/8 (2) Wetland Reserve meadow; 23/9 (12) Wetland Reserve

Turtle Dove 3/7 (1) very brief call (possibly) Sandy Lane; 3/7 (1) calling Rivers Hall wood; 27/7 (1) calling below Novocastria; 1/8 (1) calling Novocastria

Barn Owl 14/9 (1) hunting field edge by Rudds Barn; 22/9 Wetland Reserve

Tawny Owl 14/9 (2+) calling frequently, even during daytime, during last couple of weeks

Little Owl 5/9 Alexis reported: *'A friend driving past BT on the main road a while ago saw a Little Owl land on the roof guttering of the car in front & travel for a while then flew off!'*

Swift 11/8 (50+) over Waldringfield Heath

Kingfisher 22/9 Wetland Reserve sluice

Green Woodpecker 25/7 (1) Waldringfield Heath

Great Spotted Woodpecker 8/7 (1) on nut feeder in Alexis' garden; 25/7 (1) Waldringfield Heath

Goldcrest 17/8 (1) in Christine's garden

Blue and Great Tits 4/7 many young birds adept at using feeders in Alexis' garden

Swallow 28/7 (50+) on wires in Deben Lane; 8/8 (20+) on wires in Fishpond Rd;

9/9 60+ early morning above Fishpond Rd / Sandy Lane; 18/9 (4) Woodbridge Rd; 21/9 (20) Cross Farm Cottage; 30/9 (6) Mill Rd on wires

House Martins 8/8 nested successfully at Max Pemberton's house; 24/8 (10) Waldringfield Heath; successful nesting at the Village Hall and at Judith Stinson's house.

Spotted Flycatcher 7/7 nesting in Christine's garden; 29/7 (3) feeding around manure/compost heaps on Mill Rd to Newbourne; 21/8 (1) Sally's garden

House Sparrow 30/9 bird with some white feathers coming to feeder in Christine's garden

Grey Wagtail 4/9 (1) Wetland Reserve

Goldfinch 3/9 two family parties regularly visiting a feeder in Max Pemberton's garden

Wheatear 4/9 (1) Wetland Reserve

Willow Warbler 17/9 (1) Waldringfield Heath

Bullfinch 17/7 (1) male Fishpond Rd

Yellowhammer 14/7 (1) Wetland Reserve hedge

Bats 8/7 seen flying in evening in Waldringfield Heath; 27/9 fairly frequently seen in Waldringfield Heath

Hedgehog 9/7 (1) road casualty near Brett's pit entrance; 30/7 (1) at roadside near Hemley; 1/8 (1) Village Way garden; 11/9 Celia Mason's garden, Hemley



Hedgehog

Celia Mason

Common Seal 14/7 (3) Early Creek

Badger 31/7 (1) Celia Mason writes, *'I was knocked off my bicycle last week ... by a badger. About 9 pm, coming from Waldringfield to Hemley, just before the turning to White Hall. The badger shot out of the hedge - suspect it was being chased - collided with my front wheel and vanished into the patch of woodland on the other side of the road. Is this a first?*

3/9 (1) in daylight running along road by Moon and Sixpence; 17/9 badger latrine pits evident in Church Field

Brown Hare 8/8 (5) field beyond Thatched Farm;

Stoat 12/8 (1) chasing **Rabbit** on Woodbridge Road

Weasel 12/9 (1) Manor Cottage area, with caught mouse

Toad and young **Frogs** 27/9 several in Christine Fisher Kay's garden

Red Admiral 1/7 (1) Fishpond Rd; 25/7 (1) Waldringfield Heath
Meadow Brown 2/7 (1) near Hill Farm; 4/7 (1) Mill Rd, (1) Manor Cottage track
Green-veined White 3/7 (1) Fishpond Rd
Small Tortoiseshell 4/7 (1) Manor Cottage track
Brimstone 25/7 (1) Waldringfield Heath;
 7/8 (1) Max Pemberton's garden
Painted Lady 2/8 (1) Fishpond Rd;
 7/8 (1) Church Field
Holly Blue 2/8 (1) Fishpond Rd
Comma 28/8 (1) Tim & Gill Burslem's garden, on Echinacea



photo: Gill Burslem

Hummingbird Hawkmoth 3/9 (1) Fishpond Rd garden; 3/9 (1) Liz Lord's garden
Convolvulus Hawkmoth 26/9 (1) Fishpond Rd., late evening nectaring on *Nicotiana sylvestris*
Ichneumon flies 15/7 several noted recently in Waldringfield Heath
Wasp 8/8 4th wasp nest in Max Pemberton's roof space !
Sexton Beetle 11/9 under a dustbin at Hemley



*Sexton Beetle
 Hemley*

Photo: Celia Mason

Stag Beetle 1/7 (1) road casualty Sandy Lane; 7/7 (1) road casualty Woodbridge Rd;
 10/7 (1) road casualty near Rudds Barn; 23/7 (1) alive Fishpond Rd; 3/8 alive
 Woodbridge Rd beyond Howe's Farm; 17/8 fem crossing Sandy Lane (very late in
 year)

October, November and December

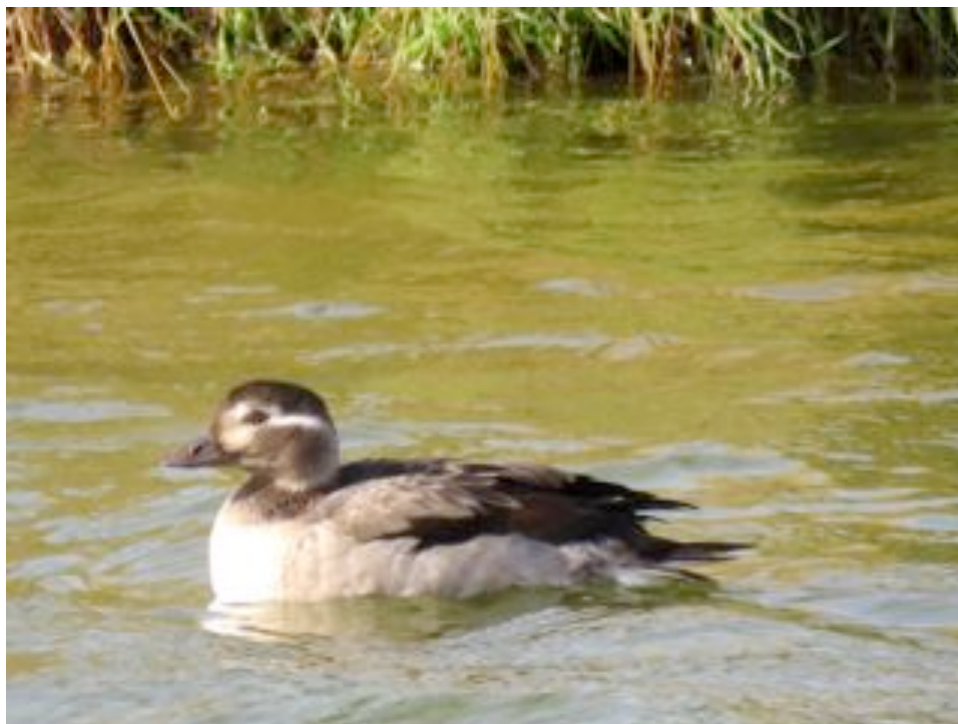
Brent Goose 22/11 (350) below Whitehall

Egyptian Goose 17/11 (2) Wetland Reserve

Wigeon and Teal early Oct - increasing numbers on the river and saltmarsh

Pintail 7/11 (2) along tideline

Long-tailed Duck 16/10 female Wetland Reserve



*Long-tailed Duck female Photo: Phil Whittaker
A sea duck which is unusual inland and uncommon in Suffolk*

Little Egret 7/11 (4) along tideline

Great-crested Grebe 30/11 (1) fishing close to Debenair

Buzzard 21/10 (3) over Sunnyhill; 5/11 (1) over cricket field

Grey Plover 3/10 (1) below Manor Cottage; 18/10 (c250) Hemley Hall saltmarsh

Greenshank 3/10 (4) in creek below Manor Cottage

Dunlin 18/10 (c400) Hemley Hall saltmarsh

Turnstones 23/10 (15) Manor Cottage jetty at high tide;

Redshank 23/10 (10) Manor Cottage jetty at high tide

Avocet 26/10 (14) Methersgate Bay

Black-tailed Godwit 26/10 (2) Wetland Reserve; 26/10 (32) along tideline; 7/11 (28) along tideline; 17/11 (30) along tideline

Barn Owl 8/10 (1) Woodbridge Rd towards Howe's Farm; 10/10 (1) Wetland Reserve; 24/10 (1) Mill Rd; 24/10 (1) Wetland Reserve; 14/11 Church Field; 16/11

(1) Wetland Reserve; 27/11 (1) Woodbridge Rd clutching prey; 1/12 (1) seen occasionally on Sutton side of river

Little Owl 16/10 (1) calling from oaks along Ipswich Rd; 13/11 Golf Course; 14/11 Mill Rd

Tawny Owl 23/10 calling along cricket field valley

Great-spotted Woodpecker 1/12 drumming Fishpond Rd; 1/12 male and female frequently seen at feeders in Waldringfield Heath and Sunnyhill

Rook 23/11 (c20) visiting nests in Fishpond Rd

Goldcrest 11/10 (2) Fishpond Rd

Grey Wagtail 21/10 Fishpond Rd; 11/11 Fishpond Rd Turner's Yard; 5/12 (1) feeding by manure heaps at end of School Lane



Grey Wagtail

*Photo:
Bob Crawley*

Linnet 7/11 (c50) Plum Tree Cottage

Kingfisher 3/10 (1) Wetland Reserve sluice; 27/10 (1) boatyard jetty; 31/10 (1) scrubbing posts; 2/11 (2) Wetland Reserve sluice; 14/11 (1) dinghy park; 29/11 (2) Wetland Reserve sluice



Kingfisher

*Photo:
Janette
Brown*

Kingfisher

Photo:
Bob
Crawley



Stonechat 23/11 (2) just beyond beach huts

Chaffinch 2/12 (1) with encrusted lower leg/foot coming to feeder in Waldringfield Heath

Common Seal 18/10 (3) Early Creek

Bats 18/10 & 24/10 several sighted in evening over Wetland Reserve

Muntjac 31/10 Set-aside by Holly Corner

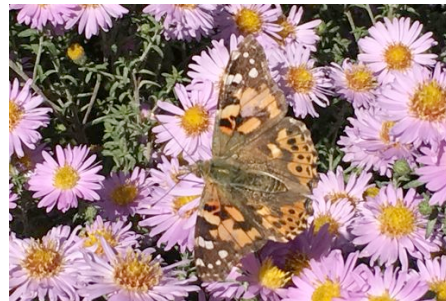
Badger 27/11 dead on roadside by Moon and sixpence

Holly Blue 2/10 (1) Fishpond Rd

Painted Lady 5/10 (1) Rivers Hall garden

Red Admiral 17/10 (1) Fishpond Rd;
31/10 (1) Fishpond Lane taking ivy nectar then roosting in ivy

Harlequin Ladybird 30/10 (1000-2000)
Ramsholt Church



Painted Lady Photo: Rolls Barclay



An enterprising Grey Squirrel Photo: Janette Brown

For this edition I am grateful to the following contributors: Chris Baldry, Tim and Gill Burslem, Joe and Kit Clark, Penny and Stephen Clover, Pam and Bob Crawley, Janet Elliot, Rosalind Erskine and Jonathan Webb, Christine Fisher Kay, Bunny King, Sue and Steffen Larsen, Joe Lubbock, Chris and Tony Lyon, Angela Mace, Janette Mace, Anne Maddison, Celia Mason, Chris Morton, Max and Margaret Pemberton, Sally Redfern, Alexis and John Smith, Judith Stinson, Phil Whittaker, Linda and Jon Wilkins, Neil Winship.

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