

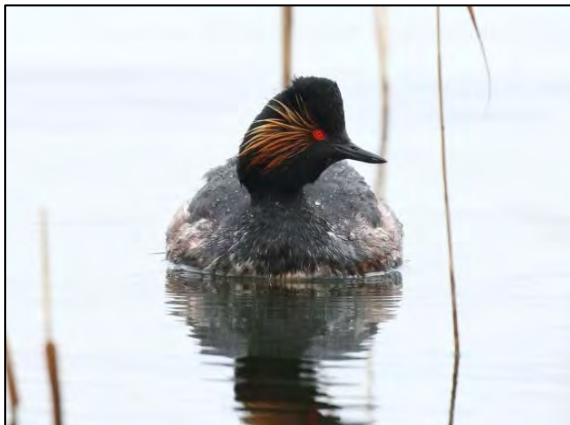


Potteric Carr Bird Highlights

- The nesting season was well underway despite below average temperatures for the first two weeks of April and trees not in leaf due to a late, wet spring. Remarkably, one day produced the highest April temperatures in England since 1949. Water levels throughout the reserve were above average all month.
- 11 **Chiffchaff** heralded in April, on 1st, with 19 on 7th/8th. Other warbler arrivals included **Sedge warbler** on 9th, **Willow warbler** singing next day, **Grasshopper warbler** on 16th, **Lesser whitethroat** on 17th, **Garden warbler** and 2 **Reed warbler** on 19th, when **Blackcap** numbers totalled over 20. Two **Whitethroat** on 24th was a relatively late arrival date.



***Egyptian geese** in St Catherine's Field and **Avocet** on West Scrape © Adrian Andruchiw*



***Black-necked grebe** © Mike Robinson and two **Cranes** on 15th © Paul Langley*

- Other migrants included a **Swallow** on 2nd and 100 **Sand martin** flying through on 3rd (with 150 on 24th), a **Wheatear** on 17th, the first **Cuckoo** on 21st, 3 **House martin** on 24th and 3 **Swift** next day.
- **Black-necked grebe** was recorded all month, with 1–3 birds present on Huxter Well Marsh. 16 **Little grebe** on 7th and 7 **Great crested grebe** on 8th.
- A **Bearded tit** at Huxter Well Marsh on 15th was the seventh consecutive month to be recorded.

- A **Great white egret** put in an appearance on 7th and there were 11 **Little egret** on 3rd (one wearing a colour-ring (photo) on 11th). 2 **Cranes** circled the reserve on 15th. Up to 4 **Bittern** were on site in April and a male was occasionally heard booming.
- Up to 13 **Avocet** were on West Scape at one time (15th). **Whimbrel** was recorded on 17th and 25th. 2 **Redshank** (11th) and 3 **Oystercatcher**, and 20 **Snipe** (1st) were also of interest. A colour-ringed Avocet seen on 21st had been ringed in France. One **Little ringed plover** was on West Scape on 24th/27th, with a **Common sandpiper** on the latter date.
- There were several records of a pair of **Egyptian geese** that moved between the reserve and the iPort lakes. As well as the regular **Whooper swan** present to 19th, there were two on 1st. **Greylag goose** appeared with six goslings on 17th and **Canada goose** with 4 young on 27th.
- There were 6 **Siskin** on 4th and a **Nuthatch** on 6th. The only record of **Kingfisher** was one on 1st. There were 3 **Water rail** on 3rd/10th, and 70 **Teal** on 10th.



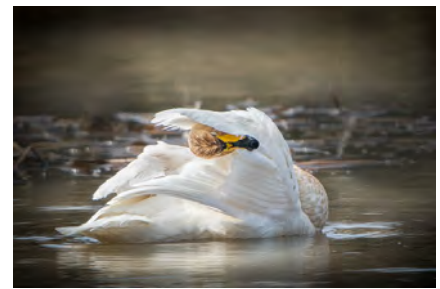
Little egret © Paul Paddock, *Mute swan* © Amy Thompson and *Common sandpiper* © Adrian Andruchiw

- The three **Black-headed gull** colonies were depleted down to a total of *circa* 70 pairs. 10 **Cetti's warbler** sang around the site, indicating good winter survival rates for this species. **Skylark** singing on Central Grassland on 17th was a welcome sound but was not heard again and **Lapwings** attempting to nest on the same grassland were harassed by corvids.
- **Marsh harriers** were regularly seen, with two pairs displaying over the site. Several pairs of **Buzzard** held territory in the area all month, with two pairs of **Sparrowhawk** and **Kestrel** also present. A **Peregrine** was seen on 3rd/24th and a **Hobby** on 28th.

RELATED NEWS

- iPort buffer land birds included some interesting sightings: 3 **Ringed plover** and 3 **LRP** on 7th, **Arctic tern** on 11th/27th, 2 **Ring ouzel** and **Whinchat** on 16th, 20+ **White wagtails** on 18th and a **Red kite** on 20th. 5 **Yellow wagtail** on 24th, 18 **Wheatear** on 27th and 2 **Barnacle goose** on 28th. There is nowhere to park cars close to the iPort lakes, which are viewable from the public bridleway.
- Bird feeding at Willow Pool Hide has been discontinued for the summer, but will resume in September.

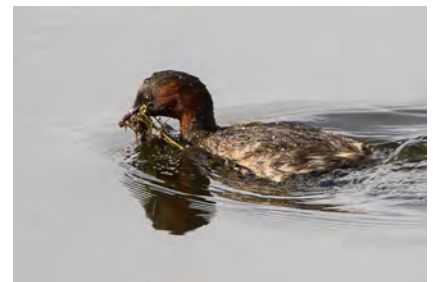
LIST OF BIRDS	RECORDED IN 2018											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mute Swan												
Bewick's Swan												
Whooper Swan												
Pink-footed Goose												
White-fronted Goose												
Greylag Goose												
Canada Goose												
Barnacle Goose												
Egyptian Goose												
Shelduck												
Mandarin Duck												
Wigeon												
Gadwall												
Teal												
Mallard												
Pintail												
Garganey												
Shoveler												
Red-crested Pochard												
Pochard												
Tufted Duck												
Scaup												
Goldeneye												
Smew												
Goosander												
Red-legged Partridge												
Grey Partridge												
Pheasant												
Leach's Petrel												
Cormorant												
Bittern												
Little Egret												
Great White Egret												
Grey Heron												
Purple Heron												
Spoonbill												
Little Grebe												
Great Crested Grebe												
Black-necked Grebe												
Honey-buzzard												
Red Kite												
Marsh Harrier												
Hen Harrier												
Pallid Harrier												
Montagu's Harrier												
Goshawk												
Sparrowhawk												
Buzzard												
Osprey												
Kestrel												
Merlin												
Hobby												
Peregrine												
Water Rail												
Moorhen												
Coot												
Crane												
Avocet												
Oystercatcher												
Golden Plover												
Grey Plover												
Lapwing												
Little Ringed Plover												
Ringed Plover												
Whimbrel												
Curlew												
Black-tailed Godwit												
Bar-tailed Godwit												
Turnstone												
Knot												
Ruff												
Curlew Sandpiper												
Temminck's Stint												
Sanderling												
Dunlin												
Little Stint												
Red-necked Phalarope												
Common Sandpiper												
Green Sandpiper												
Spotted Redshank												
Greenshank												
Wood Sandpiper												
Redshank												
Jack Snipe												
Woodcock												
Snipe												
Little Tern												
Black Tern												
Sandwich Tern												
Common Tern												
Arctic Tern												
Kittiwake												
Black-headed Gull												
Little Gull												
Mediterranean Gull												
Common Gull												
Lesser Black-backed Gull												
Herring Gull												
Yellow-legged Gull												
Caspian Gull												
Iceland Gull												
Glaucous Gull												



Whooper swan © Steve Ditch



Gadwall © Keith Horton



Little grebe © Adrian Andruchiw



Avocet © Adrian Andruchiw

LIST OF BIRDS	RECORDED IN 2018											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Great Black-backed Gull												
Feral Dove / Rock Pigeon												
Stock Dove												
Woodpigeon												
Collared Dove												
Turtle Dove												
Ring-necked Parakeet												
Cuckoo												
Barn Owl												
Tawny Owl												
Short-eared Owl												
Swift												
Kingfisher												
Green Woodpecker												
Great Spotted Woodpecker												
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker												
Magpie												
Jay												
Jackdaw												
Rook												
Carriion Crow												
Raven												
Goldcrest												
Firecrest												
Blue Tit												
Great Tit												
Coal Tit												
Willow Tit												
Marsh Tit												
Bearded Tit												
Skylark												
Sand Martin			14th									
Swallow												
House Martin												
Cetti's Warbler												
Long-tailed Tit												
Yellow-browed Warbler												
Wood Warbler												
Chiffchaff			11th									
Willow Warbler												
Blackcap												
Garden Warbler												
Lesser Whitethroat												
Whitethroat												
Grasshopper Warbler												
Sedge Warbler												
Reed Warbler												
Waxwing												
Nuthatch												
Treecreeper												
Wren												
Starling												
Ring Ouzel												
Blackbird												
Fieldfare												
Song Thrush												
Redwing												
Mistle Thrush												
Spotted Flycatcher												
Robin												
Pied Flycatcher												
Black Redstart												
Redstart												
Whinchat												
Stonechat												
Wheatear												
Duncock												
House Sparrow												
Tree Sparrow												
Yellow Wagtail												
Grey Wagtail												
Pied Wagtail												
Meadow Pipit												
Chaffinch												
Brambling												
Greenfinch												
Goldfinch												
Siskin												
Snow Bunting			IP									
Linnet			IP									
Lesser Redpoll												
Common/Mealy Redpoll												
Common Crossbill												
Bullfinch												
Hawfinch												
Yellowhammer												
Reed Bunting												

total species recorded	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
each month 2018	84	93	98	111								
year to date 2018	84	98	111	134								
year to date for 2017	90	96	108	141	151	153	156	156	160	163	164	166



Snipe © Iain Mcaulay



Buzzard © Carol Hall



Swallow © Adrian Andruchiw



Reed bunting © Keith Horton