



Potteric Carr Bird Highlights – August 2018



Kingfisher on 11th August © Roy Day

- **Kingfisher** put in more appearances along Mother Drain following the species' near absence during the breeding season. Warblers moved through the site on passage all month, for example **Blackcap** (14 on 23rd) and **Chiffchaff** (9 on 28th), and wader activity increased on West Scrape as the water level remained optimum.



Green sandpiper © Barry Wardley and Lesser whitethroat © Allen Holmes

- 13 **Green sandpiper** on 23rd was a high count for Potteric Carr. Other max wader counts included 800 **Lapwing**, 2 **Dunlin** and 39 **Black-tailed godwit** on 3rd, 2 **Common sandpiper** on 5th, 10 **Snipe** on 10th and 5 **Ringed plover** on 21st. **Little ringed plover** including a family party visited West Scrape, where a **Greenshank** was seen on 18th-23rd.
- **Red-crested Pochard** on 16th was a new bird for the Reserve yearlist. WeBS counts on 12th August revealed a single **Wigeon** (also on other dates), 104 **Gadwall** (but max 140 on 2nd/30th), 108 **Teal** and 155 **Mallard**; also among the waterfowl that day were 37 **Little grebe** and 9 **Great crested grebe**.
- A **Barn owl** was at Short Lane Fields on 8th. The two Potteric Carr-bred juvenile **Marsh harriers** hunted Huxter Well Marsh to at least mid-month. **Hobby** appeared on several dates (2 on 30th), with a **Peregrine** on 18th and 3 hunting on 21st. A **Red kite** flew over on 23rd. **Kestrel**, **Buzzard** and **Sparrowhawk** were seen regularly.



Redstart ringed on 17th © Rebekah Beaumont and the wandering colour-ringed Avocet © Allen Holmes

- Female **Redstart** was ringed near the Visitor Centre on 17th August. A colour-ringed **Avocet** seen at Potteric Carr on 21st April 2018 (photo) had been ringed at Réserve Naturelle de Séné, France on 4th June 2014 and had also travelled to Vet a la Palma wetlands in the Doñana National Park area of Spain in February 2016.
- Further evidence of passerine autumn migration came with 300+ **Sand martin** SW on 12th, when 30 **Swift** went through, as did 20 on 14th and 16 on 28th; 200+ **House martin** on 26th. Single **Yellow wagtail** on 4th/12th, **Lesser whitethroat** on 4th/11th/23rd, **Garden warbler** on 23rd and **Spotted flycatcher** on 23rd, 25th and 30th.
- Other records of interest included a **Nuthatch** on 7th, **Goldcrest** on 8th, 2 **Willow tit** on 23rd and **Green** and **Great spotted woodpecker** on a number of dates. Up to 100 **Yellow wagtails** roosted at the iPort Lakes.
- There were maxima of 35 **Cormorant** on 1st and 8 **Common tern** on 26th. A number of **Bitterns** continued to be seen regularly, though some had evidently dispersed before the end of August. **Water rail** showed occasionally.



Water rail © Matthew Christou, Common tern juv © Adrian Andruchiw and Spotted flycatcher © Gary Dyson

| 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 | | | | IP | | | | | | | | |
| Egyptian Goose | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Shelduck | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mandarin Duck | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wigeon | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gadwall | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Teal | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mallard | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pintail | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Garganey | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shoveler | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Red-crested Pochard | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pochard | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tufted Duck | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scaup | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Goldeneye | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Smew | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Goosander | | | | IP | | | | | | | | |
| Red-legged Partridge | | IP | IP | | IP | | | IP | | | | |
| Grey Partridge | | IP | | IP | | | | | | | | |
| 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 | | | | IP | IP | | | | | | | |
| Marsh Harrier | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hen Harrier | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pallid Harrier | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Montagu's Harrier | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Goshawk | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sparrowhawk | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Buzzard | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Osprey | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Kestrel | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Merlin | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hobby | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Peregrine | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Water Rail | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Moorhen | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coot | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Crane | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Avocet | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oystercatcher | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Golden Plover | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grey Plover | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lapwing | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Little Ringed Plover | | | IP | IP | | | | | | | | |
| Ringed Plover | | | | IP | | | | | | | | |
| Whimbrel | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Curlew | | | | | | IP | | IP | | | | |
| Black-tailed Godwit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bar-tailed Godwit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Turnstone | | | | | IP | IP | IP | | | | | |
| Knot | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ruff | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Curlew Sandpiper | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Temminck's Stint | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Sanderling | | | | | IP | IP | | | | | | |
| Dunlin | | | | IP | | | | | | | | |
| Little Stint | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Red-necked Phalarope | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Sandpiper | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Green Sandpiper | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Spotted Redshank | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Greenshank | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Wood Sandpiper | | | | | | IP | | | | | | |
| Redshank | | | IP | | | | | | | | | |
| Jack Snipe | IP | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Woodcock | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Snipe | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Little Tern | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black Tern | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Sandwich Tern | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Tern | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arctic Tern | | | | IP | IP | IP | | | | | | |
| Kittiwake | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black-headed Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Little Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mediterranean Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lesser Black-backed Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Herring Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yellow-legged Gull | | | | | | | | IP | IP | | | |
| Caspian Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Iceland Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Glaucous Gull | | | | | | | | | | | | |



Mute swans feeding along Piper Marsh Drain © Sue Bird



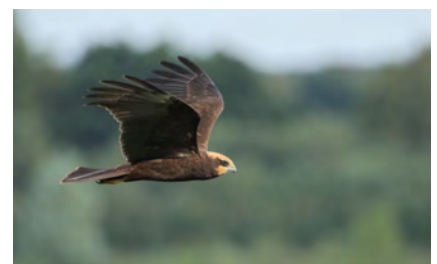
Bittern © Paul Paddock



Little egret © Vernon Barker



Peregrine with pigeon © Allen Holmes



Marsh harrier © Adrian Andruchiw

| LIST OF BIRDS | RECORDED IN 2018 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| Great Black-backed Gull | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Carriion Crow | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Raven | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Goldcrest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Firecrest | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Blue Tit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Great Tit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coal Tit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Willow Tit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marsh Tit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bearded Tit | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Skylark | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| 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 | | | | | 16th | | | | | | | |
| Sedge Warbler | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Reed Warbler | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Waxwing | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Nuthatch | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Treecreeper | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wren | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Starling | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ring Ouzel | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Blackbird | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fieldfare | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Song Thrush | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Redwing | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mistle Thrush | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Spotted Flycatcher | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Robin | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pied Flycatcher | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black Redstart | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Redstart | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whinchat | | | | | IP | | | | | | | |
| Stonechat | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheatear | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Duncock | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| House Sparrow | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tree Sparrow | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yellow Wagtail | | | | | IP | IP | IP | IP | | | | |
| Grey Wagtail | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pied Wagtail | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Meadow Pipit | | | | | | | | IP | | | | |
| Chaffinch | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brambling | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Greenfinch | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Goldfinch | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Siskin | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Snow Bunting | | | IP | | | | | | | | | |
| Linnet | | | IP | | | | IP | IP | | | | |
| Lesser Redpoll | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common/Mealy Redpoll | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Common Crossbill | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bullfinch | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hawfinch | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Yellowhammer | | | | | IP | IP | IP | IP | IP | | | |
| Reed Bunting | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| total species recorded | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| each month 2018 | 84 | 93 | 98 | 112 | 109 | 95 | 93 | 104 | | | | |
| year to date 2018 | 84 | 98 | 111 | 134 | 144 | 145 | 148 | 153 | | | | |
| year to date for 2017 | 90 | 96 | 108 | 141 | 151 | 153 | 156 | 156 | 160 | 163 | 164 | 166 |



Common tern
© Adrian Andruchiw



Snipe © Adrian Andruchiw



Green sandpiper © Vernon Barker



Llama grazing in Central Grassland © Matthew Christou



Marsh harrier juv © Nidge Nilsen