



Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

Potteric Carr Highlights

February 2019

- Wildfowl numbers fluctuated throughout the month, the largest counts were as follows: gadwall 230 (21st), tufted duck 56 (28th), teal 360 and shoveler 120 (5th), pochard 90 (12th) and wigeon 130 (22nd). 150 pink footed geese flew over the reserve earlier in the month on the 2nd and a further 320 flew west on the 16th.
- The gull roost on Huxter Well Marsh produced some good records and counts, with both Caspian gull and yellow legged gull being recorded. Mediterranean gull was also seen on at least one occasion. Maximum counts recorded were as follows: herring gull c.500, great black-backed gull c.300 and lesser black-backed gull 13-all from the 9th.
- Jack snipe gave exceptionally good views at times for most of the month from Decoy Marsh Hide. First seen on the 3rd, two were seen on the 19th and the last report came through on the 21st.
- 250 lapwing over Huxter Well Marsh on the 22nd and 14 snipe on the 25th were the only notable wader records at Potteric. However the iPort fared somewhat better with ringed plover, oystercatcher, redshank, snipe, jack snipe and green sandpiper all reported.
- All three woodpecker species were seen during the month, a pair of great spotted woodpecker appearing to set up territory in Black Carr Woods and providing good views for visitors to the reserve.
- A single red kite was reported on the 16th with daily sightings of marsh harrier, kestrel and sparrowhawk. Two peregrine falcons were seen together over Huxter Well Marsh on the 10th.
- A single stonechat passed through the site on the 17th, seen close to the Visitor Centre first thing and later in the afternoon near the Dragonfly Ponds. A water pipit was present throughout the month over on iPort Lakes. The starlings continued to show well up to mid-month with c.30000 birds involved.

- Photo credits: Stonechat © Richard Scott, Red Kite © Adrian Andruchiw, Bittern © Nidge Nilsen



- We had returned information relating to one of the Herring Gulls seen on site. It is still present and can usual be see on or around the tern raft on Decoy Lake:

Herring Gull

GR08114	27/02/2012	Daneshill Landfill Site: (Nottinghamshire)	
4G9B	27/12/2012	Richmond Bank, River Mersey: (Warrington)	109km W 304 days
	28/11/2017	Potteric Carr Nature Reserve: (South Yorkshire)	16km NW 5 yrs 4days

