

## **Lady Bay Birdwatchers Update 8 October 2023 for LBCA**

### **Highlights**

There have been two significant sightings up to now during 2023 which increased the overall total of birds seen/heard within the Lady Bay boundary. On 26 April a Purple Heron was noted flying over The Hook in the direction of Holme Pierrepont. Despite further searches the bird was not relocated. On 21 September two Great White Egrets were photographed flying over the eastern end of Lady Bay towards Colwick Woods. Both of these species were new for the area with the Purple Heron being a particularly rare species. The sighting has been accepted by the Nottinghamshire Birdwatchers records committee.

### **Numbers**

The above two records means that the overall total number of species seen within and/or from the Lady Bay boundary is 112 while 87 of these are directly related to The Hook itself.

### **The Year**

Many times this year The Hook has seemed quiet at the commencement of a birdwatch but has always delivered on the average number of species. The maximum number seen during a Saturday morning's Hook Watch to date this year is 39 and the average is roughly 27 species from 27 visits. That is a pretty good total for such a small area. This can be broken down as follows:

- 1st Winter period (Jan-March) – average 24 species from 9 visits
- Spring and Summer (April – August) – average 29 species from 13 visits

### **Species List**

The full list of species to date for 2023 on, or from, The Hook is as follows:

Barn Swallow, Black-headed Gull, Blackcap, Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Common Buzzard, Canada Goose, Carrion Crow, Cetti's Warbler, Chaffinch, Common Chiffchaff, Collared Dove, Common Gull, Common Pheasant, Common Snipe, Common Starling, Common Swift, Common Tern, Common Whitethroat, Cormorant, Dunnock, Eurasian Teal, Feral Pigeon, Garden Warbler, Goldfinch, Great Black-backed Gull, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Great Tit, Green Woodpecker, Greenfinch, Grey Heron, Greylag Goose, Herring Gull, House Martin, House Sparrow, Jackdaw, Jay, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Lesser Whitethroat, Little Egret, Long-tailed Tit, Magpie, Mallard, Mistle Thrush, Mute Swan, Pied Wagtail, Purple Heron, Redpoll, Redwing, Reed Bunting, Robin, Rook, Sand Martin, Sedge Warbler, Song Thrush, Sparrowhawk, Tufted Duck, Willow Warbler, Wood Pigeon, Wren.

### **Breeding 2023**

Of the above list, young of the following species have been seen on the reserve:

Blackcap, Blue Tit, Common Pheasant, Common Whitethroat, Dunnock, Goldfinch, Great Tit, Greenfinch, House Sparrow, Long-tailed Tit, Magpie, Robin, Wood Pigeon, Wren.

Species of potential but unknown breeding status:

Cetti's Warbler, Common Chiffchaff, Common Starling, Garden Warbler, Robin, Sedge Warbler, Song Thrush, Bullfinch, Chaffinch, Collared Dove, Jay, Lesser Whitethroat, Reed Bunting, Willow Warbler