



Conwy, Tuesday 24 September 2013

Thirteen members gathered at Conwy RSPB Reserve at 10.00 a.m. in brilliant sunshine for our first mid-week meeting of the season.

The water levels were low on parts of the reserve but a new screen overlooking the far pool gave excellent views. A single Bar-tailed Godwit was spotted amongst the numerous Black-tailed Godwits and Curlews, with Red-breasted Mergansers amongst the ducks.

After lunch we moved on to LLanfairfechan in thick sea mist. Down at Morfa Madryn we spotted an unseasonable Dipper and large flocks of Oystercatcher, Dunlin and Ringed Plover down on the foggy tide line. From the hides we also had Snipe, Greenshank and many Little Egrets. In total we saw 43 species.

Harold Fielding

Conwy, Tuesday 23 September 2014

Fifteen members met at Conwy RSPB Reserve at 10.00 a.m. for our first mid-week meeting of the season. The weather was dry but misty with showers by late afternoon.

The high tide around 11.30 a.m. flooded the estuary and pushed all the birds onto the reserve, giving very high counts of common waders. Careful watching also picked out Snipe, Curlew Sandpiper and Greenshank amongst the Dunlin. Five Red-breasted Merganser joined the duck together with Herons, Little Egrets and a Little Grebe with young.

After lunch we headed to Aberogwen and The Spinnies, here the tide was out but we had four Goosander on the river. Several woodland birds came on the feeders boosting our total to 45 species.

Harold Fielding

Conwy, Tuesday, 22nd September 2015

Despite traffic problems and some heavy showers, 12 members gathered at RSPB Conwy for our first mid-week meeting.

After mid-morning coffee, we moved on to the reserve. Water levels were very low at the Visitor Centre but much better at the East end of the reserve.

The tide was low, which reflected in the low count of the common waders, with Black-tailed Godwits the most numerous. Many of the ducks were in eclipse plumage, giving us a few problems. A female Wheatear on the estuary was the only migrant.

After lunch, 7 members moved on to the Spinnies at Aberogwen.

Both hides gave good views of Kingfisher, the bird of the day.

Other highlights were a family of 5 Little Grebe, 50 Mute Swans and a single Merganser.

Total 40 species

Harold & Valerie Fielding

Conwy RSPB, Tuesday 20 September 2016

Fourteen members met at 10.00 a.m. Four others joined us in the morning before leaving for the Great Orme.

Water levels on the reserve were low as we visited the hides. The best view was from the new screen at the far end of the reserve.

After lunch the group moved on the Spinnies at Aberogwen. Around 100 Little Egrets roosted on the far bank. Brief sighting of a Kingfisher was topped by Golden Plover below the hide and Razorbill on the tideline.

An excellent range of woodlands birds, waders and ducks gave us a total of 45 species.

Harold & Valerie Fielding

RSPB Conwy, 17 September 2018

Seven members enjoyed our first trip of the new season to RSPB Conwy with a Low Tide exposing lots of mud on the estuary for the Curlew to plunge their long beaks into! Yum! Also saw Little Egret in the gulleys. Despite lots of wind, we got clear blue skies and sunshine for a great walk round the reserve. First, we had a fleeting glimpse of a Water Rail by the scrapes and plenty of waterfowl who didn't seem to mind the wind. There were a flock of Redshank sheltering under the reeds with a few Dunlin but we missed having a scope in the group to see them better. On the water we counted: Red-breasted Merganser, Little Grebe, lots of Teal, Shoveler, Gadwall. Bird of the day was a Snipe grubbing around in the open, but so well camouflaged it was hard to spot. Well done to my wife Jackie who spotted this! Total for the day: 27 species.

Stephen Williams

RSPB Conwy, 12th October 2021

Nine members enjoyed a productive birding day out despite the odd shower whilst we were sheltering in the hides. A very showy Water Rail was the first bird spotted next to the café coming out of the reeds to feed on the mud in full view. We were treated to a "wisp" of 8 Snipe on a lagoon island, who disappeared in the binoculars as soon as they stopped moving! A truly cryptic camouflage! We had a surprise close view of a Stonechat sitting on top of the undergrowth. The estuary had plenty of mud remaining on the incoming tide and we bagged a Great White Egret next to several Little Egret. Lots of Curlew and Black-tailed Godwit were also seen but no Shelduck anywhere for some strange reason. Thanks to Ian Bunker for sharing his telescope with the party. Bird count: 42 species.

Stephen Williams