



### **Moore Nature Reserve, Tuesday 12 November 2013**

Eleven members visited the Reserve, situated between the Manchester Ship Canal and the River Mersey, in fine weather.

In total we recorded 36 birds, with Nuthatch, Willow Tit and Siskin being highlights at the feeding station.

On Birchwood pool there were hundreds of gulls but no white winged amongst them. However, we did see a record 10 Little Grebes together, with a good range of ducks. We missed out on Lesser Spotted Woodpecker!

Harold Fielding

### **Moore Nature Reserve, 16 March 2014**

Seven members made the short trip to Moore Nature Reserve nr Warrington. The trip was led by one of the members, Don Weedon. Two members saw a Grey Partridge on the approach road to the reserve. Meeting at the Lapwing Lane carpark we walked down towards the feeding station seeing a number of woodland birds including Nuthatch, Treecreeper, Jay and a newly arrived Chiffchaff plus numerous Common Buzzard sightings. We spent some time looking for Lesser Spotted Woodpecker to no avail even though a female had been seen before our arrival. Great Spotted Woodpeckers seemed to be everywhere, drumming and calling and Green Woodpeckers were heard a few times.

The feeding station had an array of small birds including Long-tailed Tits and Reed Bunting. We then took a walk down to Upper Moss Farm where a Peregrine disturbed a mixed flock of Lapwings and Curlew. A single Yellowhammer was singing near the feeders but there was no sign of any Tree Sparrows and there were Linnet, Stock Dove and Kestrel around the fields. At the hide overlooking the river were a few Shelduck, Wigeon, Teal and an assortment of gulls.

After lunch we again walked down Lapwing Lane, had another search for the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker but again with no luck and walked along the canal path towards Birchwood Pool and beyond. Other wildfowl seen during the day were Tufted Duck, Pochard, Shoveler and Gadwall and further highlights were Mistle and Song Thrush plus a few Redwings.

A total of 52 species was seen during the trip.

Don Weedon/Ray Evans

### **Moore Nature Reserve, 17th November 2015**

Despite the foul weather forecast, 11 of us met at the car park. With storm 'Abigail' to the North and storm 'Barney' to the South, we were lucky to have a dry morning's birding.

As we followed the clockwise path around the hides, lagoons and the feeding station, plenty of woodland birds maintained our interest. Our first Redwings fed on the hawthorn with Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush, Bullfinch, Goldcrest and a large flock of Goldfinch nearby.

A Sparrow Hawk flew over the Raptor Watch Point, with Kestrel on the power line. Plenty of ducks and gulls on Birchwood Pool were joined by Great-crested and Little Grebes. Despite a search we had no 'white winged gulls'. Our last sighting was a Robin and Blackbird just as the forecast rain arrived, bringing our total to 35 species.

Harold & Valerie Fielding

### **Moore Nature Reserve, 13th Feb 2018**

Eleven members turned out on a wet and rainy day to walk round Moore Nature Reserve which is very much under development threat from Peel Holdings who want to expand the Port adjoining the Ship Canal. Lots of Song Thrushes on Dog Field. We covered Birchwood Pool and Pump House

Pool in the morning and there were some good sightings. A male Goldeneye was displaying to two female Goldeneyes by throwing his head backwards and they both seemed interested! Val took us on a dodgy path at the back of Birch Wood, and immediately sighted a Kingfisher skimming low over Birchwood Pool from Fox Hide. It then perched for some time at the margins before disappearing and was our bird of the day. After our sandwiches, the remaining members walked round Lapwing Lake spotting many fine Wigeon, but on our walk back to the carpark we saw the Manchester Ship Canal bridge swinging preventing us from leaving. Sadly, this proved to be a test as we hoped for the Queen Mary to sail by! We did get home! 30 species total.

Stephen Williams

### **Moore Nature Reserve, 17 February 2019**

Eight members arrived for what turned out to be a very enjoyable day with 50 species being seen. From the car park a Kestrel was seen on the grassland then we walked to where the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker had been known to frequent. Several members managed to see it briefly as it flew in but it was heard calling a couple of times. In this wood were also Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Nuthatches, Tree Creepers, Siskins and Lesser Redpolls. Next was the feeding station but on the way stops at various pools to view the wildfowl were quite successful. Gadwalls, Goldeneyes, Wigeon were seen along with Little and Great-crested Grebes. At the feeding station many of the commoner tits were present plus a Willow Tit seen very close along with good views of a Bank Vole. Back to the car for lunch then a pleasant afternoon examining the more distant pools. Common and Herring Gulls were also seen. Views of Buzzard and a Sparrowhawk were obtained.

Paul Kenyon