

## Visit to Fairburn Ings – 15 March 2020

7 members met at Greendale at 0830 hours on a fine a Sunday morning for a trip to Fairburn Ings. Linda & Mick Fairest, Eileen & Graham Gill, Charles Seymour, Brian Smithson & Malcolm Swift.

Green Woodpecker was in full yaffle (voice) on our arrival at the car park. After using the facilities at the Visitor Centre we were treated to the first of several sightings today of the Red Kite, a wonderful sight as it came quite close over the car park.

We checked out the wildlife garden before following the Discovery Trail taking in Pickup Hide and feeder station. Along the way we noted Blackbird, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Cormorant (flying over) and Chaffinch.

Carrying on the River Bank Trail and checking out the Kingfisher Screen we then diverted at the top of the river bank onto the new Roy Taylor Trail. This is a recent project which has been created and gives a panoramic view over the bodies of water down to Arrow Lane. Here we had good views of Skylark in the sky and perched on the ground. Over on Spoonbill Flash we looked towards the Heronry and Cormorant Colony and also saw a solitary Spoonbill standing in the water. Instead of carrying onto Arrow Lane we did the round walk to bring us back to carry on the River Bank trail.

At Bob Dickens hide we ate our picnic lunch whilst noting Long-tailed Tit, Shelduck, Teal, Oystercatcher and Great-spotted Woodpecker. We then carried on along the trail taking in the Village Bay viewpoint and towards Charlie's hide. Just before we turned left we spotted several Goosanders downstream on the River Aire. After being tipped off by a photographer we were then lucky enough to see a Kingfisher perched quite close in the watery woodland. We then re-traced our steps all the way along the River Bank trail to the Visitor Centre.

Some brilliant birds today – Red Kite, Spoonbill and Kingfisher – and pretty good weather.

Reporter: Linda Fairest

Birds 47    Flora 16    Fungi 2    Mammals 1    Insects 1

<b>Birds</b>	<b>Flora</b>	<b>Fungi</b>	<b>Mammals</b>
Black-headed Gull	Blackthorn	Hoof fungi	Grey Squirrel
Blackbird	Primrose	Birch Polypore	
Blue Tit	Cowslip		
Buzzard	Hairy Bittercress		
Canada Goose	Green Alkanet		
Carrion Crow	Pussy Willow		
Cetti's Warbler	Fruit blossom sp.		
Chaffinch	Gorse	<b><u>Insects</u></b>	
Coot	Coltsfoot		
Cormorant	Daisy	Red-tailed Bumble Bee	
Dunnock	Broom		
Gadwall	Herb Robert		
Goldeneye	White Dead Nettle		
Goldfinch	Groundsel		
Goosander	Hazel & Alder Catkins		
Great Tit	Lesser Celandine		
Great-crested Grebe			
Great-spotted Woodpecker			
Green Woodpecker			
Grey Heron			
Greylag Goose			
Jackdaw			
Kingfisher			
Lapwing			
Little Grebe			
Long-tailed Tit			
Magpie			
Mallard			
Moorhen			
Mute Swan			
Nuthatch			
Oystercatcher			
Pheasant			
Pochard			
Red Kite			
Reed Bunting			
Robin			
Shelduck			
Shoveler			
Skylark			
Sparrowhawk			
Spoonbill			
Teal			
Tufted Duck			
Willow Tit			
Woodpigeon			
Wren			

RED KITE



PUSSY WILLOW





**ROBIN IN SONG**

**LONG TAILED TIT**



# CHECKING THE BIRD COUNT



BROOM





**GREAT CRESTED GREBE**



# Will you be lucky?

Kingfishers are often spotted here. Sometimes it's only a fleeting glimpse of electric blue feathers flashing past. But if you are really lucky, you might see a kingfisher perched and peering into the water, looking for a tasty fish. You'll need patience to see these beautiful birds, but as the saying goes - **good things come to those who wait.**



YES! WE WERE LUCKY