

DRONFIELD WILDLIFE & NATURAL HISTORY GROUP

Newsletter No.33 – November/December 2020

SECRETARY
Compiled by

Miss M Smith
Mr. B.S. Smithson,
Mr. & Mrs. M. Fairest

Tel. 07814 140034
Tel. 01246 415495

NOVEMBER

METEOROLOGICAL

WEATHER REPORT from DRONFIELD –from garden bird surveys– BSS.

First three days of the month were a mixture of sun, cloud and rain. 3rd-5th had sun and cloud. 6th-11th it was misty, dull and cold with the afternoon of 10th being sunny. 12th-17th were overcast and windy with sunny spells on 12th, 13th and 15th and rainy spells on 13th, 14th and 17th. 18th was bright and sunny, 19th to 21st started misty then overcast and cool. 22nd was sunny but drizzle in the evening. 23rd and 26th had early frost followed by sun. 24th was overcast and breezy, 25th dull with sunny spells. 27th was sun and cloud, 28th rain, 29th dull and 30th sunny but cloud by 1500hrs.

GARDEN BIRD SURVEY

The most numerous birds in 10 gardens (monthly totals)

	Species	Total	None at	Most at
1	House Sparrow	1633	[8][14]	495 at [18], 328 at [20], 304 at [15]
2	Starling	445	[1][8][17][20]	143 at [18], 137 at [6], 100 at [3]
3	Woodpigeon	425	-	101 at [15], 79 at [4], 66 at [3]
4	Blackbird	341	-	83 at [3], 64 at [18], 45 at [20]
5	Blue Tit	270	[20]	73 at [30], 48 at [6], 51 at [15]
6	Magpie	174	-	35 at [3], 23 at [4]
7	Dunnock	170	[1][8]	60 at [3], 45 at [4], 30 at [18]
8	Robin	142	-	34 at [20], 31 at [18], 15 at [1]
9	Great Tit	91	[3][4][20]	55 at [1], 11 at [14], 10 at [6]
10	Carrion Crow	82	[1][6][8][18]	55 at [3], 14 at [14],
11	Coal Tit	74	[4]	15 at [8], 14 at [15], 13 at [3]
12	Collared Dove	53	[4][5][6][17][18][20]	35 at [3], 7 at [1], 6 at [15]
13	Goldfinch	41	8 gardens	29 at [14], 12 at [4]
14	Jackdaw	25	9 gardens	25 at [1]
15	Greenfinch	19	[1][4][15][17][18][20]	12 at [6], 5 at [3], 1 at [8][14]
16	Long-tailed Tit	18	7 gardens	9 at [1], 6 at [13], 3 at [14]

Others

Chaffinch had 10 sightings at [1] and 1 at [14] on 4th and 2 at [15] on 12th. Nuthatch was seen at [1] and [8]. Single Goldcrest was seen at [15] on 26th and a Sparrowhawk on fence at [17] on 9th. Birds

seen flying over were Buzzard (1 on 13th at [1]), 1 on 19th at [3]. In addition to Carrion Crows at [1] [3], there were birds seen flying over [15] most days and at [17] on 12th, 19th & 23rd.

ORNITHOLOGICAL

3rd	10 Carrion Crows flying north west over Snape Hill Lane, Dronfield (357791)	G&EG
4th	Great Tits in and out of nest boxes in garden [1] Unstone	J&RS
	6 Herring Gulls on Barnes Farm Fields (3379)	BB
5th	Kestrel flying over Peak Resort, Unstone (3776)	J&RS
7th	12 Long-tailed Tits in front garden of 115 Snape Hill Lane(357791)	G&EG
9th	Male Mallard flying north west over rear garden [15]	G&EG
	Male Sparrowhawk on garden fence near house on Stonelow Road, (3678)	BSS
16th	16 Woodpigeon on Gladys Buxton field, Dronfield. (3678)	BSS
17th	C30 Woodpigeon flying north west over Marsh Avenue (355791)	G&EG
	3 Skeins of Geese flying from south east to north west at 1400 hours in fair weather over Snape Hill Lane (357791)	
18th	6 Pheasant in field at Geer Lane near Ford and heard all day (3980)	BB
22nd	Grey Wagtail seen on River Moss in Cook Spring Wood (376306)	G&EG
23rd	Sparrowhawk flying south over Sheffield Road, Dronfield (353787)	G&EG
	C30 Jackdaws flying over rear garden at [15] 8 Magpies seen in trees near Lenthall School (355792)	
24th	Sparrowhawk harassed by 2 Crows over Marsh Avenue (355791)	G&EG
29th	2 Tawny Owls calling in Frith Wood at 1835 hours, heard from Stonelow Road (366787)	G&EG

STARLINGS GATHERING IN POPLAR TREES AT (357792) - G&EG

C50 on 6th, C50 on 7th, C60 on 10th, C40 on 13th, C40 on 16th, C50 on 20th, C40 on 22nd, C40 on 23rd, C40 on 25th, C30 on 26th, C30 on 27th, C60 on 29th, C20 on 30th.

INSECTS IN GARDEN [15]

White-tailed Bumblebee, Honey Bee, Wasp

G&EG

MAMMALS

1st, 2nd, 7th & 14th Nov

Wood Mouse eating mealy worms put out for birds in garden [18]

M&LF

7/11/20 07.00hrs Rabbit crossing Holmesdale Road (359791)

G&EG

7/11/20 07.20hrs Muntjac Deer heard in Frith Wood (369790)

9th

2 Grey Squirrels and 1 on 21st at garden [1]

J&RS

FUNGI

3rd Hygrocybe pratensis (Meadow Waxcap) on lawn in garden at 58 Longcroft Road, (335790)

BB

7th Melastiza chaveri by Barlow Ponds (3475)

Garden Bird Survey
10 Gardens

Garden Birds

Total Species for November -

Maximum numbers seen together

Garden No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
House Sparrow	2		9	11		9								15		5	25		19	
Starling				25		18								10			19			
Blackbird	3		4	2		2		1						3	2		2	4	3	
Blue Tit	3		3			3		2						5	4		4	2		
Collared Dove	3		3	2				2							3					
Magpie	1		2	5		1		1						2	2		1	1	2	
Chaffinch	2														2					
Dunnock			2	3		1								2	1		2	1	2	
Robin	1		1	1		1		1						2	1		2	2	2	
Greenfinch			2					1						1						
Song Thrush																				
Great Tit	5							2						2	1		1	1		
Wren	1		1	1		1									1		1			
Coal Tit	1		1			1		2							2		1	2	1	
Carrion Crow			3	1																
Mistle Thrush															2			1		
Woodpigeon	2		3	4		2		2						7	6		2	3	2	
Rook																				
Jay																				
G.S.Woodpecker																				
Goldfinch				3										9						
Sparrowhawk															1					
Pied Wagtail																				
Long-tailed Tit	3													3	4					
Yellowhammer																				
B.H. Gull														6						
Goldcrest															1					
Treecreeper																				
Jackdaw															2					
Feral Rock Dove																				
Bullfinch																				
Kestrel																				
Nuthatch	1							1												
Pheasant																				
Grey Heron																				
L.B.B. Gull																				
Blackcap																				
Fieldfare																				
C.Buzzard																				
Curlew																				
Siskin																				
Tawny Owl																				
Redwing																				
Total	13		12	11		10		10						12	16		11	11	7	

DECEMBER

METEOROLOGICAL

WEATHER REPORT from DRONFIELD –from garden bird surveys– BSS.

Not Available.

The most numerous birds in 10 gardens (monthly totals)

	Species	Total	None at	Most at
1	House Sparrow	1492	[8][14]	389 at [18], 310 at [15], 294 at [20]
2	Woodpigeon	564	-	127 at [15], 91 at [14], 85 at [4]
3	Starling	516	[8][17]	304 at [18], 100 at [3], 46 at [4]
4	Blackbird	447	-	138 at [3], 66 at [18] 52 at [20]
5	Blue Tit	309	[17][18]	91 at [3], 57 at [1], 55 at [15]
6	Magpie	171	[17]	50 at [15], 40 at [3], 34 at [4]
7	Robin	141	[17]	35 at [20], 25 at [1], 16 at [8][14]
8	Great Tit	129	[3][4][17][18][20]	78 at [1], 22 at [14], 14 at [8]
9	Collared Dove	76	[4][6][14][17][20]	51 at [3], 19 at [1], 3 at [8]
10	Carrion Crow	70	[6][14][17][18][20]	61 at [3], 4 at [4], 2 at [8][15]
11	Coal Tit	57	[3][4][17][20]	18 at [8], 15 at [1], 11 at [15]
11	Long-tailed Tit	57	[3][4][17][18][20]	24 at [15], 13 at [1], 12 at [14]
13	Jackdaw	23	9 gardens	23 at [15]
14	Rook	17	9 gardens	17 at [14]
15	Goldfinch	11	8 gardens	10 at [8], 1 at [4]

Others

Siskin and Redwing were seen on 4 occasions in garden [3], Dunnock on 8 occasions at [17] & [18]. Mistle Thrush seen twice and Nuthatch once at garden [1]. Blackcap and Goldcrest seen once in garden [15]. Sparrowhawk seen on fence in garden [18]. Lesser Black-backed Gull flew over garden [18] and Black-headed Gull flew over garden [17].

ORNITHOLOGICAL

5th	Kingfisher, Grey Heron and Woodpecker at Sheepbridge ponds (3575). Also Grey Heron on 8th.	J&RS
6th	Tawny Owl calling in Frithwood at 1730 hrs (3678)	BSS
7th	10.05 hrs Goldcrest seen on bird feeders in rear garden [15] (357792)	G&EG
10th	C60 Corvids on Barnes Farm Fields, Dronfield Woodhouse (3379)	BB
11th	Nuthatch on bird feeders at Peak Resort, Unstone (3776). Mistle Thrush at Old Whittington (3874)	J&RS
17th	Kestrel at Peak Resort, Unstone (3776), also on 20th. 8 Jackdaws flying West over Marsh Avenue (355792)	J&RS G&EG
20th	17.10hrs Tawny Owl calling in trees between Dronfield Hall Barn and railway line (352785)	G&EG / M&LF
21st	Skein of Geese (Pinkfoot?) flying west to east over Cecil Road allotments (3478)	P&MK
24th	Birds in Gorsey Brigg copse, Dronfield Woodhouse (3378) - Robin, Blue Tit, Wren, Blackbird, Woodpigeon, House Sparrow, Chaffinch, Magpie. A Robin was feeding in a pool in the wood after heavy on the 23rd.	AB

28th Kestrel at Hundall (3877) and Skein of Geese (Pinkfoot?) flying over and also on 31st. J&RS

31st 11.00 hrs Male Blackcap seen on bird feeders in rear garden [15] (355792) G&EG

STARLINGS GATHERING IN POPLAR TREES AT 357792 - G&EG

C30 on 1st, C20 on 2nd, C40 on 3rd, C40 on 5th, C30 on 6th, C30 on 7th, C30 on 8th, C30 on 10th,
C30 on 11th, C30 on 13th, C40 on 15th, C20 on 17th, C30 on 20th, C30 on 22nd, C20 on 23rd, C20 on 23rd,
C20 on 24th, C20 on 28th, 10 on 29th, C30 on 30th, C20 on 31st.

—

Garden Bird Survey
10 Gardens

Garden Birds

Total Species for December -

Maximum numbers seen together

Garden No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
House Sparrow	3		11	9		9								10	20		5	17		15
Starling				16		18								5	6			26		
Blackbird	2		5	2		12		1						3	3		1	3		4
Blue Tit	6		3	2		4		2						3	4					
Collared Dove	2		2					2										1		
Magpie	1		2	3		1		2						3	2			1		2
Chaffinch	2																			
Duncock			2	3		2		1						2	1			1		1
Robin	2		1	1		1		1						2	1			2		2
Greenfinch								3												
Song Thrush																				
Great Tit	5					1		2						4	1					
Wren	1		1			1											1			
Coal Tit	2					1		2						1	2			1		
Carrion Crow	1		3					2						2	1					
Mistle Thrush	2																			
Woodpigeon	6		6	6		2		4						23	8		1	3		2
Rook				2										9						
Jay																				
G.S.Woodpecker																				
Goldfinch				1				4						2						
Sparrowhawk																		1		
Pied Wagtail																				
Long-tailed Tit	5					3		2						5	8					
Yellowhammer																				
B.H. Gull																				
Goldcrest															1					
Treecreeper																				
Jackdaw															2					
Feral Rock Dove																				
Bullfinch																				
Kestrel																				
Nuthatch	1																			
Pheasant																				
Grey Heron																				
Lapwing																				
L.B.B. Gull																				
Blackcap																				
Fieldfare																				
Grey Wagtail																				
Brambling																				
Siskin			1																	
Tawny Owl																				
Redwing			4																	
Total	15		12	10				13						14	14		4	10		6

MAMMALS

28th Recent Mole activity in garden [1]

J&RS

INSECTS

12th Honey Bee in garden [15]

G&EG

31st White-tailed Bumblebee [15]

G&EG

Contributors

G. Bagshaw A. Barrass, B. Best, M. & L. Fairest, G. & E. Gill, M. & P. Kirk, S. & G. Robinson, C. Seymour, J. & R. Smith, B.S. Smithson.