

## Report of Birdwatching Group 2

Visit to Moore LNR & Risley Moss, February 14<sup>th</sup> 2018

There were four of us setting out on an unpromising morning. In the end it was not the wet but the cold which was the bigger discomfort; much of the wildfowl was standing on frozen rafts of ice. Moore Reserve has a lot to offer but is spread out so we all enjoyed the walk as much as the birds. On the way round we came across a dead Barn Owl caught up in some brambles on a fence. Round the corner, in the new, roofless, Phoenix Hide there was a keen birdwatcher who had already been there for over an hour in the sleet looking out for the Bittern. We didn't see one either.

From the first hide we saw a brief flash of aquamarine from a Kingfisher and some close up views of Pochard and Little Grebes. The feeding station is disappointing as no one is putting out food, probably because they would need wading boots!

We moved on to Risley Moss, where there are facilities, for lunch. Here the feeding station provided most of the woodland birds listed and at the lookout point over the Moss there were three Buzzards fighting the fierce and bitter wind. We did not fight it for very long. Sadly the tower described in the Risley Moss leaflets was burned down a couple of years ago and there is a fund to rebuild it.

The full list for the day was:

Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>
Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>
Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>
Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>
Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Redwing	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>
Duncock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>