

## Adams Road sightings 2023

The principle is that one lists every bird, other vertebrate, butterfly, dragon fly or anything else noteworthy that one can see or hear in, from or over the Sanctuary. Numbers represent (conservatively reckoned) maxima on any one visit.

This list is the first to be arranged loosely on the model of the Cambridgeshire Bird Report (2020), which is itself based on the revised British list of 2020 (*Ibis* 160, 160-240 with subsequent amendments). Its order differs in some respects from the previous one.

Martin Brett (<mailto:mbr110@gmail.com>) would be delighted to receive any records on this template or otherwise, and at as frequent intervals as may be convenient. I hope that this template will soon appear on the Sanctuary website. Anyone who makes a return on that template will be welcomed with special enthusiasm, but all records are precious, whether in these forms, or directly by email or *via* the Yealland Hide or the tall hide notebook, the latter reinstated from April.

### Birds

Numbers are maxima on any one visit during the month. + = young; \* = numerous, not counted.; [N] clear evidence of nesting . 1+ = A record that the species was present, but without a count

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Little grebe			1	2	2+1	2	2		2		1	
Heron	1		2	3	1+2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2
Great white egret												
Little egret		1		2 <sup>1</sup>					2	1	1	
Mute swan												
Greylag goose	1	1	1	2		2						
Pink-footed goose												
Canada goose	*	6	9	12	6 + 5		5	4		*	10	4
Mallard	20	19	17	9	6 + 4	5+10	2 + 8	13+	15	10	5	16
Domestic duck												
Teal												
Tufted duck			2	4	2	1						
Goosander												
Sparrow hawk					1				1		2	
Red Kite				1								
Peregrine falcon												
Buzzard		1	2	1					1		1	
Kestrel	1											
Pheasant			1									
Red-legged partridge												
Moorhen	3	3	2	3	4	2 + 4	3+3	1 + 4	5 + 1	5+3	8	6
Coot	1					*					*	
Lapwing												
Common gull												
Black-headed gull			50+	1								
Herring gull			1									
L. blackbacked gull			1									
Cormorant	2	1									1	
<b>Woodcock</b>											1	
Feral pigeon									*			
Wood-pigeon	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	*		
[Turtle Dove] <sup>2</sup>								1				
Stock dove	2	1	4	6	1	2	2	1	1			
Collared dove												

<sup>1</sup> One an aberrant form, with uniform pale yellow/grey legs and toes

<sup>2</sup> Unverified anonymous record from upper hide

Tawny owl												
<b>Little owl</b>			1									
Swift							12					
Cuckoo									2 <sup>3</sup>			
Kingfisher	1	1	1	1	1	1	1+		1	1	1	
Green woodpecker	1	1	1	1	1	1			1			
Gt spd woodpecker		4	1	1								
Les. spd woodpecker												
Skylark												
Sand martin												
Swallow								1	10			
House martin												
Pied wagtail												
Grey wagtail									1			
Wren	2	2	3	2	6	3+	3	4	6	4	2	
Dunnock		1	1							1	1	1
Robin	1	3	3+	2		2	2		3	4	2	2
Blackbird	3	7	2	4	4	7	2	1		1	1	3
Fieldfare										1	1	
Song thrush	1	1	2		1		3		13	12	1	
Redwing		1					1					
Mistle thrush	1	2										
Reed warbler				*	4+	5+	2		2			
Garden warbler												
Blackcap	1	1		2	2	1		1				
Chiffchaff			2 <sup>4</sup>	3	1	1	2			1		
Willow Warbler												
Goldcrest		3	3	2	1	2		1	1	6	1	
Long-tailed tit	20+	2	3	2			1	1			*	
Coal tit	1+	1	1		1					1		
Blue tit	1+	4	5	3	4	4	25+	3	8	4	5	2
Great tit	3	3+	3	1	1		*				*	3
Nuthatch												
Treecreeper			2									
Great grey shrike												
Jay		2	1	2	1			1	1	2	2	1
Magpie	4	3	3	1	2	2	1	4	2	4		2
Jackdaw	1	2	10	1	1	2		2	4			2
Rook	*	*										
Carrion crow	1	2	2	1	3	2	4	2	2	1	1	4
Starling												
Chaffinch	1	1		1	2	2				1		
Brambling												
Greenfinch		1+		1					2			
Goldfinch	1+	4	18			4	1		2	5	1	
Siskin											6	
Redpoll												
Bullfinch	2										4	
Reed bunting		2										

Exceptional case: From time to time observers report the presence of sedge warblers; these present a special problem, since it has long been remarked that the Sanctuary has always had a colony of reed warblers, but secure observations of sedge warblers are extremely rare (and the infinite variety of the sedge warbler's song makes its identification challenging too). Could we therefore ask anyone reporting the presence of sedge warblers to indicate briefly the grounds for their identification - either in a separate report or in the hide notebook? Generally it is not necessary to list wood pigeons/ feral pigeons, as they can be assumed with some confidence.

<sup>3</sup> 2 juv., possibly raised on site.

<sup>4</sup> 17 March

## Butterflies

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
Small/Essex skipper										
Large skipper										
Large white										
Small white								3+		
Green-veined white										
Orangetip				2						
Brimstone			1							
Red Admiral						1		1	1	
Peacock									1	
Small tortoiseshell						1				
Comma								1		
Painted lady										
Meadow brown						1				
Gatekeeper						1				
Ringlet										
Speckled wood					3		1	5+	1	
Small copper										
Holly blue				3	7+		1	4		
White-letter Hairstreak										

Note on reporting of challenging species. Distinguishing related species of butterfly in the field can be tricky - particularly in the case of the various species of white. It seems safest therefore to include only records where the observer had clear evidence, notably from the underwings, to separate small white, green-veined white and female orange-tip (and sometimes large whites, which can be relatively small). The distinction between Small skippers and Essex skippers (which are more widespread than is often recognised) is so hard to make unless they are captured that they are lumped together above. Anyone who is confident that they have distinguished an Essex skipper is urged to annotate their report accordingly.

Other notes:

Badger: Jan., Feb., Mar., Nov..  
 Grass snake: June  
 Great crested newt: Feb., Mar., Sept.  
 Smooth newt: Mar.  
 Otter: April  
 Fox: regular  
 Muntjac: regular  
 Grey Squirrel: regular

Common darter: Sept.

Hornet: Oct.

Ivy bee: nesting on n. shore, abundant on ivy on drove; October 10

Seven-spot ladybird: August

All other notes on birds or butterflies not listed, animals, insects, behaviour etc are most welcome. In the case of migrant birds and butterflies dates of first and last sighting for the season are also valuable.