

Celtic Bird Tours

South Wales Autumn Migration

16th – 19th October 1998

Trip Report

The weather for the weekend was mainly dominated by North westerly winds with clear skies and a slight morning frost. A heavy thunder storm broke on the evening of 18th but did not affect the birding. Migrants were not much in evidence due to this weather system but as this was primarily an identification weekend, this did not matter too much. A total of 76 species were noted.

Great Crested Grebe

At least 5 were present on Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir on 17th with a further 6 at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Cormorant

Seen every day but in no great numbers with a maximum of 8 at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Little Egret

An unusually low count of just 2 were present at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Grey Heron

Seen only at Penclacwydd when 3 were present on 17th.

Mute Swan

Seen every day with a maximum of 12 at Ogmores Estuary on 19th.

Greylag Goose

A flock of 25 plus was present at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Shelduck

Surprisingly scarce with just 15 noted at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Wigeon

Seen at all suitable locations with a maximum of 25 plus at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Gadwall

First noted at Penclacwydd on 17th with a maximum of 16 at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Teal

First noted at Penclacwydd on 17th when 14 were present. This remained the maximum count.

Pintail

Seen only at Penclacwydd on 17th when a disappointing total of just 4 males were noted.

Mallard

Seen every day in good numbers with a maximum of 100 plus at Ogmere Estuary on 19th.

Shoveler

Seen at all suitable locations but only in small numbers with a maximum of 5 at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Red Crested Pochard

The long staying feral male was present at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Pochard

Seen at all suitable locations with a maximum of 90 plus at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Tufted Duck

Seen at all suitable locations with a maximum of 100 plus at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Goldeneye

A single female on Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir on 17th was the first returning bird of the autumn.

Ruddy Duck

A single female believed to be the same bird was seen at Eglwys Nunydd Reservoir on 17th and Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Sparrowhawk

Single males were noted at Penclacwydd on 17th and Sker Farm on 18th.

Buzzard

Seen every day but in no great numbers with a maximum of 4 together at the Watermill, Ogmere on 19th.

Kestrel

Single individuals were noted throughout including a bird being badly harassed by crows at Nash Point on 19th.

Merlin

A fem/imm gave superb views as it perched on a fence post at Sker Farm on 18th.

Peregrine

A pair gave a wonderful flying exhibition at Nash Point on 19th.

Water Rail

At least 3 calling birds were at Kenfig Pool on 18th but none were sighted.

Moorhen

At least 20 were noted at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Coot

Seen at all suitable locations with a maximum of 150 plus at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Oystercatcher

Seen at all suitable locations but in no great numbers with a maximum of 60 plus at Rest Bay on 18th.

Golden Plover

A flock of 50 plus was seen on several occasions, in flight only at Sker on 18th.

Lapwing

Present only in small numbers throughout with a maximum of 57 at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Dunlin

An incredibly low count of just 2 were present at Penclacwydd on 17th. This remained the only record.

Snipe

Two at the Watermill, Ogmore was the only record.

Black Tailed Godwit

The resident flock at Penclacwydd numbered 150 plus on 17th.

Bar tailed Godwit

A single bird in the above flock was the only record.

Spotted Redshank

Seven at Penclacwydd on 17th was unsurprisingly the only record.

Redshank

The Penclacwydd flock on 17th numbered 300 plus. Elsewhere noted only at Rest Bay on 18th and Ogmore Estuary on 19th when 2 were present on each occasion.

Greenshank

Eleven at Penclacwydd on 17th was by recent standards a poor showing.

Turnstone

Seen only at Rest Bay on 18th when a low count of 20 were noted.

Black Headed Gull

Seen every day with a maximum of 250 plus at Ogmore Estuary on 19th. This flock included a ringed individual.

Common Gull

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 14 at Rest Bay on 18th. This flock included a ringed individual.

Herring Gull

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 50 plus at Rest Bay on 18th.

Lesser Black Backed Gull

Seen every day in very low numbers with a maximum of 6 at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Yellow Legged Gull

A single individual on Rest Bay on 18th was a good record.

Great Black Backed Gull

Seen every day in ones and twos at all suitable locations.

Wood Pigeon

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 20 plus at Nash Point on 19th.

Collared Dove

Seen most days in small numbers at various locations.

Great Spotted Woodpecker

A single bird at Nash Point on 19th was thought to be a genuine migrant.

Sky Lark

The only flock of any note was 50 plus moving West at Nash Point on 19th.

Meadow Pipit

The only flock of any note was 30 plus at Nash Point on 19th.

Rock Pipit

At least 10 were noted on Sker Rocks on 18th.

Pied Wagtail

No flocks noted with just scattered records of ones and twos throughout.

Wren

Seen every day with a maximum of 4 at Nash Point on 19th.

Dunnock

Seen most days in small numbers with a maximum of 3 at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Robin

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 5 at Nash point on 19th.

Stonechat

Seen most days with a maximum of 4 at Sker Farm on 18th.

Blackbird

Seen every day in small numbers.

Song Thrush

Single birds were noted only at Penclacwydd on 17th and Nash Point on 19th.

Chiffchaff

Amazingly the only record was of single birds at Kenfig on 18th and Nash Point on 19th.

Goldcrest

Heard throughout in reasonable numbers with the only sight records being at least 5 at Nash point on 19th.

Blue Tit

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 10 at Kenfig Pol on 18th.

Great Tit

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 5 at Nash Point on 19th.

Long Tailed Tit

Surprisingly scarce with the only sight record being a flock of 12 at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Jay

Two at the Watermill, Ogmere on 19th was the only record.

Magpie

Seen every day with a maximum of 8 at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Carrion Crow

Singles were noted at various locations throughout.

Rook

Seen every day but no large flocks located.

Jackdaw

Seen every day with a maximum of 200 plus at Nash Point on 19th.

Raven

Seen most days with a maximum of 3 at Ogmere estuary on 19th.

Starling

Seen every day but no large flocks located with a maximum of 40 plus at Sker Farm on 18th.

House Sparrow

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of just 7 at Sker Farm on 18th.

Chaffinch

Seen every day with a maximum of 100 plus at Nash Point on 19th.

Brambling

A single at Sker Farm on 18th was followed by 3 at Nash Point on 19th. All records were of fly over birds.

Greenfinch

Seen most days but in no great numbers with a maximum of 25 at Penclacwydd on 17th.

Goldfinch

Seen most days as flyovers with a maximum of 8 at Kenfig Pool on 18th.

Linnet

Decidedly scarce with the only record being 3 at Sker Farm on 18th.

Yellowhammer

Two at Kenfig Pool on 18th was the only record.

Reed Bunting

Three at Kenfig Pool on 18th was the only record.