

# **Celtic Bird Tours**

## **South Wales Autumn Migration**

### **4th – 7th October 1998**

#### **Trip Report**

The weather system throughout was dominated by North Westerly winds of variable strength with mainly clear skies. As so often has been the case this autumn this was not very productive for migrants and this combined with a lot of foliage still on the trees made searching quite hard work. In total 82 species were noted.

#### **Dabchick**

Two at Kenfig Pool on 5th was the only record.

#### **Great Crested Grebe**

Seen only at Kenfig Pool on 5th when 4 were present.

#### **Cormorant**

Seen every day in suitable locations with a maximum of 8 at Ogmere Estuary on 5th.

#### **Little Egret**

A respectable count of 5 were at Penclacwydd on 6th.

#### **Grey Heron**

Six at Penclacwydd on 6th was the maximum count.

#### **Mute Swan**

Seen every day in suitable locations with a maximum count of 12 at Ogmere Estuary on 5th.

#### **Shelduck**

A distant flock of 150 plus were on Loughor Estuary on 6th with just 7 present on the Penclacwydd reserve proper.

#### **Wigeon**

Seen every day at suitable locations with a maximum of 23 at Penclacwydd on 6th.

#### **American Wigeon**

A splendid drake was present at Penclacwydd on 6th.

#### **Gadwall**

Eight at Kenfig Pool on 5th was the only record.

**Teal**

Seven at Penclacwydd on 6th was the maximum count.

**Pintail**

Seen only at Penclacwydd on 6th when 24 were present.

**Mallard**

Seen every day in suitable locations with 200 plus at Ogmere Estuary on 5th being the maximum count.

**Pochard**

Eighty three at Kenfig Pool on 5th was a notable count so early in the autumn.

**Tufted Duck**

Seen only at Kenfig Pool on 5th when 35 plus were present.

**Ruddy Duck**

A first winter male was present at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Sparrowhawk**

A single male at Penclacwydd on 6th was surprisingly the only record.

**Buzzard**

Seen every day but in no great numbers with a maximum of 4 together at River Ely Miskin on 4th.

**Kestrel**

Seen every day at suitable locations with a maximum of 2 at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Merlin**

A male was noted very briefly in flight only at Penclacwydd on 6th.

**Peregrine**

A single bird was noted at Nash point on 5th.

**Water Rail**

Two at Kenfig Pool on 5th showed briefly but well.

**Moorhen**

Seen every day in suitable locations with an excellent count of 35 plus at Penclacwydd on 6th being the maximum.

**Coot**

Seen only at Kenfig Pool on 5th when 150 plus were present.

**Oystercatcher**

A large flock of 500 plus was present distantly on Loughour Estuary on 6th.

**Golden Plover**

Four flying North over Kenfig Pool on 5th was the only record.

**Lapwing**

Twenty eight at Penclacwydd on 6th was the only record.

**Curlew Sandpiper**

A single juvenile at Penclacwydd on 6th was the only record.

**Ruff**

Singles at Ogmores Estuary on 5th and Penclacwydd on 6th were the only records.

**Spotted Redshank**

Five at Penclacwydd on 6th was the only record.

**Redshank**

150 plus at Penclacwydd on 6th was the only record.

**Greenshank**

Seventeen at Penclacwydd on 6th was the only record.

**Black Headed Gull**

Seen every day with a maximum of 200 plus at Ogmores Estuary on 5th.

**Common Gull**

Three at Kenfig Pool on 5th was a disappointingly low maximum count.

**Herring Gull**

Seen every day but in no great numbers with a maximum of 60 plus at Ogmores Estuary on 5th.

**Lesser Black backed Gull**

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 8 at Ogmores Estuary on 5th.

**Wood Pigeon**

Seen every day with a maximum of 20 plus at Nash point on 5th.

**Collared Dove**

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 3 in Miskin village on 4th.

**River Kingfisher**

Seen on all visits to River Ely Miskin with a maximum of 3 on 4th.

**Green Woodpecker**

A single bird was seen well at River Ely Miskin on 6th.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker**

A male was seen flying at River Ely Miskin on 4th.

**Sky Lark**

Small numbers were heard passing overhead at most locations.

**Barn Swallow**

A flock of 20 plus at River Ely Miskin on 4th was the only record.

**House Martin**

A flock of 15 plus flying East at Nash Point on 5th was the only record.

**Meadow Pipit**

Small movements took place most days with a maximum of 20 plus at Nash Point on 5th.

**Grey Wagtail**

Ones and twos passed overhead most days with the only ground record being of 3 at River Ely Miskin on 6th.

**Pied Wagtail**

Seen daily in small numbers with a maximum of 7 at Penclacwydd on 6th.

**Northern Wren**

Seen daily in small numbers with a maximum of 5 at River Ely Miskin on 4th.

**Dunnock**

Seen daily in reasonable numbers with a maximum of 6 at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**European Robin**

Seen daily in good numbers with a maximum of 12 plus at Nash point on 5th.

**Stonechat**

Seen most days at suitable locations with a maximum of 4 at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Northern Wheatear**

Two at Nash Point on 5th were followed by singles at Ogmere Estuary and Kenfig Pool on the same day.

**Ring Ouzel**

A first year bird was seen to fly towards Sker from Kenfig Pool on the morning of the 6th.

**Blackbird**

Seen every day with a maximum of 10 at Kenfig Pool on 6th.

**Song Thrush**

Seen every day with a maximum of 3 at River Ely Miskin on 6th.

**Mistle Thrush**

Seven on the ground together at River Ely Miskin on 6th was the only record.

**Cetti's Warbler**

A singing bird was heard down to 5 m at Kenfig Pool on 5th but frustratingly could not be located despite a half an hour wait.

**Reed Warbler**

Single birds were noted at Kenfig Pool on 5th and Penclacwydd on 6th.

**Blackcap**

Two at Nash point on 5th was the only record.

**Chiffchaff**

Seen and heard daily with a maximum of 10 at Nash Point on 5th.

**Goldcrest**

Seen and heard daily with a maximum of 8 at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Marsh Tit**

Seen or heard on all visits to River Ely Miskin with a maximum of 2 on the afternoon of 4th.

**Coal Tit**

Five at River Ely Miskin on 6th was the only record.

**Blue Tit**

Seen daily with a maximum of 15 plus at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Great Tit**

Seen daily with a maximum of 6 at River Ely Miskin on 4th.

**European Nuthatch**

After several attempts 4 were noted at River Ely Miskin on 6th.

**Common Treecreeper**

A single at River Ely Miskin on 4th was the only sight record.

**Long Tailed Tit**

Seen daily with a maximum of 20 plus at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Jay**

Three at River Ely Miskin on 4th was the only record.

**Common Magpie**

Widespread and common throughout.

**Carrion Crow**

Seen daily but in no great numbers. No maximum count taken.

**Rook**

Seen on all visits to River Ely Miskin with a maximum of 35 plus on 4th.

**Jackdaw**

Seen daily in good numbers with a maximum of 100 plus at River Ely Miskin on 4th.

**Common Raven**

Two at Nash Point on 5th was the only record.

**Common Starling**

Widespread and common throughout.

**House Sparrow**

Seen every day but in no great numbers with a maximum of 13 at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Chaffinch**

Seen every day with a maximum of 20 plus at Kenfig Pool on 5th.

**Greenfinch**

Seen most days with a maximum of 10 plus at Penclacwydd on 6th.

**European Goldfinch**

Seen every day in small numbers with a maximum of 7 at River Ely Miskin on 6th.

**Siskin**

Two flyover birds were noted at River Ely Miskin on 4th.

**Yellowhammer**

One male at Kenfig Pool on 5th was the only record.

**Reed Bunting**

Two at Kenfig Pool on 5th was the only record.