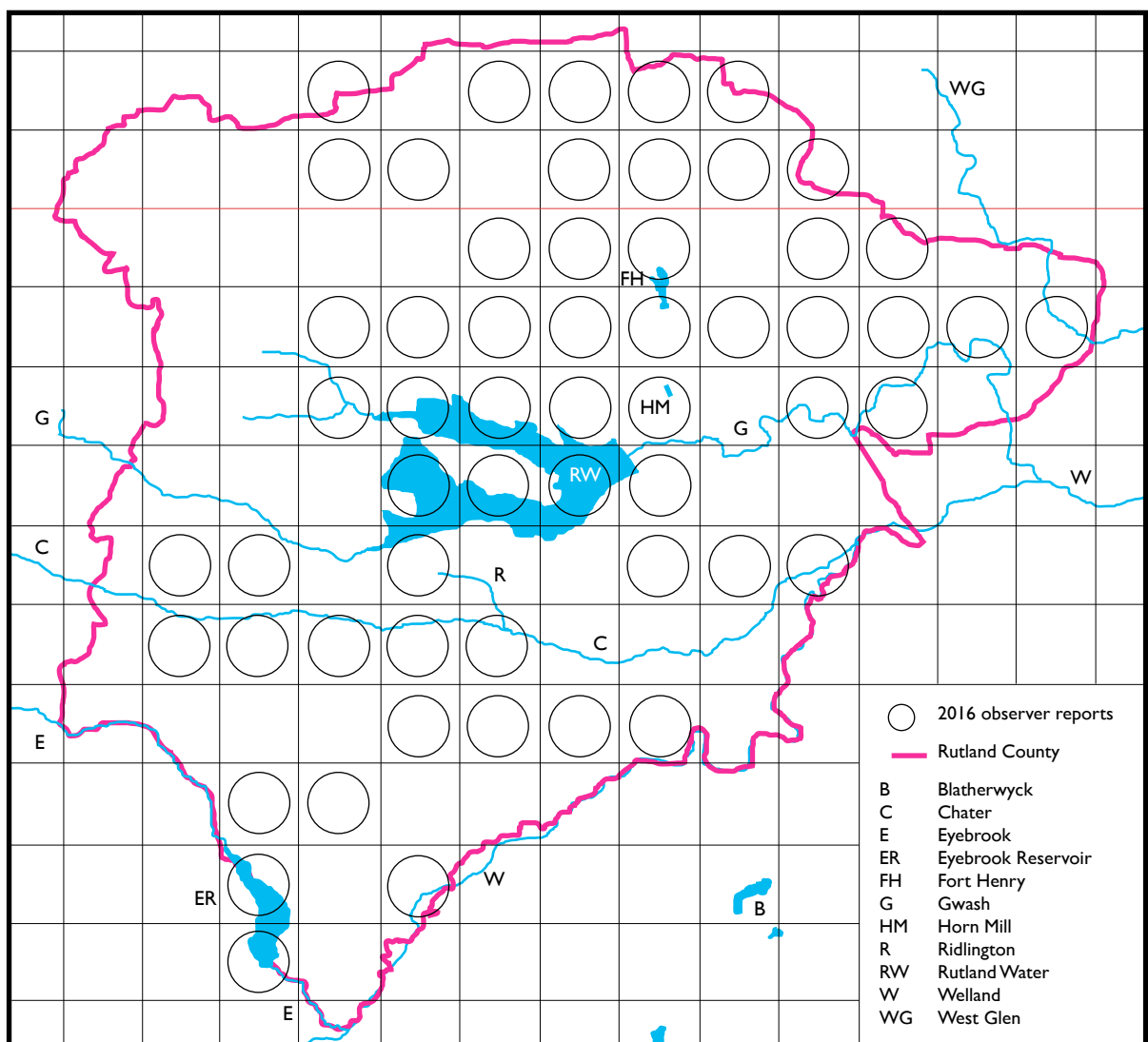


2016 was an exciting year for local bird watchers with several rarities ■ at Rutland Water – Surf Scoter (a County first), Long-billed Dowitcher and Roseate Tern. Other notable birds ● were Great Skua, Great Grey Shrike and Yellow-browed Warbler.

As usual wildfowl and waders featured prominently at the reservoirs with high counts of wildfowl and an impressive list of 31 passage and breeding waders. Woodlands provided much of interest with winter (and roding) Woodcock, Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers and Nightingales at Rutland Water, where habitat management is paying off for many species and not only birds. Wildfowl counts at the Beaumont Chase Farm CBC (now in its 25th year) continued. The accompanying map shows that there were at least some records from most parts of the County, except for notable gaps towards the north-west. Perhaps it is now time for a push into frontier country?

Bird reports for 2016 were received from the following tetrads.



## Arrangement of bird results for 2016

Wildfowl counts	2 Banthorpe Gravel Pit
	3 Fort Henry Ponds and Exton Park Lake
	3 Holywell Lake
	4 Rutland Water
	5 Eyebrook Reservoir
Wader counts	6 Eyebrook Reservoir
	6 Rutland Water
CBC Farmland survey	7 Breeding results
	8 Individual species notes

### WILDFOWL COUNTS: Banthorpe Gravel Pit 2016

	18.01	22.02	11.03	08.04	08.05	02.06	23.07	22.08	15.09	13.10	10.11	15.12
Mute Swan	4	5	5	5	2	2		6	6	5	5	
White-fronted Goose										2		
Greylag Goose		5	20	20	16	6				187		
Canada Goose			2	4	4							
Gadwall						2						
Teal			12					13	24	26	20	44
Green-winged Teal	1											
Mallard	6	4	11	5	2	2	5	3	1	19	5	4
Shoveler											1	1
Pochard										1		
Tufted Duck				2						6	20	2
Little Egret												
Cormorant					1			1			4	
Little Egret				1				2	2	1	6	
Grey Heron				1			1			1		
Moorhen	1	6		2			2	2	7	2	3	3
Coot				2	2	2	2					

## WILDFOWL COUNTS: Fort Henry Ponds and Exton Park Lake 2016

	19.01	19.02	11.03	09.04	06.05	03.06	23.07	22.08	17.09	14.10	11.11	15.12
Mute Swan	7	6	6	5	9	7	3	4	5	6	5	5
Greylag Goose	145	281	46	26	22	20	7	1	196		27	35
Canada Goose	2			2	2							
Egyptian Goose	2	5	3			1	3	1			1	
Shelduck		2	2	2	2	2						
Mandarin Duck								1			17	
Wigeon	110	129	196	3			1		2	44	114	192
Gadwall	78	22	10	23	18	32	9	14	94	93	84	82
Teal	19	55	20	13				28	46	27	26	29
Mallard	161	81	38	32	39	50	116	193	230	170	147	88
Pintail	1							1	1	3	1	
Shoveler	4	2			2	3		14	40	40	23	8
Pochard	14	7										
Tufted Duck	48	45	45	45	36	21	31	14	14	32	46	34
Goosander	1											
Cormorant	7	5	1	2		2			2	1		1
Little Egret												1
Grey Heron	1	1	1				2	3	1	1		1
Little Grebe	19	15	1					1		4	11	19
Moorhen	23	21	13	12	10	5	14	43	41	47	36	25
Coot	111	56	55	47	32	34	44	51	40	66	75	82

## WILDFOWL COUNTS: Holywell Lake 2016

	16.01	18.02	13.03	n/c	n/c	n/c	n/c	n/c	n/c	17.10	11.11	18.12
Mute Swan		1	1									
Greylag Goose	75	29	15							141		22
Canada Goose	34		29							65		36
Egyptian Goose		1	1									
Wigeon	4	6	4							4	28	33
Gadwall	24	30	17							10	6	25
Teal	4	6	4							12	4	2
Mallard	128	49	57							73	138	145
Tufted Duck	22	23	20							8	22	16
Cormorant	1											
Little Egret		1	1									
Little Grebe	14	13	10							2	19	10
Moorhen	17	12	14							13	24	21
Coot	6	10	12							10	9	11
Kingfisher	1										1	

## WILDFOWL COUNTS: Rutland Water 2016

	17.01	21.02	13.03	12.04	10.05	June	12.07	16.08	18.09	16.10	13.11	18.12
Mute Swan	121	128	118	191	251	350	453	450	434	364	287	362
Pink-footed Goose			2								1	1
Greylag Goose	835	310	125	190	294	705	928	843	145	470	758	1003
Canada Goose	595	244	107	91	100	771	706	953	149	377	611	650
Barnacle Goose	2	2	2								2	2
Egyptian Goose	22	33	20	33	49	73	71	90	82	107	59	27
Shelduck	19	25	32	28	54	46	4	3		3	4	6
Mandarin Duck		1			1	6	6					
Wigeon	2993	2430	1555	66	3	2	1	19	2902	5474	3658	3629
Gadwall	520	164	90	101	139	191	713	713	1154	1219	764	1037
Teal	961	265	77	63	16	12	39	186	671	924	1172	1357
Green-winged Teal												1
Mallard	588	473	279	261	377	530	735	779	748	1238	747	1137
Pintail	49	10	8		1			2	67	186	125	192
Garganey				1	1			2	1			
Shoveler	25	15	29	14	9	12	9	69	351	443	169	77
Red-crested Pochard			3				4	6	2	1		5
Pochard	71	35	56	5	12	9	9	60	43	23	83	164
Tufted Duck	1391	773	1256	748	240	353	960	2436	2924	1831	2311	1958
Scaup		2		2							2	
Long-tailed Duck								1		1		1
Common Scoter				1			14				4	
Goldeneye	250	307	341	71	2	2	1		1	7	166	246
Smew	3	7	6									6
Goosander	14	2									4	14
Ruddy Duck											1	1
Great Northern Diver	4	3	3	2	1							1
Cormorant	93	88	246	131	99	155	208	324	482	443	392	195
Bittern									1			1
Little Egret	3	4	10	10	20	33	51	70	46	57	17	23
Great White Egret								3	3	3	3	5
Grey Heron	6	10	11	6	6	9	11	17	20	10	16	21
Little Grebe	97	58	55	2	2	6	10	37	134	153	89	91
Great Crested Grebe	170	127	184	179	120	124	197	398	583	307	373	420
Red-necked Grebe		1	1	1						1	1	1
Slavonian Grebe		1	1									2
Black-necked Grebe	2	3	3						2	2	1	3
Water Rail					1			10	8		2	10
Moorhen	64	65	60	40	40	30	61	99	238	176	111	119
Coot	302	556	371	159	151	233	494	862	1843	2047	2389	2389
Kingfisher		1						1	3	3	1	1

## WILDFOWL COUNTS: Eyebrook Reservoir 2016

	17.01	21.02	13.03	10.04	08.05	12.06	24.07	n/c	18.09	16.10	n/c	17.12
Mute Swan	66	49	37	47	43	59	88		89	88		96
Greylag Goose	310	2	19	28	18	71	230		286	157		164
Canada Goose	7	19	6	7	4	131	121		10	1		20
Shelduck			2	6	5							
Wigeon	738	426	340	1					209	542		485
Gadwall	71	32	18	23	25	4			47	71		25
Teal	1087	485	336	36		4			290	637		429
Mallard	381	73	33	46	50	32	155		281	153		246
Pintail	2								41	27		2
Shoveler			1	1	1				41	68		4
Pochard	12	6	7						13	98		2
Tufted Duck	292	365	141	5		7	16		44	800		40
Goldeneye	76	48	32	2						2		40
Smew	11	11	3									2
Cormorant	38	37	16	3	6	11	16		31	19		32
Little Egret	4	7	2	7	2		6		3	2		3
Grey Heron	3	2	2	1	4	2	3		5	2		5
Little Grebe	1								3	6		3
Great Crested Grebe	36	24	15	32	39	32	46		82	39		88
Slavonian Grebe	1											
Water Rail												1
Moorhen	4	6		1	2	1	5		8	1		3
Coot	211	27	6	2	7	18	37		260	294		206
Kingfisher						1	1		3			

## WADER COUNTS: Eyebrook Reservoir 2016

	17.01	21.02	13.03	10.04	08.50	12.06	24.07	n/c	8.09	06.10	n/c	17.12
Oystercatcher				2	1							
Golden Plover	2	30								16		112
Lapwing	290	2000	18	1	6	18	14		448	480		732
Whimbrel					1							
Curlew							1					
Black-tailed Godwit							4		2			
Ruff					1				4	1		
Dunlin	30	5					1		3			1
Little Stint							1					
Greenshank					1							
Redshank	1				1					1		
Snipe	28	2	1	8			7		3	10		1

## WADER COUNTS: Rutland Water 2016

	17.01	16.02	13.03	12.04	10.05	June	12.07	16.08	18.09	16.10	13.11	18.12
Oystercatcher	1	7	22	19	25	20	17					
Golden Plover	17									54		14
Grey Plover				1	3							
Lapwing	1514	1681	242	20	29	32	97	357	1010	802	2360	5470
Little Ringed Plover					2	2	5	2	2			
Ringed Plover			4	4	18	3	6	3	18	2		
Whimbrel					1				1	1	1	
Curlew	13	12	11	5	2		8	5	5	6	5	
Black-tailed Godwit			2					2	5	3	1	1
Turnstone					5							
Knot					2			1				1
Ruff					1			4	6	2	1	
Curlew Sandpiper									1			
Sanderling					3							
Dunlin	15		2		13		5	3	8	3	40	68
Common Sandpiper				1	19		9	3	4			
Green Sandpiper	1					1	5	21	6	8	6	1
Greenshank					6		1	8	6			
Wood Sandpiper								1				
Redshank	8	5	7	12	12	7	5	2		9	9	16
Long-billed Dowitcher			1									
Snipe	19	21	16	1				6	11	17	4	17

## BREEDING DATA: Beaumont Chase Farm, Uppingham 2016

Farmland CBC Plot 1450; grid reference: SP 845995; plot size: 65.4ha

A total of 35hrs 07mins of observations were made over ten visits

Surveys were undertaken on 11 & 24 March; 7, 17 & 27 April; 7, 16 & 29 May; 8 & 19 June

### Species and numbers of territories held in 2016

Greylag Goose	F	(P)	Jay	P	(1)	Starling	P	(P)
Mallard	1	(1)	Jackdaw	17n	(11n)	Blackbird	24	(20)
Red-legged Partridge	3	(2)	Rook	21n	(17n)	Fieldfare	P	(P)
Pheasant	2	(2)	Carrion Crow	2n	(1n)	Song Thrush	2	(1)
Cormorant	§	(§)	Raven	1	(P)	Redwing	P	(P)
Little Egret	§	(§)	Goldcrest	P	(1)	Mistle Thrush	1	(P)
Grey Heron	§	(§)	Blue Tit	15	(20)	Spotted Flycatcher	P	(1)
Red Kite	1	(1)	Great Tit	5	(6)	Robin	27	(16)
Sparrowhawk	P	(P)	Coal Tit	1	(1)	Dunnock	11	(14)
Buzzard	1	(1)	Willow Tit	1	(1)	House Sparrow	13n	(12n)
Black-headed Gull	P	(P)	Skylark	5	(5)	Yellow Wagtail	1	(0)
Lesser Black-backed Gull	F	(0)	Swallow	P	(1)	Pied Wagtail	2	(1)
Great Black-backed Gull	F	(0)	Long-tailed Tit	1	(1)	Meadow Pipit	§	(§)
Stock Dove	11n/T	(7)	Chiffchaff	5	(7)	Chaffinch	9	(8)
Woodpigeon	45n	(47n)	Willow Warbler	2	(0)	Greenfinch	4	(4)
Collared Dove	P	(1)	Blackcap	10	(7)	Goldfinch	5	(5)
Little Owl	1	(P)	Lesser Whitethroat	1	(3)	Siskin	F	(0)
Swift	§	(0)	Whitethroat	12	(5)	Linnet	2	(4)
Green Woodpecker	P	(P)	Nuthatch	1	(0)	Bullfinch	2	(1)
Great Spotted Woodpecker	P	(0)	Treecreeper	P	(P)	Yellowhammer	13	(17)
Magpie	2	(2)	Wren	25	(19)	Reed Bunting	P	(P)

(bracketed figures are for 2015 counts)

#### KEY

P species present but territory not confirmed  
n nests counted  
§ seen flying over not holding territory

#### Commentary

In 2016, 63 species were seen, 4 fewer than in 2015, in total 40 species were holding 309 territories or identified nests.

In 2015 the territories or nests count was 274.

## Individual species notes

Mute Swan	Bred: BGP, RW and EBR, but failed at Ext Park as well as FHP (both pairs)
Whooper Swan	Two seen over Wg 16.01 and 7 were at RWEgl, 18.01 and 24.02. 12 flew over QF on 28.02. Two were at Eg on 03~07.03, and three over RW 04.03. One over RW on 18.04, and the last were two over FHP on 24.04. Autumn birds were noted between 08~30.10 at EBR, RW and over Strett. 12 (same birds ?) over the latter two sites on the last date
Tundra Bean Goose	One with Greylag Geese RWNA 20~24.10
Pink-footed Goose	One, FHP 10.01. A 'small flock' over Luff Airfield 02.10, 40 over Oak on 09.10, c.45 flew east over GtCast on 02.11. One RWNA from 08.11~Dec, 6 flew south over Greet GC 13.11
White-fronted Goose	Two with Greylag Geese, BGP 13.10; one RWNA 27.12
Greylag Goose	Large flocks, 189 at FHP on 10.01; 135 at BGP on 23.01; 289 at FHP 03.09, 186 at EBR 19.11. Bred: Chapel Farm (Burl), EBR, FHP, RW
Canada Goose	Large numbers frequented the reservoirs, breeding at RW and EBR. At FHP up to eight were present from 03.01~15.05, no breeding was noted
Barnacle Goose	A summer record of one, with Canada Geese, RWNorm 04.06
Egyptian Goose	Away from RW there were LFP reports in Jan (five birds), Ma, Nov and Dec. Present in Ext Park all year, with five seen 19.02. Ten at FHP 11.09. Bred: RW, Ext Park, Tgh
Shelduck	Present at FHP 10.01~03.07. One or two were at LFP 27.03~09.06, a pair were in BW 17.04 and 04.05, presumably prospecting for a nest site. Bred: RW, EBR
Mandarin Duck	A pair frequented the RWNorm area 14.03~06.06, when they were seen with three young. A pair flew from a wood with a pond at Wg on 05.04 and a pair flew around CottW 13.04. A female and two young were in Ext Park 05.06 and there were 17 by Rygate Lake there on 11.11 – a very high Rutland total. Two at FHP 19.03, and one 05.11
Wigeon	Last noted at FHP on 09.04; one there on 23.07; 115 were on a flooded field at Cott 12.12
Gadwall	Present at the reservoirs and FHP throughout the year, with nos. peaking at FHP with 107 on 21.10. Bred at both reservoirs, and four broods at FHP
Teal	27 on a pond near KQ 13.01. Present at FHP up to 22.04 (max. 46 on 19.02) and from 11.06~end of the year, with 53 on 30.11. Small nos. summered at RW, and up to nine were in Ext Park between Jan~March and Aug~Dec
Green-winged Teal	Singles at BGP 19.01, 05.02, on RWNA from 17.12 to year-end
Mallard	Widespread on waters of all sizes. FHP peak counts 245 on 27.09, 253 on 09.10. Greet GC ponds 44 on 18.12. Breeding records came from both reservoirs, Ext Park, FHP, WFL, Stam Meadows
Pintail	Overwintered at both reservoirs. One at FHP 19.01, and up to six 22.08~30.11; and 12 at RWEgl 10.09
Garganey	A male was at RWEgl between 30.03~11.05, again on 17.06, and as a pair 19.06. RW, autumn birds from 22.07~07.10 with a max. of four on 04.08. One EBR, 26.09
Shoveler	Noted at FHP up to 25.02, with a breeding pair present between 08.04~17.07. Autumn passage was from 22.08, peaking at 45 on 09.10, and birds present to the year-end. Bred: RW. At EBR, mainly from Sept~year-end
Red-crested Pochard	Present at RW from 01.01~ 26.03, with a max. nine on 21.01. One at RWEgl 07.06, the birds were then seen monthly to the end of the year with a peak of seven on 15.12. No records were received from EBR
Pochard	Scarce at FHP with birds noted only from 03.01~ 25.02, peaking at 19 on 24.01. Nine at RWEgl (June), with a brood of six ducklings



Tufted Duck	RW attracted the usual large winter nos. Present at FHP throughout the year with a peak of 77 on 25.03 and one pair breeding. Bred at both reservoirs. Up to four were at Rygate Lake in Ext Park up to 03.06
Scaup	RW 15.01~02.05 with a max. of 4 on three April dates. RW autumn records began with one on 25.08, and up to three present to the end of the year. One at EBR, 29.11~ 03.12
Long-tailed Duck	A moulting male was at RWSA3 on 16.08, remaining to probably 30.10. A female was in NA and SA 30.11~20.12
Common Scoter	A female was in RWSA on 24.01 and NA 11/12.03 with a male noted on 12.04. A female was present at the RWDam and SA from 20.09 to the year-end, 3 noted on 23.11. One was at EBR 28.11
Surf Scoter ■	<i>A first-winter bird was at RWDam 27~31.12. This is a first record for Rutland of this North American species</i>
Goldeneye	One or two remained at RW into the summer. One at FHP on 23.11, the first there since 2010
Smew	Well reported from both reservoirs in the first winter period. At RW birds were present to 22.03, with a max. of six on 18.03 (including a male). EBR did better, with up to eleven (18.01) and the last on 25.03. The first autumn bird was a redhead at RWSA on 24.11, with up to six noted to the end of the year. EBR had birds from 29.11~ year-end, with a peak of five, including three males, on 30.11
Red-breasted Merganser	EBR single females 01~10.01, and RWNA on 07.04. A male was in RWNA on 23.11
Goosander	Ext Park one male 03.01, one fished R.Welland at Stamford on 23.02, with three there 27.02. Two flew over LFP on 06.01, with three over on 11.02. Our final record was from RWBFP – one on 16.03. Autumn birds were noted at RW in small nos. from 18.11, with five 12.12, and 14 on 18.12
Ruddy Duck	The nationwide cull of this species, in favour of Spanish White-headed Ducks reduced the British population to around 40 birds. It was a surprise to find a female at RW on 30.09, where it remained to the end of the year
Quail	A single record, one calling at MM on 20.05
Red-legged Partridge	Widespread and numerous where birds are released for shooting, as at Exton and EBR. There were no breeding records, the largest covey was c.45 near Hot Hollow Farm, Emp on 30.10
Grey Partridge	Reported numbers were lower this year. Up to three noted at Ext Park, GtCast, Wg Plantation, Prest, Rid, and Wyomndham between 08.01~ 28.06. An Ext keeper reported coveys of ten and 20 on the Estate in Oct
Pheasant	Well distributed on farmland with the population maintained by numerous releases
Helmeted Guineafowl	A white bird, and one of normal plumage, fed in an oilseed rape field at Glast Tunnel Top on 15.05
Great Northern Diver	At RW from 01.01~17.05, with a max. of four on the first date and 22.03. A superb summer plumaged bird was in RWNA from at least 05.05 to mid-May. Two were at RW from 20~ 27.11, with a single to at least 18.12
Gannet	A juv. was in RWNA on 28~29.10
Cormorant	Well represented at the reservoirs throughout the year with a flourishing breeding colony at RWBFP. In Aug/ Sept large numbers congregated to exploit shoals of fish fry at RW, especially near the RWDam. Up to three were regular at FHP and Ext Park throughout the year.
Shag	A remarkable influx brought juvs. to RW Dam and NA from 30.08~ 17.09, with 7 noted 07.09
Bittern	Singles at RWEg3 on 04.01 & 15.02. Autumn birds were present from 05.09 to the year-end, two noted 05.12

Cattle Egret	One flew south over Oak on 22.01
Little Egret	Now to be seen at water bodies throughout the county with records from Banthorpe GP, Tole Mill, FHP, LFP, Holywell Lake (six, 30.11) and both reservoirs. Bred at RW
Great White Egret	This species goes from strength to strength. Up to three were at RWEgl up to 15.01, with birds then present from 15.07 to the year-end, increasing to five on 18.12. One over LFP 30.09
Grey Heron	Reported from most watery sites – both reservoirs, BGP, FHP, Ext Park and the R. Welland. Bred at RW. Ten flew south-west over Tin on 15.08
Spoonbill	Nine visited RWEgl briefly on 30.05
Little Grebe	Present at FHP up to 25.03 with a peak of 22 on 24.01. Autumn birds were present from 22.08 to the end of the year (19 present on 15.12). Records also came from both reservoirs (breeding at RW), Ext Park and Holywell Lake.
Great Crested Grebe	Present at both reservoirs, and breeding, throughout the year.
Red-necked Grebe	Singles at RW from the beginning of Jan~12.04, and 23.08~year-end
Slavonian Grebe	One was at EBR from 04. to 3.01 with one at RW from 23.01 to 01.04. Autumn birds were at RW from 18.11~year-end, with singles in NA and SA
Black-necked Grebe	Two were at RWNA to at least 19.01 with three from 02~ 22.03. The first autumn bird returned 05.09, increasing to two on 12.09, and three 07.12~year-end
Red Kite	Well distributed and seen across all parts of Rutland and Stam, where birds have scavenged from bird tables. There was one confirmed breeding record but birds were present and displaying at many woodland sites. Peak nos. were BCF 17 over a field being cut for silage 24.06, and 15 entering a winter roost at CottW on 23.11
Marsh Harrier	Now a regular passage visitor, the first was at RWEgl on 23.02 with other spring records there on four dates to 09.06. Singles were at EBR on 02, and 08.05 and 12.06. Autumn birds were regular at RWEgl from 15.07~ 30.10 with a max. of three on 13.08. Singles were at EBR on 02, 06 and 15.08 and also 08.10
Hen Harrier	A ringtail was at EBR between 08~14.10
Sparrowhawk	A widespread species. Most records were from gardens in Barrow, Bden, Norm, Oak, Stam to the end of March. Display was noted over BW, Ext woodlands and QF with birds regular at RWEgl. Breeding confirmed at FHP
Buzzard	Probably our most common raptor, being widely reported over woodland, open country and settled areas. The peak count of displaying birds was six over TunnW on 14.03 but birds were seen over most other woods. Breeding was confirmed at FHP, WhdC, BW, Ext Park and Mor. Five were over Greet GC, 06.11
Osprey	The first bird returned on 17.03 with the next, at Lynd, 21.03. The Project had a successful year with eight pairs fledging 15 young. RW birds visited LFP, EBR and FHP regularly throughout the summer and two flew over KQ on 05.07. One was at EBR 11.09, our last record was one over BCF, 23.09
Kestrel	Hunting birds were well reported especially from FHP, QF, Ext Park and HM with other records from KQ, Shacklewell, GHW and RWEgl. Nest boxes were successful at Hall Farm, Ext (four young), Westland Wood and RWNA.
Merlin	A male was near GtCast on 01.02, one flew south-west at RWEgl, 26.03
Hobby	Our first record was fairly late – 03.05 at EBR. Throughout May~Aug there were birds at or over Stam, FHP, Glast, HM, LFP and Ext Park. Birds were regular at RWEgl in these months. At HM 20.06, one took prey from a Sparrowhawk. Four were at RWEgl 09.09 with the last seen there 18.09. Final record from Wg, 26.09
Peregrine	Present at a regular breeding site all year. One was over Banthorpe GP on 19.01 and wandering birds were noted at Ext Park (24.04), Wg (10.08), EBR (16.10) and FHP (05.11). At RW birds were noted in March, and from Aug~year-end, with two on 02.09. Many autumn records at Egl were of a large female that fledged at Derby Cathedral.

Water Rail	Most records were in the winter (to 26.02) and from mid-Sept to the year-end. Singles reported at LFP, Geest and FHP. Present at RW throughout the year with breeding in the Egl reed bed.
Moorhen	Common on water bodies throughout the county. FHP numbers peaked at 37 on 14.10, with 27 on Greet GC ponds 13.11, 30.12, and 18.12
Coot	Present on larger ponds, lakes and rivers. Bred at both reservoirs, Ext Park, BGP, FHP and Holywell Lake. Peak nos. occur in winter (113 at FHP on 23.01)
Crane	One flew west over Oak on 15.03, with two north over RWEgl, 08.04
Avocet	One at RWEgl on 11.03 was the first arrival, and a pair (25.03) remained to breed. They had three young on 12.06. Singles were at EBR on 23.03 and 10.06
Oystercatcher	First noted at RW on 16~17.01. One flew south at EBR on 26.03. Bred at Egl. One was at a pond near PC on 05.06 and three flew around LFP 2.05
Golden Plover	In the first winter period there were 40 at Lydd Crossing, 350 on SM on 10.01, and 70 near Cott Airfield on 25.03 (with the last single there on 10.04). Autumn birds were noted from 05.10 with c.150 near Cott Lodge, 80 over Pilt on 20.10, and 200 at EBR on 10.11. About 120 around Leigh on 07.12, and 87 at Pick, 27.12
Grey Plover	Spring singles (but two on 04.05) were at RW between 11.04~10.05. 21 were reported over RW on 20.09, one called over LFP on 06.10.
Lapwing	About 500 were on SM 10.01. Territorial behaviour was noted from 13.03 near Mounts' Lodge with breeding birds also at BGP, Ext Park, WFL, RWEgl and EBR. Chicks were noted only at RWEgl, with many pairs elsewhere probably falling prey to Carrion Crows. Away from the reservoirs the only reported autumn flock of 111 was at Ext Park, 18.11
Little Ringed Plover	The first birds were singles at EBR on 24.03, and RWEgl on 26.03. One displayed at a quarry site on 14.05. Between 23.06~28.08 there were up to nine (12.07) at EBR, and up to five at RWEgl in July, where they bred. Six were at RW on 03.09, with the last single there, 01.10
Ringed Plover	Present at RWEgl from 22.02 until 28.10. Spring passage peaked at 18 on 10.05, three pairs appeared to be nesting in June. There was a good autumn passage from 13.08, peaking at c.40 on 12.09. EBR nos. were low this year with a single on 03.04, six in June, and two on 14.09.
Whimbrel	Spring passage at RW produced up to five (15 on 17.04) between 11.04~13.05. Singles were at EBR on 19.04, and 08.05. Autumn passage was from 22.07, with one over RWSA and one at LFP on 26.07 and 24.08. One remained in RWNA throughout Sept to the end of the year, an unusual wintering record.
Curlew	12 were at RWEgl on 29.02. One called near Barrow on 15.03. and a pair were at Cott Airfield from 25.03. Up to five were at this site in May, with one at Luff Airfield 14.05 (breeding ?). One was over Leigh on 19.07 and there were six at RWEgl on 22.07. One flew over Leigh on 29.08.
Black-tailed Godwit	A single was at RWEgl on 25.03 with an early spring bird on 29.04. 51 were present 01.05, and five at EBR on 24.06. Autumn passage got underway with 25 over RW on 02.07 and smaller nos. were then regular to 26.08, when 16 were noted. Passage continued to the end of Oct with one remaining at the year-end. Up to four were at EBR between 23.07~19.09.
Bar-tailed Godwit	Two at RWEgl 09.05, and one between 10~16.09
Turnstone	Spring birds at RW were noted between 29.04~ 23.05 (max. five, 20.05). Autumn records were from 02.08~ 22.09 (10 on 05.09, 11 on 14.09).
Knot	Two at RW on 09~10.05. There were autumn birds at RWEgl and NA between 05~12.09 (11 on 08.09). One was at EBR on 11.10, two at RWSA on 08~09.12.
Ruff	No records in the first winter period. One at EBR 06.05. RW had birds 08~28.05, with just two on 14.05. Autumn passage at RW extended from 09.07~16.10. with a max. of 15 on 24.08. Up to four were at EBR between 15.08~16.10.

Curllew Sandpiper	All records were from RWEgl, one 09.05, and up to three between 21.08~18.09
Sanderling	Compared to recent years, spring passage at RWEgl was very light with birds noted between 06~23.05, and a max. of only seven on the latter date. One present 22.07
Dunlin	EBR attracted the largest nos. early in the year with 37 on 19.01 and 16 on 03.03. The final winter birds were two 23.03. Autumn passage at EBR began on 24.07, with birds then regular to at least 17.12 ( max. of 31 on 31.12). At RW birds were present in all months except Feb and June. 18 (17.05) was the spring peak, with 68 the autumn maximum (18.12)
Purple Sandpiper	One was briefly in RWNA on 30.10
Little Stint	Autumn singles were at EBR 23~24.07, 18~20.08 and 19.11. At RW there were singles on 06.08, 29.08, and 17.09.
Pectoral Sandpiper	One at RWEgl 12~13.09
Red-necked Phalarope	A male at RWEgl 27.05
Common Sandpiper	Spring passage was between 12.04~10.05 with one or two at EBR, and up to 19 at RW (on the last date). One at LFP 12.05. Autumn migration began with one at EBR on 23~24.06, and two or three regularly at both reservoirs to 27.09 (one at RW 02.10, and EBR on 23 and 29.10). Away from the reservoirs there were 2 at FHP on 10.07, and one 22.08, and a single at BGP 27.09.
Green Sandpiper	Singles were at RWEgl on 05 and 24.01, and between 26.03~ 21.04. Autumn passage at RW began with one on 14.06, birds were then present to the year-end with double figure counts in Aug (c.20, on 19.08). EBR had one or two birds regularly between 03.07~14.09 and then three between 29.11~04.12. LFP, singles on 06.08, 20.09, 05.10, 17.10
Spotted Redshank	One was at EBR on 01.09, with a single at RWNA 12.09, and 3 the next day
Greenshank	Apart from one at EBR (08.05), all spring birds were at RW 19.04~14.05 (max. of six 10.05). Autumn passage at EBR was 18.08~02.09, with four seen 19.08. RW had birds from at least 24.07~09.10 (7 max. 28.08)
Wood Sandpiper	06.05, 2 at EBR, 1 at RWEgl. One or two autumn birds were at RWEgl 12~24.08, with singles 29.09~02.10
Redshank	There were low numbers at both reservoirs during both winter periods (five RW 21.01), and see counts. Bred: RWEgl
Jack Snipe	Singles were noted at RWEgl on five dates between 01.01~04.04. One was at QF on 20.03. At EBR there was one on 27~28.10, and an impressive six on 04.12.
Long-billed Dowitcher ■	<i>One of the birds of 2016, one was at RWEgl between 23.02~06.04</i>
Woodcock	Up to 25.03, birds were noted at Greet, Ext woodlands, Norm, Wg, Leigh and RW. Peak counts were five at Greet on 01.01, and four in TunnW on 19.01. It was encouraging to have a roding bird in BW on 08~09.05, the first there since 1992. None were found on the BTO Woodcock Survey in 2015. The first autumn birds were two at Leigh (26.10), with later records from Ext woodlands, PC, Mor, Rid and Wg. Four were in TunnW (04.12), and 8 flushed during a Westland Wood shoot (09.12)
Snipe	In the first winter period ones or twos were noted at LFP, FHP, BGP and Geest. The first autumn birds were at RWEgl (22.07). Up to 14 were in the LFP area 18.09~27.11, and 12 at EBR 30.11. Up to four were at FHP 05.11~13.12
Great Skua ●	<i>One at RW 01~05.01, another 14.02</i>
Little Tern	Two were at RWEgl 29.04, and one 29.05, and two 24.06
Black Tern	Spring passage at RW was between 04~17.05, with 60 on 05, and 40 on 08.05. Up to eight were at EBR 06~11.05. Autumn birds were at RW from 20.07~31.08 (12 max. 20.08). One at EBR 14~17.09
Sandwich Tern	RWEgl on 30.05

Common Tern	One at RWEgl on 02.04 was the first, with two 04.04. About 60 were present 10.05, up to 80 in mid-June. 37 were at EBR on 24.07, with 70 still at RW on 16.08. Four were at LFP 06.07. Breeding occurred at both reservoirs, the last birds (8) were at RW 17.09
Roseate Tern ■	<i>One was at RWEgl 12.07. This was the second Rutland record.</i>
Arctic Tern	Ten at RW (15.04) were the first birds, with passage extending to 17.05, with a peak of c.50 (23.04). A late flock of 15 was seen on 01.06, and there was a later record of one 12.07. EBR had four (16.04), nine (23.04), and eight (06.05). RW single autumn birds 21.08, 02.10
Kittiwake	Eight at EBR on 08.03, and one at RW on 25.04
Black-headed Gull	Present all-year with large roost at the reservoirs in winter. RW count 800 in May, 262 in Sept and 235 in Nov Bred on rafts at RWEgl and in BFP, where there were at least 20 nests in May
Little Gull	Most records were from EBR, where one or two were irregular Jan~March. There were 30 on 11.04, and singles 10.10, 03.12. RW one 23.03, twelve 11.04, singles 18.05, 07.09, 04.10
Mediterranean Gull	One RW 07~14.01, two 08.01, (occasional 1 or 2) 17~27.03; 18.06~18.09. EBR singles seen 14.04 & 14.07
Common Gull	Numerous over-winter, with several thousand roosting at the reservoirs and on spring passage, scarce in summer. Counts at RW included 400 April, 3 in May, 20 in July, 1500 in Oct EBR had 450 in Nov
Lesser Black-backed Gull	Scarce in winter, (10) at RW in Jan but numerous on spring and autumn passage (800 in Aug/60 in Sept)
Herring Gull	Roosted in large numbers at RW in winter, 500 in Jan and 300 in Feb, declining to ten in March. Autumn counts: 12 at EBR in Oct and 130 at RW in Nov
Yellow-legged Gull	A regular passage and winter visitor to RW, two were seen in Jan and Feb. with passage birds from June, one on 14.06, 16 on 12.07. Careful observation of roosting birds in Aug indicated that c.130 different birds visited RW. There were four on 16.10, and an adult regularly at Egl to the end of the year
Caspian Gull	At RW one roosted on 09.01. Two were present on 12.07, with one on 22.07. Up to six were noted in Aug with one in Sept
Iceland Gull	From EBR records of a juv. on 05.03, and an adult 07~09.03, and 19.03
Kumlien's Gull	One roosted at EBR on 04.03
Glaucous Gull	A juv. roosted at EBR on 28.11, 02.12, 29.12
Feral Pigeon	No counts were received but Oak, Upp and Stam have large populations, as does Castle Cement at Kett
Stock Dove	Seven beneath a Norm bird table 25.02, seven in a Barrow garden 03.03. Single Oak garden on 09.05. Breeding widespread: QF, FHP, Ext Park, KQ, RWEgl. Barn Owl nest boxes were a popular nest site at Geest, Ext Park, Wg and Barrow, and duck boxes at RWEgl. c.40 roosted at Leigh in Nov and Dec
Woodpigeon	A common species of farmland, woodlands and suburban gardens. Autumn migration was noted at Pilt, Leigh and MThorpe between 20.10~ 30.11, with flocks of between 100 and 1550 noted flying south-west on seven dates
Collared Dove	Found mostly in suburban and rural gardens, the peak count was 25 at Belm in Jan
Cuckoo	Our first record was near Ayst on 14.04. Singing birds were heard to 04.06 from ten mainly woodland sites (11 sites last year). All were singles apart from two at CPW and BW. It was unusual to receive a breeding record of a juv. being fed by a Dunnock at Barrow on 04.08.
Barn Owl	Records came in all months from 14 sites (19 last year). Two pairs bred at RW, with single pairs elsewhere fledging broods of two and three.

Little Owl	Noted at only six sites – EBR, BCF, RWEgl, RWLr, Barrow and Bden, compared to 12 last year, a marked decline. Bred at Mor and BCF, the latter nest being predated at the egg stage
Tawny Owl	Records came from 17 sites (12 last year), an encouraging increase. Two pairs used nest boxes in TunnW, fledging single chicks at each which were ringed in May. One was found dead at Clips 26.05. Most reports were of calling birds, peaking in autumn when territories were being established/defended, e.g. seven at Leigh on 27.11.
Short-eared Owl	Singles at EBR and RWEgl between 03~24.04, and again on 10.05 at EBR, and 18 and 20.06 at RWEgl. One at EBR between 05~08.07, with one at RWEgl on 18.11
Nightjar	The garden bird of the year was one photographed on a garden fence in Upp on 25.08!
Swift	One at RW on 20.04 was the first sighting with two seen 23.04. There were no records of screaming parties or other nesting activity – we badly need to establish its current breeding distribution. 200 were over RWLr on 01.06. Five over RWEgl 20.08, with the last two there on 03.09
Kingfisher	Records came from RWLr, RWEgl, EBR, FHP, Ext Park, Ryll, HM (probably bred) and the Oak canal at Tgh
Green Woodpecker	A slight improvement on last year with records from 12 sites compared to ten last year. The most regular sites QF, KQ, GHW and FHP with breeding probable at all.
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Well established in woodlands throughout the county, drumming birds heard at RWNA, WardW, Wg, TunnW, PGW, RWEgl and FHP. Occupied nests were found in BW on 02.04, and 11.06 CottW. Feeders were visited in the first winter period at TunnW and at Barrow and Norm with a family of four there in June. Drumming resumed at RWEgl on 18.12, and TunnW (two birds) 28.12.
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	One was calling near HambW on 13.03. Between 10.04~14.05 one drummed in BW, also one drummed BarnsW 01.05. It is encouraging that this species is still with us.
Great Grey Shrike ●	<i>One was just north of Gt Cast 11.02, with possibly the same bird along Pick Drift 03.03. One was by the canal north of Oak between 06~11.11</i>
Magpie	Well distributed across the county and in suburban gardens. Five in an Oak garden 07.03, flocks of 12 and 19 at Leigh 13.11
Jay	Found in woodlands throughout Rutland, and usually heard before it is seen. Recorded regularly at RWEgl, FHP, Ext Park, BW, PGW, CPW, CQ and Greet GC
Jackdaw	All records were of a roost at GlastW. Between Jan and Feb between 4000 and 6000 were estimated to be present with 900 on 24.07. On 30.11 c.4800 were estimated and 3000/3500 in early Dec. As a breeding bird, Jackdaws were the bane of the nest boxers' life, filling owl and Kestrel boxes with twigs!
Rook	No records were received – it would be valuable to revive our rookery survey
Carrion Crow	No records were received – although remains widespread and common throughout the county
Raven	Ravens are now well established throughout the county, nesting in large trees and on buildings. Most reports were of singles or pairs calling in flight but 14 were seen near Leigh on 24.05, with c.50 in that area during Aug. At least five pairs are known to have bred
Goldcrest	Well distributed in mixed and coniferous woodland. Ten were noted around Leigh on 20.03
Firecrest	One was at RWEgl on 25.03
Blue Tit	A common woodland and garden resident. Up to 16 at a time visited TunnW feeders in Feb
Great Tit	Widespread and common. A pair were breeding 24 feet above the ground in a tree stump at QF in May, an unusually high nest-site.

Coal Tit	Found mainly in conifer woodland but increasingly reported from garden feeders. Regular at TunnW feeders with up to six at any one time over both winter periods.
Willow Tit	There were records throughout the year from the Leigh/LFP area. One was heard near RWGgorse 15~21.01. BCF, one or two present 12.03~07.04. A local and declining species.
Marsh Tit	Well distributed in RW and Ext Park woods with records also from WFL, PC, CQ, Greet GC and BW (where an occupied nest was found on 27.04). One visited feeders in a Man garden in late Jan and up to three were at TunnW feeders in both winter periods.
Bearded Tit	One was at RWEgl reed bed on 09.10, six noted following day.
Skylark	c.120 flew south over RW on 17.01. A widespread breeder on arable land – four were displaying at QF 19.07 (the grassland here being an important habitat for Skylarks throughout the year). 25 were near Barrow 12.10, c.45 over Leigh 17.11, and c.80 MThorpe on ploughed land, 24.11
Sand Martin	First noted at RWSA on 15.03, the next arrivals four at EBR 22.03. A total of 300 pairs bred at both RWEg artificial nests. 923 pulli were ringed on the RWLag2 bank, and 219 on the new RWLag5 bank, a total of 1142. A regular at FHP all summer, but no indication of breeding locally. Two were at LFP 30.08, our last RW report was 10.09
Swallow	One was at RWEgl on 26.03, one at LFP 27.03, three at EBR 28.03. Birds were at the Bden nest site from 30.04, three nests monitored  Large congregations at LFP, 400 on 21.07, 750 on 26.07, and 300 on 31.07. By 30.08 numbers were down to c.100, but 160 were present 25.09. Oct records for RW Dam, LFP and Pilt, with the last report Pilt, 20.10
House Martin	An early bird flew north at FHP on 25.03, the next being reported at Man 03.04. Few breeding records were received but the Bden birds were well reported, being present from 26.04 (four nests noted), c.350 were near Wg 25.09. The last young left a Man nest 29.09. The last reported were several at RWEgl, 30.09
Cetti's Warbler	Present around the RWEgl lagoons throughout the year with c.11 on territory. One was heard at RWLr 01.06. The 100th RW bird was ringed 18.09, one later being identified at a site away from RW on 16.11
Long-tailed Tit	All our reports came from gardens in Barrow and Oak up to April and in Aug Peak nos. were eight in Oak 01.01, and nine at Barrow 03.03. In the countryside the species appears to have had a good breeding season, but there were no reports of autumn flocks.
Yellow-browed Warbler ●	<i>One was in EBP on 09~10.10</i>
Wood Warbler	One at RWLr 25.04
Chiffchaff	Overwintering birds were seen at LFP 01.01, Wg 16.01, 19.01, two at Geest sewage works 23.01 & RWEgl 25.02. Spring arrivals were noted from 15.03 at Egl with other March birds at FHP, TunnW, BarnsW, KQ, Leigh, Ext Park. High counts of breeding birds included 27 around Leigh on 08.04, and 60 in BW on 11.04. Other May reports were 30 singing at Leigh on 12.05, and BW – 54 in song 19.05. RW, one or two seen 13.11~25.12, one at Leigh on 01.12
Siberian Chiffchaff	One of this northern race was at Geest sewage works between 21.01~05.02
Willow Warbler	Two reported at RWEgl 02.04 were the first, with 3 at Leigh 05.04, c.30 were around Leigh by 24.04. Generally records (of fewer numbers) from many woodlands. 42 sang around Leigh on 12.05. Our last record was FHP 03.09 – an early date
Blackcap	Singles, a male and a female, were in two Oak gardens between 25/29.02 with a male in a Man garden from 06.02~ end of March. Song was heard at RW Dam on 27.03 and a male was in an Oak garden next day. Breeding birds were widespread by 10.04 with 24 in song around Leigh on 12.05, and 34 BW on 27.05. Three were at Leigh 06.10. The only Dec records were Stam 03, Oak 07

Garden Warbler	The first bird was at RWEgl 23.04. Records came from regular woodland sites – BarnsW, BW, CPW, WFL, KQ, WestW, Glast and BCF. Breeding birds were noted to 26.06 at EBR. There were no significant autumn records
Lesser Whitethroat	One singing RWEgl 12.04, was the first arrival, with two at BCF 17.04. Breeding season records came from just seven sites. Ten were at MThorpe 26.08, with Sept records from RWEgl and Dam and the last from Egl 21.09
Whitethroat	The first arrival was at EBP on 10.04 with the next at RWLr on 13.04. This species continues to thrive with breeding birds widely distributed by the end of April. Records came from QF, Wg Burrows, Glast, Leigh (28 singing on 12.05.), BCF and Ext Park. Sept birds were at Wg Burrows, Leigh and BGP, where the last bird was on 15.09
Grasshopper Warbler	One sang at RWEgl 24.04. Most other records were from the Leigh area, of song 24.04~ 05.06. Song was also heard near LFP 30.06, one seen there 17.08
Sedge Warbler	One at RWEgl 05.04 was the first arrival. RW remains the main Rutland site for Sedge Warblers with birds well distributed on both reserves. One or two were at LFP from 24.04~31.07, and passage birds there (and FHP) 28.08. The last record was LFP on 11.09
Reed Warbler	Present at RWEgl, its main Rutland site, from 16.04. One was at FHP on 30.05. One or two sang at LFP 17.05~ 28.07, with birds present throughout Aug with last reported 06.09
Waxwing	Six were at Lydd with eight on the next two days. Mor c.25 flew North over the A47, 26.11, the next day 14 were along the railway line at NLuff. One, on berries, Greet GC on 28.11
Nuthatch	Resident in RW, Ext Park Woods, FHP, PC, CPW and BW. Other records from Wg and BarnsG. In winter regular at feeders there and TunnW
Treecreeper	Well distributed in woodlands with Jan, garden records from Wg, Barrow in March
Wren	No significant records received, but at BCF holding 25 territories this year
Starling	Most records were of westerly autumn migration in the Leigh/MThorpe area between 21.10, and 19.11. c. 6400 on 22.10 the highest Oct count. In Nov there were 1870 on 08.11, and c.300 on 19.11
Ring Ouzel	An autumn bird was at Leigh on 03.10
Blackbird	Most reports were of winter birds, when many continental migrants are present. There were 93 around Wg on 14.01, and 43 at Leigh on 26.02. A newly-fledged juv. was in a Stam garden on 28.03. 60 were around Leigh on 08.11, and 52 on 13.11. At RWEgl c.60 noted 20.12. 80 were at Rid on 23.12, with 87 there 27.12
Fieldfare	This species is, appropriately, always well reported. In the winter flocks exceeding 50 were noted by TunnW (60 on 19.01), FHP (100 on 04.02) and LFP (c.300 on 13.02, c.400 on 04.04). One at Leigh on 30.04 was the last bird. The first autumn bird was at RW on 11.10. with 40 at FHP on 14.10 the next arrivals. From 20.10 there was a strong passage with flocks of 200+ noted as follows: 280 at Pilt on 20.10, c.380 at MThorpe on 22.10, c.460 over Leigh on 26.10, 1700 grounded by fog at MThorpe on 01.11, and 850 flying west there on 05.11. 200 were at FHP/HM on the latter date and 740 were near Mor on 03.12
Song Thrush	There were regular reports from an Oak garden up to July. Small numbers of singing males were widespread in woodlands in March/April, when 11 were in song around Leigh. 14 around MThorpe may have included some continental migrants.
Redwing	Generally less numerous than Fieldfares, there were 12 in Bden garden on 17.02. Large flocks were 300 near PC on 26.02, with 300 at Lynd Top on 05.03, and 200 at PC again on 12.03. One at Leigh on 10.04 was the last bird. A very early autumn bird was at RWEgl on 10.08. Seven over Leigh on 02.10 was a more usual arrival date. Large flocks flying west in the Leigh/Pilt area were 170 on 21.10, 488 on 23.10, and 550 on 27.11. Smaller nos. were noted at FHP, Barrow (four in a garden), Man, QF and near Pick. Two were in a Stam garden 31.12



Mistle Thrush	Singing males were noted at WhdC in Jan, FHP in Feb and Wg in May. Post-breeding flocks were 30 over LFP on 14.07, 25 near Wg on 11.08, and nine at Norm 15.09
Spotted Flycatcher	First recorded at LFP on 05.05. with subsequent reports from ten sites (13 in 2015). The only confirmed breeding was in an Upp garden, where birds returned 05.06. There were Sept records from LFP, Brk, Berrybutts Spinney with the last from LFP 02.10. The decline continues.
Robin	No records were received but there were 27 territories at BCF this year, only two below the peak seen 2001/02
Nightingale	One sang at GreetW 23.04. At RWEgl three were in song on 14.05. It is hoped that habitat management will encourage birds to return to this section of the reserve.
Black Redstart	Single females were at Park House, Norm on 13.04 and Whitwell Harbour 03~04.05
Redstart	RWLynd 13.04, EBR 17.04, RWEgl 18.04. There was an excellent autumn passage through LFP/Leigh on 12 dates between 09.08~13.09 (three or four noted 11.09). One was at RWEgl on 30.08
Whinchat	There were spring singles at GHW on 23.04, and EBR on 05.05. Autumn birds were noted between 20.08~18.09 at MThorpe, EBR (six on 06.09), Ext Park (two on 11.09), RWEgl (three on 12.09), FHP and GHW.
Stonechat	In the first winter period, between 04.01~01.03, up to three were at RWEgl, Luff Airfield and EBR. Birds were well reported from 26.09 to the end of the year from Leigh, EBR (5 max 01.10), and at least three at RWEgl 13.11
Wheatear	Spring passage was between 22.03~ 03.05, with birds noted at Luff Airfield (five on 02.04), RWEgl, Dam, Cott Airfield, GtCast, Pick and FHP. Most records were of singles with two at Cott Airfield on 10.04. Autumn singles were noted between 11.08~09.10, at Luff Airfield, GtCast and RWEgl and RWDam
Duncock	The only records were c.36 at RWEgl on 14.03, and c.50 there 29.03
House Sparrow	31 in an Oak garden 28.03, c.20 at BarnsG 28.03
Tree Sparrow	RWLr is now the key site for this species with birds visiting the feeders throughout the year with c.20 in June and 17 on 24.12. Two were regular in a Barrow garden from 15.03 and bred locally, with one noted 05.12. Other records were three at Rid 25.02, two at Leigh 05.04, four at Leigh on 25.11, and eight there 18.12
Yellow Wagtail	A single at RW and three at EBR on 02.04 were the first birds. Breeding sites at BCF, BGP, MThorpe, Prest and MM were occupied from 07.05, most subsequent records were of overflying birds at Leigh and RWSA in July and Aug with 15 at Leigh on 24.08. FHP 08.09 – a single and 11 over Leigh. The final record was Wg 24.09
Grey Wagtail	There were records for every month except July, the most regular sites being the reservoirs, FHP, Geest sewage works and Leigh. There were garden records from Oak on 05.01, and Wg 28.10. A pair at FHP, in April and May, were not confirmed breeders. Autumn passage at Leigh was noted between 03.08~18.09, with eight seen 18.09.
Pied Wagtail	No significant records received
White Wagtail	Singles were at EBR 02.04, 04.04. Seven RW Dam 19.04, two at RWEgl 26.04
Tree Pipit	Calling birds were reported over Leigh on 05.04, and on ten dates between 10.08~18.09
Meadow Pipit	Spring birds passed over Leigh on 20.03 (58), TunnW 25.03 (30), and Leigh again on 31.03 (90). Breeding birds were noted at Cott, Luff Airfield, and GHW – from April into July. Six on wires at FHP on 27.08, were the first autumn migrants. Passage was well recorded at Leigh between 11.09~03.10, with peak counts of 190 on 18.09, and 220 on 30.09. On 25.12, c.52 were by RWSA, there were 70 near Norm on 28.12

Rock Pipit	Singles at RWNA, 04.10, and the RWDam 08~09.10. At EBR one noted 16~29.10, and one RW, 28.10.
Water Pipit	One at RWEgl between 28.10~03.11, with one in SA, 15.11
Chaffinch	Records in the first winter period were from the finch roost at Leigh with 200 on 08.01, declining to 135 by 28.2, and 50 by 23.03. Breeding nos. at BCF showed no sign of recovery with only nine territories on the CBC plot (eight last year). In 2005 there were 45 territories. At Leigh the roost was monitored from 30.09 (100 birds), increasing to c.260 by 22.12
Brambling	Two were at EBR on 03.01, and one dead in an Oak garden 08.01. The Leigh finch roost was counted from 08.01 (48 present), c.120, presumably passage birds, were counted 23.03, 40 were still using it 10.04. Two or three were at Wg Plantation between 04.01~ 05.02, one was at a Man garden feeder on 12.03. Three were at Westland Wood on 10.04, and the last one was at Leigh 28.10. The first autumn birds were two at Luff Airfield 02.10, with one at EBR on 23.10. Up to ten were noted at EBR, Burl Bushes, HM, Pilt, MThorpe, Rid, Wg and RW to 31.12. The Leigh finch roost again attracted birds from 27.11 (17 birds), with 24 on 11.12, and 20 on 22.12
Greenfinch	At Leigh the roost had c.120 birds throughout Jan. Ten visited Norm feeders on 23.02, with eight at BarnsG on 24.04. Numbers remain low with still only four territories at BCF. Only four visited a Stam garden between Oct and the end of Dec
Goldfinch	This species continues to prosper, especially in gardens where sunflower hearts are a major attraction. 14 were in a Stam garden 09.02. At GHW c.80 fed on burdock and thistles throughout Sept 50 were near PGW on 16.09, and garden nos. then increased with 20 in Oak throughout Oct and 26 at BCF on 10.11
Siskin	Birds were recorded in Stam and Oak gardens from 16.01 to the late date of 06.05, with a peak of six on 28.03 in Oak. A pair in BW on 02.04 may indicate local breeding since four were there on 19.05, and 23.05. Larger flocks were 100 at RWLr 24.01, increasing to 150 on 12.02. Singles were over Leigh 19.06, and Man 22.06. The first autumn bird was one over Leigh on 09.08. Up to 11 were noted over Leigh, Greet GC and EBR to the end of the year with 60 at RW Manton Bay on 27.10, and 50 near LFP on 25.11. On 15.12 c.20 were in BarnsW, and 70 were at RWEgl 20.12
Linnet	c.150 were on game crops at BGP on 21.01. On 20.02 74 arrived to roost in Oak garden, declining to 24 by 07.03 – an unusual suburban record. c.60 were around Leigh on 12.05. Autumn passage over the Chater valley was noted between 23~29.10, with 180 flying south 27.10, and 120 south/south-east 29.10. MThorpe sightings, c.100 on 02.11, 145 two days later, 110 on game crops 26.11. 100 near Rid 23.12
Lesser Redpoll	Between 01.01~06.03 game crops at Leigh attracted up to 120 birds, there were 50 on game crops in Ext Park on 31.01. Sunflower hearts were taken in an Oak garden on 23.01 and 06.03. 12 at RW Man Bay on 28.01, with eight on 25.02, when there were also 200 near PC. One was over BW on 19.04, with up to three over Leigh on several May dates. There were few autumn records; 12 in birch at RWEgl 15.10, c.30 flew over MThorpe on 23.10. One was with Siskins in BarnsW on 15.12
Common Crossbill	Singles flew over Leigh on 03.03 and 19.06, and on 25.06 over Man
Bullfinch	Well distributed in countryside with overgrown hedgerows and scrubby areas. 24 were around Wg on 14.01, with 24 at Leigh on 25.03 and 26 at Leigh on 10.04. Throughout the year pairs and small nos. noted at RWEgl, PC, CPW, HM, EBR, WFL and QF.
Yellowhammer	Flocks noted in the winter periods were 30 near Gt Cast on 09.02, 30 near Walk on 23.01, 35 near PGW on 24.02, 40 at MThorpe on 05.10, and 30 at QF on 17.10. The size of winter flocks has declined alarmingly in recent years and breeding nos. at BCF also give cause for concern.

Reed Bunting	Fed in a Stam garden 01.01~27.03, max. six 17.01. Well distributed as a breeding bird RWEgl and RWLynd, FHP and fields growing oilseed rape. Birds congregated with other finches and buntings in game crops in autumn – ten at MThorpe 26.11, and 20 at Leigh 10.12
Corn Bunting	Three were with Yellowhammers near GtCast on 09.02, with one present 11.02. One reported in Ext Park on 22.04 – the first seen there since 2009.

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Reports compiled by Terry Mitcham  
30 Sutherland Way, Stamford, Lincs PE9 2TB  
01780 751268  
[joterpat@btinternet.com](mailto:joterpat@btinternet.com)

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