

September 2018

Bird News: August

Well, summer is slowly fading and the heatwave receded into memory in August. It was a hot one though. August saw lower temperatures but still very little rain, the nights are slowly drawing in and evening temperatures are dropping. Bird life is now rapidly increasing and the Autumn passage is well underway. You would have noticed the stream of Swallows heading south, Wheatears hopping down the coast and now we even have some Barnacle Geese arriving. Enjoy September. Here is August highlights:

Estuary Wide: Out on the sea have been hundreds of Common Scoter and a bit of Scaup, but the aerial displays of the Sandwich and Arctic Tern have been fantastic.

Across the reserve on 13th numbers were low due to the high tide and dismal weather, but species included Raven, Osprey, Little Egret and wader wise Ringed Plover, Redshank and a good 105 Lapwing. Shelduck are slowly returning and Eider numbers dropping off. Ruff and Curlew Sandpiper have shown up on 13th and 15th respectively.

Geese numbers are showing mainly Canada, with 210 on 30th and 3 Barnacle on the same day.

Duck numbers are filling in with a big 113 Mallard on 31st.

Leuchars Airfield: 8 Wheatear along the coastline on 20th.

Outhead: Stonechat here in small numbers with 3 present on 20th. Sea Eagle was overflying here on the 28th.

A Short eared Owl noted along the Links coast on 30th.

Coble Pools: The pools have a little water in them now and were hosting 22 teal on 22nd.

Sea Eagle: Still a presence on the reserve with single bird present on 4 days out of 31.

Eden Centre: Little Egret present all month with 5 between 23rd and 27th. 80 Canada geese on 23rd. 14 Goosander on 23rd. Osprey have been recorded almost every day this summer, August was a fine month with up to 7 birds noted on 23rd. They will soon be off, but still 4 on 31st. A nice 200 Lapwing on 28th. Single Curlew Sandpiper on 15th and 23rd. 2 Ruff on 23rd along with 80 Black tailed Godwit. 600 Redshank and a single Spotted Redshank on 23rd. A nice note of Greenshank on 19th. Little Gull on 23rd too (a good spotting day!). Kingfisher has been a regular drop in late month. All in all. It's building folks!

Bird of the Month



Greenshank

The 'quintessential' wader. Very elegant and identified by long green 'shanks' and long upcurved bill. Quite pale and upright in stance. A Scottish breeder however noted on the reserve in passage, however few in recent years. Pictured here with a Redshank. The news from the Arctic this breeding season is worrying for waders with a poor year in 2018. Not good news.

Eden Centre

- Open 9am - 5pm

Reserve News

- **Wildfowling Season:** Starts 1st September

Eden Estuary 40th Anniversary:

The reserve is 40 years old this year. To celebrate this milestone we are holding a free, drop in, family fun afternoon event. Activities, displays and info. Come along we would love to see you:

[Bird Ringing Demo](#)

[Birds of Prey](#)

[Local Community activities](#)

[Bushcraft and Wood Crafts](#)

[Kids Activities](#)

[Birds, Butterflies, Seals and Dolphins...All get a look in.](#)

RSPB/Marine
Conservation/Countryside
Rangers/Fife Bat Group/Police
Wildlife/Sea Mammals/St
Andrews University and
others!

**Eden Centre Park.
Guardbridge**

Sun 30th September

1pm-4pm.

**Park at University car park
opposite the clock.**

**For further details contact
01592 656088 or 07985
707593.**