



Field Trip Report

Moore Nature Reserve and Frodsham No.6 Tank

Date: 15th March 07:30 to 16:00

Attendees: 13

Sunrise: 06:25

Hightide: na

Weather: (07:30): Clear Sky, Temp 2°C, Wind 3mph NNE

(12:30): Scattered Clouds, Temp 8°C, Wind 5mph NE

Species Count: 65

Part I

Moore NR lies alongside the Manchester Ship Canal and is a mixture of open space, wet woodland and disused quarry. The group met at the reserve carpark on a frosty morning under clear skies, a stark contrast to the previous month's outing. The walk started by going through the woods down Lapwing Lane. There was a lot of birdsong and the sound of Great Spotted Woodpecker drumming, but the first good view was of two Ring-necked Parakeets flying through the trees, and a pair of Shoveler skulking in a pool in the woodland. As we continued the walk, we saw more expected woodland birds such as Treecreeper, Nuthatch, Goldcrest and Long-tailed Tits. We soon had a double figure count of the first Chiffchaffs of Spring, singing from the treetops. On the areas of open water there were waterfowl including Tufted Ducks, Little and Great Crested Grebes. It was noticed that there were no Goldeneye present on the water. Walking back through the woods, we finally saw the Great Spotted Woodpecker, which had been accompanying our walk with its drumming. In more open space we had views of a soaring Buzzard and two Mistle Thrush perched high on two trees. We returned to our cars for an early lunch, before making our way to Frodsham.

Part II

Parking on Marsh Lane, we walked up the track to view No.6 tank from the embankment. The water level was quite high, so although there were both Black-Headed and Common Gulls and ducks including Pintail, there were no waders. We walked further along the track to view some muddy pools, when a loud 'cronk' alerted us to a low flying Raven. Viewing the pools we finally found some waders including, Black-Tailed Godwit, Lapwing, Ruff, Snipe and (a first for the year) Little Ringed Plover.

It was now time for some of the group to leave for home, but those that remained decided to see if they could find the two Russian White Fronted Geese, that had been reported in a field north of Frodsham. After driving to the area and peering over a hedge we got good (if distant) views of the White Fronted Geese, which were mixed in with Greylag and Canada Geese, and a single Egyptian Goose. As we were about to leave a large flock of Fieldfare flew up from the field and perched in the tops of the nearby trees. A fine end to another enjoyable outing.

As always, many thanks go to Nigel and Glenn for their work in preparing and leading the trip.

Species List

Canada Goose	Great Spotted
Greylag Goose	Woodpecker
Pink-footed Goose	Ring-necked Parakeet
White-fronted Goose	Jay
Egyptian Goose	Magpie
Shelduck	Rook
Shoveler	Carrion Crow
Gadwall	Raven
Wigeon	Coal Tit
Mallard	Great Tit
Pintail	Cetti's Warbler
Teal	Long-tailed Tit
Pochard	Chiffchaff
Tufted Duck	Goldcrest
Red-legged Partridge	Wren
Stock Dove	Nuthatch
Woodpigeon	Treecreeper
Moorhen	Starling
Coot	Song Thrush
Little Grebe	Mistle Thrush
Great Crested Grebe	Blackbird
Oystercatcher	Fieldfare
Lapwing	Robin
Little Ringed Plover	Stonechat
Curlew	House Sparrow
Black-tailed Godwit	Dunnock
Ruff	Pied Wagtail (yarrellii)
Snipe	Chaffinch
Black-headed Gull	Goldfinch
Common Gull	
Great Black-backed Gull	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	
Cormorant	
Grey Heron	
Little Egret	
Sparrowhawk	
Buzzard	