

The Birds of Warblington & Emsworth

A personal report for 2019 (with selected historical data back to 2013)



By Peter Milinets-Raby (Published January 2020 – 6th Edition)

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As the title states this is fundamentally a personal report of my own sightings, with an extra bit of padding added here and there. This sixth edition includes my records for the whole of 2019. The total number of species for the area is currently 181. There were just three additions to the list in 2019, these were Light-bellied Brent Goose, Montagu's Harrier and Grasshopper Warbler. Three great birds!

Total of species seen per year in the Emsworth/Warblington area								
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2013/19
Species seen per year	114	113	129	120	122	118	124	
Species running total	114	128	141	147	150	152	155	155
Historical species seen								26
Grand Total for area								181

However, the undoubted highlight of the year was the confirmed breeding of Cattle Egrets at Langstone Mill Pond – the first ever breeding by this species in Hampshire. A detailed summary of this extraordinary event can be found in the species report below.

Other highpoints of 2019 were the hatching, against all the odds, of the Mute Swan cygnets on Langstone Mill Pond. Plus, it was pleasing to see Shelduck numbers reach a new high and for Water Pipits to become more of a regular feature during the winter months.

Superb views and photo opportunities were, as usual, too many to mention, but those that clearly stood out were Kingfisher, Bearded Tit, Wheatear, Green Woodpecker at a nest hole and the old faithful, the Spotted Redshank at Nore Barn.

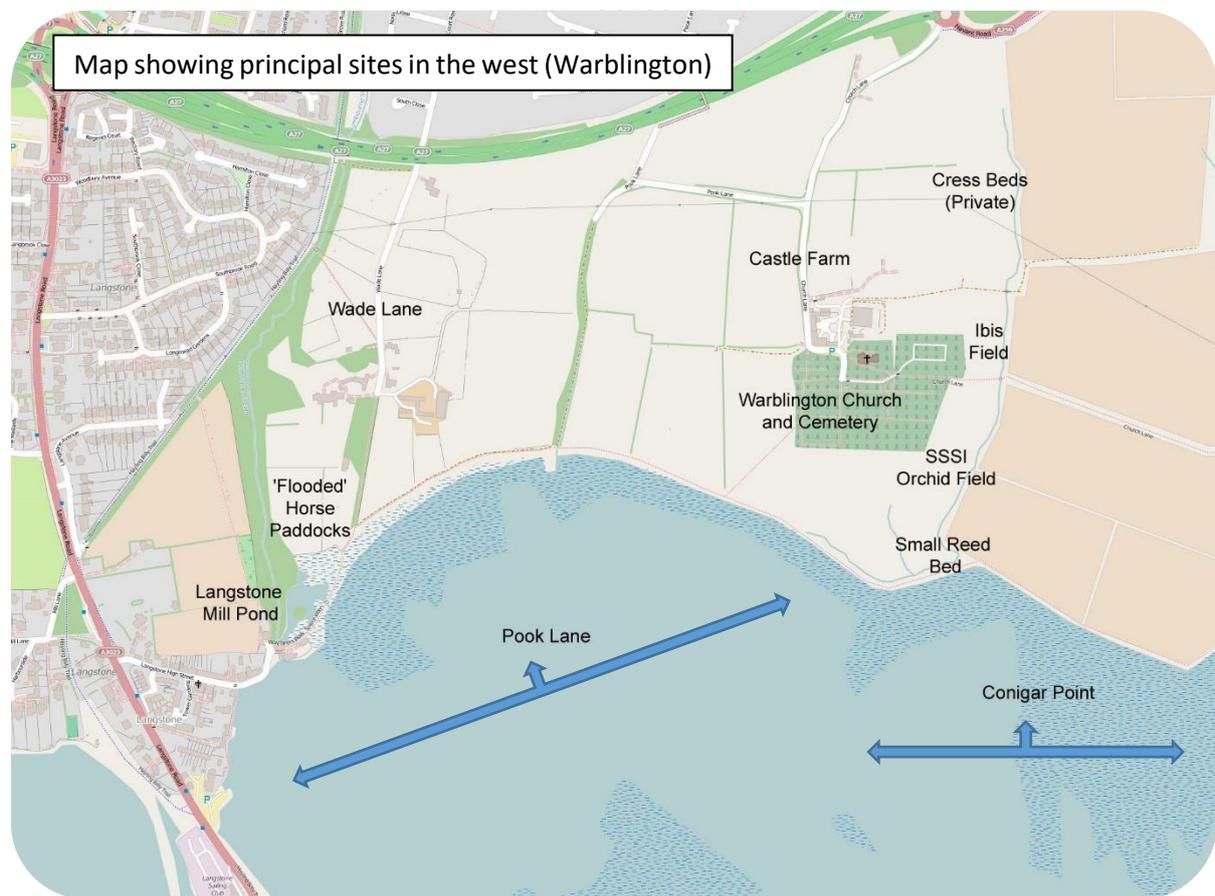
I hope you enjoy reading this report. Any comments or bird records to add to the area, then please contact me. My email is peter.raby2@ntlworld.com





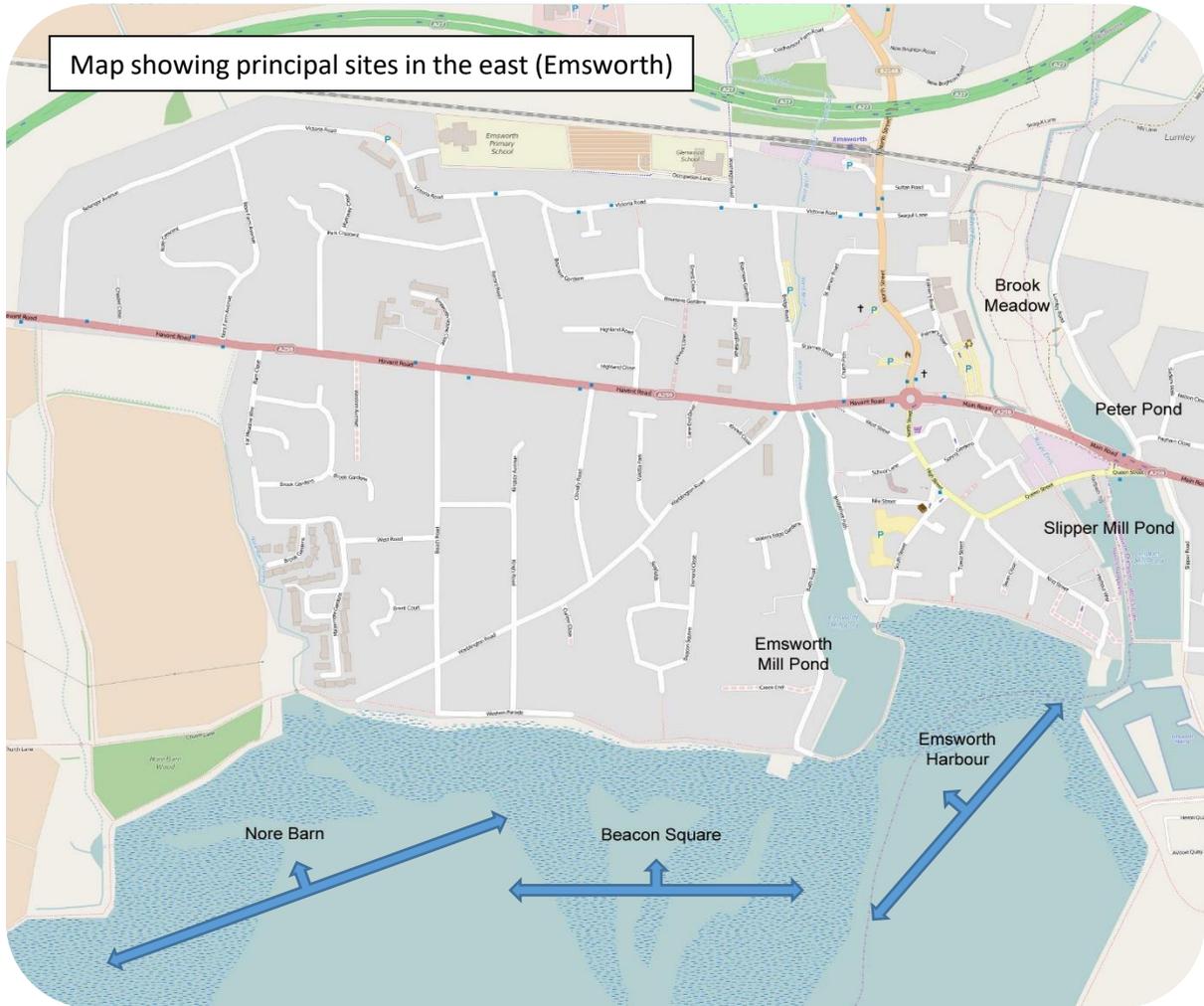
The map to the left shows the area covered by this report, with two further maps (below) that detail the sites.

The main A27 road makes a perfect northern boundary, with the western limit being the arterial A3023 road that crosses the Hayling Bridge. The southern boundary is the high tide water mark along the shore of Hayling



Island before an imaginary line is drawn across Swear Deep to the head of Emsworth Channel dictated by the distance viewable from the Warblington shore. The eastern boundary then follows the Hampshire/West Sussex border line until it reaches Slipper Mill Pond. Slipper Mill Pond, Peter Pond (on the northern side of the A259) and a third of Brook Meadow are technically in West Sussex with the border along the western edge of the two ponds. For the sake of keeping records of this area together the boundary is drawn along the eastern edge of Slipper Mill Pond and along the Lumley Road that heads north to the A27.

Map showing principal sites in the east (Emsworth)



To try and keep records of off shore and low tide counts from being a haphazard mess, a series of arbitrary areas have been created dictated by naturally occurring 'boundaries'. For example the Emsworth Harbour reporting area has a western boundary that corresponds to the outflow stream from the Emsworth Mill Pond by the Sailing Club at the end of Bath Road.



Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

2019: Compared to recent years Emsworth Harbour played host to an unusually high number of swans wintering in the harbour. There were 40 present on January 28th and 46 on February 25th. Numbers dwindled as spring arrived, but there were still 23 birds present on April 6th.

On March 18th the pair on Langstone Mill Pond were observed nest building. They were adding to an old unused nest by the small bridge by the Heronry viewpoint, which they gave up on after only a few days. The pair were observed mating in spectacular fashion with all the foreplay trimmings on March 26th.



After many days of searching, on May 3rd, I discovered that the pen was on a nest in the reeds behind the "Mill Tower". She was barely visible as she shifted reeds onto the nest. However, after only a few days the nest became undetectable as the surrounding vegetation exploded into growth. The male was on his own for the next month or so and I was beginning to wonder if the female had suffered some sort of injury.

However, on June 24th the Mute Swan pair on Langstone Mill Pond finally hatched out six cygnets. I had truly given up on this pair, as the pen had not been seen around the pond for ages. Many locals had commented that during the last month the cob was always on his own! She looked worn out and emancipated, as if she has been on that nest for the last month or so! She was ravenous and eating loads. It had obviously been a very hard incubation period and possibly as a result of this, one of the cygnets was born with a damaged eye. Alas, by July 9th it was no longer part of the family and just vanished. By the years end this family of five were doing very well indeed.



The Langstone Mill Pond pair displaying and mating



The Langstone Mill Pond cygnets on their first day out of the nest. And below at four months old.

Elsewhere, birds bred on Peter Pond with four cygnets, though unfortunately one of the cygnets was killed by a dog.



Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

2019: No sightings. The last record was in 2016 with a single in Emsworth Harbour on September 29th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	-	1	3	-	-	-
Numbers	2	-	1	5	-	-	-

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

2019: There were 23 records this year, which was above the average. However, there were only three sightings that managed double figures. These were all from Emsworth Harbour with 10 on August 31st, 16 on October 23rd and 104 on December 27th.



The Slipper Mill Pond goslings on their first swim and being fed water weed.

The pair on Slipper Mill Pond hatched out five goslings on May 1st and took them for a swim around the pond before returning to the nesting raft. The goslings were alas down to three in number on 7th and as per previous years the family departed the pond and were not seen again after this date.



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	4	24	10	7	17	23
Numbers	10	36	424	418	26	248	179

Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

2019: No sightings.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
Numbers	-	-	79	1	-	-	-

Brent Goose *Branta bernicla*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	578	567	173							110	353	426
Beacon Sq	189	83	74							39	288	139
Nore Barn	220	716	244							95	232	264
Conigar Pt	283	304	28	2						47	207	213
Pook Ln	350	338	197	12						79	297	462
Castle Fm			16									1018
2013-15	413	329	240	16	1	1			16	66	245	305
2016-18	247	408	198	14				1	74	85	246	270

Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum

2019: The last bird of the 2018/2019 winter was a single bird off Pook Lane on April 15th and the first returning birds were 15 off Pook Lane on October 8th. The highest count of the year was 1018 on the Castle Farm fields on December 4th.

The highest count of the last seven years was off Pook Lane with 1181 on January 26th 2015.



A gaggle of Brent Geese bobbing about on a rough sea off Conigar Point

Light-bellied Brent Goose *Branta bernicla hrota*

2019: One was on the low tide mud at Beacon Square on January 28th.

Surprisingly, this was the first sighting of this sub species in the area during the last seven years.



Light-bellied Brent Goose at Beacon Square with Brent Geese

Black Brant *Branta bernicla nigricans*

2019: No sightings. Long overdue.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	8	-	-	-	-	-
Numbers	1	2	-	-	-	-	-

Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	26	28	14	25						1	11	25
Beacon Sq	2	7	9			3					3	10
Nore Barn	48	25	7							1	7	2
Conigar Pt	39	112	39	16	9	2	6		5	18	7	35
Pook Ln	106	75	35	15	7	6			1	21	89	123
2013-15	35	38	54	21	5	8	1	3	5	10	24	25
2016-18	41	56	34	8	3	3	3	4	3	20	28	41

Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum

2019: Birds lingered in the area into July with the last four off Conigar Point on July 23rd. After a blank August, birds returned to the area from September 11th with five at Conigar Point.

The last two winters have seen a steady increase in numbers resulting in new monthly maximums being established this year, in particular 112 at Conigar Point on February 1st, 106 off Pook Lane on January 31st and 123 there on December 3rd. This later total thus becomes the highest count of the last seven years. This upward trend is a very promising prospect for the future of this species in the area.



The low tide mud flats off Langstone village provide a perfect feeding habitat for Shelduck

Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata*

2019: No sightings.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	-	1	1	3	-
Numbers	-	-	-	1	1	4	-

Wigeon *Anas penelope*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth		10										12
Beacon Sq	63	37	36								43	56
Nore Barn	279	174	92							34	139	230
Conigar Pt	137	111	15							38	60	10
Pook Ln	65	64	64								35	60
2013-15	68	84	67	3					1	25	53	82
2016-18	97	51	28						13	47	72	131
Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum												

2019: The last wintering birds were six at Conigar Point on March 22nd and the first returning birds were 31 at Nore Barn on October 9th. The highest count of the year were 279 at Nore Barn on January 8th – a new monthly maximum for this location, which generally echoes the slight increase in this species wintering in the area.

Away from the muddy shore birds again fed on the flooded horse paddock north of Langstone Mill Pond during late February to March peaking on March 5th with 23 birds. During this short period a pair wandered onto the pond on March 18th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 332 at Nore Barn on December 21st 2017.



Male and female Wigeon feeding on the flooded horse paddock north of Langstone Mill Pond

Gadwall *Anas strepera*

2019: The last few years has seen a marked decline in numbers of Gadwall wintering in Emsworth Harbour. From a peak of 13 in January 2015 the numbers are now down to just a pair seen on January 8th and 28th, with just a male present on February 11th and two males on March 8th. And, at the end of the year just a pair had returned on December 27th.

Breeding at Langstone Mill Pond still remains unproven. A handsome male flew in to the pond on May 10th and swam around into every corner of the pond calling incessantly. A pair were noted on the pond on May 17th and again on June 14th. There were no further records.



The Gadwall pair on Langstone Mill Pond on June 14th

During August and September a small gathering of birds in eclipse plumage graced Langstone Mill Pond with a peak of eight on August 11th. The last birds, a pair, were observed on October 2nd.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	9	9	13	19	11	7	19
Numbers	19	32	54	46	19	13	49

Teal *Anas crecca*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	45	10		2							3	4
Beacon Sq	30		4									7
Nore Barn	127	40	24					3		2	42	75
Conigar Pt	105	22	8	4						23	14	
Pook Ln	112	75	36	8					14	6	60	48
LM Pond	43	66	80	5			1	7	19	51	75	89
2013-15	106	95	101	26			8	4	38	57	66	103
2016-18	83	75	55	10				5	29	65	66	62
Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum												

2019: The last winter birds were three on Langstone Mill Pond on April 21st and the first returning bird was a female on Langstone Mill Pond on July 21st.

The highest count of the last seven years was 222 off Pook Lane on December 18th 2016.



Male Teal on Langstone Mill Pond

The median data above clearly shows a slight decline, which is further emphasised by the low numbers encountered so far for the 2019/2020 winter season. Nore Barn for example is approximately 17% down on the numbers usually encountered in October, November and December.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

2019: The best count of the year were 70 on Langstone Mill Pond on August 2nd.

With the sad departure in 2018 of the aggressive Mute Swan cob, the Mallard on Langstone Mill Pond have had the chance to breed without the fear of being persecuted. The current pair of Mute Swans have been very laid back in territorial duties and consequently Mallard had a very bountiful breeding season with four broods being observed. The first successful breeding was noted on May 3rd with a female with five "day old"



Part of the brood of eight at Langstone Mill Pond on May 21st

ducklings. The next brood of eight were observed on May 21st, a third brood of two on 24th and finally a fourth brood of five were seen on June 5th.

Pintail *Anas acuta*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth												
Beacon Sq	2	4	2									
Nore Barn	20	13	16									
Conigar Pt	13	20	1									
Pook Ln	3	15	8									
2013-15	6	13	10	7					2	6	6	16
2016-18	14	9	12	3					0	1	8	15
Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum												

2019: The last winter bird was a male at Conigar Point on March 22nd. Disturbingly, there have been no Pintail seen so far this 2019/2020 winter.

The highest count of the last seven years were 76 seen at Beacon Square and Nore Barn combined (38 at each location) whilst standing in the same spot on January 3rd 2018.

Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

2019: Away from the regular autumnal gathering, the only records were of a male feeding along the low tide shore off Pook Lane on January 29th and 30th. It was joined on February 1st by another three males and a female and alone again on 8th.

In the autumn the first eclipse plumaged bird to arrive at Langstone Mill Pond was a male on August 2nd. Three birds were the maximum and the last individual was observed on October 2nd.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	3	9	4	15	30	19	15
Numbers	6	16	4	52	83	36	27



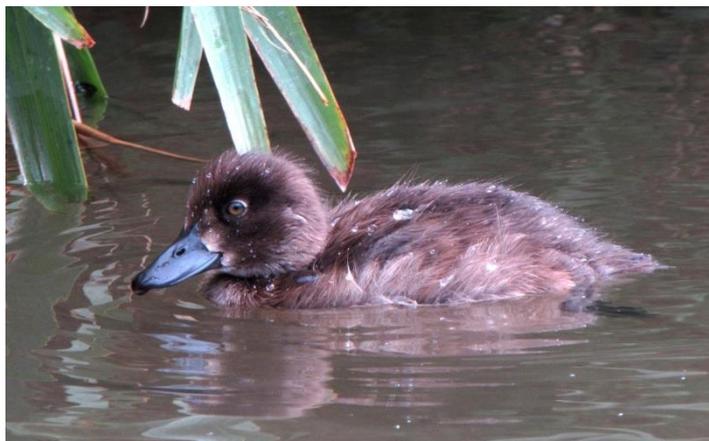
Female Tufted Duck with three ducklings on Langstone Mill Pond on June 24th

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*

2019: All the 71 sightings of this species came from Langstone Mill Pond. It was a blank year from the pond at Emsworth.

Breeding was again proven at the Langstone Mill Pond with two, possibly three broods. Three pairs of adults were regularly observed on the pond from April 21st with a fourth male being present on June 19th. On the same date, dashing about seemingly on their own were four tiny ducklings. Five days later on the 24th what looked like another brood of three tiny ducklings was observed, but I could not be sure if they were not those observed on 19th. On July 26th a female emerged with six tiny ducklings (days old) before she vanished up stream and there were no further sightings of this brood.

However, the brood of three ducklings grew and lingered on the pond until they were last seen together on October 3rd. A single juvenile hung around until 17th.



Growing ducklings on Langstone Mill Pond July 9th and July 29th



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	6	12	23	38	49	29	71
Numbers	20	37	73	113	195	111	222

Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra* (One record in Dec 2016)

2019: There was just the one record of a female that drifted up on the incoming tide into Emsworth Harbour on November 28th.

Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

2019: There were just three records in the early winter period. A pair were off Pook Lane on January 1st, a male with two females on 22nd and a pair on February 5th. There were seven sightings in the late winter period involving up to five birds (a male and four females). All the sightings were from the Sweare Deep channel. The first sighting was a male on November 19th. All five birds were only seen together on December 11th. The last sighting was of two females on December 30th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	4	5	19	22	12	8	10
Numbers	4	10	37	62	40	16	22

Red Breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	5	2		2							8	2
Beacon Sq		1	1								1	3
Nore Barn												
Conigar Pt	8	6	11								13	9
Pook Ln	15	13	9	8						5	25	8
2013-15	13	9	13	8	1	2	1		1	2	13	10
2016-18	10	9	8	4	1					2	12	8
Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum												

2019: The last winter birds were a pair off Pook Lane on April 29th and the first returning birds were five off Pook Lane on October 17th. The highest count of the year were 25 off Pook Lane on November 4th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 41 off Pook Lane on November 20th 2016.



A couple of male Red-breasted Mergansers displaying to a female off Pook Lane

Goosander *Mergus merganser*

2019: No sightings. The first blank year after a run of five successive years.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	9	16	3	6	3	-
Numbers	-	1	1	1	1	6	-

Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

2019: There were no double figure counts this year. The highest number encountered were five! Maybe the reason for these low numbers was that the Castle Farm farmer had moved his main feeding station for “his birds” to the field north of the cress beds and thus “his birds” didn’t wander as much as previous years.

Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer* (Two records: One in Dec 2015 & two in Feb 2016)

2019: The only sightings of the year were of a single bird diving off Conigar Point (at high tide) on December 23rd and 24th. It was almost certainly the same individual.



Great Northern Diver riding the waves off Conigar Point on December 24th

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

2019: In the early winter period up to nine birds were seen in and around Emsworth on nine dates. Nine were seen in Emsworth Harbour on January 22nd and February 1st. Unusually two summer plumaged birds were feeding on Peters Pond on March 6th.

A bird moulting out of summer plumage was seen on Langstone Mill Pond on August 29th and again on October 2nd. Birds returned to Emsworth from November 5th. There were five further records to the years end with a maximum of six seen in Emsworth Harbour on November 28th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	10	7	11	23	17	17
Numbers	8	20	13	15	45	40	55

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

2019: In the early winter period there were nine sightings involving probably only one bird, most of the records coming from the Sweare Deep channel. On March 15th three birds turned up off Pook Lane and then up to three birds were seen on 12 dates until mid-June.

A single bird returned to the area from August 31st and there were a further 26 sightings until the years end. Up to four birds were involved, though on December 27th six were seen in Emsworth Harbour.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	4	16	17	58	17	67	54
Numbers	4	25	33	119	25	135	91



First winter Great Crested Grebe on Emsworth Mill Pond on November 20th

Red Necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena* (Five sightings of an individual in Jan/Feb 2016)

2019: No sightings.

Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

2019: The highest number seen this year were a flock of 11 heading east along the Sweare Deep channel on July 21st.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

2019: In the early winter period double figure counts were as follows. Ten were in the field to the west of the cemetery at Warblington on February 25th, with 24 on March 4th, 27 there on 6th, 24 on 11th, 29 on 13th and finally 11 on 18th.



Little Egrets with the Warblington cattle herd

The first signs of breeding occurred on March 19th when two birds were observed prospecting the main Holm Oak looking at old nests and a few days later on 22nd there were nine birds. On March 28th the number had increased to 11 and the new breeding season was up and running. Birds were

sitting on nests in early April with five observed on 2nd. On April 20th 11 nests were occupied and by 29th that number had increased to 29 nests. A final tally was made on May 7th before foliage made the task impossible. The count was between 29 to 34 nests. The first young were observed from May 21st. On June 3rd a juvenile was noted on a nest with a yellow bill (see photo). At the height of the breeding season on July 1st, a count of 31 juveniles was made.



Juvenile Little Egrets – one with unusual yellow bill



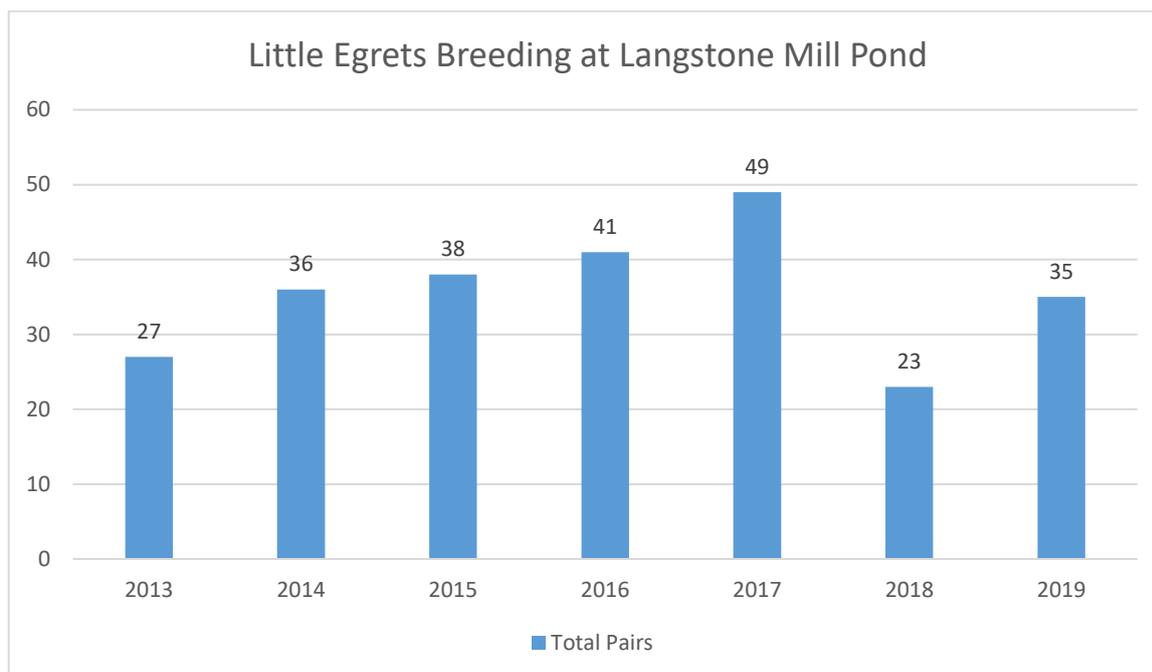
Unexpectedly, on July 12th a late breeding pair built up an old nest on the small island away from the main colony trees (the only birds to do so). A very late attempt indeed. The male was bringing in a stick every 2/3 minutes and very quickly passing it to the female. She was extremely busy on the nest, weaving in the sticks. Four days later a bird was firmly incubating on this nest. Two chicks were being fed on August 28th, with two young still in the nest on September 1st, but alas only one chick on 4th. This bird went on to fledge successfully. This late pairing gives a grand total of 35 breeding pairs, a vast improvement on last year.

A roost count was made on August 5th and totalled 97 birds. On the evening of August 29th a thorough count was made of the Little Egrets arriving to roost at Langstone Mill Pond. There were 30 birds roosting in the trees to start with and between 6:57pm (an hour before sunset) and 7:27pm 42 birds had arrived. Between 7:27pm and 7:57pm (Sunset) a further 36 Little Egrets flew in to roost. After sunset and until 8:22pm a further 20 birds flew in, giving a grand total of 128. Compared to previous years this was a poor total, being 16 birds down on last year's count and 30 birds down on the year before!



The late breeding pair of Little Egrets bringing sticks to the nest

In the late year counts over ten were as follows. There were 10 in the field to the west of Warblington Church on November 29th, 10 on December 18th and 12 on 24th.



Great White Egret *Ardea alba* (One record of two birds seen in July 2017)

2019: A likely bird was picked up late in the scope as it flew east along the north Hayling shoreline on July 3rd. It headed towards the centre bit of Thorney Island. I was 95% certain it was one, just too hazy a view: but what else could it be?

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

2019: The two Cattle Egrets from last year continued to be seen throughout the early part of the year until February 5th when they were joined by three other birds. These five birds were then present throughout the month of March favouring the field to the west of Warblington cemetery. From April 1st numbers dropped to four, then down to three from 17th. On April 20th/21st these three birds were unusually feeding on the low tide salt marsh at the end of the Wade Lane footpath. The last sighting in the area was on April 23rd when they were in the fields to the north of Castle Farm. One of them was amusingly picking flies off the nose of a sitting cow!



Wintering Cattle Egrets at Castle Farm, Warblington





*The five wintering cattle Egrets having an away day at Langstone Mill Pond on March 15th
And the last sighting of this shaggy crested individual on March 26th*

In previous years these wintering birds had departed by late February, but this year the birds lingered into March, then April. From late March onwards, they were often in the Castle Farm fields with 20+ Little Egrets. The Little Egrets were pairing up, displaying and developing spring plumes and I thought it was only a matter of time before this behaviour would rub off on the Cattle Egrets. However, to my disappointment the Cattle Egrets just suddenly vanished and were not seen after April 23rd. The chance of breeding had gone, or so I thought!

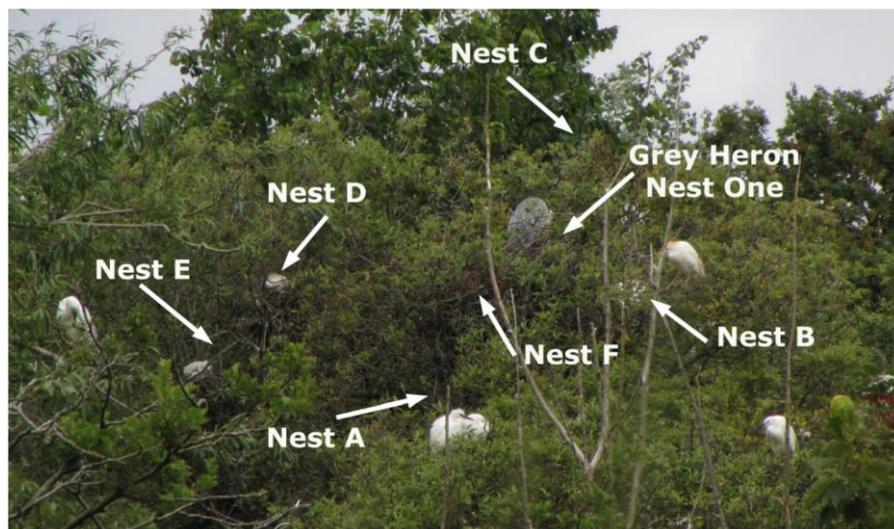
Then, right out of the blue on June 2nd, five Cattle Egrets suddenly appeared in the Little Egret colony at Langstone Mill



Pond. Where had they been for the intervening 38 days? By June 8th the birds had started to settle down and at least four nest sites were beginning to be established (The birds almost certainly using old Little Egret nests). Over subsequent visits, usually only four to five birds would ever be seen. The non-sitting adults never seemed to hang around, which made confirming nest sites virtually impossible. However, with attentive observation lasting well into mid to late August the full picture of this extraordinary event of Hampshire's first ever breeding Cattle Egrets could be established? Eleven adults were involved, though only four pairs were successful in rearing 11 young. The full details of this unprecedented event can be found below: (So as not to confuse with the Grey Heron numbering system, I've given the nests letters).

Nest A:

Activity during the first few days was quite hectic and chaotic with seemingly no purpose. Birds were chasing each other, displaying or just loafing around. However, this pair were the exception and were observed bringing small branches from June 3rd onwards to a chosen nest site that was out of view, halfway down the



Cattle Egret nest locations at Langstone Mill Pond

left side of the main Holm Oak. All the twigs collected were covered in leaves, something I have rarely seen a Little Egret do. Birds were still bringing leafy twigs to this nest site on 8th. However, from 10th there was no observable activity around this nest site for days on end and at times I wondered if the nest was still occupied? However, the curious actions of the male on Nest F, when he craned his neck to look down at this nest site was often the only indication that this nest was still occupied! This male from Nest F accidentally disturbed the sitting bird on June 21st, giving the first indication in eleven days that this nest was still a going concern.



*The male from Nest F being very curious about the occupants on Nest A
Adult fresh off the nest on July 21st before departing for Thorney Island*

On June 29th a bird with several missing primaries on its left wing departed the pond and headed for Thorney Island. This bird was later confirmed as being one of the occupants of Nest A. An additional twelve days passed before another sighting at this nest site occurred, with an adult seen for a few minutes as it stood up on the nest and preened on July 3rd. On 12th an adult (with perfect wings) was observed collecting a Willow twig and flying into the nest site, where it drop off the twig and then departed towards Thorney Island.

On the morning of July 21st the head of an adult bird was observed briefly as it obviously stood up in the nest. Ten minutes later a second adult (the bird with missing primaries) flew in from the east and straight into the nest and obviously out of sight. Barely a minute later the sitting adult departed to perch in the Willow Tree and



preen for five minutes before it flew off to Thorney Island. This was the first clear indication that this nest had young.

The colony was studied for nearly four hours on the morning of July 26th and in that time this nest was only visited the once, with a very speedy, less than a minute change over. The same happened on 29th with just one quick switch in 2.5 hours of observations. Unlike Nests B, D and E this pair preferred not to leave their young unguarded.

During one feeding frenzy observed on August 4th, two chicks could just about be seen. The following day I observed the night time roost and this nest was the only one where a single adult stayed with the young at the nest. The other nine adults all roosted in the trees at the rear of the pond.

On the evening of August 11th, both adults visited the nest twice. The second visit for each adult was after spending five minutes or so off the nest on a nearby branch. The birds were possibly waiting for the store of food in their crop to work its way up to the right place before flying back to the nest to regurgitate a second load to the deadly flailing beaks of the young. This behaviour was witnessed on several occasions with the Cattle Egrets resting a while before a second visit to feed their young.

Somehow, the young in this nest were roughly 10 days or so behind the other three nests. Why this was so, when this nest was the first to get going, is unclear. Maybe the bird with the missing primaries holds the key? It is conceivably possible that the first attempt failed due to some form of predation and the bird put up a fight and lost some feathers in the process?



Two of the three chicks climbing out of Nest B on August 15th

On the evening of August 15th the two chicks were becoming a little more adventurous and were climbing to the top of the branches above their nest site. Significantly, the two adults after both visiting the nest to feed the young roosted together with all the other egrets leaving the youngsters on their own for probably the first time.

On the evening of August 18th the adult with the missing primaries flew into the nest to feed the young and surprisingly a third chick was observed.

Confirmation fully occurred after the chicks were fed, when all three cute looking chicks wandered out of the nest for a minute before returning to the safety of the nest. These youngsters were still being fed on the nest on 23rd and the last sighting of them at Langstone Mill Pond was on September 4th when they were perched next to the nest.

Nest B:

This nest, just half a metre away from the Grey Heron Nest 1 was barely visible through the foliage and an adult bird was clearly sitting on this nest from June 5th. The other adult was observed to bring in leafy twigs (probably Willow) to this nest on a regular basis.

This pair were very attentive to one another, unlike the pair on Nest D that were rarely seen together. The non-sitting bird would often be perched a few metres away in the Willow Trees or just on the edge of the Holm Oak.

On June 17th the non-sitting adult was very busy with stick collecting, pinching sticks from old Little Egrets nests and amusingly from nests that still had untended helpless juvenile Little Egrets present!! This non-sitting adult was certainly the busiest Cattle Egret in the colony, keeping up this collection activity on virtually a daily basis. However, the faithfulness of this pair came into question on 21st when the male clearly visited the bird on Nest D and tried to mate with it, before returning to stand next to its own nest.

On July 12th breeding was confirmed when an adult was observed to fly directly to the nest, swap around with the sitting bird, then the new arrival proceeded to regurgitate and feed a tiny chick that was barely visible through the foliage.

Two petite chicks were observed on July 21st, when an adult flew in and swapped duties and regurgitated for them. The departing egret perched on a nearby Oak tree to have a quick two minute preen and then flew off east towards Thorney Island.

On the morning of July 26th I observed an adult fly in from the east and land on the nest. The sitting adult of the pair left two minutes later and flew off immediately towards Thorney Island. The incoming bird



The non-sitting adult from Nest B eyeing up a stick on an occupied Little Egrets nest

Adult Cattle Egret standing next to Nest B (with sitting partner) and keeping a watchful eye out for the Grey Heron on Nest One



Nest B on June 8th



The first photograph of a chick on Nest B on July 21st and then five days later on 26th showing diagnostic salmon pink feathering on the underwing

then regurgitated its pay load and fed the chicks in the usual frenzy of wings, necks and beaks! When finished the adult stepped off the nest to perch about a metre away. The chicks tried to follow and I was able to confirm that this nest had three chicks. After twenty minutes the adult bird rounded up the chicks and returned to the safety of the nest.

After a morning of observations on July 29th, it was concluded that there was always an adult on this nest or perched nearby (less than 2 to 3 metres away on a favoured perch). When the adult stands nearby to preen, the three chicks climb about amongst the foliage wandering 4 to 5 metres away from the nest. Two of the chicks were aggressively wing flapping on this morning.



The three chicks from Nest B on a wander from their nest on July 26th and probably one of the juveniles from Nest B being fed at the rear of the pond on the evening of August 23rd

On the evening of August 5th the three juveniles were huddled up together on the nest to roost. Their parents were roosting with all the other egrets at the rear of the pond some thirty metres away. They were observed to do the same on the evening of 15th. Both adults were still feeding them on this date. The three youngsters were still present and occasionally being fed in the canopy of the Holm Oak on the evening of 18th.



On the evening of August 23rd it was assumed that the three juvenile egrets roosting with seven adults at the rear of the pond, were from this nest. Two birds were still begging to be fed.

Nest C:

On June 8th two adults were observed regularly nipping over the rear of the main Holm Oak carrying leafy twigs and appearing to drop just behind the Grey Heron Nest one. On 10th a bird was seen bringing twigs to this area on two occasions and on 18th and 19th a bird was observed to leave this area and head off towards Thorney Island.



*Juvenile Cattle Egret at the rear of Langstone Mill Pond on August 28th
Adult Cattle Egret leaving the area of Nest C on June 8th*

On the morning of July 26th, an adult appeared from the area to the left of Nest C. It landed in the nearby Oak where it preened. It looked like a bird that had just come off a long stint on the nest. It looked dishevelled and preened before it flew off east towards Thorney Island. On this morning all the other known nests were accounted for and I could only conclude that this nest was still being occupied. In retrospect I think this nest failed as the number



of young that fledged from the colony were accounted for. The last day of unexplained activity occurred on July 29th when single adults on three occasions were seen in and around the area where this nest was presumed to be located. There were no further observations from this area and it was assumed that this nest failed.

Nest D:

On June 8th an adult, not in nuptial plumage, was observed sitting on an old, tiny Little Egret's nest that was in full view for a couple of weeks. However, after some strong winds the nest was obscured by partly fallen Willow branches. The Cattle Egret looked huge on this nest and the nest would often sway in the slightest of breezes. A second adult was seldom seen interacting with this incubating bird. These occurrences of pair bonding were rare, but were observed on June 19th and 21st. On these dates, this nonchalant adult only brought one single stick into the nest on each day, as compared to the bird attending Nest B, whom would bring five or six sticks in the same time period.



Nest D - The Cattle Egret on the left is sitting on a tiny nest

The next time I observed the non-sitting bird visiting the nest was on June 26th. On this occasion the bird brought in several sticks, however, the second twig was hurriedly dropped onto the back of the incubating bird who shook it off and did not look very pleased. The bird only stayed fifteen minutes, then flew off towards Thorney Island!

On June 29th (after watching this colony for the last three weeks and in excess of 35 hours) I actually

observed the first changeover of nesting duties. A bird flew in from the Thorney Island direction, landed barely a metre from the nest, walked in and swapped over. The departing bird scrambled down the Willow Tree, yanked off a small twig and brought it swiftly back to the nest. It then passed it to the sitting bird to weave it expertly into the nest. The other bird then flew off towards Thorney Island.



The non-sitting adult having a short rest after some second-rate pair bonding duties of Nest D on June 26th

On the morning of July 5th I observed a tiny chick tucked under the wing of the sitting adult. This observation was the **first confirmed breeding of Cattle Egret in Hampshire**. I had suspected this was the case over the preceding days, but the restricted views of the nest through dense foliage made observation very tricky indeed. On 12th I observed a chick (definitely an older one) try to strangle and suffocate a second smaller chick by holding its bill firmly on the other bird's neck and bill! Gruesome!

On July 16th this nest became virtually impossible to see as a Willow bough dropped and blocked the view. Only a mere tenth of an adult could be seen through the foliage sitting on the nest.

On July 21st, two of the three Grey Heron juveniles wandered off Grey Heron Nest One and clumsily clambered through the Willow foliage straight passed Nest D. The Cattle Egret on the nest screeched alarmingly, raised its wings and chased the two Grey Herons away. The adult then stood and preened off the nest and the two chicks tried to clamber up through the foliage to reach the adult. When they did, the adult guided them back to the nest. After about two hours this bird climbed out of the nest, perched for a minute to preen, then flew off east towards Thorney Island, leaving the nest unguarded. However, about 50 minutes later, this bird or another returned to the nest to feed the chicks.



The two juveniles from Nest D in the top branches of the Willow Tree keeping an eye on one of their parents

On July 29th the nest was no longer visible due to foliage covering the site, fortunately the two chicks wandered up from the nest to sit amongst the top branches of the Willow Tree. Both birds were observed to flap their wings frantically. The adult birds twice visited the young to feed them, happily regurgitating food for them where they perched.

On August 3rd both adults flew in within minutes of one another to feed their growing youngsters and by the 5th these two youngsters were hanging out on the empty Grey Heron Nest One along with the offspring from Nest E. They were observed roosting together in the Grey Heron nest.

On the evening of August 8th a few of this group of five juveniles (Nest B and E) were making very short circular flights to the lower branches of the Holm Oak. A few days later on 11th these two juveniles could not be located within the colony and therefore it was assumed that they had successfully fledged and left the pond. On August 17th there was a report of ten adults and two juveniles feeding on Thorney Island – these were almost certainly the young from this nest.

Nest E:

On June 8th two adults were observed climbing down through the Willow trees with sticks on several occasions and it was surmised that they were topping up an old Little Egrets nest that was totally not in view! On 17th a Cattle Egret was again observed clambering down through the Willow trees with



Adult Cattle Egret in nuptial plumage with flushed bare parts. Pale beetroot legs and an extraordinary bill – insipid straw yellow tip, then yellow merging to orange, then red merging to dark scarlet finished off with a light purple cere. The eye for this short display period of seven to ten days is a dark burnt orange

a stick in its bill again in the vicinity of this nest site. After a short spell of preening, the egret flew off and I followed it until it was well over the north end of Thorney Island before I lost it.

This was the first indication that these birds were feeding in West Sussex somewhere and not locally at Warblington. Later in the summer, via email correspondence it was learnt that “Cattle Egrets were feeding in amongst the cattle at Thorney Deeps on 27th May when 4 summer plumage birds were seen. They peaked at 7, all in summer plumage on 1st and 2nd June and since that date and up to 7th July, 5 have been seen on a daily

basis feeding in amongst the cattle”. Why the egrets chose to feed on Thorney Island, rather than in amongst the cattle of Warblington, is the ultimate Million Dollar Question!

By June 18th all the birds observed at the colony had lost their flushed nuptial plumage, so it was a big surprise when a bird in fresh nuptial plumage suddenly appeared and spent several hours chasing and displaying avidly to the bird collecting sticks for nest site E. It was a confusing situation and I could not work out what was actually going on, until the following day when this “newly arrived male” settled down next to an old Little Egrets nest (See Nest F).

After a month of no observations, on the morning of July 21st a Cattle Egret was observed on two occasions flying over the rear of the Willow clump. On a third occasion an adult flew in from the east and landed in the Willow Tree above Nest D and then with a controlled tumble fell into the foliage and below Nest D and out of sight to where Nest E was suspected to be located.

On the morning of July 26th, after two days of summer thunderstorms, several huge Willow branches had fallen away and miraculously this nest site was revealed. It contained three chicks standing tall and huddled together. In a four hour observation period these youngsters were visited on five occasions to be fed.

Three days later on 29th the Willow foliage had fallen again, making this nest once more hidden. However, two of the three chicks climbed up the branches and joined the chicks from nest D in the top of the Willow Tree. Only one adult at a time was seen visiting the nest to feed the chicks, the adults were unusually flying off west on short sorties down to the local stream near to the colony. On this particular morning an adult was observed climbing up through the foliage to visit the Grey Heron Nest One where it tugged and pinched a stick under the beaks of the three juvenile herons. It then climbed back through the foliage to Nest E and weaved it into the fabric of the nest before it flew off east towards Thorney Island.

On the morning of July 31st the three youngsters had clambered out of their nest and were sitting on the unoccupied Grey Heron Nest one (about five plus metres from their nest). When the adults



One of the adults of Nest E looking for their wandering youngsters on August 11th

returned to feed, the juveniles would scramble back to the nest at high speed. A very amusing sight!! Only one adult was ever seen at any given visit and on this morning these chicks were fed quite regularly (seven visits in three hours). And, just like on 29th, one of the adults after feeding the chicks climbed to the Grey Heron nest to pinch a stick and bring it back to the nest.

From August 3rd the three juveniles spent their days perched beside or on the Grey Heron Nest One. On a couple of occasions the adults were observed flying straight to nest E, and finding it empty, they would then make their way to the Grey Heron nest where they would feed their young. On the evening of 5th the three youngsters roosted in the Grey Heron Nest One with the chicks from Nest D. On the 11th the adult was still feeding these three chicks on the Grey Heron nest.

On the evening of August 15th the three juveniles were off the colony tree and roosting with the main egret

flock in the trees at the rear of the pond. They were still being fed by the adults and were uttering a loud screeching begging call that was a sharp, piercing sound, at a slightly higher pitch than the cry of Little Egrets begging! These birds were growing in confidence with their flying sorties, but were still present on the pond on the evening of 18th.

Nest F:

On June 18th a male in full nuptial plumage suddenly appeared in the colony and initially caused havoc chasing and displaying to any egret that came its way. On the following day, the bird had settled down and spent a lot of its time sat next to an old Little Egrets nest (slightly buried in the foliage of the main Holm Oak immediately under the Grey Heron Nest One). The bird would occasionally collect a stick and place it



Adult in nuptial plumage by Nest F on June 19th

in the nest, but more often than not it would amusingly crane its neck downwards in curiosity and observe the goings on in Nest A.

It was noted that most adults in the colony, lost their bright nuptial plumage after about seven to ten days or so. However, this male held on to its nuptial plumage for its entire stay of 17 days. On June 29th (after eleven unfulfilled days) it was acting in a very frustrated way, pecking randomly at branches near its nest site. It then spent two days away from the colony and returned briefly on July 3rd and ambled around the Holm Oak and was chased off by Little Egrets. It loitered for a further ten minutes before flying off to Thorney Island. This bird spent its last day at the colony on July 5th. It was looking sorry for itself, hunched up and just loafing around in the Willow Trees or standing forlornly beside Nest F. It was still in nuptial plumage, albeit a little faded.



By July 21st all the adults were out of nuptial plumage, so when this bird appeared in the colony for a couple of hours it was assumed to be the adult that had been staking out Nest F

Possibly the same bird was present for a few hours on the morning on July 21st. A bird in faded nuptial plumage was initially perched at the top of the Holm Oak near Nest C, then when an adult returned to Nest D, it stood next to that nest for twenty minutes before flying off to Thorney Island.

Nest G:

On June 22nd a pair were observed mating on an old Little Egrets nest on the other Holm Oak just to the left of the Grey Heron nest number 4. The male was not in nuptial plumage, whilst the female had a slightly blushed mauve colour on the base of the bill and cere. After mating the two birds never left this nest, the female sitting, the male standing and occasionally pinching a stick from a nearby egrets nest. The following day and subsequent days this nest was empty. In hindsight, I



Cattle and Little Egret at Langstone Mill Pond on July 29th

wonder if this was an attempt by a failed pair to have another attempt at breeding. The obvious candidates were the pair from Nest C?

Returning birds for the winter months were first noted on October 21st with three birds present in the field south of Warblington cemetery. They were two adults and a first winter. Whether these



birds were from the successful Hampshire breeding attempt or from further afield will never be truly known. An adult and a first winter wandered to Langstone Mill Pond on November 9th. The wintering numbers increased to five on November 29th with three adults and two juveniles. These five birds were still feeding in the fields with the cattle to the west of Castle Farm to the years end.

Cattle Egret at Warblington on December 18th

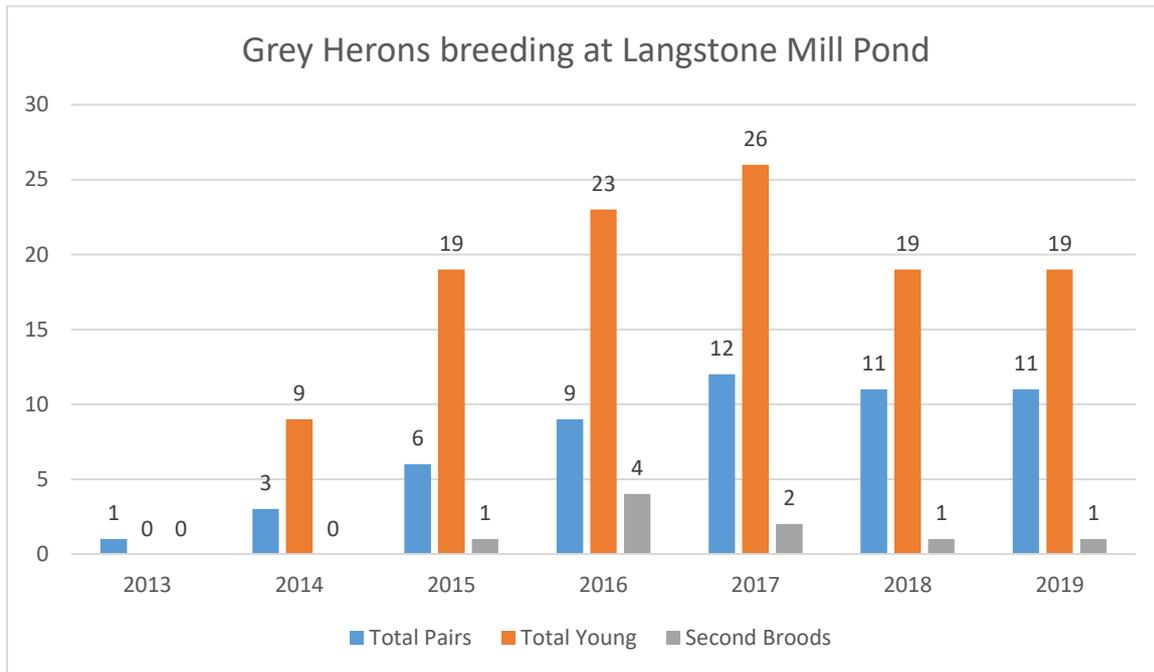
	2006	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	1	-	-	-	9	19	18	85
Numbers	1	1	-	-	-	3	9	2	32

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

2019: A full breakdown of the 2019 breeding season at Langstone Mill Pond can be found below, which resulted in eleven attempts at breeding. Alas, the outcome of three of these efforts was unknown, whilst a fourth pair abandoned their nest. From the remaining seven pairs, nineteen young were raised. The very experienced pair in Nest 1 were the only duo to have a second brood and were responsible for seven of the young raised.



The first brood in Nest One on March 19th



Nest 1: Top of Holm Oak:

This pair were observed showing fondness to one another on the nest on January 1st and a bird was noted snuggling down very carefully (possibly on eggs) on 15th. Young were heard calling on February 21st. Two fairly large young were noted on the nest on 27th, with three seen on March 5th and finally four were observed on 15th. On March 26th they were all frantically flapping their wings in readiness for fledgling.

On the morning of April 21st a huge fight was observed as the male chased the juveniles out of the nest. Once they were seen off, the male proudly displayed with head tossing and pointing of his bill skywards, obviously getting ready for a second brood. Confirmation of this second family occurred on June 5th when an adult was seen feeding something in the nest and then three youngsters were observed on 18th. The birds had successfully fledged by July 31st.



Displaying male on Nest One after chasing off his offspring

Nest 2: Lower down the southern edge of the Holm Oak:

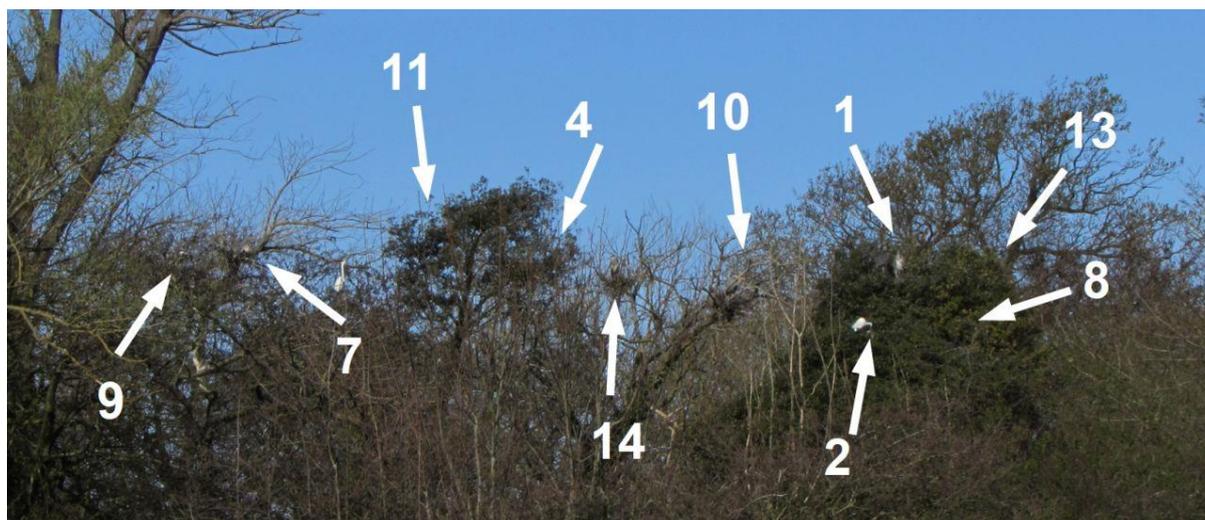
A clean, crisp summer plumage adult was noted standing on this nest on January 15th, with two adults present on February 27th. Two young were observed on March 19th and were still growing strong on April 8th.

Nest 3: South of the Holm Oak, obscured and to the rear, in the lower branches of tall tree:

Nest site not used.

Nest 4: In between Nest 3 and the Holm Oak, at the rear, high up in a slightly taller Holm Oak.

On January 29th an adult was observed standing on this nest and by February 21st a bird was observed sitting very low within the nest. On March 18th young were possibly heard calling from this nest as an adult was observed to regurgitate a huge fish into the nest. The fish was obviously too big for the chicks and within minutes the adult ate it! On 26th tiny movements of young were observed when the adult again was observed to bring in an enormous bright orange Koi Carp to the nest (It was twice the size of the heron's beak). The adult again swallowed it whole. On April 20th this nest had just one youngster and it was still there on May 10th.



Grey Heron colony at Langstone Mill Pond

Nest 5: About 1.5 metres south from Nest 3:

Not in use.

Nest 7: At the back of the main stand of trees and to the south of all the other nests:

An adult bird was stood on this nest on February 27th and was sat tight on the nest on March 26th. There were no further sightings from this nest.

Nest 8: At the rear of the Holm Oak, just below Nest 1:

On January 29th two adults were observed fiddling with sticks on their old nest. An adult was still sitting on the nest on March 19th, but there were no further observations from this nest.

Nest 9: Now the furthest nest to the south of the colony:

Not in use.

Nest 10: At great height, in-between the two Holm Oaks:

On January 15th a very drab bird was standing on a small bundle of sticks, which was all that was left of this once huge nest. Eventually on March 8th, the adult moved the nest location down half a metre to an obvious fork in the branches. This bird then started to build up a new nest from scratch. It was

half built by 15th and was still being added to on 26th. However, by early April the nest was abandoned.

Nest 11: The other Holm Oak (above and slightly to the left of Nest 4):

A pair were observed standing on this nest on February 21st, with one sitting on the nest on 27th. On March 26th tiny movement combined with chick calls was noted and three youngsters were confirmed on April 8th. However, there was only one fully grown juvenile on this nest on May 10th.

Nest 12: Above nest 9 and slightly below and to the left of nest 7:

A pair were observed on this nest mating on February 21st. This was the only observation.

Nest 13: Holm Oak: At the rear and slightly below nest 8:

I suspected this pair last year, but due to the dense foliage it was virtually impossible to view this nest. Adults were very busy on March 5th bringing sticks from the horse paddock to this nest and again on 19th. An adult was observed sitting tight on the nest on 26th. Two half grown young were observed in the nest on May 10th.

Nest 14: By the edge of the other Holm Oak between Nest 10 and close to nest 4:

On March 26th I discovered this new nest. It was slightly hidden behind Nest 4 and the pair had built up a substantial nest very quickly. Even as an adult sat on the nest, the other bird was constantly bringing in sticks. Two young chicks were observed being fed on May 10th, with three seen on 17th.



The youngsters in Nest 14

Nest 15: About 40+ metres to the rear and northwest of the main Holm Oak:

On May 3rd I discovered yet another new nest. This nest was a considerable distance from the main colony and was only viewable from the last bit of reed bed to the north of the pond by the horse paddock. Three young were observed in this nest on May 24th.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* (Three sightings of an individual seen in Feb/Mar 2013)

2019: No sightings.

Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* (One record in Feb 2015)

2019: No sightings.

Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* (Two records: One in Mar 2017 & one in Oct 2018)

2019: No sightings.

Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* (Three records: One in Dec 2015, one in May & Sept 2016)

2019: A female flying over the sea marsh of Fowley Island off Nore Barn on December 20th was the only record. After one circuit of the marsh it headed east to Thorney Island.

Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*

2019: At 7am on the morning on April 15th a male was seen heading east above the large field to the east of the Ibis Field. It was largely in silhouette and headed determinedly towards and over Nore Barn Wood before being lost to view.

Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

2019: A typical year with sixteen sightings. All were of birds flying over in various parts of the area, except for a male that perched in the Willows at the rear of Langstone Mill Pond on October 2nd. It had probably just eaten, as it preened for 20+ minutes and regurgitated a pellet.



Male Sparrowhawk regurgitating a pellet at Langstone Mill Pond on October 2nd

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	7	7	15	3	14	6	16
Numbers	7	8	16	3	14	7	16

Buzzard *Buteo buteo*

2019: A typical year with 29 sightings involving 40 birds. The pair along Wade Lane almost certainly bred again.

Partial pale Buzzard in the horse paddock at Langstone Mill Pond



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	17	34	27	27	34	21	29
Numbers	22	46	39	39	59	24	40

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

2019: There were two records this year. The first was seen drifting in from Thorney Island on August 28th and scared all the gulls off the mud at Conigar Point. It circled around, drifting inland, before heading off westwards over Warblington. It had a fish held like a torpedo in its talons.



Record photo of the Osprey carrying a fish on August 28th

The second sighting was picked up over Thorney Island on September 23rd. It was chased off the island by three Carrion Crows out over Emsworth Harbour where it circled around high for five minutes before slowly drifting towards north Hayling.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	2	2	4	-	1	2
Numbers	1	2	1	5	-	1	2

Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

2019: An above average year of late, but still no hints of any breeding in the area.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	3	6	16	19	22	14	25
Numbers	3	6	18	16	22	15	26

Merlin *Falco columbarius* (One record in Feb 2014)

2019: No sightings. Long overdue.

Hobby *Falco Subbuteo*

2019: The only sighting of the year was picked up by luck in the telescope on September 13th as it flew north across the Sweare Deep channel from Hayling. It then headed straight up along the side of the trees above the Pook Lane track, then hunted along the hedges over Warblington before disappearing off east.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	3	1	-	2	1	1
Numbers	1	3	1	-	2	1	1

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*

2019: There were five sightings this year, which was a little bit down on the previous two years. The first was an adult which sat for ages on the red channel marker post out in the middle of Emsworth Harbour on February 1st. A bird dashed and swooped low over the huge field to the east of the Ibis Field on March 13th before heading off south. The third record was off Pook Lane sitting on the low

tide mud on November 16th. The fourth sighting of the year was of an adult again perched on the red marker post in Emsworth Harbour on November 28th. And, finally a bird was observed ripping its caught prey to shreds and eating it on a red marker post off Conigar Point on December 24th.



Peregrine at Conigar Point on December 24th

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	4	5	9	2	9	7	5
Numbers	4	7	9	2	9	7	5

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*

2019: A quiet year with only three records. The first was feeding along the edge of the reeds at Langstone Mill Pond on January 29th. The second was seen walking along the edge of the island on Langstone Mill Pond on October 8th. And, the last record was of one squealing at the rear of the flooded horse paddock north of Langstone Mill Pond on October 14th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	4	4	10	20	6	1	3
Numbers	4	4	10	20	6	1	3

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

2019: The highest count of the year was 18 in the flooded horse paddock at Langstone Mill Pond on December 11th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 34 in the horse paddock north of Langstone Mill Pond on January 12th 2016.

Coot *Fulica atra*

2019: Counts over 30 were as follows. On January 8th there was a combined total of 72 Coot in Emsworth Harbour & on the Mill Pond, with 75 on 21st, 58 on 28th and 95 on February 1st (88 of these were in the harbour). In the late year numbers were slow to build, with 33 on Emsworth Mill Pond on November 5th, 45 on 13th and 49 on 20th.



Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

The highest count of the last seven years was 132 off Pook Lane on September 21st 2013.

Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*

2019: There were no sightings this year.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	6	2	2	4	-
Numbers	-	-	2	2	2	3	-

Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*

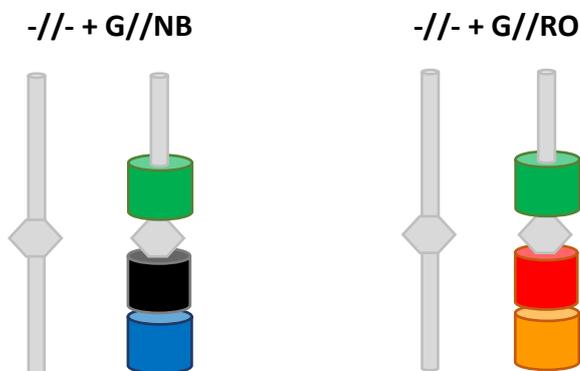
2019: A poor year with only nine records involving 75 individuals. There were no sightings from the early winter period, making the 13 seen off Conigar Point on May 17th the first birds of the year.

The best count during the autumnal migration were 22 off Pook Lane on August 23rd. In the late winter period there were nine at Beacon Square on December 4th and nine in Emsworth Harbour on December 27th. These last two counts, each contained a single colour ringed bird. The full details of which can be found below.

The highest count of the last seven years was 132 on August 22nd 2014 consisted of 70 at Conigar Point and 62 at Pook Lane.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	8	24	19	10	14	12	9
Numbers	79	323	271	84	62	75	75

Ringed Plover colour ringed sightings



2019: Beacon Square December 4th.

2019: Emsworth Harbour December 27th.

Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*

2019: This species is very erratic in its appearance in the area, with large flocks one year none the next. There were no large flocks in 2019 and only eight records.

In the early winter there were two small flocks of roughly 15 each flying inland over Beacon Square on January 5th, two flocks flying over Pook Lane on February 21st (32 & 43), 11 on the muddy shore off Pook Lane on February 25th, eight on 26th and six on 27th.

In the late winter period there was only one single sighting of six birds resting on the low tide mud off Pook Lane on December 18th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 651 at Pook Lane on February 13th 2015.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	3	23	27	8	4	5	8
Numbers	77	2924	3275	316	912	67	136

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	15	4	2							14	13	12
Beacon Sq	4	4	2					1		5	1	11
Nore Barn	2		2							1	3	4
Conigar Pt	8	41	2					12	21	21	18	38
Pook Ln	16	14	8				3	31	8	14	36	16
2013-15	15	9	19	10	4		4	28	19	13	14	23
2016-18	11	16	8	16	3		1	12	16	21	11	9

Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum

2019: The last birds of the early winter period were eight off Pook Lane on March 18th and the first returning birds were three off Pook Lane on July 31st. The highest count of the year were 41 ahead of an incoming tide at Conigar Point on February 5th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 78 off Pook Lane on December 16th 2015.



Grey Plover along the shore at Beacon Square on November 20th

Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	6	7								1	12	13
Beacon Sq												
Nore Barn	27											11
Conigar Pt	1									43	34	37
Pook Ln	99	70							1	7	36	49
2013-15	91	32	1			9	9	7	25	21	34	38
2016-18	66	116	2						1	20	18	19

Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum

2019: This species is becoming very much a winter visitor to the area. The last sighting of the early winter period were seven in Emsworth Harbour on February 11th and the first returning bird was a single off Pook Lane on September 30th. The highest count of the year were 99 off Pook Lane on January 29th.

The highest count of the last seven years were 186 off Pook Lane on February 6th 2017.

Knot *Calidris canutus*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth										11	2	
Beacon Sq		78										
Nore Barn												
Conigar Pt									57	1	1	
Pook Ln								24	17	4	1	
2013-15	468	35	36	4	1			9	14	11	159	239
2016-18	42	86							2	10	27	89

Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18

2019: There were only nineteen records involving 295 individuals – surprisingly an average year. There was only one early winter record and that was the 78 at Beacon Square on February 1st (Also the highest total of the year). The first returning birds were five off Pook Lane on August 23rd.



Two Knot with a Redshank off Pook Lane on September 1st

The highest count of the last seven years was 934 in Emsworth Harbour on January 31st 2014.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* (Three records: Two juveniles on two dates in Sept 2014 & one in Sept 2015)

2019: No sightings.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

2019: The only record involved two birds feeding ahead of the incoming tide at Conigar Point on September 8th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	6	17	8	7	3	-	1
Numbers	34	28	2	5	1	-	2

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	159	396								159	267	475
Beacon Sq	187	120	1							114	251	60
Nore Barn											68	39
Conigar Pt	21	48	17		4			9	46	1	26	110
Pook Ln	532	30	4	25		1	3	33	13	93	451	516
2013-15	461	274	249	76	36		13	49	61	191	286	251
2016-18	190	173	56	11	8		14	28	13	25	127	208
Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum												

2019: The last early winter record was the single off Pook Lane on June 8th (The first ever June record) and the first returning birds were three off Pook Lane on July 9th. The highest count of the year were 532 off Pook Lane on January 30th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 870 off Pook Lane on January 4th.



Dunlin in the Nore Barn stream on November 13th

Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

2019: No sightings.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	4	-	2	5	1	-
Numbers	2	5	-	7	4	1	-

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	112	51						43		17	62	14
Beacon Sq	21		4						1	6		43
Nore Barn	80	10	14							36	114	20
Conigar Pt		80		1			10			1		
Pook Ln	31	81	181	136			64	76	33	27	60	41
2013-15	65	8	51	68	15		13	21	35	67	84	84
2016-18	27	22	53	111		12	25	20	24	36	59	37
Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18: Red – new maximum												

2019: The last early winter birds were ten off Pook Lane on April 23rd and the first returning birds were eight off Pook Lane on July 3rd.

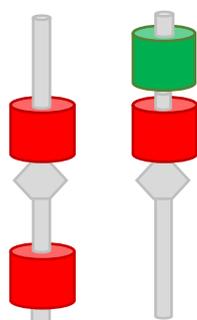
Exceptional numbers fed on the flooded horse paddock at Langstone Mill Pond with 166 on March 5th, 198 on 8th (The highest count of the year) and 148 on 19th. There were 11 colour ringed birds observed in 2019 – details can be found below.

The highest count of the last seven years was 381 off Pook Lane on August 29th 2018.



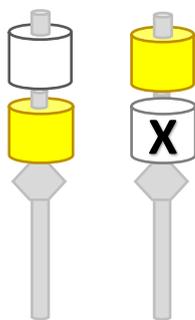
Black-tailed Godwit colour ringed sightings

R//R + GR//-



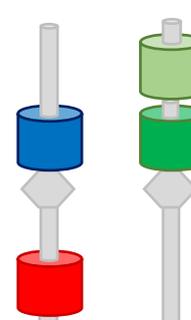
2019: Pook Lane January 30th,
Langstone Mill Pond March 5th, 8th.

WY// - + YX// -



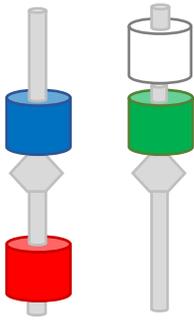
2019: Pook Lane January 30th.

B//R + LG// -



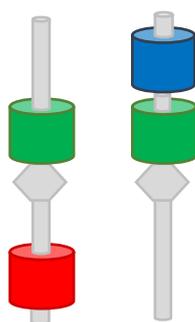
2019: Pook Lane January 29th,
Langstone Mill Pond March 5th.

B//R + WG//-



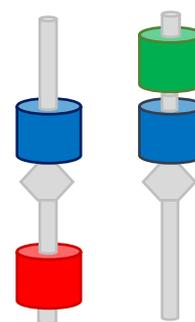
2019: Langstone Mill Pond
March 5th

G//R + BG//-



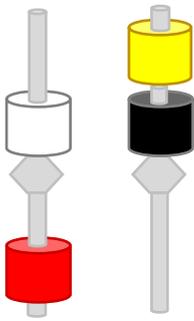
2019: Langstone Mill Pond
March 5th

B//R + GB//-



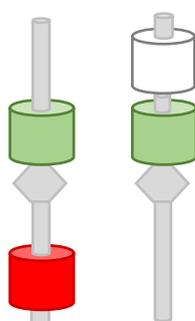
2019: Langstone Mill Pond
March 5th, 8th

W//R + YN//-



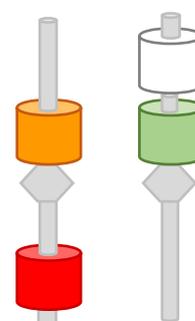
2019: Langstone Mill Pond
March 5th, 8th

L//R + WL//-



2019: Pook Lane July 18th, 21st

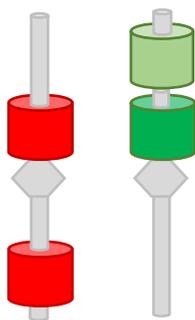
O//R + WL//-



2019: Pook Lane July 31st

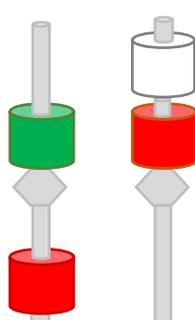


R//R + LG//-



2019: Nore Barn October 9th, 15th

G//R + WR//-



2019: Nore Barn October 22nd



Black-tailed Godwits on the flooded paddock at Langstone Mill Pond

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

Monthly maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth										3		
Beacon Sq												
Nore Barn												
Conigar Pt		1							2		10	
Pook Ln		8	3		1				2	12	21	2
2013-15	117	134	102	28	18		3	7	38	89	95	55
2016-18	2	29	62	61	3		1	6	7	24	151	2
Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18												

2019: Numbers were poor and 2019 turned out to be the first year with no counts over 50. Hopefully this is just a blip and not the start of a downward trend. The last bird of the early winter period was a single at Pook Lane on May 7th and the first returning bird was a single at Conigar Point on September 1st.

The highest count of the last seven years was 255 off Pook Lane on February 25th 2015.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*

2019: It was a below average year with just fourteen records for this species, the first birds of the year were feeding at low tide along the Sweare Deep on March 28th. This is my earliest record of spring passage. The last bird of the summer was a single off Pook Lane on August 3rd. The highest count of the year was eight seen flying east passed Conigar Point on April 17th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 23 off Pook Lane on May 11th 2016.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	17	16	24	15	24	15	14
Numbers	24	26	47	47	52	23	28

Curlew *Numenius arquata*

2019: Counts over 30 were recorded as follows. There were 33 on the Castle Farm fields on February 5th and 62 on December 24th. High counts also included 39 at a pre high tide gathering on the island out in the middle of Sweare Deep on March 8th and a flock of 71 flew over Conigar Point on August 28th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 72 at Beacon Square on September 29th 2016.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

2019: Over the last six years there have only been seven birds recorded in the area, so to have four together on the shore off Pook Lane on July 31st was unprecedented! Another bird was seen off Pook Lane on August 3rd.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	2	1	2	1	2
Numbers	-	-	2	1	3	1	5

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

2019: A very poor year with just the one record of a single bird feeding in the flooded horse paddock at Langstone Mill Pond on February 21st.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	3	1	4	5	15	12	1
Numbers	5	3	5	7	18	13	1

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

2019: The long staying bird at Nore Barn was a little elusive at times and my first sighting of the year was on January 21st. It was last seen in the early winter period on March 20th. It returned for another winter and was seen at Nore Barn from November 5th until the years end. For full details of this beautiful bird visit Brian Fellows' web site at <http://familyfellows.com/x-spotted-redshank.htm>



The elegant Nore Barn Spotted Redshank on November 13th

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

Monthly Maximums

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2019												
Emsworth	1	3		3				4	1	1		2
Beacon Sq									7	1		
Nore Barn	1		1					2		2	2	1
Conigar Pt	1	2	1	1			1	1	2			
Pook Ln	2	1	1	2	1		2	4	5	6	3	2
2013-15	5	3	4	3	1		5	9	10	7	6	6
2016-18	3	3	3	2			3	10	4	6	4	4

Above is the median value per month for the entire area for the years 2013-15 & 2016-18

2019: A poor year with numbers down by up to 60%, especially during the autumn period. The last early winter bird was a single at Pook Lane on May 7th and the first returning birds were two off Pook Lane on July 3rd. There were only ten colour ringed birds observed throughout the year. Full details can be found at the end of the report. The average number of colour ringed birds per year for the last seven years is 15, so as you can see ten is a very poor number, down by 33%.



Greenshank at Nore Barn with colour rings – full details can be found at the end of the report

The highest count of the last seven years was 34 at Beacon Square on September 29th 2016.

Redshank *Tringa totanus*

2019: On an average year I would expect a dozen or so counts to exceed 100. However, the year of 2019 was a dreadful one with only one count above 100 and that was off Pook Lane with 107 on July 18th. There were 11 individuals with colour rings recorded this year – full details can be found at the end of the report.

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

2019: An above average year with 41 sightings, involving 261 individuals. There were only three counts above twenty, all from Emsworth Harbour, they were 34 on October 15th, 26 on 23rd and 27 on November 13th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 41 in Emsworth Harbour on September 12th 2016.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	6	14	23	19	21	27	41
Numbers	25	68	137	144	143	259	261

Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*

2019: The first fledged bird of the breeding season was seen off Pook Lane on June 29th.

On the evening of August 11th an adult moulting out of summer plumage with a coloured ring on its leg was observed off Pook Lane. The gull had a metal ring on its left leg below its knee and a yellow ring on its right leg below the knee. The letters & numbers on the ring were **PA61**. Details were received back from the ringers with the following information. The bird was ringed as a chick in the nest on 22nd June 2013 at Klaipėda, Kiaulės Nugaros Sala in Lithuania. And, amazingly after a duration 2,241 days my sighting was the first ever recovery of this individual. It was 1,557 kilometres away from its birth place! God knows where else it had been over the intervening six years?

Another Black-headed Gull with a colour ring was seen off Pook Lane on August 29th. On the yellow ring were the letters and numbers **2KTC**. Details were received back from the North Thames Gull Group with the following information. The gull was a second calendar year bird and ringed at the Pitsea Landfill Site in Essex on 21st March 2015. My sighting was the first recovery for this bird, so again it had evaded detection for four years.



Black-headed Gull fledgling on Langstone Mill Pond on July 1st

Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus* (Three records: One in Mar 2013, one in June & Dec 2015)

2019: No sightings.

Common Gull *Larus canus*

2019: The highest count of the year were 11 off Pook Lane on November 4th.

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*

2019: There were no January sightings, however in line with the species' early spring arrival, an adult winter (with a slightly darker smudge on the head) was in Emsworth Harbour on February 1st and the first calling birds were three summer plumaged birds seen over Conigar Point on February 21st.

Counts over 20 were as follows. There were 32 in the Castle Farm field to the west of the cemetery on March 4th, with another 55 summer plumage adults 100 metres away resting on the high tide off

Pook Lane (also on March 4th). There were 24 in the Warblington fields on March 8th, 74 also in the same fields on April 5th, 43 resting at low tide in Emsworth Harbour on 6th, 62 flying north inland over Langstone Mill Pond on 8th and 79 were resting/swimming on the high tide water off Pook Lane on April 15th. After a lull in sightings and numbers during the summer months 34 were heading inland over Pook Lane on July 26th and another 34 on August 23rd.



The first juvenile from the Hayling Oyster-bed colony was observed off Pook Lane on August 2nd.

Typically, there was only one sighting during November and December and that was an adult winter off Pook Lane on November 30th.

The highest count of the last seven years was an amazing flock of 191 that flew off the fields at Warblington and alighted on the channel off Pook Lane on March 29th 2016.



*Mediterranean Gulls off Pook Lane on April 15th
Adult summers, second summer and first winter/summer*

Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus*

2019: The pair on the Slipper Mill Pond raft successfully reared two chicks from May 17th onwards. They were great value, with both adults protecting the nest site with half-hearted dives at anyone who walked along Slipper Road to the east of the pond. They proved very photogenic on May 20th when the male bird regurgitated some cuttlefish to the tiny chicks and even later (June 25th) when they were near to fledging.

For full details of this event visit Brian Fellows' web site at <http://familyfellows.com/millpond-great-bb-gull.htm>



Great Black-backed Gulls successfully breeding on Slipper Mill Pond – May 17th and June 25th



Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis* (Three records: One in Aug, Sept 2015 & one in Sept 2017)

2019: No sightings.

Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*

2019: Another poor year with only two records. The first was a single bird flying east past Conigar Point on April 23rd and the second were two birds fishing off Pook Lane on May 1st.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	11	4	3	1	8	2
Numbers	8	18	5	5	2	16	3

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*

2019: No sightings

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Numbers	-	-	2	-	3	-	-

Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis*

2019: Wintering birds were noted on January 8th with four birds fishing at high tide in Emsworth Harbour and almost certainly one of these birds was seen later around the corner at Nore Barn. Two birds moulting into summer plumage were off Pook Lane on March 5th and they were assumed to be lingering winter birds rather than early migrants. The first spring arrivals were two flying east at Conigar Point on April 29th.

Autumn gatherings started on September 11th with six birds resting on the mud off the Royal Oak at Langstone Village, which peaked at 17 on October 21st. Up to three birds lingered until November 30th and in December there were just three sightings, involving four individuals.

The highest count of the last seven years was 19 off Pook Lane on October 20th 2016.



Sandwich Tern in winter plumage on the low tide mud off Langstone village

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

2019: The first birds of the summer were two seen off Pook Lane on April 22nd. This is a typical date for this species, with the average arrival date during 2013 and 2018 being April 19th. The earliest on

record was April 9th in 2014. The birds usually leave the area by mid-September with an average departure date during 2013 and 2018 of September 15th. The last birds of 2019 were six off Conigar Point on September 13th. The latest departure date on record was on October 1st in 2014.

Stock Dove *Columba oenas*

2019: They were only four sightings in double figures, the highest was 21 in the fields out to the east of Warblington cemetery on October 21st. The highest count of the last seven years was 109 in stubble field behind Conigar Point on March 4th 2014.

Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*

2019: A count of 34 was made on the wires over the cress beds at Warblington on August 28th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 75 on wires over the Warblington cress beds on December 24th 2014.

Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* (Two records: One in July 2014 & one in Sept 2015)

2019: No sightings.

Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*

2019: No sightings again this year. However, on the morning of June 11th one was calling from Thorney Island and I could hear it on the western breeze along the esplanade at Beacon Square and Emsworth. So near, yet so far away!

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	-	3	-	-	-	-
Numbers	1	-	3	-	-	-	-

Little Owl *Athene noctua*

2019: No sightings.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	2	5	6	-	-	-
Numbers	-	2	5	6	-	-	-

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco* (One record in Sept 2015)

2019: No sightings.

Swift *Apus apus*

2019: The first birds of the summer were two birds seen over Langstone Mill Pond on May 21st and the last birds of the year were three over Langstone Mill Pond on July 31st.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	1	6	14	5	6	11
Numbers	5	2	28	32	5	14	24

Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

2019: A typical year with 22 records. The majority of the sightings were in the latter six months of the year.



Kingfisher perched on a window sill overlooking Emsworth Mill Pond

The best encounter of the year occurred on October 2nd at Langstone Mill Pond when I had a 20 centimetres close up view of a Kingfisher - albeit it only lasted half a second! I was partly leaning against the fence at the back of the Mill and looking out across the pond. Then suddenly, I registered a whirl of fast flapping wings and a Kingfisher zipped by only 10 centimetres over the fence and barely 20 centimetres passed my right ear. It then dropped down to skim away across the pond, only inches from the surface. Stunning views of its turquoise rump glinting in the sunshine. Wow!!



Kingfisher in the outlet creek at Langstone Mill Pond

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	4	12	25	23	23	12	22
Numbers	4	13	26	24	24	13	22

Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* (One record in Sept 2017)

2019: No sightings.

Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*

2019: On June 11th a pair were observed feeding juveniles in a nest hole in Warblington cemetery. They proved very easy to photograph.



Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

2019: In the early winter period there were three counts in double figures, both from the large fields out to the east of Warblington cemetery and these were 11 on January 9th, 27 on 29th and 12 on February 26th.

The autumn migration started with a single over Langstone Mill Pond on October 2nd and consisted of a further 18 records, involving 82 individuals.

In the late winter period flocks in double figures were again encountered in the fields to the east of Warblington cemetery with 40 on November 29th and 34 on December 24th.

The highest count of the last seven years was 49 in the stubble field behind Conigar Point on December 28th 2017.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	6	16	27	10	28	17	39
Numbers	11	103	108	45	113	110	227

Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

2019: The first bird of the summer was seen heading north over Langstone village on April 2nd and the last birds of the year were a flock of ten over Pook Lane on September 11th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	3	6	7	2	2	6	5
Numbers	72	12	24	5	7	73	15

Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

2019: The first bird of the summer was seen heading north over Langstone Mill Pond on April 2nd and the last birds of the year were seven over Beacon Square on October 15th.



Only a single pair were noted breeding along Wade Lane, down by 3 pairs!

House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

2019: The first and only spring record was a single bird heading north above the Pook Lane track on April 15th. The last bird of the summer was seen over Beacon Square on October 15th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	5	2	8	3	8	3	8
Numbers	57	95	150	108	21	15	14

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* (One record in Aug 2014)

2019: The only record was of a bird heard calling several times as it flew over Conigar Point on September 8th.

Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis*

2019: Up to three birds were seen regularly around the hay dump in the big field east of Warblington cemetery during January and February. Early spring movement swelled numbers into double figures with 11 on March 13th and 14 on 22nd. The first significant spring movement was noted on April 2nd when in 15 minutes 47 birds were observed moving north over Langstone village.



*Meadow Pipit on the hay dump east of Warblington cemetery
A scruffy Rock Pipit also enjoying the rotting hay at Warblington*



There were no records during the summer months. The first autumn passage was observed with one over Emsworth Harbour on August 31st. There were a further 19 records involving 110 individuals with the highest count being 22 over Langstone Mill Pond on September 30th.

There were only five records during November and December with up to five birds involved around the hay dump east of Warblington cemetery.

Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus*

2019: There were just three records of this species during 2019. At least two birds were in the rotting hay dump in the large field east of the cemetery at Warblington on February 26th, with two there on March 11th and one on 13th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	12	-	3	6	1	3	3
Numbers	14	-	3	6	2	5	5

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*

2019: There was a substantial increase in records on previous years, helped, no doubt by successive winters of the dumping of soiled hay from Castle Farm's milk herd in an accessible location.

Four or more birds were in the rotting hay dump in the big field east of the cemetery at Warblington on February 26th (At one point 9 pipits were in the air, two were Rock and one was a Meadow?). There were nine further records during March involving up to four birds. The last bird was seen on March 28th.



Water Pipits on the hay dump at Warblington, March 2019 – Incredibly varied in plumage, from the classic individual above to those with a smudged dark breast and cold greyer tones



Water Pipit moulting into summer plumage at Warblington in late March

During the autumn passage period, three birds were seen in the SSSI field on October 22nd.

The hay dump at Warblington was repositioned to the field behind Conigar Point and in the late winter period attracted two birds on December 18th, then four on 24th, with a further four birds feeding in the big field to the north (planted with Winter Wheat) with six Pied Wagtails and 62 Curlew on the same day.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	-	1	2	3	12
Numbers	-	-	-	4	2	4	40

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

2019: A poor showing with just two records.

The first was in spring as a bird was heard heading inland over Pook Lane on April 17th and the second was in autumn of a single bird flying south over Castle Farm on September 8th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	12	12	16	2	7	3	2
Numbers	76	76	28	7	19	7	2

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

2019: A single bird was seen on most visits to the Warblington hay dump during January to March and a pair, with the male singing were seen by the old hay dump, Warblington on April 22nd.

As usual there were no summer records. The first bird of the late winter period was a single flying over Langstone Mill Pond on September 11th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	5	4	14	25	25	8	19
Numbers	6	4	14	29	28	8	22

Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report



Pied Wagtail on the hay dump at Warblington – up to 13 were seen at this site

Nuthatch *Sitta europaea* (Three records: Singles in Aug 2013, Oct 2015 & Feb 2018)

2019: No sightings.

Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*

2019: No sightings.

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Numbers	1	-	-	3	-	-	-	-

Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Duncock *Prunella modularis*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros* (One record in Oct 2015)

2019: No sightings.

Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

2019: There was only one record this year. A cracking male was perched at the side of the main hedge in the SSSI field at Pook Lane on August 28th.



Male Redstart in the hedge in the SSSI field at Pook Lane

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	4	-	2	-	-	-	1
Numbers	4	-	3	-	-	-	1

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

2019: No sightings.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
Numbers	-	1	2	-	3	-	-

Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus*

2019: An exceptional year with nine records, involving 19 individuals. There was only one record in the early winter period and that was a male in the SSSI field at Pook Lane on February 26th.

The first bird of the autumn was a male on the main Pook Lane hedge on September 20th. A female was in the SSSI field on October 18th, with two males and a female there on 21st, then three again on

22nd and two on November 16th. A female was along the main hedge at Pook Lane on October 21st and three were feeding along the dividing hedge of the big field to the east of the Warblington cemetery on October 22nd.

The last sighting of the year was a single bird in the reed bed at Langstone Mill Pond on November 19th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	5	2	2	2	9
Numbers	-	-	5	2	3	3	16

Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

2019: A good year with seven records. There were two spring records, both sightings occurred at the Warblington hay dump with single females noted on 25th March and April 1st.

In the autumn two juvenile/female types were seen in the SSSI field on August 28th, with one there on September 8th, 13th and 20th and one on the shore along Pook Lane on September 13th.



Female/juvenile Wheatear on the sea wall of the SSSI field at Pook Lane in September

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	3	3	1	1	2	7
Numbers	-	4	3	2	1	2	8

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

2019: A single record involving a passage flock of 12 birds that flew north over Conigar Point on October 21st, then suddenly dropped out of the sky to land on the main hedge in the SSSI field.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	4	-	-	3	3	1	1
Numbers	694	-	-	52	7	5	12

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

2019: A typical year with ten records. The highest count were an impressive flock of 40 feeding in the same field as the Cattle Egrets (Warblington) on February 25th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	3	2	-	2	22	10	10
Numbers	155	6	-	45	155	70	80

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

2019: Breeding was again confirmed along Wade Lane with an adult seen perched with a beak full of worms on April 21st and two adults were seen feeding a fledgling in the horse paddock on May 7th.



Mistle Thrush with a beak full of worms along Wade Lane

Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti*

2019: A poor year with none seen or heard at Langstone Mill Pond. There were only 15 records. All between March and May and involved three singing males briefly holding territory. One was in the Conigar Point hedgerow on seven dates between April 1st and 29th. One at the rear of the Ibis Field on six dates between March 13th and May 13th and one at Peters Pond on May 1st and 20th.

Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia*

2019: On the morning of September 4th a Grasshopper Warbler literally flew out from under my feet off the coastal path along Pook Lane and dived into a nearby hedge. I had a couple more quick

glimpses of it as it flew from one bit of the hedge to another. Then it flew out of the hedge for 30 metres and plonked itself down into barely six centimetre high grass only two metres from the path!! After 20 minutes of searching I gave up, I just could not locate it. Typical behaviour! The hedge had a Whitethroat milling about which helped with size comparison, the Grasshopper Warbler being so much smaller. Good flight views throughout and a great new addition to the area.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

2019: Another dreadful year with just the single record, a bird seen in autumn along the main hedge at Castle Farm on September 8th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	2	3	3	3	1	1
Numbers	1	4	3	3	3	1	1

Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

2019: The first Reed Warbler of the spring was noted on April 17th when one was heard singing in the mini reed bed behind Conigar Point. This is a typical date for this species, with the average arrival date during 2013 and 2018 being April 18th. The earliest on record was April 10th in 2015.

The last bird of the year was a single at Langstone Mill Pond on August 4th.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

2019: The first bird of the summer was a male singing from the Ibis Field hedge on March 29th.

Unusually high numbers were recorded moving through the area in the autumn. On September 13th there were three males and four females in the hedge in the SSSI field, with an incredible ten males and five females in the same place on 20th.

The last bird of the summer was a male in the hedge beside the Ibis Field on October 18th.

Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin* (Two records: One in Aug 2014 & one in Sept 2017)

2019: No sightings.

Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*

2019: The only sighting of the year involved two birds together in the main hedge of the SSSI field at Pook Lane on September 20th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	5	1	1	2	-	1
Numbers	-	5	1	2	2	-	2

Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

2019: The first Whitethroat of the spring was heard singing from the SSSI field on April 20th. The stronghold for this species remains Brook Meadow with at least four singing males on May 1st.

There were only five sightings during the autumn with the last birds being two in the hedge at Pook Lane on September 13th.

Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*

2019: There were only two sightings of over wintering birds, both from Langstone Mill Pond. The first was heard calling from the reed bed on January 15th and the second was tempted into singing due to unseasonably hot weather on February 27th. The likely first migrant was a single bird feeding on the rotting hay dump at Warblington on March 4th, with birds heard regularly singing from March 11th.

There was only the one record during November and December and that was a single bird in the Warblington cemetery on November 29th.



Chiffchaff at Langstone Mill Pond in March

Siberian Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita tristis* (One record in Dec 2014)

2019: No sightings.

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

2019: A very meagre year with only four sightings. The only spring record was a single singing bird seen in the horse paddock north of Langstone Mill Pond on April 20th.

In autumn the first bird was observed at Langstone Mill Pond on July 29th, two were in the hedge behind Conigar Point on August 31st and one in the Tamarisk Hedge at Conigar Point on September 8th.



Willow Warbler at Conigar Point

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

2019: This species is never abundant in the area. A singing bird was noted in the Warblington cemetery on June 5th and again on 11th.

During late autumn the highest group encountered were three in the hedge beside the Warblington cemetery extension on October 17th.

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*

2019: A bird was briefly heard singing from the rear of Langstone Mill Pond on March 22nd and 26th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	-	2	-	3	3	2
Numbers	1	-	2	-	3	6	1

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* (Three records: Singles in Sept 2013, Aug 2015 & Aug 2018)

2019: There was just the one sighting this year of a bird in the main hedge of the SSSI field on September 20th.

Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca* (Two sightings of an individual seen in Apr 2013)

2019: No sightings.

Bearded Tit *Panurus biarmicus* (One record in Oct 2013)

2019: Two males and a female were observed in the mini reed bed behind Conigar Point on March 28th. They were calling frequently and flew around above the reed bed on a couple of occasions before finally dropping into the reeds and giving some splendid views for five minutes before they flew off high to the west with lots of calling. This is the second record of this species in the area and astonishingly in the same tiny reed bed as the first.



Male Bearded Tit at Conigar Point



Male Bearded Tit – Just two sightings in the area: six year apart, but seen in the same mini reed bed!

Long tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Great Tit *Parus major*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

2019: An above average year with four sightings. The first was at Nore Barn Woods on March 6th and then a bird singing along Wade Lane on April 21st. The third was in the Warblington cemetery on September 20th and again on October 18th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	1	2	4	2	2	4
Numbers	2	1	2	6	2	2	4

Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

2019: There were 13 sightings this year mostly from the spring and autumn periods.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	3	3	8	14	8	13
Numbers	2	4	4	10	16	9	16

Magpie *Pica pica*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

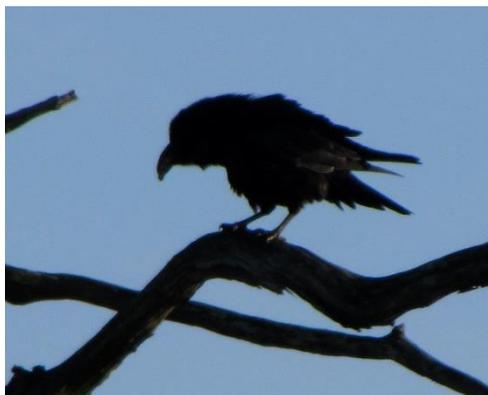
2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Raven *Corvus corax* **(Two records: One in Feb 2016 & two in Sept 2017)**

2019: There were four sightings, all involving single birds. The first was on January 22nd when a bird was seen flying low over the car as I approached Castle Farm, Warblington. It landed on the gnarled half dead tree in the field north of the black barn, where it perched just long enough for me to grab a few photos before it flew off northwest. The second sighting was flying north over the water cress beds at Warblington on February 26th. The third flew over Conigar Point on May 13th heading east towards Thorney Island and the last sighting was on June 21st when a bird flew over Langstone Mill Pond and headed east to Thorney Island.



Raven at Castle Farm, Warblington



Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla* **(One record in Dec 2014)**

2019: No sightings.

Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*

2019: Seen, but nothing to report.

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

2019: Flocks over 30 were as follows. There were 60+ in the field west of the Warblington cemetery on July 23rd, 55+ at Langstone Mill Pond on September 30th, 40+ there on November 4th, 65+ on 9th and 40+ on December 3rd.

Siskin *Carduelis spinus*

2019: There were just two records. The first was heard as it flew over Nore Barn on October 15th and the second was a single bird heading south over Langstone Mill Pond on November 9th.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	2	-	26	7	4	-	2
Numbers	4	-	60	10	4	-	2

Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*

2019: An exceptional year with over double the number of sightings than any previous year. An accumulation of birds was noted in the stubble field behind Conigar Point on February 26th with 13 birds. The 'trembling' (A great collective noun) quickly grew to 42 on March 3rd, then an impressive flock of 204 (counted from a photograph) on March 22nd, and again on 27th (200+) and on April 1st (200+). Numbers fell away very dramatically, so that on April 15th the flock consisted of only 26.

In the late year a flock of 80+ was in the big field to the east of Warblington cemetery on October 17th, but a week later this stubble field was ploughed and seeded with Winter Wheat and the birds vanished. There were no further sightings to the years end.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	7	8	8	3	10	5	26
Numbers	271	81	40	4	24	10	967

Lesser Redpoll *Carduelis cabaret*

2019: No sightings.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	-	-	2	-	1	-	-
Numbers	-	-	7	-	13	-	-

Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra* (One record of a flock of six in July 2013)

2019: No sightings.

Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

2019: No sightings.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Sightings	1	-	2	-	-	1	-
Numbers	1	-	2	-	-	1	-

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*
(One record in Mar 2018 after a 15 year gap)

2019: I didn't expect to see this species so soon after last year's amazing occurrence. On the morning of March 22nd a singing male Yellowhammer was seen perched in the Willow scrub in the northeast corner of the big field to the east of the Warblington cemetery. Alas, it was not seen on subsequent visits.



*Singing Yellowhammer at Warblington
Male Reed Bunting at Langstone Mill Pond*

Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

2019: A singing male was seen at Langstone Mill Pond on two dates in March, then from April 2nd it sung regularly. A female was observed on April 8th and 21st. Both birds were seen sporadically into July, then there were no further sightings until a male was seen on December 23rd.

Away from Langstone Mill Pond, the only records were of a male briefly singing from the mini reed bed behind Conigar Point on April 17th and 23rd.



Species recorded in the area by myself prior to 2013 and by others

Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

This rare feral visitor was last recorded in the area at Emsworth Mill Pond in 1992.

Red Breasted Goose *Branta ruficollis*

This rarity has a decent record for the area, dating back to November 1975. Recently individuals have been seen along the Warblington shore on 11th November 2007 and off Langstone Village on 19th February 2013.

1976: One was seen adjacent to the Hayling Bridge on 17th January.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*

Four birds of unknown origin were at Langstone Mill Pond on 15th to 21st September 1975.

Pochard *Aythya ferina*

According to the 2012 report by the BTO Wetland Bird Survey numbers of wintering Pochard in the UK have halved in the last 25 years. The reason for this decline is uncertain, but climate change is thought to be implicated. Pochard only ever used to be an occasional winter visitor to the area, especially to the Emsworth Mill Pond. And now due to this decline it has become very sporadic in its appearances. The last sightings were on the Emsworth Mill Pond with a male on 23rd December 2007 and six males on 14th February 2009.

Red Crested Pochard *Netta rufina*

In the last fifteen years there have been two records of this species with one at Emsworth Mill Pond in the year 2000 and a female was present in Emsworth Harbour on 12th December 2003.

Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis*

A female wandered up and down the Emsworth Channel and into Sweare Deep between 23rd October and 20th November 2005.

Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis*

Prior to its near extermination by the DeFRA eradication programme between 2008 and 2015 birds have surprisingly been recorded in the area with the last sightings being three along the Warblington shore on 12th June 2006 and a pair in the same area on 16th December 2007.

Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*

This species was present in the Warblington area at the turn of the century. However, during the last decade it has no longer been introduced for shooting purposes, thus emphasising the lack of any modern sightings.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*

Long vanished from the area, but did breed many moons ago! A tiny relic population of about 20 birds can be found on Thorney Island and at Prinsted, in West Sussex.

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Considering that this species winters just beyond the Hayling Bridge in Langstone Harbour, it is very surprising that Black-necked Grebes are not recorded more often. The last brave birds to wander under the bridge into the Sweare Deep channel were one off Langstone/Warblington shore on 16th November 2012 and two on 25th November 2012.

Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*

A record from the latter years of the last century was of one looking very poorly standing in the feeder stream just north of Langstone Mill Pond.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*

A handful of records are seen annually (recently single birds have been seen over Emsworth on 10th, and 27th February 2015), which is not surprising considering that this species breeds very close in neighbouring West Sussex.

Crane *Grus grus*

This rare vagrant was recorded in the area on 7th April 1984 when three flew over Emsworth.

Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius*

One was seen on the low tide mud along the Warblington Shore on 11th October 1981.

Razorbill *Alca torda*

The most recent sightings have included, one drifting east off Langstone Mill Pond on 30th December 2015 and one was present in the Swear Deep Channel on February 19th & 21st 2019.

Guillemot *Uria aalge*

Since the turn of the century, there have been just three records in the area covered by this report. All relate to birds seen in Emsworth Harbour. One on 3rd November 2001, one on 30th September 2004 and a wrecked bird seen resting on the mud next to the outflow from the Emsworth millpond, right beneath the quay, next to the Slipper Sailing Club on 22nd November 2016. See photo at the following [Link](#):

Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*

Recorded from the Slipper Mill Pond (date not known). Also, a more recent record of an adult was seen after storm 'Barney' pushed through off the Royal Oak pub, Langstone village on 18th November 2015.

Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*

A very unpredictable species that turns up from time to time in the most unlikely places. One was at Warblington on 29th July 2008. The so called 'invasion' that everyone talks about, is still to occur!

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

A bird was present at Warblington in March and April in 1983.

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*

Five were seen from a moving car as it travelled west along the A27 near Emsworth (between the service station and the Emsworth exit) on the afternoon of 3rd June 2014. The "five birds with a flash of blue and green body colour and long pointed wings . . . flew fairly low, about 30 feet, north over the main road with very fast wing beats, close together, with frequent jerky slight adjustments in direction . . . short tail streamers observed on at least one bird".

Hoopoe *Upupa epops*

One was at Warblington on 12th April 1980.

Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*

In recent years there have been four sizeable Waxwing invasions and birds have managed to wander into the area with a single bird visiting the Warblington Cemetery on 28th November and probably the same bird again on 27th December 2010 and in mid-January 2019, four were in "Emsworth" for a couple of days in the garden of the Sussex Brewery Pub, which alas is 100+ metres across the border in West Sussex!

Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*

The only record this century is of one at Brook Meadow singing in the early hours of the morning of 9th May 2000.

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

A male seen in the field west of Warblington cemetery on 1st April 2013 is the only record in the last fifteen years. See [Link](#):).

Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

In winter fairly substantial flocks of this species used to occur at Castle Farm on manure encrusted stubble (38 on 18th March 1984). The species last bred in 1987 and the last sighting of this sadly missed passerine was in the mid 1990's.

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*

The UK Corn Bunting population declined by 89% between 1970 and 2004. In the late 1970's up to eight birds were holding territories along the Warblington shore. The last known breeding occurred in 1991 and in the early years of this century the species finally vanished.

List of Escapes

Muscovy Duck *Cairina moschata*

Present on the Emsworth Mill Pond in 2008.

Ringed Teal *Callonetta leucophrys*

The Ringed Teal is native to South America and is an enormously popular duck in wildfowl collections. As one collector remarked, "On a scale from one to ten, with ten being the easiest to breed, Ringed Teal are an eleven. A great little duck but they breed like rabbits when content".

A very handsome male turned up at Emsworth Mill Pond on 3rd November 2014 and remarkably it was joined by a second male on 12th November (See photo [Link:](#)). The birds then relocated to Langstone Mill Pond on the 27th and astonishingly on 30th November three males were discovered to be present, proving that they do breed like rabbits!

2014: Two males at Langstone Mill Pond on November 27th (almost certainly the birds from Emsworth on an away-day) and the same two males were feeding with Teal on the low tide mud for an hour off Pook Lane on December 2nd, before transferring back to Langstone Mill Pond.

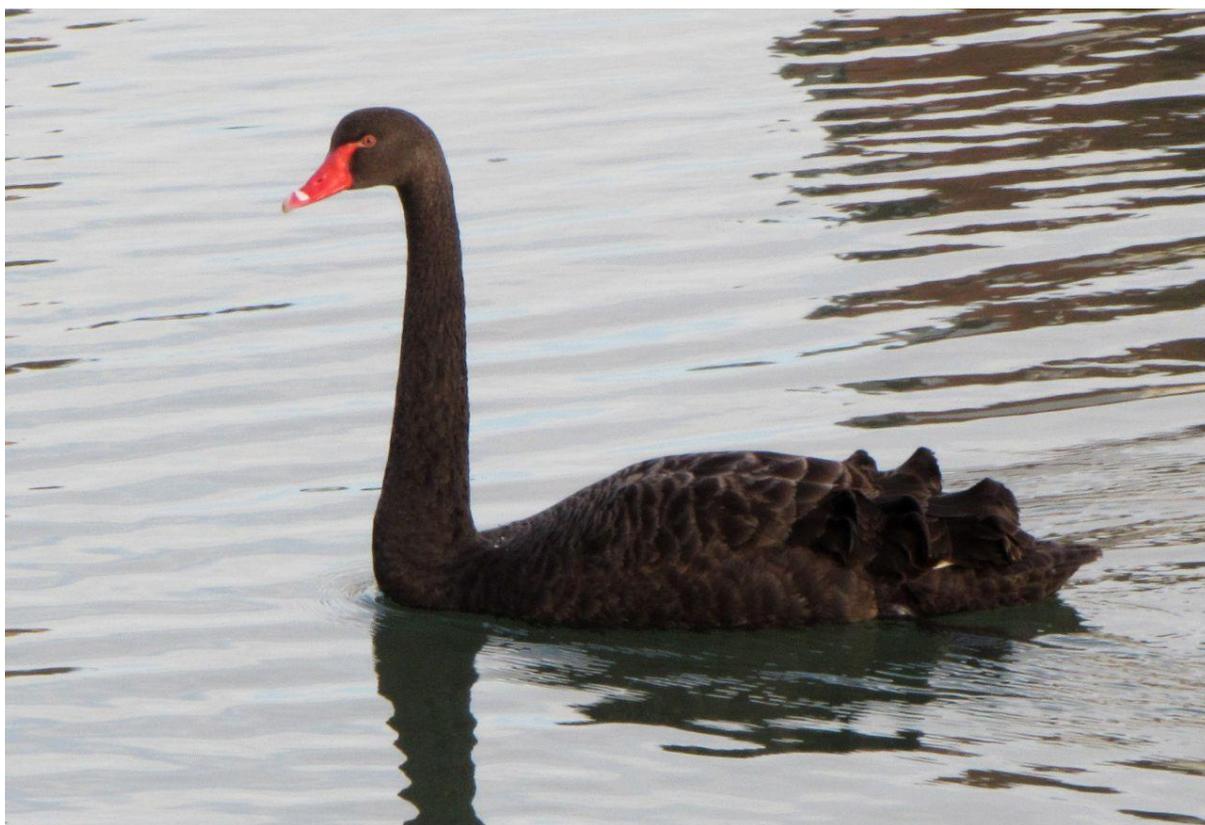
Chiloe Wigeon *Anas sibilatrix*

A male was at Peter Pond on 19th January 2005 for a couple of days (See photo [Link:](#)).

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

Black Swans have visited Emsworth Mill Pond on many occasions over the years. They used to be a regular local attraction in the late 1970's, even making the front page of the Portsmouth Evening News. However, since the turn of the century there have only been five records of this species, one spent three years at the millpond from February 1999 to March 2002. The remaining sightings were of individuals on short visits in August 2004, in June 2006, in January 2008 and at Nore Barn for a single day in October 2015. Black Swans breed on West Ashling Pond, West Sussex and it seems likely that the more recent sightings will have come from this site. A pair with two juveniles were seen at high tide at the bottom of Wade Lane on November 11th, 2016 and probably the same birds were seen by myself in Tipner Lake, Portsmouth three days later. These birds are suspected to have originated from Riverside Park in Southampton where in March 2016 a pair raised 6 cygnets.

2019: There were three sightings. An adult was present in Emsworth Harbour on January 5th and 8th. And, two adults flew west along the Sweare Deep channel and then up and over the Hayling bridge on July 1st.



Black Swan in Emsworth Harbour – January 2019

Bar-headed Goose *Anser indicus*

The last known sightings of this species were at Emsworth Mill Pond in 1997 and two in Emsworth Harbour on 27th February 2007.

Emperor Goose *Chen canagica*

Last seen in 2000 at Emsworth Mill Pond

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

One was seen at Castle Farm on 27th April 2007.

Acknowledgments:

Thanks are due to Brian Fellows (especially with help with the Black-tailed Godwit data). Please visit his superb Emsworth Wildlife website at <http://familyfellows.com/0-0-0-wildlife-diary.htm>

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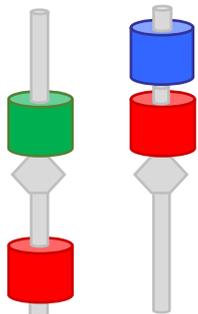
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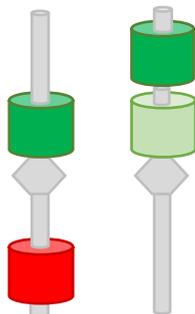
Greenshank colour ringed sightings

G//R + BR//-



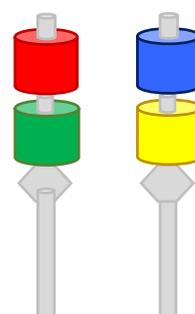
2019: Pook Lane on January 15th, 30th, February 8th, March 15th.

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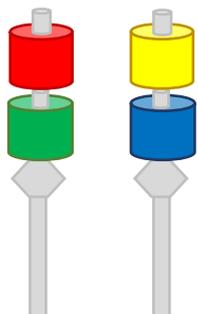
2019: Nore Barn on January 8th, March 6th, October 15th, 23rd, November 13th, 28th, December 4th, 27th, Emsworth Harbour on February 1st.

RG//- + BY//-



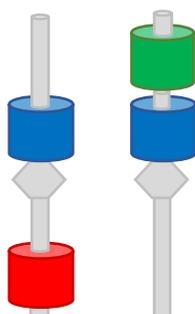
2019: Emsworth Harbour on February 25th.

RG//- + YB//-



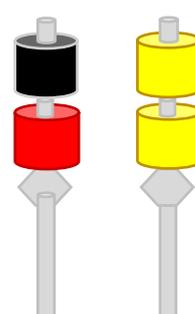
2019: Emsworth Harbour April 6th.

B//R + GB//-



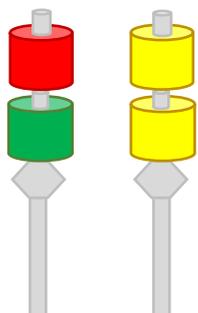
2019: Emsworth Harbour August 31st.

NR//- + YY//-



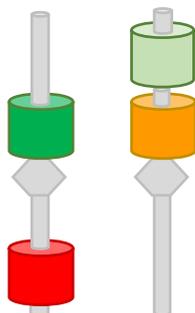
2019: Pook Lane July 10th.

RG//- + YY//-



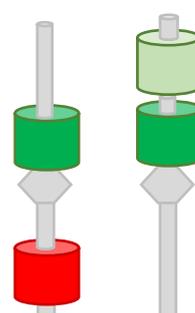
2019: Pook Lane August 31st, November 30th.

G//R + LO//-



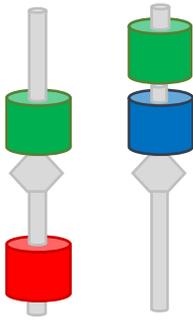
2019: Pook Lane September 4th, 8th, 13th.

G//R + LG//-



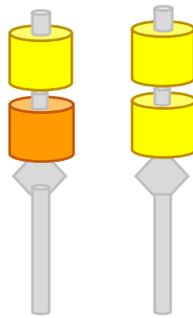
2019: Beacon Square September 23rd, Pook Lane October 21st.

G//R + GB//-



2019: Beacon Square September 23rd.

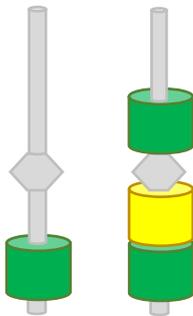
YO//- + YY//-



2019: Nore Barn October 9th.

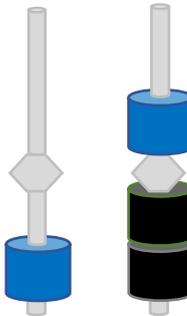
Redshank colour ringed sightings

-//G + G//YG



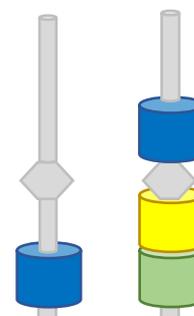
2019: Beacon Square March 8th, September 23rd, November 5th, Emsworth Harbour August 31st, Nore Barn October 9th.

-//B + B//NN



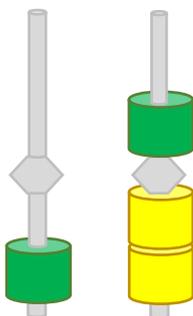
2019: Pook Lane July 18th, 31st

-//B + B//YL



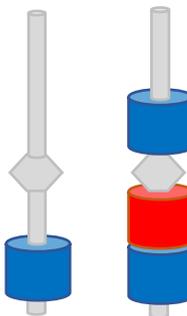
2019: Pook Lane July 18th

-//G + G//YY



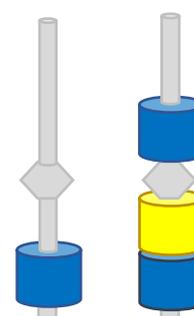
2019: Beacon Square September 23rd.

-//B + B//RB



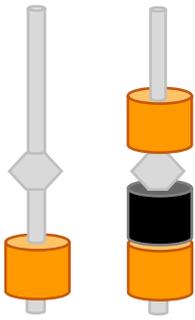
2019: Pook Lane July 18th

-//B + B//YB



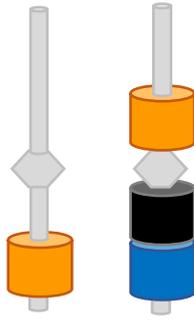
2019: Beacon Square September 23rd.

-//O + O//NO



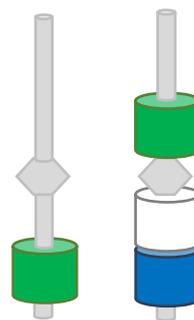
2019: Beacon Square
September 23rd

-//O + O//NB



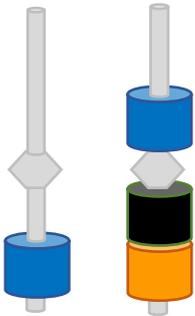
2019: Beacon Square
September 23rd

-//G + G//WB



2019: Beacon Square
September 23rd

-//B + B//NO



2019: Nore Barn October 9th