

RSPB Langford Lowfields – January 2019

Happy New Year!

2019 has started off well at Langford – we have seen up to three great white egrets, Caspian gulls, cetti's warbler, stonechat, little egret, shelducks, goldeneye, pochards, kingfisher, at least eight bearded tits – seen from the boardwalk, and chiffchaff.



(© Roger Bennett)

The work parties have been clearing some areas of scrub for rough grassland and brambles for the benefit of grasshopper warblers which are a priority species for which we manage the reserve. We have been removing lots of sycamore saplings from the woodland. This will encourage more native species such as oak and elm to grow and also make space of those that are growing already. We have been felling bigger sycamores in order to open up gaps in the canopy to let the sunlight reach the woodland floor which will benefit ground flora and smaller scrubby plants. All this will help create a better structure in the woodland.

Work has been going on in cutting reed to create open glades and channels within the reedbed - these provide excellent feeding areas for water rails, bitterns, and bearded tits.

We have also been spreading birdseed from the car park on to the track - this has been attracting gold finches and chaffinches as well as a brambling.

We continue to offer birdboxes for a donation of £10. There are still opportunities to volunteer with us, on the Beach Hut, in a meet and greet role. Get in touch if you feel you could offer a few hours a week for this – 01636 893611. Food and drink is available on site – see the volunteer at the Beach Hut!

Our next guided walk is the 'Dawn Chorus' and will be held on Sunday 12 May 2019 at 7-10am. Please call us on 01636 893611 to book a place. Prices are: Adult Non Member £10.00; Adult Member £8.00 / Child Non Member £5.00; Child Member £4.00.