

RSPB Langford Lowfields – January 2020

This month the volunteers have been working hard undertaking some scrub thinning work behind the Beach Hut. This is done to increase the amount of light in the scrub block to benefit ground flora and invertebrates. As the water levels have receded the volunteers have also spent a good amount of time cleaning pond weed off the pond dipping platform.

Most of the visitor trails are still closed because they are very wet and muddy even though the water levels have receded.

Sightings this month have included:

- Water pipit
- Great white egret
- Green sandpiper
- Bittern
- Pink footed geese flying over
- Curlew
- Shelduck – we have seen approximately 26 which potentially a new record for the site
- Whooper swan
- Marsh harrier
- Pintail
- Stonechats, and
- Red necked grebe (this is only the second record of one of these at LLF).



Red necked grebe (© Stuart Carlton)

On a recent wetland bird survey which is carried out by a team of volunteers once per month, we had the highest ever count of gadwall - 143 - which smashed the previous record of 98. Also recorded was a record number of goldeneye on the reserve at 21. The counts were made on the Wetland Birds Survey which is a survey conducted at a specific time each month on the reserve.

Upcoming events at Langford in 2020 are:

Date	Time	Event
Sunday 17 May 2020	7-10am	Breeding Bird Guided Walk
Saturday 4 July 2020	TBA	Butterfly and Wildflower Guided Walk
Saturday 12 December 2020	TBA	Winter Wonderland Guided Walk
Cost:	Adult Member	£8.00
	Adult Non Member	£10.00
	Child Member	£4.00
	Child Non Member	£5.00

Please ring 01636 893611 if you are interested in booking on for these events.