

Willoughby Society Nature Notes 2024

January

Moorhen on village pond

Redwings near Alpacas

Fieldfares

Red kite near A45 and Grandborough

Wagtail in garden Main Street

30 Mallards on village pond that was frozen

Malcolm Lewis posted photos on Willoughby Facebook page of ducks on the pond mid January.

7 Long tailed tits at a feeder Stonewall and others at various village feeders

Flocks of Goldfinches at feeders

50+ Lapwings in fields Woolscot Lane

Buzzards

Snowdrops and Aconites along Moorland and in gardens

Snowdrops also flowering in Haywards Lodge in sizeable clumps.

Daffodils in flower 16 Main Street

February 2024

3 Rabbits in garden Main Street

Birds investigating nest boxes

Red Kite near Pye Court

Field Fares

Skylarks

Large flocks of starlings

Camelias in flower

Bulbs flowering in February

Crocus, Aconites, Snowdrops, Daffodils, Species iris, and tulips.

Squirrels and woodpeckers in gardens

March 2024

9th March Brimstone butterfly

Jackdaws

Dead hedgehog in Main St. near the chapel

Newts in garden pond

Ducks nesting New Vicarage

13 ducklings on Village pond - More seen later on the pond

Moorhen and chick

April 2024

5th April - Little blue butterfly

Green woodpecker

Duck with ducklings on drive at New Vicarage

Red kites

Skylarks

Collared doves

Lots of ladybirds

Bumblebees

Buzzard low over the Moat lunchtime 11th

Several foxes, hedgehogs (at least two) and a Tawny Owl at Hazeldene

May 2024

Bullfinch

Poplar Hawk moth

Di McKnight has video of duck taking 10 ducklings from her garden to the brook.

Hannah recorded a curlew (heard by others)

2 geese on the pond

Hedgehog near the Vicarage

June 2024

Muntjac deer at Hazledene. Also seen on Main Street

Wagtail

Heron by the pond (posted by Angela Essex)

July August September 2024



Scarlet tiger moth (photo posted on Willoughby Monthly facebook)

Red kite and Buzzard

Badger in a Brook Close garden

Grasshopper in Jays garden

Water vole

Foxes, different ages, also seen in daylight

Hedgehogs. 2 at Hazledene and others.

Grey Heron. Seen almost daily at the village pond. Several photos on Willoughby Monthly facebook

Leopard slugs

Spiders

Noticeably fewer insects of all kinds

October (notes taken in early November 2024)



Juvenile Cormorant on the Village Pond island (taken by Jon Isles)

Two sightings of a cormorant in our pond, an adult hedgehog doing the rounds of the gardens either side of the brook in Main St and a little owl heard near to College St.

We think the cormorant was a juvenile.

NB The pond has recently been cleared of some overhanging trees and unattractive plants along the edge. Some new plants have been added. An island has been enlarged and planted.

Very gloomy weather. Solar panels not happy.

I added the last bit.

Very gloomy weather. Solar panels not happy.

November 2024

Red Kite ([Red Kite Video](#) on Willoughbyweb.net)

Thrush picking berries off a yew tree

Kingfisher at the small pond by the shrubbery

Male tawny owl

Newts in a garden with no pond

3 mallard ducklings on the village pond -a surprise at this time of year

The heron is a regular visitor to the pond

Foxes