



*Grey Wagtail at East Hyde on 28 December 2011 photographed by Andrew Steele*

## **The Birds of East Hyde During 2011**

**Compiled by Michael Russell**

**In line with other bird publications I too have adopted the new and revised BOU recommended order of species, as listed below. However with the Archive chapter I have maintained the old order of merit, as this is held on database, constantly updated and would prove just too much of a headache to change!**

**Mute Swan:** *Cygnus olor*

No breeding attempts occurred this year at East Hyde though a few miles downriver the resident Batford pair bred and hatched 2 young early May where they then relocated to the much quieter stretch of the Lea at East Hyde from 21/5 onwards.

**Canada Goose:** *Branta canadensis*

Monthly maximum counts included;

<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
51	32	30	20	14	14	14	14	30	30	46	55

Just seven pair summered around the meadow this year, half the number monitored during 2010. Of these just four pair bred fledging 20 young between them.

**White-fronted Goose:** *Anser albifrons*

A pair of adults resided around the fields to the east of the Lower Luton Road between 3/1-15/1. They constituted just the 4<sup>th</sup> record for the site (yet the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> birds) following a bird on 26/9-27/9/85, 2 birds on 28/2/93 and the famous flock of 38 birds on 4/2/06. (LE, JC, MR, RP, JT, et al).



Photo by Mike Ilett on 4/1/2011

**Greylag Goose:** *Anser anser*

Up to 6 birds arrived at East Hyde on 3/1 accompanying the pair of White-fronted Geese and together they fed and rested amongst the Canada's ranging between Thrales End Lane to Bowers Heath Lane just north of Batford. All eight birds departed the area together on the 15/1. During the second winter period one bird made a brief appearance on 19/12. (LE, JC, MR, MI, RP, et al).

**Egyptian Goose:** *Alopochen aegyptiacus*

Eight birds, (2 adults and 6 imm) resided along the river between 3/1-9/1 when the immatures departed leaving behind the adults who remained between 19/1-22/2. In August what was presumably this returning party of eight birds again frequented the river between 14/8-27/8. They favoured the quiet stretch of river between the mill and pumping station as did a pair that wintered there from 25/11 until the years' end. The only other record concerned a bird flying upriver over the mill on 7/6. (LE, JC, MR, JT).

**[Canada x Greylag:]** *Branta sp.*

The resident hybrid was again present all year continuing to enjoy its role as 'resident nanny' to the Canada Geese families.

**Wigeon:** *Anas penelope*

The only record this year concerned a male that lingered on the river at the mill between 2/1-4/1. (JT, DS).

**Gadwall:** *Anas strepera*

Monthly maximum counts included:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
57	8	8	4	2	2	2	0	0	0	6	14

As with last year a pair summered along the river but no signs of breeding were noted.

**Teal:** *Anas crecca*

During the first winter period up to two pair were present along the stream from Thrales End Lane with the last bird departing on 16/4. The second period saw the first returning male on 22/11 and a maximum count of 5 pair on 21/12.

**Mallard:** *Anas platyrhynchos*

Monthly maximum counts included:

<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
62	30	16	10	10	10	12	10	10	12	15	20

The count of 62 birds on 16/1 was noteworthy and was the 7<sup>th</sup> highest count from along the river but was still a long way short of the 163 birds counted on 25/1/91. No breeding records were noted.

**Shoveller:** *Anas clypeata*

A drake was on the river by the mill from 3/1-7/1 and 3 male & 2 fem made an all too brief visit on 10/12. (RP, LE, JT).

**Tufted Duck:** *Aythya fuligula*

Surprisingly the only record this year was of a pair briefly on the river on 14/5. (MR)

**Goldeneye:** *Bucephala clangula*

The splendid drake reported on the last two days of 2010 remained faithful to the stretch of river near Thrales End Lane for the first four days of January. (JT, D&K A).

**Red-legged Partridge:** *Alectoris rufa*

Coveys averaging 14 birds were seen around the area during the year primarily on the arable farmland lining both valley sides.

**Grey Partridge:** *Perdix perdix*

Up to two pair was regularly seen throughout March and April and as in previous years their favoured haunts were the arable fields just to the north of Thrales End Lane. The largest count for the year was 8 birds on 19/11. (MR)

**Pheasant:** *Phasianus colchicus*

Birds were present throughout the year with numbers escalating around the scrape during late October and November when the big estate shoots occurred.

**[Peafowl:]** *Pavo cristatus*

Two birds were heard calling around the East Hyde Estate throughout May.

**Cormorant:** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Maximum monthly counts included;

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	2	2	3	1	10	0	1	2	2	2	8

What was once an uncommon visitor to this stretch of the Lea can now be classified as one of our more common and reliable of water birds seen daily and throughout the year either fishing in the deeper waters upriver from the mill or wing drying in the 'Cormorant' tree. The 10 birds seen in the tree on 25/6 included 4 adults as did the 8 birds on 19/12. (MR)

**Little Egret:** *Egretta garzetta*

This was another great year for this species at East Hyde with birds seen virtually daily throughout 2011.

Maximum monthly counts included;

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	3	4	3	1	2	2	1	2	1	4	4

On the 24/3 two birds were observed in a very rigorous courtship display that included much dancing, prancing and strutting around the stream with both birds omitting a series of strange guttural 'honks'. East Hyde continues to be the most reliable wetland site in Herts & Beds in which to encounter this species. (*Many Obsvrs*)

**Grey Heron:** *Ardea cinerea*

Maximum monthly counts included;

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	2	2	1	0	2	2	1	2	1	4	4

**Little Grebe:** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Maximum monthly counts included;

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

Just one territory was held this year downriver from the Thrales End Lane road bridge but breeding did not occur.

**Red Kite:** *Milvus milvus*

This is now a common sight around East Hyde in all months and a day's birding is never complete without an encounter of this stunning bird in some shape or form as it quarters its way over the village, meadow and arable farmland beyond. Multiple sightings this year included 6 birds on 12/8, 7 on 2/10 and 6 on 26/11.

An interesting observation occurred over the meadow on 22/10 when a pair was watched quartering over the meadow when suddenly one bird made an accelerated deviation, caught a Woodpigeon and returned to pass it mid-air to its partner, possibly a case of the pair re-establishing bonds? (*Many obsvrs*)

**Hen Harrier:** *Circus cyaneus*

A ringtail individual was watched flying at altitude downriver over the meadow on 12/4. This was a fantastic record and only the second for the site following a female seen flying over New Mill End way back in 4/10/54. (*AC*)

**Sparrowhawk:** *Accipiter nisus*

A pair again held territory around the area with both adults frequently seen perched in trees lining the scrape.

**Common Buzzard:** *Buteo buteo*

Around the East Hyde/Luton Hoo area seven territories became established, the same as with 2010. This magnificent bird is now very much a regular feature of the area and it's now very unusual not to see at least one bird whilst visiting East Hyde during any time of the year. The best notable multi counts were 16 birds together on thermals on 12/2 and 8 on 22/10. (*Many obsvrs*)

**Kestrel:** *Falco tinnunculus*

The resident pair bred successfully again this year from their traditional Oak tree nest close to the pumping station and had raised 5 fledglings by mid-June. (*MR*)

**Hobby:** *Falco subbuteo*

This was yet another poor year for this species with just two records of flyover birds on 19/6 & 6/8. (*MR*)

**Peregrine:** *Falco peregrinus*

Three records this year with a bird seen over the meadow on 17/2, another on 6/4 that circled the B653 and landed in a tree by Fars Lane and a third bird that was seen flying down the valley over the mill, although this may have been an escaped bird that went AWOL from a local East Hyde aviary on 4/10? (*EL, JK, KR*).

**[Harris Hawk:]** *Parabuteo unicinctus*

Two were flown in tandem around the meadow much to the distress of all things furry and feathered on 22/1, 29/1 and 24/12 with a single on 15/10.

**Water Rail:** *Rallus aquaticus*

A very confiding individual resided along the stream viewed from Thrales End Lane throughout January when it was joined by a second bird until 8/2. During the second winter period one bird was again there throughout December. (*Many obsvrs*)

**Moorhen:** *Gallinula chloropus*

Maximum monthly counts included;

<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
47	22	12	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	12	15

This was one of the worst breeding seasons on record with just one pair, at the mill, raising 1 fledgling.

**Coot:** *Fulica atra*

Maximum monthly counts included;

<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
7	7	8	8	12	12	10	10	11	13	13	14

As with Moorhen, this species also suffered a dreadful breeding season with just 2 pair raising 1 young each.

**Golden Plover:** *Pluvialis apricaria*

Three records noted this year involving only flyover birds; those of 18 birds on 7/10, 4 on 23/10 and 10 on 12/11. (MR)

**Lapwing:** *Vanellus vanellus*

This delightful species continues to hang on as a breeding species at East Hyde with one pair again nesting this year in a field alongside New Greens Road that fledged 1 young. The only winter flocks noted were 39 birds on 15/10 and 33 on 19/11. (MR)

**Dunlin:** *Calidris alpine*

A bird feeding along the stream with a Green Sandpiper was a great find as dusk was falling on 14/3. It stayed overnight but soon departed and constituted the third record for East Hyde following individuals on 5/1/85 and 3/2/09. (DS, JC, JT, RP).

**Jack Snipe:** *Lymnocyptes minimus*

Following three birds together along the stream on 4/1, single individuals continued to be seen intermittently up until 8/3. (Many obsvrs)

**Common Snipe:** *Gallinago gallinago*

Numbers were down on those of last year with only 2 birds seen along the stream between 2/1-10/3 and then from 12/12-29/12. (Many obsvrs)

**Curlew:** *Numenius arquata*

Belated news from last year concerned the sighting of an individual sat in a field close to the river on 19/12/10. This was a long anticipated first for the site with hopefully Oystercatcher to follow in the not too distant future. (DA)

**Green Sandpiper:** *Tringa ochropus*

A common sight around the area during both winter periods with the following monthly maximums;

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
4	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3

Surprisingly no birds were seen during the peak migration months of July, August and September.

As in previous years their favoured abodes were the scrape, along the stream and around the muddy fringes of the meadows' floods. As with the egret statement East Hyde is fast becoming one of the most reliable county sites in which to enjoy seeing this species.

(Many obsvrs)

**Mediterranean Gull:** *Larus melanocephalus*

Another first for the area and a fantastic Xmas present came with a sighting of a bird amongst the Black-Headed Gulls just downriver from Thrales End Lane on 25/12. (per JT).

**Common Gull:** *Larus canus*

Mostly recorded as ‘individuals’ or in ‘small parties’ flying down the valley during both winter periods, the only notable count was of 50 birds on 18/1. Previous BTO Gull Roost surveys have indicated that the majority of gull movement down the Lea valley result in birds roosting at Hilfield Park Reservoir.

**Lesser Black-Backed Gull:** *Larus fuscus*

Flyovers were noted throughout March, July, September and October. An unusual sight was of two birds sat on the roof of the mill on 21/3.

**Herring Gull:** *Larus argentatus*

Flyovers were noted mainly in a south-westerly direction during March and October.

**Great Black-Backed Gull:** *Larus marinus*

Singles were noted flying down the valley during March, September and October.

**Black-headed Gull:** *Larus ridibundus*

Monthly maximum counts included;

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
239	44	39	0	0	0	1	10	25	70	142	120

The highest count of the year of 239 birds was on 15/1 and the first returning post-breeding summer visitor was noted on 1/7.

**Feral Pigeon:** *Columba livia*

Three pair bred around the vicinity of the mill this year along with the resident 15 white doves that continued to favour the village gardens and rooftops. The only other pigeons noted were the usual squadrons of racing pigeon seen flying up and down the valley throughout the year.

**Stock Dove:** *Columba oenas*

Markings on the back plate of the A frame owl box fixed on a tree opposite the reserve strongly suggested that a pair had nested inside. The only other records this year were of single birds seen drinking and bathing along the stream during June and July, and a pair at the scrape on 3/5. (PW, MR).

**Woodpigeon:** *Columba palumbus*

This species continued to be a common sight throughout the year. The highest winter count was of a flock of 764 birds on 7/1. (LE)

**Collared Dove:** *Streptopelia decaocto*

A pair fledged at least 2 birds from a nest in the small orchard at the mill. Elsewhere two pairs held territory around the village

**Turtle Dove:** *Streptopelia turtur*

The only record this year involved a bird flying down the valley on 7/5. (MR)

**Ring-necked Parakeet:** *Psittacula krameri*

An adult was seen perched on the roof of the hide at the scrape on 13/4 and was only the third record for the area following individuals seen on 9/8/03 & 2/9/07. (BS)

**Barn Owl:** *Tyto alba*

The only record involved a bird seen flying over Chiltern Green Road at 18.30pm on 29/11. (DS)

**Little Owl:** *Athene noctua*

The resident pair again held territory near the mill but this year breeding did not occur.

**Tawny Owl:** *Strix aluco*

A most under recorded species around East Hyde with at least two territories held. A single bird hooted then flew across the scrape midday on 13/6. (DL)

**Swift:** *Apus apus*

The first returning 2 birds were seen over the site on 7/5, one day earlier than last year and although a pair could regularly be seen over the mill throughout May and June breeding again could not be proven.

**Kingfisher:** *Alcedo atthis*

Two pair held territories again this year centered around the scrape and sewage farm and the mill. An adult was caught and ringed at the mill during the summer. (PW, MR).

**Green Woodpecker:** *Picus viridis*

A pair could regularly be seen around the meadow during the year particularly favouring the anthills in the small car park off Thrales End Lane.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker:** *Dendrocopos major*

Two territories were again held this year, one around the wooded slopes to the east of the meadow and the other in the woods lining the scrape and sewage farm.

**Magpie:** *Pica pica*

Common. A pair nested again this year on the reserve and fledged at least 3 young, as too a pair at the mill.

**Jay:** *Garrulus glandarius*

The resident pair was again ever present around the scrape all year and during October up to six birds could be seen enjoying the acorn harvest along the footpath opposite the mill.

**Jackdaw:** *Corvus monedula*

The annual winter roost around the mill had numbered ca450 birds by early November. It is always difficult to assess numbers of breeding pairs as the majority of birds favour the private woodlands to the east. However around the chimney pots of the village and mill at least 6 pair again bred this year. (MR)

**Rook:** *Corvus frugilegus*

The splinter group now established away from the Luton Hoo Estate colony at the sewage farm had increased to 13 pair this year. Between them they raised at least 7 young. (MR)

**Carrion Crow:** *Corvus corone*

Three pair bred this year along the old railway between the mill and sewage farm. (MR)

**Raven:** *Corvus corax*

This was the best year on record for this species with three sightings, on 16/4, 17/9 and 3/12. The middle record involved a bird seen flying over the meadow carrying a large earthworm. Between them they constituted the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> records for the site. (MR)

**Goldcrest:** *Regulus regulus*

Continued to be seen and heard around the site, especially along the old railway footpath just south of Thrales End Lane.

**Blue Tit:** *Cyanistes caeruleus*

Of the seven nestboxes that held Blue Tit this year around the reserve only two made it to ringing age (a brood of 9 and 6). In the other 5 boxes 1 contained dead young and the remaining 4 were all predated by Great Spotted Woodpeckers. (PW)

**Great Tit:** *Parus major*

Seven nest boxes were used this year and unlike its previous cousin all succeeded with broods of 9, 8, 8, 7, 6, 3 and 2. The box with 3 young had sustained some woodpecker damage with possibly some chicks predated before makeshift repairs help save the survivors, and the box with 2 young also contained 3 unhatched eggs. (PW)

**Tit box scheme:**

Of the 6 other boxes fixed around the reserve 1 was taken over by wasps, 1 by bees, 2 were unused and the other 2 had fallen off their locations. (PW)

**Coal Tit:** *Periparus ater*

This species continues to be more often heard than seen, especially in trees lining the old railway footpath. Individuals became more noticeable on the feeders throughout January.

**Marsh Tit:** *Poecile palustris*

An individual visited the bird feeder at the scrape throughout January until 14/2.

**Skylark:** *Alauda arvensis*

The highest winter count for this species was of 70 birds on 29/1 in stubble fields to the west of the mill with 25 birds on 3/1.

**Sand Martin:** *Riparia riparia*

The only records this year was of 2 birds over the mill on 20/4 and 3 birds flying across the meadow on 7/9. (WH)

**Swallow:** *Hirundo rustica*

The first returning bird was noted on 5/4 almost a week later than last year with the last bird to leave recorded on 14/10. At least two pair again nested in outbuildings around the flower nursery opposite the sewage farm.

**House Martin:** *Delichon urbicum*

The first returning five birds were seen over the mill on 12/4 just a day later than last year, with the last departing 4 birds seen on 2/10. The nesting colony at the mill numbered around 60 active nests this year from which 76 birds were caught of which 48 were new captures and 28 were retraps. (PW)

**Long-Tailed Tit:** *Aegithalos caudatus*

This species continues to be a common sight around the area especially favouring the old railway line. At least one pair successfully bred in Brambles along the footpath opposite the mill.

**Chiffchaff:** *Phylloscopus collybita*

The first bird in song for the year was at the scrape on 3/4 almost 3 weeks later than last year. Four territories were again established around the scrape and meadow throughout the breeding season.

**Willow Warbler:** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

The first bird in song for the year was at the scrape on 3/4 exactly the same date as last year. Just two territories were again held this season both around the reserve.

**Blackcap:** *Sylvia atricapilla*

The first bird in song for the year was recorded on 2/4. During the breeding season three territories were held, those being at the scrape, along the old railway line footpath near TE Lane and near the mill.

**Garden Warbler:** *Sylvia borin*

Another poor showing this year with just one bird noted in song on 23/4. (MR)

**Lesser Whitethroat:** *Sylvia curruca*

Another migrant warbler having a poor showing around this part of the valley this year with just one record of a bird 'rattling' near the mill on 23/4. (MR)

**Whitethroat:** *Sylvia communis*

The first bird arrived near the mill on 11/4. Four territories were held this year, an increase of one on 2010. These were at the scrape, pumping station, the mill and along the railway embankment off Thrales End Lane. (MR)

**Grasshopper Warbler:** *Locustella naevia*

This was a fantastic record when a bird was heard reeling from hedgerows lining West Hyde Road, close to the sewage farm at 9pm on 19/4. It was again heard at 06.30am the following morning but sadly not subsequently. This was only the second record for the site following a bird on 3/6/00. (RD)

**Sedge Warbler:** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

The first returning bird was singing around the scrape on 30/4 which stayed to hold the only territory this year.

**Reed Warbler:** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

A pair held territory in the reed bed at the scrape and during the all too infrequent sunny summer days could be heard in vocal battle with the Sedge Warbler giving good comparisons between their two rather similar songs.

**Nuthatch:** *Sitta europaea*

Remained a common resident and was regularly heard all year in the woods lining the scrape and sewage farm.

**Treecreeper:** *Certhia familiaris*

Very much an under recorded species around the area with the best chances to encounter one being to hear its high pitched call emanating from the deciduous trees lining the footpath either side of Thrales End Lane.

**Wren:** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

This remains a common bird both heard and seen around the site.

**Starling:** *Sturnus vulgaris*

At least 5 pair nested around the village primarily in the roof spaces of the older houses.

**Blackbird:** *Turdus merula*

Common.

**Fieldfare:** *Turdus pilaris*

The highest counts this year was of 150 birds on 31/12 and 123 birds on 26/11. (AS, MR).

**Song Thrush:** *Turdus philomelos*

Individuals continued to be seen around the village and the meadow though a more accurate census of the species really does need to be conducted.

**Redwing:** *Turdus iliacus*

The only notable flock seen this winter was 50 birds on 23/12. (MR)

**Fieldfare/Redwing**

A notable mixed flock of ca500 birds was seen on 15/1 in hedgerows and the stubble field opposite the mill. (MR)

**Mistle Thrush:** *Turdus viscivorus*

Individuals continue to be seen regularly around the area.

**Spotted Flycatcher:** *Muscicapa striata*

A most welcome return for this lovely bird into the annual bird report when a bird was watched flycatching around the Hawthorn bushes just upriver from Thrales End Lane on 27/8. It is a sad reflection as to this species' continual demise that this was the first record at East Hyde for five years. (MR)

**Robin:** *Erithacus rubecula*

Common.

**Wheatear:** *Oenanthe oenanthe*

This was a brilliant year for this species especially during April with up to 6 birds seen daily around fields bordering Chiltern Green Road between 4/4 – 25/4. The last record was of a singleton on 3/5. (DS, JC).

**Dunnock:** *Prunella modularis*

Common.

**House Sparrow:** *Passer domesticus*

A small but sustaining population continues to exist around the village though actual numbers remain unknown. Two pair again bred in Yew trees at the cemetery.

**Yellow Wagtail:** *Motacilla flava*

The first returning bird was noted on 30/4.

This year two pair nested in close proximity to each other in Barley opposite the mill where one pair successfully fledged 3 young whilst the other fledged 2 young. (MR)

**Grey Wagtail:** *Motacilla cinerea*

Territories were again held at the sewage farm and the mill but successful breeding could not be confirmed

**Pied Wagtail:** *Motacilla alba yarrellii*

A pair nested at the mill and fledged 4 young and a pair bred in the cemetery and fledged 2 young.

**Meadow Pipit:** *Anthus pratensis*

Birds were regularly heard flying over the meadow, but this still remains a very under recorded species. Maximum winter counts this year were of 35 birds on 22/1 and 30 on 19/2

**Chaffinch:** *Fringilla coelebs*

The stubbled fields alongside the footpath opposite the mill produced some fantastic winter counts of this species that included 67 birds on 22/1, 55 birds on 26/2 and 70 birds on 15/10. (MR)

**Brambling:** *Fringilla montifringilla*

Following last years' best ever reporting for this pretty finch 2011 was very poor with only one record, that of 3 male seen amongst the above mentioned Chaffinch flock on 22/1. (MR)

**Greenfinch:** *Carduelis chloris*

No sizable flocks were recorded this year, but this species continues to be a common sight around the area.

**Goldfinch:** *Carduelis carduelis*

The only notable flock was of a charm of 55 birds near the mill on 26/11. (MR)

**Siskin:** *Carduelis spinus*

A poor year for this species with the only record being 32 birds that flew down the valley on 26/11. (MR)

**Linnet:** *Carduelis cannabina*

By far the largest flock recorded during the year was 135 birds that frequented the meadow near the mill on 26/11. Lesser numbered flocks also noted there included 57 birds on 22/1 and 50 on 23/10. (MR)

**Bullfinch:** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

Up to two pair was reported around the site during the year including a pair that regularly visited the bird feeders throughout January and February.

**Yellowhammer:** *Emberiza citrinella*

The highest flock recorded this year was 58 birds counted on 29/1 in the stubbled field opposite the mill. (MR)

**Reed Bunting:** *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Two pair held territories this year around the area with breeding confirmed at the scrape (2 young fledged) and a pair feeding young near the mill.

**106 species were recorded at East Hyde throughout 2011  
(not including the Canada Goose hybrid, Peafowl and Harris Hawk)**

## **Acknowledgements of contributors to this report**

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Robin Hilton	Simon Priestnall	

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A big thank you to Everyone.

Mike Russell