



St Wilfrid's News

Wildlife Update

RSPB Nottingham and Ravenshead & District Wildlife Group Survey

Last Thursday, 16th May, we were re-visited by representatives from RSPB Nottingham and Ravenshead & District Wildlife Group to our lower graveyard.

It was a cool (13°C) overcast day, which turned to rain after 40 minutes' observation. A good decision to terminate at this point, with the rain becoming heavy as time moved on.



The melodic Chaffinch and a new bird species recorded the Coal Tit.

Three new birds for the graveyard were recorded: singing **Greenfinch**, **Dunnock** and a **Coal Tit** feeding young. This was the first positive proof of breeding.

Additionally, two singing **Robins** and **Wrens** were still holding territory as identified last month, and two male **Chaffinch** and a **Blackbird** were in full song, suggesting further breeding activity. A pair of **Jackdaws** were defending a chimney, so at least eight bird species are breeding in the locality.

A supporting cast of **Carriion Crow**, **Wood Pigeon**, **Great Tit**, **Blue Tit** and **Magpie** brought the species count to 13, which was not bad for such a miserable day.

The recent warm weather had done wonders for the plant life. **Cow Parsley** was abundant, **Cowslip** and **Dandelion** were going over. Close plant proximity allowed a comparison between **Forget-me-not** and **Germander Speedwell**. Also recorded were **Plantain**, **Sorrel**, **Bush Vetch**, **Cleavers**, **Hogweed** and **Buttercup**.

Not surprisingly, insect life was almost absent: just one **Seven-Spot Ladybird**, a single **Common Wasp** and an unidentified crane fly.

A big thank you to our visitors for carrying out the survey.

The next survey will take place on Wednesday, 19th June, at 10am.

If you spot any other wildlife while in the vicinity of the lower graveyard, please let us know. If it's safe to do so, take a photo to share in the newsletter.

Please contact us via the [CONTACT](#) page.



Mole Hills

a classic sign of active moles.



Common Wasp

was all on his own – how sad!



Jackdaws

were seen in a pair defending a chimney.

Photos supplied by M. Bowen, S. Pearce and peaseaman on Freeimages.com