

**BIRD NEWS FROM CARR VALE NATURE RESERVE
AND SURROUNDING AREA:-April 2010.**

Great-crested Grebe. Maximum count five on the 23rd. **Cormorant.** Recorded on 17 dates with a peak count of three on 8th and 10th. **Heron.** Maximum count three on the 11th. **Mute Swan.** Maximum count four on 18th and 19th. **Pink-footed Goose.** One present daily. **Grey Lag Goose.** Maximum seven on 26th. **Canada Goose.** Maximum count 63 on the 4th. **Shelduck.** Pair on 11 dates until the 26th. **Wigeon.** Maximum count 21 on the 4th with the last of the winter a pair on the 16th. **Gadwall.** Numbers peaked at 41 on the 22nd. **Teal.** Maximum count 20 on the 14th. **Shoveler.** Maximum count was three on the 29th with two on 3rd, 13th and 28th and 30th. **Pochard.** Maximum count seven on 1st and 2nd, pair still present on 30th. **Tufted Duck.** Maximum count 23 on the 2nd.

Marsh Harrier. A female flew north on the 23rd. **Common Buzzard.** Birds were logged on 22 dates (64 bird / days) with a peak count of 13 on the 28th and ten on the 30th **Hobby.** The first of the year was seen on the 23rd. **Peregrine.** One was seen on 18th. **Red-legged Partridge.** Two on the 24th. **Grey Partridge.** A pair was seen on the 10th. **Water Rail.** Single bird on the 10th.

COMMON CRANE. The highlight of the year so far and missed by all Carr Vale main players. Two circled the flashes a couple of times then flew off north-west at 0730 on the 9th. **Oystercatcher.** The resident pair was present daily with three on four dates and four present on the 2nd. **AVOCET.** A pair was present from about 0815 on the 25th until the evening of the 26th either on Carr Vale flashes or at Sutton Scarsdale Flash. **Little Ringed Plover.** Maximum count was nine on the 1st. **Golden Plover.** 30 on 10th.and 21 northern birds on the 24th. **Dunlin.** One on the 1st and five on the 19th. **Snipe.** One or two on seven dates between the 11th and 21st. **Whimbrel.** Single birds on the 16th and 22nd. **Curlew.** Singles on 17th and 23rd. **Redshank.** Maximum count three on the 8th and 9th. **Common Sandpiper.** First was one on the 17th, maximum count was four on the 21st. **Common Gull.** One on the 19th was the only record. **Common Tern.** The first was seen on the 22nd with daily records from the 24th with a peak of three on the 25th.

Cuckoo. One was heard on the 12th, a very early date and one was heard again the following day with another on the 24th. **Little Owl.** Single birds were recorded from three sites from the mound during the month. **Tawny Owl.** One reported on several dates during the month. **Swift.** One was seen on the 20th, our earliest ever arrival date. 20 in by the 30th. **Kingfisher.** One on 10th and another was seen on the 19th. **Green Woodpecker.** Singles on the 11th and 19th.

Sand Martin. Maximum count 30 on the 30th. **Swallow.** Maximum count was 60 on the 19th. **House Martin.** First of the year was two on the 6th but very few during the month. **Yellow Wagtail.** First of the year was seen on the 11th, daily between 17th and 24th with max of five on 24th. **White Wag tail.** One on 11 dates during the month. **Wheater.** Singles on 3rd, 24th and 26th. **Grasshopper Warbler.** First of the year was seen on 13th, regular during the latter half of the month with a peak of seven reeling on 24th. **Sedge Warbler.** First of the year were two on the 22nd and the peak count was eight singing on the 27th. **Reed Warbler.** First for the year was singing on the 24th. **Lesser Whitethroat.** The first for the year were two singing at Sutton Scarsdale Flash on the 23rd with the first actually at Carr Vale singing on the 27th with another on the 30th. **Whitethroat.** The first for the year were two on the 22nd with four singing on the 27th. **Blackcap.** One on the 1st with six by the 10th. **Chiffchaff.** Peak count of 11th. **Jay.** Four on the 16th with one to three on nine other dates. **Lesser Redpoll.** Two on the 3rd and one on the 19th. **Bullfinch.** Maximum 12 on the 5th. **Bar-headed Goose.** One present early on the 13th.

Mark Beevers

