

## The Preston Society : Walk Reports for June 2021

Cocker Bar. Bretherton Moss. Moss Lane.

Monday 31st May

Warm

19.00 to 21.30

3 miles

A party of 19 parked at Cocker Bar just below the bridge on Ridley Lane then walked down the lane to cross Railway just before a bend. Could see 3 Fallow Deer over to the left on the old Depot.

Crossed 2 fields heading for Norris's Farm on the corner.

Went left along the road then right up access to Tattersalls farm. Through the yard to path behind eventually leading to Moss Lane which is a track and bird rich. Right along the track back to Cocker Bar Bridge and the cars.

Lots of Birds and some Mammals seen and It was a lovely warm evening.

Canada Goose 12+ (with some goslings)

Mallard 5+

Shelduck 2

Red Legged Partridge 2

Grey Heron

Common Buzzard

Oystercatcher 2

Lapwing 5+

Swallow 1

Black Headed Gull 10+

Lesser Black Backed Gull 20+

Herring Gull 5+

Wood Pigeon 5+

Stock Dove 2

Carrion Crow 10+

Magpie 2

Jackdaw h

Great Tit h

Skylark 3

Whitethroat 1

Blackcap h

Robin h

Starling 10+

Wren h

Blackbird 3

Song Thrush 3

Mistle Thrush

Dunnock h

House Sparrow

Pied Wagtail

Chaffinch h

Goldfinch h

Linnet 2

Reed Bunting

Yellow Bunting (several males singing)

Brown Hare 6+

Fallow Deer 4

h=heard only

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Freckleton Naze. River Ribble

Monday 7th June

Warm

19.00 to 21.30

2 miles

A party of 9 parked at The Ship Freckleton. The pub was closed but we had permission to park there. Walked down the footpath to Naze point. In the past some pools could be seen but the trees and bushes have grown obscuring everything which spoiled the evening slightly.

At the Trig point we overlooked the River Ribble and realised that the tide was coming in and slowly covering the rocky outcrops and sand bars. Further over could see the smaller River Douglas that empties into the Ribble.

Lots of Birds were flying around and on the water. It was a dramatic sight. Beyond could see the Marshes. This habitat usually provides wildlife but tonight was quiet.

Eventually we retraced our steps and enjoyed all the sights and sounds in the beautiful balmy summer's evening.

Mute Swan pair

Mallard 30+

Shelduck 30+

Little Egret 4

Oystercatcher 1

Lapwing 10+

Curlew 1

Swallow 2

Black Headed Gull 40+

Lesser Black Backed Gull 30+

Herring Gull 30+

Greater Black Backed Gull 1

Common Gull? 1

Wood Pigeon 5+

Stock Dove 5+

Swift 1

Great Spotted Woodpecker h

Carrion Crow 10+

Magpie 2

Jackdaw 1

Blue Tit h

Long Tailed Tit h

Whitethroat h

Blackcap

Chiff Chaff h

Wren h

Starling 10+

Robin 2

Blackbird 3

Song Thrush h

Dunnock 1

House Sparrow 5+

Tree Sparrow 1

Chaffinch 2

Goldfinch 3

Greenfinch h

Brown Hare 2

h=heard only

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Wheelton Plantation. Brinscall Moor  
Monday 14th June  
19.00 to 21.30  
2.5 mile

A party of 12 set off from Brinscall Baths and walked by the side of the pool. Crossed the Goit then ascended up into Wheelton Plantation.

I mentioned that we would be stopping on the ascent to get our breath and listen for Wood Warbler. Some of the party knew the call and song. No one heard the Bird.

Went left onto a track at a junction then found path on right after 50 yards. Followed this path through the wood that twisted and turned. Heard a Blackbird that wasn't happy with something around a large tree. We all searched then one of the party located a Tawny Owl high up in the tree. Everyone eventually saw the Owl but had to stand in the right place to see it.

Continued onto a stile onto the open Moor and followed a path alongside broken wall to a track. Turned left back to the top of Well Lane. Had a look at the surrounding walled fields before descending down the lane back to Brinscall after a lovely but cool windy evening.

Canada Goose 10+  
Mallard 2  
House Martin 3+ (At The Cricketers Arms in Brinscall)  
Black Headed Gull 5+  
Wood Pigeon 5+  
Tawny Owl  
Carrion Crow 15+  
Raven? (Being mobbed by above)  
Jackdaw 10+ (Brinscall)  
Magpie h  
Coal Tit 4  
Blue Tit h  
Long Tailed Tit h  
Skylark 5+  
Blackcap h  
Willow Warbler h  
Chiff Chaff h  
Wren h  
Starling 5+  
Robin h  
Blackbird h  
Song Thrush h  
Stonechat 3 (Male + 2 juv/female)  
Meadow Pipit 10+  
Chaffinch h  
Reed Bunting h  
  
Brown Hare 1  
  
h=heard only

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Anglezarke Resr. Yarrow Resr. Lead Mine Clough  
Monday 21st June  
19.10 to 20.20  
2.5 mile  
Overcast Breezy

A party of 17 met on the causeway at the bottom of Anglezarke Reservoir. Before they set off 2 Great Crested Grebe could be seen at the far side of the water.

Walked east along road to a corner to find gap then a track climbed to Yarrow Reservoir. Walked to the left alongside the water. The only things seen were 2 Mallard and 4 wild swimmers.

Turned right at the road and walked to the entrance to Lead Mine Clough.

A party of tits and warblers flew through the trees by the side of the road. Some were juveniles. Some of the group walked up onto Parsons Bullough while 9 of the party walked the lesser easier route into the the valley walking as far as a footbridge to wait for the other group to descend to the valley. While we waited could hear a strange sound coming from a hedge high up on the right. Eventually a Green Woodpecker flew down the valley then eventually a juvenile Green Woodpecker flew over our heads and into a tree. A great sight of this scruffy bird with little or no tail feathers. We all retraced our steps back the same way. The low sun came out giving us a beautiful sunset. A fitting end to the Summer Solstice the longest day with Winter Hill bathed in light.

Mallard 2 Y  
Pheasant h  
Great Crested Grebe pair A  
Grey Heron A  
Oystercatcher 1 A  
Lapwing 1  
Curlew 1  
Swallow 3  
Black Headed Gull 30+  
Lesser Black Backed Gull 10+  
Wood Pigeon 2+  
Collared Dove 2  
Green Woodpecker 1 + juv L  
Carrion Crow 5+  
Jackdaw 5+  
Magpie 2  
Goldcrest h  
Blue Tit 3+  
Great Tit 4+  
Long Tailed Tit 5+  
Coal Tit h  
Chiff Chaff h  
Willow Warbler h  
Blackcap h  
Skylark h  
Wren h  
Nuthatch  
Starling 10+  
Robin h  
Blackbird 4  
Song Thrush 3+ h  
Dunnock  
Grey Wagtail pair L  
Chaffinch h  
Goldfinch 5+  
Chaffinch 3  
Redpoll h

A=Anglezarke Resr  
L=Lead Mine Clough  
Y=Yarrow Resr

h=heard only

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Alston Scrape

Monday 28th June

19.00 to 21.15

2.5 mile

Warm Humid

A party of 18 set off from Alston Lane and walked the short distance along Preston Road.

Spotted a small area on the left which was waterlogged. There was at least 4 Lapwing here one of which had 2 juveniles. Also a strange pale Wagtail here.

Turned right down Pinfold Lane to view the 3 screens overlooking a pool and scrape.

The middle screen was the most productive with a few birds seen and a young stag Roe Deer.

Continued along the lane then turned right at the junction.

A Song Thrush was giving us a beautiful loud chorus.

Just after Burys Farm there was an overgrown area with an old stile in a corner with fields of growing crops beyond. I had a bad feeling about it not knowing what we would encounter so we retraced our steps back to the cars.

The best bird of the evening was on the return on Pinfold Lane where a Lesser Whitethroat was suddenly heard in the hedge. It was typically sculking in the dense hedgerow but when it flew it could be seen but they were not good views.

The forecasted thunder storm didn't materialise.

This was a lovely warm walk and most of the group had a well deserved drink in The White Bull.

Mallard 5+

Shelduck 2

Pheasant h

Kestrel?

Moorhen 1

Coot 2

Oystercatcher 2

Lapwing 5+

Curlew 1

Ringed Plover 3 juvs

Common Sandpiper 1

Swallow 2

Swift 3

Black Headed Gull 10+

Lesser Black Backed Gull 2

Greater Black Backed Gull 2

Wood Pigeon 10+

Collared Dove 2

Carrion Crow 10+

Jackdaw 2+

Blue Tit

Great Tit

Blackcap h

Whitethroat h

Lesser Whitethroat

Starling 5+

Blackbird 3

Song Thrush 2

Dunnock h

Pied/Yellow Wagtail? 2

Chaffinch h

Goldfinch 5+

Reed Bunting h

Roe Deer male

Rabbit 3

h=heard only

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