

List of birds recorded at Doddington in 2025

The Doddington Estate is private – only permit holders have access



Red Kite – Dennis Swaby

Not so much a report: just a list of birds / count this year. In an effort to keep the size of this document as short as possible, please refer to the 2024 Bird Report for the site I compiled (found at <https://www.secoss.org.uk/site-bird-reports/>) for the potted history of the estate, access conditions, names of the contributors and a list of all the species recorded on this site over the years it has been monitored.

The choice of image, a Red Kite, reflects the increase in the number of sightings in 2025. There is no evidence of breeding locally, but they have bred recently in one of the neighbouring recording areas. Dennis's wildlife images can be found at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/154864836@N07/>

The tables below list the species in Clements / eBird Systematic Order as of November 2025 and is made up of the water birds and other species.

My thanks go to the Doddington Pool Regulars, Estate staff and residents and the fishermen. Some records were also extracted from social media platforms, local and national websites. We are also grateful to our sponsor HJ Lea Oakes Ltd, who provides feed for some of the local feeding stations

Total of water birds: **53** Total of other birds: **65**. Total of all species for 2025 = **118**

Cells highlighted in light blue indicate a new highest count. Species listed with an "*" indicate that either the species or the highest count was obtained from social media or bird reporting databases / portals, etc

Water birds

The presence of some of the commoner species are not always shared, which may account for some gaps in the table below

Species	Best Ever		2025													
	Highest Count	Date (most recent)	Highest Count	Date	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Mute Swan	97	2024	84	Jun	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whooper Swan	9		1	28 th Oct											✓	
Canada Goose	1215	2007	283	Sept	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bar-headed Goose			1	2 nd Dec												✓
Greylag Goose	624	2021	225	Sept	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Domestic Goose			1	19 th Sep										✓		
Pink-footed Goose ¹	220	2023	13	14 th Feb	✓									✓	✓	
Wood Duck			1	8 th Dec												✓
Shelduck	40	1996	11	Jan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓				
Common Scoter	5		2	8 th Jul								✓				
Goldeneye	66	1958	19	Feb	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓
Goosander	67	1978	2	Mar			✓					✓				✓
Pochard	271	1978	16	Dec	✓	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓	✓
Tufted Duck	264	1997	113	Jan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shoveler	380	1980	20	Jan	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gadwall	9	1997	7	Sept	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		
Wigeon	208	2001	30	Jan	✓		✓					✓	✓			
Mallard	990	2010	n/c		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pintail	15		2	1 st Oct											✓	
Teal	300	1980	40	Oct	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Little Grebe	48	2023	36	Aug	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Great Crested Grebe	101	2010	14	Sept	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Black-necked Grebe	3		1	18 th Oct											✓	
Water Rail	4		1	13 th Nov												✓
Moorhen	50	1997	23	Sept	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Coot	1320	2021	373	Aug	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oystercatcher	12	2020	6	Mar	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					
Little Ringed Plover	9		2	1 st July				✓			✓					
Lapwing	1300	2014	200	Nov	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Woodcock	20	2019	1	31 st Jan	✓											
Snipe	31	1978	7	Jan	✓		✓	✓						✓	✓	✓
Common Sandpiper	13		1				✓	✓			✓		✓			
Green Sandpiper	6	2002	1	Mar			✓									
Redshank	2		1	Jun								✓				
Arctic Tern	7		1	27 th Jun								✓				
Common Tern	19		1	24 th Jul								✓				
‘Commic’ Tern ²			1	22 nd Aug								✓				
Black-headed Gull	14000	1993	1700	Jan ⁶	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Common Gull	750	1972	50	Jan ⁶	✓	✓									✓	✓
Herring Gull	900	1972	20	Jan ⁶	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Yellow-legged Gull ³	1		1	24 th Oct											✓	
Great Black-backed Gull	c300		2	24 th Oct										✓		✓
Lesser Black-backed Gull	c4000	2022	550	Jan ⁶	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cormorant	85	2018	79	Oct	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Little Egret	3		6	22 nd Oct							✓	✓	✓	✓		
Great White Egret	1		3	10 th Oct					✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grey Heron ⁴	52	2023	13	Feb	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Osprey	3		1	21 st Apr					✓							

Kingfisher	3		1				✓		✓	✓
Sedge Warbler	3		1	11 th Jul				✓		
Reed Warbler ⁵	16		10	23 rd May			✓	✓	✓	✓
Grey Wagtail	5		2	Oct			✓		✓	✓
Reed Bunting	26		3				✓	✓	✓	✓
Total			53							

Notes: -

1. all records are fly overs, apart from 13 grazing near Lemon Pool in February
2. "Commic" Tern = unidentified tern, either a Common or Arctic Tern
3. identified by 'Merlin' app, but not seen or heard
4. the annual heronry nest count of apparent occupied nests (AON) = 14 nests (23 nests in '24)
5. five territories noted
6. BTO Winter Gull Survey

Other species - NB in most cases below, the 2025 highest count of '1' indicates present but not counted
The presence of some of the commoner species are not always shared, which may account for some gaps in the table below

Notes: -

1. reared from chicks, then released for the autumn / winter shoots
2. introduced by the game keepers earlier this year - a "First" for the site!
3. from a neighbouring recording area where they are thought to be breeding?
4. a bird resembling this species heard repeatedly over a 4-day period
5. identified by 'Merlin' app, but not seen or heard - *one previous record in 2018*
6. contact calls similar to this species heard. If confirmed, a "First" for the site!
7. Pied Wagtail (*yarrellii*) – subspecies of White / Pied Wagtail
8. 'lumped' in a recent standardisation of the Systematic Lists