

Potteric Carr – 14 December 2025

Our final field trip of the year was to Potteric Carr near Doncaster. This is a Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Reserve and it is a complex of subsidence and artificial pools, drainage dykes and wetlands with large areas of reeds. Also there are areas of woodland and grassland, 14 hides and 6 miles of marked trails.

It was a dry day with a cool wind and an occasional glimpse of the sun. We first of all visited the excellent Visitor Centre and café and then set off to explore the reserve. We managed to visit most of the hides and on the way round we spotted Blue Tits, Great Tits, Robins, Blackbirds, Redwings, a Goldcrest, Rooks, Carrion Crows, Jackdaws, Magpies and Woodpigeons. On the various marshes and scrapes we saw Black-headed Gulls, Coots, Mallards, two Mandarin Ducks, Mute Swans, Greylag Geese and Canada Geese. However, it was not until we reached the Decoy Lake hide that we found more species of wildfowl and water birds. They included Tufted Ducks, Pochards, Teals, Wigeons, Gadwalls, Shovelers, a Little Grebe, two Great Crested Grebes and a Grey Heron.



Goldcrest

Other birds seen were Cormorants, a Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Common Buzzard, Common Snipe, Sparrowhawk, Kestrel, Marsh Harrier, Jay, Wren, Song Thrush, Coal Tit, Long-tailed Tits, Goldfinches, Chaffinches, Lesser Redpolls and Siskins. This brought the total species of birds seen to 44.

*Ray Daniels
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