

## January 2018

About 50-60 lapwings seen near Carter's field.

Long Tailed Tits have been seen doing the rounds of garden bird-feeders.

There seem to be fewer starlings about though they can be seen in Daventry.

Tawny Owls were heard during the night.

A Brown Hare was seen near Woolscott Lane.

Large numbers (maybe 40) Canada Geese have been flying low in their V shape.

On 31st January there was a blue moon -also a super moon, which could be clearly seen over Willoughby.

## February and March 2018

There have been some cold, frosty days as well as weekends of snow in February and early March.

During the snow at the end of February Redwings were seen in several gardens. They are thought to have come from a flock of about 24 seen near Ashlawn Road, Rugby.

Spike, Bob O'Donnell's Hedgehog is hibernating but seems well.

A Duck laid 2 eggs into Bert Ogle's pond!

As well as the usual garden birds, Green Woodpeckers have been seen, Buzzards, a Heron, a hen and a cock Pheasant in different gardens, and a Blackcap.

Betty Oates saw 2 Hares in the field behind her home.

There are Badger setts at Haywards Lodge and beside the A45 and Woolscott Lane.

Some warmer days have brought out Brimstone butterflies and bees.

The British Trust for Ornithology have a Garden Bird Watch over the Easter weekend.

A few Hedgehog sightings around Easter.

## April 2018

In the middle of April there was some warm, even hot weather, but the month is ending with cooler temperatures and April showers. The warmth, and the rain that

preceded it, brought plants into rapid growth and the trees quickly showed leaves and blossom as if to catch up with the cold winter.

Swallows (at least 6) and

House martins have returned

Skylarks are over the fields in Woolscott Lane

Dorothy Ogle says their Mallards have had 7 ducklings at The Willows

At Hazeldene Richard has seen 3 Hedgehogs trying to get into the same hedgehog house and a Fox and a Hedgehog together.

Sadly a Badger carcass was found near Haywards Lodge, however Badgers appear to be active in Longdown Lane.

Leonie Tromans has managed to persuade a rabbit to move to the other side of the allotment boundary by digging its burrow.

Butterflies seen this month are Brimstones, Tortoiseshell, Peacock and Orange -tip

#### MAY 2018

Fewer than 20 people at the meeting this month but the following animals and birds reported being seen were:

Brown hare

4 Hedgehogs at the same time some circling activity too

Badger

Fox -two seen (probably not the same one twice)

Green and Great spotted Woodpecker

Heron

Sparrow hawk

#### September 2018

Some sightings were reported during the months since the last meeting.

A Hedgehog in Magdelen Road

A Red Kite near the A45

A wagtail near The Four Crosses

Also reported being seen were:-

A Toad at Brookside,

Foxes at Hazeldene.

A Sparrow hawk in Lower Street

Lots of small butterflies e.g. Cabbage whites (but fewer Peacocks), dragon flies, ladybirds.

Small Copper butterfly at Jays. They are in decline. The larva feed on sorrel.

The [willoughby.net](http://willoughby.net) website was brought to the meeting's attention as a way of recording sightings between meetings.

## October 2018

Small birds coming to bird feeders:

Goldfinches

Great tits

Blue tits

Larger birds:

Buzzards

Sparrowhawk

Magpies

and a Swan was seen flying towards Daventry possibly from the canal.

Hedgehog (before the cold snap)

A solitary Badger

A small number of people at the meeting may account for the low number of sightings.