

## **BOC Walk at Moor Green Lakes, 24th January 2023**

Seven people assembled at the Moor Green Lakes car park and set off down the track to get a view of Colebrook Lake North. The lake was partially iced over and a good number of birds were concentrated in a free area on the north side of the lake. Most numerous were Wigeon, Gadwall, Shoveler and Tufted Duck, and a few Goosanders and Pochard were also present. In recent weeks Pintail and one, and sometimes two, female Ring-necked Ducks (the American counterpart of Tufted Duck) had paid sporadic visits to the lakes, but they could not be picked out on this occasion. Nearby a Siskin was attracted to the feeders.

After passing Colebrook Lake South, we turned right along the river to check the New Workings. Little Grebes and Pochards were on Manor Lake while the gravel areas held large numbers of corvids. No one was in attendance at the distant Barn Owl nest-box. Jays squawked and a Treecreeper crept up tree trunks near the river.



Alongside Grove Lake, two Tawny Owls were in their regular roosting tree, well hidden in the ivy as usual; and a Kingfisher flew off from its perch by the hide. As we took the path around the north side of Horseshoe Lake, the flock of 18 Barnacle Geese were grazing in the paddock behind Grove Lake. Two cars had been left at the Horseshoe Lake car park to return us to the starting point, by which time we had amassed a total of 65 species.

Robert Godden