

Bird Watching at Bushy Park Tuesday 21st October 2025

We were fortunate to have chosen the one pleasant day in a series of dull or rainy weather for our walk in Bushy Park. It was also easy to park too, if you avoided the puddles!

At the top of the dead tree near the car park were a couple of Egyptian Geese making a racket. Pigeons and Jackdaws were rummaging around nearby.

There were masses of Canada Geese everywhere, either swimming on the lake, gathered on the edges of the lake or assembled in flocks on the grass. There were the usual aquatic birds on the lake. A Moorhen and a Coot were seen together. It was easy to see that the Coot was quite dumpy compared with the slighter Moorhen. There was a flock of Tufted Ducks, several Mallards and some Swans. A Heron was stalking the banks. We also noted a Cormorant perching at the top of a tree.

As we walked alongside the lake, we spoke to some rangers who were clearing the masses of floating pennywort. This invasive species forms dense mats that blocks light and oxygen.

When we left the lake, we spotted deer, very well camouflaged in the bracken by seeing the top of their antlers and occasionally hearing a roar.

We noticed a “leucistic” Jackdaw with white feathers in its tail. This is a genetic condition where cells are unable to transfer pigment to the feathers (Lorna told me that!).

We walked further along and one of the excitements was seeing two Green Woodpeckers searching for insects on the path. When we were in the Pheasantry garden the second excitement was watching a Parakeet harassing a squirrel in a hole in the tree - or was it vice versa?

A nice selection of birds and lovely walk in the fresh air!



Roaring its Challenge – Red Deer at Bushy Park (not taken on walk) by Len Walker of Woking u3a, who occasionally joins our walks.

Barbara Howse