




Chasewater Wildlife Group

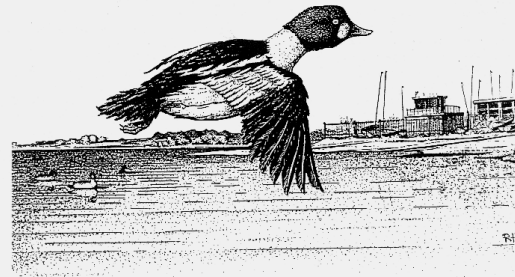
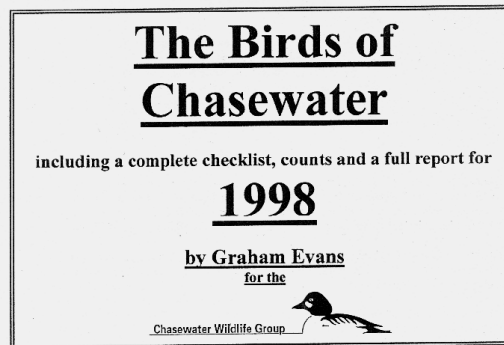
A Chronology of the History of Chasewater

Volume 5
(1991 - present)



By Graham Evans

1991	County Structure Plan proposes a Country Park at Chasewater. Operations start at Bleak House opencast mine. A Pomarine Skua on October 21 st and 195 Dunlins in November.
1992	The last record of Turtle Dove.
1993	Coal extraction starts at Bleak House. The C. L. R & M Co. strengthen the Causeway with 120,000 tons of fill material. 29 Sandwich Terns on August 22 nd .
1994	Lichfield District Council become responsible for overall site management. Five Great Skuas, one Arctic Skua and a very likely (but unconfirmed) Long-tailed Skua on September 14 th .
1995	 <p>Chasewater Wildlife Group is formed to combat the threat of infill to the Slurry Pool. Norton Lakeside Station is opened in December.</p>
1996	Chasewater Programme for Action sets out long term aims for development (refers to one million people living within 20 minutes of Chasewater). There are plans for a coal recovery scheme at Norton Bog. Two Arctic Redpolls and up to 100 Common (Mealy) Redpolls in March, a Shore Lark from December 14 th till end of the year and 77 Goosanders in December.
1997	The Shore Lark stays till March 16 th . Unconfirmed report of Sabine's Gull in September. An extension to Bleak House is not granted.
1998	Chasewater is declared a Country Park in October. The Stadium is demolished.



Illustrated by Roger Hancox

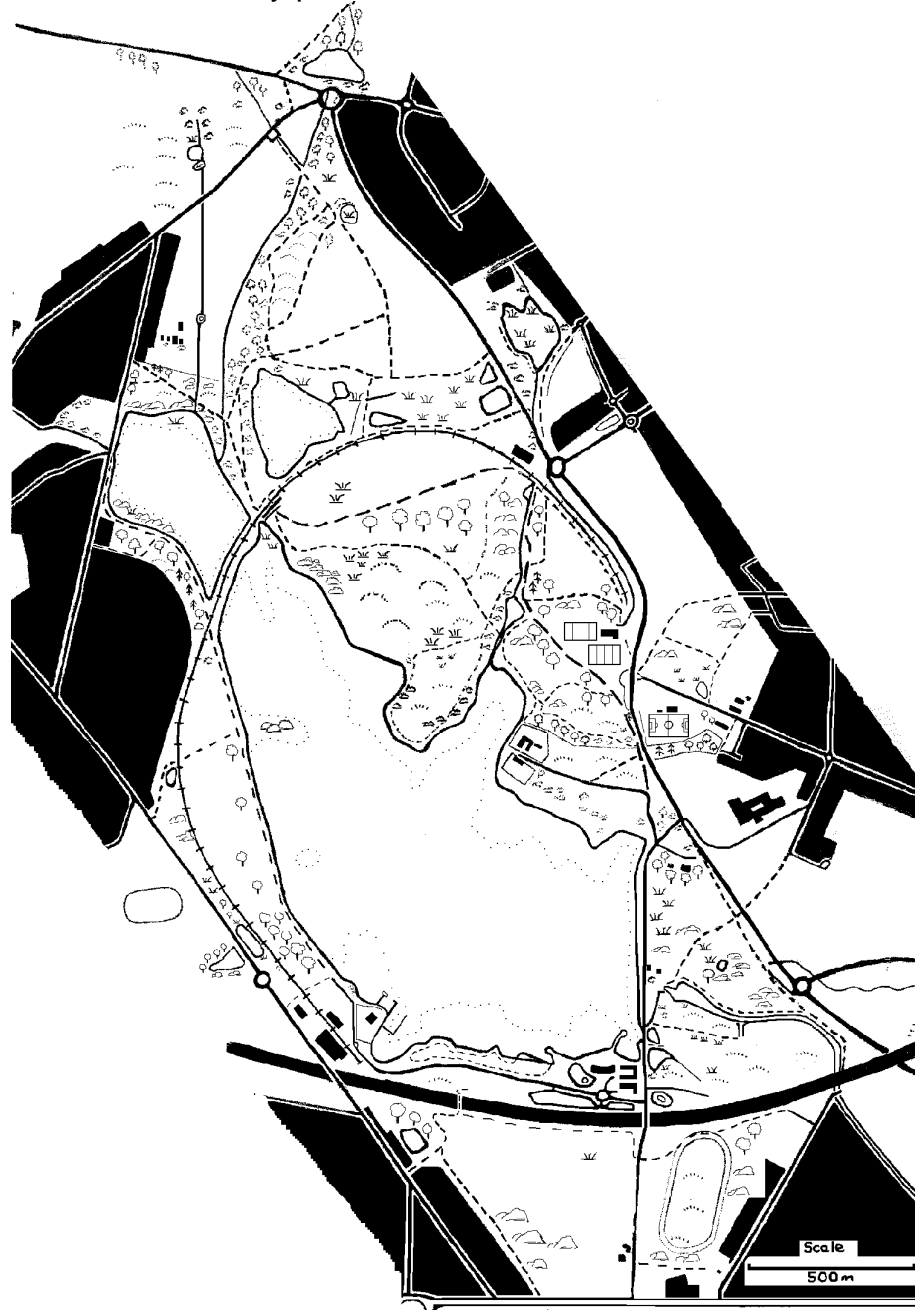
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	<p>The CWG's first published Bird Report.</p> <p>6 Pale-bellied Brent Geese on October 11th, 144 Cormorants on November 7th and 175 Common Goldeneyes on December 13th.</p>
<p>1999</p>	<p>Norton Bog restoration (not coal recovery) starts with the Slurry Pool an integral part of the scheme. Work starts on a Cycle Path around the Country Park. Heathland management work on the north shore (conifers removed). First confirmed sighting of Ring-billed Gull on February 14th. Water levels are lowered to allow repair work on the dam.</p>
<p>2000</p>	<p>The building of the £1.9 million Forest of Mercia Innovation Centre starts along with Phase 1 of the south shore development. The Cycle Path, Chasewater Heaths Station and Phase 2 of the Burntwood Bypass are under construction. Heathland management clears scrub from the North Bog.</p>
<p>2001</p>	<p>Foot and Mouth disease at Bleakhouse Farm; all footpaths are closed from March until June. Motorway construction starts. Molinia grassland and heath is translocated from the site of the service station in Norton Canes to north of the dam. Male Keeled Skimmer and 53 flowering Round-leaved Wintergreens are discovered in the North Bog. A Shore Lark is found on December 9th.</p>
<p>2002</p>	<p>The Shore Lark is relocated on January 4th and 5th. A White Stork and Rose-coloured Starling are unexpected visitors to the area in June. Burntwood Rugby Club's new centre opens.</p>
<p>2003</p>	<p>Heathland management continues on the north shore. Low water-levels allow maintenance work on the dam and for Phase 2 of the south shore 'restructuring' to be completed. M6 Toll opens in December. 1204 Tufted Ducks on October 1st.</p>
<p>2004</p>	<p>Chasewater Wildlife Group launches its Website. 575 Great Black-backed Gulls on January 6th, five Waxwings at Pool Road on January 26th and 15 in Norton on February 28th. A Yellow-browed Warbler stays a</p>

week from February 14th.

Phase 3 of the Burntwood By-pass is started.



2005

Chasewater Wildlife Group is 10 years old.

Links

http://members.madasafish.com/~d_hodgkinson/brownhil.htm

www.bhills-history.fsnet.co.uk/canals.htm#CHASEWATER

www.westmidlandbirdclub.com/archive/chasewater-48.htm

www.chasewater-railway.co.uk/

www.chasesc.org.uk/cwh.htm

<http://members.lycos.co.uk/brownhillspast/wyrley&essington.html>

<http://members.lycos.co.uk/brownhillspast/anglesey.html>