

S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes



August 13th to 19th

BIRDS

An adult **cattle egret** was seen among the cattle on Farlington Marshes SU679038 on 18th.

A **sparrowhawk** sat on a garden fence in Bedhampton on 13th.

At Marker Point on Thorney Island on 17th an **osprey** was seen out in the harbour as it caught its lunch and then flew to a post to devour it.

On 14th 41 **grey plovers**, mainly in breeding plumage, were on the lake at Farlington Marshes.

Waders on the lake at Farlington on 14th included a **green sandpiper** and a **greenshank**. Ten greenshanks were at Hayling Island, Northney Common on 17th.

A **whimbrel** was at Farlington Marshes on 15th and 4 **knot** on 17th.

Common sandpipers have been seen in Fareham Creek and on the shore at Farlington Marshes this week.

Two Sandwich terns were feeding off the point at Farlington Marshes on 17th and 2 **little terns** were among the common terns at the oyster beds on 18th.

A **barn owl** was hunting over a field by the hut on Farlington Marshes in the evening on 17th.

Three **swifts** and lots of **swallows** were over fields between Pigeon House Farm and Denmead on 17th.

A **Dartford warbler** was on brambles near the western entrance to the Titchfield Haven reserve on 14th and another at Gilkicker Point on 17th.



Photo: P Hogan

One **spotted flycatcher** was on Milton Common, Portsmouth on 17th and two groups of four on Old Winchester Hill the same day.

There was also a **redstart** on Old Winchester Hill.

Whinchats have been present on Farlington Marshes all this week. There was also a **stonechat** on 17th.

On 17th at Marker Point on Thorney Island 4 **yellow wagtails** flew in to feed around the cattle. One was seen on the same day at Sandy Point Hayling Island.

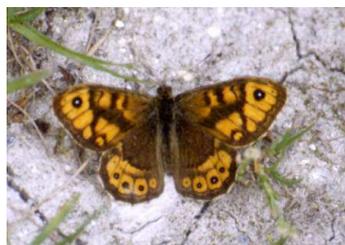
Also on 17th 2 **tree pipits** were seen on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path and one on Old Winchester Hill.

Five **yellowhammers** were on Old Winchester on 17th.

A leucistic **goldfinch** was among a large flock at SU679038 on Farlington Marshes on 18th.

BUTTERFLIES

On the Old Winchester Hill NNR car-park slope on 14th 30 **silver-spotted skippers** a **clouded yellow** and 12 **adonis blues** and countless **chalkhill blues** many engaged in mating on the short turf area.



In Emsworth a **wall brown** butterfly was seen this week.

PLANTS

Sickle medic now has flowers and the diagnostic seed pods near The George on Portsdown.

OTHER WILDLIFE

A **seal** (thought to be a grey) was in the Fareham Creek channel beside Salterns Park on 15th.