

*S. E. Hampshire*

# Nature Notes



Week ending July 7<sup>th</sup> 2022.

## BIRDS

A female **ringed teal** was in front of the West Meon hide at Titchfield Haven on 4<sup>th</sup>. Two strange ducks on Baffins Pond this week were probably escaped **Bahamas pintail**.

There was still a **curlew sandpiper** on the lake at Farlington on 1<sup>st</sup> from 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>. There were also 4 **green sandpipers** on the stream. There were 5 **common sandpipers** on the stream at Farlington Marshes on 1<sup>st</sup> and a **green sandpiper** on the stream on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Eleven **greenshanks** were on Sweare Deep in Chichester Harbour until they flew off towards Thorney Island as the tide rose.

There were **yellow-legged gull** sightings at Southsea and Hill Head on 2<sup>nd</sup>. On 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> one was on the sea by the Briny Inn Southsea. Six **Sandwich terns** were seen at Southsea in a couple of hours on 2<sup>nd</sup>. Three **arctic terns** were off Hill Head on 4<sup>th</sup>. Over the rest of the week **roseate, arctic and black terns** have been seen in several locations mainly on the sea but there was a roseate at the oyster beds on 5<sup>th</sup>.

A single **glossy ibis** was on the main lake at Farlington on 1<sup>st</sup>. Others are being seen further west.

Five **spoonbills** flew into Titchfield Haven early on 3<sup>rd</sup> only to be flushed with 4 **glossy ibis** and all the other birds by a **marsh harrier**.

There was also a **marsh harrier** sighting at Farlington on 5<sup>th</sup>.

A **hobby** was seen hunting over the Paulsgrove quarry and swooping over the bushes under the cliff.

**Tawny owls** have been calling around Christ church Widley.

Four **willow warblers** were at Farlington on 4<sup>th</sup>, 2 in the bushes and 2 in the NE corner. A

**wheatear** was on the track near the hut on 4<sup>th</sup>.

A **yellow wagtail** was with cattle near the hut on Farlington Marshes on 6<sup>th</sup> and by the deeps on 7<sup>th</sup>.

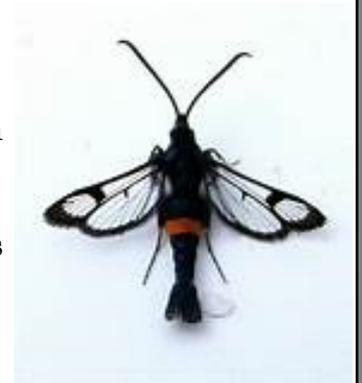
## BUTTERFLIES

A **red-belted clearwing moth** (*Synanthedon myopaeformis*) was seen at Brook Meadow this week.

**Jersey tiger moth** was seen on ragwort at North Hayling on 3<sup>rd</sup>, they are not uncommon this year; and

**hummingbird hawk moths** were in a Northwood Lane Hayling on 6<sup>th</sup> and Tudor Avenue N Emsworth earlier.

On Oxenbourne Down on 5<sup>th</sup> butterflies included up to 35 **silver-spotted skippers** were seen feeding up, laying eggs and also mating. The **chalk hill blue** was also in enormous numbers. Other species seen were one female **dark green fritillary**, **gatekeeper**, **common blue**, **small heath**, **meadow brown** and **ringlet**.



## PLANTS

**Violet Helleborines** are in flower in Stansted Forest.

## OTHER WILDLIFE

A grass snake was seen in a Denmead garden on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

There was a **white squirrel** in a Purbrook garden on 7<sup>th</sup>.

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