



S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes

Week ending December 1st 2024.

BIRDS

Five **whooper swans** rested on mud south of North Binness Island in Langstone Harbour from midday till mid-afternoon on 28th when they flew west.

A male **pochard** was at the southern end of the Posbrook floods on 25th.

On 27th 29 **eider** were off Hill Head.

A drake **common scoter** was seen from South Moors close to Long Island in Langstone Harbour and an un-sexed one in the Thorney Channel on 30th.

A **goldeneye** was on the main lagoon at the Hayling oyster beds on 27th. Others were seen over the next few days at Hill Head and Portchester Castle.

Two 'red-head' **goosanders** were on the Hayling oyster beds a.m. on 26th.

A **water rail** was still present on Baffins Pond Portsmouth mid-week and continually alarm calling; maybe it was aware of the nearby fox. Three were seen on Thorney Island on 30th.

A **red-necked grebe** was in the Chichester Harbour entrance p.m. on 27th and still around on 30th. There was another red-necked sighting in Russell's lake Langstone Harbour on 29th.

There was also a **Slavonian grebe** on 28th at Black Point and one off the west of Thorney Island on 30th. There was a **black-necked grebe** southeast of Portchester Castle on 29th and further west next day.

Two **whimbrels** were feeding in the Hayling oyster beds central lagoon and a **snipe** was resting on the bund on 27th.

Around 600 **golden plovers** were seen on Thorney Island on 30th.

Two **purple sandpipers** were roosting

around 400m apart on the rocks below Southsea Castle on 28th.

On 25th 24 **ringed plovers** were seen on the Rainbow Bar at Hill Head.

A **little gull** was feeding in the harbour entrance at Sandy Point HI on 27th.

Sandwich terns were seen on Thorney Island, at the oyster beds and Portchester on 30th.

Great northern divers were seen SW of the oyster beds in Langstone Harbour; and east of Portchester Castle in Portsmouth Harbour, on 26th and 29th. On 28th there were up to 3 and on 30th 5 **great northern** and on 28th a **black-throated diver** in the Chichester Harbour entrance.

There was a **shag** off Southsea Castle on 26th.

Three **marsh harriers** were on Thorney Island on 30th.

A **kingfisher** was on a branch of cut down tree opposite the repaired breach in the Titchfield canal on 25th. There was one on Thorney Island on 30th.

Two **ring-necked parakeets** circled high over the HI Sandy point reserve before flying away on 30th.

A **water pipit** was seen on the Titchfield Bridge St floods and a **rock pipit** at the Hayling oyster beds on 28th.

There were 2 **marsh tits**, 20+ **blue tits**, 5 **great tits**, 30 **sparrows** and 2 **great spotted woodpeckers** all in the same Leigh Park garden on 29th.

Two **bearded tits** were seen from the western path on Thorney Island on 30th.

BUTTERFLIES

A **male brimstone** butterfly was seen flying near the lake in Staunton Country Park about noon on sunny 25th.

Send information for these notes to john@havantnature.net. The notes are usually produced on Mondays.

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