

Nature Notes



December 10th to 16th 2018

BIRDS

A **white-fronted goose** was with two **greylags** on the east side of Farlington Marshes north of the deeps near the brick building on 12th.

Two male **shovelers** were seen in Hilsea mote on 11th. There was a juvenile **ferruginous duck** on Bedhampton Mill Pond p.m. on 16th.

A female **eider** was seen from the Hayling Billy Path (South) on 10th.

On 16th single **long-tailed duck** and **common scoter** were seen from the Hayling Oyster Beds.

Two redhead **goosanders** flew in and landed on the south scrape at Titchfield Haven at 12.17 on 13th.

A **black-throated diver** was seen flying into the harbour at Sandy Point, Hayling Island on 10th.

Great northern divers were seen at Hill Head on 10th and 16th; and close in at Southsea Castle on 12th and 13th.

Shags have been seen this week at Southsea Castle and Hayling Bay, Eastoke.

Four **black-necked grebes** were seen from the Hayling Billy Path (South) on 10th and 14 on 16th. One or two **Slavonian grebes** were off Hill Head on 13th and 16th.

Two **cattle egrets** were seen at Castle Farm, Warblington on 14th.

On 11th a **bittern** flew into the reed bed on the east side of the North Drayton Pit at Chichester.

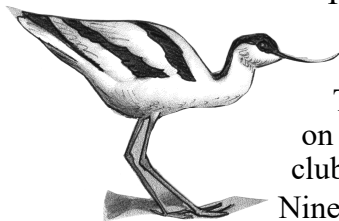
A **marsh harrier** drifted into Farlington Marshes high from the north on 11th. Two females were seen in flight together at Titchfield Haven on 14th and one was present on 15th.

A **water rail** was seen on the main lake at Farlington Marshes on 11th.

There were 60 **avocets** at Farlington on 11th and 13th.

There were 18 **sanderlings** on the beach by the sailing club at Hill Head on 14th.

Nine **purple sandpipers** were at Southsea Castle on 11th and 14th.



A **common sandpiper** was on mud at the mouth of the Hermitage Stream Brockhampton on 14th.

A **woodcock** was flushed from the eastern board walk at Titchfield Haven on 14th.

A **jack snipe** was 'bobbing' in the well-cut reeds on the main lake at Farlington on 11th.

Five **stock doves** were at Titchfield Haven on 14th.

A **kingfisher** perched in front of Suffern hide at Titchfield Haven on 15th.

A **barn owl** was mobbed by Jays on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 14th.

A **tawny** and a **short-eared owl** were seen on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 11th. The short-eared was also seen on 13 & 14th. There was also one at Farlington Marshes on 11th. One was hunting over Southmoors Langstone and flew off west on 14th.

On 14th a male **merlin** flew in low and perched up in dead tree by the Titchfield Haven Canal Path before hunting low over reed beds.

Two calling **ravens** flew over the Titchfield Haven Canal Path p.m. on 14th.

A very late **swallow** was seen from the Meon Shore hide at Titchfield Haven on 10th.

Three **bearded tits** were feeding on mud on edge of reeds at Farlington on 11th.

A small group of **fieldfares** were in trees near Lovelocks south of Denmead on 15th and a **redwing** at Northney Hayling Island the next day.

There was a **firecrest** and a calling **chiffchaff** on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 14th.

Water pipits have been seen this week at SU534032 on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path and at the back of the main lake at Farlington.

Two **rock pipits** were at Southsea Castle on 14th.

OTHER WILDLIFE

A **red admiral** butterfly fluttered over a Lovedean conservatory on 10th.

There was an active **frog** in a Portsdown garden pond on 15th.