



# S. E. Hampshire Nature Notes

January 29th to February 4th 2018

## BIRDS

Ten **goldeneyes** were on Thorney Great Deep, west side, p.m. on 30<sup>th</sup> and 13 the next day. Five were seen in the oyster beds lagoon on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> there was a female/immature **long-tailed duck** in Langstone Harbour NE of Farlington Marshes.

A 'red-head' **goosander** was briefly on the river at Titchfield Haven on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A **great northern diver** and a **Slavonian grebe** were seen off Sandy Point Hayling Island on 29<sup>th</sup>.

Three **Slavonian grebes** and a **great northern diver** were off Broadmarsh on 1<sup>st</sup>. The max count of **black-necked grebes** this week was 14 seen from Budds Farm and the oyster beds on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Warblington **cattle egret** was still present on 30<sup>th</sup>.

A **red kite** was seen over Horndean on 1<sup>st</sup>.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> a **water rail** was seen on Heath Pond (Petersfield).

There was a **golden plover** on the first saltmarsh left of main path, near lapwings, at Northney Hayling Island this week.

There were 33 **avocets** at Farlington Marshes and 1 at Titchfield Haven on 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were also 2 **green-shanks** at Farlington.

A **whimbrel** was in the NW corner of Cams Bay with a Curlew and several Redshank on 4<sup>th</sup>.

On 31<sup>st</sup> 97 **redshanks** were in high tide roost on the sea defences below the drystack building at Portchester.

Five **purple sandpipers** were seen at Southsea Castle on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4 at high tide on 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Waders seen off Sandy & Black Points Hayling on 29<sup>th</sup> included at least 3000 **dunlin** and 250 **knot**.

Four **Sandwich terns** and 4 **guillemots** were seen off Sandy & Black Points also on 29<sup>th</sup>.

A lone first winter **kittiwake** flew downstream along Heavy Reach to land amongst offshore Black-headed Gull flock in Cams Bay Fareham.

Two **barn owls** were hunting in water meadows at Sober-ton, Meon Valley SU607159 this week and the

usual 2 were in the split tree west of the Titchfield canal path.



**Kingfisher** were seen on the Thorney Island great deeps on 2<sup>nd</sup> and at the oyster beds on 3<sup>rd</sup> and in Fareham Creek on 4<sup>th</sup>.

On 26<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon a **wood-lark** flew over a clearfell area in Stansted Park that had been re-planted last winter.

A **black redstart** was seen in a Forton Lake, Gosport garden on 3<sup>rd</sup>.

A **chiffchaff** was at Tipner Lake, Portsmouth Harbour on 1<sup>st</sup>.

A **firecrest** was in the holly under storey of woodland adjacent to Cams School Fareham on 4<sup>th</sup>.

A flock of 40 or 50 **hawfinches** were seen at Kingley Vale on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Two **bullfinches** were seen in bushes at Farlington Marshes on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## PLANTS

**Summer snowflake** is in flower in the usual spot at the far end of Mill Lane Langstone.

There is a single **sweet violet** flower in the much overgrown regular patch in compartment 9 on Portsdown.



## OTHER WILDLIFE

A static bat detector running in a Wade lane garden on the mild nights early this week recorded common and soprano pipistrelles on the wing.

A **white squirrel** was seen again at the edge of the wooded area in Hulbert Road just before the Havant ASDA on 1<sup>st</sup>. It sat there happily holding something in its paws and munching away. It looked a little scruffy, a little dirty but it was definitely white.

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