



**S. E. Hampshire**

# Nature Notes

Week ending January 28<sup>th</sup> 2024.

## Birds

There were over 900 **Brent geese** on the Tangier Road Portsmouth goose refuge on 22<sup>nd</sup>; and over 600 on the playing fields off Halliday Road Eastney on 26<sup>th</sup>. Two **light bellied Brents** were on Farlington Marshes on 28<sup>th</sup>.

There was another sighting of a **ferruginous duck** on the Posbrook floods on 27<sup>th</sup>.

A group of 36 **eider** drifted south off Hill Head on 27<sup>th</sup>.

Two female and a male **common scoter** were just offshore in Hayling Bay on 27<sup>th</sup>.

The oyster beds **long-tailed duck** was still there on 26<sup>th</sup>.

A pair of **goosanders** were seen from the bridge and road at Titchfield Haven on 24<sup>th</sup>.

There were 4 **black-necked grebes** off the oyster beds on 27<sup>th</sup>.

There were 9 **avocets** in the oyster beds high tide roost on the north bund on 26<sup>th</sup>. Two **whimbrels** were there on 27<sup>th</sup>.

A count of 15 **purple sandpipers** at Southsea Castle on 25<sup>th</sup> was the best so far this winter.

Four **snipe**, 3 tucked in the bank of a lagoon and 1 feeding on water's edge were at Northney [SU730041](#) on 27<sup>th</sup>.

There was a **green sandpiper** on the Bridge St floods opposite St Peter's church Titchfield on 28<sup>th</sup>.

A **black-throated diver** was seen catching crabs north of Sandy Point on 27<sup>th</sup> when up to 4 **great northern divers** were in the same area.

There are still 3 **glossy ibises** frequenting the Posbrook floods.

A **spoonbill** was on the south scrape at Titchfield Haven on 22<sup>nd</sup> and there was a **bittern** in the reed beds by the bridge near the visitor centre.

There were 14 **cattle egrets** in the 'ibis field' at Warblington on 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A **barn owl** flew over the B2177 southeast of Southwick village at 7 p.m. on 28<sup>th</sup>.

A **white-tailed eagle** was seen over Titchfield Haven at 0945 on 23<sup>rd</sup> and it, or another, was over Chichester Harbour with prey thought to be a Brent at 1040.

A **kingfisher** flew low over Fishery Creek Hayling

Island towards Nutbourne Road slipway on 25<sup>th</sup>.

A **merlin** harassed a blackbird before landing in trees and posts by the Posbrook floods on 28<sup>th</sup>.

Two **Dartford warblers** were in gorse bushes on the Sandy point reserve on 27<sup>th</sup>.

A **firecrest** and a **water pipit** were seen in the flooded fields by the church in Titchfield on 24<sup>th</sup>. At least 4 were at various points on the Titchfield canal path on 26<sup>th</sup>.

Fifteen **siskins** were in the Bridge St floods area on 26<sup>th</sup>.

A **ring necked parakeet** has been a recent regular visitor to a Denmead garden.

(Photo: S Frampton)



## Other Wildlife

A **frog** and 3 **newts** were in a Portsdown pond and there was also evidence of activity in a Waterlooville pond this week.



Send information for these notes to [john@havantnature.net](mailto:john@havantnature.net). The notes are usually produced on Mondays.

Contact : John Goodspeed, E Mail: [john@havantnature.net](mailto:john@havantnature.net)

Web Page: [www.havantnature.net](http://www.havantnature.net)