

S. E. Hampshire Nature Notes

June 25th to July 1st 2018



BIRDS

A **red kite** was circling high in thermals above a Catherington housing estate on 25th.

Two **red kites** and a **buzzard** were flying low over a Denmead field whilst the farmer was hay making this week

Peregrines in our area have had mixed fortunes and in four nests at least 5 chicks have fledged but others have suffered.

A juvenile **common sandpiper** was running speedily through the low tide channels off Northney Common on 26th.

Six **curlews** and 3 **whimbrels** were seen in Cams Bay/ Fareham Creek on 1st.

Ten **lapwings** flew west on Portsdown late morning on 1st.

In addition to the usual **black swans** in Fareham Creek at the Delme roundabout there was also a single **Mediterranean gull** on 1st.

Eighteen **common terns** and 4 **little terns** were seen at Hill Head on 1st.

There was just one male **nightjar** churring in Havant Thicket p.m. on 25th.

Begging calls of 2 **tawny owls** were heard at Northney Hayling Island on 25th.

Around 30 **swifts** flew over Leigh Park on 27th.

A **rock pipit** flew east at Hill Head on 1st.

Two **lesser whitethroats** were in bushes near the view point overlooking the Budds farm lagoons on 27th.

BUTTERFLIES

Silver studded blues are still present at Browndown Gosport where the presence of males and females gives hopes of a colony establishing itself.

Butterflies seen at Whiteley Woods, Fareham

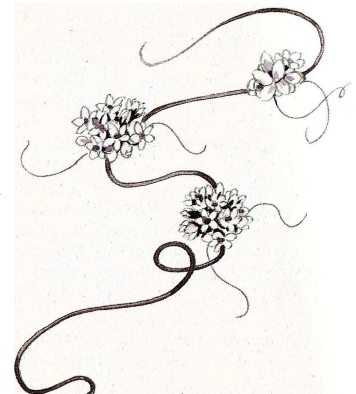
this week included **purple emperor**, **ringlet**, **white and red admirals**, **large and small skippers**, **silver washed fritillaries** and a **comma**.

On 29th there were 19 **Essex skippers**, a **small copper** and 6 **purple hairstreaks** among the butterflies at Browndown (South) Gosport.

Essex, **large** and **small skippers** were also seen at Fort Widley on 29th.

PLANTS

Rootless and parasitic **dodder** was spotted trailing over bell heather on the Sandy Point reserve Hayling on 30th. Other plants in the area included **sea sandwort**, **sea rocket**, **sea spurge** and **spear-leaved orache**.



OTHER WILDLIFE

There is a fine specimen of a **chicken of the woods** fungus in Havant Cemetery .

Glow-worms were active - glowing - in Havant Thicket on 25th. We hope to see more on a Portsdown walk on 5th. See <http://www.havantnature.net/wildlifeevents.html>.

