



S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes

July 17th to 23rd

BIRDS

A **peregrine** flew low over the clubhouse area at Sinah Golf Course on 18th.

A **hobby** flew west high over Deanlane End on 23rd.

Waders on Whale Island, HMS Excellent this week have included **curlews**, a **whimbrel** and 2 **common sandpipers**. On 18th there were 4 whimbrel.

There were **common sandpipers** at Farlington Marshes and Titchfield Haven on 20th.

On 19th there was a **ruff** and a **little ringed plover** on the south scrape at Titchfield Haven. **Common** and **green sandpipers** were seen at the haven on 21st also on the south scrape.

Mediterranean gulls have been seen at Sinah, Whale Island and the oyster beds where 44 were counted on 19th.

Four **Sandwich terns** were on the west shore of Whale Island on 19th.

Over 500 **wood pigeons** were seen in the Nelson Lane area of Portsdown on 20th.

Two **yellow wagtails** were among cattle in front of the meadow hide at Titchfield Haven on 21st.

A **whinchat** was seen in Havant Thicket on 19th.

BUTTERFLIES

Over 300 Chalk Hill Blues were on the slopes above the Paulsgrove chalk pit and also the slopes immediately to its east on 17th. All were males in pristine condition.

Chalk Hill Blues were also seen on Oxenbourne Down, Chalton Down and Old Winchester Hill.

On Chalton Down this week there was also a **silver-washed fritillary** and a **small blue**.

On Eastney Beach on 20th a **painter lady** and a **clouded yellow** were seen.

A **Jersey tiger moth** was seen in a Lee on Solent garden on 21st.

PLANTS

A **violet helleborine** (*right*) was just coming into flower under a large beech in Stansted Forest early this week. **Broad-leaved helleborines** are almost over, with only a few plants still showing flowers, on Sheepwash Rd alongside Hazleton Common.



Western gorse is flowering on Hazleton Common and Sandy Point where **dwarf gorse** also occurs in the reserve.

OTHER WILDLIFE

On 15th on the footpath going north just under the railway bridge at Deanlane End **glow worms** were seen either side of the path. This is a new or at least little known location for glow worms.

The Next HHE Walk.

Wednesday 26th July 7 p.m.: Wood and heath flowers

Explore some locally unusual heathland habitat for flowers. Meet at the end of Padnell Road Cowplain SU698112 PO8 9AA.

Dogs on leads welcome.
Leader John Goodspeed 078 1143 5252 or

john@havantnature.net
Suggested donation £1.50