

S. E. Hampshire



Nature Notes

July 24th to 30th 2017

BIRDS

Tufted ducks on Langstone Mill Pond on 27th had seven very young chicks.

A **whimbrel** flew high west over Titchfield Haven on 25th and on 30th two were seen in Fareham Creek.

A **little stint** in adult summer plumage was at Farlington Marshes with 50 **black-tailed godwits** and other waders on 24th.

Common sandpipers have been seen on streams near Broadmarsh and on the south scrape at Titchfield Haven. There was also a **snipe** on the south scrape.

Grey wagtails (*below*) were seen on the mucky stream under Sheepwash Lane Copplain on 26th.

A **wood warbler** was ringed at Titchfield Haven on 25th.



Photo: Adele Mallows

BUTTERFLIES

Twenty-fifth was a good day for butterflies on Oxenbourne and Chalton Downs. Lots of the common species were on the wing and **Chalkhill blues** and **gatekeepers** were abundant on both sites. A single **small blue** was an unexpected find on Oxenbourne Down where there were up to five **dark green fritillaries** (*below*) during the day.

Three of the elusive, at present, **silver spotted skippers** were seen on Oxenbourne in the afternoon and two **brown argus** were also notable.

Many of the **small skippers** on Oxenbourne Down had red mites on their abdomens.

A **painted lady** was nectaring on Buddleia in a Leigh park garden also on 25th.



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