



S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes

March 4th to 10th 2019

BIRDS

There was a **light-bellied Brent goose** among the other Brents on Farlington Marshes on 8th.

An **Egyptian goose** was by the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 7th and also seen flying over the reserve. It was still around on 9th.

There was a **shag** 'jump diving' off-shore at Southsea Castle on 5th.

Four **cattle egrets** were in the field next to the cemetery at Warblington along with 18 little Egrets on 9th.

Red kites have been seen this week over Dean Lane End and Portsdown.

A **marsh harrier** was seen on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path p.m. on 4th and 3 on the reserve on 10th.

There were 70 **sanderlings** at Eastney on 5th and 50 on the beach at Fort Cumberland on 9th.

The highest count of **purple sandpipers** at Southsea Castle this week was 11 on 5th.

Nine **Sandwich terns** were feeding off the point at Black Point Hayling Island on 9th before heading west.

There were 42 **common gulls** at Cams Bay on 9th.

A **stock dove** was singing at Cams Bay on 9th.

The usual **barn owl** has been in its usual split tree on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path most of this week.

There are still 2 **little owls** at Fort Cumberland.

A **hooded crow** was in fields by Mill Lane on Portsdown from 8th-10th. A **raven** was also reported in the same area on 8th.

There was a **sand martin** on the Titchfield

Haven Canal Path on 4th and over the Posbook floods on 6th. A **swallow** was seen on the reserve next day.

A **firecrest** was on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 4th.

A **black redstart** was at Fort Cumberland on 5th.

Ten **fieldfares** and a **redwing** were seen near Fort Widley on 8th.

At least nine **water pipits** were seen on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 4th and similar numbers were around next day.

Two **siskins** were seen at North Boarhunt on 7th.

A male **bullfinch** was at Cams Bay on 9th.

PLANTS

Alexanders is now in flower on Portsdown. There is a better than usual display of **sweet violets** in compartment 9 and **hairy violets** are also flowering in the same compartment. A single **primrose** plant by 'The George' is probably not wild.

On 8th **comfrey** was in flower at the end of Southmoor Lane Havant and female **butterbur** (*right*) in the regular spot by the Langbrook Stream at Langstone.



OTHER WILDLIFE

A **white squirrel** was seen sat on a fence post at the junction of Crookhorn Lane and College Road by Portsmouth golf course on 8th.