



S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes

Week ending 23rd March 2020

BIRDS

There have been up to 27 **aiders** and 3 **common scoters** off shore at Hill Head this week.

A **shag** was drying its wings in Portsmouth Harbour near Haslar Marina on 20th.

A **great northern diver** was off the chalets at Titchfield Haven on 19th.

Red kites have been seen flying over Fort Southwick on 17th, 2 over Hilsea on 21st, and one flew over Cosham and Portsdown on 22nd.

An **osprey** flew east over Botley at 15:00 on 22nd - presumably heading to the Hamble.

There was a **water rail** walking along the edge of the Titchfield Haven Canal just beyond tarmac area on 17th.

There were 2 **greenshanks** on Northney Common Hayling on 16th.

Approximately 30 **sanderlings** were feeding on the beach at Hill Head on 18th until flushed by a thoughtless photographer trying to get too close!!!!

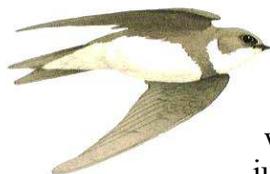
A smart clean adult **yellow-legged gull** was on the beach at Hill Head on 19th.

Over 1600 **Mediterranean gulls** - an impressive sight - were at the Hayling Oyster Beds on 18th.

A **raven** was seen over Havant Thicket on 21st.

A **barn owl** was hunting over the field just east of the road to the harbour shore at Southmoors this week and later on the Southmoors itself.

Forty **sand martins** were over floods halfway along the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 17th, around 125 the next day and at least 100 on 22nd. Smaller flocks have been seen in other places.



A smart male **white wagtail** was on the Bridge Street flood just south of the Titchfield Haven

Canal Path car-park on 17th.

A **firecrest** was seen on the Northney Common path from the car-park on Northney Road on 16th.

Chiffchaffs and **blackcaps** have arrived from Africa and are being heard widely. Five chiffchaffs were on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 18th.

A **Cetti's warbler** was a relatively unusual sighting on Northney Common on 16th.

A **black redstart** was at Sandy Point Hayling Island a.m. on 21st.

There have been lots of reports of **wheatears** this week with a count of 7 on Sandy Point Hayling Island on 16th.

PLANTS

Alexanders and **cow parsley** are now flowering on Portsdown. **Green alkanet** and **yellow archangel** are flowering in the North West corner of Crookhorn golf course.

Coltsfoot had flowers by a Queen Elizabeth CP gravel path on 17th and has also been seen on Portsdown.

Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, a borage relative, has flowers in Catherington Lith having been in flower weeks ago in a Portsdown garden.



BUTTERFLIES

Brimstones and **red admirals** have been seen in many places this week. A Cosham garden has also had **peacock** and **small white**.

Commas have been seen in Cosham and Gosport where there was also a **small tortoiseshell**.

OTHER WILDLIFE

Bee flies were active in a Portsdown garden on 22nd.



Send information for these notes to john@havantnature.net. The notes are usually produced on Mondays.

Contact : John Goodspeed, E Mail: John@havantnature.net

Web Page: www.havantnature.net