



S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes

February 25th to March 3rd 2019

BIRDS

There was a **barnacle goose**, a 'large farmyard goose' and an adult **light-bellied Brent** on Farlington Marshes on 2nd.

A **shag** was on the sea in front of Clarence Pier Portsmouth on 3rd.

A **glossy ibis** flew over Titchfield Haven and then Mill Rythe on its way east on 2nd.

Two or three **spoonbills** were on the Frying Pan at Titchfield Haven before flying north up the haven. One was at Farlington Marshes on 27th and still around on 2nd.

A female **marsh harrier** was quartering low over the reeds off the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 1st and another female at Farlington on 2nd.

Red kites have been seen this week over Emsworth, Titchfield Haven, Dean Lane End, Portsdown and Portchester.

There were 27 **avocets** at Titchfield Haven on 27th. Ten were on Farlington Marshes on 28th.



A **whimbrel** (left) was at the Hayling Oyster Beds on 26th and one feeding off the west wall at low tide at Farlington on 2nd.

Two **sanderlings** were at Southsea Castle on 26th and 15 flew into the

Eastney sewage outfall on 3rd.

Up to 8 **purple sandpipers** have been seen during the week at Southsea Castle.

A **guillemot** drifted west at Southsea Castle on 26th.

Razorbills have been seen at Southsea, Eastney Point Portsmouth and Black Point Hayling Island.

On 25th a **great skua** moved into the oyster beds lagoon causing havoc among the gulls.

Forty two **Mediterranean gulls** flew over Havant Thicket on 25th. On 2nd over 500 were at the oyster beds in the morning but less than 100 in the afternoon when 30 were at Farlington.

Three **Sandwich terns** were at Black Point Hayling

Island on 2nd and 2 flew past the Eastney sewage outfall on 3rd.

One or two **little owls** have been seen at Fort Cumberland most days this week.

Four **tawny owls** were seen or heard on the Titchfield Haven Canal Path at 6.30 p.m. on 1st. The usual **barn owl** was in its tree mid-afternoon.

There were 2 **short-eared owls** on Southmoors on 25th.

A pair of **ravens** were displaying over Leigh Park on 26th.

There was another sighting of a **black redstart** at Fort Cumberland on 1st and 2nd.

A **Cetti's warbler** was singing near the lagoon at the Hayling oyster beds on 25th. They are not common here.

There were 2 **rock pipits** on the sea wall at Southsea Castle on 26th and ten **water pipits** among the horses in fields along the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 2nd

BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies in Havant Thicket on 25th included 20 **brimstones**, which are now widespread, and single **peacock** and **commas** (right).

The above species and a **small white** have been seen in a Cosham garden.



OTHER WILDLIFE

An **albino squirrel** was seen in a Portsmouth cemetery on 27th.

A Hilltop Crescent Portsdown garden has **toad spawn**.



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

Contact : John Goodspeed, Phone 023 9222 1361 E Mail: John@havantnature.net

Web Page: www.havantnature.net