

S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes



Week ending May 1st 2022.

BIRDS

A few **Brent geese** stay with us through the summer and 2 were in the Sweare Deep in Chichester Harbour on 25th.

Seven **common** and 1 **velvet scoter** were off Hill Head on 1st.

There was a **cuckoo** on the Titchfield canal path on 29th.

There were 17 **whimbrels** off Castle Shore Park, Fareham on 26th and 1st and around 70 and 38 **bar-tailed godwits** flew east past Stokes Bay Gosport on 27th.

A **green sandpiper** was on the stream at Farlington Marshes on 26th and a **common sandpiper** on 27th. Eight common sandpipers were on rocks at Sandy Point on 1st.

A **wood sandpiper** was actively feeding on the Posbrook floods on 27th and still in the area on 29th.

Three **Sandwich terns** and 3 **common terns** were off Conigar Point between Langstone and Emsworth on 25th. There was also a lone Sandwich tern at Budds Farm.

A **black-throated diver** was 5m offshore near the car-park opposite Creek Road Hayling mid-week and still being seen on 1st.

An immature **spoonbill** was on the scrape at Farlington Marshes p.m. on 1st.

A **White-tailed Sea Eagle** flew low up Thorney Channel towards Nutbourne gaining height and being mobbed by gulls as it did so at 13:15 on 25th. It then flew over to Thorney Deeps circling around several times in the thermals, soaring up very high before flying W at 13:35.

Two **red kites** headed north over Chichester Harbour on 25th. Four flew over Emsworth on 26th.

A **kingfisher** was an unusual sighting at this time of the year at Sandy Point on 1st.

A **hobby** and a **raven** flew over Havant allotments on 29th and another hobby flew north over Titchfield on 1st.

A **swift** flew in off the sea at Hill Head on 27th.

Flocks of **swallows** and **house martins** flew north over Hill Head and Titchfield on 27th. Eighteen swallows were at Farlington Marshes that day.

There was a stunning **firecrest** at Bidbury Mead Havant on 26th.

A **grasshopper warbler** was present in roadside scrub by the Tangier Rd Portsmouth goose refuge on 29th.

Common and **lesser whitethroats** were seen on the Titchfield canal path on 29th.

On 28th a male **redstart** was near the barn owl tree on the Titchfield canal path.

Two **ring ouzels** were on the south side of the hill fort on Old Winchester Hill on 27th and were still present on 29th.

BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies on Butser Hill on 25th included **Duke of Burgundy, dingy skipper, grizzled skipper, small heath, peacock, orange-tip, small white, green hairstreak, brimstone** and a few **mint moths** were noted. On 30th **small and holly blues, green hairstreaks** and **orange tips** were among the many butterflies on Portsdown.

PLANTS

Green-winged orchids are flowering well on the beach at Gunner point Hayling Island.

On Portsdown this week

field madder, salad burnet, and common

storkbill (*right*) were among the new wildflowers.



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