



S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes

April 29th to May 5th 2019

BIRDS

Two Mandarin ducks were seen in Staunton Country Park on 1st.

A **glossy ibis** flew down the river towards Titchfield Haven midday on 1st and was seen again at dusk over the Posbrook Floods. The next day it was feeding on the edge of the floods.

Two **spoonbills** were close to the fence line by the lake at Farlington Marshes on 1st.

A **red kite** flew over west of Crooked Walk Lane Portsdown on 2nd and there was one on Oxenbourne Down on 5th.

There were 4 **whimbrels** near the sea wall at Farlington Marshes on 1st; 1 in Fareham Creek on 4th and on the same day 59 in a high tide roost on Little Binness Island in Langstone Harbour.

A **wood sandpiper** was on the north side of Posbrook Floods p.m. on 3rd.

Ringed plovers in their fenced off area on Gunner Point HI had young on 3rd.

A **greenshank** dropped into the Frying Pan area at Titchfield Haven on 29th. One was on the Posbrook Floods on 2nd and 5th.

A **curlew sandpiper** in partial summer plumage was on the stream at Farlington Marshes on 1st.

There were 2 **little terns** close to sea wall at Farlington on 1st.

Three **swifts** were seen at Highland Road Cemetery, Southsea on 3rd.

Around 100 **house martins** were over the Thorney Island sewage works on 4th and there were still plenty of hirundines there on 5th.

A **cuckoo** was possibly hunting for nests on the east side of Farlington Marshes p.m. on 29th. One was singing and moving north west on



the top of Butser on 30th; 2 by the Titchfield Haven Canal Path on 1st and 5th; and one on 2nd.

There was a hobby and a peregrine at Titchfield Haven on 30th and one flew north on 2nd. Two **ravens** were reported from Havant Thicket on 2nd.

On 5th 2 **bearded tits** were in the reeds by the hut on Farlington Marshes before crossing the track into reeds nearer the motorway.

On 2nd there was a **whinchat** in bushes in horse fields west of the Posbrook floods (SU537050).

Yellowhammers were seen on Oxenbourne Down on 5th.

PLANTS

Among the **early purple orchids** on Butser on 30th there was a pure white one.

Horseshoe vetch was among the new wild flowers on Portsdown on 1st.



BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies seen on an Oxenbourne and Ramsdean Downs guided walk on 5th included **small copper, green hairstreak, dingy and grizzled skippers, brown argus and Duke of Burgundy. Cinnabar, double vein**, and a probable **rest harrow moth** were also seen.

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

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