



S. E. Hampshire

# Nature Notes

Week ending November 15<sup>th</sup> 2020

## BIRDS

Two **goldeneyes** were seen at the Hayling Island oyster beds on 10<sup>th</sup>.

There were 14 **eiders**, mainly males, off the Hill Head sailing club on 9<sup>th</sup>. Three flew west past the haven on 14<sup>th</sup>.

A **goosander** flew south out of the reserve early on 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Great northern divers** were seen at Sandy Point on 10<sup>th</sup> and close in at Fort Cumberland on 15<sup>th</sup>.

Over 40 **curlews** were in a Langstone field at [SU724056](#) at high tide on 15<sup>th</sup>.

There were 25 **sanderlings** on the shore opposite the Titchfield Haven reserve entrance on 14<sup>th</sup> and nearer the sailing club on 15<sup>th</sup>. Fifty **dunlin** flew out from the south scrape on 14<sup>th</sup>.

Ten **purple sandpipers** were seen at Southsea Castle on 15<sup>th</sup>.

A **Sandwich tern** was feeding by the west gate to Farlington Marshes on 12<sup>th</sup>. On 14<sup>th</sup> 18 were on the mud at Black Point Hayling Island and 4 mid channel at Hill Head.

A **little owl** was in the usual holes in the fort wall at Fort Cumberland on 15<sup>th</sup>.

A **barn owl** was on a post by the 'Welcome to Fareham' sign driving west from Fort Southwick at 18:00 on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Kingfishers** were seen fishing in the ditch round the point field and flying across the hay field at Farlington on 13<sup>th</sup>. On 15<sup>th</sup> one was on one of the streams north of Bedhampton Wharf.

Two **peregrines** were reported "gliding off the edge of the down" on Portsdown on 11<sup>th</sup>.

A **firecrest** was on the slopes of Portsdown below Fort Widley on 9<sup>th</sup>. Another one was in a

silver birch in a Waterlooville garden on 13<sup>th</sup>. There was a male **black redstart** showing well in and around Admiralty Quarter at [SU632004](#) Portsmouth on 13<sup>th</sup>. There was a female/juvenile feeding on rocks between the Still and West and Hot Walls in Old Portsmouth.

## OTHER WILDLIFE

A **blunt gaper** and 6 juvenile **king scallops** 2-3 cm wide were on the beach at Southsea on 11<sup>th</sup> and **ross coral** (*below*) at South Parade pier on 15<sup>th</sup>.



A beetle found on Portsdown on 12<sup>th</sup> has been recorded as ***Oxythyrea funesta***, white spotted rose beetle. A species normally associated with warmer parts of Europe at a warmer time of the year. *Photo by Richard Jones.*



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