

S. E. Hampshire

Nature Notes



Week ending April 23rd 2023.

Birds

There are still a few **Brent geese** around - 5 were at Farlington on 20th.

Six **eiders** were seen on the sea off Hill Head a.m. on 23rd.

On 20th Three **swifts** were among hirundines over the Posbrook floods a.m. and 2 flew over Budds Farm Bedhampton.

Whimbrels appeared at Castle Shore Park on 17th and later in the week at The Kench, Hill Head and other sites with a high count of 38 in Langstone Harbour on 22nd.

It was a similar story for **bar-tailed godwits** on 20th with birds being seen at The Kench, Hill Head, Sandy Point and the Hayling oyster beds.

On 20th at high tide there was a flock of 77 **sanderlings** on rocks at Sandy Point Hayling Island mainly in winter plumage.

A male **Ruff** in non-breeding plumage was in the hayfield at Farlington on 18th.

Green sandpipers were seen in the hayfield and stream at Farlington; and from the Spurgin Hide at Titchfield Haven on 18th and 21st.

There were 70 **Mediterranean gulls** at the oyster beds on 20th.

Six **Sandwich** and 40 **common terns** were at the Hayling Islands oyster beds on 20th. Three **little terns** were at Farlington on 18th. Four Sandwich terns were at Castle Shore Park Portchester on 2nd.

Single **great northern divers** were seen on the sea at Sandy Point on 17th and Eastney on 19th.

A **great white egret** flew west out of Titchfield Haven p.m. on 17th.

Hobbies were seen at Farlington Marshes on 18th and Hayling Bay on 20th.

On 22nd a **short-eared owl** was between the lake and the point at Farlington Marshes. Two **ravens** flew over a south Havant garden on 20th.

Swallows were streaming in off the sea at Sandy Point on 17th.

A **Cettis warbler** was heard calling in Castle Shore Park Portchester, not a common location for this species, on 18th and 20th.

A **reed warbler** was heard at Milton Common on 17th.

A **lesser whitethroat** was heard west of the Meon Shore Hide at Titchfield Haven on 21st and 23rd.

A female **redstart** was in the NE corner of Farlington Marshes on 22nd.

On 23rd there were at least 5 **nightingales** at Marlpit Lane Woodmancote.

A **whinchat** was in a corner of Nore Barn Wood Emsworth on 22nd.

A **ring ouzel** was present on the south side of the fort on Old Winchester Hill from 17th to 21st at least.

Yellowhammers and **linnets** have been seen in a hedge bordering fields east of Irongate cottages Stansted.

Butterflies

A pearly underwing moth was trapped in a Portchester moth trap on 21st.

Plants

Petty spurge is growing on the banks on east side of the A3 where it climbs Portsdown. In the woods at Hookheath Copses **ransoms** is beginning to flower and **wood anemone** is showing well.

Yellow archangel is in flower in the Queen Elizabeth Country Park and **crosswort** on Portsdown.

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

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