



*S. E. Hampshire*

# Nature Notes

Week ending November 8<sup>th</sup> 2020

## BIRDS

Two **barnacle geese** were among the Canadians in the Farlington Marshes hay field on 8<sup>th</sup>.

There were 2 **Egyptian geese** on the main marsh close to the Farlington point field (the area they favoured last winter) on 3<sup>rd</sup>. On 6<sup>th</sup> 7 flew in from the east and settled on the marsh.

A flock of 28 **eider** was off Hill Head on 4<sup>th</sup>.

A female **goosander** flew onto the north scrape at Titchfield Haven and hauled out on an island to roost on 4<sup>th</sup>. Next day there were 2 at the oyster beds and one at Hill Head.

On 8<sup>th</sup> there was a **red-throated diver** and 3 **great northern** off Hill Head and 2 great northern off Gunner Point Hayling Island.

There was also a **shag** just outside the Langstone Harbour entrance at midday on 8<sup>th</sup>.

There was a **cattle egret** among the Canadian geese and later the cattle on Farlington Marshes on 6<sup>th</sup>.

A **Slavonian grebe** was off Budds farm in Langstone Harbour on 7<sup>th</sup>.

Four **black-necked grebes** were seen looking north from West Lane corner on the Hayling Billy Line on 4<sup>th</sup>. Eight were in a tight bunch in the same area between 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. One was fishing on a rising tide close to a road bridge at south Hayling on 6<sup>th</sup>.

A **marsh harrier** flew over the deeps at Farlington p.m. on 5<sup>th</sup> and a juvenile **hen harrier** over the Sandy Point reserve on 7<sup>th</sup>.

Two **water rails** were heard by the Farlington Marshes hut on 8<sup>th</sup>.

There were 21 **avocets** on the lake at Farlington on 5<sup>th</sup> and 27 on 7<sup>th</sup>; and 4 **greenshanks** on 6<sup>th</sup>.

There were 9 **purple sandpipers** at Southsea Castle on 8<sup>th</sup>.

Over 100 **turnstones** were roosting on the broken Mulberry Harbour in Langstone Harbour on 4<sup>th</sup>.

There were at least 13 **snipe** on the south scrape at Titchfield Haven on 4<sup>th</sup> and a dozen were at the back of the lake at Farlington on 5<sup>th</sup>.

A **woodcock** flew across the road at Old Winchester Hill at dusk on 5<sup>th</sup>.

A **Sandwich tern** rested on a buoy off the Inn on the Beach in Hayling Bay on 4<sup>th</sup>.

A juvenile **yellow-legged gull** was on the Bridge Street floods by the Titchfield canal path on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Six **stock doves** were on Old Winchester Hill on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Kingfishers** were seen this week at Emsworth Marina, Thorney Deeps, Farlington and Titchfield Haven. Three were seen together from the carpark by the Broadmarsh slipway on 6<sup>th</sup>.

Two **short-eared owls** hunted over the main marsh and point field at Farlington on 3<sup>rd</sup> and over the reeds of the lake on 4<sup>th</sup>. On 7<sup>th</sup> one scattered the waders on the lake before flying north over Portsdown,

A **merlin** was in the field between West Lane Hayling and the Billy Trail till 16.30 on 6<sup>th</sup>.

A male **peregrine** watched a female eat a pigeon on St Jude's church spire in Southsea on 2<sup>nd</sup>. One was on South Binness Island in Langstone Harbour on 5<sup>th</sup> and one was seen from Farlington Marshes on 6<sup>th</sup>.

At least 4 **ravens** were at Old Winchester Hill on 5<sup>th</sup>. Six **bearded tits** were in the reeds on the main lake at Farlington on 5<sup>th</sup>.

A **swallow** was flying around the Household waste tip at Waterlooville on 6<sup>th</sup> and one was over Sandy Point on 7<sup>th</sup>. A **sand martin** was over the chalets at Hill Head on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Skylarks** were singing well on Portsdown on 4<sup>th</sup> and 20 were counted on Old Winchester Hill on 5<sup>th</sup>.

A hundred **fieldfares** and 20 **redwings** were on Old Winchester Hill on 5<sup>th</sup>.

Late **wheatears** were seen by the deeps at Farlington on 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>.

A **yellow-browed warbler** was heard calling on the Titchfield canal path by the Posbrook Floods on 2<sup>nd</sup> and a **firecrest** was in the bushes round the Hill Head sailing club carpark on 8<sup>th</sup>.

Twenty **common crossbills** were seen in Queen Elizabeth Country Park on 4<sup>th</sup>.

## BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies seen in Queen Elizabeth CP on 4<sup>th</sup> included a **peacock** and a **small tortoiseshell**.

A **clouded yellow** was at the oyster beds on 7<sup>th</sup> and a yellow butterfly seen on Portsdown on 4<sup>th</sup> was probably the same species.

## OTHER WILDLIFE

Around 30 **giant funnel fungi** (*Leucopaxillus giganteus*) were seen at Denmead on 5<sup>th</sup>.

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