

## Keyhaven Marshes - Saturday, October 25th 2025

46 with Andrew Peel leading. 84 bird species + Grey Seal

Start: 11:15 End: 15:30 Weather notes: Cold but mostly dry.

Andrew Peel reports:

46 people embarked on a cold / mild but mostly dry day. A day of flocks, peaceful ones and an agitated one. On the first roadside pool there were 3 Greenshank, a Little Egret, and a Black-tailed Godwit. The tide was high with numbers of Pipits mostly Meadow, on the shingle sea edge, with the odd Rock amongst them. Golden Plovers stood on the water's edge with some Curlew: we were to see flocks of hundreds of 'goldies' flying around all day. At Fishtail lagoon we saw Sparrowhawk and Hobby hunting, and a falcon on the ground we finally ID as a Merlin. Numbers of Canada Geese and a few Greylags, with Teal, Wigeon, Pintail, Lapwing, Redshank, Black-tailed Godwit, incoming Dunlin flocks, and Knot retreating from the high tide.

Suddenly a mega flock of everybird erupted into the sky in a mass panic in response to an incoming behemoth\*: a juvenile White-tailed Eagle, which attacked and fatally wounded a Canada Goose, then sat on the ground nearby, before flying around again. Other flocks included Pied Wagtails on the shore - including some White - more pipits, Linnets, and Turnstones. Other birds seen included Greenshank, Grey Plover, Oystercatcher, Eider, Brent Geese, Skylark, Stonechat, and a Grey seal. A total of 84 bird species.

\*behemoth - Marion had to look this up! = a monstrous creature from the Bible Job 40:15.

Other comments received:

"After a stunning day yesterday, I have booked for the Reculver trip",

"Thanks for yesterday - it was great."

And a new member wrote: "My membership has already been more than worth every penny, having seen an incredible eagle 🦅 in action. Unforgettable!"



David Allen



Diane Dalli

I will try to find an alternative way to access photos but in the meantime you can view the Album on FB:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set?set=oa.799072499488465&type=3>

Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla*)  
Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)  
Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*)  
Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*)  
Egyptian Goose (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*)  
Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)  
Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*)  
Gadwall (*Mareca strepera*)  
Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*)  
Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)  
Pintail (*Anas acuta*)  
Teal (*Anas crecca*)  
Pochard (*Aythya ferina*)  
Eider (*Somateria mollissima*)  
Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)  
Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia f. domestica*)  
Woodpigeon (*Columba palumbus*)  
Collared Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)  
Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)  
Coot (*Fulica atra*)  
Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)  
Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*)  
Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*)  
Grey Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)  
Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*)  
Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*)  
Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)  
Curlew (*Numenius arquata*)  
Bar-tailed Godwit (*Limosa lapponica*)  
Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*)  
Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*)  
Green Sandpiper (*Tringa ochropus*)  
Redshank (*Tringa totanus*)  
Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)  
Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)  
Knot (*Calidris canutus*)  
Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*)  
Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*)  
Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*)  
Mediterranean Gull (*Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus*)  
Common Gull (*Larus canus*)  
Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*)  
Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)  
Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)  
Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)  
Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)  
Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*)  
Sparrowhawk (*Accipiter nisus*) 1  
Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*)  
Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*)

White-tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*) 1 juv  
witnessed attacking a Canada Goose  
Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*)  
Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)  
Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*)  
Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*) H  
Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)  
Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) 1 At Fishtail lagoon, a  
falcon on the ground finally ID as a Merlin.  
Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*) 1 at Fishtail lagoon  
Jay (*Garrulus glandarius*)  
Magpie (*Pica pica*)  
Jackdaw (*Coloeus monedula*)  
Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*)  
Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*)  
Blue Tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*)  
Great Tit (*Parus major*)  
Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)  
Cetti's Warbler (*Cettia cetti*) H  
Long-tailed Tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*)  
Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*)  
Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)  
Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)  
Blackbird (*Turdus merula*)  
Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)  
Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*)  
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)  
Dunnock (*Prunella modularis*)  
Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)  
Pied/White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*)  
Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*)  
Rock Pipit (*Anthus petrosus*)  
Chaffinch (*Fringilla coelebs*)  
Linnet (*Linaria cannabina*)  
Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)  
Reed Bunting (*Emberiza schoeniclus*)

And a Grey Seal (*Halichoerus grypus*)

