



RINGWOOD NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Birds at Portland and Lodmoor Field Study

Date: 4th November 2021
 Weather: Sunny
 Walk Leader: Pete Wellstead
 Attendees: 12

Portland Bill is a narrow promontory (or bill) at the southern end of the Isle of Portland and the southernmost point of Dorset. Jutting out 6 miles into the English Channel, Portland is ideally placed to receive migrants in the spring and autumn. Portland's coast has been notorious for the number of shipwrecked vessels over the centuries. The dangerous coastline features shallow reefs and the Shambles sandbank, made more hazardous due to the strong Portland tidal race. The Bill is an important way-point for coastal traffic, and three lighthouses have been built to protect shipping. The original two worked as a pair from 1716, the lower lighthouse was demolished and rebuilt in 1844, it became a bird observatory in 1961. They were replaced in 1906 by the current one. [

RSPB Reserve at Lodmoor is a SSSI and a quiet haven for wildlife in Weymouth. Lodmoor is 1.6 kilometers (1 mile) east of Weymouth, near the suburb of Preston. The site is accessible via three trails and is separated from Weymouth Bay by Greenhill beach and the B3155 road. The construction of a sea wall in the twentieth century has prevented regular tidal incursions, although freshwater flooding is still an occurrence, especially in winter. The combination of a large reedbed, open water, saltmarsh, wet grassland and bushes attract a variety of different birds.

Overall at total of 58 different bird species were seen over both sites. At least 10 Red Admirals were seen including 7 feeding on one patch of Ivy flowers.

Birds at Portland	Birds at Lodmoor	Flowering Plants	Insects
Gannet	Canada Goose	Golden Samphire	Red Admiral Butterfly
Shag	Mute Swan	Sea Mayweed	Common Darter Dragonfly
Cormorant	Shelduck	Bristly Oxtongue	Ivy Mining Bee
Sparrowhawk	Shoveler	Greater Plantain	
Hen Harrier	Gadwall	Thrift	Fungi
Oystercatcher	Mallard	Daisy	Common Puffball
Black-headed Gull	Teal	Red Clover	Red Cracking Bolete
Great Black-backed Gull	Little Grebe	Hedge Bindweed	
Herring Gull	Grey Heron	Wild Teasel	
Guillemot	Great White Egret	Common Michaelmas Daisy	
Stock Dove	Little Egret	Hogweed	
Wood Pigeon	Cormorant	Yarrow	
Kestrel	Marsh Harrier	Herb Robert	
Peregrine	Moorhen	Dandelion	
Magpie	Coot	Ivy	
Jackdaw	Lapwing	Fruits	
Carrion Crow	Black-tailed Godwit	Rose Hips	
Raven	Dunlin	Haws	

Blue Tit	Snipe		
Chiffchaff	Black-headed Gull		
Starling	Mediterranean Gull		
Blackbird	Common Gull		
Fieldfare	Great Black-backed Gull		
Redwing	Herring Gull		
Song Thrush	Wood Pigeon		
Robin	Kestrel		
Black Redstart	Magpie		
Wheatear	Jackdaw		
House Sparrow	Carrion Crow		
Dunnock	Blue Tit		
Pied Wagtail	Starling		
Meadow Pipit	Blackbird		
Pock Pipit	Robin		
Chaffinch	House Sparrow		
Linnet	Pied Wagtail		
Goldfinch			
Little Owl			
Total of 37 species	Total of 35 species		



Red Admiral Butterfly at Portland by Martin King