

## Newsletter 25

The twenty fifth meeting of the ILBs' was held on 19 March 2019 at Belfairs Woodland Centre. There were 14 attendees plus one new lady and Kris

### Indoor Meeting 06/02/2019: -

Jonathan Forgham gave a very interesting and easily heard talk about the Birds of the Hel peninsula in N Poland. He also told about a charity he started to provide a tuk tuk for a family he befriended in Sri Lanka.

### Indoor Meeting 06/03/2019: - *Thanks to Rita Merrick*

An Icelandic Saga by Brian Gallop This was an interesting talk about the history, geology, volcanology and wild-life of Iceland. A surprising variety of plants which, mostly, have a stunted growth. Orchids, lupins, saxifrage and a very old tiny polar willow. Vast sculptures made of lava from the volcanic activity, a glimpse of the tectonic action of the earth's plates, very hot and cold springs often next to each other, glaciers - some black from the ash and very high, sheer cliffs.

Bird-life include puffins, fulmars, terns, eider, grebes, whooper swans, ptarmigan, harlequin duck, great northern diver, snow and Lapland bunting, plovers. Many of these in breeding plumage including the female red-necked phalarope. A pochard is a rarity on Iceland! You can't have them all.

### Local Sightings: - *Thanks to Anne Sanford*

Wallasea – Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, Corn Bunting, Linnet, Lapwing, Oystercatcher. Near Shoebury East Beach – Hummingbird Hawk Moth. Southend, Prittle Brook - 2 Grey Wagtails. Daws Heath – Red Kite  
Rayleigh – Female Blackcap. Fobbing/Coryton – Yellowhammer, Green Sandpiper, Redwing, Teal.

Diana Place - Cuba – Cuban Woodpecker, Catbird, Emerald Hummingbird

Sue Snowdon – Two Tree – Eider, Holly Blue, Diana Smith – Stonechat, Sandra – Front Garden - Kestrel with Collared Dove

Sue Stacey – Southend – Sparrowhawk with Collared Dove, Margaret Fisk – Frog spawn in pond.

Field Trips – 20/2/2019 - West Canvey Marsh 18 members plus one ILB attended and 44 species were seen including Water Pipit and Redwing. Cettis Warbler was heard.

5/3/2019 - South Fambridge *Thanks to Anne Sanford*

There were ten members including one ILB and the weather was sunny and a bit cold but when there was no wind it was beautiful. 38 species were seen.

13/3/2019 - Warley Place Eight members including one ILB attended. Species seen included Nuthatch, Coal Tit and Long Tailed Tit.

24/3/2019 - Hanningfield Reservoir 28 people attended including seven ILB. 44 species were seen including 2 Goldcrest, 2 Treecreeper, female Goosander, Brimstone and a Muntjac Fawn.

### Forthcoming Events: -

The next indoor meeting will be Wednesday 1 May 2019 at the Belfairs Woodland Centre. Point Pelee and Northern Michigan by Neil Coe

The next field trip Sunday 14 April at Wakering Stairs. Meet at 10:00am

Or Tuesday 30 April at Hadleigh Country Park. Meet at 9:00am

Or Wednesday 8 May at Edwards Hall Country Park. Meet at 10:00am

Next Coach Trip – Sunday 12 May – Minsmere Phone Cath 01702 293357 to book a place, then send a cheque to Cath or pay at the May Indoor Mtg to secure seat.

The next Essex Wildlife Trust meeting will be September 2019

Any lady requiring transport to attend any event please contact Kris Mee.

The **next ILB meeting** is scheduled for **16 April 2019** at the 34 Park View Drive Leigh on Sea SS9 4TU at 10:30am

From the Woodland Centre turn left into Eastwood Road North, at the traffic lights turn left into the Fairway. Take first left into Woodside. Park View Drive is third on the right but just past on the left is a parking place and entry into Belfairs woods. Meet here at 10:00 am for a walk in the woods.

From the A127 filter right at Progress Road into the Fairway, take 2nd turning on the right into Belfairs Park Drive, take first left into Orsett Avenue and then first right into Park View Drive. 34 is on the left. To join the walk, drive to the top of Park View Drive and then turn right and park in the first road on the left at the entrance to the woods.

The bus stops at St Aidans Church in the Fairway, take either Thorndon Park Drive or Belfairs Park Drive and then turn into Orsett Avenue and then up Park View Drive where 34 is on the left.

I have asked Graham to stand by with the car to pick up any one who gets lost or goes to the woodland Centre by mistake.

This newsletter will be available on the local group website at: <http://www.southendrspb.co.uk> . Click on ILBs on the Menu Bar.

If you no longer wish to hear from the RSPB South East Essex Local Group, please contact **Kris Mee 01702 525152 [krismee28@googlemail.com](mailto:krismee28@googlemail.com)** confirming your name and address and stating that you wish to unsubscribe from the RSPB South East Essex Local Group's communications.