

Newsletter 33

The thirty third meeting of the ILBs' was held on 19 November 2019 at Belfairs Woodland Centre and 7 ladies and Kris Mee attended.

Indoor Meeting 6/11/2019: - Thanks to Rita Merrick.

Graham Ekins took us on a speedy trip around New Zealand, introducing hundreds of species, of which a vast number are endemic to (found only in) this country. Graham is very knowledgeable on many aspects of wildlife. There were 61 attendees at the meeting this month including 12 ILBs, 5 visitors, 6 new members.

Local Sightings: - Thanks to Anne Sanford.

Fobbing Marsh/Coryton – Gold crest, Yellowhammer.

Foulness – Short Eared Owl. Canvey Point – Eider, Common Scoter, Purple Sandpiper, Red-breasted Merganser.

Wallasea – Hen Harrier, Great White Egret, Short Eared Owl.

Margaret F. – Abberton Causeway – Smew, Goosander, Long-tailed Duck

Val – Westcliff High School now have a Bird club and Vince Kinsler is doing talks for them.

Sandra has just come back from 2 weeks in Chile where she saw Magellanic Penguins in their nesting burrows and heard the males braying, Condor and grey male and brown female Upland Geese, also had close encounters with sea lions, which look like seals but with ears. She picnicked beside a lake 8000ft up in the Andes with 1000's of flamingos.

There were about 10,000 Brent Geese this year in the Thames Estuary, between 4000 and 6000 at Leigh

Walks Report

West Canvey Marsh Sunday 10 November - 15 attended and 30 species were seen.

EWT Ingrebourne Monday 18 November – 21 attended and 54 species were seen.

Graham, Kris and David went to Rainham and saw Cettis warbler, 5 Pintail drakes with females, 7 snipe and Marsh Harrier. As we were leaving, we also saw a large black raptor which may have been a Raven.

Forthcoming Events: -

The Christmas meal will be Tuesday 10 December 2019 12:00pm at The Royal Oak.

The next Coach Trip will be to Minsmere on 10 May 2020

The next ILB outing to be arranged will be to Fingringhoe on Sunday 17 May 2020.

Maureen Beesley will be arranging this trip and will provide details later.

Angela and Lynn are safely back from their trip to Costa Rica, where they had a wonderful and memorable time. The list of birds is extensive plus howler monkeys and best of all watching turtles hatch on the beach and make their way to the sea.



Quetzal taken through telescope.



Baby turtle just hatched on way to sea Photos taken by Lynn Morris on her mobile phone

The next indoor mtg will be Wednesday 4 December 2019 at the Belfairs Woodland Centre. Birds - Their hidden World by Peter Holden.

The next Field Trip will be Sunday 8 December Edwards Hall meet 10:00am in the car park.

And Wednesday 18 November at Barton Hall Creek Meet at 10:00am opposite the Trout Fishery

The next Essex Wildlife Trust mtg will be Thursday 28 November 7:45pm. Bats of Essex by Peter Craughton of Essex Bat Grp.

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

The **next ILB meeting** will be **21 January 2020** at Belfairs Woodland Ctr. Meet at 10.00am for a walk or 10:30 for a coffee and chat.

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** confirming your name and address and stating that you wish to unsubscribe from the RSPB South East Essex Local Group's communications.