

## Gibraltar Point – 15 December 2024

Our final field trip of the year was to Gibraltar Point which is managed by the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. The reserve consists of two ridges, the East and West Dunes, which run roughly parallel to the sea. Between these dunes there are areas of fresh and saltmarsh. Also there are four artificial pools with hides and an excellent Visitor Centre and café.

We left the car park and headed for The Plantation where we saw a Robin, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Blackbird and Wren. The Blue Tit was the only bird at the feeding station so we moved on to Jackson Marsh where there is an hide. On the water there were Mallards, Teals, Wigeons, Gadwalls, Shovelers, Black-tailed Godwits and three Little Grebes and the small island contained Lapwings and a Curlew. The surrounding fields were also attracting Lapwings and Curlews and in the distance there was a large mixed flock of Greylag Geese, Pink-footed Geese and Canada Geese.

Next we went to Tennyson's Sand where there are three hides and we spotted Mute Swans, Tufted Ducks, a Pintail, Cormorant, Carrion Crows, Jackdaws, Magpies, Starlings and Pheasants. A female Marsh Harrier also flew over the water and was soon being mobbed by the crows. We then crossed the road to The Mere and Fenland Lagoon. We again saw a Little Grebe and while returning to the car park we spotted a Little Egret, Great White Egret and Meadow Pipit. Also a Great-spotted Woodpecker was seen flying over the car park.



Little Grebe, Gibraltar Point

After lunch we made our way to the Wash Viewpoint and we found Shelducks, Herring Gulls, Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Black-headed Gulls. From here we went to the East Dunes and on the Old Saltmarsh there was a small flock of Brent Geese. At the viewing point on the East Dunes we saw Redshanks, Turnstones, Dunlins and Oystercatchers.

Other birds seen were a Sparrowhawk and Hen Harrier which brought our total for the day to 43.

*Ray Daniels  
Lincoln RSPB Local Group.*