

Spurn Nature Reserve – 18 August 2024

Our field trip in August was to Spurn Nature Reserve, which is owned by the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. There were 34 of us on the trip and when we arrived it was cloudy with a brisk wind. On our way to the Visitor Centre we saw a Sparrowhawk, Swallows, House Martins and Woodpigeons and there were House Sparrows near the Centre. A small group set off along the Canal Path where many waders were visible on the Kilnsea Clays. These included Redshanks, Curlews, Avocets, Ringed Plovers, Golden Plovers, Oystercatchers, Dunlins, Sanderlings, Lapwings, Bar-tailed Godwits, Grey Plovers and a Whimbrel. We also spotted Starlings, Little Egrets, Shelducks, Black-headed Gulls and Herring Gulls. We returned to the Centre along the main road and we added Carrion Crow, Blackbird, Magpie, Blue Tit, Great Tit and Goldfinch to our list.

After lunch we walked along the northern side of the spit to the Sea Watch Hide. Along the way we saw Linnets and over the sea there were Cormorants, Common Terns, Sandwich Terns, Lesser Black-backed gulls, a Great Black-backed Gull, Gannet and Common Scoter. We had a brief look at the Canal Scrape but the only birds we found were a Coot, Moorhen, Little Grebe, Mallard, two Little Egrets and a Kestrel.

Some of the group went along Beacon Lane to Beacon Ponds and Easington Lagoons and they saw a few different birds. Additional waders were a Curlew Sandpiper, Greenshank, Knot, Common Snipe, Little Ringed Plovers, Black-tailed Godwits and Turnstones. They also spotted Mute Swans, Wigeons, Shovelers, Gadwalls, a Common Gull, Mediterranean Gull and a rare Caspian Gull. Other birds included Swifts, Sand Martins, a Common Whitethroat, Wren, Reed Warbler, Stock Dove, Pied Wagtail, Pheasant and Little Owl. This brought our total bird species seen to 66.

We also spotted a Seal and Common Blue, Gatekeeper and Speckled Wood Butterflies.



Linnets, Spurn Nature Reserve

Ray Daniels
RSPB Lincoln Local Group