

Tuesday - 13th November 2018, “Guided Birdwatching Walk” with Colin Randall

Fourteen of us joined Colin on a glorious day. Apparently not the best day for spotting birds – a stormy day would have brought some interesting seabirds nearer the coast. However, we did see about 25 different species, and heard 2 more.



After a look at the birds on the estuary from the shingle bank, we made our way along the path up the “Little Otter” due to the path up the River Otter being closed following the embankment collapse. Here we heard the loud song of the Cetti's Warbler. We may have seen it briefly, but as it fairly nondescript in appearance, we couldn't be sure. A little later along the path we heard the sound of a squealing pig – and this, Colin told us, was a Water Rail. This shy bird is hard to see as it likes hiding in the reeds. My bird book suggests imitating its call and see if it ventures out to investigate!



Redshank

We made our way down the Otter to the bird hide, and enjoyed the sight of teal and widgeon in the water-filled “scrapes” in the field opposite.

Teal



Birds we spotted included:

- Teal
- Widgeon
- Little Grebe
- Redshank
- Little Egret
- Grey Heron
- Crow
- Blackbird
- Robin
- Mute Swan
- Canada Goose
- Curlew
- Lapwing
- Herring Gull
- Black-headed Gull
- Greater Black Back Gull
- Rock Pipit
- Pied Wagtail
- Magpie
- Duncock
- House Sparrow
- Goldfinch
- Wood pigeon
- Moorhen

Thank you Colin for a most enjoyable and informative morning.

Penny Kurowski