

The Hullbridge U3A Bird Watching Group Monthly Report by Roy Simmons



(Photos by Pam Simmons)



The March meeting was on the 26th March 2025, meeting in the Car Park at the Blue House Farm EWT Reserve. We moved off just after 10:00 hrs. We have been to this site several times before. However our visit last autumn was diverted when we had to do the river walk as the reserve was closed. This time we had full access. The reserve has been re-designed and what was plain grassland has had several

“Scrapes” dug and flooded. This has resulted in these areas having flocks of water fowl, Brent, Canada, and Greylag Geese, Shelduck, Teal, and Mallard. With Skylarks singing overhead and the occasional Reed Bunting in the Rushes, the walk to the first hide was a pleasure. The First Hide Scrape was flooded with the largest number of waterfowl I have seen there (over ten years). There were Teal, Avocet, Shelducks, Widgeon, Shoveler, and all the Geese Species were present.

At this point some of the group continued the walk to the other hides while the rest took a slow walk back to the car park. We all agreed that this visit was a great success and should be repeated.

I will not be available for the next meeting on 23rd April, but there will be a meeting.

The group will meet in the Wat Tyler RSPB Reserve Visitor's Centre moving off at 10:00. We have been there before and the paths are good. There are all the necessary facilities and a café.

Location:- Wat Tyler Centre, Pitsea Hall Lane, Pitsea, Basildon SS16 4UH

Please note that Phil Perry has created a superb new “U3A Hullbridge” Web Site.
For the Group Monthly Report go to this Web Site which can be reached using this
link:- <https://hullbridge.u3asite.uk/>