

HUSH! NEWS

The newsletter for NDA's Hard of Hearing Club
Issue 37 - November 2017



As I am sitting on the coach on our way back to the NDA, I thought I would write about the experience I have shared today with 10 members of the HUSH Club.

We visited Royal Society for the Protection of Birds' (RSPB) Titchwell Marsh and we've had a wonderful time.

The marsh has a sandy, lovely beach. salt marshes and quiet places.

It is somewhere to mentally and physically feel well, happy, peaceful and relaxed.

Ten of our members and myself visited had a cloudy journey to Titchwell Marsh and a sunny journey back to the NDA.

Gary, our driver, has a Profoundly Deaf daughter so he was the perfect person to take us there on one of the Smith's coaches.

We were welcomed at the Marsh by Paul who works for the RSPB and he showed us a big map of the reserve and gave us plenty of choices of things to go and see. He radioed the two RSPB wardens in attendance and they were ready for us in the hides. It was mentioned by one of our number that Paul was a great lip-speaker and he made the information very clear for us. Some of us went to the first hide and some of us walked to the beach.





There were plenty of places to relax for lunch for those that brought a picnic with them while, for others among us, the Feeding Station café, who had taken our orders from me while we were travelling to the reserve, had our food prepared and ready for us to eat at 1 O'clock. The scones and cakes were lovely too.

Time flew (no pun intended) as we had the rest of the afternoon to wander around other areas of the Reserve that we hadn't visited in the morning.

The main highlight experience of the day for some of us was that saw a rare Pectoral Sandpiper, of which there are only two in the country. We wondered where the other one might have been hiding! We also saw a variety of other bird-life during our visit and between us on the coach we created a very long list of birds, are you ready?

- Avocets
- Blacktail Godwits
- Green Plovers
- Ruffs
- Water Rail
- Snipe
- Mediterranean Gull
- Green Sandpiper
- Golden Plover
- Lapwing
- Curlew
- Sandpiper,
- Marsh Harrier
- Dunlin
- Oyster Catchers.

And many others.

I asked everyone for some comments about their day:

"We loved the Spoonbills, the beach was fabulous. You didn't need to be a bird lover to enjoy the day."

"Seeing the rare Sandpiper was one of the best parts of the day."

"Oh yes and I saw the Common Pigeon! It's still a bird."

"There were some very bright red and black caterpillars and they even had a sign 'beware of very small frogs crossing' and there they were!"

"When you went to the beach and you'd seen the sky it was amazing."

"It was lovely to see the Lapwing and its crescent on its crest!"

"There were many birdwatchers with special equipment and clothed for the job it was fascinating to see them."

"One of the highlights was walking in the open air."

"There were hundreds of ox birds that feed on the shallows and the beach like cattle."

"The beach, the sand, the sea, the waves, could easily be a painting."

"Someone even saw a Swan; 'Go-on it's a big white bird!'"

"...and a baby seagull even shared our picnic."

Next HUSH! Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 26th September, 2pm-4pm, when we will have a Quirky Quiz set by our own resident quiz master, Robert Lamacraft.