

Newsletter 17

The seventeenth meeting of the I.L.B's was held on 17 July 2018 at Wat Tyler and 11 ladies plus Kris Mee attended. Rita Merrick lead a walk in the Country Park and through the RSPB garden, followed by coffee in the RSPB Discovery Centre generously supplied by Rita. Martin Payne, RSPB South Essex Visitors Experience Officer, then gave an interesting update about the South Essex Reserves.

Local Sightings :- 6 July, 12 July at Rainham Marshes - Juvenile Spoonbill,
6 July Foulness - Turtle Dove, 9 July in Hockley - Coal Tit, 4 July Purdeys, 5 July, 14 July in Rayleigh - Bullfinch,
11 July near Southend Airport - Black Redstart, 8 July Ashingdon, 17 July West Bergholt – Red Kite
6 July Foulness, 14 July Ashingdon & Westcliff - Hummingbird Hawk moth,
13 July Ashingdon, 14 July Rayleigh & Ashingdon - Silver-washed Fritillary.
There have been 23 Common Seal pups born and counted on the River Roach since the end of June this year.



Common Seals & pups.
River Roach.
17th July 2018.
Photo by Graham Mee.

There were not enough people wishing to go to Rutland to hire a mini bus so the ladies who wish to go will be slotted into Local Group members cars instead.

It has been decided that the trip to Southwold should take place in September, instead of August, after the children have gone back to school and the town is less crowded. More information on this to follow.

Next season's Local Group Event Leaflet and Newsletter are now at the printers and will be sent out to everyone along with a membership renewal form before September. To comply with the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) which came into effect 25 May this year, any lady who does not renew membership to the Local Group will no longer receive I.L.B newsletters after September 2018.

The Local Group coach trip to Minsmere in May next year will, sadly, be the last unless a new organiser volunteers but it is hoped to arrange an I.L.B mini bus for the field trip to Dungeness in October 2018. More information to follow.



Silver-washed Fritillary.
Wat Tyler Country Park.
12th July 2018.
Photo by David Lee.

Forthcoming Events:-

Tuesday 21 August I.L.B. meeting at Two Tree Island. Sunday 29 July field trip to Rutland, via nearby Barnsdale Gardens.

Friday 7 September I.L.B visit to Southwold.

The next indoor meeting will be Wednesday 5 September at the Belfairs Woodland Centre.

The next Essex Wildlife Trust meeting will not be until October 2018.

Any lady requiring transport to attend Indoor meetings or to go on any field trip please contact Kris Mee.

The **next ILB meeting** is scheduled for **21 August 2018** and it was decided that we would meet at Two Tree Island in the car park at the far end of the road at 10:00am for a walk followed by coffee in the Golf Driving Range Cafe.

This newsletter will be available on the local group website at :-<http://www.southendrspb.co.uk> . Click on ILBs on the Menu Bar.

If you no longer wish to hear from the RSPB South East Essex Local Group, please contact **Kris Mee 01702 525152 krismee28@googlemail.com** confirming your name and address and stating that you wish to unsubscribe from the RSPB South East Essex Local Group's communications.