



Deeside Naturalist Reserve, Connah's Quay, 22 October 2013

Twelve members from the Society visited the reserve, meeting at 10 am. With a speed restriction of 5 mph. on all reserve roads it enabled us to watch over the fields as we travelled to the west hide. Waders feeding over the sand banks were too far away for identification, more interest in the wetland meadow at the back of the hide with distant views of the Peregrine perched on a pylon and a small party of mixed Linnets and Twite. Moving on towards the field study centre we stopped at the two hides overlooking the bunded pools. Here a good number of Redshank and Black-tailed Godwits were seen with a single Greenshank. On arriving at the centre we used the viewing screen adjacent to the building, two of us briefly watched 3 Eider ducks (1 male and 2 females) drop into a pool only to take off again and fly down the River Dee. After lunch we returned to the west hide to watch the high-water wader roost gather. Large numbers of Oystercatchers with Curlew, Black-tailed Godwits, Redshank and Dunlin. A total of 34 species recorded during the visit.

Andy Ankers

Connah's Quay, Tuesday, 13th October 2015

Thirteen members gathered at the Power Station gate at 10.00 a.m. for a visit arranged by Andy Ankers, a member of the Deeside Naturalists. The weather was bright but with a cold wind.

The elevated two storey hide at the end of the reserve gave excellent views as the incoming tide pushed the waders and duck closer, including Shelduck, Bar-tailed Godwit, Redshank, Oystercatcher, Curlew, Heron and Little Egret.

As high tide approached, we moved to the visitor centre, via several small hides giving excellent views of Greenshank with the Redshanks. The Centre was closed but we had excellent views of a Kingfisher perched at the edge of a fresh water pool in front of the viewing screens.

A 'non-birding' event was a large barge taking parts of the A380 Airbus to the upriver factory.

After lunch, 9 members moved on to BMW RSPB Reserve. Here we added Snipe, Marsh Harrier, Golden Plover and Pink Foot Geese (the first of the Autumn). We also had a Water Rail from the visitors centre with a second Kingfisher of the day, giving a total of 46 species.

Harold Fielding