



Fylde Coast and Marton Mere, 21st February 2016

Six members turned up at Rossall Point to what we thought would be a very wet and windy day. Although windy we had no rain. On the spit here we found 200+ Sanderlings and 50+ Ringed Plovers with a flock of Linnets and Greenfinches on the grass nearby. A Skylark sang on the golf course. The staff at the observation building opened an hour early specially for us maybe feeling sorry for us.

Then on to Marton Mere where we found two Long-eared Owls. We walked around the mere and eventually had excellent views of an adult Iceland Gull bathing after spending the day on the tip. From the same hide a Goldcrest flitted around the entrance where we also heard a Cetti's warbler singing and a brief moment of a Bittern booming. Apparently, there are two wintering. Ducks on the mere included Shovelers and Goldeneyes with a lone Great Crested Grebe.

The feeding station here had good numbers of Long-tailed Tits, Great Tits, Blue Tits, Coal Tits and a Pheasant.

Paul Kenyon