



### **Red Rocks Nature Reserve, Hoylake/ Leasowe lighthouse, 1st May 2018**

This was a delayed walk and we hit on a lovely sunny but windy day to Red Rocks on the Wirral which we hadn't visited for a long time. Richard surprised us all by getting a sighting of an Osprey on passage earlier that day! Plenty of migrants in the bushes and reeds singing away and we had a very pleasant circular walk round the reserve. Great views of a female Kestrel hovering above us. The tide had just about come in when we returned to Hilbre point but no waders to be seen anywhere!! So, we decamped to Leasowe Lighthouse for our picnic and were told of sightings of a Wheatear in the horse paddocks. The group failed to get them, but star bird spotter award goes to Hilary and Norman who found it independently and also a Whinchat! The group got good views of a Whitethroat, Linnet and Chiffchaff on a circular walk by the hedgerows and finished back at the lighthouse before returning home. Richard went on to New Brighton with high hopes of Purple Sandpipers on the pontoon. A very pleasant outing. 25 species.

Stephen Williams