

Water's Edge Country Park Wild Things Visit November 2023

"Beats four walls," said Angela, as we set off in murky drizzle with low expectations. By the time we arrived the rain had stopped, and by our departure a spectacular sunset had begun. In between, nine of us had a lovely walk through woodland paths, by ponds fringed with rustling reedbeds, and a long look at the ever-stunning estuary. Plenty of ducks and Halloweenish fungi, an angelic cormorant, and afterwards, a warm-up at the good-value café with some fun purchases in the Visitor's Centre Gift Shop. Enjoy our photos of the day.



Left: A Cormorant dries its wings on top of one of the Visitor Centre's cameras.

Below: a female Tufted Duck and bottom: male and female, showing off their startling yellow eyes.



Below: A Mute Swan grooming and a view east from the foreshore.





Top: John and Nancy by the foreshore. Left: Margarita finds Candlesnuff fungi; right: Witch's Butter fungus.



Top: Looking across the reed beds,
Left: Dead Men's Fingers; Right: Jelly Ear fungus



Hopeful birds by the Visitors' Centre, signage and view from the reserve.



Clockwise: Brittle Cinder *Kretzschmaria deusta*; Honey fungus *Armillaria* sp.; Oysterling *Crepidotus* sp.; Glistening Inkcaps *Coprinellus micaceus*



Clockwise: Viper's Bugloss *Echium vulgare*; Spindle *Euonymus europeaus*; Guelder Rose *Viburnum opulus*

Below: Rat taking advantage of the bird feeders.

Report HK, photos Helen and Paul.

Bird list by John Kitson



Bird List

Wood pigeon

Mallard

Coot

Mute Swan

Rook

Greylag Goose

Tufted Duck

Black-headed Gull

Moorhen

Cormorant

Carrion Crow

Blackbird

Blue Tit

Magpie

Jackdaw

Shoveller

Gadwall

Great Tit

Robin