

Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust Reserve Cors Dyfi & Ynyslas Reserve
Leader Brayton Holt

We gathered at the MWT Cors Dyfi car park and set off along the 700 metre board-walk (made of recycled plastic) to the new Dyfi Osprey Project Observatory. This not only offers a wonderful view of the Osprey nest but also a full 360 degree panoramic view of the Dyfi Valley and, as the name implies, the surrounding bog habitat and hills beyond.

The botanical variety along the sides of the board-walk was interesting, with Bog Myrtle, Flag Iris, Tyfa, Fragmites and Ragged Robin all in flower. Typical nesting birds of this habitat are Sedge, Reed, Grasshopper and Willow Warblers, Whitethroats and Chiffchaffs and Reed Buntings were seen. Water Rails are sometimes seen, but not by us. Buzzards and Red Kites were often seen overhead, and wildfowl from the close River Dyfi flew by. We were able to see the Osprey chicks being fed.

Returning to the visitors' centre, we made the short journey to Ynyslas, a quite different habitat of dunes and mudflats of the Dyfi estuary and the sea shore of Cardigan Bay. The interesting visitor's centre was a source of information about this reserve.

We all spread out to pursue our individual interests. Birds seen within the dunes included Stonechats and Whinchats, Linnets, Meadow Pipits and Whitethroats. From the beach we saw Gannets, Shelducks, Cormorants, a flock of some 30 Common Scoters and out at sea some distant Manx Shearwaters. Ringed Plovers and Dunlins were seen at the tide line. Other wildlife observed included; Small Heath, Wall and Lesser Tortoiseshell butterflies and a millipede *Schizophyllum salulosum* which is found only on sandy places.

Tea was taken at the Wynnstay Hotel in Machynlleth.

Bird list at Cors Dyfi; Osprey, Whinchat, Blackcap, Wren, Jackdaw, Blackbird, Chiffchaff, Collared Dove, Dunnock, Sedge Warbler, Willow Warbler, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Chaffinch, Crow, Reed Bunting, Reed Warbler, Lesser Redpoll, Cuckoo, Buzzard, Shelduck, Magpie, Canada Goose, Herring Gull, Garden Warbler, Swallow, Tree Pipit, Red Kite, Jay, Coal Tit, Siskin, Robin and Wood Pigeon.

Bird list at Ynyslas: Whitethroat, House Martin, House Sparrow, Meadow Pipit, Crow, Magpie, Stonechat, Dunnock, Gannet, Cormorant, Shelduck, Herring Gull, Common Scoter, Ringed Plover, Dunlin, Manx Shearwater and Linnet.

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