

DUDNEY HIDE

ORNITHOLOGIST'S OASIS

Dudney Hide offers stunning views of our designated bird sanctuary. The sanctuary offers year round protection from fishing and disturbance to dozens of species of waterfowl. The diverse habitat structure, consisting of open and shallow water, reed beds, willow stands and seasonal mud flats, attracts an equally diverse range of species. The fish rich open waters provides the perfect hunting ground for species such as the great crested grebe and cormorant, whilst the shallow shoreline, rich with duck weed, provides ample food for grazers such as the coot, shelduck and tufted duck. Seasonal mudflats come to life with an array of waders including the greenshank, redshank, oyster catcher, sandpiper and little egret.



Above: Coot nesting in reed bed.

TURNING THE TIDE

Steps have been taken to establish a protective barrier of reed bed and willow stands along the bird sanctuary shoreline. It is hoped that the reed bed, in combination with the manmade reef, will act to dissipate wave energy during stormy weather delaying erosion of the shoreline. This natural barrier will also provide valuable habitat and nesting sites for sedge and reed warblers, coots and other reed-nesting waterfowl, in addition to invertebrates such as the black-tailed skimmer.

JOIN US

If you would like to get closer to wildlife in your local area please contact us at the office on 01480 811075 or email aidan.matthews@wildlifebcn.org Alternatively, you can visit the website www.wildlifebcn.org/membership.

WOODLAND WONDERS

Dudney trail winds its way along ancient hedgerows and coppiced woodland, which in the springtime comes alive with a colourful array of wildflowers including primrose, selfheal, bugle and bluebells. Remnant mature trees provide valuable roosting sites for resident bat species, such as the soprano pipistrelle and daubenton. The dense scrubby stands of blackthorn, dog rose and hawthorn provide ideal nesting sites for songbirds, such as the nightingale and song thrush.



Above: Bluebells are characteristic of ancient woodland. Below: Reed warbler (left) and black-tailed skimmer (right).

