



Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter - December 2020

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Lincs Big Bird Day - 1st January 2021

Following the success of the recent Global Bird Challenge an idea came to me about organising a Big Bird Day event in Lincs.

The aim of the Big Bird Day event would be to simply collectively record as many species as possible in Lincolnshire during a single day. The event will also help raise valuable awareness of the county's avian diversity. It would be great to have as many birders involved as possible on the day covering a wide range of different habitats and areas. This will help maximise the potential for a greater number of species to be recorded. It will be fascinating to see what total could be achieved collectively in the county during a single day. The event would be slightly different (and more relaxing!) to a bird race which typically requires lots of rushing around in order to achieve a good species count. Birders have the option of either sticking to their local patch or choosing an area in which to focus on.

In order to truly maximise the species count, the timing of year would need to be carefully planned. Ideally spring (May) or autumn (September or October) would yield the best results. However, before this is planned LBC suggested the idea of giving the event a trial run on New Year's Day. What better way to start the New Year and with it the start of the 2021 year list!

We've tried to keep this as simple as possible so there is no need to sign up in advance just produce your day list in accordance with the following rules

1. Only species seen or heard within the county boundary can be counted
2. Species can be counted and recorded any time between 00:00 - 23:59 on January 1st 2021
3. Observers can record independently or in groups
4. No use of tape luring allowed



Lincs Big Bird Day

1st January 2021

5. No stringing
6. Any Covid rules applying in the local area on the day to be respected.
7. All records/sightings to be submitted to Richard Doan in the format of excel spreadsheets produced from Birdtrack, ebird or some other format by 3rd January on rdoan@lincstrust.co.uk

Depending on the success of the day we could run events in spring and autumn as suggested above. Furthermore contact can be made to other neighbouring counties to take part in the event too.

Richard Doan

Joint LBC/BTO Conference Saturday 30th January 15.00 - 17.00

In order to provide a modicum of mid-winter cheer we have organised a first for you. A joint LBC/BTO conference via Zoom which will be chaired by Dawn Balmer of the BTO who will operate the technology. Registration details which will be handled by BTO will be announced soon and there will be a registration fee of £5. The programme is as follows.



1445 Join conference by logging into the Zoom account for which you will be sent a link

1500 Welcome – Phil Espin Chair LBC

1505 Black-tailed Godwits – Jenny Gill University of East Anglia

1535 Managing Frampton Marsh for passage and breeding waders – John Badley RSPB

1600 Comfort break

1610 How your birdwatching records are used in Europe – Dawn Balmer BTO

1635 Nocturnal bird migration – Simon Gillings BTO

1710 Close

There will be a facility for questioning the speakers and it should be an informative afternoon. I'd like to thank Chris Gunn BTO Lincs North Regional Representative and Dawn Balmer for coming up with the idea and putting it together. Assuming it goes well we may look to hold our 2021 AGM using this technology if the COVID restrictions persist through to the end of March 2021 as looks likely at the moment.

Phil Espin Chair LBC



Gibraltar Point NNR Shorebird Season 2020 Report to Lincolnshire Bird Club Report and photographs by Ben Ward

Night wardening was made possible this season by the generous donation of £1600 from the Lincolnshire Bird Club. The funds allowed us to recruit county birder and Reserve volunteer Rob Watson as Night Warden. Funding enabled coverage to extend up to four nights per week for five weeks during the most critical time, whilst Little Terns were at chick stage. The remaining three nights a week during the five-week period I covered in the capacity of Shorebird Warden; LBC chairman Phil Espin and county birders Andy Sims and John Clarkson also volunteered to cover a night each towards the end of the season. The night wardening consisted of an eight-hour shift from 2100 until 0500, although extra time was volunteered either side of that as hours of darkness lengthened. Wardening was implemented by a vigilant warden, specifically tasked with deterring foxes, positioned in the dune on Millennium Ridge between the two key areas of shingle habitat during the hours of darkness. Nesting birds occupied the Finger Ridge immediately to the southwest and the North Plateau immediately to the north of the position. The Night Warden would regularly light up the wider area with a powerful torch and make short patrols throughout the night, within safe habitat, to check the beach which was a regular fox patrol route.

A fishing canopy was purchased and installed on Millennium Ridge to provide shelter for adverse weather periods.

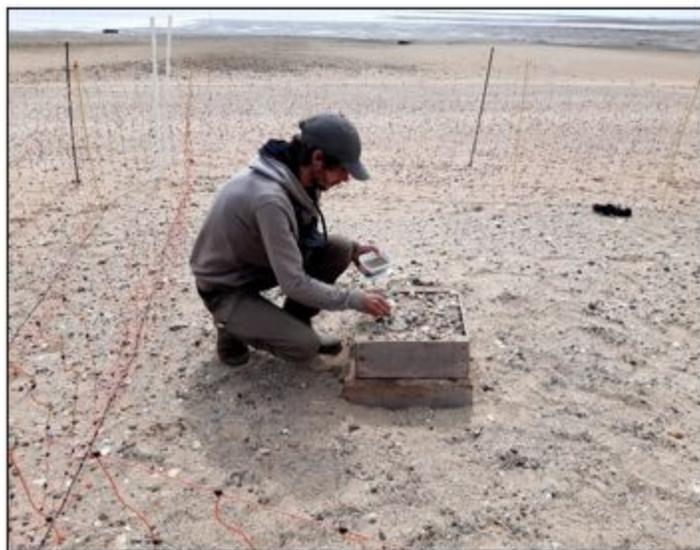
Once nesting Little Terns and Ringed Plovers are at chick stage they are particularly vulnerable to fox predation nocturnally and I believe that it would have been unlikely that there would have been any fledging success from the core sanctuary area this season without the night wardening.

Day time wardening of the beach fence line, the main access point into the sanctuary, was crucial with the beach being busier than ever this year. Busy days would typically see multiple attempted incursions by visitors into the sanctuary. Vigilance was also essential to deter daytime avian predators,

primarily crows and kestrels. The beach was warded by a team of volunteers covering three-hour shifts, totalling a minimum of 27 hours each week. This covered the peak times of activity from April 1st through to August 31st. Due to Covid 19 restrictions in the early stages and through loss of volunteer input during the closing stages, I covered many lengthy stints on the beach.

Residential intern and Nottingham-Trent University student Sarah Hunter fulfilled the role of full-time volunteer Assistant Shorebird Warden, doing an exemplary job.

Diversionsary feeding was implemented throughout the main part of the season, virtually every night. This was undertaken by a volunteer who sourced food items from off site and positioned them at a key point within the sanctuary at dusk or in the hours of darkness. This strategy I believe was another significant factor alleviating fox pressure on nesting shorebirds and chicks.



The author building a raised nesting platform.



Raised little tern box.

Outside of my full-time seasonal position and that of Night Warden Rob Watson, there was a minimum equivalent of 228 full days of volunteer input this season - quite staggering.

This season was as intense as any previous season with regard to fox pressure. Protective measures used in the past to protect nesting birds from ground-based predators proved ineffective, with the exception of raising Little Tern nests onto boxes on stilts, a practice previously reserved for nests in danger of repeated wash outs over big high tide sequences. All early Ringed Plover nests were lost almost exclusively to fox predation, having been saved from inundation during high tides, but by mid-season a newly developed cage enclosure was conceived and went on to prove tremendously successful with no predations thereafter. All the stops were pulled out for Little Tern nest protection but alas the first two nests were predated by fox even with more elaborate protection than years gone by. The two nests had been surrounded by waist high open topped cages and enclosed in two flexi-nets but were unfortunately predated before they could be raised. After much brainstorming the idea to cage the Little Tern nest then spiral out two flexi-nets with electric fence posts, giving six external layers at 18" intervals, was conceived. This was a full day process to achieve as it was done in four stages, allowing enough time between each stage to allow the pair to adjust. The process needed to be completed in a day as it would not have been safe to leave a partially constructed enclosure

overnight. There was no predation on nests enclosed in this fashion. The decision was made to take absolutely no chances and to use every resource available and subsequently every enclosed nest was then transferred to a box and lifted onto stilts, again a full day process requiring several stages. The nest boxes on stilts as well alleviated the need to interfere with the nest during dangerous tides. There were many dawn until dusk work days involved in these processes. In summary I believe that we currently have measures at our disposal to ensure Ringed Plovers and Little Terns are safe from ground based predators whilst at egg stage.

There were many nesting attempts by Ringed Plover this season and in total eight pairs fledged 24 young - three juveniles per pair is significant productivity. I believe this total can again be achieved next season with the implementation of the newly designed cage.



Little tern chick



Ringed plover chicks

There were only two nesting attempts by Oystercatcher in the sanctuary area and both were predated quickly; one not even reaching a full clutch.

The Little Tern season went as follows - there were 16 nesting attempts by at least 13 pairs, there were three nest predations prior to the new enclosure methods, one nest was lost to violent winds and one nest was abandoned early in the process during a day of torrential rain. Finally, an egg laid in a nest scrape on August 3rd was abandoned five days later, and always was likely to be unsuccessful given the date. Ten pairs hatched 21 chicks, with five going on to fledging, and three further dependant young observed towards the end of the season very likely were home grown but it was not possible to say with complete certainty. Much daily monitoring was required at chick stage to determine success and observation can be very difficult due to the inclination of some pairs to move their brood sometimes.



Ringed Plover nest guard.



Ringed Plover with chick.

The loss of the remaining chicks this season was exclusively due to two days of dire weather; on the first occasion cold and torrential overnight rain on July 18th led to eight chicks succumbing to exposure and on the second, a full day of monsoon like conditions on July 27th led to three further chicks succumbing to exposure.

It is impossible to stress enough the need for night wardening; only one chick, a Ringed Plover, was potentially predated during the five continuous weeks of night wardening, and without which, in conjunction with day time wardening of the sanctuary access and supplementary feeding, I believe all the chicks could have been lost.great distances from the natal area.



Little tern (just visible) on nesting box



Juvenile little terns on the shoreline.

We are massively grateful for the funding from the Lincolnshire Bird Club, without which I would be writing a very different summary. It would be wonderful if this relationship were to continue. After my first year as Shorebird Warden, and with the benefit of hindsight, I believe we will be able to achieve

greater successes in the future. Lengthening the period of night wardening would be advantageous. This year, following early predation, the intensive wardening period was condensed into a shorter, later period but in future it is anticipated that chicks would be hatching earlier. The only way forward in my opinion is blanket night wardening; if it were to be staggered then the night you leave the sanctuary unattended will be the night a fox wreaks havoc and changes the nature of the season.

The volunteer input that goes in to the project is massive and it would be amazing if we could build on our relationship with a view to potentially recruit volunteers from the Lincolnshire Bird Club membership for future seasons; being from a birding background would be very advantageous as recruits would also be able to engage well with visitors, giving them an insight into the avifauna and articulate the reasons why the project is so important on a county and national level, with Gibraltar Point now being the only county site that hosts the red-listed Ringed Plover and Schedule 1 Little Tern colonies.

Ben Ward

Seasonal Shorebird Warden.



Gib Point NNR (Header & Footer Images) © Lincs Wildlife Trust

Lincolnshire Bird Club Reports and Publications



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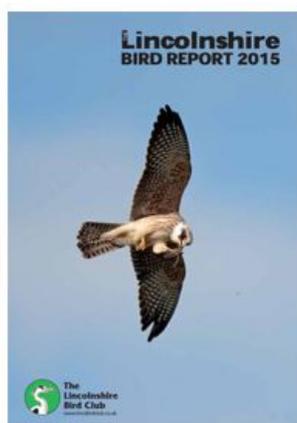
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Check out the latest sales offers at <https://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk/site/index.php/sales-list>

Interested in Farmland Birds? Living in Lincolnshire you should be!

Download the latest report from the RSPB Hope Farm which is showing huge benefits for nature-friendly farming from;

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/documents/conservation--sustainability/hope-farm/hope-farm-annual-review-2019.pdf>

This year the RSPB's Hope Farm celebrates 20 years of nature-friendly farming, with the key message from a new report demonstrating that farming can be positive for both nature and profit.

The report contains a range of significant data showing how wildlife has recovered and flourished on the farm. Farmland bird species have shown a 187% increase in number of breeding pairs, while winter populations have shot up by an astonishing 1,287%. Common Linnet and Yellow Wagtail have become established on the farm, having been absent 20 years ago, while Northern Lapwing has also returned as a breeding species.

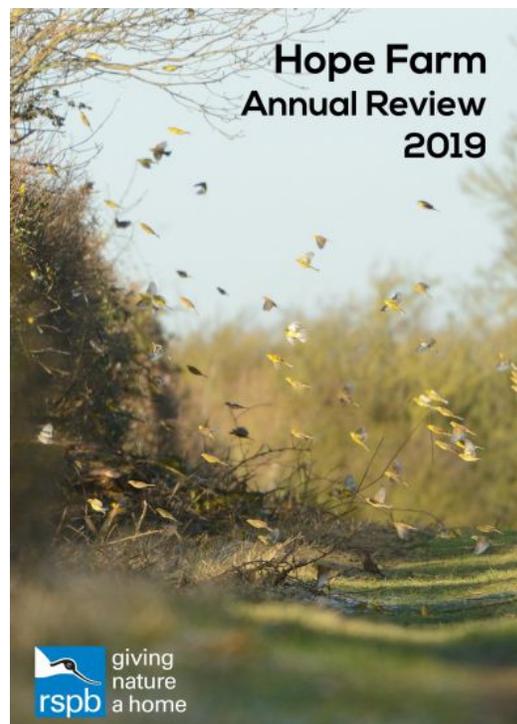
But the results go further than just birds. A 409% increase in butterfly numbers across the farm shows what may be possible with more sympathetic farming measures, while Hope Farm now has 19 times more bumblebees than a nearby control farm.

The RSPB's goal when it took over Hope Farm in 2000 was to show that a wildlife-friendly farm could still be profitable. In 2010 the team ramped up their ambition – to show how wildlife-friendly practices hold the answer to challenges that farmers face, such as declining soil health and climate change.

Georgina Bray, Hope Farm Manager, said: "Over 20 years, Hope Farm has thrived beyond what we could have imagined. By working with other farmers, as well as scientists and policymakers, we have seen wildlife return to the fields and nature-friendly steps help to combat infestations of blackgrass, restore soil health, and remove the need for pesticides. Farmers are an absolutely critical part of the solution if we are to reverse the decline of nature. They're under many stresses right now, but what's been amazing about Hope Farm is that it's shown how nature-friendly practices can actually produce richer, healthier soils and crops and be more productive in the long-term. Farmland covers about 75% of the UK. This conversion of land to agriculture has meant many species have lost their homes, and fertilisers and overuse of soil has degraded the very health of the soil itself. Through such practices as filling the edges of fields with wildflowers and seeds, creating in-ditch ponds, and eliminating insecticides, Hope Farm has made tremendous steps forward for nature while maintaining a steady income.

Words from Birdguides.com website

<https://www.birdguides.com/news/hope-farm-shows-huge-benefits-of-nature-friendly-farming/>



Fascinating new book explores life of much-loved bird of the British uplands

Ring Ouzels are regularly seen on passage in Lincolnshire, especially on or near the coast, but, like many migrants, they invariably leave behind a couple of questions.

From where have they just come and where are they going?

Useful pointers come in an important new book - *The Ring Ouzel, A View from The North York Moors* - jointly written by Vic Fairbrother and Ken Hutchinson.

As well as studying this fascinating member of the thrush family for the past couple of decades, the duo have also pored through countless historic publications to enrich their research.

Their book is also profusely illustrated with photographs as well as delightful paintings and sketches by Jonathan Pomroy.

To hear the song of the ring ouzel carrying for a surprising distance across the high moorland in the early morning is said to be one of the great delights of upland Britain.

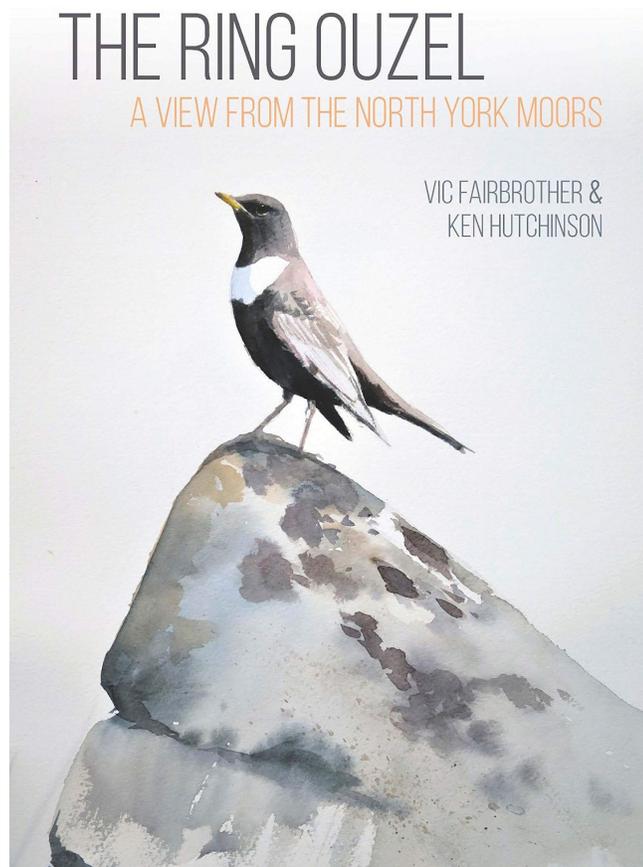
The authors have recorded and analysed both simple and complex songs in their study area and, following comparison with recordings from Scotland, Derbyshire and the Yorkshire Dales, have confirmed the long-suspected presence of local dialects.

They have also monitored the erosion in the UK distribution of the species and the reduction in breeding pairs - perhaps partly caused by climate change. Crucially, attention is also drawn to the first indications of the ring ouzel's decline in Switzerland.

As a migrant, the ring ouzel faces additional pressures and problems on passage, and there is an important section on the challenges it faces in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco where it spends winter.

This highly readable study book is published in softback at £21.95 by Dunbeath-based firm Whittles Publishing, and can be bought or ordered wherever books are sold.

* By inserting the promo code - WPLINCS20 - at the checkout on the Whittles Publishing website (<https://www.whittlespublishing.com/Birds>), LBC members can secure a 20 per cent discount on the cover price both of this book and the company's other bird titles. The offer runs until February 12, 2021. **Jim Wright**



Drones can be a source of disturbance to wintering waterbird flocks

Newly published research, carried out by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) in Scotland, shows that wintering waterbirds, such as ducks, geese, swans and wading birds can easily be scared into flight by drones. In recent years, drone technology has improved rapidly, while at the same time the drones themselves have become ever cheaper and produced in ever greater quantities. Drones are now being used for recreational photography, surveillance, ecological research, remote sensing and even to deliver packages. The mass proliferation of drones and the increasing likelihood of commercial and recreational drone use taking place close to wildlife creates a new and potentially significant source of disturbance to wild birds.

Such disturbance, which could affect rare and protected species, causes birds to waste energy and reduces their feeding time. In extreme cases, birds might stop using an area altogether, and be forced to feed elsewhere, where feeding opportunities may be poorer or the risk of predation higher. This could be particularly harmful during the cold winter months, when vast numbers of waterbirds come to Britain from the Arctic to feed up before the breeding season.

BTO scientists flew a commercially available quadcopter drone towards waterbird flocks in coastal, freshwater and arable crop farmland habitats. While one researcher flew the drone at a standard speed and height towards the flock, another observed the flocks through a telescope to record any responses to the drone as it approached, including alarm calls, signs of heightened alert levels and taking flight.

The BTO team found that larger flocks were more likely to take flight than smaller flocks, and large flocks also took flight at a greater distance from the drone than smaller flocks. This is probably because the larger the flock, the more likely there is to be a sensitive individual present – in almost all cases, once one bird had responded to the drone, the rest of the flock followed.

The researchers also found that the habitat the birds were in had a strong effect on responses. Birds at inland lochs where there was already lots of human activity were very unlikely to respond to the drone, while birds at coastal sites were more likely to respond. Birds in arable farmland were particularly sensitive – flocks feeding in this habitat are probably most susceptible to disturbance because of the need to be on the lookout for predators.

Lead author, David Jarrett, said: “While we expected that the drone would cause large flocks to flush, we were surprised that birds hardly seemed to respond to the drone at all at those inland lochs where there was already lots of human activity taking place. Hopefully this research can be used to help inform guidance and regulations on drone use in proximity to wild birds.”

Britain hosts internationally important flocks of waterbirds outside the breeding season. While it has been thought that drones could be useful in monitoring their numbers, the disturbance caused by such monitoring would have to be carefully evaluated. If drone use were to become more frequent at important sites for our wintering waterbirds, and birds did not become accustomed to this novel form of disturbance, then the resulting increases in energy expenditure and stress would be likely to negatively affect their populations.

The full paper was published in the September BTO Bird Study. The work was generously funded by The Sound Approach.

The seabird colony vanishes

The UK's largest breeding colony of Arctic Terns has vanished and scientists need help to find out where the birds have gone.

At this time of year, the tern colony on the Skerries, a group of rocky islets to the north of Anglesey, should be teeming with life, with adult birds noisily shuttling back and forth to sea to feed their growing chicks. This is the UK's largest colony of Arctic Terns (home to 2,814 breeding pairs in 2019) – an elegant species known for their record-breaking pole to pole migrations from their northern breeding grounds to Antarctica, for the southern hemisphere summer. Arctic Terns experience more daylight than any other animal on Earth. Several hundred Common Terns also normally breed on the Skerries.

In 2020, this RSPB-managed seabird sanctuary has fallen silent. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic there are – for the first time in over a decade – no summer wardens living on the islands and, in the absence of this human presence, Peregrine Falcons have taken up residence. The RSPB believes that disturbance from the Peregrines is almost certainly the main cause of the desertion of the colony. The question is, where have the birds gone?

Scientists are hoping that watchful members of the public might be able to answer that question. Since 2013, a team of bird ringers licensed by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and supported by RSPB have been attaching individually coded leg flags to a number of terns each season. These leg flags, which are orange with a black code for Arctic Terns and yellow with a black code for Common Terns, can be read with binoculars or a telescope. People lucky enough to observe them can report their sightings and therefore help track the terns' movements.

Dr Rachel Taylor, Senior Ecologist for BTO Cymru and one of the bird ringers in charge of the tern colour-marking project, said: "Terns are long-lived, and a single catastrophic year won't be the end of the Skerries story. Historic tern colony collapses and recoveries like that of Shotton Steelworks in 2009 have taught conservation managers what's needed to allow and encourage the colony to return to the Skerries in future. But a colony is made up of individuals, each making decisions for themselves: these colour-marked birds could give us a real insight into how those individual choices add together into 'colony behaviour'. Where they go this year, and whether they survive to return and breed on the Skerries, are fascinating questions; the answers could help conservation managers keep the UK's tern colonies resilient through future environmental change."

Ian Sims, RSPB North Wales Wetlands Warden said: "It has been very saddening not to be able to give the Skerries colony the protection it needed this season, but what has happened only goes to emphasise the importance of the work that wardens do looking after this and other tern colonies up and down the country year after year."

Sea Eagles in Lincolnshire

Sea Eagle “G318” from the Isle of Wight reintroduction scheme has spent much of November in Lincolnshire. Having spent some time in North Yorkshire she moved to Lincolnshire in late September. G318 has remained in Lincolnshire since, favouring several areas with quiet woodlands on private land in the Lincolnshire Wolds. On the 4th November she flew further south, flying to the coast near Friskney, between Gibraltar Point and Freiston Shore, on 5th November, and then heading back inland. She has remained in the Wolds ever since. The following images were taken by John Clarkson while with a representative of the Roy Dennis Foundation in order to liaise with land-owners/farm managers.



Lincolnshire Bird News - November 2020

Compiled by Chris Grimshaw

This Lincs Latest Bird News is available on the LBC Website and is updated on a regular basis, to provide a convenient news service to scarce & rare birds found within Lincolnshire. This is a free service and members wishing to get more up to the minute information should check commercial news services. The Sightings page and @Lincsbirding Twitter feed are intended to alert birders to rare (RED) and scarcer (BLUE) species that they might be interested in seeing within the County.

If your sightings are missing from the list, then please let us know by emailing recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk. Records of more common species are still very important and should be submitted to the county Recorder (again, send all records to recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk) or submitted online using the **BTO BirdTrack** or **eBird Apps**. ALL records will then be added to the Lincolnshire Bird Club data-base, to be included in the Annual Reports. **PLEASE NOTE** that none of these reports have been verified or checked by the Lincolnshire Bird Club Records Committee. Please note that the close off date for records for the 2019 Lincs Bird Report is 1st May 2020, after this we cannot guarantee inclusion.

Lincolnshire Bird Club - COVID-9 Update November/December 2020

Firstly, we hope you are all keeping safe and staying healthy during this 2nd COVID-19 lockdown. In keeping with the ever-changing government regulations concerning social distancing and unnecessary travel regarding the coronavirus pandemic, we are taking the opportunity to communicate the Lincs Bird Club's position on bird news dissemination.

The latest regulations introduced from November 5th permit being outdoors for both recreation and exercise. Therefore, birding should be ok as long as no other rules are broken especially regarding social distancing and no more than two people in a group.

We will continue to maintain our **Latest Bird News** page (updated each evening) and the Lincs Rare Birds **WhatsApp Group** - members sharing bird news. The bird club committee believe this helps reduce social isolation by allowing members to keep in touch with the outside world and hopefully it will help some get through what will be a very frustrating time. However, we will continue to closely monitor the situation, and we may change our policy if events suggest that is required. There is of course no compulsion on members to share bird news should they consider local circumstances are such that they prefer not to.

30/11/2020

Baston Fen

Russian White-fronted Goose

Boultham Mere

Hen Harrier, Scaup, Smew (female)

Frampton Marsh

Smew (female)

Gibraltar Point

Snow Bunting, 3 Russian White -fronted Goose, Iceland Gull, Black Redstart

Heckington

Black Kite (possible near Rookery Farm)

Toft Newton

Red Knot, Pintail

29/11/2020

Baston Fen

Siberian Chiffchaff

Boultham Mere

5 Goosander, 20 Lesser Redpoll, 11 Whooper Swan, Cetti's Warbler

Grimsby

possible Eagle Owl (escape?)

Keelby

28 Blackbird, 2 Bullfinch, 2 Buzzard, 117 Fieldfare, 1200 Pink-footed Geese, 2 Jay, Oystercatcher, 7 Redwing, 220 Starling

Trent Port, Marton

7 Bullfinch, 2 Goldcrest, Kingfisher, Tawny Owl, 210 Wigeon, 8 Yellowhammer

Market Rasen

Golden Pheasant (escapee?)



Golden Pheasant Market Rasen area - Image © Dave Worrell

Wroot

Great White Egret

28/11/2020

Boultham Mere

11 Whooper Swan

Chapel St Leonards

Glaucous Gull

Deeping High Bank

Short-eared Owl

Deeping Lakes

3 Long-eared Owl

Market Deeping

Great White Egret



Glaucous Gull in Chapel St Leonards - Image © James Siddle

East Halton Skitter

Snow Bunting, Water Pipit

Woodhall Spa

Hawfinch (on garden feeders)

27/11/2020

Baston Fen

Short-eared Owl, Swallow

Boultham Mere

Woodcock

Chapel Six Marsh

15000 Starling

Deeping High Bank

Short-eared Owl

Deeping Lakes

4 Long-eared Owl

Gibraltar Point

3 Woodcock

Hartsholme Park

Tawny Owl

Market Deeping

2 Great White Egret

Wolla Bank

25000 Starling

26/11/2020

Deeping Lakes

Bearded Tit

Gibraltar Point

2 Hen Harrier, Short-eared Owl

Swanholme Lakes

3 Goosander, 2 Grey Heron, Kingfisher, 30 Lesser Redpoll, Song Thrush (singing)

25/11/2020

Baston Fen

Short-eared Owl

Gibraltar Point

2 Great Northern Diver, Hen Harrier

Potterhanworth

Rough-legged Buzzard

24/11/2020

Frampton Marsh

600 Pink-footed Geese, Merlin, Short-eared Owl, 7000 Golden Plover, 5 Spotted Redshank, 3 Scaup, 10000 Starling, 5 Stonechat, 100 Whooper Swan, 7142 Wigeon

Gibraltar Point

Hen Harrier, Spotted Redshank

Pyewipe, Grimsby

Curlew, Dunlin, Peregrine Falcon, Bar-tailed Godwits, Black-tailed Godwit, Red Knot, Lapwing, 3000 Golden Plover, Grey Plover,

Hartsholme Park

Kingfisher

Londonthorpe

Raven

Saltfleetby

Lapland Bunting, Snow Bunting, Twite

Swanpool

Chiffchaff

23/11/2020

Baston Fen

Short-eared Owl

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Hen Harrier

Frampton Marsh

2 Merlin, 2 Scaup, Jack Snipe, Stonechat, Barn Swallow, 115 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, 2 Snow Bunting

Grantham

Lesser Redpoll

Mablethorpe

Great Northern Diver

Messingham

8 Bullfinch, 30 Fieldfare, 81 Gadwall, Goldcrest, 3 Great Crested Grebe, 300 Greylag Goose, 2 Kestrel, 2 Pochard, 45 Lesser Redpoll, 28 Shoveler, 80 Siskin, Snipe 2, 29 Teal, Cetti's Warbler

Rimac

Great White Egret, Hen Harrier

Thurlby Fen

Great White Egret

Swanholme Lakes

10 Goosander (one male & 9 female), 3 Grey Heron

22/11/2020

Baston Fen

2 Short-eared Owls

Cleethorpes

16 Snow Bunting

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Donna Nook

16 Snow Bunting, Great Northern Diver, 2400 Pink-footed Goose, Caspiann Gull, 2 Marsh Harrier, 22 Kittiwake, 2 Merlin, 25 Twite

Lincoln Cathedral

Peregrine Falcons (showing well)

Marshchapel

Great White Egret

Marston

Little Owl, Water Rail, 5 Whooper Swan (over)



One of several Water Rail nicely captured - Image © Steve Nesbit

Sea View Farm

7000 Pink-footed Goose, Hen Harrier (ring-tail), Pintail, 4 Whooper Swan

East Halton Skitter

Lapland Bunting

21/11/2020

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Russian White-fronted Goose

Boultham Mere

265 Pink-footed Goose, 5 Shelduck

Fiskerton Fen

Great White Egret

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting

Pyewipe, Grimsby

243 Curlew, 3800 Dunlin, 900 Bar-tailed Godwit, 4000 Black -tailed Godwit, 3000 Red Knot, 320 Grey Plover, 780 Redshank, 1450 Shelduck

20/11/2020

Ancholme Valley

4000 Pink-footed Goose, 15 Goosander

Appleby Carrs

Great White Egret

Belvoir

Nuthatch, Marsh Tit

Old Bolingbrooke

Water Pipit

Boultham Mere

Goldeneye, 16 Whooper Swan

Deeping Fen

Great White Egret

Frampton

Sparrowhawk, Barn Swallow

Freiston Shore

Slavonian Grebe

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Great White Egret

Lincoln

Grey Wagtail

19/11/2020

Appleby

Great White Egret, 700 Pink-footed Geese

Boultham Mere

13 Cormorant, 14 Pochard, c20 Lesser Redpoll, 20 Shoveler, 7 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

2 Great Northern Diver (north), Long-tailed Duck (south)

Gosberton Clough

Siberian Chiffchaff

Grantham

200 Pink-footed Geese (west)

Huttoft Bank

2 Eider, 13 Common Scoter

Messingham SQ

Bullfinch, Buzzard, 7 Egyptian Geese (2 adults, 5 juveniles), 120 Greylag Goose, Marsh Harrier, 3 Grey Heron, Jay, 12 Lesser Redpoll, 15 Siskin, 4 Shelduck, 30 Teal

Paradise

Long-tailed Duck

Swanpool

2 Stonechat

Wainfleet All Saints

Short-eared Owl

18/11/2020

Gibraltar Point

8 Bearded Tit

Goxhill Haven

Siberian Chiffchaff

Lincoln

House Martin (between the University & Boultham Mere)

17/11/2020

Appleby Carrs

350 Fieldfare, Great White Egret, 2 Whooper Swan

Baston Fen

Great White Egret

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Great White Egret (nearby)

Boultham Mere

42 Pink-footed Goose, 60 Lesser Redpoll, 12 Whooper Swan

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Frampton Marsh

2500 Pink-footed Goose, Scaup, 2 Jack Snipe, 30 Starling, 70 Whooper Swan

Freiston Shore

Water Pipit (on Reservoir)

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, Great Northern Diver, Caspian Gull

Job's Lane

Goldcrest, 2 Egyptian Goose, 220 Greylag Goose, 20 Pochard, 13 Little Grebe, Grey Heron, 18 Shoveler, 24 Teal

Londonthorpe Wood

Yellow-browed Warbler

16/11/2020

Boultham Mere

Goldeneye, 17 Pochard, 38 Shoveler, Cettis's Warblegyptian goose 2

pochard 20

greylag goose 220

goldcrest 1

little grebe 13

teal 24

shoveler 18er, 7 Whooper Swan

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Deeping High Bank

Great Northern Diver

Denton Reservoir

Great White Egret

Friskney

Hen Harrier

Gibraltar Point

3 Snow Bunting, Great Northern Diver, Slavonian Grebe, Hen Harrier, 2 Twite

Hill Holt Wood

Nuthatch, Lesser Redpoll, Siskin, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Swanholme Lakes

5 Goosander (all female)

15/11/2020

Deeping High Bank

Great Northern Diver

Frampton Marsh

5000 Golden Plover, Scaup

Gibraltar Point

Hen Harrier, Velvet Scoter

Goxhill Haven

Snow Bunting, Siberian Chiffchaff, Marsh Harrier, Merlin, Short-eared Owl, Olive-backed Pipit, Water Pipit, Stonechat

Jagues's Bank

46 Whooper Swan

Messingham SQ

Hen Harrier

Millennium Green

Mandarin

14/11/2020

Deeping High Bank

Great Northern Diver, Great White Egret

13/11/2020

Boultham Park

Goldcrest, 2 Goosander, Nuthatch, Jay, Kestrel, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Deeping High Bank

Great Northern Diver

Frampton Marsh

Scaup

Gibraltar Point

Grey Phalarope

Jaques's Bank

60 Whooper Swan

Londonthorpe Woods

Raven

Paradise

Long-tailed Duck

Saltfleetby

Hen Harrier

Wolla Bank

120000 Starling (reported although it is suggested Chapel Six Marshes)

12/11/2020

Baston Fen

Great White Egret

Cress Marsh

Whooper Swan, 2 Stonechat

Deeping High Bank

Great White Egret

Frampton Marsh

Buzzard, Peregrine Falcon, Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, Little Owl, Sparrowhawk

Gibraltar Point

Labland Bunting, Black Throated Diver, Hen harrier, Jack Snipe

Goxhill Haven

Siberian Chiffchaff

Paradise

Long-tailed Duck

Rimac

Stonechat

Snipe Dales

20 Bullfinch 3 Willow Tit

11/11/2020

North & South Lincolnshire

White-tailed Sea Eagle G318 has been doing the rounds of the County.

Alkborough Flats, The Wolds, The Fens, Friskney, Between Gibraltar Point And Freiston Shore, The Fens

Click on the link below

<https://twitter.com/RoyDennisWF/status/1326259135239884802>

Boultham Mere

Goldeneye, Merlin

Chapel Six Marshes

54000 Starling

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Deeping High Bank

Great Northern Diver, Great White Egret

Denton Reservoir

Great White Egret

Frampton Marsh

Scaup

Gibraltar Point

Black-throated Diver

Marston

700 Pink-footed Geese and a murmuration (no numbers)

Swanholme Lakes

Red-crested Pochard, Goldcrest

10/11/2020

Boultham Mere

Goosander

Deeping High Bank

Great Northern Diver

Frampton Marsh

Scaup

Pyewipe, Grimsby

8 Common Scoter

Market Rasen

Brambling

Marston

Bearded Tit (trapped & ringed)

Messingham SQ

Buzzard, 14 Cormorant, 9 Crossbill, 1000 Pink-footed Geese, Jay, Kestrel, 9 Pochard, Water Rail, 3 Lesser Redpoll, 3 Shelduck, 2 Cetti's Warbler

Millennium Green

2 Egyptian Geese, Mandarin Duck

09/11/2020

Deeping High Bank

Great Northern Diver (A little bit of video on the home page)

Huttoft Pit

Yellow-browed Warbler

Grimsby

Woodcock

Lincoln - Doddington Park

Great Spotted Woodpecker, 5 Whooper Swan

Mablethorpe

7 Snow Bunting

Marston

Fieldfare, Pintail, Shoveler, Snipe, Stonechat



Mandarin Duck at Millenium Green, North Hykeham - Image © Andrew Vaughan

Millennium Green

2 Egyptian Geese, Mandarin Duck

Rippingale area

Raven, 6 Red Kite

Saltfleetby/Theddlethorpe

130 Chaffinch, 125 Blackbird, 50 Fieldfare, 160 Redwing, 800 Starling, 3 Stonechat, 2 Water Rail, 2 Woodcock

Swanpool

141 Pink-footed Goose

08/11/2020

Anderby Creek

Hume's Leaf Warbler

Cleethorpes

Kingfisher (Bucks Beck)

Deeping Lakes

Great Northern Diver (on the Welland)

South Elkington

Great White Egret

Gibraltar Point

3 Bearded Tit

Goxhill Haven

Olive-backed Pipit, Dusky Warbler

Grimsby, Weelsby Road

Woodcock

Humberstone Fitties

250 Pink-footed Goose, 6 Little Grebe

Theddlethorpe St Helens

Yellow-browed Warbler

Rippingale -Dunsby Fen

Great White Egret, Red Kite, Golden Plover, 8 Tree Sparrow

Swanholme Lakes

Red-crested Pochard (over a year since this was last seen)

07/11/2020

Boultham Mere

80 Lesser Redpoll, 7 Whooper Swan

North Cotes

Great White Egret

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe



Slavonian Grebe at Covenham Reservoir - Image © Phil Jones

Deeping High Bank

Great White Egret

Donna Nook

Great White Egret, Black-tailed Godwit, 25 Red Knot, 2 Rock Pipit, Skylark, Pair Stonechat, 12 Whooper Swan (over)

Fiskerton Fen

2 Bittern, 10 Goosander

Frampton Marsh

Hen Harrier (ring-tail), 2 Merlin, **Raven**, Spotted Redshank, Little Stint, 2 Bearded Tit

Gibraltar Point

Hen Harrier

Marston

14 Curlew, Marsh Harrier, 2 Green Sanpiper, 5 Stonechat, several Water Rail

06/11/2020

Cleethorpes

2 Stonechat

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Deeping Lakes NNR

Bearded Tit

Denton Reservoir

Great White Egret (Photo on Home Page of Forum)

Donna Nook

5 Lapland Bunting, Snow Bunting, Peregrine Falcon, 2 Marsh Harrier, 6 Stonechat, Whooper Swan, 23 Twite,

Freiston Shore

Water Pipit

Lincoln University

Great White Egret (over)

Messingham SQ

Great White Egret

Rimac

Great White Egret

05/11/2020

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Great White Egret

Boultham Mere

80 Lesser Redpoll, 7 Whooper Swan



Two of the seven Whooper Swan that were at Boultham Mere today - Image © Chris Grimshaw

Cress Marsh

2 Stonechat

Gibraltar Point

2 Hawfinch (plantation)

Manby

Gannet

Marston

Marsh Harrier, Red Kite, Water Rail

Swanpool

c 80 Lesser Redpoll

04/11/2020

Boultham Mere

2 Bullfinch, Water Rail, Sparrowhawk, 7 Whooper Swan, Song Thrush

Frampton Marsh

450 Pink-footed Geese (over), Hen Harrier (ring-tail), 2 Merlin, Barn Owl, 2 Little Owl, Peregrine, 2 Sparrowhawk, Stonechat, 42 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

3 Lapland Bunting, 8 Snow Bunting, 500 Pink-footed Geese, 3 Merlin, 3 Raven, 3 Sparrowhawk, 64 Whooper Swan, 6 Bearded Tit

Pyewipe, Grimsby

2 Pink-footed Geese, 2 Stonechat, 26 Whooper Swan

03/11/2020

Cleethorpes

2 Snow Bunting, 80 Pink-footed Geese, 2 Kingfisher, small flock Golden Plover



Snow Bunting on Cleethorpes Beach - Image © Jim Wright

Millennium Green

Mandarin (drake)

Lincoln

147 Fieldfare, 360 Pink-footed Geese, 1770 Wood Pigeon, 22 Redwing, 5 Skylark

Messingham SQ

Great White Egret

Paradise Pool

Long-tailed Duck

Scunthorpe - Blue Lagoon

35 Whooper Swan

RAF Woodhall

Great White Egret, 6 Whooper Swan

02/11/2020

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Smew (redhead)

Frampton Marsh

Hen Harrier, Merlin, Stonechat, 11 Tundra Bean Goose

Lenton

Crossbill

Lincoln

24 Pink-footed Geese. 34 Skylark, 300 Wigeon (over)

Marton

2 Common Crane (over and heading in the direction of Lincoln)

Witham Mouth

Grey Plover



Grey Plover at Witham Mouth - Image © Dave Roberts

01/11/2020

Gibraltar Point

Great Northern Diver, Little Gull

Frampton Marsh

7 Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, Pair of Scaup, Little Stint

Freiston Shore

Great White Egret, c40 Twite

Paradise

Long-tailed Duck

Swanpool

Treecreeper



Starling murmuration 22nd November 2020 - Marston STW © Steve Nesbit

Contact Information & Useful Lincs Websites

Lincs Bird Club Website

Website: <http://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk>

Twitter [@Lincsbirding](#)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LincolnshireBirdInformation/>

LBC County Bird Recorder

Phil Hyde recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk

BTO - <https://www.bto.org>

RSPB - <https://www.rspb.org.uk/>

Birdguides - <https://www.birdguides.com/>

Rarebird Alert - <https://www.rarebirdalert.co.uk/>

Recording

BTO Birdtrack - <https://app.bto.org/birdtrack/login/login.jsp>

eBird - <https://ebird.org/home>

iRecord - <https://www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/>

Nature Lister - <http://www.naturelister.co.uk>

Wildlife Recorder - <https://www.wildlife.co.uk>

Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union Website

<http://lnu.org/>

LNU e-mail: info@lnu.org

Love Lincs Plants

<https://www.lincstrust.org.uk/what-we-do/love-lincs-plants>

Love Lincs Plants Twitter feed [@LoveLincsPlants](#)

Sir Joseph Banks Society

<http://www.joseph-banks.org.uk>

enquiries@joseph-banks.org.uk

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

<http://www.lincstrust.org.uk/>

Lincolnshire Bat Group website

<http://www.lincsbatgroup.co.uk/>

Butterfly Conservation Lincolnshire Branch

<http://butterfly-conservation.org/300/lincolnshire-branch.html>

FIGHTING WILDLIFE CRIME

Rural Crime Officer

Pc 160 Nick Willey

Force Wildlife, Rural Crime Officer

Force Dog Training Establishment

Lincolnshire Showground.

Grange-De-Lings.

Lincoln

nicholas.willey@lincs.pnn.police.uk

OFFICE: 01522-731897

MOBILE :07768-501895

PAGER : 07654-330877

Rural Crime News -

<https://www.lincs.police.uk/news-campaigns/news/2019/rural-crime-news/>

STAYING SAFE

EasyTide

<http://easytide.ukho.gov.uk/EasyTide/EasyTide/index.aspx>

Met Office Severe Weather E-mail Service

<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/guide-to-emails>

Environment Agency Flood Information/Floodline

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/default.aspx>

Lyme Disease

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/>

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDING

Botany

Botanical Group in South Lincs

Contact: Sarah Lambert - sarah.lambert7@ntlworld.com

Also see: <http://bsbi.org/south-lincolnshire-v-c-53>

LNU Sawflies, Bees, Wasps and Ants Recorder

Dr. David Sheppard - d.a.sheppard@btinternet.com

Lincolnshire Mammals

Chris Manning, Chris.LincsDeer@gmail.com

Mammal Atlas

You can download and print off a hard copy or view it online.

<http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php>

Lincs Amphibian and Reptile Group

The Lincolnshire ARG (Amphibian & Reptile Group)

Ashley Butterfield - learningoutdoors@btinternet.com

Local Bat Helpline

Grounded bats, bat problems, advice and information.

Contact Annette and Colin Faulkner on

01775 766286 or e-mail: annettefaulkner@btinternet.com

Confidential Bat Records

You may send confidential bat records direct to Annette

Faulkner on: annettefaulkner@btinternet.com

USEFUL WILDLIFE CONTACTS

Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership

<http://www.glnp.org.uk/>

Contact: charlie.barnes@glnp.org.uk

or for more general queries:info@glnp.org.uk

Natural England

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>

Lincolnshire Environmental Awards

www.lincsenvironmentalawards.org.uk

Life on the Verge and Wildflower Meadow Network Project

<http://www.lifeontheverge.org.uk/>



Lincolnshire Bird Club
Follow us on twitter @lincsbirdclub
<http://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk>

The Lincolnshire Bird Club, supporting the recording & conservation of wildlife in Lincolnshire

