

# Lincolnshire Bird Club eNewsletter

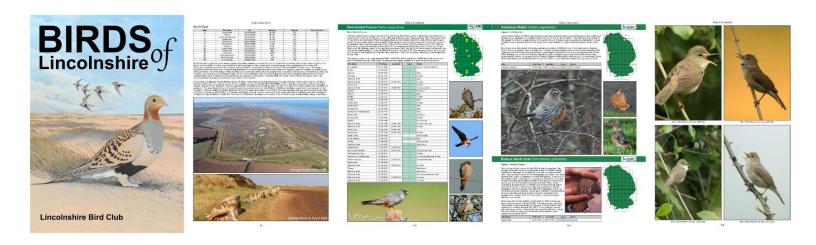


The Heron - Lincs Bird Club eNewsletter - February 2021

# Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter - February 2021

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# Birds of Lincolnshire out in March!



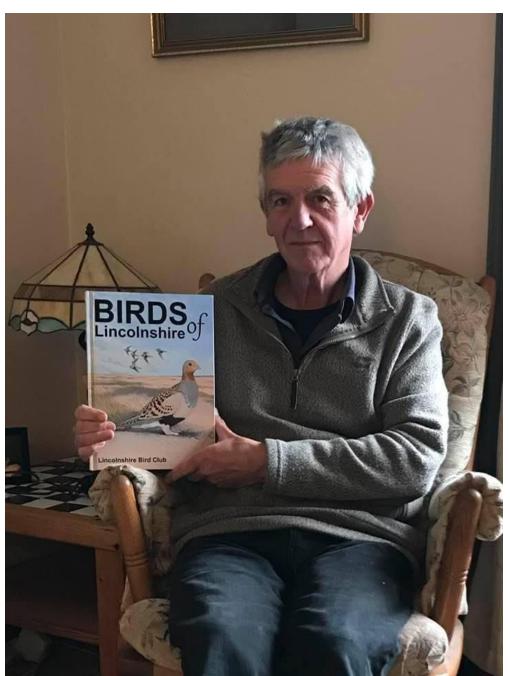
The Lincolnshire Bird Club Committee are pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of a new county avifauna: Birds of Lincolnshire. Featuring a front cover painting by Nik Borrow commemorating the first Pallas's Sandgrouse invasion at Saltfleetby in April 1863 the book is likely to be available in March 2021.

Birds of Lincolnshire is a full county avifauna A4 size book with 240 pages. It covers all 402 BOU cat ABC bird species recorded in the county from 1500 up to 2019 and certain key records for 2020. Species in cat DE are also covered along with escapes. The status of each species is described and all sightings listed for rare and scarcer species. Each species account is accompanied by local photographs or drawings with distribution maps of sightings and graphs of abundance changes where

appropriate. There are also chapters on habitats, the best birding sites and breeding birds of the county as well as a photo gallery and a full BOU checklist of species recorded in the county.

The team of authors writing and producing the book include Colin Casey the Database Manager for the Lincolnshire Bird Club, Philip Espin the Chair of LBC and current and former Lincolnshire County Recorders Philip Hyde and John Clarkson. All four have been involved in the writing and production of the annual Lincolnshire Bird Report over the past decade and have been members of LBC since it was founded in 1979.

We plan that the book will be published in March and the standard hardback edition will retail at £40



plus postage and packing and be sold through leading booksellers. LBC are likely to hold a small stock that will be available for sale. The printer will be Swallowtail of Norwich. There will be a members offer at the discounted price of £20 plus p&p for which more news about ordering will appear in a special issue of The Heron which will be coming out soon. It is likely ordering will be via completing an order form in the members section of the website and payment will be by debit/credit card using the facility offered by PayPal. If you would like to take advantage of the members offer it is important you check that you can log into your members account and ensure your personal contact details, especially your address are correct and up to date.

We had hoped to keep the members price to an absolute minimum by distributing the books ourselves as we did for the Atlas but with uncertainty over the timing of the easing of lockdown and anticipation high it has been decided it will be most effective to have the printer post copies direct out to members.

Photograph of John Clarkson with a draft copy of the book!

# LBRC records for 2020

Sorting records for the 2020 bird report is well underway but we are still missing details of some of the rare and scarce birds which have been reported on social media and by the rare bird news services.

These are among those of which we have no details to date:

Blue-headed Wagtail, Frampton Marsh, May-17-2020

Red-footed Falcon, Horseshoe Point, May-25-2020

Purple Heron, Horseshoe Point, May-25-2020

Purple Heron, Stamford area, Jul-06-2020

Roseate Tern, Freiston Shore, Jul-21-2020

European Storm-petrel, Freiston Shore, Aug-08-2020

Bee-eater, Glentham nr Grantham, 14-Aug-2020

**Long-tailed Skua, various coastal sites.** 2020 was good for this species and there were quite a lot of reports on social media. **Please** submit record details if you saw one/some! Thanks.

Please submit details to the county recorder at recorder\_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk.

# BBRC species for 2020

The following BBRC-notifiable rarities in 2020 have already been submitted:

Black-throated Thrush, Grimsby, Jan 30th- Feb 4th.

Caspian Tern, Frampton Marsh & Huttoft LWT Pit, 10th-21st Jul.

Gull-billed Tern, Gibraltar Point NNR, Aug 17th.

Hume's Warbler, Anderby Creek, Nov 8th.

American Bittern, Fiskerton Fen LWT NR, Nov 29th-Dec 1st.

**Bearded Vulture**, Moulton Chapel/Cowbit, Oct 7th-9th.

The following BBRC-notifiable rarities in 2020 have already been submitted and accepted:

**Iberian Chiffchaff**, Croft (Skegness), May 3rd-15th - Record <u>accepted</u> by BBRC (Jan-2021, ref 8746).

Terek Sandpiper, Alkborough Flats, May 18th - Record accepted by BBRC (Jan-2021, ref 8744).

Are there any more waiting to be submitted please If so please submit to BBRC and copy in the county recorder at

recorder south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk.

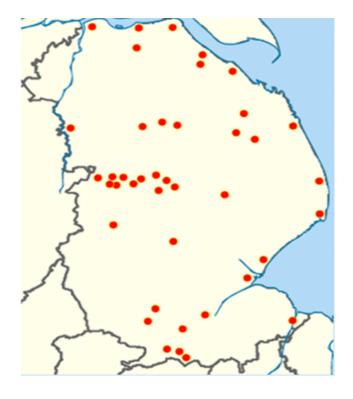


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# Lincs Bird Club Big Bird Day 1st Jan - The Results

Many thanks to everyone who took part in the New Year's Day bird race event. An impressive total of 144 species were recorded by 46 people from 41 sites. This is an excellent total for mid-winter and just goes to show the diversity of birdlife that Lincolnshire has to offer.

The red dots on the map below show the areas covered on the day and as you can see the county was fairly well represented with a good distribution of observers/locations throughout.



Map showing sites covered in Lincolnshire during the New Year's Day bird race 2021

The day got off to a very cold start with many areas in the recording sub-zero temperatures inevitably resulted in numerous water bodies freezing overnight. Despite this wildfowl were well represented during the day with a Smew at Baston Gravel Pits and a couple of Scaup from East Halton and Baston Gravel Pits respectively. The cold weather also created perfect conditions for some movements which included a newly arrived group of Pink-footed Geese near Huttoft Pit which contained a Tundra Bean Goose and a couple of White-fronted Geese. Herds of Whooper Swans were evident at their usual over-wintering Sutton-on-sea, Nocton Fen and in South Lincs, careful scrutiny of the herds failed to produce any Bewick's Swans in the county during the cold spell.

Winter raptors featured well with Hen Harriers reported from Gibraltar Point, Freiston Shore, Frampton Marsh and Saltfleetby. Wintering Marsh Harriers were also seen in a few locations around the coasts.

Far Ings produced the only record of Bittern during though birds were present at Fiskerton Fen near Lincoln at the time but were typically elusive. A Caspian Gull was also noted at Barton-upon-Humber. Nearby Alkborough Flats added the only record of Spotted Redshank with no sightings from its usual haunt at RPSB Frampton Marsh.

Water Pipit records came from East Halton, Gibraltar Point and Baston Gravel Pits.

Sea watching highlights included all three diver species, Velvet Scoter, Long-tailed Duck and a Guillemot from Saltfleetby NNR and a Slavonian Grebe at RSPB Freiston Shore. Away from these sites the sea watching was relatively quiet.

Gibraltar Point produced the only record of Corn Bunting in the county which involved just a single bird. Typically the wintering flock here reaches up to 50 birds and occasionally even reaches triple figures. Snow Bunting also occurred here and at Saltfleetby NNR.

Owls were well represented with all five British species recorded on New Year's Day. Two Long-eared Owls performed well at their key Lincolnshire site of Deeping Lakes. Short-eared Owls were relatively scarce with just a couple of records from Worlaby and Wolla Bank.

Inevitably a couple of 'plastics' made it on to the day list with specimens of Snow Goose at Sutton Bridge and Red-crested Pochard at Baston Gravel Pits.

Nuthatch and Raven continue to spread in the county with numerous records of each from inland sites particularly around Lincoln and in South Lines.

The day finished with a few omissions which is always typical of a bird race. Sea watching didn't reveal any



1st January 2021

sightings of Fulmar, Kittiwake, Little Gull, Mediterranean Gull and Razorbill. Though conditions do have to be right to connect with some of these species. Again, along the coast there were no records of Shorelark, Twite or Lapland Bunting. Although Twite and Lapland Bunting were recorded regularly in the days leading up to the New Year's Day event. Shorelark continues to dwindle away with very few records in the UK this winter even from traditional areas in North Norfolk. Similarly Lesser Spotted Woodpecker is now believed to be extinct in the county with no records since March 2019. The scarcer grebes were also absent although a Red-necked Grebe had been present at Covenham Reservoir during late December. Black-necked Grebe is always a difficult bird to see in the county during the winter. Willow Tit and Crossbill were the other omissions during the day. The COVID-19 restrictions were undoubtedly a big hindrance on the day restricting a lot of people's movements away from their local areas.

Following the success of this bird race we would like to suggest repeating it in spring and autumn. Do we run it as a single day event again or perhaps consider a full weekend? Running it over a weekend would allow more people to take part if tied up with commitments, increase the amount of sites being covered and therefore produce a higher species count. Let us know your thoughts.

A full list compilation of the 2021 New Year's Day Bird Race is shown below...

Richard Doan (19th January 2021)

SPECIES COUNT	SPECIES	COMMENTS
1	Brent Goose	COMMENTS
2	Canada Goose	
3	Barnacle Goose	Saltfleetby & Baston Gravel Pits
4	Snow Goose	Sutton Bridge
5	Greylag Goose	Sutton bridge
6	Pink-footed Goose	
	Tundra Bean Goose	U. see & Die
7 8	White-fronted Goose	Huttoft Pit & Frieston Shore
9	Mute Swan	nuttoit Pit & Frieston Shore
9	Bewick's Swan	
40		
10	Whooper Swan	
11	Egyptian Goose	Trent Port
12	Shelduck	
13	Shoveler	
14	Gadwall	
15	Wigeon	
16	Mallard	
17	Pintail	
18	Teal	
19	Red-crested Pochard	Baston Gravel Pits
20	Pochard	
21	Tufted Duck	
22	Scaup	Tallington Lakes/East Halton
23	Eider	
24	Velvet Scoter	Saltfleetby
25	Common Scoter	
26	Long-tailed Duck	Saltfleetby/Huttoft Car Terrace
27	Goldeneye	
28	Smew	Baston Gravel Pits
29	Goosander	
30	Red-breasted Merganser	
31	Red-legged Partridge	
32	Grey Partridge	
33	Pheasant	
34	Red-throated Diver	
35	Black-throated Diver	Saltfleetby
36	Great Northern Diver	Saltfleetby/Gibraltar Point/Huttoft Car Terrace
	Fulmar	
37	Little Grebe	
	Red-necked Grebe	
38	Great Crested Grebe	
39	Slavonian Grebe	Freiston Shore
	Black-necked Grebe	

SPECIES	enecies.	COMMENTS
COUNT	SPECIES Grow Haron	COMMENTS
40	Grey Heron	M-d-l-
41	Great White Egret Bittern	Worlaby
42		Far Ings
43	Little Egret	
44	Gannet Shag	Huttoft Car Terrace
	•	
45	Cormorant	
46	Sparrowhawk	
47	Marsh Harrier	
48	Hen Harrier	
49	Red Kite	
50	Common Buzzard	
51	Water Rail	
52	Moorhen	
53	Coot	
	Crane	
54	Oystercatcher	
55	Avocet	Frampton Marsh
56	Lapwing	
57	Golden Plover	
58	Grey Plover	
59	Ringed Plover	
60	Curlew	
61	Bar-tailed Godwit	
62	Black-tailed Godwit	
63	Turnstone	
64	Knot	
65	Ruff	
66	Sanderling	
67	Dunlin	
68	Woodcock	
69	Jack Snipe	Grantham Area
70	Snipe	
71	Green Sandpiper	Swanpool & Grantham Area
72	Redshank	
73	Spotted Redshank	Alkborough Flats
	Greenshank	
	Kittiwake	
74	Black-headed Gull	
	Little Gull	
	Mediterranean Gull	
75	Common Gull	
76	Great Black-backed Gull	

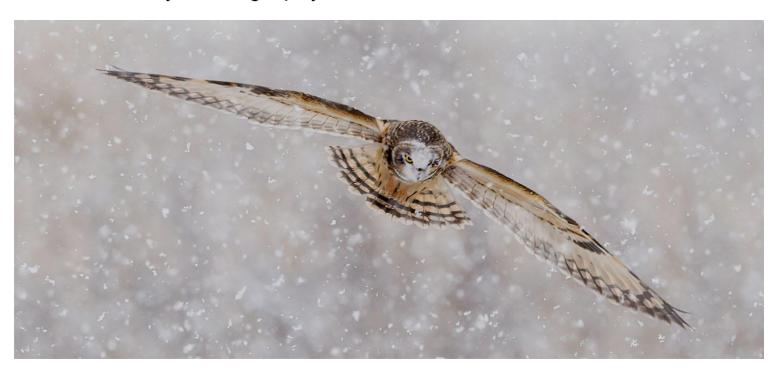
SPECIES		
COUNT	SPECIES	COMMENTS
	Glaucous Gull	
	Iceland Gull	
77	Herring Gull	
78	Caspian Gull	Barton-Upon-Humber
79	Yellow-legged Gull	Huttoft Car Terrace/Covenham Reservoir
80	Lesser Black-backed Gull	
81	Common Guillemot	
	Razorbill	
82	Stock Dove	
83	Feral Pigeon	
84	Wood Pigeon	
85	Collared Dove	
86	Barn Owl	
87	Tawny Owl	
88	Little Owl	
89	Long-eared Owl	Deeping Lakes
90	Short-eared Owl	
91	Kingfisher	
	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	
92	Great Spotted Woodpecker	
93	Green Woodpecker	
94	Kestrel	
95	Merlin	
96	Peregrine	
97	Jay	
98	Magpie	
99	Jackdaw	
100	Rook	
101	Carrion Crow	
102	Raven	Numerous records in South Lincs/Lincoln area
	Waxwing	
103	Coal Tit	
104	Marsh Tit	Neville Wood/Nocton
	Willow Tit	1 1000000001
105	Blue Tit	
106	Great Tit	
107	Bearded Tit	
108	Skylark	
	Shore Lark	
109	Cetti's Warbler	
110	Long-tailed Tit	
111	Chiffchaff	Baston Gravel Pits
112	Blackcap	Location
114	- Caricap	EGEGUOTI

SPECIES		
COUNT	SPECIES	COMMENTS
113	Goldcrest	
114	Wren	
115	Nuthatch	Louth/Lincoln areas
116	Treecreeper	
117	Starling	
118	Blackbird	
119	Fieldfare	
120	Redwing	
121	Song Thrush	
122	Mistle Thrush	
123	Robin	
124	Stonechat	
125	House Sparrow	
126	Tree Sparrow	
127	Dunnock	
128	Grey Wagtail	
129	Pied Wagtail	
130	Meadow Pipit	
131	Water Pipit	Gibraltar Point/Baston Gravel Pits/East Halton
132	Rock Pipit	
133	Chaffinch	
134	Brambling	
135	Bullfinch	
136	Greenfinch	
	Twite	
137	Linnet	
138	Lesser Redpoll	
	Crossbill	
139	Goldfinch	
140	Siskin	
	Lapland Bunting	
141	Snow Bunting	Gibraltar Point/Saltfleetby
142	Corn Bunting	Gibraltar Point
143	Yellowhammer	
144	Reed Bunting	

# **Member Renewal**

Please remember to renew your LBC membership. The annual report is on track to be available in March 2021. The report will only be sent to members with up to date membership - to renew online please LOGIN to the website and follow the **RENEW MEMBERSHIP** link.

# Graham Catley Photography Favourites Birds Trips Odonata Mammals About Contact



Over the last two weeks I have set up a new web site to display my images of birds and other wildlife in Britain and also trips abroad Graham Catley Photography found at grahamcatley.com Within the folder on Rare Birds in Britain there are a number of high profile Lincolnshire rarities and also a section on historic Lincolnshire rare bird images which are mainly scanned slides and early digi-scoped shots of significant rarities that often have no other published images; this is a link to that section; <a href="https://www.grahamcatley.com/rare-birds-in-britain/lincolnshire-old-rare-birds-archive">https://www.grahamcatley.com/rare-birds-in-britain/lincolnshire-old-rare-birds-archive</a>



As noted there are also individual accounts of birds like the Barton Blyth's Reed warbler <a href="https://bit.ly/396JKrN">https://bit.ly/396JKrN</a> and the American Black Tern <a href="https://bit.ly/2Y0Um5h">https://bit.ly/2Y0Um5h</a>. A new gallery shows the putative Black-eared Kite that wintered at Gigrin Farm in Wales and forms a good comparison to the Lincolnshire bird from Frampton shown in the Lincs Archive section.

Favourite images showcase special images with their back stories some of course relating to Lincolnshire events. A section on Odonata includes accounts of the first county records of Blue-eyed (Southern Migrant) Hawker and Vagrant Emperors in 2019

It is very much a work in progress and worth checking back in for further developments which are planned to include ageing Marsh Harriers and details of sites on the south bank of the Humber to name just two and there are several more foreign trips to document.

The Lincolnshire Bird Club welcome articles from any Lincolnshire Photographers who wish to showcase their websites.

# **LBC Committee Meetings Minutes**

The minutes of the last committee melting can be downloaded at <a href="https://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk/site/images/minutes/2021-01-12">https://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk/site/images/minutes/2021-01-12</a> LBC COMMITTEE MEETING.pdf

# Ferruginous Duck x Tufted Duck hybrid

It's been awhile since one of these Aythya hybrids was reported so just in case anyone is visiting the area, Josh Jones reported a Ferruginous Duck x Tufted Duck hybrid at Tallington Lakes, 29-Dec-2020. He says that it's an adult drake and he only noticed it when retrospectively looking at video footage of the Gt Scaup also present there. It looks slightly smaller than a Tufted Duck and with a straight, more 'pointed' Ferruginous-like bill. Dark brown breast and upperparts, dark greyish-brown flanks.



Video grab of male Tufted Duck x Ferruginous Duck hybrid, Tallington Lakes © Josh Jones

# **Glossy Ibis tour?**

In 2020 to date we have received these records of Glossy Ibis (all validated):

**Middlemarsh Farm**, 5th May

Middlemarsh Farm,14th SeptemberKillingholme Pits,15th SeptemberDonna Nook,23rd OctoberGibraltar Point,15th December

**Donna Nook**, 22nd-25th December

Whilst the May record may be independent (or not), the autumn/winter records look like the same individual which has been touring the Lincolnshire coast. Has anyone else seen a Glossy Ibis which we have not yet received word of?

# Overwintering garden birds

Feeding garden birds during the winter occupies many if not most birders at a time when our movements are restricted. We were contacted by a lady living near Grantham who took some pictures of this Black Redstart which has been in attendance for several days in early January. Keep a close eye on what you are attracting!



# **Book review: A Saga of Sea Eagles**

Here's an interesting tale!

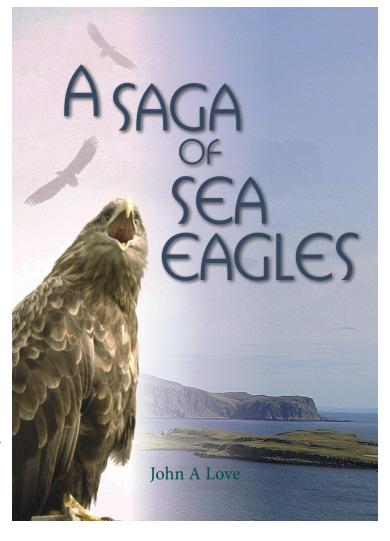
A teenage girl on one of the Scottish Isles watched as what appeared to be a small sailing craft came towards shore. As it approached nearer, the reality emerged - it was a dead cow on board which was a White-tailed Sea Eagle with its wings spread.

The hapless bird had evidently sunk its talons into the carcase, then been unable to free them.

The teenager was able to release the talons, but the bird then responded to this act of mercy by attacking her thigh, ripping out some of its flesh, before flying off. Although the girl recovered, the wound left her with a divot in her leg for the rest of her life.

The bizarre story is one of several recounted in John Love's excellent **A Saga of Eagles**.

Apparently it is not uncommon for the species to attack young seals, with an eyewitness account of one mammal which dived, hoping to escape, and took down the predator with it. A few moments later, the eagle surfaced with both wings broken and at the point of death.



Much of the book's content relates to the long-running reintroduction programme, starting on August 27,1980, in which eaglets were imported from Norway and released on the island of Rum in the Hebrides.

At the forefront of the early initiatives was Lincolnshire Bird Club president Prof Ian Newton, who, at the time, was working for the old Nature Conservancy Council.

Because of its excessively wet climate and relatively limited food supplies, Rum was not deemed an ideal island for release, but more suitable locations nearby were discounted following opposition from farmers.

The reintroduction programme proved to be a long journey, with numerous disappointments, but one that ultimately proved successful. The species is now well established, particularly on the Isle of Mull, generating huge revenue to Scotland from eagle-watching tourism.

Sister-projects were subsequently launched at other locations including Fife, on the Scottish East Coast, and Killarney in Ireland, but whether they will prove sustainable remains to be seen, especially as the birds are vulnerable to collision with wind turbines and persecution - notably shooting and poisoning.

The book was written before the launch of the Isle of Wight reintroduction project so it is too soon to know whether Sea Eagles might yet breed again in England.

Sea eagles are great wanderers, and every now and again, one is sighted in the skies of Lincolnshire. Almost a decade ago, one lingered in countryside outside Louth and became the subject of the front cover photo, snapped by John Clarkson, for the 2011 county bird report.

Love's highly-readable study - a follow-up to his **The Return of The Sea Eagle** (1983) - is probably the most authoritative work not just on the species but also on its acknowledgement of the contributions of dozens of dedicated individuals involved in the research project.

**A Saga of Sea Eagles** is published by Whittles Publishing at £19.99, but, until February 12, Lincolnshire Bird Club members can obtain a 20 discount at the online checkout.by inserting the code **WPLINCS20** 

Until this date, the same discount is also available for all other ornithological/ natural history titles including the recently-published study of the Ring Ouzel.

More details at: <a href="https://www.whittlespublishing.com">https://www.whittlespublishing.com</a>

# RSPB condemns decision to give giant North Sea windfarm the go-ahead

The RSPB has criticised the Government's decision to licence the giant (700 km2) Hornsea Three windfarm 120 km off Flamborough Head in East Yorkshire. The Society says <u>foraging Kittiwakes</u> and other seabirds will be at risk from the offshore wind turbines.

# Tyneside Kittiwakes are under pressure too

The remnant Kittiwake colony at the ferry landing in North Shields on the River Tyne is under threat after the rooftop was netted by the building's landlord ahead of the birds' return to their nesting site next month. A petition to the Mayor of North Tyneside for removal of the netting has attracted 3,000+ signatures.

# Namibia reduces albatross bycatch by 98%

Happier news from the South Atlantic where the BirdLife-backed Albatross Task Force has worked with longline fishing crews to <u>reduce albatross 'bycatch'</u> by deploying bird scaring lines – streamers trailed behind trawlers – and has achieved a stunning 98% annual cut in casualties. This equates to 22,000 albatrosses saved every year.

# Willow Tree Fen closes as a pair of cranes - one of Britain's rarest breeding birds - make an earlier than expected return

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust have closed Willow Tree Fen in the hope that a newly arrived pair of cranes will repeat the breeding success on the nature reserve last year – the first time the birds bred in Lincolnshire for 400 years.

Cranes form lifelong pair bonds and are very site loyal. The pair that nested at Willow Tree Fen were expected to return from their wintering grounds in February but arrived on Friday 22 January. Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust therefore closed the site with immediate effect. Cranes need peace and quiet, and to be socially distanced from people and dogs. Closing the site will give the cranes the best possible chance to nest in Lincolnshire for a second time.

Once the birds have settled in, a Watch Point will be set up at the entrance to the reserve to allow people to see the birds from a safe distance. A team of Crane Watch volunteers will be on hand to watch over the birds and help answer questions.

John Oliver, South-East Lincs Warden for the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust said:

"Willow Tree Fen was established to restore lost fenland habitat so the special wildlife associated with it could thrive. The fact that cranes chose to use the reserve in 2020 now makes this work nationally significant. Cranes hadn't bred in Lincolnshire for over 400 years and remain a very rare bird in the UK. Only 23 chicks fledged in the whole country last year. However, they are very sensitive to disturbance, especially during the breeding season and do not tolerate humans or dogs. Keeping Willow Tree Fen open would lead to a very real risk of the birds deserting the area."

The fact that cranes chose to use the reserve in 2020 now makes this work nationally significant.

The pair of cranes first arrived at Willow Tree Fen early last year. During the first lockdown there were virtually no human visitors to the reserve, creating the quiet conditions that the cranes needed. As lockdown lifted, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust made the decision to keep the reserve closed. This led to the successful fledging of the first crane chick in Lincolnshire since the 16th Century. A wide range of other wildlife also benefited including otters, marsh harriers, water rails and bitterns. Images of all of these species were captured on trail cameras hidden on the reserve. Trail cameras have been

installed on the reserve again this year to allow people to see the wildlife that uses the reserve without disturbing it.

Eileen Pearson, Crane Watch volunteer from Spalding said:

"It's wonderful that cranes have chosen to make Willow Tree Fen their home. We are very pleased and we should be proud that this was the first place in Lincolnshire that cranes nested after such a long absence from

the county."



# **Lincolnshire Bird News - January 2021**

# **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.

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. Lincolnshire is now in FULL LOCKDOWN. However, we are still permit outdoors for both recreation and exercise. Therefore, birding should be ok as long as no other rules are broken especially regarding social distancing and travel. Please have regard to your local circumstances and sensitivities and keep local and stay safe.

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.



An image from the St Wulfram's Peregrine Webcam (Grantham) taken 31st January 2021 © Lincs Bird Club

# 31/01/2021

**Freiston Shore** 

Hen Harrier, Red-breasted Merganser

**Gibraltar Point** 

Red-throated Diver, Red-breasted Merganser

# 30/01/2021

**Barton Pits** 

150 Pochard, Smew (redhead)

Cleethorpes

9 Snow Bunting, c2-4 Stonechat

**Doddington Park, Lincoln** 

100 Goldfinch, Lesser Redpoll, Siskin

Lincoln (on the Witham)

Great White Egret

Swanpool

15 Pink-footed Goose

**RSPB Tetney Marshes** 

3 Lapland Bunting

# 29/01/2021

**Deeping Fen** 

5 Bewick's Swan, c30 Whooper Swan

**Frampton Marsh** 

Hen Harrier, Barn Owl, Merlin, Sparrowhawk, Stonechat, 43 Whooper Swan

Lincoln (Brant Road)

Red Kite

Messingham

5 Bullfinch, Buzzard, 8 Cormorant, 76 Gadwall, Goldcrest, 4 Egyptian Goose, Grey Heron, 29 Pochard, 35 Lesser Redpoll,8 Shelduck, 10 Shoveler, 40 Siskin, Treecreeper, Willow Tit

Millennium Green

2 Egyptian Goose, 17 Goldeneye, 67 Pochard, Mistle Thush, 26 Tufted Duck

Rimac

29 Russian White-fronted Goose

**Swallow** 

Red Kite

Walesby Moor

25 Crossbill

Whisby

Bittern

Willow Tree Fen

Hen Harrier

# 28/01/2021

Deeping Fen

5 Bewick's Swan, c30 Whooper Swan

**Deeping High Bank** 

3 Common Crane, 3 Great White Egret, 5 Goosander, 2 Barn Owl, 3 Short-eared Owl, Stonechat

Millennium Green

Mandarin Duck (male), Oystercatcher

**Trent Port, Marton** 

3 Bullfinch, Little Egret, 2 Peregrine Falcon, Little Owl, Raven

# Willow Tree Fen

3 Common Crane, Barn Owl, 4 Goosander, Pintail, 3 Ruff, 2 Whooper Swan



Purple Sandpiper at Cleethorpe 28th January 2021 © Jim Wright - Note the fishing line around the left foot!

# 27/01/2021

**Deeping Fen** 

4 Bewick's Swan, 40 Whooper Swan

**Deeping High Bank** 

3 Buzzard, 2 Great White Egret, 5 Little Egret, 4 Goosander, 4 Kestrel, 1 Barn Owl, 2 Stonechat

**Grantham (St Wulframs Church)** 

Peregrine Falcon

**Swanholme Lakes** 

12 Goosander (9 male, 3 female)

26/01/2021

**East Lindsey** 

2 Raven

25/01/2021

Harmston area

7 Whooper Swan

Marston

Siberian Chiffchaff

# Black Bank, Messingham

Buzzard, Peregrine Falcon, Kestrel, 30 Linnet, Treecreeper, 15 Yellowhammer

# Rippingale

Buzzard



Unusual garden tick -Buzzard in a Rippingale - Image © Ian Misselbrook

# Saltfleet St Peter

**Iceland Gull** 

**Wainfleet All Saints** 

Hen Harrier

Washingborough Fen

Grey Wagtail

# 24/01/2021

**Apex Pits** 

100 Siskin

**Deeping Lakes** 

Long-eared Owl, Greater Scaup

Dunston

Raven (over)

**Freiston Shore** 

Long-tailed Duck, Hen Harrier

Mablethorpe

5 Snow Bunting

Trent Port, Marton

Peregrine Falcon, 3 Egyptian Goose, 10 Pintail, 9 Grey Plover, Stonechat, Grey Wagtail

Swanpool

10 Grey Partridge

Job's Lane, Whisby

4 Fieldfare, Oystercatcher, 2 Egyptian Goose, 116 Greylag Goose, 150 Pink-footed Goose (over), 4 Mistle Thrush



Probable Siberian Chiffchaff at Marston STW 24th January 2021 © Dave Roberts

Bourne North Fen
Hen Harrier
Deeping Fen
2 Bewick's Swan, 20 Whooper Swan
Mablethorpe to Crook Bank
Snow Bunting, Long-tailed Duck
Marston

22/01/2021 Hartsholme Park Tawny Owl Swanholme Lakes

23/01/2021

Bearded Tit

13 Goosander (6 Male 7 female), Song Thrush, Treecreeper

**RSPB Tetney Marshes** 

2 Pale-bellied Brent Goose, Short-eared Owl, 2 Jack Snipe, Twite

Willow Tree Fen

3 Common Crane - (please note that the Reserve will be now be closed)

21/01/2021

Gibraltar Point

4 Water Pipit, 3 Velvet Scoter

Cleethorpes/Grimsby

Purple Sandpiper

Trent Port, Marton

**Great White Egret** 

20/01/2021

**Boultham Mere** 

Bittern, Chiffchaff, 3 Grey Partridge, Woodcock

Gibraltar Point

Black-throated Diver (south)

19/01/2021

Deeping High Bank

Bewick's Swan, 61 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

Hen Harrier

Hartsholme Park

Kingfisher, 2 Tawny Owl, Siskin

Millennium Green

50 Pochard (male)

Shepeau Stow (near Crowland)

40 Bewick's Swan, 54 Whooper Swan

18/01/2012

**Boultham Mere** 

4 Little Egret, 5 Goosander (3 male, 2 female), 20+ Shoveler

Marston (Sewage Works)

Siberian Chiffchaff (probable)

Messingham

2 Goldeneye (male), 200 Lapwing, 5 Shelduck, 80 Siskin, Treecreeper, Great Spotted Woodpecker

**Tetney Marshes RSPB** 

2 Lapland Bunting, Hen Harrier

**Swanpool** 

Woodcock

17/01/2021

Mablethorpe to Crook Bank

Great Northern Diver, Long-tailed Duck, Iceland Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Woodcock

Deeping High Bank

Bewick's Swan, 70 Whooper Swan

**Gibraltar Point** 

**Snow Bunting** 

Trent Port, Marton

Sparrowhawk, 3 Treecreeper, Grey Wagtail

**Tallington Lakes** 

# **Greater Scaup**

# 16/01/2021

**Baston Fen** 

# Water Pipit

# **Boultham Mere**

3 Bullfinch, 23 Cormorant, 6 Little Egret, 3 Goosander, Kingfisher, 3 Grey Partridge, 12 Shoveler, 6 Skylark, Sparrowhawk

# Cleethorpes

122 Barnacle Goose, Woodcock

# **Denton Reservoir**

Great White Egret, 5 Goosander

# **Trent Port, Marton**

Chiffchaff, 3 Egyptian Goose, Stonechat, Grey Wagtail

# 15/01/2021

**Baston Fen** 

2 Bewick's Swan

# **Chapel Pit**

Bittern

# **Chapel Six Marshes**

Shag

# Grimsby

103 Curlew, 34 Oystercatcher

#### Marsh Yard

Glaucous Gull

# **Rigsby Wood**

Raven

# 14/01/2021

#### **Baston Fen**

2 Bewick's Swan

# 13/01/2021

# **Anderby Creek**

11 Russian White-fronted Goose

#### **Baston Fen**

# 2 Bewick's Swan

# **Boultham Mere**

Marsh Harrier, Green Sandpiper

# Callan's Lane Wood

2 Raven, 12 Lesser Redpoll, 4 Siskin, 14 Blue Tit, 20 Long-tailed Tit, 4 Marsh Tit, 1 Willow Tit

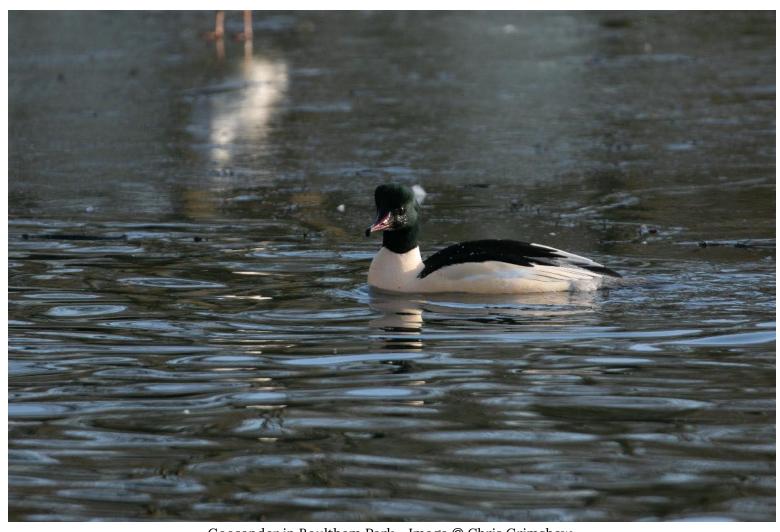
# 12/01/2021

# **Baston Fen**

Short-eared Owl

# **Boultham Park**

Jay, 3 Nuthatch, 4 Goldcrest, 1 Goosander (male), 2 Treecreeper, Great Spotted Woodpecker



Goosander in Boultham Park - Image © Chris Grimshaw

# Gibraltar Point

4 Hen Harrier, 2 Stonechat, 5 Woodcock

# **Doddington Park, Lincoln**

Lesser Redpoll, 3 Redwing, Great Spotted Woodpecker

# **Swinn Wood**

5 Bullfinch Buzzard, 6 Jay, Nuthatch, 2 Treecreeper, 3 Woodcock, Great Spotted Woodpecker

# **Theddlethorpe**

Blackcap, Brambling, Redwing, Stonechat

# **RAF Wainfleet**

2000 Dunlin, 500 Bar-tailed Godwit, 800 Brent Goose, Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, 3000 Knot, 200 Oystercatcher, 52 Whooper Swan

# 11/01/2021

# **Ashby Ville Lakes**

2 Bullfinch, 2 Common Crane (over), Great Crested Grebe, Little Grebe, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Goldcrest, Coal Tit, Mistle Thrush, Treecreeper

# **Boultham Mere**

Cetti's Warbler

**Deeping High Bank** 

2 Great White Egret

**Deeping Bank** 

# 2 Long-eared Owl, Greater Scaup

Doddington Park, Lincoln

Lesser Redpoll, 33 Redwing

# 10/01/2021

**Baston Fen** 

Water Pipit

Cleethorpes

Snow Bunting, Peregrine Falcon, Rock Pipit

Deeping High Bank

Great White Egret, Short-eared Owl, Bewick's Swan, 151 Whooper Swan

**Deeping Lakes** 

Greater Scaup (male)

**Doddington Park, Lincoln** 

3 Lesser Redpoll, 10 Redwing, 2 Siskin

**Trent Port, Marton** 

25 Cormorant, 3 Redshank, Shelduck, Snipe, 2 Sparrowhawk, 147 Wigeon

**Norton Disney** 

Great Spotted Woodpecker

09/01/2021

**Alkborough Flats** 

Dunlin, Water Pipit, Little Stint

**Boultham Mere** 

Bittern

Donna Nook

Sanderling



A stunning photo of a Sanderling at Donna Nook - Image © Mark Johnson

**Doddington Park** 

3 Lesser Redpoll

**Freiston Shore** 

Red-necked Grebe, Hen Harrier

Hartsholme Park

Grey Wagtail

Rimac

Barnacle Goose

Swanholme Lakes

Goosander (male), Kingfisher, 6 Shoveler

**Tallington Lakes** 

**Great Scaup** 

**RSPB Tetney Marsh** 

12 Lapland Bunting, Peregrine Falcon, Marsh Harrier, Merlin, Kingfisher, 91 Twite

# 07/01/2021

Cleethorpes

80 Snow Bunting

**Gibraltar Point** 

Hen Harrier

Millennium Green

2 Egyptian Goose, 30 male Pochard, Cetti's Warbler

Saltfleetby

80 Snow Bunting

**Swanholme Lakes** 

Goosander male, Jay, Kingfisher, Treecreeper

# 06/01/2021

**Deeping Lakes** 

Great Northern Diver, Great White Egret, 4 Long-eared Owl, Greater Scaup

Hartsholme

6 Goosander, Kingfisher, Green Woodpecker

Saltfleetby

Long-tailed Duck

# 05/01/2021

Deeping High Bank

3 Great White Egret, 9 Little Egret

**Deeping Lakes** 

Great Northern Diver, Little Owl, 4 Long-eared Owl, Goldeneye, Goosander, Greater Scaup

Swanpool Cow-fields

Raven

**Swanholme Lakes** 

Goosander (10 male 3 female), 3 Jay, Kingfisher, Pochard, Sparrowhawk

# 04/01/2020

**Baston Fen** 

Water Pipit

**Broughton Carrs** 

Great White Egret

**Deeping Lakes** 

Long-eared Owl, Greater Scaup

**Dunston Fen** 

Hen Harrier

**Fiskerton Fen** 

Bittern (briefly)

**Freiston Shore** 

White-fronted Goose

**Gibraltar Point** 

Great Northern Diver

Grantham

Whooper Swan (over at night)

Kirkby on Bain

White-tailed Eagle (probable over)

**Nene Mouth** 

Little Gull

Skegness

Caspian Gull

Stixwould

Goosander

**Swanholme Lakes** 

Goosander, Kingfisher, 2 Jay



Lesser Redpoll in Gratham 3rd January 2021 © Steve Nesbitt

**Deeping High Bank** 3 Short-eared Owl **Deeping Lakes** 

# 2 Long-eared Owl, Greater Scaup

Fiskerton Fen

Bittern

**Frampton Marsh** 

Hen Harrier, Kingfisher, Merlin, 2 Stonechat, Bewick's Swan, 117 Whooper Swan,

**Freiston Shore** 

White-fronted Goose

Gibraltar Point

Great Northern Diver, Hen Harrier

Saltflletby St Helens

**Iceland Gull** 

**Tallington Lakes** 

**Greater Scaup** 

# 02/01/2021

**Alkborough Flats** 

2 Little Stint, Green Winged Teal

**Bardney Pits** 

2 Peregrine Falcon, 10 Goldeneye, 15 Goosander, Grey Wagtail

**Brickyard Lane** 

5 Snow Bunting

Deeping High Bank

3 Great White Egret, 2 Goosander, Merlin, 2 Barn Owl, 3 Short-eared Owl, 20 Golden Plover, Whooper Swan

**Deeping Bank** 

Long-eared Owl

**Dunston** 

100 Pink-footed Goose

Marston

Pink-footed Goose, 2 Water Rail, 2 Stonechat, Woodcock

**Nocton Fen** 

Merlin, Whooper Swan

Ostler's Plantation/Kirkby Moor

Crossbill, Goldcrest, Redwing, Stonechat, Treecreeper

Rimac

**Iceland Gull** 

Woodhall Spa

2 Green Sandpiper

**Worlaby Carrs** 

**Great White Egret** 

# 01/01/2021

**Bagmoor** 

5 Goldeneye, 5 Little Grebe

**Baston Fen** 

Water Pipit

**Baston & Langtoft Pits** 

2 Smew (on private lake - view only from the road)

**Boultham Mere** 

2 Goosander, Kingfisher, Green Sandpiper

**Brickyard Lane** 

5 Snow Bunting, 2 Stonechat

Cleethorpes

9 Snow Bunting

# Deeping High Bank

3 Short-eared Owl

# **Deeping Lakes**

2 Long-eared Owl

# **Doddington Park, Lincoln**

Tawny Owl, Redwing

# **Frampton Marsh**

Hen Harrier, Smew

#### **Freiston Shore**

White-fronted Goose, Hen Harrier, Barn Owl, Short-eared Owl

#### Gibraltar Point

2 Snow Bunting, Peregrine Falcon, 350 Brent Goose, 1650 Pink-footed Goose, Gannet, 2 Hen Harrier, 2 Marsh Harier, Hawfinch, Merlin, Water Pipit, Cetti's Warbler, Woodcock, Green Woodpecker

#### Hartsholme Park

Tawny Owl

# **Huttoft Pit**

3 Russian White-fronted Goose, Short-eared Owl

#### Lea Marsh

Green Sandpiper, Water Rail, Grey Wagtail

### Louth

#### Raven

# Messingham

Buzzard, 150 Dunlin, Peregrine Falcon, Brent Goose, 900 Pink-footed Goose, 3 Marsh Harrier, Water Rail, 20 Redshank, Ruff,2 Stonechat, 3 Whooper Swan, 5 Mistle Thrush, 20 Yellowhammer

# Trent Port, Marton

Dunlin, Peregrine Falcon, Goosander, 130 Pink-footed Goose,

# Rimac

Barnacle Goose

# Saltfleetby NNR

Black-throated Diver, Great Northern Diver, Long-tailed Duck, Velvet Scoter

# **Swanholme Lakes**

Kingfisher, 3 Redwing, 20 Siskin

# **Tallington Lakes**

**Greater Scaup** 

# Theddlethorpe St Helens

Velvet Scoter

# 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-plantsL

ove Lincs Plants Twitter feed @LoveLincsPlants

Sir Joseph Banks Society

http://www.ioseph-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.ht

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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.willev@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/rura

l-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/lvme-disease/

#### SPECIES IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDING

#### **Botany**

Botanical Group in South Lincs

Contact: Sarah Lambert - <a href="mailto:sarah.lambert7@ntlworld.com">sarah.lambert7@ntlworld.com</a>

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

LNU Sawflies, Bees, Wasps and Ants Recorder

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

#### **Lincolnshire Mammals**

Chris Manning, <a href="mailto:Chris.LincsDeer@gmail.com">Chris.LincsDeer@gmail.com</a>

#### Mammal Atlas

You can download and print off a hard copy or view it online. <a href="http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/project-s-and-reports.php">http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/project-s-and-reports.php</a>

#### 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: <a href="mailto:charlie.barnes@glnp.org.uk">charlie.barnes@glnp.org.uk</a>

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















