



## Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter - February 2023

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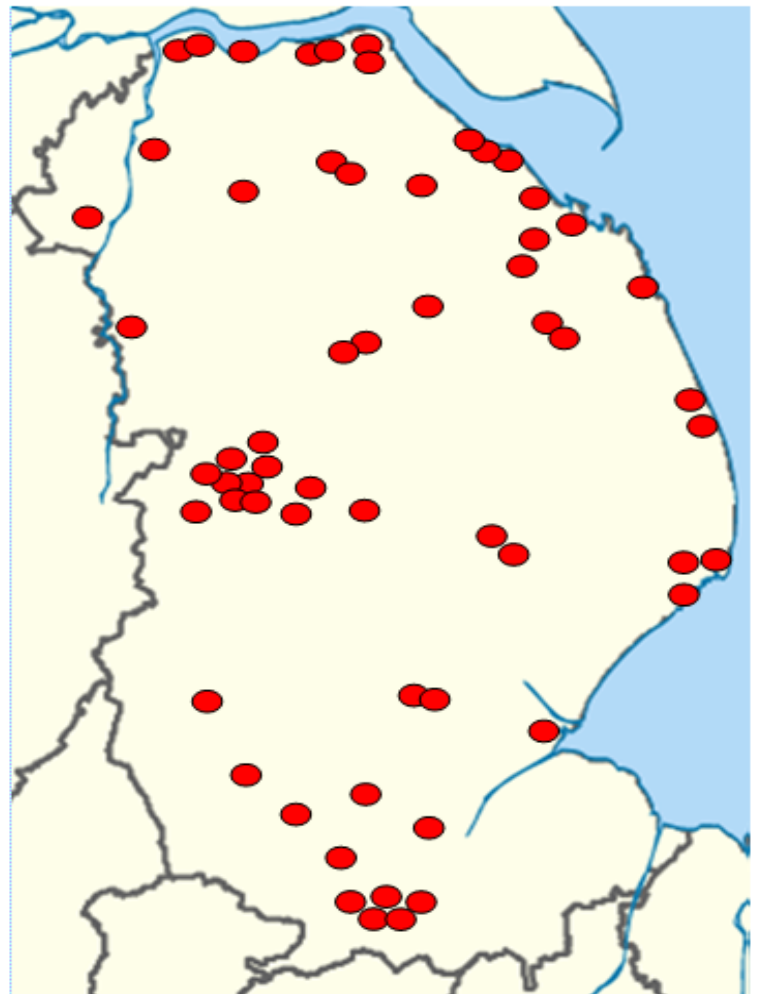
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## NEW YEARS DAY BIRD RACE 2023

Thanks to everyone who took part in the 2023 New Year's Day Bird Race event. The total number of birds recorded came in at 139 species, recorded by 75 observers in 60 locations throughout Lincolnshire. The warm weather experienced in the autumn/early winter of 2022 delayed the arrival of many of our winter visitors, which may be a reflection of the lower species count this year. It is fantastic to see more and more people taking part in this event each year (46 participants in 2021, 51 participants in 2022 and 75 participants in 2023!).

Based on the last three events, it is interesting to note that the number of species recorded in Lincolnshire during winter is consistently around the 140 species mark. The data from the three years gives an average of 143 species. (144 species in 2021 and 146 species in 2022). The map shows which areas were visited on the day...

Highlights of the day came in the form of: Common Crane at Willowtree Fen (the first to be recorded on a New Year's Day event – 2020-2023) and now appears to be established as a wintering species in Lincolnshire, following successful breeding seasons at Willowtree Fen and in neighbouring Norfolk. A Tundra Bean Goose was found at Gibraltar Point, with another



two at RSPB Frampton Marsh. A Bewick's Swan was recorded near Messingham but this species continues to dwindle away in Lincolnshire. The wintering Great Northern Diver at Covenham Reservoir was the only record of the day. A Common Sandpiper at Cress Marsh was also noteworthy being a rare winter visitor in Lincolnshire.

Other species of interest on the day included - Water Pipit and European White-fronted Goose at East Halton/Goxhill, Spotted Redshank and Avocet from Alkborough, Velvet Scoter from Sutton-on-sea and Saltfleetby, Scaup and Guillemot at Gibraltar Point, Bittern at Far Ings, Green Sandpiper from three locations, Twite from North Lincs and Corn Bunting from five locations.

Sea watching was reasonably quiet on the day with no records of Fulmar, Little Gull, Kittiwake or Razorbill, though a Gannet was picked up distantly from Wainfleet RAF Range at high tide.

Obvious omissions on the day were Long-tailed Duck, Crossbill, Willow Tit and Lapland Bunting. Although missed, these species are all resident in the county in winter but failed to appear on the day. In addition to these species, a few scarce birds were not connected with, in particular the scarce grebes, Black-throated Diver and Smew. The cold weather normally associated with these species no doubt a factor in their absence.

Owls appeared to be elusive on the day with no records of Little Owl or Long-eared Owl. This is the first time that all five owls did not feature on New Year's Day. Strong winds on the day might have hampered opportunities to listen for these species.

Shorelark now appears to be lost in Lincolnshire as a wintering species with no regular sightings now for several years. Willow Tit (though not seen on the day) continue to hold on in small numbers but remain perilously close to extinction.

On the plus side, a few species are expanding in range throughout Lincolnshire such as Great White Egret, Red Kite and Raven with multiple sightings of each on New Year's Day.

For amusement purposes a couple of plastics again made the list in the form of a Red-crested Pochard in south Lincs. A special shout out also to the Feral Pigeon.

A full list of the species recorded on the 2023 Bird Race can be found below, alongside comparison data for the same day in 2021 and 2022.

**Text:** Richard Doan

**Photo:** Great Northern Diver at Covenham Reservoir © John Clarkson



SPECIES	2021	2022	2023
Brent Goose	✓	✓	✓
Canada Goose	✓	✓	✓
Barnacle Goose	✓	✓	✓
Greylag Goose	✓	✓	✓
Pink-footed Goose	✓	✓	✓
Tundra Bean Goose	✓		✓
White-fronted Goose	✓	✓	✓
Mute Swan	✓	✓	✓
Bewick's Swan		✓	✓
Whooper Swan	✓	✓	✓
Egyptian Goose	✓	✓	✓
Shelduck	✓	✓	✓
Shoveler	✓	✓	✓
Gadwall	✓	✓	✓
Wigeon	✓	✓	✓
Mandarin Duck	✓	✓	
Mallard	✓	✓	✓
Pintail	✓	✓	✓
Teal	✓	✓	✓
Red-crested Pochard	✓	✓	✓
Pochard	✓	✓	✓
Tufted Duck	✓	✓	✓
Scaup	✓	✓	✓
Eider	✓	✓	✓
Velvet Scoter	✓	✓	✓
Common Scoter	✓	✓	✓
Long-tailed Duck	✓	✓	
Goldeneye	✓	✓	✓

Smew	✓		
Goosander	✓	✓	✓
Red-breasted Merganser	✓	✓	✓
Red-legged Partridge	✓	✓	✓
Grey Partridge	✓	✓	✓
Pheasant	✓	✓	✓
Red-throated Diver	✓	✓	✓
Black-throated Diver	✓		
Great Northern Diver	✓	✓	✓
Fulmar			
Little Grebe	✓	✓	✓
Red-necked Grebe			
Great Crested Grebe	✓	✓	✓
Slavonian Grebe	✓		
Black-necked Grebe			
Grey Heron	✓	✓	✓
Great White Egret	✓	✓	✓
Bittern	✓	✓	✓
Little Egret	✓	✓	✓
Gannet	✓		✓
Shag		✓	
Cormorant	✓	✓	✓
Sparrowhawk	✓	✓	✓
Marsh Harrier	✓	✓	✓
Hen Harrier	✓	✓	✓
Red Kite	✓	✓	✓
Common Buzzard	✓	✓	✓
Water Rail	✓	✓	✓
Moorhen	✓	✓	✓

Coot	✓	✓	✓
Crane			✓
Oystercatcher	✓	✓	✓
Avocet	✓	✓	✓
Lapwing	✓	✓	✓
Golden Plover	✓	✓	✓
Grey Plover	✓	✓	✓
Ringed Plover	✓	✓	✓
Curlew	✓	✓	✓
Bar-tailed Godwit	✓	✓	✓
Black-tailed Godwit	✓	✓	✓
Turnstone	✓	✓	✓
Knot	✓	✓	✓
Ruff	✓	✓	✓
Sanderling	✓	✓	✓
Little Stint		✓	
Dunlin	✓	✓	✓
Woodcock	✓	✓	✓
Jack Snipe	✓	✓	✓
Snipe	✓	✓	✓
Common Sandpiper		✓	✓
Green Sandpiper	✓	✓	✓
Redshank	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Redshank	✓	✓	✓
Greenshank			
Kittiwake			
Black-headed Gull	✓	✓	✓
Little Gull			
Mediterranean Gull			

Common Gull	✓	✓	✓
Great Black-backed Gull	✓	✓	✓
Glaucous Gull			
Iceland Gull			
Herring Gull	✓	✓	✓
Caspian Gull	✓		
Yellow-legged Gull	✓		
Lesser Black-backed Gull	✓	✓	✓
Common Guillemot	✓		✓
Razorbill		✓	
Stock Dove	✓	✓	✓
Feral Pigeon	✓	✓	✓
Wood Pigeon	✓	✓	✓
Collared Dove	✓	✓	✓
Barn Owl	✓	✓	✓
Tawny Owl	✓	✓	✓
Little Owl	✓	✓	
Long-eared Owl	✓	✓	
Short-eared Owl	✓	✓	✓
Kingfisher	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker			
Great Spotted Woodpecker	✓	✓	✓
Green Woodpecker	✓	✓	✓
Kestrel	✓	✓	✓
Merlin	✓	✓	✓
Peregrine	✓	✓	✓
Jay	✓	✓	✓
Magpie	✓	✓	✓
Jackdaw	✓	✓	✓

Rook	✓	✓	✓
Carrion Crow	✓	✓	✓
Raven	✓	✓	✓
Waxwing			
Coal Tit	✓	✓	✓
Marsh Tit	✓	✓	✓
Willow Tit			
Blue Tit	✓	✓	✓
Great Tit	✓	✓	✓
Bearded Tit	✓	✓	✓
Skylark	✓	✓	✓
Shore Lark			
Cetti's Warbler	✓	✓	✓
Long-tailed Tit	✓	✓	✓
Chiffchaff	✓	✓	✓
Blackcap	✓	✓	✓
Goldcrest	✓	✓	✓
Wren	✓	✓	✓
Nuthatch	✓	✓	✓
Treecreeper	✓	✓	✓
Starling	✓	✓	✓
Blackbird	✓	✓	✓
Fieldfare	✓	✓	✓
Redwing	✓	✓	✓
Song Thrush	✓	✓	✓
Mistle Thrush	✓	✓	✓
Robin	✓	✓	✓
Stonechat	✓	✓	✓

House Sparrow	✓	✓	✓
Tree Sparrow	✓	✓	✓
Duncock	✓	✓	✓
Grey Wagtail	✓	✓	✓
Pied Wagtail	✓	✓	✓
Meadow Pipit	✓	✓	✓
Water Pipit	✓	✓	✓
Rock Pipit	✓	✓	✓
Chaffinch	✓	✓	✓
Brambling	✓	✓	✓
Bullfinch	✓	✓	✓
Greenfinch	✓	✓	✓
Twite		✓	✓
Linnet	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Redpoll	✓	✓	✓
Crossbill			
Goldfinch	✓	✓	✓
Siskin	✓	✓	✓
Lapland Bunting			
Snow Bunting	✓	✓	✓
Corn Bunting	✓	✓	✓
Yellowhammer	✓	✓	✓
Reed Bunting	✓	✓	✓
*Ring-necked Duck*		✓	
*White-tailed Plover*		✓	
*Cattle Egret*		✓	
*Richard's Pipit*		✓	
SPECIES TOTAL	144	146	139





### **LBC in talks with travel company on proposed birding holiday to Cairngorms**

AS reported in the website Forum (General News), Lincs Bird Club is discussing with holiday company Cairngorm Travel, the possibility of running occasional five-day birding holidays to the Scottish Highlands.

If they proved to be a success, it could lead to similar ventures to other UK birding destinations, such as Northumberland and Norfolk, or even to continental hotspots ( Extremadura in Spain or the forests of Estonia would be tasty!)

So anyone who joins the first trip would be 'pioneer' (think Neil Armstrong/ the moon!)

The date of the proposed five-day /four-night 'pilot' trip is April 28 this year.

That's a good time of year - temperatures are rising and leaves are coming through but not so much so as to impede views/ photographs of arriving migrant songbirds.

Because it is an 'outlier', the cost would be very modest - just £269 per head based on a minimum of 40. If we could only get a headcount of 30-40, the price would rise. Fewer than 30 and the trip wouldn't go ahead.

In outline, it would be to the Highlands via coach with probable pick-ups in Lincoln, Louth and Brigg, possibly with the option (to be confirmed) of feeder minibus connection from other towns (eg Scunthorpe and Grimsby).

Stop-offs (45 minutes) would be first at Wetherby - greeting party of pied wagtails guaranteed (!) and watch out for red kites - then Moffatt (there is a nature park just around the corner).

Coach holidays used to have a bit of an 'old dearies' reputation, but this is unjustified. Think of this trip north as a mobile bird observatory with a target of up to 50 species just on the journey there and back, with many more (eg capercaillies, eagles, harriers, ospreys, tree pipits, redstarts, crested tits, crossbills, breeding waders etc) during the stay.

Accommodation would be four nights at the Duke of Gordon hotel in Kingussie, near Aviemore, with full breakfast and a four-course evening



meal (in effect a banquet) each night. This hotel, incidentally, is owned by Cairngorm Travel.

The hotel is a two- or three- mile walk from RSPB Insh Marshes.

Subject to further discussions, the aim during the stay would be for optional trips to Loch Garten and/or at least one other birding hotspot (possibly Loch Ruthven - dancing Slavonian grebes) or somewhere non- bird-related - e.g. a distillery). Cairngorm T. would aim to tailor things to LBC requirements.

There are a number of excellent waterside walks (dippers etc) from outside the hotel. Alternatively, for those wanting to make any travel arrangements of their own, a bus stop is directly outside the hotel and a railway station - trains to Inverness (via Aviemore) and Glasgow (via Pitlochry and Perth) - is three minutes' walk away.

Another option for the more adventurous would be for a group to hire a car from a firm in Aviemore and venture further afield - eg other RSPB reserves such as Culbin Sands, Nigg Bay, Udale Bay, Fairy Glen, Corrimony, Glenborrodale or beyond. It's much less expensive than other birding holidays to Scottish hotels and saves the hassle of a long car/rail journey up north. It will be a chance for loads of fresh air and to meet up with other birders, pick up their tips on anything from ID to optics. And no one will put you on a carbon footprint guilt-trip for going on a coach holiday!

This would be a pilot toe-dipping 'eco-tourism' venture for Cairngorm, and they are keen to give it a trial run - hence the competitive price.

As stated, it would need a minimum of 30 travellers (birders/ partners/friends with a few single room occupancies) to make it a goer.

I was hoping there might be one free holiday for someone (not me), but because of the low price, I haven't pursued this.

No need to be an LBC member. If anyone has a provisional interest, please email me soonest at [secretary@lincsbirdclub.co.uk](mailto:secretary@lincsbirdclub.co.uk) and I will get back to you as soon as I have been able to assess potential demand and to advise Cairngorm accordingly.

However, I would probably need to know by February 7 (preferably sooner) in order to meet the deadline for a spring trip. Log into the LBC Forum (General News) for updates.

More details about Cairngorm Travel and the Duke of Gordon hotel are at: [Home \(cairngorm-travel.co.uk\)](http://Home.cairngorm-travel.co.uk).

See also: [insh@rspb.org.uk](mailto:insh@rspb.org.uk),  
[abernethy@rspb.org.uk](mailto:abernethy@rspb.org.uk)

**Jim Wright**



## Where are we with breeding Curlew's in Lincolnshire?

Alan Ball's article (No) Future for Curlews in Lincs in the November newsletter got us all thinking and talking about the points he raised. The position of confirmed Curlew breeding records in 10 km squares (Hectads) from the four atlases conducted since 1968 are shown in the Table below. It indicates that the breeding Curlew population has shifted from the Trent and Ancholme Valleys to the Limestone Heath. Why that has happened we don't know but it appears that the range has increased rather than contracted over the last 50 years. The shaded squares are those where Curlew records may have come from the county or across the county border.



Confirmed breeding of Curlew in Lincolnshire from Atlases and RAF							
Hectad	Broad Location	Region	BTO 1968-72	LBC 1980-89	BTO 1988-91	BTO 2008-11	RAF 2020-21
SK82	Wyville	Upper Witham	1			1	
SK84	Marston	Upper Witham			1	1	
SK85	Beckingham	Upper Witham		1	1		
SE80	Butterwick	Trent Valley	1	1	1		
SK86	Swinderby	Trent Valley	1		1		
SK87	Torksey	Trent Valley			1		
SK88	Marton	Trent Valley	1				
SK89	East Stockwith	Trent Valley	1				
SK91	Castle Bytham	Upper Glen				1	
TF02	Hawthorpe	Upper Glen				1	
SK95	Brant Broughton	Upper Witham				1	
SE90	Hibaldstow	Ancholme Valley	1		1		
SE91	Appleby	Ancholme Valley			1		
SE92	South Ferriby	Ancholme Valley			1		
TA00	Cadney	Ancholme Valley	1	1	1		
TF08	Toft next Newton	Ancholme Valley	1				
TF09	South Kelsey	Ancholme Valley		1	1	1	
TF17	Wragby	Witham Valley				1	
SK94	RAF Barkston Heath	Limestone Heath				1	1
SK96	RAF Waddington	Limestone Heath					1
SK97	RAF Scampton	Limestone Heath					1
TF04	Sleaford	Limestone Heath?				1	
TF57	Skegness	Marsh				1	
TF00	Tallington	Fens				1	
TOTAL			8	4	10	11	3
TOTAL definitely in Lincs			3	2	5	7	3
	Hectad > 50% Lincs						
	Hectad < 50% Lincs						

Looking at our Lincolnshire Bird Report for 2015 to 2020 there are no reports of confirmed breeding from anywhere in the county. So are the three RAF stations that Alan mentioned where Curlew eggs are being collected for head



starting and transferring to other parts of the country the only breeding Curlews in the county? Those RAF stations are Scampton, Waddington and Barkston Heath.

We simply don't know the answer to that question, but do you?

Are you aware of any breeding records in the county in the last 7 years that haven't been reported? If so please let me know so we can try and improve our understanding. Email [pmjespin@gmail.com](mailto:pmjespin@gmail.com) with any details you have. If you wish your record to be confidential please say so and that will be respected.

If you have any specific knowledge of the breeding position of Curlews on these three RAF stations, or the management of the airfields to limit Curlew numbers we would like to hear from you too, again if you would prefer those details to be confidential that will be respected.



That covers what has been happening up until now but what about going forward? The committee have in mind the formation of a Lincs Curlew Action group, LCA for short. We are looking for volunteers from the membership to join the group. One of its first actions will be to organise a survey of breeding Curlews in Lincs. Given that the best time to conduct surveys for this species is at the start of the breeding season in late March and early April we anticipate that the full survey, which will take a great deal of planning, will take place in 2024 with some preparatory test field work this year.

That doesn't stop any of you going out this spring to look for displaying Curlews and sharing any details with LCA.

We have had some discussions with BTO about survey design and it is likely our survey will be on a tetrad basis and focus on airfields (to the extent they can be accessed by agreement or viewed from the perimeter) and a 2km buffer zone around them. We will also look at a sample of previous known breeding sites from material in LBR 2012 onwards and the last BTO Atlas of 2008/2011. We have made a data request to BTO for details of Lincolnshire tetrads where breeding Curlew were confirmed or probable in their last Atlas.

If you'd like to get involved with LCA or volunteer to help with preparatory surveys please email [pmjespin@gmail.com](mailto:pmjespin@gmail.com).



## **NEW hide at RSPB Blacktoft Sands**

A NEW hide has been opened at RSPB Blacktoft Sands thanks to a partnership involving Lincs Bird Club member Joy Croot, the team at the reserve and Gilleards, the firm which manufactured the structure.

After three decades, the old Xerox hide was nearing the end of its life, so Joy generously resolved to fund its replacement - known as the Reedling hide in honour of one of her favourite birds which is regularly seen at the site.

This is the reserve's 50th anniversary year, so what could be better timing!

The hide was formally opened on the morning of January 20 by the president of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Prof Sir John Lawton, with Joy and other project supporters in attendance.

Afterwards, Joy was modest about her one generous contribution, but full of praise for the others involved.

"I really want the credit for the wonderful new hide to go to the Blacktoft team and the lads from Gilleards," she said. "In particular it was the reserve manager, Pete Short, who was magnificent throughout, weathering the considerable stresses involved in the project.

"I just had to deal with a few emails and do a couple clicks on my iPad to transfer the monies."

**Picture: Joy (at foot of steps) with others who attended, including master of ceremonies Prof Sir John Lawton at the door of the upper storey.**





## Book review: *Landlines* by Raynor Winn

IF your beloved partner appears to be wasting away before your eyes, what, if anything, can or should you do?

Specifically, his condition is corticobasal degeneration (CBD) - a rare and progressive neuro-degenerative disorder likely to cause problems with movement, speech, cognition and swallowing, plus a raft of subsidiary symptoms.

How author Raynor Winn and her rapidly-ailing husband, Moth, respond to this challenge provides the content for her inspirational book, *Landlines*.

Instead of choosing to become as comfortable as possible at their home in Cornwall, Moth agrees to her suggestion that they should undertake an expedition - not to some exotic sunshine island but a gruelling hike through Scottish mountains, starting in the Highlands.

And, off they go, rucksacks heavily laden with camping equipment on their backs.

One thing leads to another. That brutally arduous journey having been completed, they embark on the Pennine Way, then Offa's Dyke Path, then Chepstow to Plymouth.

Thence to their home in Cornwall along the South West Coast Path from Plymouth to Polruan.

En route, they are cheered by sightings (or hearings) of such birds as wheatears, cuckoos, skylarks, dippers, golden plovers and raptors of various species.

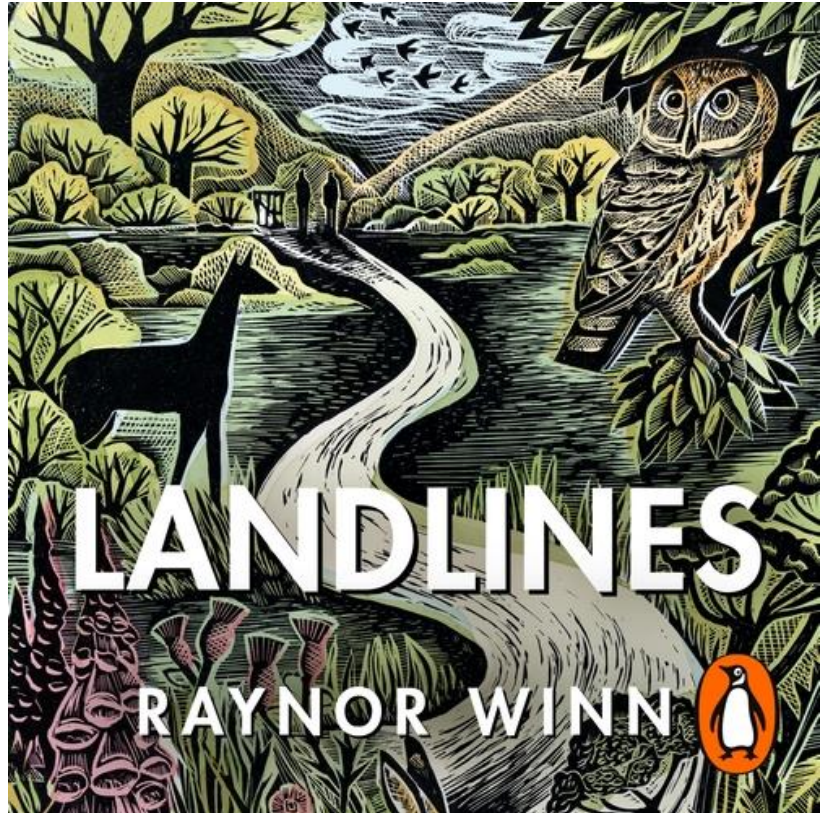
How can that arduous trek have possibly been achieved given that, before they started, 60-year-old Moth could scarcely walk from one room to another - the disease having left him "lost in the shell of a body that can no longer function"?

Medically and scientifically, there is no explanation. By what amounts to some sort of miracle, Moth, incredibly, was in far better physical and mental shape after they returned home than before they left. This is confirmed by brain scan results taken by his consultant at the local hospital.

In the conclusion to her book, Raynor can only speculate about how extreme physical exertion, accompanied by determination of spirit, can seemingly overcome insurmountable odds.

She writes: "We do know that areas of the brain can grow in response to physical activity and that neuroplasticity exists although we know very little about it."

*Landlines* is published by Michael Joseph at £20. **JW**



## January 2023 Star Bird...

A drake Falcated Duck was present at Covenham Reservoir on 26th January 2023.

If accepted this will be Lincolnshire 2nd record, the first was a Kirkby Pits in February 1995!

Falcated Duck breeds mainly in eastern Russia, in southern Siberia, Transbaikalia, Amurland and Ussuriland. Its range extends west to the Angara River basin and the upper reaches of the River Yenisey, north to the headwaters of the Lena and Yana rivers, and east to Kamchatka, southern Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands. Outside Russia it also nests in Hokkaido (Japan) and south to northern Mongolia and northeast China. It favours water meadows and lakes in lowland valleys but it is nowhere common. The most recent surveys, in 2002–07, estimated a global population of 89,000 individuals, but the species is thought to be in decline and it is currently classified by BirdLife International as 'Near Threatened'.



The species migrates south to winter in northeast India, south and east China, North and South Korea and central and southern Japan. It also occurs in winter in small numbers in Bangladesh, northern Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. In winter it frequents lowland rivers, lakes, flooded meadows and, less frequently, coastal lagoons and estuaries, mixing with other ducks, particularly Eurasian Wigeons *M. penelope* and Pintails *Anas acuta*.

Falcated Duck is a long-distance migrant with a breeding range, wintering range and migration routes overlapping with those of many other East Asian bird species observed as vagrants in western Europe. The problem with Falcated Duck has always been the apparent natural origin of individuals..... The Covenham bird was unringed and appeared in good condition and the short stay will all be positives for this individual....



More photographs from Graham Catley at <https://pewit.blogspot.com/2023/01/falcated-duck-at-covenham-reservoir.html>

## Lincolnshire Bird News - January 2022

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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Latest Bird News – January 2023

**28/01/2023**

**Alkborough Flats**

**3 Water Pipit**

**Doddington Park**

Jay, 14 Lesser Redpoll

**Frampton Marsh**

**2 Corn Bunting**, Great White Egret, **Peregrine Falcon**, **7 White-fronted Goose**, Hen Harrier, Kingfisher, **Merlin**, **Water Rail**, Spoonbill, Stonechat, Bearded Tit

**Langtoft Pits**

**6 Russian White-fronted Geese**

**Mablethorpe**

Common Scoter, **2 Velvet Scoter**

**Trent Port**

Chiffchaff, **Peregrine Falcon**, c130 Pink-footed Goose.

**Swanpool**

Buzzard, 59 Wigeon

**Tunman Woods**

Buzzard, 80 Fieldfare, 2 Goldcrest, 2 Egyptian Geese, 2 Nuthatch, 2 Treecreeper, 5 Great Spotted Woodpecker

**River Welland**

2 Great White Egret

**27/01/2023**

**Alkborough**

**Hen Harrier (rt)**, 15 Marsh Harrier, 3 Barn Owl, **Water Rail**, Ruff, **Bearded Tit**

**Black Bank**

Great Spotted Woodpecker

**Cleatham**

80 Fieldfare, 3 Kestrel

**Frampton Marsh**

**2 Peregrine Falcon**, 8 Grey Partridge, 200 Whooper Swan

**Doddington Park**

40 Goldfinch, 3 Lesser Redpoll

**Freiston Shore**

Bar-tailed Godwit, Grey Plover, **2 Common Scaup**

**Frampton Marsh**

**Hen Harrier (m)**

**Nebraska Wetlands**

2 Buzzard, Pink-footed Goose, Kestrel, 18 Grey Plover, 2 Shelduck, 5 Shoveler, 38 Teal



**Spalding**

Barn Owl

**Swanpool**

71 Pink-footed Goose

**26/01/2023**

**Covenham Reservoir**

Great Northern Diver, Falcated Duck, Spotted Redshank



A surprise today at Covenham Reservoir was this Falcated Duck, a long way from home - Image © John Clarkson

**Churchill Lane**

Cattle Egret

**Marston**

Red Kite, 200 Linnet, Lesser Redpoll Green Sandpiper, Stonechat, Song Thrush, Cetti's Warbler,

**Wainfleet Range**

450 Common Eider, Great Northern Diver, 2000 Bar-tailed Godwit, Goosander, 900 Brent Goose, 3 Marsh Harrier, Merlin, Water Pipit,

**25/01/2023**

**Calcethorpe**

Reed Bunting, Linnet, Merlin, Redwing, Yellowhammer

**Cleethorpes**

Purple Sandpiper, Bar-tailed Godwit

**Covenham Reservoir**

Great Northern Diver, Goosander, Yellow-legged Gull



The Great Northern Diver at Covenham Reservoir - Image © Andy Sims

**Frampton Marsh**

Brambling, Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, Merlin, 6 Pintail, Water Rail, Whooper Swan

**Louth**

Kingfisher

24/01/2023

**Branston**

Grey Wagtail, Chiffchaff



A Grey Wagtail in the Beck in Branson - Image © TheOtherJanet



**Grantham**

4 Lesser Redpoll

**Marston**

Reed Bunting, Marsh Harrier 2, Linnet 200, Lesser Redpoll, **Stonechat**, Cetti's Warbler

**Market Rasen**

2500 Starling

**North Thoresby**

Great White Egret

**Swanpool Wood**

Woodcock

23 /01/2023

**Frampton Marsh**

Short-eared Owl, 7 **Russian White-fronted Geese**

**Short Ferry**

Great White Egret



Great White Egret feeding well - Image © Russell Hayes

**Swanholme Lakes**

Little Egret, Kingfisher, 5 Lesser Redpoll

**Willow Tree Fen**

Hen Harrier (rt)

**22/01/2023**

**Bardney**

Grey Partridge, Stonechat

**Cress Marsh**

2 Buzzard, 7 Great Black-backed Gull, 13 Herring Gull, 13 Lapwing, Sparrowhawk 39 Teal

**Deeping Lakes**

5 Common Crane

**Doddington Park**

1 Lesser Redpoll, 2 Siskin

**Frampton Marsh**

3 Peregrine Falcon, Barnacle Goose, Pink-footed Goose, Marsh Harrier, Merlin, Water Rail, 5 Bearded Tit

**Sanderson's Bank**

2 Stonechat, 12 Bewick's Swan 70+, Whooper Swan,

**21 01/2022**

**Deeping Lakes**

Bewick's Swan

**Fillingham**

Barn Owl

**Frampton Marsh**

Buzzard, Peregrine Falcon 3 Barnacle Goose, Pink-footed Goose, 5 White-fronted Goose 2 Hen Harrier, 4 Marsh Harrier, Stonechat, Short-eared Owl, 93 Whooper Swan, Yellowhammer

**Gibraltar Point**

12 Snow Bunting, 2 Tundra Bean Goose

**Goxhill Haven**

Stonechat

**Sanderson's Bank**

13 Bewick's Swan

**Sandilands**

Short-eared Owl

**20/01/2023**

**Fillingham**

Woodcock

**Frampton Marsh**

6 Russian White-fronted Geese

**Gibraltar Point**

12 Snow Bunting

**Grantham**

2 Lesser Redpoll

**Louth**

4 Woodcock

**Sanderson's Bank**

13 Bewick's Swan

**Swanholme Lakes**

Little Egret, 8 Goosander, Kingfisher

**19/01/2023**

**Black Bank**

3 Buzzard 3 Kestrel, 200 Rook, Stonechat, 2 Great Spotted Woodpecker

**East Butterwick**

Buzzard, c50 Pink-footed Goose, 2 Kestrel, 35 Linnet

**Farmers Lane Brumby Common**

2 Buzzard, 2 Kestrel, 30 Goldfinch, 100 Linnet, 2 Skylark

**Cleethorpes**

Purple Sandpipes



An attractive shot of Cleethorpes Purple Sandpiper - Image © Jim Wright

**Frampton Marsh**

6 Russian White-fronted Geese, 8 Bewick' Swan

**Gibraltar Point**

Tundra Bean Goose, Waxwing

**Marston**

300 Linnet

**Sincil Bank Stadium**

5 Lesser Redpoll

**RAF Wainfleet**

Lapland Bunting

**18/01/2023**

**Bonby Carrs**

2 Buzzard, 50 Pink-footed Goose, Marsh Harrier, 3 Kestrel, Kingfisher, Barn Owl, 38 Golden Plover, Stonechat +16 Roe Deer & 5



Brown Hares

**Boultham Mere**

Kingfisher, **Water Rail**

**Denton Reservoir**

19 Goosander, 57 Pink-footed Goose

**Frampton**

2 Peregrine Falcon, Russian White-fronted Goose, Kingfisher, Barn Owl, Pintail, Ringed Plover, **Water Rail**, Jack Snipe, 8 Bewick's Swan, Cetti's Warbler

**Halton Marsh**

18 Russian White-fronted Goose

**Hartsholme Park/Swanholme Lakes**

Goldcrest, 7 Goosander, 4 Great Spotted Woodpecker, 6 Grey Heron, 2 Kingfisher, Nuthatch, 6 Shoveler, 25 Siskin, Treecreeper



A Great Spotted Woodpecker on the edge of Swanholme Lakes - Image © Chris Grimshaw

**Marston**

Jack Snipe

**Rimac**

Hen Harrier

**Trent Port**

Peregrine Falcon, Tree Sparrow, Grey Wagtail

**Willow Tree Fen**

Cattle Egret

17/01/2023

**Cleethorpes**

Purple Sandpiper, +50 Turnstone

**Far Ings**

Reed Bunting, Marsh Harrier, Sparrowhawk, 2 Cetti's Warbler

**Frampton Marsh**

Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, Kingfisher, Tawny Owl, Water Rail, 2 Stonechat, 8 Bewick's Swan, 174 Whooper Swan

**Gibraltar Point**

Short-eared Owl, Water Pipit

**Horseshoe Point**

2 Hen Harrier, 30 Twite

**Saltfleetby**

2 Pale-bellied Brent Goose, 2 Hen Harrier, Barn Owl

**Willow Tree Fen**

c50 Goosander, Hen Harrier (f), c10 Marsh Harrier, 4 Kestrel, c3000 Lapwing, 2 Barn Owl, 300 Golden Plover, 20+ Snipe, Sparrowhawk, 2 Stonechat, 120 Whooper Swan

**Theddlethorpe**

142 Whooper Swan

16/01/2023

**Baston**

Barn Owl



A splendid shot of a Barn Owl near Baston - Image © Mike Weedon

**Deeping High Bank**

7 Common Crane, 9 Barn Owl



**Frampton Marsh**

6 Avocet, Brambling, Peregrine Falcon, 7 Russian White-fronted Geese, Marsh Harrier, Kingfisher, 20 Pintail, Water Rail, Whooper Swan

**Gibraltar Point**

12 Snow Bunting

**Louth**

Kingfisher, Water Rail, Grey Wagtail



A Grey Wagtail adjacent to the Louth Canal - Image © John Clarkson

**Mablethorpe**

3 Velvet Scoter

**Trent Port**

14 Gadwall, 89 Pink-footed Geese, 55 Teal, 48 Wigeon

**Willow Tree Fen**

Hen Harrier (f)

15/01/2023

**Covenham Reservoir**

Great Northern Diver

**Denton Reservoir**

26 Goosander

**Fillingham**

**Brambling**, Mistle Thrush

**Fiskerton Fen**

American Wigeon

**Gibraltar Point**

Great Northern Diver, Water Pipit, Scaup

**Job's Lane**

4 Egyptian Goose, Redshank

**Read's Island**

2 Spotted Redshank

**Saltfleetby**

Hen Harrier (male), 2 Velvet Scoter, 11 Twite

**Trent Port**

Chiffchaff, 34 Lapwing, Sparrowhawk, Green Woodpecker

**Westwoodside**

12 Bewick's Swan, Whooper Swan

**Winter's Pool**

26 Russian White-fronted Goose

**14/01/2023**

**Market Rasen**

10 Common Pheasant (in a private garden)

**Thurlby**

Little Gull

**Westwoodside**

12 Bewick's Swan

**Willow Tree Fen**

5 Common Crane, Hen Harrier

**13/01/2023**

**Frampton Marsh**

6 Avocet, **Brambling**, 19 Little Eret, 2 **Peregrine Falcon**, 7 Greenshank, 3 Marsh Harrier, **Merlin**, Barn Owl, Water Rail, Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

**Scaup (female still)**

**Kirkby on Bain**

Bullfinch, Little Egret, 215 Gadwall, 4 Egyptian Geese, 13 Goldeneye, Jay, 2 Kingfisher, 2 Water Rail, 110 Lesser Redpoll, 2 Siskin, 135 Teal

**Sutton on Sea**

14 Red-throated Diver, Kittiwake, 80 Common Scoter, **Velvet Scoter**

**Crook Bank**

28 **Snow Bunting**, 14 Red-throated Diver, Gannet, Bar-tailed Godwit, **Stonechat**

**Willow Tree Fen**

Hen Harrier

**12/01/2023**

**Cleethorpes**

Purple Sandpiper





Purple Sandpiper on the beach at Cleethorpes - Image © Phil Jones

**Deeping Lakes**

Long-eared Owl

**Frampton Marsh**

Avocet, Brambling, Peregrine Falcon, Pale-bellied Brent Goose, 200 Pink-footed Goose, Hen Harrier, 10000 Lapwing, 60 Pintail, 4 Rock Pipit, 600 Golden Plover, Stonechat, 6000 Wigeon

**Lea Park**

2 Goldcrest, 2 Mistle Thrush, 2 Nuthatch, 85 Redwing, 4 Song Thrush, 3 Coal Tit, 2 Treecreeper, 2 Great Spotted Woodpecker

**Novartis Ings**

Iceland Gull

**Saltfleetby**

2 Snow Bunting, 16 Twite

**Willow Tree Fen**

7 Common Crane, 2 Cattle Egret, 132 Goosander

**Witham End**

2 Eider, Goldeneye, 10 Red-breasted Merganser

**11/01/2023**

**Frampton Marsh**

4 Avocet, Brambling, 2 Peregrine Falcon, 3 Goldeneye, 3 Barnacle Goose, Pintail, Grey Plover, Water Rail, 20 Ruff, 2 Stonechat, Whooper Swan

**Hartsholme Park**

Great Crested Grebe, Nuthatch, Great Spotted Woodpecker

**Wainfleet**

2 Corn Bunting, 2 Buzzard, 160 Curlew, 2 Peregrine Falcon, 3000 Bar-tailed Godwit, Hen Harrier, 4 Marsh Harrier, Red Kite, Barn Owl, Merlin, Sparrowhawk



**Willow Tree Fen**

5 Common Crane, 2 Cattie Egret, 7 Little Egret, Great White Egret, 121 Goosander, Hen Harrier, 11 Marsh Harrier, 2 Pintail, Snipe, 1 Sparrowhawk, 151 Whooper Swan

**10/01/2023**

**Tongue End**

2 Bewick's Swan, 85, Whooper Swan

**Trent Port**

Little Egret, 90 Fieldfare, 2 Raven, Sparrowhawk, Great Spotted Woodpecker

**Willow Tree Fen**

4 Common Crane, 2 Cattle Egret, 2 Great White Egret, Hen Harrier, Short-eared Owl

**09/01/2023**

**Covenham**

Great Northern Diver

**Fiskerton Fen**

American Wigeon

**Frampton Marsh**

7 Russian White-fronted Geese

**Mablethorpe**

Velvet Scoter

**Marton**

3 Common Crane (over)

**Saltfleetby**

12 Twite

**Short Ferry**

Kestrel



A Kestrel at Short Ferry - Image © Russell Hayes

**Swanpool**

2 Stonechat

**Willow Tree Fen**

2 Cattle Egret, 2 Great White Egret, Hen Harrier

**Winter's Pond**

19 Russian White-fronted Geese

**08/01/2023**

**Cress Marsh**

Pink-footed Goose, Common Sandpiper, Green Sandpiper, 14 Meadow Pipit

**Crowle**

5 Corn Bunting

**Doddington Park**

Blackcap (female)

**Fiskerton Fen**

American Wigeon

**Gibraltar Point**

2 Tundra Bean Goose, Hen Harrier, Water Pipit

**Kirkby Underwood**

18 Red Kite

**Trent Port**

4 Little Egret, 2 Goosander (m), Kingfisher, Merlin, Stonechat

**Saltfleetby**

Hen Harrier, 20 Twite

**North Somercotes**

Mandarin Duck (Oasis Pool), Peregrine Falcon

**Swanholme Lakes**

Goosander (8 male 3 female), Little Grebe

**Whisby**

Scaup, 17000 Starling

**07/01/2023**

**Covenham Reservoir**

Great Northern Diver

**East Halton**

Russian White-fronted Goose



A good close up of the Russian White-fronted Geese that have frequented East Halton for a while - Image © Roy Harvey

**Gibraltar Point**

9 Snow Bunting

**Sanderson's Bank**

14 Bewick's Swan

**06/01/2023**

**Boultham Mere**

2 Cetti's Warbler, Chiffchaff

**Crook Bank**

13 Snow Bunting, 110 Pink-footed Goose, 10 Twite

**Gibraltar Point**

3 Goldcrest, 295 Brent Goose, 1500 Pink-footed Goose, 4 Marsh Harrier, 75 Shoveler, Woodcock

**East Halton**

Water Pipit

**Oasis Pond, North Somercotes**

Manadarin Duck

**Mablethorpe**

6 Common Scoter

**Rimac**

750 Pink-footed Goose, 3 Hen Harrier, Merlin

**05/01/2023**

**Black Bank**

35 Lapwing, Treecreeper, Great Spotted Woodpecker



**Churchill Lane**

Blackcap, 20 Snow Bunting, Linnet, 47 Goldenen Plover

**Deeping Lakes**

Long-eared Owl

**Frampton Marsh**

Avocet, 3 Barnacle Goose, 5 White-fronted Goose, Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, Peregrine Falcon, Barn Owl, Pintail, Rock Pipit, 2

Whooper Swan

**Grantham**

Kingfisher, Red Kite

**Huttoft Bank**

Short-eared Owl

**Novartis Ings**

Iceland Gull

**Owlet Woods**

Nuthatch, Great Spotted Woodpecker

**Swanpool**

Treecreeper



Treecreeper in the Swanpool cow-fields area - Image © Andy Sims

**Tallington Lakes**

Kittiwake

**Tuetoos**

2 Buzzard

**Whisby**

3 Bullfinch (all male), 6 Goldeneye, Goosander (female), Peregrine Falcon, Shoveler, 30 Teal, 200 Wigeon

04/01/2023

**Brumby Common**

4 Buzzard, Little Egret, 2 Kestrel, 80 Lapwing, 50 Linnet, **Merlin**, Sparrowhawk

**Deeping Lakes**

**Long-eared Owl**

**Epworth Turbary**

3 Green Sandpiper

**Gibraltar Point**

**Scaup, Tundra Bean Goose**

**Grimsby**

**Waxwing 1**

**Halton Marsh**

**2 Barnacle Goose, 18 Russian White-fronted Goose, 100 Lapwing, Grey Plover**

**Holbeach Marsh**

**2 Hen Harrier**

**Messingham**

Great White Egret, Red-crested Pochard

**Pyewipe**

**Iceland Gull**

**Rimac**

**Water Pipit**

**Sanderson's Bank (Westwoodside)**

**c10 Bewick's Swan, 43 Whooper Swan, Pink-footed Goose**



Around 53, Winter Swans, Bewick's, c10 and Whooper c43 at Sanderson's Bank, Westwoodside - Image © Chris Grimshaw

**Willow Tree Fen**

**2 Cattle Egret**



**03/12/2023**

**Covenham Reservoir**

Great Northern Diver

**Frampton Marsh**

2 Brambling, 2 Peregrine Falcon, Marsh Harrier, 3 Barnacle Goose, Tundra Bean Goose,

**Marston**

2 Marsh Harrier, 2 Shoveler, Sparrowhawk, 7 Teal, Grey Wagtail

**Swanpool cow-fields**

Great White Egret, Sparrowhawk

**Willow Tree Fen**

4 Buzzard, 11 Common Crane, Cattle Egret, Great White Egret, Little Egret, 60 Goosander, 11 Marsh Harrier, 2 Kestrel, Sparrowhawk, 60 Whooper Swan

**Westwoodside**

10 Bewick's Swan

**02/01/2023**

**Cleethorpes**

2 Stonechat

**Covenham**

Great Northern Diver, 30 Goldeneye, 46 Great Crested Grebe, 12 Little Grebe, Hen Harrier, 5 Pochard

**Doddington Park**

24 Lesser Redpoll

**Frampton Marsh**

Hen Harrier

**Gibraltar Point**

Pink-footed Goose, Tundra Bean Goose, Water Pipit, Scaup

**Halton Marshes**

19 Russian White-fronted Goose, Short-eared Owl

**Tongue End**

2 Bewick's Swan, 25 Whooper Swan

**Twenty (near Bourne)**

4 Common Crane

**Westwoodside**

Stonechat, Bewick's Swan, Whooper Swan

**Willow Tree Fen**

Cattle Egret, Short-eared Owl

**01/01/2023**

**Boultham Mere**

Goosander, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Pochard, 21 Snipe, 2 Stonechat

**Gibraltar Point**

2 Corn Bunting, 19 Snow Bunting, Tundra Bean Goose, Hen Harrier, 45 Whooper Swan

**Hartsholme Park**

Goosander (female)

**Marston**

Curlew, Barn Owl, Redshank, Green Sandpiper, Snipe, Jack Snipe, Woodcock

**Sutton on Sea**

4 Red-throated Diver, Guillemot, 600 Lapwing, 2 Short-eared Owl, 350 Golden Plover, 3 Velvet Scoter

**Swanholme Lakes**

18 Goosander (9 male, 9 female)

**Wainfleet**

194 Curlew, 1500 Dunlin, 37 Eider, Peregrine Falcon, 2 Hen Harrier, 6 Marsh Harrier, 300 Linnet, 4 Red-breasted Merganser, 2 Merlin, Short-eared Owl, Grey Partridge, 31 Whooper Swan

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:d.a.sheppard@btinternet.com)

### Lincolnshire Mammals

Chris Manning, [Chris.LincsDeer@gmail.com](mailto: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-](http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php)

[publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php](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](mailto: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](mailto:annettefaulkner@btinternet.com)

Confidential Bat Records

You may send confidential bat records direct to Annette

Faulkner on: [annettefaulkner@btinternet.com](mailto:annettefaulkner@btinternet.com)

## USEFUL WILDLIFE CONTACTS

### Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership

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

Contact: [charlie.barnes@glnp.org.uk](mailto:charlie.barnes@glnp.org.uk)

or for more general [queries:info@glnp.org.uk](mailto:queries:info@glnp.org.uk)

### Natural England

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

### Lincolnshire Environmental Awards

[www.lincsenvironmentalawards.org.uk](http://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

