



Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter – September 2023

LBC eNewsletter content;

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John Clarkson 26 July 1948 – 25 August 2023



John was a founder member of Lincolnshire Bird Club in 1979, County Recorder North from 2010-2019 and co-author of *Birds of Lincolnshire* (2021). One of the counties outstanding and most recognisable birders and a first-class bird photographer, his recent death at the age of 75 years has stunned the Lincs birding community. He died peacefully at Princess Diana Hospital Grimsby with his wife Nicky and children Aidan and Eleanor at his bedside. He had been diagnosed with a brain tumour a year ago and bore his surgery, treatment and what proved ultimately to be a terminal prognosis with stoicism; lovingly and devotedly supported by his family throughout.

John's role as County Recorder, his superb photography over many years and pursuit of rare and scarce birds over Lincolnshire, Britain and the world had made him well known to so many. He had a wide circle of friends who all admired him for his wit, intelligence, skill as a raconteur with a fund of stories and jokes coupled with an immense knowledge of birds and photography. He was an all round "top man". Some birders will be surprised to learn of the range of John's talents, he was a true polymath. The eldest of Danny and Gwen's seven children he was born and raised in Louth and attended Louth Grammar School.

On leaving school he joined the RAF and trained as an aircraft technician at Sea Land in Cheshire where he was able to develop a close relationship with his first love, Everton Football Club, regularly attending home matches at Goodison Park. Not yet a birder when he had completed his training he was posted to the Middle East ("a wasted birding opportunity"). Disillusioned with the RAF he left and trained as an English teacher at Bishop Grosseteste

College in Lincoln and it was in that city that he took his first role as a teacher. Dates are uncertain, as he often said, “if you could remember the 60s, you weren’t there” During this period in the early 70s he married Judith and took up birding, soon getting to know Andy Sims at Burton Pits where they were patch workers and voluntary wardens from 1972 onwards. They learned their craft together with the Black-throated Thrush at Coltishall, Norfolk in December 1975 being a fondly remembered first out of county twitch. John was Andy’s best man and reminiscing at Covenham Reservoir about their first foreign birding trip to Majorca in spring 1976, they impressed a young Phil Espin with their dynamism and cosmopolitan outlook.

John’s first son Aidan arrived shortly afterwards, followed by daughter Eleanor five years later by which time John had moved to Louth in the late 1970s to work at Deighton Close School where he stayed for the rest of his career. Having moved to Louth he became close friends and birding partner with Keith Atkin, the then Lincs County Recorder who also lived there and shared his passion for birding and photography.

Keith was the prime mover in the formation of the bird club and John was involved with the club from the beginning and writing of the Bird Report from the mid1980s. After moving to Louth John actively engaged at Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Dunes NNR as a voluntary warden.



Common Cuckoo © John Clarkson

With a keen interest in literature and education, John took a sabbatical year in 1985/86 to study for an MA in Education at the University of East Anglia at Norwich. This broadened his horizons in many ways. He was immediately inducted into the UEA twitching crew, mainly, as he put it, because he had a car. It was here a lifelong birding friendship was formed with Richard Thomas. It was also here that he met Nicky, the lady who would later become his wife, after his marriage to Judith ended a few years later.

From 1986 to 1991 some serious twitching took place when John teamed up with Andy Sims and Phil Espin to cover the British Isles regularly from Scilly to Shetland joined at times by Robert Carr and David Jenkins. John and Nicky became partners in 1992 and from that time he put more focus on his Lincolnshire list. As a “true professional” twitching was hard work with the inflexibility of teaching hours and holidays. He didn’t give it up though, he just managed his expectations and understood his limits. In the years that followed John developed a more Zen approach to life becoming a black belt in Shotokan Karate and then switching over to Tai Chi at which both he and Nicky excelled becoming tutors and internationally known for their expertise guided by their teacher, Master Ding.

Engineering early retirement at 55 when his school moved to Spilsby in 2003 was one of his proudest achievements and he used his retirement as fully as he could taking up world travelling in a serious way. Having already visited Gambia, Israel, Morocco and Ethiopia a long planned lengthy trip to Australia with Nicky soon followed. Shorter trips included Poland, Hawaii, Philippines, Canada, China, Spain, Kenya, Argentina, Antarctica and the South Atlantic, Baja California, Australia, India, Costa Rica and doubtless many others, including New York where he tied the knot with his soul mate Nicky, and Sri Lanka where the onset of the Covid pandemic found him being escorted out of the country

in 2020. John also found a new career, working as a bird surveyor on ecological impact assessments for offshore and onshore wind farm developments. He enjoyed working at sea and meeting a new network of work colleagues, who immediately became friends, citing 33 of them when he finally retired in 2018 at the age of 70. He had been doing voluntary work with BTO for many years, especially WeBS and BBS which he continued up until May this year, three months before he died.

John wrote the Birds of Louth in 2007 and was part of the team with Colin Casey, Phil Espin and Phil Hyde that produced Birds of Lincolnshire in 2021. He was involved in writing the Bird Report up to 2020 and right up to the end he took part in proof reading and offering sage advice on LBR 2021. He was a great servant and advocate for the club, recruiting Phil Espin to the committee in 2010 and persuaded him to become Chair in 2014. He was also "Lincolnshire List Master" a role he relished, keeping an eye on the developing lists of all the county birders who were willing to share their progress. One of the highlights of his birding career came

in September 2019 when he found a first for Lincolnshire. Isabelline Wheatear: at Gibraltar Point, which he photographed and was seen by very few others during its two days stay. He therefore achieved a perfect result, securing the tricky identification of a "first" and gripping off all his mates at the same time!

As mentioned earlier, John had wide interests apart from birding. He was a skilled allotmenteer and loved his garden, a serious cyclist in his youth, cricket and rugby fan, Indian food chef, salsa dancer, lover of music and guitarist and highly involved grandad. Aidan's children Alex and Ava live close by in Louth and Eleanor's children Che, River and Ethan live in Chamonix, France where he was a regular visitor and keen student of the French language. In 2021 he fulfilled a lifelong ambition and bought a camper van and had two summers of travelling to France and attending festivals before his tumour put an end to his driving days.

Many are commenting how unfair it is that a healthy man with a zest for life that was second to none, a lifestyle that embraced fitness and latterly a vegetarian diet, a man who trained himself in mind and body and was as lovely, and loved, a human being as one could hope to meet, a man with such varied interests, could be struck down in the space of a year and taken from the bosom of his family.

We must all accept that the end will come, fairness isn't part of the equation. All anyone can hope is that they live life to the fullest and leave behind a wonderful family and friends with happy memories and through whom we will live long in those memories. John did that.

Phil Espin



Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Dunes NNR LBC Visit – 14th October 2023

Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Dunes NNR is located on the Lincolnshire coast, covering the 8km stretch between Saltfleet and Mablethorpe. With a varied mixture of habitats, including sand dunes, and a prime coastal location, the reserve has the third highest bird species list in the county. This walk will hope to focus on autumn migrants, hence the date in mid-October when many species should be moving through the East coast. A variety of rare birds have been found there through the years, with the autumn migration season having potential for some exciting sightings.

The walk will start and end at Rimac (LN11 7TS), with a 2-mile loop through the dune paths set to last approximately 2 hours. Parking can be made through a voluntary payment on the RingGo app, with proceeds used for the upkeep of the reserve. Toilets will be made available at Rimac car park, but no other facilities are accessible throughout the walk. No prior knowledge or experience is needed, but please bring your own binoculars for this event.

Places are limited, so please make sure to book a place if you want to join, by emailing sally.prescott142@btinternet.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

Lincolnshire Bird Report Archive now available to download/view online

After a long period in planning and execution the Committee are delighted to announce that our back catalogue of annual bird reports are now available to view/download from our website. This includes everything we have from 1977 to 2019. It is hoped that the archive will become a useful tool for anyone wishing to research the history of particular bird species in Lincolnshire.

The 2020 report will be added to the archive when LBR 2022 is published, hopefully in March 2024. This leaves us with a large stock of past hard copy bird reports that we now intend to dispose of. Before we do that if any member wants to contact Bill Sterling our sales secretary about obtaining free back copies he will be pleased to put a package together of whatever he has left available; which the member will have to arrange to collect.

To view the archive please see [Lincolnshire Bird Club - LBC Articles Archive \(lincsbirdclub.co.uk\)](https://lincsbirdclub.co.uk)

Motus at Gibraltar Point Bird Observatory and National Nature Reserve

After a long period of planning and fund-raising, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust are pleased to announce that a Motus Station has now been set up at the Coastguard Station by the Visitor Centre at Gibraltar Point.

This is the first Motus Station to be operational in the county of Lincolnshire and joins a network of many other stations now monitoring bat and bird migration on both sides of the North Sea (as well as much further afield). Some fascinating results have already been achieved, increasing our knowledge and understanding of migration, the timings of arrivals and departures, flight routes and distances involved. Who would have guessed that *Nathusius Pipistrelle* bats make regular North Sea crossings? The contribution to informing marine spatial planning could be significant.

Motus uses radio telemetry to detect the movement of animals and birds fitted with lightweight tags. Directional aerials are set up to detect the tags when they come in to range.

It is hoped that we can extend the Motus coverage along the Lincolnshire coast over the next few years with partners from other organisations.

LWT are grateful for the funding received from Sea-changers, Lincolnshire Bird Club and donations made in memory of Dick Lambert (Gib warden from 1976 to 1986). We are also grateful to Ewan and Sue Parsons who provided support, technical expertise and advice on site and to the team at Lincs Radios for the quality installation.

We now look forward to reporting our first detection – maybe during this autumn migration.

More information about Motus worldwide can be found here <https://motus.org/>

Kev Wilson

Coastal Officer

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust





The map at this link <https://motus.org/data/receiversMap> shows the locations of currently active receiving stations in the Motus network. Summary information about each station is available by clicking receivers on the map. Each summary includes a link to a table of detections at the receiver, station configuration details, and the date of the last data received from the station. You can drag the slider to view receivers which were active at past dates, and zoom in to view antenna ranges and directions. When viewing antennas, receivers lacking antenna information instead display a circle with a radius of 15km.



sea-changers

Marsh Warbler breeds in Lincolnshire for first time

James Siddle writes: North-easterly winds dominated during early to mid-June in Lincolnshire, and consequently five singing [Marsh Warblers](#) were located along a 2.5-km stretch of the coast at this time. Most of these swiftly moved on but one lingered, raising hopes that it might attract a female. On 13 June, a second Marsh Warbler was noted in close proximity to the male.

The following day, the male was observed displaying with its wings drooped, bill held open and tail splayed, with lots of contact calls noted. This clearly did the trick as later the same day the female was observed carrying nest material. The male from this time was content to either observe the nest-building activity from a nearby dog rose or loosely follow the female around. The male's persistence had been well rewarded – a study in Belgium found the gap between the pairing of males and females averaged 3.3 days (Dowsett-Lemaire 1981) compared to 13 days for the Lincolnshire birds.



The male [Marsh Warbler](#) in song on 10 June 2023 (James Siddle).

Thereafter, things went very quiet – males soon stop singing after pairing. Daily observations brought only occasional sightings of the adults, which at least confirmed their continued presence, but this period was spent nervously waiting to see if the birds had been successful – only around half of pairs typically manage to raise young (Kelsey 1989).

The evidence we wanted came on 12 July when the adults were observed bringing in food. The male and female developed markedly different approaches to the nest site, which made establishing the exact nest location – in an area of willowherb – difficult to ascertain.

By 17 July it was clear that feeding rates were reaching a peak, with a 30% increase in nest visits over a period of 48 hours. Eventually, on 18 July, the first juvenile was seen. Clutches of four predominate for late-breeding Marsh Warblers (Kelsey 1989) and this proved to be the case for the Lincolnshire birds, with four juveniles successfully fledging. As is typical for the species, the birds dispersed rapidly and an adult seen carrying food some 150 m from the nest site on 27 July was the final sighting.

This represents the first confirmed breeding record of Marsh Warbler for Lincolnshire and follows the pattern observed since the 1990s of the UK breeding distribution shifting towards coastal areas in the east (Bell *et al* 2021).



In the top photo, one of the juveniles (left) with one of the adults. In the bottom photo, an adult feeds a hungry juvenile (James Siddle).

Acknowledgements - I would like to thank Dick Lorand and Richard Doan for help with locating and monitoring the Marsh Warblers.

Bell, B, Green, H, Hodson, J, & Holling, M. 2021. The recent history of breeding Marsh Warblers in Britain. *British Birds* 114: 255-266.

Dowsett-Lemaire, F. 1981. Eco-ethological aspects of breeding in the Marsh Warbler, *Acrocephalus palustris*. *Revue d'Écologie*, 35 (3): 437-492.

Kelsey, M G. 1989. Breeding biology of Marsh Warblers *Acrocephalus palustris* in Worcestershire: A comparison with European populations. *Bird Study*, 36(3): 205-210.



Images of the adult Marsh Warblers carrying food © James Siddle



Another garden Nightjar...



A stunning Nightjar taken on 21st August 2023 at 16.54 in John Nash's back garden in Kirmond Le Mire, Market Rasen. It flew off just after the photograph was taken and was not seen again....

Kazakhstan – by Mike Harrison photos by Roger Wardle

The only certainty as we sat having breakfast at Gatwick airport on the 27th April was that we had a return flight to Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan and a deposit on a hire car we didn't really want!

It was back in January that Roger Wardle first asked if I might be interested in joining him on a trip to Kazakhstan on a DIY mission to track down and photograph Saiga antelopes, on their calving grounds in the vast steppes of the ninth largest country in the world. Birds, of course, would also be on the itinerary and a chance to see one of the most critically endangered wading birds, the Sociable Plover, on its breeding grounds was an opportunity not to be missed.

The trip was to be scheduled between 27th April and 11th May to fit in between a couple of speaking engagements Roger had in his diary. Trying to get information on logistics, locations and advice proved challenging but Roger's searches took him to a Conservation project

sponsored by the Frankfurt Zoological Society and the RSPB based in Astana. The project is an NGO called the Association for the Conservation Biodiversity of Kazakhstan. The projects aims are to reverse degradation of the Steppe plant communities by conservation of the endemic grazers of the Steppes, the Saiga antelopes. Roger had spoken with his contact and was very hopeful she was going to be able to assist us. However, she was on leave in the two weeks up until April 25th and still hadn't been in contact as we arrived at Gatwick.



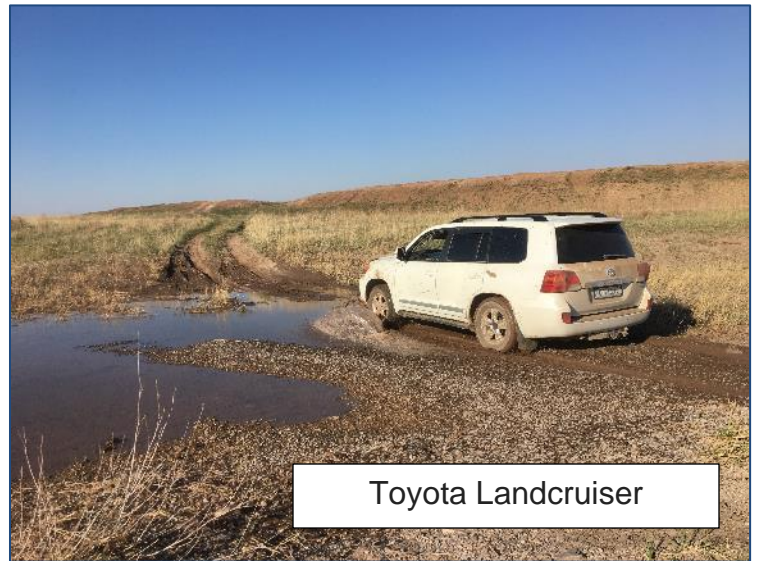
Sunset over the wild tulips of the Kazak steppes'



Saiga antelopes at full tilt parallel to the vehicle

Faith was restored when Vera made contact as we were enjoying our breakfast. Get a taxi to a hotel I will book for you on arrival and come to the office at 10am tomorrow morning were her instructions. This indeed we did once we had travelled 9 hours of flight via Istanbul. Vera excelled herself finding

for us a Toyota Landcruiser hire car equipped with 4 spare jerry cans for extra fuel and a water container. It took us most of that day to complete preparations which included downloads of maps from the project cartographer. Late afternoon found us navigating out of the capital city heading for Korgalzyhn some 130kms to the southwest. There we were booked into a bed and breakfast accommodation in time for dinner. Had the Sociable Plovers returned to their breeding grounds was one of my first questions? Well yes and no was the rather hesitant answer. Birds had been seen in the Korgalzhyn area, where the project have a survey area, but because of unseasonal weather they hadn't settled and moved onto a site 300 kms to the north, this information was obtained by data downloads from satellite tagged individuals.



Toyota Landcruiser

Korgalzhyn is a town in one of the most important bird area in this vast country. To the west of it lies Lake Tengiz and a huge reserve of some 543,000 ha, designated as a Ramsar site. Access to the reserve is restricted to 8hr visits with a guide. We were assured that all species could be seen in the hinterland around the main reserve on the myriad of wetlands and temporary saline lakes. Lake Tengiz is also saline with two large rivers discharging into its depression basin. These lake systems attract huge numbers of waterbirds of all sorts both breeding and migratory including the most northerly breeding colonies of Greater Flamingos and the most important site in central Asia for White Headed ducks. This is a strategic stopover point for many migratory species with the Russian border only 550kms to the north and onwards then to Siberia and its vast taiga forests, the tundra and the arctic ocean 2000kms away. Vast numbers of northern bound waders were to be found and passerines too in some intriguing locations, as we were to find out, due to lack of scrub and trees in this featureless landscape.



Marsh Sandpiper



Red-footed Falcon

Marsh Sandpiper and Red-footed Falcon

The climate is an arid one of extremes ranging from -40°C in winter to +40°C in summer. At 50°N the latitude is similar to southern England but there the similarity ends with exception to the length of daylight! We felt we were in the country as winter morphed into summer via a short spring. The day we arrived in Astana the mercury hit 24°C but only a week earlier there had been a late snowfall and heaps of snow were still hanging around the carpark and riverbanks where drifts had formed with blown snow off the

steppes. During the first week, nights were chilly and 3 nights we had under canvas we woke up to frost on the tent, by the end of the second week night temperatures were a lot warmer and the landlady had put her tomato plants out, a sure sign that spring had arrived and all the deciduous trees had burst into leaf. Resident birds along with summer visitors we felt were a little behind the UK at this stage of the season with House sparrows, Tree sparrows and Starlings nesting around the town together with Barn Swallows. Whilst we were there Hoopoe and Bee-eaters arrived and towards the end a pair of Red-footed Falcons put in an appearance in town. The corvid family were represented by Rooks, Jackdaws, Magpies and Hooded Crows.



Bee-eater

Our first two days were spent exploring the hinterland of Korgalzhyn and the floodplain of the Nura River. These areas are grazed heavily by the livestock from the town with herds of cattle, horses, together with flocks of sheep and goats which are returned to the safety of town at night having been tended all day by shepherds. These are the areas where the Sociable Plover come to breed although none were found but some of their Lapwing cousins were present. Not being a great lister myself I did keep a list of all new

species seen on each day whilst Roger concentrated on the photography. On day 1 we saw 49 spp including some Steppe specialists such as White Winged Lark, Marsh Sandpiper, Slender-billed, Steppe and Pallas's Gulls.

Other waders seen on the first day were familiar Oystercatcher, Black Tailed Godwit, Curlew, Whimbrel, Black Winged Stilt, Avocet, Ringed Plover and a lot of Ruff. We found Ruff in very large numbers resplendent in breeding plumage with males setting up impromptu leks. These flocks were constantly in the air and restless to move further north. Wildfowl present, were paired up Mute and Whooper Swans, Greylag Geese, Mallard, Shoveler and Gadwall with Garganey one of the commonest ducks. The second day saw us add that iconic bird of the Eurasian steppe, Black Lark. The male is unmistakable, close to the size of a starling with a display flight reminiscent of that of the nightjar. Towards the end of the second day we saw our first Pallid Harrier, a cracking adult male. Marsh Harrier were everywhere over the wetlands and at that site we found our first Demoiselle Crane, Gull-billed Tern and Black-necked Grebes which were by far the commonest grebe,



White-winged Lark



Lots of Ruff

found in flocks! Siberian Stonechat were very common but the most abundant bird though which seemingly popped up everywhere is one of my favourites, the Yellow Wagtail. The subspecies here is '*beema*' otherwise known as Sykes' Wagtail. They breed in the area but we were obviously seeing passage birds as well. Walk into the reedbeds surrounding the wetlands on damper ground and their cousins Citrine Wagtail were lurking.



Grey-headed Wagtail



Black Lark

Day 4 saw us head out into the Steppe adjacent to the northeast of Lake Tengiz with tents packed and extra fuel on board. Before leaving the road, however, we passed a large saline lake where I recorded the first Flamingos and our only Ruddy Shelducks although there were plenty of Commons about. We stopped at a roadside cemetery with a bush in it to find it providing cover for some passerine migrants, notably Pied and Spotted Flycatcher, Redstart and a *Phyllosc* Warbler together with a Turtle Dove. By the end of that day we had also added Bittern and Great White Egret, Lesser Whitethroat, Song Thrush, Snipe and Green Sandpiper. The days travel was on the edge of steppe land and enormous areas of cultivated farmland with fields laid out in a grid manner all 2km square! It was across the fields that we caught our first sight of Saiga Antelopes. However, they saw our vehicle long before we saw them and they were off into the heat haze. This day we also had our first encounter with Bobak Marmots, Tawny Pipit and a distant Steppe Eagle.

Camp that night was at a dammed wetland in this farmed landscape but not before we had close views of a small flock of Black-winged Pratincoles. We were glad of the 4x4 as travel over the steppe was far from straightforward as we had to be very wary of soft ground where melting snow and runoff into gullies were a constant hazard.



Black-winged Pratincole

Day 5 started with frost on the tent and I was awoken by calls of large skeins of White-fronted Geese passing over north. Before we lifted camp we had already added Reed Bunting and Little Stint to the growing list. This morning we headed back towards the steppe on the north shore of the lake but not before we stopped to try and converse with some farm workers who were tilling the ground 24hrs a day in preparation for spring sowing. Following the 40 foot wide

harrows were foraging Steppe Gulls and Gull-billed Terns. Amongst the standing farm equipment were to be found passerine migrants, the ever present Yellow Wagtails, Wheatears, Redstarts but also in this open landscape pecking amongst the harrows was a female Bluethroat! Our travels took us to a river mouth lakeside which produced a Common Sandpiper amongst others. we then followed the river back inland before pitching camp. Whilst looking for that perfect spot we flushed a surprise I wasn't expecting, two pairs of Smew off a pool in the river! Was it a flock of Linnets we saw but after some debate we settled for Twite. An evening walk brought me face to face with a Steppe Fox whilst a

pair of Demoiselle Cranes foraged on the opposite bank. The third day was spent retracing our steps albeit on a different bearing. Highlight of today was a pair of Pallas's Sandgrouse at close quarters on the edge of cultivated ground, Oriental Turtle Dove with passerine migrants in some White Poplars at a farm reservoir and then towards evening a Long-legged Buzzard before returning to camp at the same dam as 48hours

earlier to be greeted by great views of a pair of Red-necked Phalaropes and Pintail. Day 7 was spent returning to Korgalzhyn for a shower and brushup for a night but not before we had notched up 2 pairs of Red-necked Grebe at another dam and a Merlin on the ground of the sub sp '*pallidus*'. A return visit to a favourite wetland/reedbed beyond the town allowed us to pick up great views of a fine male Montagu's Harrier, a Sparrowhawk, Moorhen and our first sighting of a fly through flock of White-winged Black Terns. Still no sign of Sociable Plover though. Today started with a rime frost on the tent but when we arrived back in Korgalzhyn the digital display on the outside of the town mosque was registering 31°C!



Pallas's Sandgrouse



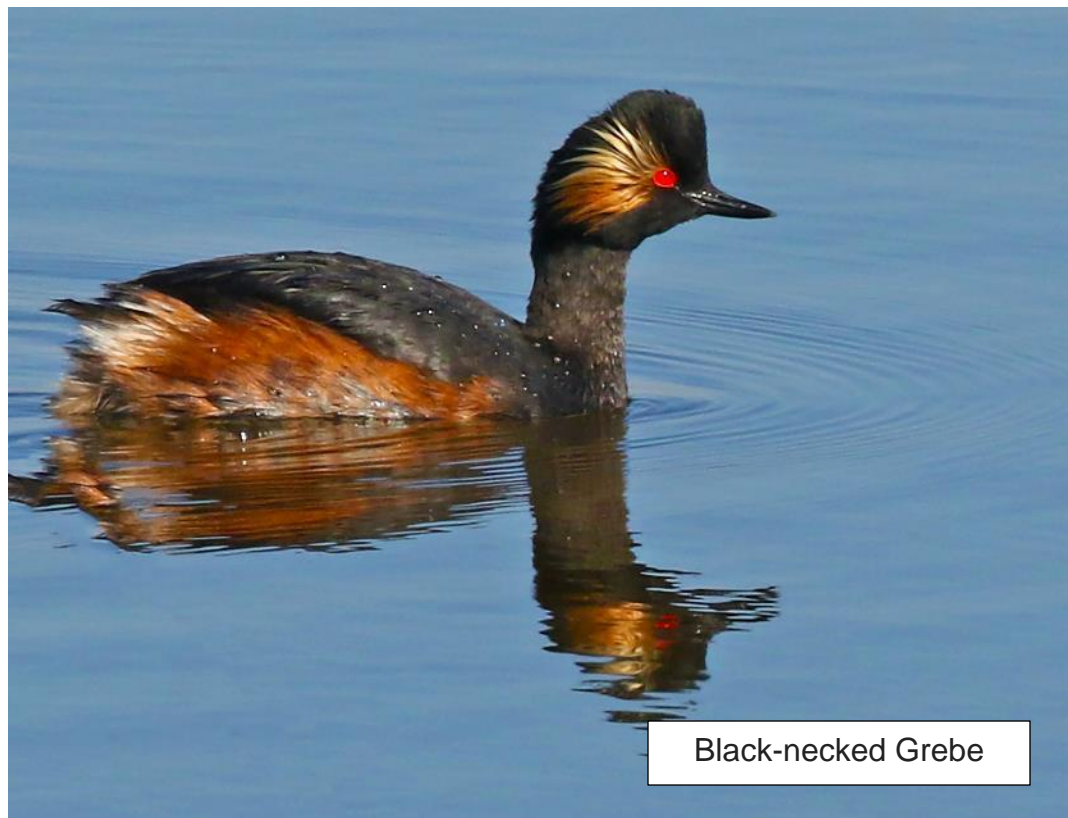
Demoiselle Crane

After a good nights sleep in a bed we refilled the vehicle with fuel and stores to set off to explore the steppes to the Southeast of L. Tengiz. We initially visited a large shallow saline wetland we had visited earlier on day 1. We scanned the shoreline for gulls and waders but then noticed huge rafts of Red-necked Phalaropes which were busily spinning and feeding, there must have been thousands! Off into the steppes again with the Shrenk's Tulip probably now at their most vibrant display and also collecting views of a further Steppe Fox and our only sighting of a Roebuck.

Camp that night was spent on the banks of the lower Kynahomnec River. Sand Martins had plenty of bluffs to select from to breed and up and down the river were Great White Egrets, Cormorant and Garganey on the move, below the camp were Little Ringed Plover and Wood Sandpipers beside the channel. Following the river upstream the next morning we stumbled across a couple of Cuckoos on power lines, presumably passage birds as this was our only encounter. Driving upriver we came across another adult male Pallid Harrier. Lunch that day was taken by a large concrete bridge crossing where we had been told had been a colony of Lesser

Kestrels in previous years. We hung around awhile but only saw Common Kestrel hunting for lizards! We travelled inland further upriver and had our best views that afternoon of Steppe Eagles. Camp on the second night was an elevated site above the river where the following morning we had our closest views to date of 20 Saiga which had come down to the river to drink. We took a cross country heading back towards Korgalzhyn calling in and scanning wetlands and during the day added Tufted Duck, Dunlin and Buzzard to

our species list. Our final night camping was spent back at a favourite wetland site around 6 miles out of town with more White-winged Black Terns, Black and Red-necked Grebes and a skein of flyover Flamingoes. Early the following morning saw us view Red Fox hunting around the wetland and then a Badger foraging out in the open. Back nearer to town at a larger saline lake we picked up



Black-necked Grebe



Caspian Terns, Slender-billed Gulls, Black-headed Gulls & Pallas's gulls

Temmink's Stint on the shoreline but further out wading in the shallow waters were three summer plumaged Spotted Redshank.

Our final full day in the field 9th May was spent to the northeast of Korgalzhyn in an area we had not explored before. It was an area of villages, wetlands and farmland. Today we saw a large colony of Pallas's Gulls on an island, Pelican sp. and Black Kite. Searching a cemetery we found a migrant Long-eared Owl together with passerines and an unidentified 'Acro' warbler. Later on in the day in the farmed area we came across the largest flock of Ruff we had come across numbering in the thousands.

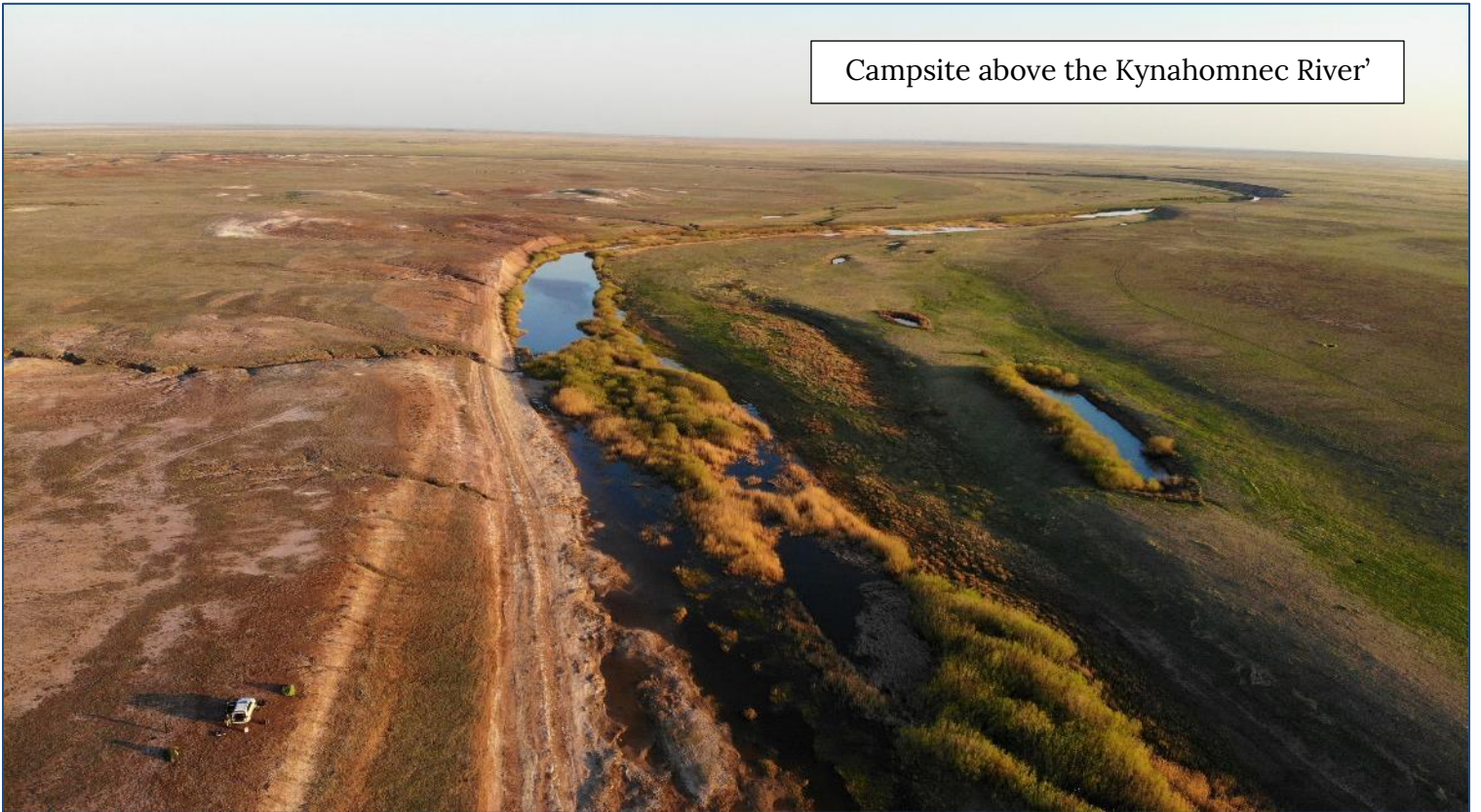
The following day saw us start the journey back to Astana but we were barely a few miles out of town when we had our closest views of Saiga. Out of the vehicle window we suddenly noticed 7 males running parallel to us about 30m out. Roger was driving but with me grabbing the steering wheel he was able to maintain the speed of the car and take some moving images! We followed this group for at least a mile before easing back to allow them to cross the road. We estimate throughout this time they maintained a speed of 35mph. A few miles up the road and we added a new species, a Wigeon, and a new sub species, a Grey-headed Wagtail '*thunbergi*' as part of a flock and another Black Kite.

So ended a truly memorable trip made all the more exciting as you never quite know what you were going to find around the next corner. My bird list added up to 120 species but I know it should have been greater, in particular warblers along the rivers and in the reedbeds. We failed to find any calving herds of Saiga and I'm pretty sure all our sightings were of bachelor groups of males. For myself the biggest disappointment was not finding any Sociable Plovers, however, it was not for lack of trying as we were in the right area and habitat but it probably indicates what a perilous position their world population status is in and also how nomadic they are. Good job then that I had seen the adult in pristine breeding plumage in a maize field at Kirkby on Bain in June 1993!



Stepping out together comparison of similar summer plumages of Marsh Sandpiper and Greenshank

Campsite above the Kynahomnec River'



Freshwater wetland and reedbed with Lake Tengiz in the distance



Migrant Long-eared Owl



Male Pallid Harrier



Wilder Lincolnshire Festival

Lincs Wildlife Trust are holding a special event to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and you're invited!

The **Wilder Lincolnshire Festival** will be on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September 2023, at 11 am to 4 pm, at Doddington Hall.

Lincolnshire Bird Club will be there with a stall run by Mike Harrison a birding viewpoint to engage people in looking a birds through scopes and binoculars. Volunteers are needed to assist. If you can help please contact Mike on

Mikeparkln9@gmail.com.

Book review: *Finding W.H. Hudson - the Writer Who Came to Britain to Save The Birds*

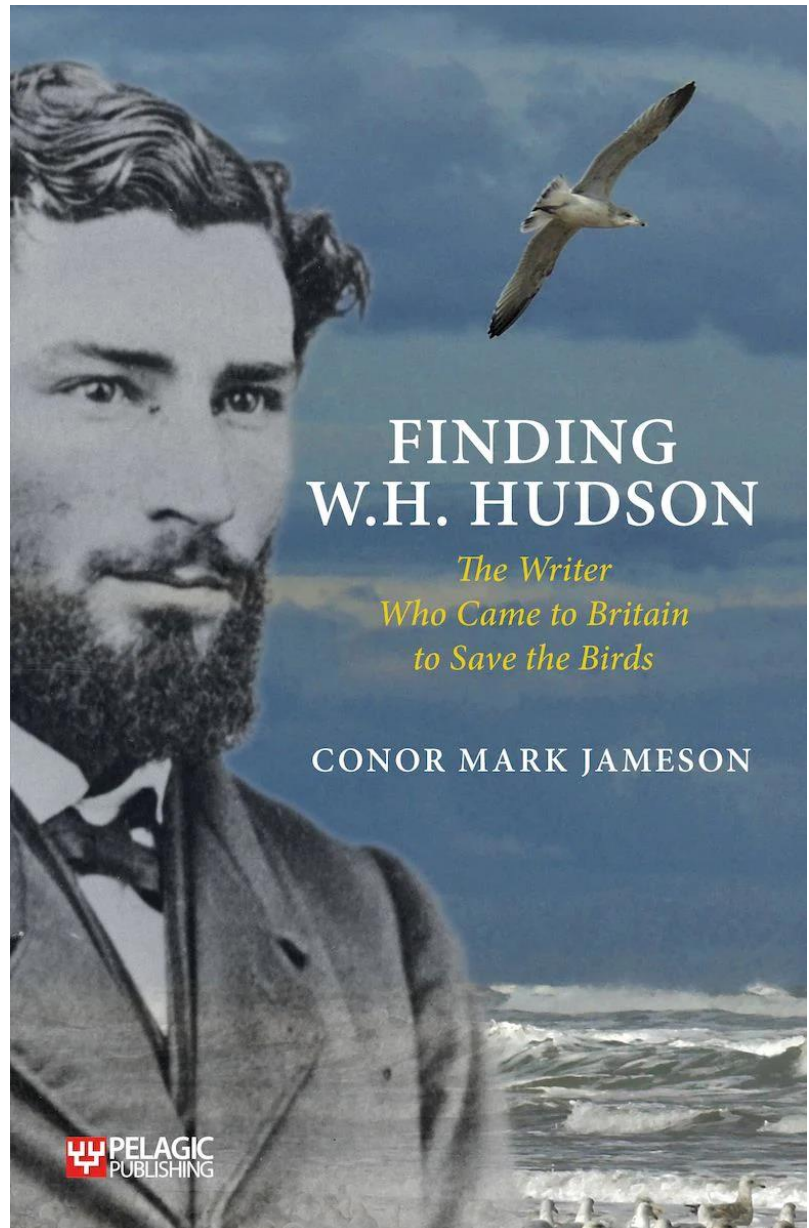
Writer-naturalist W.H. Hudson mostly confined his rambles in search of birds to southern counties such as Hampshire, Sussex and Wiltshire, and there is scant evidence that he spent much, if any, time in Lincolnshire.

Yet his awareness of the county's avian riches is recorded in a hard-hitting pamphlet, *Lost British Birds* (1894), in which he makes out a forceful case for legislation to protect birds from shooting, trapping and egg-theft from their nests.

Of the Black Tern, he writes "in 1832, it was still breeding in immense numbers in Crowland Wash" while there used to be "great flocks" of Cranes in the fens of Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire.

Of the Savi's Warbler, he says the species used to breed "regularly" in Norfolk and Lincolnshire, where it was "well known to the marshmen as the 'red craking reed-wren', the 'red night-reeler' or the 'reel-bird' from its peculiar song which resembles the whirring of the reel used by wool-spinners".

After his death, aged 81, in 1922, the world mostly forgot about Hudson's contributions and influence - his endless encouragement of the appreciation of Nature and his campaigning for bird protection



through his many books, pamphlets and letters to the Press.

But now he is enjoying something of a resurgence - one that is being spearheaded by writer and former RSPB staffman Conor Mark Jameson through his engaging new book, *Finding W.H. Hudson - the Writer Who Came to Britain to Save The Birds*.

The Cambridgeshire-based author chronicles the life and times of Hudson following his arrival, in 1874, from Argentina where he had spent his childhood and early adulthood.

Hudson's intention was to make his living as a writer about Nature, but, with a lack of formal education and no useful contacts in high places, it took him many years of struggle to break through. It seems poverty was to be his lot for much of his life, and he came to resent the superciliousness and snobbery of the ornithological hierarchy.

There was no place for him in the toffee-nosed British Ornithologists' Union, many of whose members probably sneered at his humble originals, so he decided to throw in his lot with a group of female campaigners who were campaigning against the millinery trade's dependence on the shooting of colourful birds for their feathers (and sometimes whole corpses of small species) to be used as adornment for ladies' hats.

The campaign led to the Society for the Protection of Birds - later to become the RSPB - and Hudson's own role in the origins of this illustrious organisation should never be minimised.

Jameson's portrait is affectionate - perhaps overly so - but this is certainly a most absorbing and genially-written narrative, full of original research and peppered with anecdotes - for instance, an incident where, though a non-swimmer, a fully-clothed Hudson helped his novelist-friend, Morley Roberts, to rescue three girls from the sea off Shoreham in Sussex.

Hudson also wrote fiction, and it would have been interesting to have had some analysis of these novels - that plus some information about his early life in the countryside near Buenos Aires - but maybe this material is being saved up for a follow-up volume. Here's hoping so!

Finding W.H. Hudson is published at £21.99 in paperback by Pelagic Publishing.



A couple of images by Mike Cole of one of the Boston Stump peregrines with a Black-headed Gull it took out of the air adjacent to the tower, taken from the deck of the passing 'Boston Belle' during a RSPB Wash Cruise on 10 August 2023.



Kentish Plover at Gib Point 26.08.23



As Shorebird Warden for Gibraltar Point, my job involves monitoring and protecting the birds which breed in the Shorebird Sanctuary, an area off limits to the public during the breeding season. On the 26/08/23, I arrived in the sanctuary at 7am to look for the last 2 near-fledgling Ringed plover chicks before scanning the rest of the Wash and doing a full bird count. As the tide was out, it was quiet close in with only the 2 chicks, 2 juveniles and a handful of adult Ringed plovers feeding, when a small plover joined the chicks and started feeding with them. It loosely associated with the flock and was obvious it wasn't quite right for a Ringed plover. I took several photos of it through my scope and sent them to the team for confirmation it was a Kentish Plover when someone came down to check, but the view was quite poor by the time they showed up. After a while it was confirmed that this bird was a juvenile Kentish Plover.

The Kentish plover fed close in (c.10m) for an hour and a half, frequently running around in between feeding in short bursts along the edge of the mudflats with the Ringed plover group, before retreating 100m west around 8:30am, slightly out of view. Once the team member arrived, it was relocated and we moved further round to get a better view. It then started to rest on one leg, trying sleep only 10m away from us again. It sat here for at least another 30 mins, but was soon joined by a juvenile Ringed plover and a Black-headed gull. As the gull approached the pair, it spooked the Ringed plover which flew 10m west, but the Kentish stood its ground, keeping an eye on the gull as it walked past. It then joined the Ringed plover, continuing feeding and running across the uneven mudflats, often out of view. The entire time I was watching the Kentish plover, it only stretched its legs/tail feathers out twice and spent only 2 seconds preening. By 10:30am, I retreated to the watchpoint to continue monitoring the young Ringed plovers but it never reappeared, with no further sign of it by noon. It had likely retreated further into the Wash, with no sign of it on the following days either.

Bethany McGuire (Shorebird Warden, Gibraltar Point)

Lincolnshire Bird News - August 2023

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.

31/08/2023

Bardney

2 Raven

Frampton Marsh

Spotted Redshank, 17 Curlew Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 36 Spoonbill, 4 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Black Redstart, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint, 23 Spoonbill

Kirkby

Greenshank, Egyptian Goose, Kingfisher, 250 Lapwing, Pintail, Red-crested Pochard, Water Rail, Raven, 5 Green Sandpiper, Yellow Wagtail, Reed Warbler, Green Woodpecker

Kirton Marsh

2 Common Crane (over north)

Louth

Spotted Flycatcher, 2 Hobby

Novartis Ings

Spotted Redshank

Rimac

Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper

30/08/2023

Chapel Six Marsh

2 Cattle Egret

Frampton Marsh

159 Avocet, 3200 Dunlin, 88 Little Egret, 2 Garganey, 17 Greenshank, 9 Lapwing, 526 Ringed Plover, 14 Spotted Redshank, 128 Ruff, 12 Common Sandpiper, 12 Curlew Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 38 Spoonbill, 2700 Black-wing Stilt, 6 Little Stint, Black Stork, 131 Yellow Wagtail

Gibraltar Point

Curlew Sandpiper

Manby Wetlands

11 Avocet, 5 Dunlin, 6 Black-tailed Godwit, 89 Black-headed Gull, Ringed Plover, 18 Ruff, 3 Common Sandpiper, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, 11 Snipe

Rimac

4 Little Egret, Dunlin, Ringed Plover, Common Redshank, Spotted Redshank, 2 Wood Sandpiper



A very obliging wood sandpiper at Ric this afternoon - Image © Chris Grimshaw

Paradise

2 Dunlin, 2 Little Egret, 2 Greenshank, 25 Common Gull, 98 Lapwing, 226 Redshank, Common Sandpiper, 12 Swallow

Swanpool cow-fields

2 Spotted Flycatcher

29/08/2023

Frampton Marsh

6 Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 34 Spoonbill, 2 Little Stint

Manby Wetlands

20 Avocet, 3 Dunlin, 2 Greenshank, 5 Black-tailed Godwit, 130 Black-headed Gull, 10 Common Gull, Marsh Harrier, Ringed Plover, 14 Ruff, Common Sandpiper, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, 7 Green Sandpiper, 40 Teal

Rimac

Wood Sandpiper

Tetney Marsh

200 Grey Plover

28/082023

Anderby Creek

Long-tailed Skua

Fillingham

11 Siskin (over)

Frampton Marsh

5 Spotted Redshank, 5 Curlew Sandpiper, 2 Wood Sandpiper, 24 Spoonbill, Black Stork

Gibraltar Point

Caspian Gull, Puffin, 18 Spoonbill, Little Stint, Black Tern, Roseate Tern

Messingham

Buzzard, Great White Egret, Grey Heron, **Hobby**, 14 Moorhen, Cetti's Warbler, Chiffchaff, 4 Sand Martin, 2 Green Sandpiper, Sparrowhawk

27/08/2023

Alkborough Flats

Raven, Spotted Redshank

Cress Marsh

2 Great White Egret, **Wood Sandpiper**



Wood Sandpiper at Cress Marsh - Image © Nick Coulbeck

Deeping Lakes

Osprey

Fillingham

Grey Plover, **Whinchat**

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, Bar-tailed Godwit, 3 Greenshank, **Merlin, Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, 34 Spoonbill, 7 Little Stint, Black Stork, Whooper Swan, 27 Yellow Wagtail, Wheatear, Whimbrel, Green Woodpecker**

Gibraltar Point

Osprey, Kentish Plover, Ringed Plover, Roseate Tern

Manby Wetlands

2 Curlew Sandpiper

Rimac

2 Little Stint, 2 Wood Sandpiper

Tetney Marsh

3 Greenshank, Marsh Harrier, Osprey, 10 Redshank, 2 Ruff, 2 Common Sandpiper, 2 Snipe

Trent Port

Bullfinch, Kingfisher, 4 Red-legged Partridge, 2 Treecreeper, 9 Common Sandpiper, Sparrowhawk, Reed Warbler, Yellow Wagtail, Green Woodpecker

Saltfleetby

Curlew Sandpiper

Swanpool-cowfields

Blackcap, Song Thrush, 3 Common Whitethroat, 2 Lesser Whitethroat, Willow Warbler

Sutton on Sea

21 Gannet, 380 Guillemot, 3 House Martin, 25 Oystercatcher, 810 Razorbill, 4 Arctic Skua, 2 Black Tern, 250 Common Tern, 150 Sandwich Tern, 180 Barn Swallow, 2 Turnstone, Whimbrel

26/08/2023

Alkborough Flats

Spotted Crake



Spotted Crake at Alkborough Flats - Image © Neil Drinkall

Barkston

Whinchat

Boultham Mere

Swift, 3 Wigeon

Frampton Marsh

2 Short-eared Owl, 5 Curlew Sandpiper, 8 Little Stint, Black Stork

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl, 7 Spoonbill

Paradise

Curlew Sandpiper

Rimac

5 Spotted Redshank, 2 Wood Sandpiper

Swanpool cow-fields

Spotted Flycatcher

25/08/2023

Covenham Reservoir

Black-necked Grebe

Frampton Marsh

6 Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 40 Spoonbill, 5 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Bee-eater, Long-eared Owl, 5 Black Tern, Wood Warbler

Grimsby (private garden)

Pied Flycatcher

Sandilands

Roseate Tern

24/08/2023

Frampton

Great White Egret, 1000 Black-tailed Godwit, Common Redstart, Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 33 Spoonbill, 2 Little Stint,

5 Black-winged Stilt, Black Stork, Whimbrel

Gibraltar Point

8 Black Stork

Paradise

Little Stint

Rimac

5 Wood Sandpiper

23/08/2023

Alkborough Flats

Osprey, 17 Spoonbill

Barkston

6 Wheatear, 2 Whinchat

Frampton Marsh

4 Spotted Redshank, 7 Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 31 Spoonbill, 5 Black-winged Stilt, 3 Little Stint

Freiston Shore

Wood Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

2 Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Little Stint

Moulton Marsh

Cattle Egret

Rimac

2 Garganey, 3 Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, Little Stint

Saltfleetby/Theddlethorpe NNR

Pied Flycatcher, Osprey

Swanpool cow-field

Nuthatch

22/08/2023

Covenham Reservoir

Black-necked Grebe

Deeping Lakes

Greater Scaup, Wood Sandpiper

Frampton Marsh

Avocet 250, 350 Dunlin, 1000 Black-tailed Godwit, 75 Greenshank, 2 Marsh Harrier, Spotted Redshank, Little Stint, 2 Common Sandpiper, 8 Curlew Sandpiper, Green Sandpiper, 5 Black-winged Stilt, Sparrowhawk, 39 Spoonbill

Freiston Shore

Wood Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

Bittern

Manby Wetlands

Wood Sandpiper

Paradise

6 Wood Sandpiper

Rimac

2 Wood Sandpiper

Saltfleetby

Pied Flycatcher, Gargarney, Osprey

Willow Tree Fen

Buzzard, 7 Common Crane, 5 Kestrel, 4 Marsh Harrier, Wheatear



Three Common Crane dropping in to Willow Tree Fen - Image © Chis Grimshaw

21/08/2023

Alkborough

12+ Spoonbill, Whimbrel

Anderby Creek

Icterine Warbler

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, 5 Spotted Flycatcher, Greenshank, Spotted Redshank 3 Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 36 Spoonbill, 5

Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint, Black Stork, Bearded Tit

Gibraltar Point

Black Tern

Moor Farm

Buzzard, Pied Flycatcher, Hobby, Jay, Green Woodpecker

Rimac

Garganey, Osprey, Little Ringed Plover, Spotted Redshank, 2 Wood Sandpiper, Snipe, Whimbrel

Spotted Redshank at Rimac - Image © Mark Johnson

Swanpool cow-fields

2 Buzzard, Spotted Flycatcher, Grey Heron, Redstart, Swallow, Common Whitethroat. Lesser Whitethroat, 2 Green Woodpecker

Wainfleet

Pied Flycatcher, Spotted Flycatcher, 2 Redstart, 3 Whinchat, 124 Willow Warbler, Wheatear, Lesser Whitethroat

Willow Tree Fen

Common Crane, Osprey

20/08/2023

Anderby Creek

7 Black Tern

Anderby Marsh

Little Stint

Black Bank

3 Buzzard, Kestrel, 3 Marsh Harrier, Common Whitethroat

East Halton Skitter

59 Avocet, 29 Stock Dove, 2650 Black-tailed Godwit, Pink-footed Goose, 2 Yellow-tailed Gull, Red Knot, 85 Golden Plover, Water

Rail, 10 Shelduck, Whinchat

Gibraltar Point

Great White Egret, Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint

Frampton Marsh

Black Stork

Trent Port

5 Chiffchaff, 2 Little Egret, 2 Raven, Common Redstart, Yellow Wagtail, Lesser Whitethroat

Winter's Pond

Cuckoo, 3 Little Egret, 20 Black-tailed Godwit, 340 Greylag Goose, 16 Little Grebe, 374 Mallard, 6 Shoveler, 5 Barn Swallow, 25

Mute Swan, Great Spotted Woodpecker,

19/08/2023

Baston Fen

Wood Sandpiper

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Black Tern

Cleethorpes

98 Dunlin, 720 Black-headed Gull, 418 Common Gull, 58 Great Black-backed Gull, 4 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 148 Ringed

Plover, Arctic Skua, 87 Common Tern, 148 Sandwich Tern, 2 Wheatear

Cress Marsh

7 Little Egret, 2 Peregrine Falcon, 50 Linnet, 12 Yellow Wagtail

Churchill to Brickyard Lane

5 Blackcap, 3 Chiffchaff, Pied Flycatcher, 2 Sand Martin, Sparrowhawk, 4 Swallow, Reed Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat

Fillingham

Spotted Flycatcher



A Spotted Flycatcher at Fillingham - Image © Colin Scott

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, 8 Spotted Redshank, 5 Curlew Sandpiper, 2 Wood Sandpiper, 38 Spoonbill, 5 Black-winged Stilt, 6 Little Stint, [Black Stork](#)

Gibraltar Point

Dunlin, [Pied Flycatcher](#), Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 9 Black Tern

Huttoft

[Pied Flycatcher](#), 5 Black Tern

Kirton Marsh

[Cattle Egret](#)

Moulton Marsh

[Black Stork](#)

18/08/2023

Anderby Creek

[Cory's Shearwater](#)

Baston & Langtoft Pits

[6 Black Tern](#)

Chapel Point

[Cory's Shearwater](#)



The Cory's Shearwater that did a tour of the Lincs Coast this morning - Image © James Siddle

Frampton Marsh

Kentish Plover, 12 Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 40 Spoonbill, 5 Black-winged Stilt, 4 Little StintBlack Tern

Gibraltar Point

Pied Flycatcher, Cory's Shearwater

North Rauceby

15 Grey Partridge, 7 Red-legged Partridge

Swanpool Cow-fields

Spotted Flycatcher



Spotted Flycatcher in the bushes at Swanpool cow-fields - Image © Chris Grimshaw

Sutton on Sea

Red-throated Diver, 62 Gannet, 5 Great Black-backed Gull, 19 Guillemot, 7 Kittiwake, 170 Red Knot, 2 Razorbill, 139 Common Scoter, [Cory's Shearwater](#), [Arctic Skua](#), [Great Skua](#), [5 Long-tailed Skua](#), [Pomarine Skua](#), 30 Common Tern, 160 Sandwich Tern, 4 Turnstone

Wolla Bank

[Cory's Shearwater](#)

17/08/2023

Cleethorpes

200 Red Knot, 10 Grey Plover, Wheatear

Frampton Marsh

[11 Greenshank](#), [Little Gull](#), [Merlin](#), [4 Spotted Redshank](#), [Ruff](#), [2 Curlew Sandpiper](#), [37 Spoonbill](#), [6 Black-winged Stilt](#), [Little Stint](#), [Black Stork](#), [Whooper Swan](#), [Whinchat](#)

Gibraltar Point

[Wood Sandpiper](#), [Probable Sooty Shearwater](#), [22 Spoonbill](#), [Long-tailed Skua](#), [Black Tern](#)

Manby Flash

[21 Avocet](#), [Greenshank](#), [Common Sandpiper](#), [Green Sandpiper](#), [3 Snipe](#)

Tetney Lock

[2 Goosander](#), [Little Grebe](#), [Kestrel](#), [Kingfisher](#), [3 Common Sandpiper](#), [3 Green Sandpiper](#), [10 Yellow Wagtail](#), [14 Whimbrel](#)

16/08/2023

Cleethorpes

[50 Curlew](#), [7 Dunlin](#), [100 Bar-tailed Godwit](#), [Black-tailed Godwit](#), [100 Red Knot](#), [1000 Oystercatcher](#), [10 Grey Plover](#), [100 Ringed Plover](#), [5 Sanderling](#), [Common Sandpiper](#), [150 Common Tern](#), [100 Sandwich Tern](#), [10 Pied Wagtail](#)

Frampton Marsh

[Great White Egret](#), [Peregrine Falcon](#), [1100 Black-tailed Godwit](#), [2+ Marsh Harrier](#), [Kestrel](#), [4 Kingfisher](#), [15 Spotted Redshank](#), [70+ Ruff](#), [Curlew Sandpiper](#), [Sparrowhawk](#), [34 Spoonbill](#), [2 Black-winged Stilt](#), [Little Stint](#), [Black Stork](#), [Whinchat](#), [Whooper Swan](#)

Rimac

[3 Dunlin](#), [3 Greenshank](#), [2 Little Ringed Plover](#), [7 Redshank](#), [Common Sandpiper](#), [3 Green Sandpiper](#)

Saltfleetby/Theddlethorpe NNR

[2700 Black-headed Gull](#), [96 Ringed Plover](#), [49 Common Tern](#), [Roseate Tern](#), [57 Sandwich Tern](#)

Sutton on Sea

[47 Gannet](#), [Red-necked Grebe](#), [Little Gull](#), [765 Guillemot](#), [50 Kittiwake](#), [85 Oystercatcher](#), [120 Razorbill](#), [21 Common Scoter](#), [6 Black Tern](#), [860 Common Tern](#), [210 Sandwich Tern](#), [14 Whimbrel](#)

15/08/2023

Anderby Creek & Marsh

[Spotted Redshank](#), [Wood Sandpiper](#), [Red-backed Shrike](#), [Little Stint](#)

Barkston

[Spotted Flycatcher](#), [Yellow Wagtail](#), [4 Wheatear](#), [Willow Warbler](#)

Fillingham

[2 Marsh Harrier](#), [10 Whimbrel](#)

Frampton Marsh

[Great White Egret](#), [Merlin](#), [Pintail](#), [Curlew Sandpiper](#), [4 Arctic Skua](#), [34 Spoonbill](#), [7 Black-winged Stilt](#), [2 Little Stint](#)

Gibraltar Point

[27 Spoonbill](#)

Swanpool Cow-fields

[2 Spotted Flycatcher](#)



One of the two Spotted Flycatchers in the Swanpool cowfields - Image © Andy Sims

RAF Wainfleet

4 Blackcap, Great White Egret, 2 Spotted Flycatcher, 33000 Red Knot, Red-necked Phalarope, 800 Common Tern, 143 Willow Warbler, Green Woodpecker

14/08/2023

Mablethorpe

2 Curlew Sandpiper, Roseate Tern

13/08/2023

Frampton Marsh

9 Spotted Redshank, 2 Wood Sandpiper, 27 Spoonbill, 7 Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

7 Spoonbill

Sutton on Sea

13 Black-tailed Godwit, 352 Black-headed Gull, 54 Common Gull, 1 Mediterranean Gull, 40 Kittiwake, 37 Oystercatcher, 3 Shelduck, 9 Swallow, 15 Teal, 269 Common Tern, Little Tern

12/08/2023

Alkborough Flats

Wood Sandpiper

Anderby Creek

Red-backed Shrike

Anderby Marsh

Cattle Egret, Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper

Dunsby Fen

Common Quail

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, 3 Greenshank, Hobby, Pintail, 9 Spotted Redshank, 2 Wood Sandpiper,, 18 Spoonbill, 5 Black-winged Stilt , 3

Little Stint, Black Stork, Whooper Swan, Whimbrel

Freiston Shore

300+ Sand Martin

Gibraltar Point

Black Tern

Willow Tree Fen

2 Bittern, Peregrine Falcon, 7+ Marsh Harrier, 6+ Kestrel, 19 House Martin, Merlin, 140 Yellow Wagtail, 2 Green Woodpecker

11/08/2023

Anderby Marsh

Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, Little Stint

Churchill Lane

158 Curlew, 17 Common Tern, 168 Sandwich Tern

Frampton Marsh

7 Spotted Redshank, 18 Spoonbill, 7 Black-winged Stilt, Black Stork

Freiston Shore

2 Wood Sandpiper, Black Stork

Louth

7 Swift

Market Rasen

11 Mistle Thrush, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Green Woodpecker

Tetney Lock

Curlew, Goosander, Kingfisher, 2 House Martin, 20 Redshank, 5 Common Sandpiper

Willow Tree Fen

Osprey (high over)

10/08/2023

Cleethorpes

Kittiwake

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, Greenshank, 2 Marsh Harrier, Hobby, 2 Kingfisher, Common Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, 12 Spoonbill,

Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint, Whooper Swan, Whimbrel

Gibraltar Point

Avocet, Dunlin, Gannet, Greenshank, Little Ringed Plover, Spotted Redshank, Arctic Skua, 11 Spoonbill, Barn Swallow, Common Tern, Sandwich Tern

North Killingholme

Caspian Gull

Saltfleetby NNR

Osprey

Willow Tree Fen

Bittern, 12 Buzzard, 5 Common Crane, Peregrine Falcon, 8 Marsh Harrier, Hobby, 3 Red Kite, Sparrowhawk, 150+ Yellow

Wagtail, 2 Whinchat

09/08/2023

Frampton Marsh

2 Curlew Sandpiper, 22 Spoonbill, 4 Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Osprey

Willow Tree Fen

Osprey

Saltfleetby/Theddlethorpe NNR

3 Little Ringed Plover, Wheatear

08/08/2023

Alkborough

Wood Sandpiper, 16 Spoonbill

Frampton Marsh

Short-eared Owl, Wood Sandpiper, Black-winged Stilt, 3 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

11 Spoonbill

Pinchbeck

Common Quail

Rimac

Osprey

Saltfleetby/Theddlethorpe NNR

Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl

07/08/2023

Cress Marsh

5 Little Egret, 2 Peregrine Falcon, 2 Grey Heron, Kestrel, 2 Common Sandpiper, 10 Shoveler

Digby Fen

Great White Egret, Red Kite, Grey Partridge

Frampton Marsh

2 Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint

Rimac

Wheatear

Saltfleetby

Short-eared Owl

Usselby Plantation

5 Siskin (Ad + 2 Juv), Great Spotted Woodpecker

Whisby

5 Chiffchaff, 2 Little Egret, 4 Egyptian Goose, Grey Heron, 200+ Lapwing

06/08/2023

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, Garganey, Short-eared Owl, 10 Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, c 20 Spoonbill, 4 Black-winged Stilt

Gibraltar Point

Little Gull, 3 Short-eared Owl

Huttoft

Storm Petrel

North Rauceby

Buzzard, Grey Partridge

Sutton on Sea

34 Gannet, 8 Kittiwake, 8 Grey Plover, 300 Common Scoter, Arctic Skua, 27 Teal, Arctic Tern, 38 Common Tern, 810 Sandwich Tern

Tetney Lock

2 Goosander, Hobby, Yellow Wagtail

Trent Port

Kingfisher, 2 Raven, Stonechat, Green Woodpecker

Willow Tree Fen

11 Common Crane, Osprey

05/08/2023

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Greater Scaup, Arctic Tern

Frampton Marsh

Short-eared Owl, 18 Spoonbill

Willow Tree Fen

11 Common Crane

04/08/2023

Brickyard Lane

15 Sanderling, 12 Dunlin, 12 Oystercatcher, 5 Arctic Skua, Whimbrel

Cleethorpes

90 Black-tailed Godwit

Frampton Marsh

Little Gull, 2 Short-eared Owl, 8 Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, 21 Spoonbill, 7 Black-winged Stilt, Little Stint, Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

40000 Red Knot, 10 Arctic Skua, 5 Spoonbill

Louth

100 Swift

Sutton on Sea

420 Sandwich Tern

RAF Wainfleet

Short-eared Owl

Rimac

Little Ringed Plover, 4 Green Sandpiper

Saltfleetby

Little Gull

Trent Port

3 Blackcap, 2 Bullfinch, 9 Chiffchaff, Kingfisher, 15 Swift, Treecreeper, 2 Lesser Whitethroat, 10 Whitethroat, Willow Warbler, Green Woodpecker

03/08/2023

Cleethorpes

Common Sandpiper, 3 Arctic/Common Tern, Yellow Wagtail

Frampton Marsh

62 Greenshank, Mediterranean Gull, 3 Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 27 Spoonbill. 4 Black-winged Stilt, Little Stint, Black Tern, 3 Whimbrel

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl, Spotted Redshank 3, Wood Sandpiper, 5 Spoonbill

Mablethorpe

Roseate Tern

Willow Tree Fen

10 Common Crane

02/08/2023

Frampton Marsh

12 Spotted Redshank, 21 Spoonbill, 9 Black-winged Stilt, Wood Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

9 Spoonbill

Willow Tree Fen

10 Common Crane

01/08/2023

Alkborough

Wood Sandpiper

Digby Fen

8 Collared Dove, 5 c Kestrel, Barn Owl

Frampton Marsh

Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, 2 Marsh Harrier, Red Knot, Little Ringed Plover, 2 Spotted Redshank, 3 Spoonbill, c6 Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint, Black Tern

Gibraltar Point

3 Wood Warbler

Saltfleetby/Theddlethorpe NNR

14 Cormorant, Gannet, 680 Black-headed Gull, Common Gull 176, 42 Great Black-backed Gull, 33 Herring Gull, 26 Shelduck, 2 Arctic Skua, 7 Common Tern, 41 Sandwich Tern, 11 Whimbrel

Toft Newton

Caspian Tern

Willow Tree Fen

10 Common Crane

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

