

# *The* STATUS of BIRDS *in* LINCOLNSHIRE 1996 - 2000

Anne Goodall Janet Eastmead



**The  
Lincolnshire  
Bird Club**

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**Lesser Redpoll** *Carduelis cabaret*

3J	22/07/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	16/10/99	Winterset Res, Wakefield, West Yorkshire 106km, WNW
		0 years, 2 months, 24 days

**Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

6 F	02/06/96	Warping Drain, Graiselound, Epworth, Lincolnshire
v	02/06/96	Melton Wood, Doncaster, South Yorkshire 27km, W
		0 years, 0 months, 0 days

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*

4M	06/01/98	Heacham North Beach, Norfolk
vv	22/02/00	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire 25km, NW
		2 years, 1 month, 16 days
4F	13/12/99	Heacham North Beach, Norfolk
vv	18/12/99	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire 25km, NW
		0 years, 0 months, 5 days
4F	13/12/99	Heacham North Beach, Norfolk
vv	22/02/00	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire 25km, NW
		0 years, 2 months, 9 days
3M	13/12/99	Heacham North Beach, Norfolk
vv	22/02/00	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire 25km, NW
		0 years, 2 months, 9 days

5M	15/03/97	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
x	19/03/99	Bjorkelund, SWEDEN 954km, ENE 2 years, 0 months, 4 days
5 M	23/03/97	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
x	16/03/98	Wijk Maaspoort, THE NETHERLANDS 422km, ESE 0 years, 11 months, 21 days
5F	23/03/97	Budby, Nottinghamshire
v	01/04/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire 67km, SE 1 year, 0 months, 9 days
3JM	19/09/97	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire
x	03/04/98	Holmfirth, West Yorkshire 136km, W 0 years, 6 months, 15 days
6 M	17/01/98	Windlesham, Surrey
v	28/03/98	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire 225km, N 0 years, 2 months, 11 days
5M	22/02/98	Lea, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire
v	10/03/99	Strangnas, SWEDEN 1279km, ENE 1 year, 0 months, 16 days
6M	24/02/98	Weybourne, Norfolk
v	28/04/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire 105km, W 0 years, 2 months, 4 days
5M	15/03/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire
x	15/04/98	Craignure, Isle of Mull, Strathclyde 535km, NW 0 years, 1 month, 0 days
5F	21/03/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire
v	26/04/98	Inchmala, Grampian Region 495km, NNW 0 years, 1 month, 5 days
4M	28/03/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire
x	21/02/99	Orsundsbro, Uppsala, SWEDEN 1337km, NE 0 years, 10 months, 24 days
5M	01/04/98	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
v	25/03/00	Morpeth, Northumberland 217km, NNW 1 year, 11 months, 24 days
5M	10/03/00	Boynton, Suffolk
v	18/04/00	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire 187km, NW 0 years, 1 month, 8 days
5M	10/03/00	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
x	23/04/00	Ballater, Highland Region, Scotland 441km, NNW 0 years, 1 month, 13 days
6M	12/03/00	Sutton Coldfield, Shropshire
v	13/04/00	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire 134km, NE 0 years, 1 month, 1 day
5F	01/04/00	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire
v	05/04/00	Thetford, Norfolk 87km, ESE 0 years, 0 months, 4 days

Nearly all the siskins ringed or re-trapped in the county are near the coniferous plantations in Bourne or Market Rasen. The above show the majority are found in the first four months of the year and are migrating in a variety of directions.

**Dunnoch** *Prunella modularis*

3	17/09/99	Theddlethorpe Dunes, Lincolnshire
x	09/07/00	Louth, Lincolnshire 11km, W
		0 years, 9 months, 22 days

**Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*

unknown	25/02/96	Easton, Grantham, Lincolnshire
x	09/09/99	Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire 20km, SSW
		3 years, 6 months, 15 days

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*

3J	14/07/00	Kilnsea, East Yorkshire
v	11/09/00	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire, 59km, SSE
		0 years, 1 month, 28 days

**Greenfinch** *Carduelis chloris*

4F	20/09/96	Romsdal, <b>NORWAY</b>
v	16/02/97	Immingham, Lincolnshire 1054km, SSW
		0 years, 4 months, 27 days
3F	15/10/96	Flamborough, East Yorkshire
v	26/04/97	Scartho, Grimsby, Lincolnshire 67km, S
		0 years, 6 months, 11 days
4M	28/09/97	Seacroft, Lincolnshire
v	26/10/97	Caversfield, Bicester, Oxfordshire 165km, SW
		0 years, 0 months, 28 days

The bird from Norway was one of 14 birds recovered here in the 1996/97 winter showing the now-established interchange between populations in Norway and the east coast of England.

**Siskin** *Carduelis spinus*

6M	19/02/96	Drumnadrochit, Highland Region
v	28/03/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire 568km, SSE
		2 years, 1 month, 9 days
5 F	23/03/96	Dalston, Carlisle, Cumbria
v	22/01/98	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire 237km, SE
		1 year, 9 months, 30 days
5 M	23/03/96	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
v	05/04/98	Boyton, Suffolk 187km, SE
		2 years, 0 months, 13 days
5M	01/03/97	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
v	28/05/97	Romsdal, <b>NORWAY</b> 1077km, NNE
		0 years, 2 months, 27 days
5F	07/03/97	Garboldisham, Diss, Norfolk
v	07/03/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire 100km, WNW
		1 year, 0 months, 0 days

### Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

3F	02/11/98	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
x	25/06/99	Hoiskonlahti, Alajarvi, Vaasa, <b>FINLAND</b> 1741km, NE 0 years, 7 months, 23 days

Very few fieldfares are ringed annually in the county and this is an excellent recovery.

### Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

3	11/10/99	Wrangle Brickpits, Lincolnshire
+	26/12/99	Riomalo de Abajo, Caceres, <b>SPAIN</b> 1481km, SSW 0 years, 2 months, 15 days

Sadly a typical winter fate of thrush species migrating through the Iberian Peninsula.

### Robin *Erithacus rubecula*

2	26/10/97	Schleswig Holstein, <b>GERMANY</b>
v	03/10/98	Theddlethorpe, Lincolnshire 672km, W 0 years, 11 months, 7 days
5	05/04/98	Ottenby, <b>SWEDEN</b>
v	09/10/98	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 1083km, WSW 0 years, 6 months, 4 days
3	28/09/98	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
x	01/04/99	Amsterdam, <b>THE NETHERLANDS</b> 343km, ESE 0 years, 6 months, 4 days
4	01/10/98	Weybourne, Norfolk
v	15/10/99	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire 77km, N 1 year, 0 months, 14 days
3	02/10/98	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
?	07/12/98	Zaio, <b>MOROCCO</b> 2068km, S 0 years, 2 months, 5 days
3	03/10/98	Theddlethorpe, Lincolnshire
x	13/10/98	Colchester, Essex 184km, SSE 0 years, 0 months, 10 days
3	10/10/98	Theddlethorpe, Lincolnshire
x	26/11/98	Cranbrook, Kent 253km, SE 0 years, 1 month, 16 days

### Common Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*

4F	07/05/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire
v	05/05/00	Bainton GP, Cambridgeshire 15km, S 1 year, 11 months, 28 days

Male nightingales have been proven to show great site fidelity, probably both at breeding and wintering grounds; it is interesting to note this female is just 15km short of its original site – being relatively early in the spring, was it still on its way north?

# **Blackbird** *Turdus merula*

5F	28/01/96	North Sea Camp, Lincolnshire
x	28/01/97	Fenwick, Doncaster, South Yorkshire 109km, NW 1 year, 0 months, 0 days
3 F	08/10/96	Buren Eendenkooj, <b>THE NETHERLANDS</b>
v	27/10/97	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 377km, NW 1 year, 0 months, 19 days
3F	30/10/96	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
x	14/10/98	Kroonspolders, <b>THE NETHERLANDS</b> 319km, E 1 years 11 months, 14 days
3M	16/11/96	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
x	16/03/00	Silkeborg, <b>DENMARK</b> 673km, ENE 3 years, 4 months, 0 days
4M	01/04/97	Anholt, <b>DENMARK</b>
v	18/10/97	Theddlethorpe, Lincolnshire 184km, WSW 0 years, 6 months, 17 days
4 M	17/10/97	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
x	28/02/98	Wingst, Luneburg, <b>GERMANY</b> 587km, E 0 years, 4 months, 11 days
3F	18/10/97	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire
v	21/09/99	Aust-Agder, <b>NORWAY</b> 742km, NE 1 year, 11 months, 3 days
4 M	01/11/97	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
x	24/12/97	Portstewart, Northern Ireland, 484km, WNW 0 years, 1 month, 23 days
5M	25/01/98	Digby, Lincolnshire
v	16/10/98	Helgoland, <b>GERMANY</b> 563km, ENE 0 years, 8 months, 21 days
6F	08/02/98	Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire
x	08/02/99	East Bridgeford, Nottingham 55km, WSW 1 year, 0 months, 0 days
4F	08/02/98	Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire
x	15/06/99	Maikkala, Uusimaa, <b>FINLAND</b> 1673km, ENE 1 year, 4 months, 7 days
5F	13/01/99	Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
x	14/03/99	Overijssel, <b>THE NETHERLANDS</b> 457km, ESE 0 years, 2 months, 1 day
4F	16/10/99	Theddlethorpe Dunes, Lincolnshire
x	30/03/00	Skarplinge, nr Gavle, Uppsala, <b>SWEDEN</b> 1322km, NE 0 years, 5 months, 14 days
3M	09/11/99	Helgoland, <b>GERMANY</b>
v	29/11/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 516km, W 0 years, 0 months, 20 days

The bird ringed at Donna Nook in October 1997 presumably followed the well flown westerly route of blackbirds for the winter but its recovery in Germany in late February the following year highlights the early onset of return migration in some blackbirds.

**Common Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*

3	07/08/98	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	28/08/99	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire 10km, SSE 1 year, 0 months, 21 days
3J	30/07/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	28/08/99	Queen Mary Reservoir, Surrey 230km, SSW 0 years, 0 months, 29 days
3J	31/07/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	30/08/00	Icklesham, Sussex 285km, S 1 year, 0 months, 30 days

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

3	28/08/96	Marston STW, Lincolnshire
v	10/08/97	Poole Harbour, Dorset 270km, SSW 0 years, 11 months, 13 days
3	28/07/98	Flamborough Head, East Yorkshire
v	08/08/98	Marston STW, Lincolnshire 133km, SSW 0 years, 0 months, 11 days
3	09/08/98	Icklesham, Sussex
v	31/07/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 285km, N 0 years, 11 months, 22 days
3	18/08/99	Marston STW, Lincolnshire
v	12/09/99	Villeton, Lot-en-Garonne, FRANCE 960km, S 0 years, 0 months, 25 days

Sedge Warblers, which build up large fat deposits, have a rapid migration to their wintering quarters; presumably the Marston STW, Lincolnshire bird refuelled in France, then carried on SW through Iberia.

**Waxwing** *Bombycilla garrulous*

3F	28/12/96	Cleveland
x	29/01/97	Immingham, Lincolnshire 126km, SSE 0 years, 1 month, 1 day

**Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*

3	04/09/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	19/07/00	Spurn Point, East Yorkshire 13km, NNW 0 years, 10 months, 15 days

**Common Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris*

4	23/02/97	Boston, Lincolnshire
v	30/01/98	Cilgell Uchaf, Cwmann, Dyfed 292km, WSW 0 years, 11 months, 7 days
5	09/02/99	Immingham, Lincolnshire
x	15/05/99	Beliki, Vitebsk, USSR 2436km, ESE 0 years, 3 months, 6 days

The Immingham bird shows a typical spring easterly movement after over-wintering in the UK.

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica*

4	28/05/97	Fishtoft STW, Lincolnshire
v	14/05/98	Normanton STW, West Yorkshire 128km, NW 0 years, 11 months, 16 days
4	26/05/99	Fishtoft STW, Lincolnshire
v	11/06/99	Cottesmore STW, Leicestershire 52km, WSW 0 years, 0 months, 16 days

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus*

2	09/11/96	North Somercotes, Lincolnshire
v	15/02/98	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire 83km, SSW 1 year, 3 months, 6 days
2	15/08/98	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire
v	24/02/00	North Somercotes, Lincolnshire 9km, NNW 1 year, 6 months, 9 days

**Common Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*

3	03/08/96	Willingham Forest, Lincolnshire
v	10/11/96	San Roque, Cadiz, SPAIN, 1949km, SSW 0 years, 3 months, 7 days

A first year bird en route to it's wintering quarters.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

3	06/09/97	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	16/05/98	Fair Isle, Scotland 685km, NNW 0 years, 8 months, 10 days
3	18/08/98	Southport, Merseyside
v	23/04/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 212km, E 0 years, 8 months, 5 days

A first year bird ringed on migration at Donna Nook in 1997, we can only guess why it was controlled so far north in May.

**Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*

3JM	02/08/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
x	27/04/00	Louth, Lincolnshire 14km, SW 0 years, 8 months, 25 days

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*

5	26/03/99	Eilat, ISRAEL
v	06/05/99	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 3889km, NW 0 years, 1 month, 10 days

This is an exceptional record of a fast moving bird trapped on it's migration from the Horn of Africa to Britain via Israel. It is only the second record of an Israeli ringed bird found in the UK.



5F	15/02/97	Chapel Hill Farm, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire
v	18/05/97	Low Dalby, North Yorkshire 101km, NNW
		0 years, 3 months, 3 days

The Market Rasen bird was one of only five individual great tits to travel over 100km in 1997.

#### Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

1	05/06/96	Temple Wood, Lincolnshire
x	09/03/97	Stoneygate, Leicester 51km, WSW
		0 years, 9 months, 4 days

#### Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*

4M	20/07/96	Spalding, Lincolnshire
vM	25/07/97	Kislingbury, Northamptonshire, 88km, SW
		1 year, 0 months, 5 days
4M	26/05/97	Nettleton, Lincolnshire
v	09/07/97	Baston Fen, Lincolnshire 87km, S
		0 years, 1 month, 13 days
4F	19/07/97	Spalding, Lincolnshire
v	01/09/97	Icklesham, Sussex 218km, SSE
		0 years, 1 month, 13 days
4M	26/07/97	Spalding, Lincolnshire
v	06/01/98	Deeping St James, Lincolnshire 18km, SSW
		0 years, 5 months, 11 days
3	05/09/98	Laguna de San Juan, Chinchon, Madrid, <b>SPAIN</b>
v	23/07/00	near Westwoodside, Epworth, Lincolnshire 1495km, N
		1 year, 10 months, 18 days
3J	10/06/99	Nettleton, Lincolnshire
v	07/07/99	Kingsnorth Power Station, Kent 240km, SSE
		0 years, 0 months, 27 days
3J	10/06/99	Nettleton, Lincolnshire
v	29/05/00	Rainworth, Nottinghamshire 66km, SW
		0 years, 11 months, 19 days
3J	27/07/99	Nettleton, Lincolnshire
v	22/08/99	Farlington Marsh, Hampshire 300km, SSW
		0 years, 0 months, 26 days
3J	10/08/99	Nettleton, Lincolnshire
v	18/07/00	Hoveringham, Nottinghamshire 67km, SW
		0 years, 11 months, 8 days
3	04/09/99	Las Cabezas de San Juan, Sevilla, <b>SPAIN</b>
v	28/06/00	Nettleton, Lincolnshire 1869km, N
		0 years, 9 months, 24 days

#### Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

3J	29/07/99	Kirmond-le-Mire, Lincolnshire
v	03/08/99	West Burton Power Station, Nottinghamshire, 38km, W
		0 years, 0 months, 5 days

Note the swift post juvenile dispersal of this bird.

### Common Swift *Apus apus*

4	17/05/96	Marston STW, Lincolnshire STW
v	18/05/96	Catcliffe, South Yorkshire 66km, NW 0 years, 0 months, 1 day
4	13/06/97	Fishtoft STW, Lincolnshire
x	05/06/00	Kirton, Lincolnshire 7km, SW 2 years, 11 months, 23 days

### Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

3M	10/09/97	Gib Point BO
v	21/03/98	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 40km, NNW 0 years, 6 months, 11 days
3F	22/09/97	Gib Point BO
x	31/10/97	Kapellan, BELGIUM 343km, SE 0 years, 1 month, 9 days
3F	05/10/98	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	10/10/98	Gib Point BO 40km, S 0 years, 0 months, 5 days
3M	10/10/98	Theddlethorpe, Lincolnshire
v	21/09/99	Holmen Vasterbotten, SWEDEN 1664km, NE 0 years, 11 months, 11 days
2M	17/10/99	Sheringham, Norfolk
v	13/09/00	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire 79km, NW 0 years, 10 months, 27 days
3F	28/10/99	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire
v	23/09/00	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire 40km, NNW 0 years, 10 months, 26 days
3F	13/09/00	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire
v	18/09/00	Vrouwenpolder, Zeeland, THE NETHERLANDS 302km, SE 0 years, 0 months, 5 days

Despite the large numbers of goldcrests regularly ringed on the coast during autumn migration recoveries and controls are relatively rare so this Swedish bird is an excellent record. Also, note the rapid movement of the bird retrapped in the Netherlands.

### Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*

5	27/02/99	Bourne Wood, Lincolnshire
x	04/05/00	Cheylesmore, West Midlands 87km, WSW 1 year, 2 months, 7 days

This is a considerable movement for this species. Anything over 100km is exceptional.

### Great Tit *Parus major*

5F	10/03/96	Treswell Wood, Nottinghamshire
v	06/12/97	Lea, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire 11km, NE 1 year, 8 months, 26 days

6	05/01/97	Butterwick, Lincolnshire
x	02/9/00	Butterwick Low, Lincolnshire 1km, E 3 years, 7 months, 28 days
5	08/02/98	Lede, Oost-Vlaanderen, BELGIUM
v	19/12/99	Boston, Lincolnshire 354km, NW 1 year, 10 months, 11 days
6	26/05/98	Holwerd, THE NETHERLANDS
v	13/02/99	Wyberton, Lincolnshire 395km, W 0 years, 8 months, 18 days
3	18/07/98	Pildammsparken, Malmo, SWEDEN
v	13/02/99	Wyberton, Lincolnshire 892km, WSW 0 years, 6 months, 26 days

#### Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

1	07/07/96	Langtoft Fen, Lincolnshire
x	26/08/96	West Deeping, Lincolnshire 5km, SW 0 years, 1 month, 19 days

#### Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*

3	18/09/97	Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire
+	12/04/00	South Reston, Louth, Lincolnshire 10km, SW 2 years, 6 months, 25 days

#### Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

4F	09/06/97	West Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire
v	10/06/00	West Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire 1km, S 3 years, 0 months, 1 day
1	18/06/97	near Maidwell, Northamptonshire
v	28/05/98	Kate's Bridge, Bourne, Lincolnshire 56km, NE 0 years, 11 months, 10 days
1	25/07/97	Walcot Dales, Lincolnshire
x	21/10/98	Wildmore Fen, Lincolnshire 8km, SE 1 year, 2 months, 26 days
1	30/09/97	West Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire
xr	18/01/00	Twenty, Lincolnshire 5km, WSW 2 years, 3 months, 18 days
1	23/06/98	Metheringham Heath, Lincolnshire
xr	29/09/99	near Sleaford, Lincolnshire 10km, SSE 1 year, 3 months, 6 days
1	27/06/98	Bourne North Fen, Lincolnshire
xr	08/10/00	Braunstone, Leicestershire 61km, WSW 2 years, 3 months, 11 days
1	08/07/98	Rippingale Fen, Lincolnshire
xr	06/04/99	Syston, Leicestershire 53km, WSW 0 years, 8 months, 29 days

5	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	01/08/99	North Hylton, Tyne and Wear 336km, NNW 3 years, 5 months, 29 days
10	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
vv	07/08/99	Aberdeen Docks, Grampian 482km, NNW 3 years, 6 months, 4 days
1	13/07/96	Isle of May, Fife
v	16/11/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire 395km, SSE 0 years, 4 months, 3 days
7	16/11/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
vv	07/04/98	Nieuwdorp, THE NETHERLANDS 303km, ESE 1 year, 4 months, 22 days
3	16/11/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	13/02/97	Nieuwdorp, THE NETHERLANDS 303km, ESE 0 years, 2 months, 28 days
3	16/11/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
vv	31/10/97	Bergen Op Zoom, THE NETHERLANDS 336km, ESE 0 years, 11 months, 15 days

A number of county ringers joined forces to help with a cannon netting session organised by Alan Ball. The majority of the above recoveries and controls show the value of team ringing.

#### **Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus***

5	27/01/96	Sleaford, Lincolnshire
x	21/07/97	Morsil, Jamtland, SWEDEN 1408km, NE 1 year, 5 months, 24 days
6	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
vv	06/04/96	Utterley Mose III, DENMARK 867km, ENE 0 years, 2 months, 3 days
6	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	14/02/97	Fishtoft, Lincolnshire 1km, E 1 year, 0 months, 11 days
6	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	15/07/96	Myllykklanjarvi, Uusimaa, FINLAND 1775km, ENE 0 years, 5 months, 12 days
6	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	04/10/98	Warder, Oosterweg, THE NETHERLANDS 341km, E 2 years, 8 months, 1 day
6	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	05/07/98	Pajaklakoski, Oulu, FINLAND 2180km, NE 2 years, 5 months, 2 days
6	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
vv	20/03/00	Bronshoi, Copenhagen, DENMARK, 865km, ENE 4 years, 1 month, 17 days
4	16/11/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	02/05/99	Kaitajarvi, Vaasa, FINLAND 1800km, NE 2 years, 5 months, 16 days



Mike Weedon  
M Welbourne  
SD Wellock  
A Wells  
R Wells  
Wetland Bird Survey  
Sue Wheeler  
J Wheldon  
Whisby Nature Park Bird Report  
B Whyte  
T Whyte  
Barrie Wilkinson

Mike Willey  
T Williams  
GB Wilson  
Ken E Wilson  
Kevin Wilson  
Doug Wood  
Phil Woods  
Dave Wright  
R Wright  
Trevor Wright  
Jacqueline Young

Gordon Hall  
Joan Hall  
Megan Hall  
Roger Hamer  
Barry Hancock  
Graham Hardy  
MC Hardy  
John T Harriman  
ZL Harris  
Kerry Harrison  
Matt Harrison  
Mike Harrison  
Andrew Harrop  
L Harvey  
Roy Harvey  
John Hayes  
S Haynes  
Peter Haywood  
Kay Heath  
Richard Heath  
C Heaton  
Roger Hebb  
Brian Hedley  
Andrew Henderson  
Mike Henry  
Irene Hildred  
LA Hill  
S Hindley  
D Hitchen  
Richard Holland  
John Hollis  
I Holmes  
J Holmes  
SM Holmes  
Paul Holt  
KA Hook  
Richard Hook  
D Horn

S Horsfall  
AC Houghton  
Tony Housman  
C Howes  
B Hudson  
Ray Hume  
D Hursthouse  
Phil Hyde  
Lewis James  
Antony Jarvis  
David Jenkins  
Colin Jennings  
Sheila Jennings  
Ted Johns  
Barry Johnson  
Graham Johnson  
K Johnson  
C Jukes  
Steve Keightley  
Henry Kennedy  
DL Kirby  
Charlie Kitchin  
T Kitching  
David Knight  
Les Knowles  
Roger Labbett  
John de Lacy  
R Lamin  
Mike C Lawrence  
Denis Lee  
Geoff Lee  
Trevor Lee  
Dave Leech  
Alexander Lees  
Mick Leighton  
Rob Lidstone-Scott  
Steven Lister  
Rob Littlewood

Nigel Chester	Mark Edgeller
Andrew Chick	P Eele
Jim Clarke	Brian Eke
Janice Clarke	Les Enderby
K Clarke	Alec J Evans
Barry Clarkson	G Evans
John Clarkson	Sarah Evans
M Coath	AR Fairhurst
Phillip Collins	Pete Fairweather
T Cook	R Favell
Marion Cork	Gary Fenwick
Ted Cork	J Field
RJ Cosgrove	Paul Fisher
Mike Cottingham	AE Forinton
Mike Cousins	C Forsyth
Peter Cox	Ron Fox
P Craft	Donovan Fry
Ann Craggs	J Gallimore
Pete Croft	Garden Bird Feeding Survey
BM Crowther	Adrian Gardiner
John Cudworth	Mark Garrick
J Curtiss	Gibraltar Point Bird Observatory
A Cutajar	Wayne Gillat
B Dable	Simon Gillings
A Dale	John Goddard
KJ Daniels	Mary Goddard
Alan Daws	Anne Goodall
Chris Dobson	Norah Goom
Peter Dolton	Roger Goy
Sally Douglas	David Gray
A Dowse	Martin Gray
Neil Drinkall	SM Green
Paul Dumbleton	Steve Green
Kevin Durose	Andrew Grieve
Ken Eades	Peter Griffin
Janet E Eastmead	Grimsby Area Members
GMS Easy	AS Guthrie
Pat Eaves	John M Hague



4	28/09/96	Holbeach, Lincolnshire
+	28/09/97	Brucheville, Manche, FRANCE 400km, SSW
		1 year, 0 months, 0 days

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus*

5	01/08/96	Wrangle, Lincolnshire
+	27/07/97	Baie d'Authie, Somme, FRANCE 312km, SSE
		0 years, 11 months, 26 days

**Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*

4	26/02/00	Port Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire
vv	17/07/00	Alert, Nunavut, CANADA 3829km, NW
		0 years, 4 months, 21 days
4	26/02/00	Port Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire
vv	30/09/00	Den Helder, Noord-Holland, NETHERLANDS
		305km, E
		0 years, 7 months, 4 days

**Mediterranean Gull** *Larus melanocephalus*

1	13/07/97	(Kreekrak Oost, Natuurbouw) THE NETHERLANDS
vv	14/09/97	Huttoft, Lincolnshire 330km, NW
		0 years, 2 months, 1 day

**Herring Gull** *Larus argentatus*

5	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	11/07/00	Saltwick Bay, Whitby, North Yorkshire 173km, NNW
		4 years, 5 months, 8 days
5	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
vv	06/05/00	Tampare, Hame, FINLAND 1722km, NE
		4 years, 3 months, 3 days
10	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
vv	28/12/99	Dunkerque, FRANCE 266km, SE
		3 years, 10 months, 25 days
5	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	23/11/99	Witham Mouth, Lincolnshire 2km, SSE
		3 years, 9 months, 20 days
5	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	14/07/99	Rockcliffe Marsh, Cumbria 301km, NW
		3 years, 5 months, 11 days
5	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	09/06/00	Bridlington, East Yorkshire 127km, N
		4 years, 4 months, 6 days
5	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
x	04/03/00	Redcar, Cleveland 196km, NNW
		4 years, 1 month, 1 day
10	03/02/96	Wyberton, Lincolnshire
xr	02/04/00	Cruden Bay, Grampian 510km, NNW
		4 years, 1 month, 30 days

1    25/07/98    2 years, 0 months, 29 days  
Snettisham, Norfolk

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*

4    02/08/96    Leverton, Lincolnshire  
x    30/05/00    near Cwm, Ebbw Vale, Gwent 263km, WSW  
3 years, 9 months, 28 days  
4    31/08/96    Leverton Marsh, Lincolnshire  
v    31/08/99    Leverton Marsh, Lincolnshire 0km  
3 years, 0 months, 0 days  
3    01/08/99    Butterwick, Lincolnshire  
v    14/08/99    Parc National Marismas Odiel, Huelva, SPAIN  
1829km, SSW  
v    10/09/99    Parc National Marismas Odiel, Huelva, SPAIN  
1829km, SSW  
0 years, 14 days

**Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*

4    05/04/96    Seacroft, Lincolnshire  
x    06/12/96    Pen-y-lan, Ruabon, Clwyd 232km, W  
0 years, 8 months, 1 day  
3F   26/10/97    Theddlethorpe St Helen, Lincolnshire  
+    27/12/97    Kilrush, Co Clare, Eire 655km, W  
0 years, 2 months, 1 day

The Seacroft bird was ringed in the spring before moving west later in the year. The Theddlethorpe bird showed a more traditional westerly winter pattern.

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*

4    07/09/98    Holbeach, Lincolnshire  
vv   24/10/98    Oued Souss, Agadir, MOROCCO 2623km, SSW  
0 years, 1 month, 17 days  
4    07/09/98    Holbeach, Lincolnshire  
vv   11/04/99    River Ijssel, Zwolle, Overijssel, NETHERLANDS  
403km, E  
0 years, 7 months, 4 days  
4    07/09/98    Holbeach, Lincolnshire  
vv   02/05/99    Holtsos, Rangarvalla, ICELAND 1649km, NW  
0 years, 7 months, 25 days  
6    07/09/98    Holbeach, Lincolnshire  
vv   02/05/99    Altafjordur, Djupivogur, Sudur-Mula, ICELAND  
1556km, NNW  
0 years, 7 months, 25 days

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata*

4    31/08/96    Leverton Marsh, Lincolnshire  
x    15/11/00    Leverton Marsh, Lincolnshire 0 km,  
4 years, 2 months, 15 days

**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor*

4 F	09/01/97	North Duffield Carrs, Derwent Valley NNR
vv	21/12/97	Owston Ferry, Epworth, Lincolnshire 40km, SSE 0 years, 11 months, 12 days

**Greater Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis*

3	04/07/96	Ancaster, Lincolnshire
+	01/09/97	Market Deeping, Lincolnshire 36km, SSE 1 year, 1 month, 28 days

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

1	03/05/97	Kingerby Wood, Lincolnshire
x	20/11/97	Tetney, Lincolnshire 33km, E 0 years, 6 months, 17 days

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*

1 F	04/07/96	Owston Ferry, Epworth, Lincolnshire
x	03/04/97	West Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincolnshire 83km, SE 0 years, 8 months, 30 days
3 M	01/11/96	Donna Nook, Lincolnshire
v	19/09/97	Spurn BO, East Yorkshire, 19km, N
x	07/03/00	Easington, East Yorkshire 20km 3 years, 4 months, 6 days

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

1	05/06/96	Temple Wood, Bourne, Lincolnshire
x	17/12/96	Little Ponton, Lincolnshire 13km, WNW 0 years, 6 months, 12 days
1	13/06/96	Callan's Lane Wood, Lincolnshire
x	20/08/98	Haconby, Lincolnshire 4km, E 2 years, 2 months, 7 days
4F	28/05/98	Haconby Fen, Lincolnshire
x	14/04/99	Casswells Bridge, Lincolnshire 2km, N 0 years, 10 months, 17 days

**Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*

5	/01/97	Exe Estuary, Devon
vv	10/05/97	Barton, Lincolnshire 410km, NNE

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*

1	19/06/97	River Ure, Ripon, North Yorkshire
vv	30/07/97	Winteringham, Lincolnshire 82km, ESE 0 years, 1 month, 11 days

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*

1	10/06/98	Snettisham, Norfolk
vv	09/07/00	Gibraltar Point, Lincolnshire 28km, NNW

Species	79-95	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	79-00
goldfinch	2890	311	63	42	61	171	3538
siskin	1151	42	180	373	18	112	1876
linnet	6331	238	55	56	68	128	6876
twite	746	-	-	-	-	-	746
redpoll	5982	32	76	23	12	5	6130
Arctic redpoll	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
crossbill	74	-	1	3	-	-	78
scarlet rosefinch	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
bullfinch	5230	182	112	166	131	74	5895
hawfinch	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
American redstart	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
northern waterthrush	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
white-throated sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Lapland bunting	319	-	-	-	-	-	319
snow bunting	60	1	1	-	37	5	104
yellowhammer	3689	73	86	51	60	77	4036
reed bunting	4982	56	43	37	21	51	5190
red-headed bunting	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
corn bunting	352	29	12	2	-	13	408
total birds	455498	26375	19473	18888	15490	15193	550917
total species	199	124	119	117	116	113	202

### Ringling Report 1996 – 2000

Ringling details are given on the first line and recovery data on the second or subsequent lines. The first line entry is normally the age code followed by the date of ringling and place of ringling. On the next line there is a code for the manner of recovery (if known) followed by date and place of recovery. The distance that the bird has moved (if any) is given in kilometres and the direction of movement as a compass bearing.

The age codes are given according to the 'Euring' code and do not represent the age in years, but are as follows:

**Odd number** = bird of exact age

1 = pullus, nestling or chick

3 = hatched during current year

5 = hatched during last year

**Even number** = exact age is not known

2 = full grown, but exact age unknown

4 = at least one year old

6 = at least two years old

M = Male F = Female J = still in juvenile plumage

The manner of recovery is as follows:

r = retrapped

v = caught by another person and released alive

vv = ring number read in field

x = found dead

xr = killed on road

+ = shot or killed by man

Species	79-95	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	79-00
booted warbler	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
icterine warbler	21	1	1	-	-	-	23
subalpine warbler	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
Sardinian warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
barred warbler	38	-	-	-	1	-	39
lesser whitethroat	5049	252	123	82	90	91	5687
whitethroat	11149	747	388	239	248	306	13077
garden warbler	2656	141	73	83	77	50	3080
blackcap	8477	368	320	444	362	322	10293
greenish warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Arctic warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pallas's warbler	3	-	1	-	-	-	4
yellow-browed warbler	26	-	1	-	-	-	27
Radde's warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
wood warbler	39	2	-	-	1	-	42
chiffchaff	2503	150	113	230	125	96	3217
willow warbler	22011	904	677	469	350	359	24770
goldcrest	13140	201	1068	1630	477	622	17138
firecrest	103	8	4	2	4	4	125
spotted flycatcher	1032	27	12	12	10	17	1110
red-breasted flycatcher	11	-	-	1	-	-	12
pie'd flycatcher	678	59	31	12	12	11	803
bearded tit	23	-	-	-	-	-	23
long-tailed tit	4772	395	264	202	265	298	6196
marsh tit	279	33	18	25	13	9	377
willow tit	1087	53	21	13	24	14	1212
coal tit	1948	219	210	337	119	116	2949
blue tit	32784	2972	2095	2184	2051	1823	43908
great tit	15996	1427	1069	1408	1034	1028	21962
nuthatch	27	-	-	3	1	2	33
treecreeper	859	51	24	29	28	21	1012
golden oriole	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
red-backed shrike	6	-	-	-	-	-	6
great grey shrike	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
jay	196	2	12	8	5	10	233
magpie	196	14	41	30	2	7	290
jackdaw	325	66	70	54	74	87	676
rook	1132	39	31	38	1	3	1244
carriion crow	28	1	3	4	-	7	43
starling	33595	1066	834	566	625	630	37316
rose-coloured starling	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
house sparrow	6136	279	274	481	424	318	7912
tree sparrow	4952	63	35	26	72	85	5233
chaffinch	9322	1038	708	497	660	367	12592
brambling	1106	26	18	20	12	4	1186
greenfinch	28270	2176	1624	782	1038	974	34862

Species	79-95	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	79-00
short-eared owl	12	-	-	1	-	-	13
nightjar	22	12	-	3	-	2	39
swift	1502	396	460	181	293	242	3074
kingfisher	157	6	5	1	2	5	176
hoopoe	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
wryneck	19	-	-	-	-	-	19
green woodpecker	23	7	3	2	1	1	37
g s woodpecker	137	15	12	25	23	15	227
l s woodpecker	15	-	-	1	-	-	16
woodlark	17	-	1	-	-	-	18
skylark	2173	1	3	1	3	7	2188
shore lark	1	15	1	1	-	1	19
sand martin	7508	945	681	526	244	390	10294
swallow	17311	248	181	177	190	167	18274
house martin	4274	747	682	122	101	354	6280
olive-backed pipit	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
tree pipit	96	2	2	1	1	1	103
meadow pipit	1917	78	23	110	39	208	2375
rock pipit	13	-	-	-	4	-	17
yellow wagtail	238	144	7	3	16	18	426
grey wagtail	13	7	67	6	14	6	113
pied wagtail	973	214	18	22	35	37	1299
waxwing	2	48	-	-	-	-	50
wren	10370	355	348	390	427	431	12321
dunnock	21905	757	702	831	863	762	25820
robin	13561	592	431	1456	514	562	17116
thrush nightingale	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
nightingale	124	7	5	8	4	14	162
bluethroat	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
red-flanked bluetail	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
black redstart	20	2	-	-	-	-	22
redstart	1080	51	42	44	44	24	1285
whinchat	284	-	1	1	3	-	289
stonechat	15	-	-	-	-	2	17
wheatear	175	12	15	7	3	2	214
ring ousel	46	1	2	3	1	-	53
blackbird	37670	1665	1434	1646	1459	1163	45037
fieldfare	1017	97	27	14	11	5	1171
song thrush	10699	242	197	300	164	254	11856
redwing	3849	260	103	145	92	128	4577
mistle thrush	345	26	11	18	13	13	426
Cetti's warbler	2	-	1	-	-	-	3
grasshopper warbler	168	5	2	4	3	4	186
sedge warbler	2960	128	61	52	47	46	3294
Blyth's reed warbler	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
marsh warbler	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
reed warbler	5208	122	212	243	347	289	6421

Species	79-95	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	79-00
golden plover	45	23	18	14	-	-	100
grey plover	1657	11	15	2	11	1	1697
lapwing	311	73	26	75	19	31	535
knot	6854	117	709	3	9	22	7714
sanderling	31	2	3	-	-	-	36
little stint	14	6	-	-	-	-	20
pectoral sandpiper	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
curlew sandpiper	11	-	-	3	1	-	15
purple sandpiper	4	-	-	-	-	1	5
dunlin	24969	1837	495	258	495	146	28200
ruff	105	-	-	9	-	-	114
jack snipe	63	3	1	6	2	-	75
snipe	497	46	32	40	28	2	645
woodcock	141	4	6	11	2	3	167
black-tailed godwit	189	101	-	61	-	-	351
bar-tailed godwit	1827	320	93	30	-	5	2275
whimbrel	40	3	9	-	35	-	87
curlew	624	185	193	99	129	32	1262
spotted redshank	7	-	-	-	1	-	8
redshank	1711	80	21	69	6	38	1925
greenshank	29	-	9	1	1	-	40
green sandpiper	36	1	-	-	2	-	39
wood sandpiper	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
common sandpiper	63	1	1	1	3	3	72
turnstone	750	10	8	7	4	242	1021
black-headed gull	6354	608	65	199	122	86	7434
common gull	399	41	9	-	4	23	476
lesser b-b gull	27	-	-	-	3	-	30
herring gull	1564	294	3	-	16	26	1903
greater b-b gull	271	48	-	-	1	2	322
sandwich tern	38	-	-	-	-	-	38
common tern	903	99	130	73	73	29	1307
arctic tern	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
little tern	458	-	-	-	-	-	458
kittiwake	7	1	-	-	-	-	8
guillemot	6	8	-	-	-	-	14
razorbill	3	1	2	-	-	-	6
little auk	14	-	-	-	-	-	14
puffin	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
stock dove	418	18	20	18	12	19	505
woodpigeon	524	23	30	22	14	20	633
collared dove	401	45	25	25	23	25	544
turtle dove	322	42	4	22	27	60	477
cuckoo	141	2	2	11	9	14	179
barn owl	963	263	221	279	287	269	2282
little owl	76	8	7	11	15	30	147
tawny owl	316	85	50	62	41	64	618
long-eared owl	61	2	-	1	2	1	67

# RINGING REPORT 1996-2000

## RINGING TOTALS 1979-2000

Species	GT 1979- 1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	GT 1979- 2000
red-throated diver	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
little grebe	7	-	-	-	-	2	9
great crested grebe	13	-	-	-	-	-	13
fulmar	1	1	1	-	-	-	3
Manx shearwater	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
storm petrel	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Leach's petrel	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
gannet	3	1	2	1	-	-	7
cormorant	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
shag	3	-	-	-	-	1	4
grey heron	562	14	14	0	4	-	594
mute swan	199	6	24	10	1	2	242
greylag goose	37	0	3	8	12	15	75
Canada goose	305	30	7	18	15	24	399
brent goose	126	-	1	-	-	-	127
shelduck	11	-	-	-	1	-	12
wigeon	34	-	-	-	-	-	34
gadwall	22	-	-	-	-	-	22
teal	84	1	-	3	4	1	93
mallard	2079	10	3	3	2	4	2101
pintail	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
shoveler	9	-	-	-	-	-	9
pochard	40	-	-	-	-	-	40
tufted duck	486	-	-	-	-	-	486
scaup	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
marsh harrier	96	26	8	23	31	21	184
Montagu's harrier	21	-	-	-	9	6	30
goshawk	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
sparrowhawk	414	48	24	26	15	18	545
kestrel	613	76	69	91	87	113	1049
merlin	6	-	-	2	-	-	8
hobby	7	-	-	-	-	1	8
red-legged partridge	25	-	-	-	-	-	25
grey partridge	2	-	2	1	-	-	5
pheasant	28	-	-	-	-	-	28
water rail	14	-	1	-	1	4	20
moorhen	190	5	1	9	3	2	210
coot	472	7	-	3	-	2	484
oystercatcher	7503	777	554	245	322	277	9678
stone-curlew	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
little ringed plover	110	6	3	8	7	9	143
ringed plover	953	2	17	14	5	26	1017



**Table 1 Ringing Results and Numbers of Active Nests within the 150km<sup>2</sup> circle**

Year	Total no of adults trapped	No of retraps (birds ringed as adults)	Retraps as % of previous years total	Active nests/breeding pairs	% of breeding adults caught
1990	407	-	-	540	-
1991	391	72	18	348	56
1992	319	92	24	326	49
1993	339	66	21	327	52
1994	297	61	18	325	46
1995	309	72	25	309	50
1996	266	69	22	304	44
1997	268	60	23	281	48
<b>Total/ av</b>	<b>2596</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>22</b>		<b>49</b>

**Table 2 Site fidelity of birds ringed as breeding adults within the 150km<sup>2</sup> circle**

Year	Same Colony		Within 5km		Over 5km	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1991	45	22	-	4	-	1
1992	43	34	5	10	-	-
1993	29	22	6	6	1	2
1994	23	24	4	9	-	1
1995	34	22	5	12	-	-
1996	32	26	6	4	1	-
1997	29	20	5	5	-	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

**Table 3 Total number and minimum age of retraps ringed as adults caught in the final two years of the study**

Minimum age (years)	2	3	4	5	6	Totals
1996	69	24	14	2	1	110
1997	54	27	3	6	0	90
<b>Totals</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>61.5</b>	<b>25.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	

and then lining/building it, means that the first clutch is not started until the first half of May. Then, on average, five days for laying, 15 days for hatching, 25 days for fledging and 7 days resting while the first brood are still roosting in the nest, means at least 52 days, and assumes good weather throughout.

So in my opinion there is sufficient time for just two broods, and that only for the very early arrivals (the birds continue to arrive until well into June). I believe an average of only ca 50% of pairs have two broods, and that virtually none have a third; those chicks being fed in September and even October are almost certainly late second broods. Even in southern Spain, where the start of laying first clutches is early March, it would seem that only 56% of pairs have second broods, with ca 5% having three (Pajuelo *et al*, 1992).

L A Hill

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at the other end the following year. What's a few hundred yards to a bird that has flown back several thousand miles? So a fairly loose, but reasonable, definition of a colony could be: "all nests in a whole village/small town or equivalent; or in separate suburbs/estates of a large town; or on isolated farmhouses/bridges etc". In the circle, using the above definition, the colony sizes averaged ca 17 nests (max 50, min 4), with a density of around 2 pairs/km<sup>2</sup> over the 150km<sup>2</sup> area. A similar density was found in Lancashire over 1,379 km<sup>2</sup> (Bouldin, 1968).

The site fidelity of birds ringed as breeding adults is shown in Table 2, by sexes. While some birds, particularly females, may not have returned to colonies within the circle, the retrap data show the site fidelity of those that did return: males (n=267) 88% to the same colony and 99% to the same colony or one within 5km; females (n=225) 75% and 98%. Juveniles could only be caught during those few days after fledging when they returned to roost in the nest, so ringing numbers were low. However, their fidelity figures were: males (n=40) 49% and 98% respectively, and females (n=18) 18% and 86%. These figures indicate that virtually all breeding males return to the same colony or one within 5km, while breeding females are not quite so faithful, and that juveniles return to the same general area but are not particularly faithful to their actual natal colony.

There were no instances of the same pair breeding together in successive years. There were about seven cases every year (max 12, min 4) of individual birds returning to the same nest in successive years, but these were regarded as co-incidences.

**Life Expectancy.** The numbers and minimum ages of all retraps ringed as adults, in and out of the circle, for the last two years of the study are given in Table 3. These give an indication of the bird's life span. Other studies (eg Hund and Prinxinger, 1979; Bryant, 1988) have shown that ca 50% of adults and ca 80% of juveniles die every year, and also that each pair rears five young to fledging on average. Thus the single surviving juvenile returns to replace the one dead adult, and the population remains stable.

However, in this study the average proportion of retraps was 22% (max 25%, min 18%) of the breeding adults caught the preceding year (see Table 1). The table also shows that an average of ca 49% (max 56%, min 44%) of the total annual breeding population was caught every year. I consider this to be a high enough proportion to assume that, if the entire breeding population had been caught, then the number of retraps of birds ringed as adults would still have been 22%, ie that this average of 49% over seven years constitutes a reasonably representative sample.

These data thus indicate a much higher mortality for adults, of 78%. With allowance for a few birds, especially females, returning to breed outside the study area, I would therefore suggest that the mortality rate for adults could be as high as 75%. This would mean that, in order to maintain a stable population, the mortality rate of juveniles should be ca 70% rather than 80%, or that each pair raises on average more than five chicks to maturity each year. From personal observations I regard the latter as unlikely.

**Number of broods.** Past publications have stated that ca 80% of breeding pairs have two broods and that "three broods are not uncommon". I reckon that these statements should be taken with a pinch of salt. In Lincolnshire the birds start to arrive at the end of April, but pairing up, selecting an old nest or site for a new nest

# **A SEVEN YEAR STUDY OF HOUSE MARTINS IN LINCOLNSHIRE**

## **Introduction**

Many people know a house martin when they see one: "those birds that look like swallows but have a white rump; they build nests under the eaves and make a mess on the window sills", but few people realise that they are birds of mystery.

The adults roost in their nests; so do the young birds for a few nights after fledging. However, no-one knows where the adults roost while starting to build a new nest, nor where the young birds roost while their parents are starting a second brood. Also, no-one knows where they roost in their African winter quarters south of the Sahara. Their hirundine relatives, barn swallows and sand martins, spend their nights down there in thousands, even millions, in communal roosts in reedbeds, but house martins have never been seen to do this. I have a feeling they are aerial roosters, sleeping on the wind like common swifts. And no-one knows whereabouts in Africa the various European populations of house martins spend the winter; the few (only about 20 to date) trans-Saharan recoveries from well over one million birds ringed throughout Europe, suggest that they fly due south, with West European birds wintering in West Africa, Scandinavian and Central European birds doing the same from Zambia to the Cape, and East European birds in East Africa (Hill 1997).

## **Study Methods**

I carried out a house martin ringing study near Grantham from 1990-1997. It started at colonies within a 7km radius circle (150km<sup>2</sup>) centred on Boothby Pagnell (SK 971 309), then in 1992 and 1993 Keith Bowden and Mick Lewis provided some ringing help and the study area was widened to include some villages outside the circle. The numbers of active nests/breeding pairs within the circle were monitored every year. These, together with the numbers of birds ringed as adults and retrapped during the study, are shown in Table 1. The large drop in breeding pairs from 1990 to 1991 was due to adverse weather conditions in the Mediterranean area in the spring of 1991. The British Trust for Ornithology estimated that there was a similar reduction in barn swallow numbers that year (BTO News No 176, Sept/Oct 1991).

Most of the birds were caught at their nests in "butterfly-type" nets on extendable rods: the birds have a high tolerance of disturbance (Bryant 1975) and do not desert once eggs have been laid. The total number of adults caught, inside and outside the circle, was: males 1585, females 1538, sex unknown 244, so there was minimal sex bias in the catching. Sexing was relatively easy as females develop a pronounced brood patch when breeding, which feathers over again in the autumn.

## **Results**

**Site Fidelity.** Do the birds that survive migration return to the same colony? Much depends on what is meant by a colony. During the study, birds were caught breeding at one end of a village one year, and at another nest many hundreds of yards away

### Acknowledgements

I am grateful for assistance provided by members of the Scunthorpe Museum Society Ornithologists in the north-west, the Grimsby LBC Group who surveyed Willingham Forest, Steve Wade and Andrew Powers at Laughton and Alec Parker at the Woodhall sites. Thanks are also due to Colin Newland at English Nature for arranging access to some of the north-west heathlands and to Andrew Powers and Forest Enterprise Notts and North Lincs District for arranging access to Laughton Forest.

Graham P Catley

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grazed heath within the Laughton complex, which has held breeding pairs since at least 1990 and also seems to act as an important feeding area early in the season, was planted with conifers in 1996 by the private owner.

The movements of Lincolnshire woodlarks outside the breeding season are still poorly known. The first birds back on breeding sites have not been found until late February (22nd in 1997) and none have been seen after October. There are suitable sandy fields adjacent to some of the breeding sites but the likelihood of finding wintering flocks is low since the fields are huge and it is not possible to walk over them. The fact that our birds do not return earlier than late February may mean that they are not wintering locally. A sizeable proportion of the Breckland population is colour-ringed each year and results have shown that these birds do move considerable distances outside the breeding season. To date five colour-ringed Breckland birds have been found nesting in Lincolnshire. All have been males and four of them were birds in their first summer (second calendar year). Details of all sightings of colour-ringed birds to date are given in Table 3 below. (Note that each bird carries four rings: a metal ring and a coloured ring on one leg, and two coloured rings on the other. Ring colour code: M – metal; G – green; R – red; Bk – black; Bu – blue; Y – yellow; O – orange.)

**Table 3 Summary of colour-ringed woodlarks seen in Lincolnshire to 1997**

Ringling Date	Ringling Site	Ring Colours	Age/sex at ringling	Finding Date	Finding Site
05/06/87	Breckland	MGRBk	1 M	10/04/88	Walesby
14/05/89	Laughton	GRYM	3J M	20/03/90 29/02/92	Laughton Laughton
12/04/93	Lynford	BuRMG	1 unsexed	28/04/94	Kirkby Moor
28/04/93	Thetford	YMBuBu	4 M	22/02/97	Laughton
26/04/94	Croxtan Heath	MWYO	1 M	10/05/95	Scotton
26/06/94	Santon Downham	WMYY	1 M	08/03/95	Laughton

During 1997 a specific check was made of all woodlarks observed, and only one colour-ringed bird was found. However, in addition, a male and female from two different pairs had been ringed only with BTO metal rings on the left leg. As all birds ringed in the Brecks are colour-ringed these birds have plainly come from elsewhere.

Locally reared birds do return to breed in Lincolnshire as evidenced by a partial albino female which occupied two territories over three years at Laughton in 1987-89 and a male colour-ringed as a juvenile in the forest in 1989 which was seen on two different territories in 1990 and 1992. On the other hand the colour-ringed male which nested at Walesby in 1988 had been replaced by an unringed bird in 1989 at a site which held only one pair of birds.

## Results

In total, 32 pairs were located with an additional four unpaired males also holding territory and at least one non-sexed individual present on another heathland site which has suitable breeding habitat. Of the 32 pairs, one pair was seen on only one date and another pair disappeared from an established territory mid-way through the season. The distribution of breeding birds is shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Distribution of Breeding Records in 1997

10km Square	Min pairs	Max pairs
SE80	1	1
SE90	9	10
SE91	4	4
SK89	11	15
TF26	5	7
total	30	37

Of the pairs recorded, 15 were on forestry clearfells, all coniferous, and a further pair held a territory which encompassed a deciduous clearfell and an open heathland site. Of the rest, 14 pairs were on rabbit-grazed, dry heathland, one on an area of wet heath and one on a former heathland which had been cleared of invading birch scrub. The most unusual territory was that of a pair which bred in a marginal grass field adjacent to a small area of heathland already occupied by another pair.

The populations were clearly spilt into two widely separated areas: the warrens and Laughton Forest in the north-west and the sandy heathlands around Woodhall. No birds bred in 1997 in the Willingham Forest clearfells where single pairs bred in 1988-1990 and unpaired birds were present to 1994.

## Discussion

Since the last review, in 1998, there has been a striking increase in the county population; the 1997 total is the highest recorded in historical times. As stated above, the 1995 and 1996 totals for Lincolnshire are known to be low, and there is evidence that the 1997 total was exceptional throughout the UK, as the Breckland population, which has been surveyed for 24 consecutive years, reached an all-time high of 430 pairs, a 38% increase on 1996 (R Hoblyn, *pers comm*). The increase in numbers from 1994 has therefore probably been more gradual than the survey results suggest.

The change from reliance on forestry clearfells to use of more natural heathland sites is shown by the 1993-1997 figures. This is good news for the species survival since such clearfells are set to become less extensive over the next 5 years at least. The present health of the Laughton population is connected with 1995 and 1996 felling on the favoured western side of the forest. An initiative to return a substantial part of the eastern side of the forest to wet heathland may produce suitable breeding sites for odd pairs but much will depend on the amount of standing water and available sandy feeding areas. It is also unfortunate that a very good area of rabbit-

# WOODLARKS IN LINCOLNSHIRE 1997

## Introduction

The status of the woodlark *Lullula arborea* in Lincolnshire was summarised up to 1988 in Catley, 1988. Since then monitoring of the breeding population has been incomplete, mainly due to lack of access to privately owned sites and the amount of time which observers were able to give to searching for this species. Table 1 shows the known totals for breeding pairs and territorial unpaired males recorded during 1989-1996. It should be noted that in 1995 and 1996 very little time was available for woodlark survey work and thus the figures quoted are an absolute minimum and do not reflect the actual totals in those two years. This is unfortunate given the thoroughness of the coverage in 1997.

**Table 1 Summary of Breeding Woodlark Records 1984-1996**

	SE 80/ 90/91	SK89		TF18/ TF19	TF26	Others	Min Total Pairs
	Pairs	Pairs	Males	Pairs	Pairs	Pairs	
1984	-	2	0	-	-	-	2
1985	-	3	0	-	-	-	3
1986	-	3	0	-	-	-	3
1987	-	3	0	-	-	-	3
1988	-	3	0	1	-	-	4
1989	-	4	3	1	-	-	5
1990	-	4	4	1	-	-	5
1991	-	2+	2+	0	-	-	2+
1992	-	2+	3+	0	-	-	2+
1993	-	3+	4+	0	-	-	3+
1994	3	3+	2-3	0	3	1	10
1995	3	2+*	2*	0	4	?	(9+)
1996	3	1+*	2+*	0	-	1	(5+)

- no survey

\* small number of visits, no proper survey

## Methods

In 1997, as part of the Forest Enterprise/RSPB/BTO National Woodlark Survey, all suitable known past and present breeding sites and areas of suitable heathland habitat were surveyed between February and July by a team of observers. Location of pairs was not always easy and especially in areas where only single pairs were present the males were seldom heard to sing and locating birds was a matter of systematically walking the suitable habitat. In one exceptional case no woodlarks were seen or heard at one locality on two early season visits and yet three pairs were found feeding young on a later visit. It is possible that odd pairs may have been missed in more marginal habitats which were not included within the habitat criteria but it is considered that the vast majority of the county breeding population was located.



and it should be borne in mind that small tags can suddenly disappear when the bird ruffles up its feathers!

### Acknowledgements

Thanks to Lewis James, RSPB, who gave us the encouragement to carry out the study, and to Ted and Marion Cork who helped with the counts when we were away. We are also most grateful to the owner of the land, the gamekeepers and the farm workers for their co-operation, without which there would have been no study.

John & Brenda Mighell

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and glide back into the roost area. Some birds may fly straight into the roost from a distance, and others circle round one or more roosts until finally appearing to make up their mind. Some birds appeared to be hunting (though were never seen to catch anything) but occasionally birds would eat carrion whilst waiting to go to the roost.

**Time of arrival.** In 1996 the earliest arrival time was 55 minutes before sunset with the average 20 minutes before sunset. The latest time that birds were seen was 27 minutes after sunset but the average was 8 minutes. In 1997 the earliest time was 32 minutes before sunset, with an average time of 16 minutes, and the latest seen was 19 minutes after sunset with an average last arrival time of 6 minutes after sunset. In general juveniles arrived earlier than adults. If adults came too early they were mobbed by the juveniles hoping for a feed!

**Number of roosts and crops used.** In 1996 three roosts was the maximum but two roosts were used on the majority of visit nights. In 1997 four roosts was the maximum, with three or two roosts used on most nights. Winter wheat was used exclusively until it was all harvested in mid-September, and after this the birds moved to sugar beet until they departed.

**Direction of arrival.** Over both years together, 32% of arrivals were from the north, 22% from the south, 9% from the west and 5% from the east, with the rest unrecorded. Observations showed that there was a continual change of birds at the roost throughout the season, and (some) local birds clearly left the area at the end of August (or went to another roost, outside the study area?) since there were never as many birds in the roost as were known to have bred in the area. On October 5th 1997 a juvenile male with a red tag in the left wing stayed one night. This bird had been tagged in the nest in Scotland earlier in the year, and was reported to have left Scotland at the end of September. This was the first record of a Scottish-tagged bird using a Lincolnshire roost on passage (L. James, RSPB, *pers comm*).

**Post-roost behaviour.** Most birds fly out of the roost 20 minutes after sunrise. They may then either sit around for about an hour or fly straight away.

**Other species using the roost.** Hen harriers were present towards the end of the season and so was a single merlin. Fieldfares were seen in small numbers going to roost near the marsh harriers, as were pied wagtails in hundreds; these pied wagtails mobbed the harriers as they came in to roost.

## Conclusions

This study confirms that migrating marsh harriers are now quite at home roosting in arable crops. The observations made show that in September it is necessary to be in position at least an hour before sunset and to remain in position for 45 minutes after sunset, but that by October most birds have arrived by sunset so it is only necessary to stay for 15 minutes. Two people are needed to locate the roost positions in early autumn, but later in the season one person alone could manage. The number of birds using a roost was the most difficult parameter to record accurately due to the time of arrival and behaviour of the birds; this would obviously be improved by the use of night-vision optics.

Large wing-tags appear to be the best means of monitoring bird movements and roost turnover; a search for such tags needs to be made when the birds are resting,

## MARSH HARRIER ROOSTS IN NOCTON FEN, 1996 AND 1997

Eurasian marsh harrier numbers have increased both nationally and locally over the last few years. Between the two national breeding atlases, breeding numbers increased from around 6 pairs to nearly a hundred nationally; in 1990 at least 87 nests fledged 213 young. (Sharrock, 1976; Gibbons et al, 2003), with factors believed to have assisted this increase including reduced use of agro-chemicals, better conservation of reedbeds and most importantly, a behavioural change in the species, which has allowed them to nest and roost in arable crops. Breeding numbers in Lincolnshire have reflected this national increase (Lincolnshire Bird Reports 1990-95) and related to this, the numbers recorded joining the roost in Nocton Fen have risen from a maximum of 9 in 1990 to 24 in 1997 (*pers obs*). This paper documents a small study of this roost in 1996 and 1997.

### Methods

The study area comprised part of Nocton Fen. At the time of the study winter wheat, potatoes and sugar beet were grown, with a few strips of maize for game cover. The area is well-kept but vermin control is only carried out where and when the keepers think necessary.

Using the car as a hide with 360° visibility, we began watching one hour before sunset and stayed for at least 45 minutes after sunset. On each visit, once the roost was located we moved in closer and viewed with a telescope, but never approached closer than 500m. In 1996 29 evening visits were made between August 14th and October 29th and in 1997 32 visits were made between September 2nd and October 25th. In total, 44 hours were spent at the study area in 1996 and 48 hours in 1997. Four visits were also made before sunrise.

On each visit the following were noted: number and sex of birds arriving, pre-roost behaviour, time of arrival, number of separate roosts and crop used, direction of arrival and post-roost behaviour. The weather was also recorded on every visit, but no correlation was found between this factor and behaviour at the roost. Potential sources of error relate to the difficulties in tracking individual birds: most birds come in low, below the skyline, and the majority of birds are females/second years/juveniles, which are all dark brown. Birds already in the roost can be frightened up by incoming birds and so may be double-counted as they come back into the roost or fly to the next one.

### Results

**Number and sex of birds arriving.** In 1966 numbers peaked at 23 on September 23rd, with the last recorded on October 28th. In 1997 the peak was 24 birds on October 1st with the last on October 23rd. Over both years adult males and adult females both made up 7% of the total, with the remaining 86% being indistinguishable females/immatures.

**Pre-roost behaviour.** This took many forms: some birds arrive very early and loaf about, sitting on the ground or perching on wheat or sugar beet; some birds may fly over and fly away, gaining height, and when nearly impossible to see, turn round

## Twite

### Winter visitor

A passerine for which the British Isles are internationally significant, twite have declined from large numbers in the early 1970s and continue to do so following an intervening partial recovery. Flocks of several thousand were not unusual 25 years ago, with the saltmarshes of Lincolnshire being particularly important.

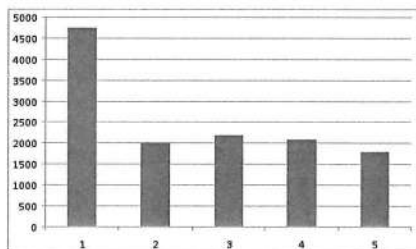


Chart 39: TW, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

## Acknowledgements

It has been my great pleasure, with James Cadbury, to organize WeBS counts in the Wash over this period. This account would not have been possible without the veritable army of counters who have, over the years, ventured out in all weathers and who have loved every minute of it! They are far too numerous to mention individually, but they are magnificent and I thank them wholeheartedly. I am grateful to the WeBS partnership (BTO, WWT, JNCC and RSPB) for allowing me the use of their data. Thanks are due also to Keith Blomerley, who devised the Estuary database and to Dave Bingham, John Middleton, Richard Woodgate and Andrew Beeson who slaved for long hours entering and checking the data. English Nature provided the MapInfo package and found someone to train me in how to use it. Ordnance Survey have allowed the use of their maps, under licence, for which I am grateful.

I would finally like to thank Nigel Clark, Peter Cranswick and Ray Waters for their valuable comments on an earlier draft.

Paul Fisher

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The Wetland Bird Survey - Wildfowl and Wader counts, annual reports.

## Greenshank

Passage migrant, particularly in autumn. Origins unknown, probably winters in southern Europe and Africa.

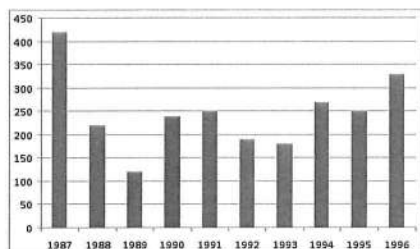


Chart 36: GK, peak autumn counts 1987-96

## Turnstone

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Two populations; one breeds mainly in Finland, passes through in the autumn and winters in west Africa; the other breeds in Greenland and north-west Canada, moults and winters on the Wash.

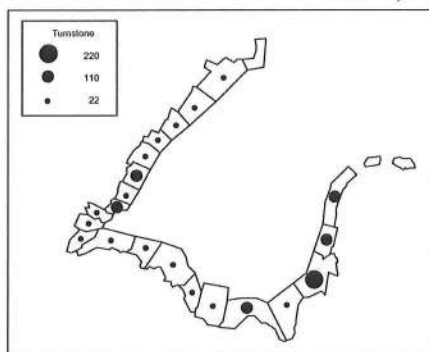


Figure 25: TT distribution 1991/92-1995/96

Shingle beaches from Snettisham to Hunstanton are important for this species. Other roosts may reflect the importance of docks at Sutton Bridge and Boston.

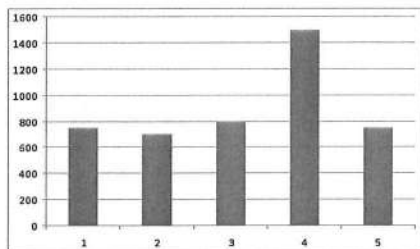


Chart 37: TT, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

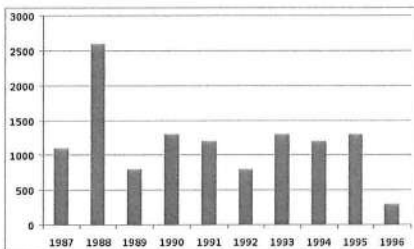


Chart 38: TT, peak autumn counts 1987-96

A high peak occurred in the late 1980s with a subsequent decline. Autumn passage is variable, but numbers have perhaps declined in recent years.

## Spotted Redshank

Passage migrant, particularly in autumn. Probably of Scandinavian origin, wintering in southern Europe or Africa. Autumn passage is declining, with the largest concentrations at Snettisham. Spring numbers are usually less than 30.

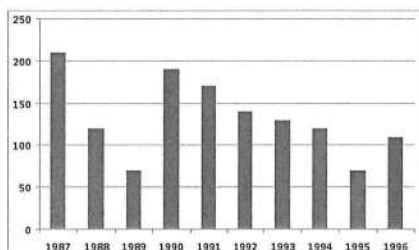


Chart 34: DR, peak autumn counts 1987-96

## Redshank

Winter visitor, passage migrant. Breeds. Two populations use the Wash: one breeds in Britain, the other in Iceland. Some of both moult and winter on the Wash, others moult on the Wash and winter in south-west Europe.

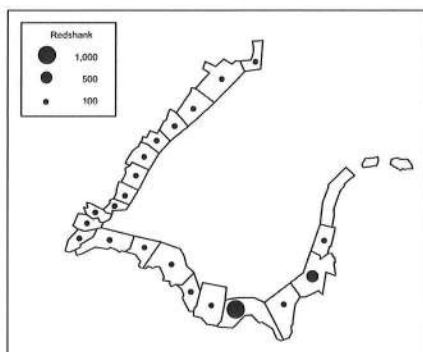


Figure 24: RK distribution 1991/92-1995/96

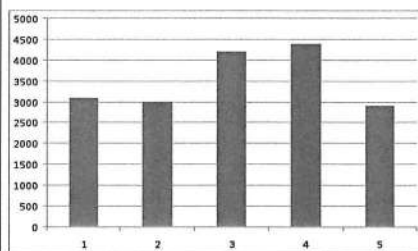


Chart 35: RK, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

Redshank show a fairly even distribution with the exception of Terrington, Norfolk. This site seems to have become increasingly important for roosting redshank, possibly because cattle grazing has produced a suitable short sward on relatively high saltmarsh. The roost at Snettisham has declined dramatically, with perhaps some birds transferring to Terrington.

The increasing winter population in the first 20 years has declined since 1991 when severe weather caused heavy winter mortality and perhaps 80% of the Wash's redshank died. There has been a slow recovery since that time. Numbers breeding in the Wash also appear to have been affected. The saltmarshes of the Wash support a breeding population at some of the highest densities in the British Isles - up 100 pairs per square kilometre. This species should benefit from increased and improved summer grazing by cattle.

There has been a large increase in the 25 years, perhaps now stable. Winter numbers are often bolstered by cold weather movements from Europe. A few hundred are usually present in the summer. Snettisham holds the largest numbers, drawing in most of the birds which feed in the eastern Wash. The more sheltered, muddy reaches of the Wash are largely avoided. Other concentrations are at Wainfleet, Butterwick, Benington, Dawsmere and Terrington.

**Whimbrel**

Passage migrant, especially in the autumn. Origin northern Isles and Iceland. Numbers are variable in the autumn, but the larger concentrations are found in Lincolnshire.

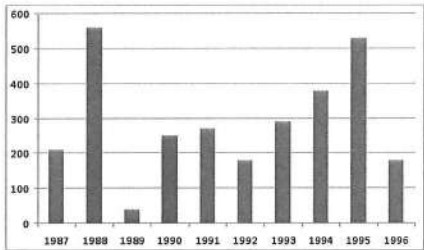


Chart 32: WM, peak autumn counts 1987-96

**Curlew**

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Origin is mostly Finland and Sweden, smaller numbers from Russia.

The winter population has been remarkably stable over the 25 years. WeBS counts probably do not accurately assess the true numbers using the Wash as dawn flights inland may frequently be missed.

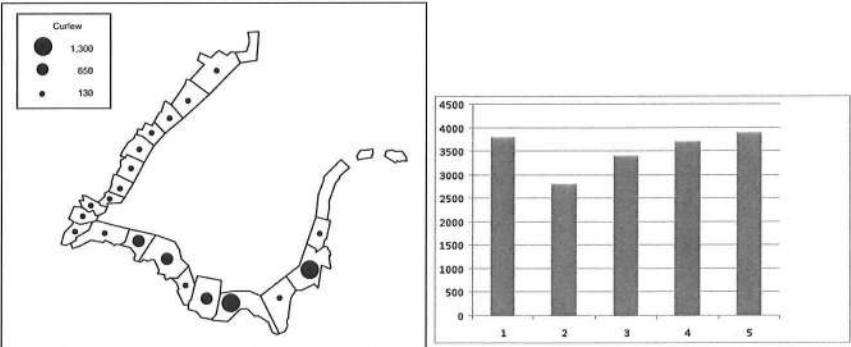


Figure 23: CU distribution 1991/92-1995/96

Chart 33: CU, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

The major WeBS concentrations occur in the south and south-east Wash, with relatively few on its western side. Peak numbers occur during autumn passage, particularly in September.

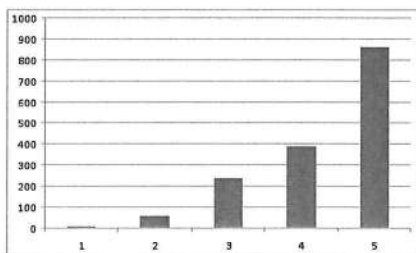


Chart 29: BW, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

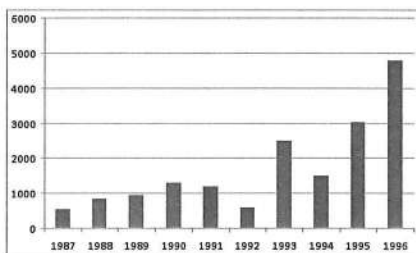


Chart 30: BW, peak autumn counts 1987-96

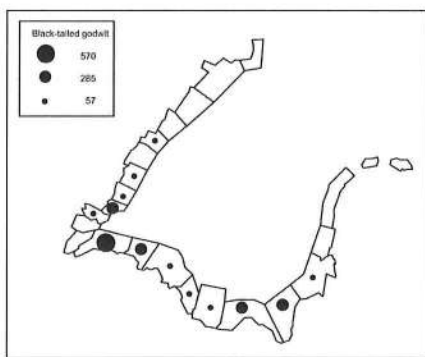


Figure 21: BW distribution 1991/92-1995/96

Black-tailed godwits prefer muddy substrates for feeding and Welland is the stronghold, with other concentrations near the Great Ouse and Witham mouths. Autumn distribution is similar, except for substantial numbers at Terrington

### Bar-tailed godwit

Winter visitor and passage migrant from Siberia; some moult on the Wash and winter in Africa; others remain here or winter elsewhere in northern Europe.

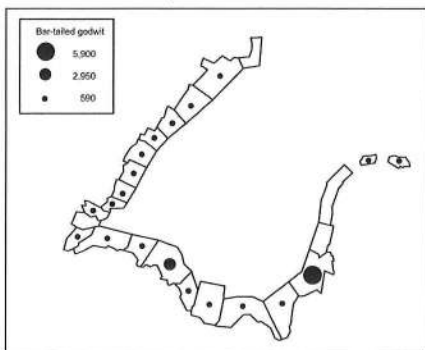


Figure 22: BA distribution 1991/92-1995/96

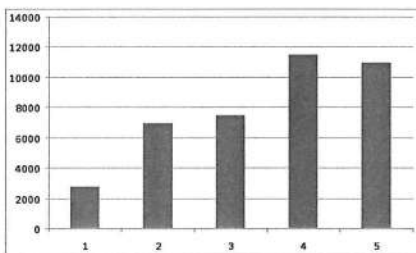


Chart 31 BA, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts



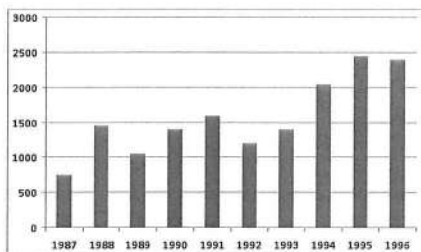


Chart 26: SS, peak autumn counts 1987-96

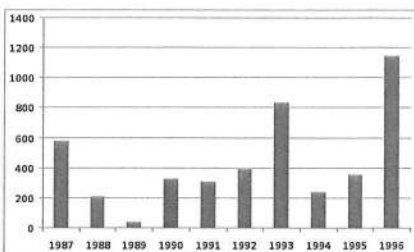


Chart 27: SS, peak spring counts 1987-96

Spring passage of Sanderling has not shown the same trend, but there have been two recent high peaks of counts during the spring passage.

## Dunlin

Winter visitor and passage migrant.

Three populations occur - one from Iceland and Britain east to the Baltic ('Southern' dunlin, ssp *schintzii*), 'Northern' dunlin (ssp *alpina*) from northern Scandinavia and north-west Russia, and one from Greenland (*arctica*). *C a schintzii* birds, together with small numbers of *arctica* occur in small numbers in spring. Larger numbers pass through on autumn migration to wintering areas in west Africa. *C a alpina* occur on passage and moult on the Wash in the autumn, with many remaining for the winter.

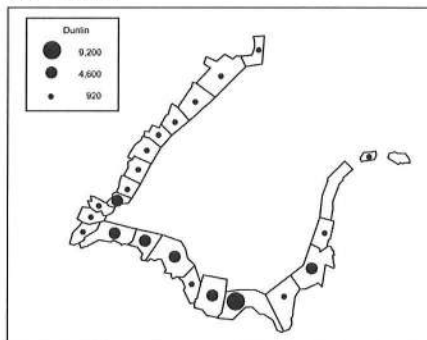


Figure 20: DN distribution 1991/92-1995/96

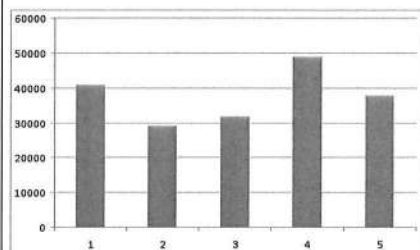


Chart 28 DN, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

The majority of birds favour the inner reaches of the Wash and there is little or no movement of dunlin between the western and eastern Wash. The chart shows the recent decline in the wintering population from a high peak in the late 1980s and early 1990s; numbers are now broadly similar to those of 25 years ago.

## Black-tailed godwit

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Origin Iceland.

The winter population has increased markedly, especially during the last five years or so. There has been a similar increase nationally and on other East Anglian estuaries. There has also been a dramatic increase in autumn passage numbers, demonstrating the importance of the Wash as a moulting site in late summer.

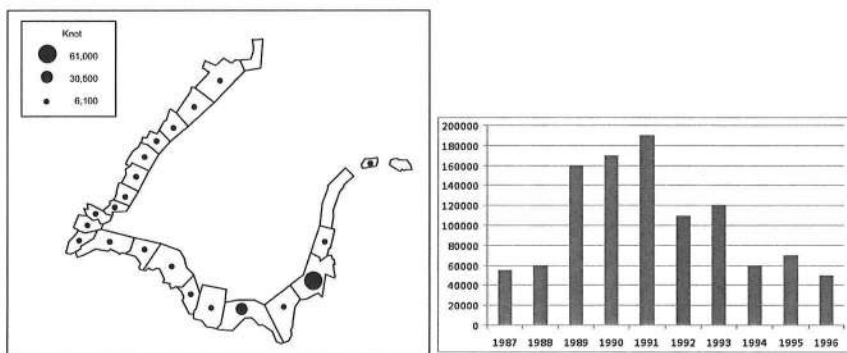


Figure 18: KN distribution 1991/92-1995/96 Chart 24: KN, peak autumn counts 1987-96

The overwhelming majority of Knot roost at Snettisham. Large numbers of Knot arrive in the Wash in July and August. They moult; some remain for the winter, while others move on to winter on other British and west European estuaries. A remarkable feature of September and October is the exodus of Knot from the Wash to the north Norfolk coast to roost at high tide. The decline in the autumn passage since 1991 mirrors that of the wintering population and probably indicates that birds are returning directly to the Wadden Sea to moult and winter.

### Sanderling

Passage migrant. Winter visitor in small numbers. Origins probably in both Siberian and Greenland populations, but actual breeding grounds are unknown. Siberian birds probably winter, whilst those from Greenland move on to Africa.

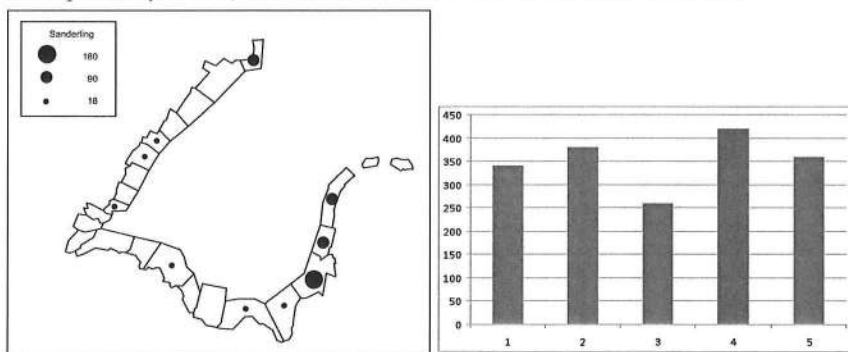


Figure 19: SS distribution 1991/92-1995/96 Chart 25: SS, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

The wintering population has remained fairly stable over the survey period, and winter Sanderling are rarely found away from the sandy beaches of the outer Wash.

Autumn passage has, however, increased in the last decade. The majority of these birds are presumably from the Greenland population. Changes in beach quality and profile brought about by a major beach nourishment scheme between Snettisham and Hunstanton may be a factor in holding birds for longer, resulting in higher counts.

## Lapwing

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Breeds in small numbers. A very large increase in recent years. See Golden Plover.

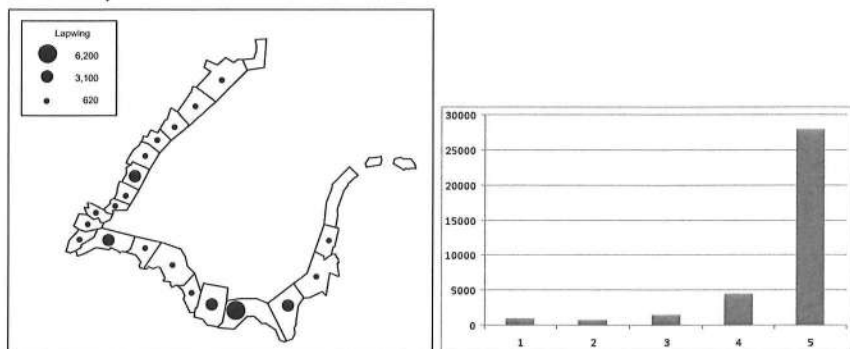


Figure 17: L distribution 1991/92-1995/96

Chart 21: L, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

The distribution is almost identical to that of golden plover, although intertidal feeding by this species has not been noted on the Wash.

## Knot

Winter visitor and passage migrant. The majority of birds breed in Greenland and north-east Canada; a small number from Siberian breeding grounds occasionally occur in spring and autumn. The Wash is the most important estuary for knot in the British Isles. Knot are highly mobile and there are well established movements between the Wash and the Wadden Sea, on the eastern seaboard of the North Sea.

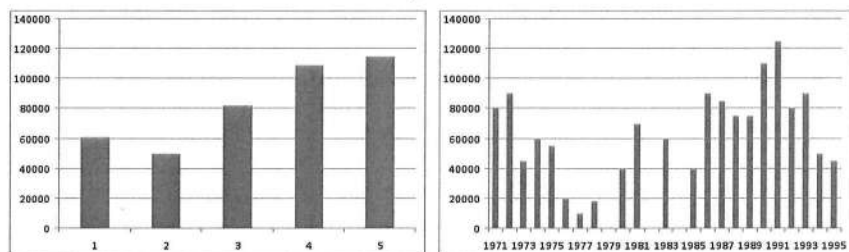


Chart 22: KN, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

Chart 23: KN, January counts, 1971-96

Chart 22 shows what appears to be a sustained increase in numbers. The more detailed graph of January counts (Chart 23), however, clearly shows a large decline since 1991. A single roost at Snettisham comprised 120,000 birds in November 1990. This was associated with a peak in wintering numbers, when many birds moved to the Wash from the Wadden Sea at a time of poor cockle stocks there. The decrease since 1991 has coincided with a sustained decline of cockles in the Wash, while at the same time there has been some recovery in the Wadden Sea. The changes in January numbers are very similar to those shown by Oystercatcher, not least in the high peaks around 1990.

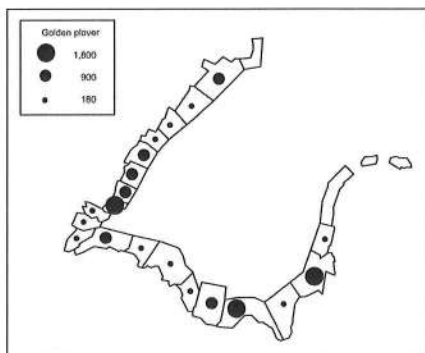


Figure 15: GP distribution 1991/92-1995/96

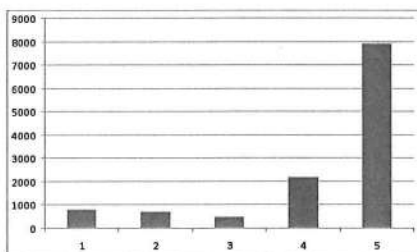


Chart 18: GP, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

Since the entire Wash is surrounded by apparently suitable farmland, the reasons for the less than uniform distribution are not clear, but might reflect intertidal feeding.

### Grey Plover

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Birds from Siberian population adopt two strategies; one group moults and winters on the Wash, while others stage here and move on, many to Africa, to moult and winter.

Grey Plover's preference for sandier substrates for feeding may be reflected in the westerly distribution of their roost sites. This species has not been affected by the recent demise of the shellfish stocks, as their diet consists largely of worms and crustaceans.

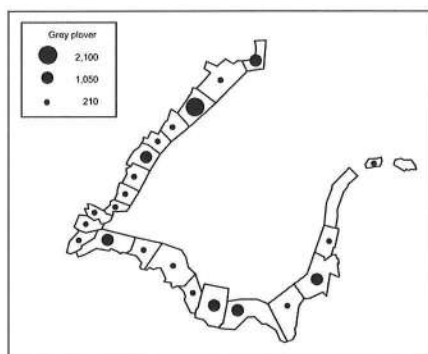


Figure 16: GV distribution 1991/92-1995/96

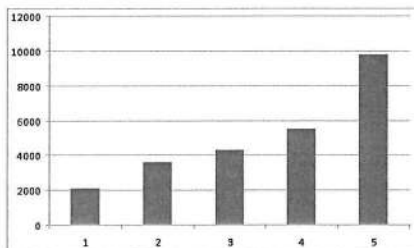


Chart 19: GV, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

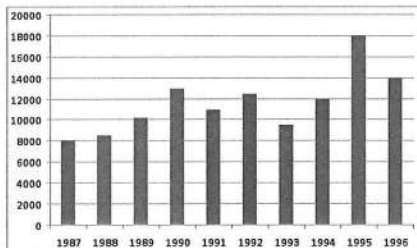


Chart 20: GV peak spring counts 1987-96

There has been a sustained, almost linear, increase over the last 25 years, mirroring the national wintering population. Spring passage involves numbers which exceed that of the wintering population. May is the peak month in the whole year.

## Ringed Plover

Passage migrant. Breeds. Winters in small numbers. Wintering population from eastern North Sea coast. Breeding birds winter in south-west Britain, France and Spain. Migrants mainly from Iceland/Greenland breeding grounds.

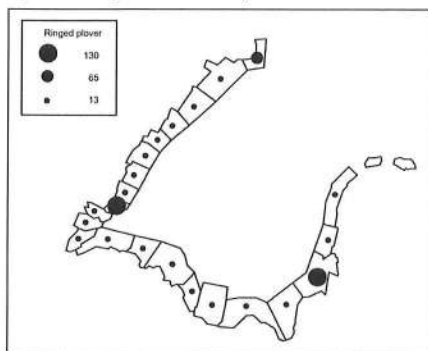


Figure 14: RP distribution 1991/92-1995/96

Gibraltar Point, the Witham and Snettisham are the main sites, but note that these records refer mostly to early returning breeders in February - there are no ringed plovers at Snettisham, for example, in December and January.

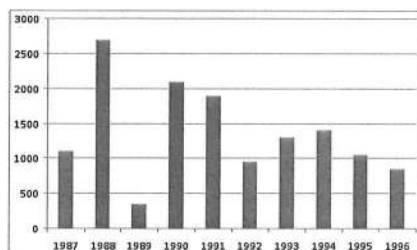


Chart 16: RP, peak July-Sep counts 1987-96

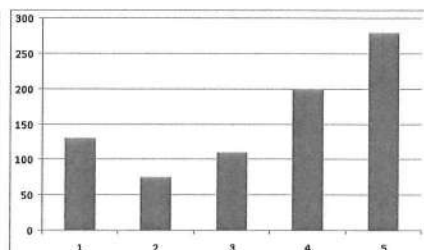


Chart 17: RP, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

The autumn passage is variable, but it is the time of peak numbers in the Wash (Chart 16). Recent years have also seen a steady increase in the small wintering population.

## Golden Plover

Winter visitor and passage migrant. Origins unclear but likely to be mainly Scandinavia and north-west Russia.

There has been a huge increase in numbers of this species using the Wash in recent years. This is very similar to the pattern for Lapwing and might suggest a shared origin. Golden Plover have not historically fed in the Wash itself, preferring bordering fields whilst roosting on the estuary, but in recent years large numbers have been feeding on the mudflats during the autumn.

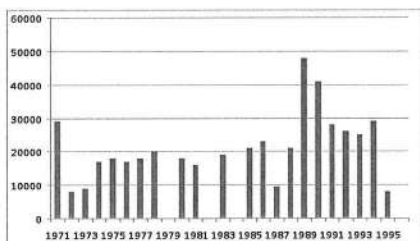


Chart 14: January counts, 1971-1996

The finer detail of January counts (Chart 14) shows a pattern which broadly follows cockle landings in the Wash.

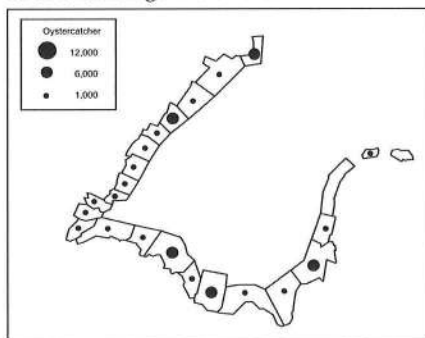


Figure 12: OC distribution 1991/92-1995/96

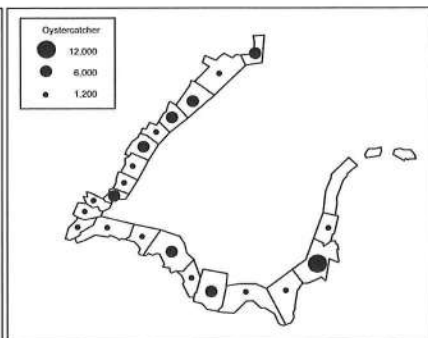


Figure 13: OC distribution 1986/87-1990/91

Oystercatchers tend to congregate in favoured roost sites, which draw birds in from a large area; smaller roosts form between these sites. The winter distribution when the population was at its peak (Figure 13) is broadly similar to the recent period (Figure 12). However, there does appear to have been a relative loss on the west side of the Wash, particularly at the formerly important Friskney roost.

## Avocet

Passage migrant. Breeds in small numbers. Avocets return to the Wash in February, with peak numbers in the autumn; many of these birds appear to be from the north Norfolk coast breeding population. Spring numbers are also increasing in the Wash.

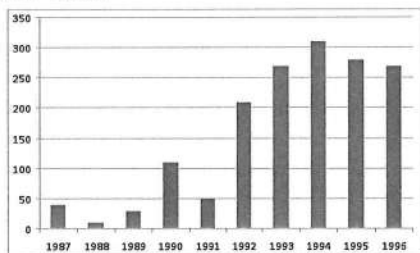


Chart 15: AV, peak autumn counts (July to September), 1987 - 96

Eider are not uniformly distributed in the Wash, presumably reflecting the availability of food. A regular flock of 600-800 is currently present off the Outer Training Bank (an artificial island in the Terrington, Lincs count sector) and remains into the early summer at least - a future breeding bird? This flock may well be missed during WeBS counts.

### Common Scoter

Winter and autumn visitor. There has been a significant decline from a high peak in the late 1970s.

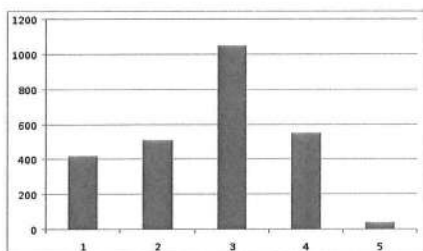


Chart 11: CX, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

### Oystercatcher

Winter visitor. Breeds. Mostly breeds in Norway; much smaller numbers come from Iceland, Faeroes, Holland, Belgium and Shetland.

There was a sustained increase until 1989, followed by a marked decline to less than 8000 in January 1996. The autumn peak counts (August to October) over the last two 5-yr periods show the decline in more details.

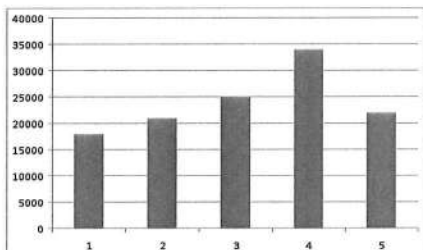


Chart 12: OC, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

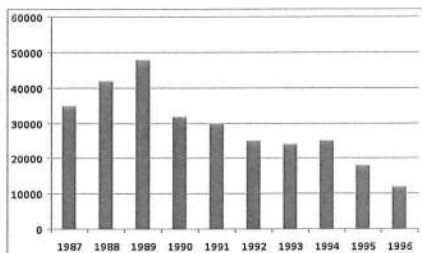


Chart 13: peak autumn counts, 1987-96

Oystercatcher populations seem to be closely linked with the shellfishery in the Wash. Cockles and mussels are in a sustained decline, for reasons which are not clearly understood. However, it seems likely that most of the vanished Oystercatchers are probably dead as there is little evidence from ringing recoveries of movements elsewhere. The decline in the early 1990s was exemplified by high mortality and a switch by many birds away from the estuary to local grassland.

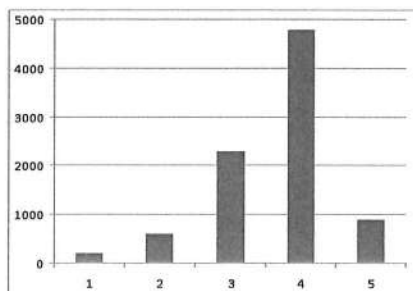


Chart 9: PT, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

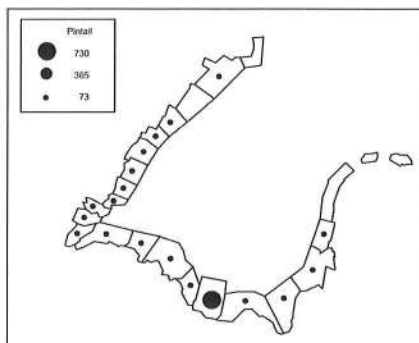


Figure 9: PT distribution 1991/92-1995/96

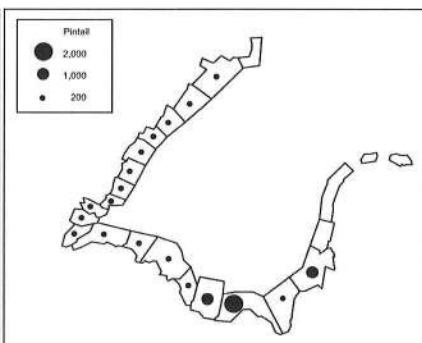


Figure 10: PT distribution 1981/82-1988/89

Pintail present in the 1990s are concentrated almost entirely just to the east of the river Nene. The higher numbers in the 1980s had a wider distribution, but most were still between the Nene and Snettisham.

## Eider

Winter visitor A recent increase. Eiders are presumably feeding on sub littoral shellfish, crabs and starfish.

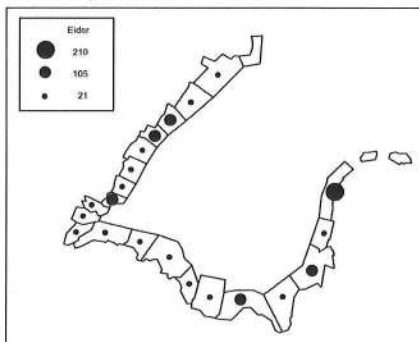


Figure 11: E distribution 1991/92-1995/96

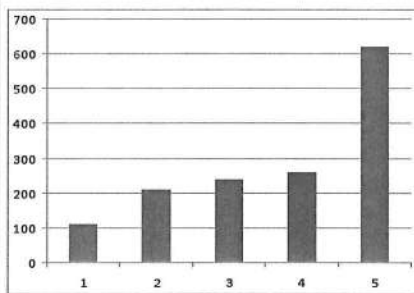


Chart 10: E, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts



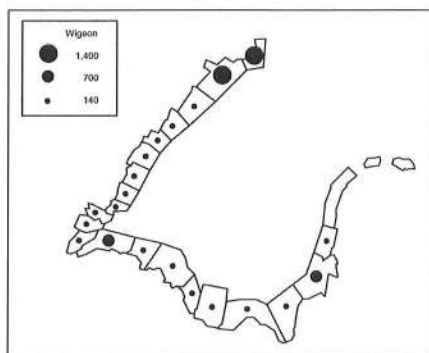


Figure 7: WN distribution 1991/92-1995/96

As Figure 7 shows, Wainfleet and the Gibraltar Point and Snettisham reserves have been the important areas for Wigeon in recent years.

## Mallard

Winter visitor, breeds

Recent decline, mirroring the national trend, following large increases. The effects of changes in the practice of releasing birds into the wild are not fully understood.

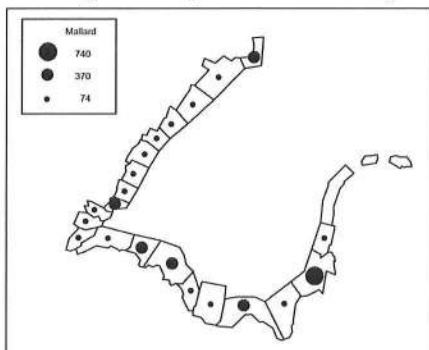


Figure 8: MA distribution 1991/92-1995/96

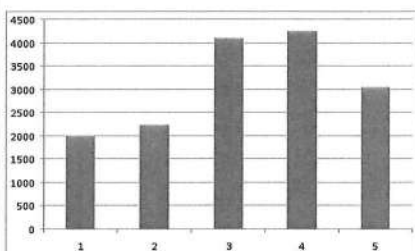


Chart 8: MA, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

## Pintail

Winter visitor

There have been dramatic changes in the fortunes of this species. Numbers peaked at about 8000 in the late 1980s, having risen from almost none twenty years earlier. This has been followed by a rapid decline. An increase in numbers at the Ouse and Nene Washes does not account fully for the loss. It seems likely that a decline in cockles *Cerastoderma* and tellins (*Macoma*) is implicated, as Pintail were principally intertidal feeders here.

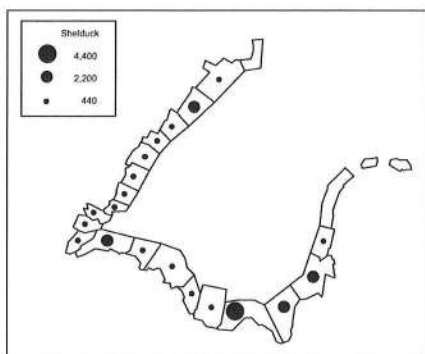


Figure 6: SU distribution 1991/92-1995/96

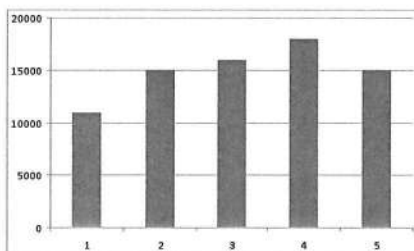


Chart 5: SU, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

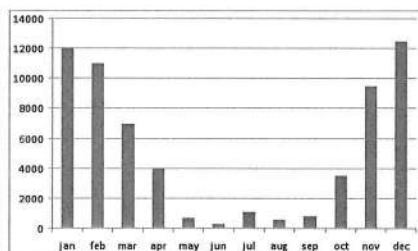


Chart 6: mean max each month, 1991/2-1995/6

The seasonal pattern (Chart 6) shows the importance of the Wash as a wintering site. Most birds leave during the late summer to moult on the continent, but others remain in, or move to, the Wash to moult.

## Wigeon

Winter visitor. Numbers wintering on the Wash have declined, in contrast to a national increase in recent years.

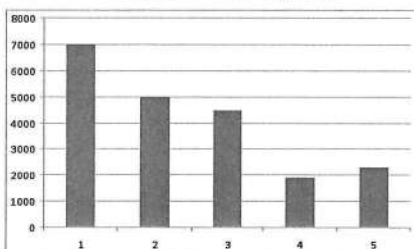


Chart 7: WN, 5-yr mean of peak winter counts

It is likely that a reduction in saltmarsh grazing and improved management elsewhere, notably at the Ouse and Nene Washes, have been important factors in this decline. Autumn stubbles are used before birds move on.

## Dark-bellied Brent Goose

Winter visitor; breeds in Siberia. The Wash, with the largest unbroken block of saltmarsh in the British Isles, is the most important site in the UK for this species and the population, having approximately quadrupled in the last 25 years, now appears to be stable. The original food source, eel-grass *Zostera* sp, has disappeared and brents now feed mostly on saltmarsh and, unfortunately, winter wheat. Recent increases in summer cattle grazing should help to keep this species outside the sea defences.

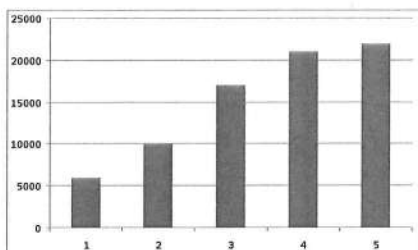


Chart 4: BG, 5-year mean of peak winter counts

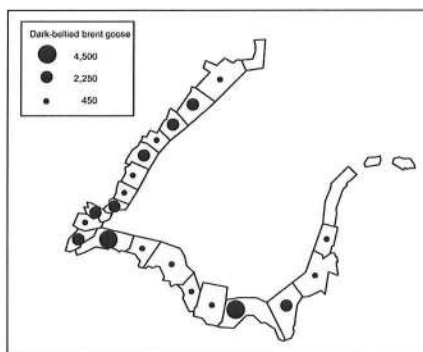


Figure 4: BG distribution 1991/92-1995/96

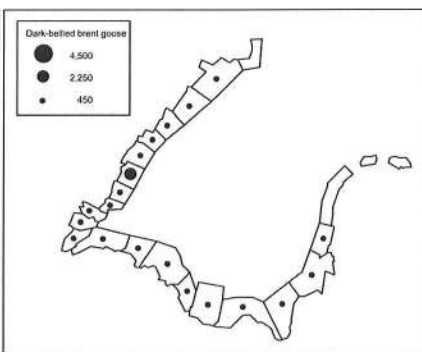


Figure 5: BG distribution 1971/72-1975/76

The maps show that the distribution of this species has also changed, with the western Wash, particularly around Butterwick, being a core area 20 years ago.

## Shelduck

Winter visitor. Breeds. Post-breeding moult flocks congregate in the south and south-east Wash. As Chart 5 shows, there was a steady increase during the first 20 years of the study period, with numbers slightly declining since about 1990. However, the Wash remains by far the best site in the UK for this species.

The largest concentrations are found in the inner Wash, especially near the mouths of the rivers Welland, Nene, and Great Ouse. The exposed flanks of the Wash tend towards a sandier substrate, which is less favourable to feeding shelduck.

## Species Accounts

All species which occur in internationally and nationally important numbers are covered, plus a few others of a more local interest. The accounts are not intended to be exhaustive but rather to give a reasonable sketch of each species' status and distribution.

### Pink-footed Goose

Winter visitor. Breeds in Iceland and Greenland; small numbers from Svalbard breeding population As Chart 3 shows, a dramatic increase has occurred in the past ten years or so, with a peak count of 45,925 in January 1994.

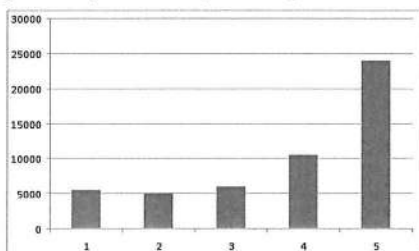


Chart 3: PF, 5-year mean of peak winter counts

The build up of numbers appeared to begin with cold weather movements from Lancashire and Scotland, but since 1995 they have been arriving earlier in the winter and this now seems to be an established wintering pattern. The principle food is sugar beet tops, with grassland and saltmarsh used increasingly from January. Almost all the dots in Figure 2 represent geese which have moved out from the Snettisham roost and subsequently seen on WeBS counts. The Wash birds form part of a wider Norfolk population with other main roosts at Scolt Head Island and Warham Sands, Wells. There is regular interchange between the three roost sites, all of which are relatively disturbance-free.

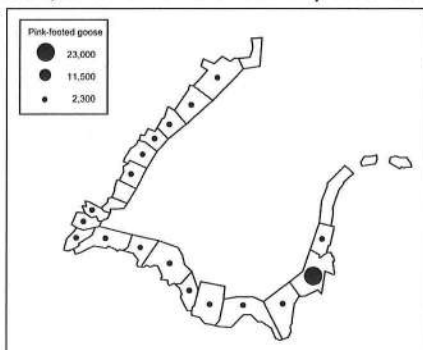


Figure 2: PF distribution 1991/92-1995/96

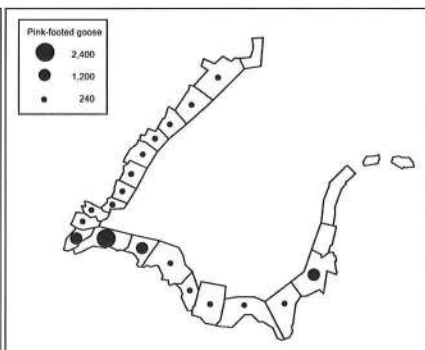


Figure 3: PF distribution 1969/70-1974/75

Pink-foot distribution was quite different in the past, although numbers were lower. Figure 3 illustrates the situation some 25 years ago, albeit during a period of decline from previous years. Lincolnshire was much more of a stronghold than it is now, particularly at Welland and Holbeach.

No	Sector	No	Sector	No	Sector	No	Sector
1	Gibraltar Pt	7	Butterwick	13	Welland	19	Ouse
2	Wainfleet	8	Freiston	14	Holbeach	20	Snettisharn
3	Friskney	9	Witham	15	Dawsmere	21	Heacham
4	Wrangle	10	Frampton, N	16	Gedney	22	Hunstanton
5	Leverton	11	Frampton, S	17	Terrington, Li	23	Holme
6	Benington	12	Kirton	18	Terrington, Nf	25	Titchwell

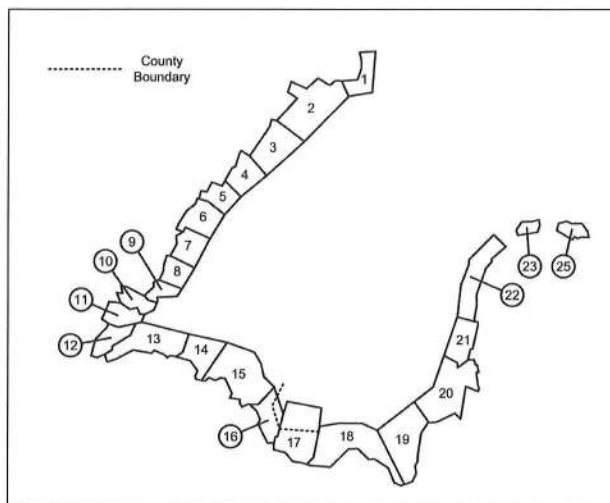


Figure 1 Map sector numbers and locations

### Overall populations and distribution

The January counts of all waterfowl species combined easily exceed the qualifying level for international importance of 20,000 birds. The graph is highly influenced by population changes of three species - pink-footed goose, oystercatcher and knot (for which see the species accounts). Migratory movements add significantly to the number of birds which actually use the Wash, which is important at all times of year, with internationally important numbers present in all months except June. The charts below show the mean of annual/monthly max for all waterfowl combined.

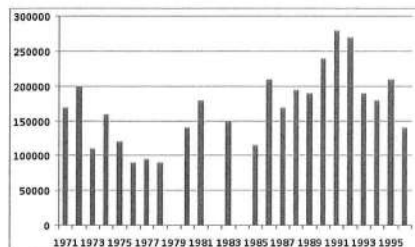


Chart 1: mean max, January counts

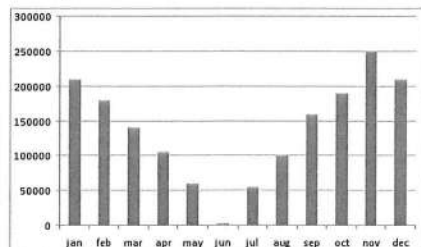


Chart 2: mean max each month, 1991/2-1995/6

## THE BIRDS OF THE WASH 1971-1996

The Wash, which is in the counties of Lincolnshire and Norfolk, is the most important estuary in the British Isles for wintering and migrating waterfowl. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a Ramsar Site, Special Protection Area and candidate marine Special Area for Conservation. The Birds of Estuaries Enquiry counts, combined with the National Wildfowl Count, began in The Wash in 1969; these surveys were amalgamated in 1993 into the Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS). By 1996 all waterfowl and some other species have therefore been counted here for 27 years. Since 1988 counts have been undertaken in every month, prior to that it was normal to count in the winter only. The Wash was originally divided into 22 count sectors. Since 1995 these have been divided into 215 sub-sectors, but this account is based on the original 22-sector division.

Count data are held in a Paradox database, developed by RSPB. To 1996 more than 100,000 bird records were held in the database, allowing a detailed analysis of counts, and use was also made of MapInfo, a GIS mapping database. In order to iron out problems of uneven data quality, the only counts used in this article are those which satisfy criteria for completeness of monthly coverage (18 of 22 sectors counted) and count quality (counters' assessment of accuracy and weather conditions). The Wash Wader Ringing Group have made a huge contribution to our understanding of wader populations, movements and ecology in over thirty years of activity. The brief status accounts are derived from their work and refer to the birds that use the Wash.

Huge changes have occurred in the Wash in recent centuries. It is about 40% smaller now than it was during Roman times, due to a succession of land claims which converted intertidal habitats into highly productive farmland. The rich wetlands of the wider Wash basin, extending into the Fens, have also been lost. A moratorium was established on further land claim in 1987. It remains to be seen how the managed realignment of sea defences and the creation of freshwater habitats inside those defences can contribute to redressing the balance.

### Layout of the species accounts

**Status:** a brief description. Population origins and movements are given, where known.

**The graphs** show the 5-year means of winter peak counts, from 1971/72–1975/76 to 1991/92–1995/96, unless otherwise stated. Winter is defined as November to February, inclusive.

**The maps:** data are from high tide counts only, except that pink-footed geese are counted at the roost at Snettisham. The maps therefore present bird distribution at high water, principally when they are roosting. Unless otherwise stated, the maps are all derived from winter mean peak counts for 1991/2–1995/6. Holme and Titchwell are included because significant numbers of waders leave the Wash to roost at these sites, particularly during the autumn. However, in terms of national WeBS counts and reports these birds are attributed to the North Norfolk Coast. The WeBS count sectors are shown in the table below:

**Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus***

Common resident and passage migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	8.5	6.9	3.5	4.8	1.0		
% of recording weeks	1.8	1.3	1.0	1.7	0.7		
Mean peak count	0.33	0.36	0.14	0.07	0.04		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC/WBS terrs, 5 sites:	25	21	19	19	26		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
% of BBS squares	35.7	41.3	26.5	32.7	40.4	44.9	
	Mean	Mean					
Mean	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index	1.78	1.13	0.27	0.27	0.22	0.16	0.39
(% of passerine total)							

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Black-headed Bunting *Emberiza melanocephala***

Vagrant; 2 records, in Sep 1974 and Jun 1980.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Corn Bunting *Miliaria calandra***

Common resident and partial migrant.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Summed peaks	1228	1000	748	639	502	
Number of sites	50	41	36	22	23	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	28.6	23.9	22.4	15.4	28.8	22.4

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Nov-Dec 1982.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Northern Waterthrush *Seiurus noveboracensis***

Vagrant; only record, 1 trapped in Oct 1988.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Pine Bunting** *Emberiza leucocephalos*  
 Vagrant; only record, one in Mar 1995.  
 No records in the report period  
 All records required: BBRC

**Yellowhammer** *Emberiza citrinella*

Very common resident. Numbers decreased through the 1980s.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	24.5	20.7	12.8	14.5	18.4		
% of recording weeks	5.0	5.0	4.9	3.9	6.2		
Mean peak count	1.43	1.20	1.19	0.64	1.41		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	20	23	28	25	19		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	98.6	100.4	86.8	91.2	83.4	
% of BBS squares	78.6	82.6	85.7	82.7	78.8	77.6	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	0.86	0.46	0.36	0.54	0.30	0.45	0.58

Trend 1990-2000: Appears to have stabilised.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Cirl Bunting** *Emberiza cirlus*

Vagrant; 4 records, in Sep-Oct and Dec-Jan, the last in Oct 1977.

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC

**Oortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*

Vagrant; 31 records to date, in Apr-Jun (16) and Aug-Oct (15).

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC

**Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica*

Vagrant; 6 records to date, in Mar (1), May (3) and Sep-Oct (2).

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla*

Vagrant; 6 records, in Sep (2), Oct (3) and Dec (1), the previous last in Dec 1980.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	-	-	-	1

All records required: LBRC

**Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*

Vagrant; only record, one in May 1977.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC



**Bullfinch** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

Common resident.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	13.8	16.1	16.3	16.9	22.4		
% of recording weeks	2.4	2.1	3.1	2.2	3.4		
Mean peak count	0.33	0.37	0.38	0.40	0.60		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
% of BBS squares	11.9	8.7	12.2	7.7	7.7	8.2	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.48	1.42	0.89	0.70	0.99	0.99	0.56

Trend 1990-2000: continuing to decline, though the rate possibly slowing

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

Rare local resident and rare passage migrant.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	8	11	14	2	10
Number of sites	2	3	5	1	4

All records required.

**Snow Bunting** *Plectrophenax nivalis*

Fairly common/common but local winter visitor and passage migrant on coast, mainly Sep-Apr; exceptional in summer. Scarce but fairly regular inland.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Oct 27th	Oct 2nd	Sep 18th	Sep 19th	Sep 19th
Summed Aug-May peaks	214	683	214	238	409
Number of sites	10	26	17	17	16
Last date	Mar 24th	Apr 6th	Mar 15th	Mar 15th	May 5th

Records required: First and last dates; monthly max counts regular sites, all other records

**Lapland Bunting** *Calcarius lapponicus*

Scarce/fairly common but local passage migrant and winter visitor Sep-Apr. Rare inland.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Oct 14th	Oct 9th	Sep 28th	Sep 27th	Sep 22nd
Summed Aug-May peaks	27	27	15	40	13
Number of sites	10	7	9	16	7
Last date	Mar 30th	Feb 23rd	Feb 9th	Mar 17th	Mar 4th

All records required.

**White-throated Sparrow** *Zonotrichia albicollis*

Vagrant; only record, one trapped in Dec 1992, remained to Mar 1993.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Common Redpoll** *Carduelis flammea*

Scarce/fairly common winter visitor; probably overlooked.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	169	ca 40	3	4	16
Number of sites	13	4	2	2	3

Trend 1990-2000:

All records required. LBRC

**Arctic Redpoll** *Carduelis hornemanni*

Rare/scarce irruptive winter visitor; 40 records to date, in Oct-Apr.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Nov 12th	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oct-Apr totals	15	0	0	0	0
Number of sites	5				
Last date	Mar 5th				

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

**Two-barred Crossbill** *Loxia leucoptera*

Vagrant; only record, 1 shot in Sep 1889.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Common Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra*

Scarce/fairly common irruptive passage migrant and visitor, mainly Jun-Apr, occasionally all year. Only proved to breed on a few occasions.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed peaks	10	445	554	54	28
Number of sites	1	27	22	8	8

All records required.

**Parrot Crossbill** *Loxia pytyopsittacus*

Rare/scarce irruptive winter visitor; ca 108 records to date, mainly Oct-May. Last recorded in 1995.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 2009 then LBRC, RBBP

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Vagrant; 15 records to date, in May-Jun (12) and Sep (3).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	2	1	-	-

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

### Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	5.3	6.9	4.7	4.8	6.1		
% of recording weeks	0.7	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.6		
Mean peak count	0.24	0.32	0.16	0.17	0.50		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	50	35	36	31	36		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	69.1	71.2	57.3	64.5	65.2	
% of BBS squares	85.7	78.3	73.5	82.7	75.0	71.4	
	Mean	Mean					
Mean	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index	3.63	1.19	1.16	0.34	0.33	0.51	0.97
(% of passerine total)							

Trend 1990-2000: appears to be stabilising following earlier decline

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

### Twite *Carduelis flavirostris*

Fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant, mainly Sep-Apr. Scarce inland.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Oct 18th	Oct 9th	Sep 28th	Oct 17th	Aug 17th
Summed Aug-May peaks	1,160	765	1,009	922	758
Number of sites	18	13	18	14	14
Last date	Apr 27th	Apr 17th	Apr 19th	Mar 17th	Apr 8th

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline.

All records required.

### Lesser Redpoll *Carduelis cabaret*

Fairly common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Decline from peak numbers of the late 1960s and 1970s appeared to stabilise at a lower level by 1990.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	12.8	8.0	7.0	2.4	6.1		
% of recording weeks	2.5	0.6	0.7	0.15	0.5		
Mean peak count	1.41	0.39	0.40	0.14	0.22		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	10	14	3	2	3		
	Mean	Mean					
Mean	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index	3.97	0.91	0.16	0.47	0.14	0.09	0.04
(% of passerine total)							

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline.

All records required.

### Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	98.9	96.6	98.8	100	99.9		
% of recording weeks	72.9	78.3	72.2	76.6	79.8		
Mean peak count	10.6	11.4	10.2	9.7	11.9		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	4	4	6	8	10		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	86.2	84.9	64.9	80.0	90.6	
% of BBS squares	66.7	67.4	67.3	57.7	71.2	79.6	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	5.41	5.00	10.61	10.12	4.66	7.83	7.36

Trend 1990-2000: stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

### Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

Common resident and passage migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	52.1	63.2	62.8	55.4	55.1		
% of recording weeks	12.2	11.3	12.4	12.1	13.3		
Mean peak count	3.5	5.9	4.4	3.3	3.3		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	6	7	2	7	7		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	120.5	59.0	61.8	87.0	70.6	
% of BBS squares	71.4	54.3	49.0	38.5	53.8	53.1	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.42	0.37	1.52	0.39	0.25	0.46	1.30

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuating

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

### Siskin *Carduelis spinus*

Common passage migrant and winter visitor. Scarce in summer but may breed in some years.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	180	1531	1113	89	335
Number of sites	13	36	56	16	26
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	9.6	11.5	38.4	26.5	25.5
% of recording weeks	1.5	2.0	9.1	2.2	4.2
Mean peak count	0.20	0.51	2.38	0.58	0.87
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringing index	0.20	1.12	2.22	0.14	0.85
(% of passerine total)					

Trend 1990-2000: irruptive, breeding being reported more often

Records required: monthly max counts at regular sites; all other records.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Sep 30th	Oct 2nd	-*	Sep 23rd	Oct 10th
Summed Aug-May peaks	630	319	149	146	233
Number of sites	16	19	17	12	13
Last date	Apr 27th	Apr 5th	Mar 29th	Mar 21st	Apr 8th

\*no autumn records

Records required: first and last dates; monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.

### Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	96.8	95.4	91.9	95.2	95.9
% of recording weeks	67.8	71.1	65.9	71.7	73.1
Mean peak count	6.8	6.9	6.5	6.7	7.8
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	44	46	56	46	46
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
BBS Index	100	120.2	19.9	111.3	112.9
% of BBS squares	83.3	84.8	87.8	86.5	88.5

	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.46	2.04	5.06	4.41	2.96	4.98	2.78

Trend 1990-2000: stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

### Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

Common winter visitor and passage migrant. Exceptional in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Jul 8th	Sep 20th	Sep 27th	Oct 2nd	Oct 8th
Summed Aug-May peaks	521	174	526	62	127
Number of sites	34	34	38	24	17
Last date	May 20th	Apr 13th	Apr 24th	May*	Apr 17th

\* exact date not specified

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	8.5	9.2	12.8	15.7	12.2
% of recording weeks	0.6	1.6	2.4	2.8	1.4
Mean peak count	0.13	0.14	0.72	0.47	0.19

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuating

Records required: first and last dates; site monthly max in winter, all other records.

RBBP

### European Serin *Serinus serinus*

Vagrant; 20 records to date, in Apr-Nov.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	3	-	-	-	-

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

**Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis***

Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant. Breeds locally, mainly in the western half of the county.

Extreme dates: Apr 4th-Nov 9th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 14th	Apr 12th	Apr 12th	Apr 4th	Apr 29th
Summed Apr-May peaks	33	28	38	15	3
Number of sites	13	11	9	5	2
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	13	-	9	1	9
Number of sites	3	1	6	1	5
Last date	Oct 6th	Sep 3rd	Oct 4th	Sep 11th	Oct 2nd

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline

All records required.

**Meadow Pipit *Anthus pratensis***

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
CBC/WBS territories (5 sites):	33	37	35	35	39
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	5896	1365	770	250	1819
Number of sites	9	13	14	7	16

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	54.8	43.5	38.8	34.6	36.5	40.8

	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	0.28	0.65	0.38	0.14	0.65	0.29	1.58

Trend 1990-2000: greatly under-recorded; probably stable or declining slowly

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus***

Vagrant; only 2 records to date, in Sep 1977 and May 1992.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

**Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta***

Rare/scarce passage migrant and winter visitor Oct-Apr. Mainly coastal, possibly increasing.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	13	7	12	8	10
Number of sites	3	6	6	2	2

All records required.

**Rock Pipit *Anthus petrosus***

Fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor Sep-Apr; scarce inland. Both *A.p.petrosus* and *A.p.littoralis* occur, possibly now mainly the latter subspecies.

**Pied Wagtail *Motacilla alba****M. a. yarrelli*: common resident and passage migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	74.5	64.4	53.5	44.6	55.1	
% of recording weeks	25.6	16.8	12.5	11.7	16.4	
Mean peak count	2.1	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Ringling totals: FG	96	13	13	21	34	
Ringling totals: pulli	19	5	0	14	3	
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	671	2315	1139	874	157	
Number of sites	13	18	14	13	10	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	102.4	73.4	80.3	122.7	181.8
% of BBS squares	64.3	50.0	49.0	50.0	59.6	69.4

Trend 1990-2000: apparent decline

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**White Wagtail***M.a.alba*: scarce passage migrant, mainly Mar-Jun.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Mar 21st		Mar 16th	Apr 7th	Feb 26th
Summed Mar-Jun peaks	19		41	16	9
Number of sites	10		14	9	6
Last date	Oct 2nd		Jun 14th	Apr 26th	Apr 29th
All records required.					

**Richard's Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae***

Rare passage migrant, mainly Sep-Nov, rarely Dec-Jan and Apr-May; once inland. Over 100 records, nearly all recent.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	9	3	3
All records required: LBRC					

**Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris***

Vagrant; 8 records to date, in May (5) and Sep-Oct (3).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	-	1
All records required: LBRC					

**Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni***

Vagrant; 5 records to date, all recent and in Oct (4) and Nov (1).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	-	1
All records required: BBRC					

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
First date	Mar 27th	Apr 7th	Apr 8th	Apr 5th	Mar 26th	
Summed Mar-May peaks	1053	409	132	92	260	
Number of sites	41	30	26	26	21	
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	1239	640	395	276	214	
Number of sites	29	23	20	12	22	
Last date	Oct 13th	Dec 23rd	Oct 29th	Sep28th	Oct 6th	
Ringling totals: FG	144	7	3	16	18	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	42.9	47.8	42.9	30.8	36.5	26.5

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline

#### Scarcer races:

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals					
Blue-headed	8	10	6	1	2

Grey-headed: no accepted records in the report period

Ashy-headed: no accepted records in the report period

Records required: first and last dates; breeding records (site, number of pairs/nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts spring-autumn, all records in winter; all records of scarcer races. L/BBRC all races other than *flavissima*

#### Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Sep 1983.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

#### Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Scarce/fairly common passage migrant (most marked on the coast) and winter visitor (mostly inland). Rare breeder, formerly sporadic, but has become regular in the last few years.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	11.7	8.0	2.3	2.4	9.2
% of recording weeks	2.2	0.7	0.09	0.1	0.8
Summed Nov-Feb totals	28	44	32	30	39
Number of sites	20	33	20	28	26
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Breeding/summer pairs	3	2	-	-	-
Ringling totals: FG	7	0	2	11	1
Ringling totals: pulli	0	0	4	3	5

Trend 1990-2000: stable

Records required: breeding records (site, number of pairs/nests, outcome if known); monthly max counts from regular sites, all other records.



### House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

Very common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	97.9	98.9	97.7	100	99.0		
% of recording weeks	93.6	94.2	93.6	96.2	89.9		
Mean peak count	26.2	25.0	22.3	22.6	20.6		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	101.5	104.3	88.5	89.5	88.2	
% of BBS squares	85.7	78.3	73.5	73.1	63.5	61.2	
	Mean	Mean					
Mean	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index	2.01	2.02	1.36	1.71	2.86	3.20	2.41
(% of passerine total)							

Trend 1990-2000: decline continuing but may be stabilising.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

### Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Common resident and partial migrant. Marked decline through 1980s.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
Summed Oct-Feb peaks	521	634	637	399	569		
Number of sites	16	21	29	20	22		
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	13.8	12.6	9.3	13.3	16.3		
% of recording weeks	5.9	6.6	5.8	8.5	11.1		
Mean peak count	0.57	1.23	0.90	0.93	2.11		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
% of BBS squares	21.4	26.1	28.6	13.5	17.3	20.4	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	3.02	0.56	0.31	0.22	0.15	0.54	0.64
		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
FG ringing totals		44	30	26	52	45	
Pullus ringing totals		19	5	0	20	40	

Trend 1990-2000: decline appears to have stabilised and may be reversing

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; nestbox records.

### Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*

*M. f. flavissima*: common summer visitor and passage migrant, mostly Apr-Sep; exceptional in winter but recorded in all months. Breeds mainly in lowland areas.

*M.f.flava* (Blue-headed Wagtail): scarce passage migrant, mainly spring. Has bred sporadically.

*M.f.thunbergi* (Grey-headed Wagtail): rare and irregular spring migrant.

*M.f.cinerocephala* (Ashy-headed Wagtail): two spring records.

Males resembling other races have occurred, but are most likely to be hybrids.

**Desert Wheatear *Oenanthe deserti***

Vagrant; 3 records to date, previous records in Sep 1970 and Oct 1991.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	1	-
All records required: BBRC					

**Red-breasted Flycatcher *Ficedula parva***

Rare passage migrant in May and Sep-Nov. Exceptional inland and in spring.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	-	-	3	-
All records required: LBRC					

**Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca***

Passage migrant, mainly coastal; rare/scarce in spring and scarce/fairly common in autumn. Formerly a rare and irregular breeder to the early 20th century.

Extreme dates: Apr 11th-Nov 4th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 23rd	Aug 8th	Sep 1st	Aug 25th	Sep 27th
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	94	27	12	11	2
Number of sites	15	8	7	6	1
Last date	Oct 14th	Sep 28th	Oct 4th	Oct 16th	Sep 27th

Records required: all records inland; on the coast, all records in spring, first and last dates with site weekly max count (+ date) in autumn.

**Dunnock *Prunella modularis***

Very common resident and partial migrant. Mostly *P. m. occidentalis* but Continental race *P. m. modularis* occurs as a passage migrant on the coast.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	100	98.9	98.8	98.8	96.9		
% of recording weeks	89.9	90.2	85.2	89.5	88.4		
Mean peak count	3.4	3.1	2.8	2.9	3.2		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	96	70	78	69	71		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	76.8	72.8	60.8	77.1	81.2	
% of BBS squares	78.6	80.4	75.5	73.1	73.1	75.5	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	6.17	5.97	3.69	4.37	4.95	6.51	5.77

Trend 1990-2000: generally stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year, passage records.

**Alpine Accentor *Prunella collaris***

Vagrant; only 1 record, in Nov 1994.

No records in the report period

All records required. BBRC

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 4th	Apr 7th	Apr 22nd	Apr 14th	Apr 28th
Breeding pairs	-	1?	2?	-	1
Breeding sites	-	1?	1?	-	1
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	229	53	55	25	54
Number of sites	24	13	18	5	4
FG ringing total	51	42	44	44	24
Last date	Oct 6th	Oct 5th	Oct 30th	Sep 25th	Nov 20th

Trend 1990-2000: becoming more regular in summer

Records required: site weekly max count in autumn; all other records.

### Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*

Fairly common passage migrant and rare summer visitor. Formerly bred, but with no proven records in the 1990s.

Extreme dates: Apr 2nd-Nov 22nd.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 3rd	Apr 23rd	Apr 23rd	May 1st	Apr 24th
Summed Mar-Jun peaks	25	18	13	7	8
Number of sites	12	15	9	5	7
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	74	56	24	25	31
Number of sites	21	16	12	10	14
Last date	Oct 1st	Oct 5th	Sep 27th	Sep 25th	Nov 19th

Records required: site weekly max count in autumn, all other records.

### Common Stonechat *Saxicola torquata*

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly Sep-Apr. Sporadic breeder in last 50 years (last 1980) but formerly bred more commonly. Mostly *S. t. hibernans* but 6 recent records of *S. t. maura/steineger* in May and Oct-Nov.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	26	17	22	18	34
Number of sites	20	13	19	13	19

All records required. Eastern races: BBRC

### Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Fairly common/common passage migrant. Formerly a local breeder but no recent proof, although territorial pairs are fairly regular in late spring. Mostly *O. o. oenanthe* but *O. o. leucorrhoa* (Greenland Wheatear) is a scarce migrant.

Extreme dates: Mar 8th-Dec 30th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Mar 16th	Mar 9th	Mar 17th	Mar 18th	Mar 13th
Summed Mar-May peaks	317	329	249	118	72
Number of sites	58	54	36	28	25
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	145	58	101	35	102
Number of sites	31	32	26	16	24
Last date	Oct 26th	Oct 30th	Oct 18th	Oct 25th	Nov 2nd

Records required: first and last dates; site monthly max in passage months; all other records, including breeding details.

**Common Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos***

Scarce/fairly common local summer visitor and scarce passage migrant.

Extreme dates: Apr 10th-Sep 23rd.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 20th	Apr 20th	Apr 12th	Apr 25th	Apr 19th
Singing males/prs reported	20	18	35	23	16
Number of sites	14	8	16	14	9
FG ringing total	7	5	8	4	10
Last date	Sep 7th	Sep 7th	Jun 26th	Aug 2nd	May 20th

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuates, probably stable

All records required.

**Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica***

Rare passage migrant, mainly Apr-May and Aug-Oct. Mostly *L. s. svecica* (Red-spotted) but *L. s. cyanecula* (White-spotted) has occurred exceptionally, including a territorial male in Jun-Jul 1987.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	4	-	1	1	-

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

**Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger cyanurus***

Vagrant; 4 records, Sep-Oct, the previous last in Oct 1988.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	1	-

All records required: BBRC

**Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros***

Scarce passage migrant, rare and irregular breeder and winter visitor.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Mar-May totals	30	12	11	8	4
Number of sites	14	7	7	4	3
Singing males/sum. pairs	-	1	1	-	1
Breeding pairs	-	-	1?	1?	1
Summed Aug-Nov totals	5	10	6	7	16
Number of sites	5	5	3	5	6

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuates, breeding pairs in industrial areas probably under-reported

All records required: RBBP

**Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus***

Rare/scarce summer visitor and scarce passage migrant in spring, fairly common/common in autumn.

Extreme dates: Mar 26th-Nov 10th.

**Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata***

Fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant.

Extreme dates: Apr 19th-Dec 5th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 19th	May 6th	Aug 2nd*	Aug 29th*	Aug 11th*
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	67	19	45	7	16
Number of sites	19	10	18	4	9
Last date	Oct 1st	Oct 18th	Oct 5th	Sep 27th	Sep 28th

\*no spring records

	Mean	Mean					
	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index	0.29	0.33	0.13	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.13
(% of passerine total)							

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline

Records required: first and last dates; site monthly max counts spring-autumn, all winter records.

**Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas galactotes***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Sep 1963.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Robin *Erithacus rubecula***

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Mostly *E. r. melophilus* but the Continental race *E. r. rubecula* is a fairly common/common passage migrant on the coast.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	98.9	98.9	98.8	100	100	
% of recording weeks	85.6	83.4	84.2	87.4	88.0	
Mean peak count	2.3	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.3	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	17	20	26	24	30	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	107.7	75.6	86.5	116.7	162.0
% of BBS squares	69.0	69.6	67.3	71.2	75.0	71.4

	Mean	Mean					
	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index	3.22	3.97	2.89	2.69	8.67	3.88	4.26
(% of passerine total)							

Trend 1990-2000: stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year, passage records.

**Thrush Nightingale *Luscinia luscinia***

Vagrant; 5 records to date, in May (2) and Sep (3).

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

### Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*

Common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Races involved are *T. p. clarkei* (British) and *T. p. philomelos* (Continental).

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	90.4	86.2	84.9	81.9	86.7		
% of recording weeks	40.3	33.3	28.5	22.1	25.7		
Mean peak count	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	3	1	2	2	2		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	100.0	103.3	146.6	235.7	207.9	
% of BBS squares	47.6	39.1	34.7	48.1	63.5	53.1	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	3.99	2.62	1.18	1.23	1.79	1.24	1.92

Trend 1990-2000: possibly stabilising after a steady decline

Records required: site monthly max counts all year, passage records.

### Redwing *Turdus iliacus*

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly Sep-Apr; rare in summer. Mostly *T. i. iliacus* but Icelandic race *T. i. coburni* obtained on four occasions.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Sep 5th	Sep 19th	Sep 20th	Sep 19th	Sep 25th
Summed Aug-May peaks	8000	2952	8384	1631	1281
Number of sites	44	25	20	23	19
Last date	May 5th	Apr 13th	Apr 22nd	Mar 27th	Apr 21st
GBFS % of gardens	48.9	40.2	20.9	15.7	30.6
% of recording weeks	6.9	5.5	2.4	1.6	3.7
Mean peak count	3.3	2.6	1.3	0.9	1.2
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
FG ringing total	259	103	145	92	128

Records required: first and last dates: site monthly max counts autumn-spring; all summer records: RBBP

### Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*

Common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	57.4	52.9	61.6	51.8	57.1	
% of recording weeks	13.2	14.5	13.7	16.6	15.7	
Mean peak count	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.1	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	402	281	177	199	186	
Number of sites	18	18	9	9	12	
CBC terrs, 4 sites:	3	1	1	3	3	
FG ringing total	18	11	11	13	11	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	38.1	50.0	30.6	42.3	44.2	46.9

Trend 1990-2000: probably stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year, passage records.

### Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*

Scarce passage migrant Mar-May & Sep-Nov; rare and irregular in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Wintering birds	2	-	-	-	-
First spring date	Mar 24th	Mar 30th	Mar 29th	Mar 26th	Apr 1st
Mar-May total	17	19	26	9	5
Number of sites	11	6	10	6	3
Aug-Nov total	28	26	62	31	27
Number of sites	6	8	5	9	2
Last date	Nov 11th	Oct 25th	Nov 8th	Oct 23rd	Nov 18th

All records required.

### Blackbird *Turdus merula*

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	100	100	100	100	100		
% of recording weeks	94.7	96.6	96.9	97.6	97.8		
Mean peak count	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.7	8.7		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	34	26	30	35	36		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	96.4	84.7	92.7	107.0	106.0	
% of BBS squares	95.2	95.7	93.9	94.2	92.3	93.9	
	Mean	Mean					
Mean	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ring Index	9.91	9.46	8.12	8.93	9.80	11.00	8.81
(% of passerine total)							

Trend 1990-2000: stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; passage records.

### Fieldfare *Turdus pilaris*

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly Sep-Apr; rare in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Aug 6th	Aug 26th	Sep 21st	Oct 13th	Sep 23rd
Summed Aug-May peaks	34,066	14,049	24,306	13,144	7,487
Number of sites	78	63	71	37	41
Last date	May 17th	Jun 23rd	May 4th	Apr 24th	May 2nd
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	56.4	36.8	27.9	20.5	37.8
% of recording weeks	9.7	5.8	5.3	3.3	4.2
Mean peak count	7.3	4.2	4.8	2.8	3.7
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
FG ringing total	97	27	14	11	5

Records required: first and last dates: site monthly max counts autumn-spring; all summer records: RBBP

**Wren *Troglodytes troglodytes***

Very common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	96.8	95.4	97.7	92.8	99.0		
% of recording weeks	60.1	41.9	54.5	61.0	64.4		
Mean peak count	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.6		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	60	66	100	94	91		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	47.6	54.1	59.9	76.2	104.6	
% of BBS squares	90.5	78.3	81.6	75.0	82.7	85.7	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.53	3.32	1.73	2.17	2.32	3.22	3.27

Trend 1990-2000: apparently stable overall

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris***

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

Summed Nov-Feb peaks	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
Number of sites	5,600	6,475	19,950	36,864	39,881		
	7	8	11	14	11		
GBFS % of gardens	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
% of recording weeks	100	100	98.8	100	98.0		
Mean peak count	85.8	83.8	82.9	80.7	74.5		
	44.1	38.6	35.6	33.1	31.7		
BBS Index	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
% of BBS squares	100	72.4	61.7	62.2	86.8	89.3	
	95.2	84.8	87.8	76.9	84.6	85.7	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	11.33	7.72	5.20	5.20	3.37	4.71	4.77

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Rose-coloured Starling *Pastor roseus***

Vagrant; 11 records to date, in most months.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	-	1

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.01, then LBRC

**Dipper *Cinclus cinclus***Vagrant; about 35 records to date, mainly Oct-Apr. Most recent records have been of *C. c. cinclus* (Black-bellied Dipper) but some earlier records apparently involved the British race, *C. c. gularis*.

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC, *C. c. cinclus* (Black-bellied Dipper) BBRC



### Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

Vagrant; 7 records, May-July, the previous last in May 1990.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	-	1
All records required: BBRC					

### Waxwing *Bombycilla garrulus*

Passage migrant and winter visitor, Oct-Apr, with one Jun record. Rare/scarcely most winters but fairly common/common during large-scale irruptions.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Dec 31st	Nov 4th	-	Dec 6th	Nov 6th
Summed Oct-April peaks	1805	37	0	6	33
Number of sites	84	10	0	5	9
Last date	Apr 23rd	Jan 25th	-	Mar 20th	Mar 23rd
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	12.8	1.1	-	1.2	1.0
% of recording weeks	0.7	0.05	-	0.1	0.04
Mean peak count	1.61	0.01	-	0.01	0.02

Records required: site monthly max (+ date) during invasions, all records in other years.

### Eurasian Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*

Scarce/fairly common local resident in the south-west.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	1.1	1.1	2.3	3.6	4.1
% of recording weeks	0.04	0.05	1.4	2.1	1.8
Mean peak count	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.05
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
No. of sites	21	20	18	8	12

Trend 1990-2000: Increasing and spreading north and east.

All records required.

### Eurasian Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*

Common resident and partial migrant. Mostly *C. f. britannica* but a few records of *C. f. familiaris*.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	11.7	14.9	12.8	6.0	11.2
% of recording weeks	1.0	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.3
Mean peak count	0.12	0.17	0.13	0.05	0.12
	Mean	Mean			
Mean	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998
Ring Index	0.15	0.25	0.25	0.15	0.17
(% of passerine total)				0.21	0.21

Trend 1990-2000:

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; nestbox records, coastal passage records.

**Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina***

Rare passage migrant May-Oct, though mainly Aug-Sep; exceptional inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	2	-	1	-
All records required: LBRC					

**Aquatic Warbler *Acrocephalus paludicola***

Vagrant; 2 records, in Sep 1971 and Oct 1979.

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC

**Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus***

Common summer visitor and passage migrant.

Extreme dates: Mar 23rd-Oct 13th.

Extreme dates: Mar 23rd-Oct 15th.							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
First date	Apr 17th	Apr 12th	Apr 7th	Apr 5th	Mar 23rd		
CBC/WBS terrs, 5 sites:	37	33	31	45	41		
Last date	Sep 23rd	Sep 7th	Sep 6th	Sep 25th	Sep 30th		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
% of BBS squares	35.7	28.3	28.6	25.0	30.8	26.5	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.26	0.78	0.62	0.38	0.31	0.35	0.35

Trend 1990-2000: currently appears to be stable

Records required: first and last dates, site monthly counts.

**Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum***

Vagrant; only record, one trapped in Sep 1991.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris***

Vagrant.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	1	1	-
All records required: LBRC, RBBP					

**Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus***

Common summer visitor and passage migrant, has increased in the last 10 years.

Extreme dates: Apr 9th-Nov 13th.

Extreme dates, Apr 9th 1967-1968							
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
First date	Apr 20th	Apr 13th	Apr 23rd	Apr 2nd	Apr 23rd		
CBC/WBS territories, 5 sites:	11	12	10	12	11		
Last date	Oct 5th	Sep 28th	Oct 16th	Oct 8th	Nov 9th		
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.61	1.28	0.59	1.32	1.45	2.62	2.19

Trend 1990-2000: currently appears to be stable

Records required: first and last dates; passage details; site monthly max counts.

	Mean	Mean					
	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index	0.38	0.91	0.73	0.70	1.37	0.94	0.73
(% of passerine total)							
Records required: site monthly max counts spring-autumn; all winter records; all records of scarcer races. <i>P c tristis</i> : LBRC							

### Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Very common summer visitor and passage migrant. Exceptional in winter. Extreme dates: Feb 9th-Dec 18th.

		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
First date		Mar 27th	Apr 5th	Mar 22nd	Apr 2nd	Mar 22nd	
CBC territories, 4 sites:		63	62	77	74	61	
Last date		Oct 16th	Sep 29th	Nov 2nd	Dec 18th	Oct 28th	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
% of BBS squares	38.1	43.5	40.8	40.4	44.2	34.7	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	3.95	6.27	4.41	4.22	2.79	2.64	2.72

Trend 1990-2000: currently appears to be stable

Records required: first and last dates; site monthly max counts spring-autumn, all winter records.

### Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*

Common summer visitor and passage migrant. Scarce winter visitor Dec-Mar.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	12.8	13.8	10.5	14.5	17.3		
% of recording weeks	2.3	1.1	0.5	0.9	1.6		
Mean peak count	0.17	0.14	0.10	0.14	0.23		
1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC territories, 4 sites:	6	9	15	10	15		
% of BBS squares	31.0	15.2	24.5	30.8	32.7	32.7	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.69	2.43	1.79	1.99	2.64	2.73	2.44

Trend 1990-2000: apparently increasing

Records required: site monthly max counts spring-autumn, all winter records.

### Garden Warbler *Sylvia borin*

Common summer visitor and passage migrant. Exceptional in winter.

Extreme dates: Jan 1st-Nov 27th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
First date	Apr 21st	Apr 12th	Mar 1st	Apr 3rd	Apr 23rd	
CBC territories, 4 sites:	0	0	1	0	1	
Last date	Oct 26th	Aug 25th	Oct 6th	Sep 26th	Sep 25th	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	14.3	13.0	6.1	9.6	7.7	6.1

**Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis*  
 Vagrant; 8 records to date, in Sep-Oct.  
 No records in the report period  
 All records required: **BBRC**

**Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus*  
 Vagrant; now more than 40 records, all in Oct-Nov.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	7	-	8	1

All records required: **LBRC**

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*  
 Rare/scarse passage migrant Sep-Nov; exceptional inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Sep 24th	Oct 19th	Oct 2nd	Oct 16th	Oct 1st
Annual totals	2-3	2	2	4-5	5
Last date	Sep 27th	Oct 21st	Oct 6th	Oct 25th	Nov 8th

All records required.

**Radde's Warbler** *Phylloscopus schwarzi*  
 Vagrant; 4 records, all in Oct, the last in 1990.  
 Has increased and become regular in recent years.  
 All records required: **BBRC** to 31.12.05, then **LBRC**

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*  
 Vagrant; 5 records, all Oct-Nov, the last 2 in Oct 1990.  
 Has increased and become regular in recent years.  
 All records required: **BBRC** to 31.12.05, then **LBRC**

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*  
 Rare/scarse passage migrant. A scarce breeder to the early 20th century but no recent breeding records, despite some territorial males in recent years.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	9	5	4	-	1

Trend 1990-2000: decline in records at both seasons through this period  
 All records required.

**Common Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita*  
 Common summer visitor and passage migrant. Rare/scarse in winter. Mostly *P. c. collybita*. Migrants include *P. c. abietinus* and *P. c. tristis* (Siberian Chiffchaff) which is a rare autumn vagrant and occasional winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	-	2.3	2.3	8.4	2.0
% of recording weeks	-	0.09	0.14	0.6	0.1
Mean peak count	-	0.02	0.02	0.11	0.02

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
CBC territories, 4 sites:		5	4	4	2	1
% of BBS squares	11.9	10.9	14.3	15.4	11.5	16.3

**Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla***

Scarce passage migrant and rare winter visitor. Rare summer records and territorial behaviour, but no proof of breeding.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Jan-Feb records	-	-	1	1	3
Spring totals	ca 15	7	10	13	4
Summer records	-	-	1	-	-
Autumn totals	10	7	11	26	12
Dec records	1	-	-	-	2

All records required: RBBP

**Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus***

Vagrant; 4 records to date, in Apr (1), Jun (1) and Oct (2).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	-	1

All records required: BBRC

**Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus***

Very common resident.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00		
GBFS % of gardens	98.9	98.9	100	98.8	100		
% of recording weeks	89.9	92.4	92.8	91.5	93.2		
Mean peak count	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.9		
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	49	52	50	53	50		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	108.7	85.8	89.5	104.3	112.4	
% of BBS squares	78.6	69.6	81.6	71.2	65.4	61.2	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	6.17	10.56	14.49	13.05	13.00	15.49	13.78

Trend 1990-2000: continuing increase.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; nestbox records.

**Great Tit *Parus major***

Very common resident.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	94.7	95.4	96.5	97.6	98.0	
% of recording weeks	69.5	70.8	70.5	78.0	81.3	
Mean peak count	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.9	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	24	22	25	22	28	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	98.4	96.9	126.9	110.6	162.0
% of BBS squares	57.1	58.7	61.2	53.8	53.8	57.1

**Carrion Crow *Corvus corone***

Common resident, also passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	64	185	209	15	20
Number of sites	3	6	4	2	6

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	21.3	27.6	20.9	27.7	25.5
% of recording weeks	4.1	7.2	8.3	8.3	6.6
Mean peak count	0.44	0.61	0.49	0.61	0.48

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	139.4	167.4	252.3	277.1	260.9
% of BBS squares	78.6	80.4	77.6	80.8	78.8	83.7

Trend 1990-2000: continued increase

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix***

Rare winter visitor and passage migrant. Formerly a common winter visitor, huge decline since 1950.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	2	1	3	3

All records required: LBRC

**Common Raven *Corvus corax***

Resident to 18th century but now a rare vagrant; last record in Feb 1980.

No records during the report period

All records required: LBRC

**Goldcrest *Regulus regulus***

Common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	25.5	16.1	34.9	28.9	39.8
% of recording weeks	4.2	2.2	6.0	3.6	8.0
Mean peak count	0.50	0.23	0.63	0.42	0.74

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	82	182	1122	91	138
Number of sites	11	18	17	6	14

	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	2.02	4.77	0.98	6.65	9.71	3.60	4.71

Trend 1990-2000: no clear trend, numbers recorded heavily influenced by autumn arrivals

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; passage details.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major***

Fairly common resident and partial migrant. British race *D. m. anglicus* predominates but northern race *D. m. major* occurs occasionally.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	23.4	21.8	18.6	31.3	29.6	
% of recording weeks	6.5	6.7	6.4	11.1	12.9	
Mean peak count	0.27	0.28	0.23	0.37	0.49	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Number of sites reported	80	56	44	20	31	
FG ringing totals	15	12	25	23	15	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	7.1	15.2	18.4	11.5	7.7	10.2

Trend 1990-2000: no clear trend, probably stable

Records required: monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere; all confirmed records of *D. m. major*.

**Lesser Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos minor***

Scarce resident.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of sites reported	19	18	18	10	11

Trend 1990-2000:

All records required.

**Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus***

Rare migrant mainly spring/early summer, but recorded Apr-Aug.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	5-6	2	1	-	2

Trend 1990-2000: no clear trend

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

**Isabelline Shrike *Lanius isabellinus***

Vagrant; 3 recent records, Oct-Nov, the last in Oct 1990.

No records during the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio***

Rare passage migrant and occasional summer visitor. Former rare breeder last bred in 1978.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	9	3	4	1	1

Trend 1990-2000: peaked in mid-decade by generally fluctuating numbers

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

**Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor***

Vagrant; 4 records, May (2) and Oct (2), the last in May 1990.

No records during the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Jul 1989.

No records in the report period

All records required: **BBRC**

**European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster***

Vagrant; 24 records, Apr-Sep, the last in Aug 1988.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	1	-	3

All records required: **LBRC**

**European Roller *Coracias garrulus***

Vagrant; 6 records, in May-Jun and Aug-Oct, the last in Oct 1983.

No records in the report period

All records required: **BBRC**

**Hoopoe *Upupa epops***

Rare passage migrant, mainly Apr-Oct, rarely to Dec.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	1	1	1	-

Trend 1990-2000:

All records required: **LBRC, RBBP**

**Wryneck *Jynx torquilla***

Rare passage migrant Apr-May and Aug-Oct, mainly coastal. Bred to early 20th century.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	5	2	-	2	1

All records required: **RBBP**

**Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis***

Fairly common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	1.1	2.3	4.7	6.0	5.1
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of sites reported	65	63	60	28	40
FG ringing totals	7	3	2	1	1
	1995	1996	1997	1998	2000
% of BBS squares	7.1	6.5	8.2	13.5	14.3

Trend 1990-2000: no clear trend, probably stable

Records required: monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.



**Laughing Gull *Larus atricilla***

Vagrant; 6 records, in Feb, Mar, May, Oct (2) and Dec, the previous last in Dec 1984.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	1	-	-
All records required: BBRC					

**Franklin's Gull *Larus pipixcan* \*B**

Vagrant. The May 1998 bird was a new county record.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	-	-
All records required: BBRC					

**Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus***

Scarce visitor throughout the year, but most in autumn.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	ca30	ca40	27	57	ca40
Number of sites	17	14	17	19	12
All records required: RBBP					

**Ring-billed Gull *Larus delawarensis***

Vagrant; 3 records to date, in Apr and Jul-Aug.

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC

**Common Gull *Larus canus***

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Nov-Feb peaks	5,330*	14,740	3,154	10,134	7,341
Number of sites	6	11	11	20	19
*incomplete record					

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	16.0	18.4	10.5	10.8	13.3
% of recording weeks	3.6	3.2	3.6	3.3	3.4
Mean peak count	0.91	0.57	0.34	0.36	0.40
Records required: Site monthly max counts all year.					

**Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans* LBRC**

Rare visitor, mainly autumn and winter

No accepted records in the period

All records required: RBBP

**Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus***

Present all year: scarce but increasing Dec-Feb, common passage Mar-May and Aug-Nov. Many immatures summer Jun-Jul; increasing numbers now breed. Most records involve the British race *L f graellsii* but the Scandinavian races *L f intermedius* / *fuscus* also occur: mainly summer/autumn but winter records are increasing.

**Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus***

Rare passage migrant, mainly autumn.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	1	-

All records required: LBRC

**Grey Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius***

Rare passage migrant, mainly autumn, exceptional in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	3	-	1	2

All records required: LBRC

**Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus***

Generally scarce but exceptionally fairly common autumn passage migrant. Rare in winter and spring. Exceptional inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Aug 31st	Aug 5th*	Aug 30th	Aug 3rd	Aug 25th
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	8	24	11	123	22
Number of sites	4	8	5	8	6
Last date	Oct 5th	Nov 11th	Nov 15th	20 Nov	Dec 10th

\* 3 at Nene mouth Jun 27th

All records required.

**Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus***

Fairly common/common autumn passage migrant. Rare in winter and spring and inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Jul 25th	Jul 21st	Jul 20th	Jul 28th	Jun 3rd
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	229	351	269	345	223
Number of sites	8	21	10	11	15
Last date	Nov 19th	Dec 28th	Dec 6th	Nov 14th	Nov 24th

Records required: all records inland; on the coast, all records Nov-Jun, site monthly max counts outside this period.

**Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus***

Rare/scarce passage migrant, Jul-Nov. Rare inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	15	20	9	28	9
Number of sites	4	4	5	4	4

All records required: LBRC

**Great Skua *Stercorarius skua***

Fairly common autumn passage migrant, but rare in winter and spring. Occasionally seen heading inland from the coast. There has been a large increase in records in recent years.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Aug 24th	Aug 3rd	Jul 31st	Sep 8th	Aug 2nd
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	149	145	163	101	53
Number of sites	9	11	8	6	8
Last date	Nov 13th	Nov 23rd	Nov 15th	Nov 14th	Dec 9th

All records required.

Ringling totals: FG	2	2	2	1	5	
Ringling totals: pulli	0	0	9	8	9	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	120.6	100.0	75.7	85.8	94.1
% of BBS squares	57.1	47.8	53.1	38.5	42.3	42.9

Trend 1990-2000: Steady decline.

Records required: first and last dates; passage counts; site monthly max counts.

#### Yellow-billed Cuckoo *Coccyzus americanus*

Vagrant; 2 records, 1 found dead in Oct 1978 and 1 seen in Oct 1987.

No records in the report period

All records required: **BBRC**

#### Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

Fairly common/common resident and partial migrant. British race *T.a.alba* predominates but Continental race *T.a.guttata* Dark-breasted Barn Owl is a vagrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	1.1	1.1	3.5	2.4	6.1
% of recording weeks	0.5	1.0	1.9	1.0	1.8
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling totals: FG	22	22	28	23	19
Ringling totals: pulli	241	199	251	264	250
Number of sites recorded	215	290	128	138	146

Trend 1990-2000: Fluctuates with prey cycles, but generally stable

Records required: all records including nestbox schemes (number of boxes available, number used, outcome if known). *T.a.guttata*: **BBRC**

#### Eurasian Scops Owl *Otus scops*

Vagrant; only record, 1 found dead in Apr 1977.

No records in the report period

All records required: **BBRC**

#### Snowy Owl *Nyctea scandiaca*

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Dec 1990, relocated at another site Dec 1990-Mar 1991.

No records in the report period

All records required: **BBRC**

#### Little Owl *Athene noctua*

Fairly common introduced resident.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling totals: FG	2	2	1	2	4
Ringling totals: pulli	6	5	10	13	26
Number of sites recorded	ca 60	65	51	42	38

Trend 1990-2000: under-recorded but possibly declining

All records required.

**Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto***

Very common resident.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	98.9	97.9	96.5	95.2	96.9	
% of recording weeks	81.8	85.6	83.4	82.3	79.2	
Mean peak count	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.6	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Summed peaks	982	2,633	724	437	712	
Number of sites	16	10	14	10	14	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	105.2	129.0	101.5	102.7	109.9
% of BBS squares	61.9	56.5	67.3	50.0	57.7	59.2

Trend 1990-2000: Has expanded its range to almost every hamlet and farmstead

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur***

Fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant. Exceptional in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 20th	Apr 24th	Apr 22nd	Apr 22nd	Apr 18th
CBC Territories (4 sites):	16	10	8	15	7
Summed Apr-Jun peaks	382	151	82	68	60
Number of sites	31	46	27	19	20
Last date	Sep 17th	Sep 26th	Sep 21st	Oct 6th	Sep 15th

Trend 1990-2000: A marked decline in recent years.

Records required: first and last dates; passage counts; site monthly max counts in summer, all records in winter.

**Rose-ringed Parakeet *Psittacula krameri***

Rare. Vagrant from feral populations.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	-	1

All records required: LBRC

**Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius***

Vagrant; 2 records, in May 1971 and Jul 1974.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus***

Fairly common/common(?) summer visitor.

Extreme dates: Apr 4th-Oct 25th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 4th	April 13th	Apr 22nd	Apr 14th	Apr 16th
CBC Territories (4 sites):	8	5	4	5	5
Summed Jul-Sep peaks	9	10	3	7	4
Last date	Sep 16th	Sep 11th	Oct 4th	Sep 12th	Jul 23rd

**Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis***

Vagrant; 3 records to date, in May (1) and Aug (2).

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC**

**Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola***

Passage migrant, usually rare in spring and scarce in autumn.

Extreme dates: Apr 17th-Oct 23rd.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	May 4th	Apr 24th	May 9th	May 16th	May 5th
Mar-Jun totals	4	5	6	3	3
Jul-Nov totals	33	13	12	14	15
Last date	Sep 14th	Sep 24th	Sep 9th	Oct 10th	Sep 20th

Trend 1990-2000: probably stable

All records required.

**Common Redshank *Tringa totanus***

Common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Relatively small numbers occur inland where it is a scarce breeder. Races involved are *T t brittanica* (British), *T t totanus*, (Continental) and *T t robusta* (Icelandic).

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber: winter	1198 (Ja)	1591 (D)	2094 (F)	3041 (D)	2376 (F)
(Lincs) Wash: autumn	2210 (S)	3114 (O)	3308 (S)	2115 (O)	2744 (O)
spring	1378 (Mr)	1780 (Mr)	3252 (Mr)	2521 (Ap)	2395 (Ap)

Inland sites	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Apr-Jun peaks	27	27	28	10	52
Number of sites	8	7	10	3	7
Breeding pairs reported	6	3	-	2	2
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	53	24	43	62	185
Number of sites	8	4	9	8	8

Trend 1990-2000: remains a scarce breeder

Records required: all breeding records(site, number of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Turnstone *Arenaria interpres***

Fairly common/common passage migrant and winter visitor. Rare inland.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	190 (D)	280 (Ja)	492 (Ja*)	471 (D)	448 (Ja)
(Lincs) Wash	659 (S)	581 (Ja)	479 (S)	890 (Ja)	662 (S)

\* and March

Records required: all inland records, monthly max counts at coastal sites.

**Wilson's Phalarope *Phalaropus tricolor***

Vagrant; 9 records, in Jun (2) and Aug-Nov (7), the last in Jun 1987.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC**

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total birds Jan-Feb	16	2	13	17	19
Number of sites	13	2	7	6	5
Summed Jul-Oct peaks	111	103	89	135	84
Number of sites	31	25	25	27	18
Total birds Nov-Dec	6	8	24	11	24

Trend 1990-2000: generally more widespread, possibly more birds wintering  
Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

#### **Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria*

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Aug 1963.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

#### **Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*

Passage migrant, rare/scarse in spring but fairly common in autumn. Rare but regular in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Spring passage total birds	4	5	93	3	3
WeBS peak (Lincs) Wash	19 (S)	5 (Au)	85 (Ap)	106 (F)	20 (Jy)
Autumn first date	Jul 9th	Jul 2nd	Jul 16th	Jul 18th	Jul 4th
Summed inland peaks	12	12	1	12	4
Number of sites	4	6	1	4	3
Last date	Nov 11th	Dec 23rd	Dec 6th	Dec 12th	Sep 29th

Records required: Monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.

#### **Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

Passage migrant, scarce in spring, fairly common in autumn; occasional in winter.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
WeBS peak counts					
(Lincs) Humber	1 (S)	13 (S)	164 (Ap)	53 (Au)	29 (S)
(Lincs) Wash	160 (S)	159 (S)	221 (Au)	246 (Au)	313 (S)
Inland sites	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Spring passage total birds	6	6	9	4	86
Autumn first date	Jul 18th	Jul 4th	Jul 2nd	Jul 9th	Jul 2nd
Summed inland peaks	32	56	43	37	35
Number of sites	11	10	13	7	13
Last date	Nov 3rd	Oct 1st	Nov*	Oct*	Nov 12th

\* exact date not given

Records required: first and last records; all inland records, monthly max counts at coastal sites.

#### **Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*

Vagrant; 8 records, May-Oct, the last in Jun 1990.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Dartford Warbler *Sylvia undata***

Vagrant; only record, 1 trapped in Jun 1984.

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

**Subalpine Warbler *Sylvia cantillans***

Vagrant; 6 records to date, all in May-Jun.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

**Sardinian Warbler *Sylvia melanocephala***

Vagrant; 2 records of long-staying males, in Jun-Sep 1979 and Jul-Aug 1986.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata***

Vagrant; 2 records; the first was 1 shot in Nov 1909.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	-	-	-

All records required: BBRC

**Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella naevia***

Scarce/fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant. Considerable decline in the last 20 years.

Extreme dates: Mar 23rd-Oct 21st.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 16th	Apr 13th	Apr 12th	Apr 11th	Mar 23rd
Reeling males reported	31	21	29	29	17
Number of sites reported	23	14	15	18	11
FG ringing total	5	2	4	3	4
Last date	Sep 28th	Sep 6th	Oct 3rd	Jul 19th	Jul 30th

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuating; possibly stabilising?

All records required.

**River Warbler *Locustella fluviatilis*\*B**

Vagrant; first record May 1998.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	-	-

All records required: BBRC

**Savi's Warbler *Locustella luscinioides***

Vagrant; 6 records to date, in May-Jun (3) and Aug-Sep (3).

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC, RBBP

**Booted Warbler *Hippolais caligata***

Vagrant; only record, 1 trapped in Oct 1980.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

	Mean 1976/80	Mean 1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index (% of passerine total)	0.74	0.84	0.69	0.45	0.49	0.58	0.38

Trend 1990-2000: slight decline

Records required: first and last dates; site monthly max counts spring-autumn, all winter records.

### Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*

Rare coastal passage migrant Aug-Dec, though mainly Aug-Sep.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	3	-	-	4	1

All records required: LBRC

### Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*

Common summer visitor and passage migrant. Extreme dates: Apr 4th-Nov 14th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
First date	Apr 19th	Apr 26th	Apr 23rd	Apr 18th	Apr 23rd	
CBC territories, 4 sites:	18	14	22	9	14	
Last date	Oct 2nd	Oct 1st	Oct 2nd	Oct 26th	Oct 1st	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	21.4	19.6	14.3	21.2	15.4	24.5

	Mean 1976/80	Mean 1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index (% of passerine total)	0.84	1.49	1.23	0.77	0.49	0.68	0.69

Trend 1990-2000: currently appears to be stable

Records required: first and last dates; site monthly max counts spring-autumn, all records outside this period.

### Common Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

Very common summer visitor & passage migrant. Exceptional in winter. Has recovered from a marked decline in late 1960s and early 1970s. Extreme dates: Feb 26th-Nov 12th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
First date	Apr 15th	Apr 13th	Apr 16th	Apr 1st	Mar 23rd	
CBC/WBS territories, 5 sites:	151	158	124	134	117	
Last date	Sep 28th	Sep 27th	Oct 8th	Sep 6th	Sep 29th	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	82.4	81.0	83.1	91.7	90.1
% of BBS squares	69.0	73.9	75.5	71.2	75.0	73.5

	Mean 1976/80	Mean 1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling Index (% of passerine total)	2.06	3.55	3.64	2.42	1.42	1.87	2.32

Trend 1990-2000: currently appears to be stable

Records required: first and last dates; site monthly max counts spring-autumn; all winter records.



**House Martin *Delichon urbica***

Very common summer visitor and passage migrant, sometimes remaining to early winter.

Extreme dates: Mar 25th-Dec 20th.

Extreme dates: Mar 28th Dec 28th							
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
First date		Apr 9th	Mar 30th	Apr 4th	Apr 2nd	Apr 17th	
% of BBS squares	38.1	32.6	32.7	11.5	26.9	38.8	
Last date		Oct 20th	Nov 8th	Nov 1st	Oct 23rd	Nov 4th	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	0.28	1.02	3.64	4.25	0.73	0.76	2.68

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuates, probably stable

Records required: first and last dates; regular colony counts from defined areas; passage details.

**Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica***

Vagrant; 10 records to date, in Apr-May (4) and Oct-Nov (6).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	2	-
All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC					

**Cetti's Warbler *Cettia cetti***

Vagrant; 7 records to date, in Mar-Jul and Sep-Oct.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	2	1	-	-
All records required: LBRC, RBBP					

**Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus***

Common resident and partial migrant. All *A. c. rosaceus* apart from one record of Northern Long-tailed Tit *A.c.caudatus* in Nov 1872.

		95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens		52.1	52.9	59.3	54.2	65.3	
% of recording weeks		11.5	10.3	12.7	11.7	17.1	
Mean peak count		3.8	3.2	4.5	3.1	4.8	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
% of BBS squares	19.0	15.2	22.4	5.8	15.4	18.4	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	0.88	1.20	1.39	1.64	1.20	2.00	2.26

Trend 1990-2000: increasing.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year. *A c caudatus* (Northern Long-tailed Tit) BBRC

**Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides***

Vagrant; 10 records, Aug-Sep, the last in Sep 1984.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.06, then LBRC

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Nov 12th	Oct 9th	Oct 7th	Oct 2nd	Oct 19th
Summed Aug-May peaks	18	95	55	151	56
Number of sites	3	5	3	7	4
Last date	Apr 21st	May 10th	May 5th	May 23rd	May 3rd
All records required.					

### **Sand Martin *Riparia riparia***

Common summer visitor and passage migrant. Large decline in 1970s and 1980s, some recovery since.

Extreme dates: Mar 7th-Nov 20th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
First date	Mar 25th	Mar 16th	Mar 14th	Mar 20th	Mar 7th		
Colonies reported:	5	5	5	3	2		
Total holes/pairs	ca 1860	ca 1020	ca 750	142	ca 80		
Summed Apr-Jun peaks	ca 2000	ca 1420	ca 1588	479	ca 3400		
Autumn roosts reported	5	4	2	-	-		
Summed roost peaks	42,000	8,200	9,500	-	-		
Last date	Oct 21st	Oct 6th	Sep 16th	Oct 2nd	Oct 14th		
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	3.20	2.10	4.61	4.24	3.13	1.84	2.95

Trend 1990-2000: breeding colonies are under-recorded, no clear trend

Records required: first and last dates; breeding colony counts; site monthly max counts in summer; passage details, including passage roost counts.

### **Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica***

Very common summer visitor and passage migrant. Exceptional in winter but recorded in most months.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000		
First date	Mar 13th	Mar 11th	Mar 19th	Apr 4th	Mar 7th		
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	4	6	6	7	8		
Summed Sep peaks	6863	2956	3530	2358	6824		
No of sites	14	12	10	6	7		
Last date	Nov 6th	Dec 2nd	Oct 24th	Dec 1st	Nov 14th		
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
BBS Index	100	97.3	125.0	93.0	107.7	140.7	
% of BBS squares	83.3	80.4	71.4	69.2	80.8	75.5	
	Mean	Mean					
Ringling Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	6.02	2.67	1.21	1.13	1.05	1.43	1.27

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuates, but generally stable

Records required: first and last dates; passage details including roost counts.

**Bearded Tit *Panurus biarmicus***

Scarce resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Formerly bred commonly in the Fens to the early 19th century. Regular breeding since 1968.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Breeding pairs (min)	6	5-6	8	3	3
Aug-Nov totals	61	11	29	11	10
Total number of sites	3	2	3	5	2

Trend 1990-2000: apparently stable

Records required: breeding records (number of pairs/nests); monthly max counts all year at regular sites, all other records. **RBBP**

**Short-toed Lark *Calandrella brachydactyla***

Vagrant; 3 records to date, 1 in Jun (at sea) and the others in Sep-Oct.

No records in the report period

All records required: **LBRC**

**Wood Lark *Lullula arborea***

Scarce resident and passage migrant. Bred to 1959 and from 1984, steadily increasing and spreading.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Pairs/singing males	ca 10	30-37*	31-32	35	-†
Number of sites	6	5	8	2	-
Total of sites recorded	10	12	13	8	8

\* see paper in this report.

† no report from Laughton Forest

All records required: **RBBP**

**Sky Lark *Alauda arvensis***

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor. Breeding numbers have declined in recent years.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	7779	4552	1948	1233	653	
Number of sites	15	29	9	9	12	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	41	52	53	47	53	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	110.6	84.8	79.6	70.5	74.2
% of BBS squares	97.6	93.5	95.9	92.3	94.2	91.8

Trend 1990-2000: decline possibly slowing or stabilising

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Shore Lark *Eremophila alpestris***

Normally scarce winter visitor, fairly common in some winters. Exceptional inland.

	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	1.81	5.44	6.96	6.66	8.38	7.80	7.79

Trend 1990-2000: continuing increase

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; nestbox records.

#### Coal Tit *Periparus ater*

Common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	52.1	79.3	60.5	71.1	67.3
% of recording weeks	23.9	38.1	30.1	37.7	34.5
Mean peak count	0.9	1.5	1.0	1.4	1.4

	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	0.36	0.52	1.07	1.31	2.01	0.90	0.88

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuating around a probably stable mean

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; nestbox records, coastal passage records.

#### Willow Tit *Poecile montanus*

Fairly common/common resident, becoming local.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	12.8	10.3	7.0	6.0	13.3
% of recording weeks	6.0	4.8	2.9	0.9	6.1
Mean peak count	0.19	0.18	0.09	0.10	0.21

	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	0.35	0.29	0.26	0.13	0.08	0.18	0.11

Trend 1990-2000: continuing decline.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year; all breeding records.

#### Marsh Tit *Poecile palustris*

Fairly common but local resident, mainly in the south-west.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	4.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.1
% of recording weeks	1.8	2.6	2.6	2.4	1.3
Mean peak count	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.04

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
No. of sites	15	10	10	5	5

	Mean	Mean					
Ringing Index	1976/80	1986/90	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(% of passerine total)	0.05	0.06	0.16	0.11	0.15	0.10	0.07

Trend 1990-2000: now very localised, scarce beyond the south-west.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year plus all breeding records from SW; all records elsewhere.

**Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes***

Vagrant; 7 records, Mar-Apr (2), Sep (4) and Nov (1), the last in Sep 1976.

No records during the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Western Jackdaw *Corvus monedula***

*C m spermologus* very common resident, also passage migrant and winter visitor.

Nordic Jackdaw *C.m.monedula* is a rare or overlooked winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
Summed Nov-Feb peaks	4,095	3,858	15,273	6,656	7,537	
Number of sites	9	10	12	6	6	
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	44.7	41.4	37.2	38.6	48.0	
% of recording weeks	14.8	15.7	14.3	18.5	18.7	
Mean peak count	1.50	1.64	1.33	1.48	1.83	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	9	12	16	22	19	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	59.1	85.1	75.6	101.3	66.8
% of BBS squares	52.4	63.0	61.2	50.0	57.7	67.3
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
FG ringing totals	5	5	8	7	2	
Pullus ringing totals	61	65	46	67	85	

Trend 1990-2000: stable or increasing slightly

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Rook *Corvus frugilegus***

Very common resident, also passage migrant and winter visitor. Breeding numbers have declined in last 50 years.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
Summed Nov-Feb peaks	11,300	10,750	16,600	4,450	4,918	
Number of sites	11	13	11	6		
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	20.2	21.8	14.0	12.0	21.4	
% of recording weeks	5.2	5.8	2.9	4.7	5.2	
Mean peak count	0.89	0.68	0.33	0.43	1.08	
Nest Counts	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
North Lincs (1 rookery)	148	92	97	73	119	
Mid Lincs (17 rookeries)	nc	nc	nc	265	308	
South Lincs (6 rookeries)	nc	nc	110	174	193	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	76.1	83.7	76.3	108.1	63.9
% of BBS squares	61.9	65.2	53.1	59.6	57.7	63.3

Trend 1990-2000: apparently stable

Records required: annual nest totals from selected rookeries; site monthly max counts all year.

**Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor***

Rare passage migrant and rare winter visitor Oct-Apr. Exceptional in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	1	3	4	9	3

Trend 1990-2000: no clear trend

All records required: LBRC.

**Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator***

Vagrant; 9 records to date, in May-Sep.

No records during the report period

All records required: LBRC

**Magpie *Pica pica***

Very common resident.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	54.3	58.6	59.3	63.9	64.3
% of recording weeks	25.1	29.0	27.2	29.1	37.9
Mean peak count	1.30	1.48	1.43	1.60	1.66

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	21	18	19	21	16

	1996	1997	1998*	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	194	80	-	17	12
Number of sites	3	3	-	2	5

\* no magpie records submitted to the database for this period.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	132.8	122.6	116.4	142.1	152.7
% of BBS squares	52.4	63.0	53.1	51.9	59.6	57.1

Trend 1990-2000: increasing.

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius***

Common resident, irregular migrant and winter visitor, when sometimes fairly common on the coast and other non-breeding areas.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	13.8	20.7	10.5	9.6	14.3
% of recording weeks	5.5	8.5	3.7	2.7	7.4
Mean peak count	0.24	0.41	0.20	0.17	0.31

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	40	27	63*	19	9
Number of sites	11	5	9	5	4
FG ringing totals	2	12	8	5	10

\* one site held 40 birds

Records required: monthly max counts at regularly watched sites, all records away from breeding areas.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	May 20th	May 14th	May 12th	May 20th	Apr 30th
Churring males	22	24	26	34	3
Number of sites	5	5	2	5	5
Last date	Aug 7th	Jul 31st	Nov 21st	Aug 4th	Aug 9th
Trend 1990-2000: probably stable, though poorly recorded in some years					
All records required.					

#### Common Swift *Apus apus*

Very common summer visitor and passage migrant.

Extreme dates: Apr 5th-Nov 10th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
First date	Apr 17th	May 2nd	Apr 5th	Apr 27th	Apr 29th	
Summed Jun-Jul peaks	4880	4175	1419	1000	731	
Number of sites	7	6	8	2	8	
Last date	Oct 12th	Sep 30th	Sep 18th	Oct 16th	Oct 5th	
Ringling totals: FG	306	417	86	200	178	
Ringling totals: pulli	90	43	95	93	64	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	71.4	60.1	84.7	132.8	108.3
% of BBS squares	47.6	41.3	42.9	46.2	44.2	44.9

Trend 1990-2000: Poorly recorded, no clear trend

Records required: first and last dates; passage and large movement counts; site monthly max in summer, all records outside this period.

#### Alpine Swift *Apus melba*

Vagrant; 10 records to date, in Mar-Aug (9) and Oct (1).

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

#### Little Swift *Apus affinis* \*B

Vagrant; first record, June 1998.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	-	-
All records required: BBRC					

#### Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

Fairly common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Nov-Feb peaks	23	37	17	30	46
Number of sites	22	32	15	20	33
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Breeding pairs reported	5	7	8	6	4
FG ringing totals	6	5	1	2	5

Trend 1990-2000: no clear trend, probably stable, though increasing in some catchments?

All records required.

### Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*

Common resident.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	7.4	10.3	12.8	9.6	10.2
% of recording weeks	0.8	1.1	1.5	0.7	1.2
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling totals: FG	9	10	4	4	2
Ringling totals: pulli	76	40	58	37	62
Number of sites recorded	ca 40	44	27	34	14

Trend 1990-2000: under-recorded, stable or slight decline?

Records required: monthly max counts at logged sites, all records elsewhere, all breeding records.

### Long-eared Owl *Asio otus*

Rare/scarce resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	37	23	19	14	24
Number of sites	14	13	14	8	9
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Breeding sites	4	1	4	1	-
Number of pairs	4	1	4	1	-

Trend 1990-2000: numbers fluctuate but apparently stable

All records required.

### Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

Rare resident and scarce/fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	33	35	27	95	36
Number of sites	17	21	25	42	31
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
June-July totals	9	5	1	1	3
Number of sites	7	4	1	1	3

Trend 1990-2000: numbers fluctuate but apparently stable

All records required.

### Tengmalm's Owl *Aegolius funereus*

Vagrant; only record, 1 shot in Oct 1880.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

### European Nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Scarce summer visitor and rare passage migrant.

Extreme dates: May 8th-Nov 28th.



**Puffin *Fratercula arctica***

Rare passage migrant and winter visitor, but can occur in any month. Exceptional inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	5	1	-	4	1
All records required: LBRC					

**Pallas's Sandgrouse *Syrhaptes paradoxus***

Vagrant; none recorded since 1899.

All records required: BBRC

**Feral Pigeon *Columba livia***

Common and widespread resident.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed peaks	1606	4535	1070	1900	427
Number of sites	8	9	8	3	9
	1995	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	26.2	30.4	30.6	32.7	32.7

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Stock Dove *Columba oenas***

Common resident and winter visitor.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Summed peaks	991	557	1525	236	265	
Number of sites	20	12	18	8	14	
Ringing totals: FG	3	5	3	2	8	
Ringing totals: pulli	15	15	15	10	11	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	90.6	79.4	113.3	53.8	53.8
% of BBS squares	57.1	52.2	49.0	44.2	50.0	53.1

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus***

Very common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	64.9	70.1	73.3	79.5	84.7	
% of recording weeks	27.6	28.8	32.2	32.1	42.0	
Mean peak count	2.1	3.6	3.1	3.1	2.8	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
CBC Territories, 4 sites:	56	55	67	96	88	
Summed peaks	8,110	13,565	27,500	7,514	11,017	
Number of sites	14	23	21	11	19	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BBS Index	100	109.0	83.0	105.4	124.0	114.7
% of BBS squares	97.6	97.8	100	100	100	100

Trend 1990-2000: steady increase

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 12th	Apr 27th	May 1st	Apr 26th	Apr 21st
Summed Mar-Jun peaks	54	12	689	11	28
Number of sites	6	6	10	4	5
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	39	49	6	25	64
Number of sites	5	8	3	7	6
Last date	Oct 5th	Oct 12th	Sep 30th	Oct 10th	Nov 6th

Trend 1990-2000: numbers fluctuate but possibly declining.  
All records required.

#### **Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii***

Rare passage migrant in May and Jul-Sep.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	3	-	3

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

#### **Common Guillemot *Uria aalge***

Fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor but can occur in any month.  
Rare inland. Races involved are northern, *U a aalgae* and southern, *U a albionis*.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	23	255	1	34	1,001*
Number of sites	4	9	1	3	2

\* includes 1000 at Roaring Middle, The Wash

Records required: all records inland, site monthly max on coast.

#### **Razorbill *Alca torda***

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, but can occur in any month. Exceptional inland. Races involved are northern, *A t torda*, and southern, *A t islandica*.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	26	32	20	8	14

All records required.

#### **Black Guillemot *Cephus grylle***

Vagrant; 11 records, Aug-Feb, the last in Nov 1985.

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC

#### **Little Auk *Alle alle***

Scarce/common passage migrant and winter visitor. Rare inland and exceptional in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	1821	59	54	17	179
Number of sites	15	9	6	4	9

All records required.

**White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus***

Vagrant; 25 records to date, in May-Oct.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	-	1	-

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

**Sandwich Tern *Sterna sandvicensis***

Passage migrant, scarce in spring but common in autumn. Rare inland. Occasional pairs in summer, but only proved to breed in 1950.

Extreme dates: Mar 12th-Dec12th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 10th	Apr 27th	Apr 1st	Apr 24th	Apr 24th
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	691	1640	503	989	1930
Number of sites	14	15	11	24	28
Last date	Oct 16th	Oct 19th	Oct 4th	Oct 10th	Dec12th

Records required: first and last dates; all records inland; all breeding records; on the coast, monthly max in autumn, all records outside autumn passage.

**Lesser Crested Tern *Sterna bengalensis***

Vagrant; only 1 record, in Jun 1993.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Common Tern *Sterna hirundo***

Fairly common summer visitor and common passage migrant. Most breeding colonies are now inland.

Extreme dates: Mar 19th-Nov 4th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 4th	Apr 8th	Apr 23rd	Apr 6th	Apr 12th
Breeding pairs	73	13	29	2	14
Number of sites	8	7	6	2	2
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	723	888	928	1099	2685
Number of sites	25	23	21	31	26
Last date	Oct 5th	Oct 12th	Oct 11th	Oct 10th	Oct 8th
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling totals: FG	0	1	0	0	1
Ringling totals: pulli	99	129	73	73	28

Trend 1990-2000: breeding numbers under-recorded, probably stable

Records required: first and last dates; all breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts.

**Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea***

Fairly common/common passage migrant and sporadic breeder. Mainly coastal but there is a regular inland passage in spring.

Extreme dates: Apr 11th-Nov 6th.

**Sabine's Gull *Xema sabini***

Rare autumn passage migrant, from Jul-Oct. Exceptional inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	4	1	1	1
All records required: LBRC					

**Little Tern *Sternula albifrons***

Fairly common summer visitor and passage migrant. Occasional inland.

Extreme dates: Mar 15th-Oct 20th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 21st	Apr 27th	May 3rd	Mar 15th	Apr 21st
Summed site max	249	85	109	229	118
Number of sites	10	12	10	15	16
Breeding prs reported	13	-	-	15*	-
Min young fledged	8	-	-	-	-
Last date	Sep 5th	Oct 20th	Sep 13th	Sep 26th	Sep 29th

\* predated by crows

Trend 1990-2000: not known: breeding now under-reported

Records required: first and last dates; all inland records; all breeding records (site, no. of pairs/nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts.

**Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica***

Vagrant; 5 records, Aug-Oct, the last in Sep 1978.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia***

Vagrant; 9 records to date, in May-Jul (8) and Sep (1).

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Jun 1987.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Black Tern *Chlidonias niger***

Fairly common passage migrant from spring to autumn. Bred commonly in the Fens before drainage, with last breeding record in mid-19th century.

Extreme dates: Apr 1st-Nov 10th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 21st	Apr 26th	Apr 29th	May 3rd	May 5th
Summed Mar-Jun peaks	23	109	47	6	44
Number of sites	12	10	9	2	7
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	146	77	40	230	75
Number of sites	14	13	13	13	11
Last date	Oct 19th	Oct 8th	Sep 20th	Sep 29th	Sep 30th

Trend 1990-2000: numbers fluctuate but probably stable

All records required: RBBP

**Great Black-backed Gull *Larus marinus***

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor with some immatures remaining in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May summed peaks	2,080	1,983	922	3,193	3,208
Number of sites	8	12	9	20	28

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Little Gull *Hydrocoloeus minutus***

Fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor, occurring in all months.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	32	16	32	51	27
Number of sites	9	10	6	5	8
Total sites all year	26	22	11	10	14

All records required: RBBP

**Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Mar 1979.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus***

Very common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Nov-Feb peaks	9,500*	52,740	19,975	39,518	52,060
Number of sites	5	17	13	22	27
Number of breeding sites	9	8	5	3	3

\*incomplete record

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	59.6	55.2	37.2	38.6	35.7
% of recording weeks	20.0	17.5	14.0	16.4	13.4
Mean peak count	5.7	4.9	3.3	3.3	3.2

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling totals: FG	258	14	4	119	22

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Ringling totals: pulli	350	51	195	3	64	

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	50.0	39.1	28.6	23.1	21.2	28.6

Trend 1990-2000: Total numbers wintering have increased but birds are now scarcer inland; summering/breeding numbers may be declining.

Records required: All breeding records (site, nest counts or estimate of pairs); site monthly max counts all year

**Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla***

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor with smaller numbers in summer. Scarce inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	1,398	696	83	2,955	924
Number of sites	7	7	4	4	5

Records required: all breeding records, all records inland; monthly max counts at coastal sites all year.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	2,483	1,293	2,052	3,512	2,400
Number of sites	19	14	15	24	27
Breeding sites reported	1	2	-	1	2*
<i>L.f.intermedius</i> annual total	5		12	-	10
<i>L.f.intermedius/fuscus</i>	2	11	3	-	-

\* possible breeding

Trend 1990-2000: steady increase at all seasons, now +/- regular breeder

Records required: all breeding records (number of pairs or nests, outcome if known); all records of scarcer races; site monthly max counts all year.

### **Glaucous Gull *Larus hyperboreus***

Rare/scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, rare in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	6	29	8	9	8
Number of sites	7	17	8	8	7

All records required.

### **Iceland Gull *Larus glaucoideus***

Rare passage migrant and winter visitor Aug-May. Mostly *L g glaucoideus* (Greenland race) but one record of *L g kumlieni* (Baffin island race) in Dec 1992.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	11	16	10	1	4-6
Number of sites	7	6	4	1	2

All records required: LBRC

### **Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis***

Rare/scarce visitor, mainly in autumn.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	ca36	ca25	ca40	ca40	25-30
Number of sites	18	9	14	11	10

Trend 1990-2000: has increased and now more widespread.

All records required: RBBP

### **Herring Gull *Larus argentatus***

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor, increasing numbers breed.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Nov-Feb peaks	9,545	5,832	14,235*	7,097	11,115
Number of sites	9	11	6	18	19

\* 13,000 at one site

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuating, probably stable overall

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Inland sites**

Summed Mar-May peaks	18	20	15	-	17
Number of sites	11	4	5	-	6
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	20	21	3	-	-
Number of sites	6	3	2	-	-

Trend 1990-2000: numbers declining, both coastal and inland

Records required: first and last; all inland records; monthly max counts at coastal sites all year.

**Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata***

Common passage migrant and winter visitor; scarce and local breeder.

WebS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	760 (Ja)	1400 (Mr)	935 (F)	1684 (S)	1542 (S)
(Lincs) Wash	9675 (Au)	4516 (Au)	4256 (S)	4671 (Ap)	5344 (Au)
<b>Inland sites</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>
Summed Apr-Jun peaks	23	49	17	-	11
Number of sites	14	13	9	-	7
Breeding pairs reported	3	5	3	-	2
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	162	13	68	9	94
Number of sites	17	3	7	2	8

Trend 1990-2000: coastal numbers increasing; under-recorded inland.

Records required: all breeding records (site, no of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos***

Fairly common passage migrant, exceptional in winter. Bred in 1979.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Jan-Feb totals	1	3	-	3	-
Summed Apr-May peaks	34	51	67	48	56
Summed Jul-Nov peaks	207	186	187	238	105
Dec totals	-	-	-	-	-
Total number of sites	62	44	48	43	41

Trend 1990-2000: increasing numbers and now more widespread

Records required: first and last dates; all breeding records; all records inland; coastal site monthly max counts.

**Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia***

Vagrant; 3 records, with the previous last in Jun-Aug 1971.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	1	-
All records required: BBRC					

**Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus***

Fairly common autumn passage migrant, scarce in spring and also as a regular winter visitor.

**Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodromus scolopaceus***

Vagrant; 3 records, Jul-Oct, the last in Jul-Aug 1986.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Woodcock *Scolopax rusticola***

Fairly common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed roding peaks	7	25	13	15	15
Number of sites	3	6	4	3	6
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	23	17	16	14	8
Number of sites	7	12	11	10	7

Trend 1990-2000: under-recorded, probably stable

Records required: Site monthly max; all proved breeding records and site roding totals

**Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa***

Common passage migrant and winter visitor. Both the Continental, *L. l. limosa*, and the Icelandic, *L. l. islandica*, occur with the majority being of the latter race.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	254 (Ap)	545 (D)	971 (O)	1469 (O)	1685 (N)
(Lincs) Wash	2772 (S)	4702 (S)	6603 (S)	3652 (Au)	3094 (O)

Trend 1990-2000: continued steep increase

Records required: all breeding/summering records; monthly max counts from regular sites, all records elsewhere. RBBP

**Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Sep 1981.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica***

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor. Scarce inland.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	1354 (F)	1505 (Mr)	2443 (F)	1016 (F)	1483 (F)
(Lincs) Wash	14618 (Au)	9361 (Au)	10080 (S)	4509 (F)	13751 (S)

Records required: all inland records; monthly max counts at coastal sites all year.

**Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus***

Fairly common/common passage migrant, mainly coastal. Exceptional in winter.

WeBS peak counts	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
(Lincs) Humber spring	- (I)	- (I)	19 (My)	29 (My)	5 (My)
(Lincs) Humber autumn	14 (Au)	3 (S)	23 (Au)	28 (Au)	38 (Au)
(Lincs) Wash spring	- (I)	97 (Jn)	93 (Ap)	70 (My)	113 (My)
(Lincs) Wash autumn	163 (Jy)	141 (Jy)	414 (Jy)	115 (S)	149 (Jy)



**Broad-billed Sandpiper *Calidris falcinellus***

Vagrant; 9 records to date, in May (5), Jun (1), Jul (2) and Aug (1).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	-	-	1
All records required: BBRC					

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper *Tryngites subruficollis***

Vagrant; 8 records to date, in May (1) and Aug-Sep (7).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	1	-
All records required: LBRC					

**Ruff *Philomachus pugnax***

Fairly common passage migrant and scarce winter visitor. Bred to 19th century.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	222	61	422	66	197
Number of sites	26	28	34	18	24

Trend 1990-2000: fluctuates: no clear trend

Records required: all breeding records (site, number of pairs or nests, outcome if known); monthly max counts from regularly watched sites, all records elsewhere  
RBBP

**Jack Snipe *Lymnocyrtes minimus***

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor. Probably much under-recorded.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	15	17	26	13	4
Number of sites	11	9	12	8	3

Trend 1990-2000: no clear trend

All records required

**Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago***

Rare breeder, common passage migrant and winter visitor.

Inland sites	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Apr-Jun peaks	88	36	36	7	50
Number of sites	12	10	11	10	13
Drumming birds reported	6	11	4	4	2
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	399	164	245	442	166
Number of sites	11	13	19	19	17

Trend 1990-2000: breeding numbers remain very low

Records required: all proved breeding records/ drumming counts from defined sites; site monthly max counts all year.

**Great Snipe *Gallinago media***

Vagrant; about 24 records, 1 in Mar and the rest in Aug-Oct. Only 4 recent records, the last in Sep 1984.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos*

Vagrant; about 85 records to date, in Apr-Nov.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	-	1	2
All records required: LBRC					

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata*

Vagrant; 2 records, in Sep 1982 and Aug 1985.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*

Passage migrant, rare in spring and scarce/fairly common in autumn. Rare in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Spring total	2	1	4	2	6
Spring sites	2	1	2	2	4
First autumn date	Aug 3rd	Aug 9th	Jul 21st	Aug 18th	Jul 23rd
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	130	27	148	373	66
Number of sites	21	11	20	23	12
Last date	Oct 26th	Oct 10th	Oct 25th	Oct 10th	Sep 13th

All records required.

**Stilt Sandpiper** *Micropalama himantopus*

Vagrant; 2 records, in Jul-Aug 1963 and Aug 1965

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Purple Sandpiper** *Calidris maritima*

Rare/scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly coastal.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Nov 2nd	Aug 18th	Sep 10th	Sep 13th	Oct 8th
Aug-May totals	2	19	7	7	5
Last date	Jan 28th	Jan 26th	Nov 23rd	Mar 29th	Mar 21st

All records required.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina*

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly coastal. Bred to early 20th century and in 1958. *C a alpina* and *C a schinzii* both occur; *C a arctica* probably also occurs.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	7821 (Ja)	10350 (N)	12323 (F)	10512 (N)	9348 (N)
(Lincs) Wash	25082 (N)	23166 (S)	22110 (Ja)	19579 (D)	20707 (My)

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Sanderling *Calidris alba***

Common passage migrant and winter visitor. Scarce inland.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber: autumn	346 (O)	562 (O)	629 (S)	438 (Au)	379 (O)
winter	370 (Mr)	527 (D)	263 (Ja)	343 (Mr)	445 (F)
spring	- ()	- ()	323 (My)	247 (My)	1566 (My)
(Lincs) Wash: autumn	300 (Au)	200 (Au)	215 (Jy)	802 (Jy)	1106 (Au)
spring	- ()	56 (My)	83 (My)	3103 (My)	163 (My)

Records required: all inland records, site monthly max counts from coastal sites all year.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper *Calidris pusilla***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Nov-Dec 1966.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC**

**Little Stint *Calidris minuta***

Passage migrant, rare/scarce in spring and scarce/fairly common in autumn with rare winter records.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Spring total	8	7	-	6	1
Spring sites	4	4	-	3	1
First autumn date	Aug 3rd	Jul 23rd	Jul 21st	Aug 10th	Jul 17th
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	292	13	341	49	29
Number of sites	28	8	26	19	8
Last date	Nov 11th*	Oct 10th	Nov 15th	26th Sep	Oct 22nd

\* 2 late birds on 22/12/1996

All records required.

**Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii***

Rare passage migrant.

Extreme dates: Apr 23rd - Nov 22nd

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	3	5	1	4	3

All records required: **LBRC**

**White-rumped Sandpiper *Calidris fuscicollis***

Vagrant; 11 records to date, in May (1) and Jul-Nov.(10)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	1	-

All records required: **BBRC** to 31.12.05, then **LBRC**

**Baird's Sandpiper *Calidris bairdii***

Vagrant; 3 records, Jul-Sep, the last in Sep 1979.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC**

No of sites:	9*	20	21	24	17
Summed peak Mar-Apr	5140	4054	4765	2405	4025
No of sites:	10	13	11	6	9

\*records incomplete

Trend 1990-2000: now stabilised at this level following an increase in previous decade.

Records required: all late or early records, site monthly max counts.

#### Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

Very common passage migrant and common winter visitor. Rare inland.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	1354 (Mr)	556 (O)	3342 (F)	1375 (Ap)	4017 (Ap)
(Lincs) Wash	7990 (S)	10132 (Ap)	11106 (My)	7290 (Ap)	11683 (S)

Records required: all inland records, monthly max counts all year at coastal sites.

#### Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius*

Vagrant; only 1 record, in May-June 1993.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

#### Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*

Fairly common resident and very common passage migrant and winter visitor. Breeding numbers have decreased in recent years.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	12027 (Ja)	8932 (N)	9672 (F)	19883 (D)	36412 (Ap)
(Lincs) Wash	13478 (N)	7051 (F)	33458 (N)	19830 (Ja)	75812 (N)

Inland sites	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Total number of sites	44	47	49	38	40
Breeding pairs reported	16	29	24	24	6
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	13,809	26,970	13206	17291	16005
Number of autumn sites	23	26	31	24	22

Ringling totals: FG	7	3	53	0	2
Ringling totals: pulli	33	23	22	19	29

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	45.2	26.1	30.6	26.9	21.2	32.7

Trend 1990-2000: breeding numbers still depressed

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year; details of winter influxes

#### Red Knot *Calidris canutus*

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor. Rare inland.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	9160 (N)	18979 (D)	10430 (F)	10140 (N)	13635 (N)
(Lincs) Wash	37626 (O)	25801 (N)	44357 (S)	42671 (O)	59696 (N)

Records required: all inland records; site monthly max counts from coastal sites all year.

**Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus***

Vagrant; mainly spring and summer, occasionally autumn and winter. Bred in 1979.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	-	-	-
All records required: LBRC, RBBP					

**Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii***

Vagrant, only record, 1 in Aug 1981.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus***

Rare/scarce passage migrant, mainly spring.

Extreme dates: Apr 4th-Nov 29th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 22	May 4	Apr 14	May 8	-
Annual totals	107-112	35	9	20	-
Last date	May 19	May 18	May 10	May 8	-

No records for this species in 2000

Trend 1990-2000: no obvious pattern

All records required

**American Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica***

Vagrant; 8-9 records to date, May-Oct

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	1	-	-

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

**Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva***

Vagrant; 4 records to date, in Jul-Aug.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	-	1

All records required: BBRC

**European Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria***

Very common passage migrant and winter visitor, occasional in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
WeBS pk (Lincs) Humber	10467(O)	8741(D)	13804(F)	15387(D)	20485(N)
WeBS pk (Lincs) Wash	5895(N)	5504(D)	20319(D)	16309(Ja)	34321(N)

**Inland sites**

	n/k	Jul 18th	Jul 20th	Jul 29th	Jul 15th
First date	n/k	Jul 18th	Jul 20th	Jul 29th	Jul 15th
Total no of sites recorded	29*	47	29	31	25
Last date	Apr 14th	May 30th	May 5th	Apr 9th	Apr 23rd
Summed peak Aug-Oct	3360*	7600	8174	8502	6040
No of sites:	3*	13	19	15	9
Summed peak Nov-Feb	1223*	7182	17413	25888	12867

**Cream-coloured Courser** *Cursorius cursor*

Vagrant; only 1 record, about 1840.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC**

**Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola*

Vagrant; 4 records, May-Aug, the last in Jul 1981.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC**

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*

Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant since 1950.

Extreme dates: Mar 7th-Nov 29th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Mar 26th	Mar 22nd	Mar 30th	Mar 21st	Mar 17th
Min no of April birds	38	35	32	18	23
Number of sites	14	15	10	7	9
Sites with prob/conf breeding	4	9	4	5	9
Summed Jul-Aug peaks	38	31	33	37	24
Number of sites	13	11	12	8	8
Last date	Sep 22nd	Sep 26th	Sep 10th	Sep 19th	Sep 22nd

Trend 1990-2000: apparently stable

Records required: first and last dates; details of passage; all breeding records; monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.

**Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*

Fairly common resident and common passage migrant, mainly coastal. Breeding has spread to inland sites in last 30 years. Both *C h hiaticula* and *C h tundrae* occur.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber: autumn	586 (A)	641 (S)	508 (S)	1173 (A)	626 (S)
spring	606 (M)	648 (M)	267 (M)	1101 (M)	223 (M)
(Lincs) Wash: autumn	985 (S)	660 (S)	1305 (A)	744 (S)	1112 (S)
spring	- (I)	97 (M)	343 (M)	779 (M)	220 (M)
Inland sites	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Apr-Jun peaks	18	32	30	5	23
Number of sites	6	8	8	10	8
Breeding pairs reported	3	7	4	1	2
Summed Jul-Aug peaks	32	34	23	0	12
Number of sites	5	6	4	0	4

Trend 1990-2000: probably stable, under-reported inland

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Macqueen's Bustard *Chlamydotis macqueenii***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Oct 1847.

No records during the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Great Bustard *Otis tarda***

Former resident, bred to early 1800s, then irregular vagrant, last recorded in 1902.

No records during the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus***

Very common coastal passage migrant/winter visitor and fairly common resident. Scarce inland, but a few breeding records there in last 10 years.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	1472 (O)	1365 (S)	3515 (S)	1896 (S)	3915 (N)
(Lincs) Wash	18196 (S)	13298 (N)	10969 (Au)	11216 (O)	13892 (S)

Inland sites	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Apr-Jun peaks	17	29	29	22	45
Number of sites	10	11	11	10	13
Breeding pairs reported	7	8	5	2	5
Summed Jul-Sep peaks	10	23	30	7	20
Number of sites	6	5	8	4	7

Trend 1990-2000: stable

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus***

Vagrant; 8 records to date, in Dec-Feb (1), Apr-Jun (6) and Sep (1).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	-	-	-

All records required: BBRC

**Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta***

Scarce breeder, fairly common passage migrant, rare in winter and inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	25	13	106	190	n/k
Breeding pairs	-	-	14-15	14-15	ca.56
Chicks raised to fledging	-	-	46	n/k	min 120
No of sites	8	4	6	11	9

Trend 1990-2000: now a regular breeder, continuing to spread and increase

All breeding records, monthly max regular sites, all records elsewhere: RBBP

**Stone-curlew *Burhinus oedipnemus***

Vagrant. Bred to early 1900s and again in 1989.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	-	-	2

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

### Peak counts from Main Sites

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Baston Fen	36 (Jan)	21 (Dec)	2 (Dec)	2 (Mar)	5 (Jan)*
Coronation Channel	39 (Feb)	11 (Jan)	21 (Jan)	24 (Dec)	9 (Aug)*
Grimsthorpe Lake	51 (Jan)	34 (Oct)	23 (Feb)	50 (Dec)	nc
Holywell Lake	36 (Dec)	22 (Oct)	23 (Dec)	35 (Jan)	nc
Kirkby Pits	nc	14 (Apr)	34 (Sep)	30 (Aug)	32 (Oct)
Nocton Fen	53 (Aug)	53 (Sep)	38 (Sep)	76 (Sep)	nc
Marston STW	nc	nc	nc	110 (Feb)	118 (Jan)*
S Fortyfoot Drain	28 (Apr)	37 (Sep)	nc	nc	nc
Tattershall Lakes	nc	11 (Dec)	18 (Sep)	12 (Aug)	30 (Dec)

\*only one count

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
CBC/WBS territories (5 sites)		23	18	16	21	17
% of BBS squares	54.8	39.1	36.7	40.4	42.3	38.8

Trend 1990-2000: Probably stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

### Common Coot *Fulica atra*

Common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

### Peak counts from Main Sites

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Burton Pits	102 (Oct)	81 (Nov)	133 (Nov)	138 (Dec)	51 (Feb)
Grimsthorpe Lake	129 (Feb)	52 (Feb)	237 (Dec)	152 (Nov)	nc
Kirkby-on-Bain Pits	nc	127 (Apr)	408 (Nov)	449 (Nov)	420 (Nov)
Metheringham Fen	70 (Dec)	70 (Nov)	30 (Jan)	33 (Jan)	45 (Jan)
Swanholme Lakes	301 (Jan)	326 (Jan)	199 (Jan)	340 (Dec)	367 (Dec)
Tattershall Lakes	nc	900 (Jan)	300 (Nov)	330 (Nov)	770 (Dec)
Whisby Pits Complex	377 (Oct)	342 (Oct)	284 (Nov)	355 (Dec)	484 (Jan)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
CBC/WBS territories (5 sites)	14	17	16	20	31
% of BBS squares	15.2	18.4	30.8	19.2	22.4

Trend 1990-2000: probably stable

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

### Common Crane *Grus grus*

Vagrant/rare, recorded most months. Bred and common migrant to 16/17th centuries.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	2	-	1	5
All records required: LBRC					

### Little Bustard *Tetrax tetrax*

Vagrant; 6 records, Nov-Jan, the last in Dec 1955.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC



**Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus***

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; recent increase in records. Has summered since 1998.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Aug 8	Jul 14	Jul 21	Jul 18	Jul 10
Aug-May totals	ca 26	min 25	ca 30	ca 36	ca 43
Number of sites/ranges	21	23	39	26	37
Last date	Apr 21	Apr 30	May 16	May 31	May 24th

1st-s bird in moult at Barton June 19th 1997

Trend 1990-2000: Increasing and becoming more widespread.

All records required.

**Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus***

Scarce resident, fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor. Much under-recorded.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed peak counts	55	65	54	57	50
Number of sites	29	23	19	26	20
Breeding reported (sites)	4	4	4	1	-

Trend 1990-2000: benefiting from new wetland reserves, and also better recorded. Records required: all records in summer; site monthly max counts outside this period.

**Spotted Crake *Porzana porzana***

Vagrant; formerly more common on migration and bred to early 20th century.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	1	-	2	-

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

**Little Crake *Porzana parva***

Vagrant; 2 records, in Oct 1869 and 1910.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Corn Crake *Crex crex***

Vagrant. Former summer visitor, declined in 19th century and ceased breeding early 20th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	1	-	4

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

**Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus***

Very common resident and partial migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	8.5	6.9	12.8	13.3	9.2
% of recording weeks	1.5	1.3	1.9	3.6	2.7
Mean peak count	0.12	0.11	0.20	0.24	0.20

**Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus***

Common resident and passage migrant.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
GBFS % of gardens	17.0	18.4	16.3	24.1	18.4	
% of recording weeks	3.1	2.2	3.8	4.2	3.8	
Mean peak count	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.27	0.24	
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
No. of sites recorded	40	32	28	21	30	
FG birds ringed	4	4	5	2	7	
Pulli ringed	72	65	86	85	106	
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	26.2	26.1	36.7	21.2	28.8	20.4

Trend 1990-2000: Probably stable

Records required: Site monthly max; breeding records, including nestbox schemes (number of boxes available, number used, outcome if known).

**Red-footed Falcon *Falco vespertinus***

Vagrant; 25 records to date, in Mar-Nov.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	-	1	-
All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC					

**Merlin *Falco columbarius***

Scarce/fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant; scarce in summer. Bred sporadically in the 19th century.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Jul 9th	Jul 24th	Jul 6th	Jul 25th	Aug 9th
No. of sites Aug-May	46	62	30	65	51
Last date	May 4th	May 24th	May 27th	May 16th	May 2nd

Trend 1990-2000: becoming more widespread.

All records required.

**Hobby *Falco subbuteo***

Scarce summer visitor and passage migrant. Bred to early 1900s and sporadically in the 1970s, regularly from the mid-1980s. Exceptional in winter.

Extreme dates: Jan 20th-Oct 25th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 19th	Apr 22nd	Apr 17th	Apr 25th	Apr 23rd
No of sites	71	66	59	51	60
Probable/confirmed breeding	7	6	4	3	5
Last date	Oct 26th	Oct 4th	Oct 17th	Sep 30th	Oct 10th

All records required: RBBP

**Gyr Falcon *Falco rusticolus***

Vagrant; only 2 records, in 1826 and Dec 1900.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus***

Common resident and passage migrant. After extinction as a breeder in 1950s, due to pesticides and persecution, recolonised rapidly from the early 1980s.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	64.9	65.5	69.8	69.9	71.4
% of recording weeks	9.6	13.2	13.1	17.0	19.2
Mean peak count	0.67	0.68	0.72	0.72	0.83
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
No of sites recorded	92	60	55	60	39
FG birds ringed	38	24	26	15	18
Pulli ringed	10	0	0	0	0

Records required: all breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo***

Scarce breeder, fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor; recent increase with some birds summering and perhaps breeding. Bred to 19th century.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
No of sites recorded	63	75	76	81	68
Probable breeding pairs	min 2	8	n/k	n/k	n/k
No of breeding sites/areas	min 2	6	11	n/k	min 4

Records required: site monthly max for regular site, all records elsewhere, all breeding records.

**Rough-legged Buzzard *Buteo lagopus***

Rare/scarce passage migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	7	-	3	14	3

All records required: LBRC

**Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos***

Vagrant; 5 records Oct-Jan, the last Dec 1927-Jan 1928.

No records in the report period

All records required: LBRC

**Osprey *Pandion haliaetus***

Scarce passage migrant, rare in summer.

Extreme dates: Mar 10th-Dec 4th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Mar 28th	Apr 17th	Mar 31st	Apr 7th	April 8th
Annual totals	20	17	25-30	17-19	29
Last date	Sep 28th	Sep 19th	Oct 10th	Oct 16th	Nov 10th

All records required: RBBP

**Red Kite *Milvus milvus***

Scarce, occurring in most months though mainly winter to spring; increasing due to re-introduced birds. Bred to 19th century.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	14	15	10	5	5

All records required: RBBP

**White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla***

Vagrant; 19 records, Oct-Mar; only 3 of these are recent, the last in Oct 1990.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.98, then LBRC

**Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus***

Fairly common passage migrant and summer visitor; rare in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Breeding pairs	min 30	28	6*	4*	5*
Young reared	69	min 46	11	13	?

\* incomplete survey: now relatively widespread and no longer closely monitored.

Trend 1990-2000: Continuing to expand.

All records required: RBBP

**Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus***

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly Sep-May; rare in summer. Bred to 1872.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
First date	Sep 17th	Sep 8th	Jul 28th	Sep 3rd	Aug 30th
Number of sites Aug-May	24	30	28	27	25
Max count at winter roosts	9	4	4	-	-
Number of roost sites	2	1	1	-	-
Last date	Jun 11th	Apr 10th	Jun 3rd	May 29th	May 7th

Trend 1990-2000:

All records required.

**Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus***

Scarce passage migrant and regular summer visitor, though breeding irregularly.

Extreme dates: Apr 23rd-Oct 19th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Apr 25th	Apr 27th	Apr 23rd	Apr 25th	May 6th
Annual totals	4	12	9	12	23
Breeding pairs	1	0	1?	0	5
Last date	Jun 17th	Aug 18th	Aug 19th	Aug 25th	Aug 22nd

All records required: RBBP

**Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis***

Rare, mainly autumn to spring; has increased in recent years.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	4	8	min 7	2

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Wash	81 (O)	22 (S)	28 (S)	45 (Ap)	57 (O)
Coronation Channel	17 (Mr)	16 (O)	20 (O)	23 (D)	16 (Au)
Kirkby on Bain Pits	-	15 (Ap)	31 (Au)	16 (Mr)	17 (Mr)
R. Witham					
(Kirkstead Br-Chapel Hill)	42 (Mr)	36 (Mr)	37 (Mr)	27 (S)	25 (My)
Tattershall Lakes	-	23 (F)	29 (O)	33 (S)	36 (Mr)

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year.

#### Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena*

Rare/scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, Sep-Apr.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	18	7	9	8	3
Number of sites	14	6	7	5	1

All records required

#### Slavonian Grebe *Podiceps auritus*

Rare/scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly Aug-May.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	33	5	6	6	6
Number of sites	19	4	5	5	6

All records required

#### Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis*

Rare breeder, scarce passage migrant and winter visitor.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Feb 11th	Mar 20th	from '97	Apr 1st	Feb 20th
Annual totals	14	8	20	9	21
Number of sites	10	5	8	5	9
Breeding pairs	1*	-	2	2	2
Last date	Aug 26th	into '98	Dec 6th	Nov 1st	Dec 9th

\*1996 pair not successful but may have been robbed

Trend 1990-2000: increasing, now breeding annually

All records required

#### Honey-buzzard *Pernis apivorus*

Rare/scarce passage migrant.

Extreme dates: Apr 27th-Oct 27th.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First date	Jul 2nd	May 17th	May 17th	May 15th	May 24th
Annual totals	4	3	3	8	101
Last date	Sep 29th	Sep 17th	Oct 1st	Sep 25th	Oct 4th

All records required: LBRC, RBBP

#### Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Vagrant; 8 records to date, all recent, in Apr-Jun.

No records in the report period

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.05, then LBRC

**Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea***

Vagrant/rare passage migrant, 22 records to date, mainly in spring.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	1	-
All records required: LBRC					

**Black Stork *Ciconia nigra***

Vagrant; only record, 1 in Apr 1984.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**White Stork *Ciconia ciconia***

Vagrant; 12 records to date, mainly Apr-Jun with 1 Nov-Dec.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	-	2	2	1
All records required: LBRC					

**Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus***

Vagrant; 6 records, in May and Sep-Nov, the last in May 1976.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia***

Rare visitor, mainly coastal in Apr-May, with a few summer/autumn and exceptionally in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	10	3	8	1	-
Number of sites	6	2	5	1	-

Trend 1990-2000: no real pattern to records yet.

All records required: LBRC

**Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis***

Fairly common resident, partial migrant and winter visitor, the latter especially noticeable in coastal regions.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Gib Pt Freshwater Mere	8 (Ap)	4 (Mr)	15 (D)	6 (S)	7 (Ja)
Holywell Lake	12 (O)	9 (Ja)	12 (Ja)	10 (O)	-
Kirkby on Bain Pits	-	6 (My)	40 (S)	43 (O)	60 (O)
Whisby Pits Complex	39 (S)	33 (S)	27 (S)	9 (D)	15 (O)

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus***

Common resident, partial migrant and winter visitor. At least a threefold increase in breeding pairs since 1975, mainly as a result of the sustained colonisation of major rivers and drains.

### Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*

Vagrant; 6 records to date, in May and Oct, all recent.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC**

### Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Rare/scarcie visitor in all months, a few wintering since 1993/94.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	5	7-8	9	6	12
Number of sites	6	5	9	8	13

Trend 1990-2000: summering and wintering in the Wash and at the Humber mouth by the end of the period, beginning to be recorded inland.

All inland records, all breeding records, coastal site monthly max.

### Great White Egret *Ardea alba*

Vagrant: 2 records to date, the first in Aug 1979.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: **BBRC** to 31.12.05, then **LBRC**

### Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

Fairly common resident, partial migrant and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
WeBS peak counts					
(Lincs) Wash	39 (O)	23 (O)	24 (S)	33 (S)	57 (S)
(Lincs) Humber	16 (O)	86 (S)	18 (S)	25 (O)	45 (S)

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	10.6	9.2	4.7	6.0	10.2
% of recording weeks	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.3	1.7
Mean peak count	0.11	0.10	0.05	0.07	0.12

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual heronry census					
Total nests	343	285	286	269	280
Heronries	17	19	17	17	19
Ringling totals: FG	1	0	0	0	0
Ringling totals: pulli	13	14	0	4	0
Inland peak counts					
Kirkby Pits	9	10	12	11	11
Nocton Fen	17	20	14	18	18
Haverholme Park	nc	14	2	-	1
Coronation Channel	-	-	-	9	16

Trend 1990-2000: Current nest totals are in decline from record numbers of more than 400 nests in 1989-90. The emerging pattern shows all the large, previously permanent, colonies becoming smaller, with a number of very small colonies arising, but often short-lived.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% of BBS squares	42.9	21.7	28.6	28.8	30.8	24.5

Records required: All breeding colony records; monthly max at feeding sites.

**Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo***

Fairly common winter visitor, mainly coastal but increasing numbers inland and in summer. Inland breeding colony established 1992 steadily increasing. A few *P c sinensis* are recorded most years and have been noted in the breeding colony.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Wash	186 (Ja)	188 (D)	226 (D)	226 (N)	308 (D)
(Lincs) Humber	58 (D)	116 (F)	86 (S)	101 (F)	109 (F)

Inland	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of breeding sites	1	1	1	1	-
Number of nests	n/k	111	136	126	-
No of sites recorded	22	40	31	29	33
Summed peak count	422	388	341	284	370

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Shag *Phalacrocorax aristotelis***

Usually rare/scarse winter visitor Aug-May to coast and inland but with occasional larger influxes. Exceptional in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	16	5	3	7	3
Number of sites	9	5	1	3	2

All records required.

**Eurasian Bittern *Botaurus stellaris***

Rare breeder, rare winter visitor. Previously bred to early 19th century and from 1940s-1979.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	11	7	6	3	8
Number of sites	10	7	4	2	3
Summering birds	-	-	-	1	1

All records required: RBBP

**Little Bittern *Ixobrychus minutus***

Vagrant; 9 records, Apr-Aug, the last in Apr 1978.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC

**Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax***

Vagrant; 10 records, Mar-Jun and Oct-Jan, the last in Mar-Apr 1990.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.01, then LBRC

**Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides***

Vagrant; 3 records, previously in in Jun 1861 and Sep 1910.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	1	-

All records required: BBRC



**Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis***

Vagrant; 10 records, Sep-Feb, the last in Sep 1977.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: LBRC

**Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus***

Scarce/fairly common offshore passage migrant Jul-Nov, mostly Sep. A few winter records, Dec-Jan.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	199	100	67	25	-
Number of sites	2	8	4	3	-
All records required.					

**Manx Shearwater *Puffinus puffinus***

Scarce/fairly common offshore visitor/passage migrant, Apr-Nov with most Sep. Occasional inland records after SW gales.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed peak counts	54	153	58	6	4
Number of sites	7	11	6	3	2
All records required.					

**Balearic Shearwater *Puffinus mauretanicus***

Vagrant; 7 records, all Jul-Oct, the last in 1989.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	3	1	1	-
All records required: LBRC					

**European Storm-petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus***

Rare off-shore, Jul-Nov; 21 birds to date, the previous last in 1994.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	1	1	1	-
All records required: LBRC					

**Leach's Storm-petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa***

Rare offshore migrant generally Sep-Nov, but also May and Dec-Jan. Exceptional inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	21	1	3	-
All records required: LBRC					

**Northern Gannet *Morus bassanus***

Regular offshore visitor/passage migrant most of the year. Fairly common/common Jul-Nov, but scarce at other times and rare inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	1509	2350	291	943	144
Number of sites	9	13	8	8	5

Records required: All records inland; all coastal records in winter, monthly max from each site outside this period; all large counts during movements.

**Red-throated Diver *Gavia stellata***

Fairly common offshore passage migrant and winter visitor Aug-May with peaks in mid-winter. Rare inland and in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	211	187	139	57	93
Number of sites	8	10	7	7	2

Records required: all records inland; on the coast, all records in summer, monthly max counts from each site outside this period.

**Black-throated Diver *Gavia arctica***

Scarce winter visitor to coastal and inland waters. Mainly Sep-Apr, rare in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	13	12	13	6	10
Number of sites	7	5	5	2	6

All records required.

**Great Northern Diver *Gavia immer***

Rare/scarce winter visitor Aug-May. Mainly coastal and exceptional in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	4	1	3	12	19
Number of sites	3	1	3	5	6

All records required

**White-billed Diver *Gavia adamsii***

Vagrant; only previous record, 1 found dead, Mar 1976.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	-	-	-	-

All records required: BBRC

**Fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis***

Fairly common offshore visitor, mainly Mar-Nov. Rare in winter and very infrequent inland.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Mar-May peaks	70	12	1	5	0
Number of sites	7	3	1	2	0
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	477	1072	117	23	81
Number of sites	6	8	5	4	2

Records required: all records inland; on the coast, all records in winter, monthly max counts from each site outside this period; all large counts during movements.

**Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea***

Vagrant; 3 records to date, all in Aug.

No records for this species in the report period.

All records required: LBRC

**Ruddy Duck *Oxyura jamaicensis***

Scarce feral breeder, fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Broods (breeding sites)	4(4)	20(5)	25(4)	14(3)	* (3)
Total number of sites	21	19	24	25	19

\*not all brood records reported

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.

**Black Grouse *Tetrao tetrix***

Former scarce resident, last recorded in 1935.

All records required: LBRC

**Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa***

Very common feral resident.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Database: summed peaks	353	407	203	143	195
Number of sites	16	25	7	6	14

Records required: Site monthly max counts all year.

**Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix***

Common resident with recent decline, especially in the southern half of the county.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Game conservancy survey					
Number of sites	1	1	-	-	-
Area surveyed (ha)	256	405	-	400	668
Pairs	12	2	-	7	15
Density pairs/sq km	4.7	0.5	-	1.8	2.2
Database: summed peaks	487	351	144	209	129
Number of sites with counts	23	30	9	16	11
Additional sites 'present' only	10	-	-	-	-

Records required: Site monthly max counts all year.

**Common Quail *Coturnix coturnix***

Scarce summer visitor Apr-Sep; rare in winter. Probably much under-recorded.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First record	May 25th	May 1st	May 7th	May 12th	May 14th
Annual totals (min)	9	39	24	30	14
No of sites	8	24	11	17	10
Last record	Jul 28th	Nov 20th	Aug 24th	Aug 17th	Aug 5th

All records required: RBBP

**Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus***

Very common feral resident.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	25.5	28.7	30.2	43.4	46.9
% of recording weeks	10.4	8.7	10.2	18.3	20.7
Mean peak count	2.3	3.0	2.8	3.6	3.1

Records required: Site monthly max counts all year.

**Common Scoter *Melanitta nigra***

Common passage migrant and winter visitor. Scarce in summer and rare inland.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	80 (N)	130 (N)	0 ( )	83 (N)	80 (N)
(Lincs) Wash	52 (F)	10 (N)	49 (S)	468 (F)	166 (N)

Records required: all records inland; on the coast, site monthly max counts all year.

**Velvet Scoter *Melanitta fusca***

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor. Rare inland and in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	19	24	14	35	28
Number of sites	8	9	5	12	5

All records required.

**Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula***

Fairly common winter visitor, rare in summer.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Wash	52 (F)	28 (F)	54 (Ja)	59 (Ja)	38 (Mr)
(Lincs) Humber	331 (D)	555 (Ja)	280 (Ja)	563 (D)	402 (Ja)
Covenham Res	100 (F)	60 (N)	60 (Ja)	40 (Ja)	68 (D)

Records required: all records in summer; monthly max counts from each site for the rest of the year.

**Smew *Mergellus albellus***

Scarce winter visitor Oct-Apr.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	40	65	22	40	15
Number of sites	13	20	11	14	8

All records required.

**Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator***

Scarce coastal passage migrant and winter visitor. Rare inland and in summer.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Wash	33 (Ap)	55 (D)	48 (N)	53 (N)	63 (D)

Records required: monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.

**Goosander *Mergus merganser***

Fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor, mainly inland. Rare in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	597	745	291	215	204
Number of sites	46	40	35	26	27

Records required: monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.

**Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula***

Common resident and winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber WeBS pk	400 (D)	728 (Ja)	156 (Ja)	348 (D)	172 (F)
Toft Newton Res	130 (J)	110 (N)	155 (Ja)	65 (S)	66 (S)
Swanholme	77 (D)	106 (Ja)	nc	77 (Mr)	120 (Ja)
Whisby NP	51 (F)	67 (D)	79 (F)	65 (Mr)	104 (O)
Kirkby Pits	420 (S)	345 (O)	390 (Ja)	580 (Ja)	335 (Au)
Tattershall Lakes	nc	100 (Ja)	173 (Ja)	118 (Mr)	180 (N)
R. Witham					
(Kirkstead BR-Chapel Hill)	72 (D)	68 (Mr)	62 (D)	103 (F)	96 (Mr)
Coronation Channel	42 (F)	53 (N)	54 (F)	108 (Ja)	75 (Ja)
Number of sites	32	31	51	60	64

Records required: all breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Greater Scaup *Aythya marila***

Previously fairly common passage migrant and winter visitor, now becoming scarce. Rare in summer; bred in 1944.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	201	202	18	25	9
Number of sites	27	18	7	8	5

All records required.

**Lesser Scaup *Aythya affinis***

Vagrant; 3 records, Feb, April and May.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	1	-

All records required: BBRC

**Common Eider *Somateria mollissima***

Common passage migrant and winter visitor, present in all months. Under-recorded because most of the population stays well offshore. Mainly in the Wash, and very rare inland.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
WeBS peak counts					
(Lincs) Wash	1197 (Ap)	628 (S)	513 (F)	346 (M)	256 (Ap)

Records required: monthly max counts at regular sites, all records elsewhere.

**Long-tailed Duck *Clangula hyemalis***

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor, rare in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Annual totals	16	9	5	12-14	18
Number of sites	8	5	4	9	12

All records required.

**Blue-winged Teal *Anas discors***

Vagrant; 7 records, all months.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	2	-	-	-

All records required: **BBRC****Shoveler *Anas clypeata***

Scarce/fairly common resident and passage migrant.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Summed Aug-Nov peaks	181	214	412	445	278
Number of sites	25	17	26	25	23

Records required: all breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina***

Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; rare in summer. Increasing numbers of feral birds present in the county.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	20	17	21	17	26
No. of sites	11	6	2	2	7
Sites with proved breeding	1	-	1	1	1

All records required: **RBBP****Common Pochard *Aythya ferina***

Scarce breeder, but a common winter visitor.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber WeBS pk	1000 (D)	2503 (Ja)	177 (Ja)	310 (D)	308 (Ja)
Toft-Newton Res	143 (D)	116 (D)	202 (F)	100(Ja)	nc
Kirkby on Bain	220 (F)	180 (N)	290 (Ja)	282 (Ja)	136 (O)
Tattershall Lakes	42 (Mr)	60 (F)	90 (O)	170 (F)	70 (Ja)
Baston Langtoft Pits	573 (F)	316 (O)	125 (F)	441 (Ja)	407 (Ja)
Tallington Lakes	368 (D)	nc?	22 (Ja)	59 (N)	nc
Total number of sites	33	29	38	38	33

Records required: all breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts all year. **RBBP****Ring-necked Duck *Aythya collaris***

Vagrant; 15 records to date, Aug-Jun, all males.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	-	1	1	1

All records required: **LBRC****Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca***

Vagrant; 12 records, Jul-Mar, the previous last in Mar 1981.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	1	-	-

All records required: **BBRC** from 01.01.99 to 31.12.05, then **LBRC**

**Green-winged Teal *Anas carolinensis***

Vagrant; 8 recent records in Mar-May and Nov-Dec.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	-	-	-	-	2

All records required: LBRC

**Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos***

Common resident, passage migrant and winter visitor.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	635 (N)	699 (D)	582 (N)	799 (D)	857 (D)
(Lincs) Wash	2559 (D)	1770 (D)	2240 (Ja)	1176 (D)	1398 (O)
Coronation Channel	85 (F)	520 (D)	386 (N)	507 (Ja)	400 (Ja)
Culverthorpe Lakes	24 (N)	459 (O)	495 (N)	245 (F)	nc
Bardney Pits	282 (N)	240 (D)	250 (F)	450 (Ja)	230 (O)
R. Witham					
(Kirkstead Br-Chapel Hill)	176 (D)	259 (D)	384 (N)	324 (D)	307 (D)
Cadney Res	268 (Ja)	264 (Ja)	175 (F)	258 (Ja)	349 (D)
Nocton Fen	270 (O)	240 (D)	300 (S)	160 (Ja)	325 (N)
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
GBFS % of gardens	7.4	6.9	7.0	8.4	12.2
% of recording weeks	1.8	1.1	1.9	2.8	5.3
Mean peak count	3.7	3.7	4.7	5.0	8.8

Records required: site monthly max counts all year.

**Pintail *Anas acuta***

Fairly common/common passage migrant and winter visitor. Rare in summer with sporadic breeding records, but none recently.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	23 (F)	6 (S)	()	27 (Ja)	57 (Ja)
(Lincs) Wash	193 (F)	417 (Ja)	77 (S)	109 (Ja)	117 (S)

All records required: RBBP

**Garganey *Anas querquedula***

Scarce passage migrant, rare summer visitor, breeding occasionally. Exceptional in winter.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
First record	Mar 29th	Apr 8th	Apr 5th	Apr 4th	Apr 27th
Annual totals	26	20	27	16	7
Sites with pos breeding	3	-	-	2	-
Sites with young seen	1	-	-	-	-
Last record	Oct 5th	Oct 16th	Oct 2nd	Sep 26th	Sep 27th

All records required: RBBP

**Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna***

Very common resident/partial migrant; mainly Humber/NE coast and Wash but breeds regularly inland.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	1432 (Ja)	1805 (N)	1440 (N)	2989 (D)	2129 (D)
(Lincs) Wash	9534 (D)	6379 (D)	7582 (D)	5787 (N)	4031 (Ja)

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata***

Rare/scarce feral resident/visitor.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	9	5	11	11	3

Breeding confirmed in 2000.

All records required.

**Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope***

Common winter visitor and passage migrant. Rare but regular in summer and has bred at least once in the past.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Wash	1982 (D)	3032 (N)	1808 (N)	769 (D)	1471 (S)
(Lincs) Humber	1597 (D)	1577 (Ja)	579 (M)	1007 (O)	1129 (D)

Records required: all records in summer; site monthly max counts for the rest of the year.

**American Wigeon *Anas americana***

Vagrant; 6 records to date, all recent, in Feb-Apr (3) and Sep-Nov (3).

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	1	1	-	-	1

All records required: BBRC to 31.12.01, then LBRC

**Gadwall *Anas strepera***

Scarce resident and fairly common winter visitor. Increased numbers in recent years, with breeding now regular mainly on Fenland rivers and drains.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	1107	673	727	807	899
Number of sites	21	21	26	24	23

Records required: all breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts all year.

**Eurasian Teal *Anas crecca***

Scarce breeder, common passage migrant and winter visitor.

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Humber	774 (N)	589 (Ja)	395 (N)	935 (O)	2275 (S)
(Lincs) Wash	681 (N)	872 (N)	956 (Ja)	538 (Ja)	919 (S)
Whisby Pits complex	410 (D)	156 (Ja)	125 (D)	60 (D)	14 (Ja)

Records required: all records in summer, including breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome if known); site monthly max counts outside this period.



**Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis***

Scarce/fairly common winter visitor, mainly to the coast, Oct-May. A small feral population has bred irregularly since the late 1980s.

Oct-Mar county totals	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(birds considered wild)	(150)	13	5	3	5

An early-winter influx occurred in 1996, most marked in the Wash. The totals for later years are more typical.

Records required: Monthly max counts (indicate if known to be feral or possibly wild birds).

**Brent Goose *Branta bernicla***

*B b bernicla* Dark-bellied Brent Goose very common winter visitor Sep-May, mainly to Humber and Wash. Much more common than formerly, and recently scarce but regular in summer especially on the Wash. Occasionally feeds some distance inland.

*B b brota* Light-bellied Brent Goose rare/scarce visitor Oct-Mar.

*B b nigricans* Black Brant Vagrant, 7 records 1982-1999. LBRC

WeBS peak counts	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
(Lincs) Wash	17558 (D)	19070 (Ja)	19738 (D)	17529 (Ja)	24264 (N)
(Lincs) Humber	1727 (D)	1835 (N)	1074 (F)	2267 (D)	1911 (Ja)

Winter totals:

<i>B b brota</i> :	10	63	8	12	14
<i>B b nigricans</i> :	-	1	-	2	1

Records required:

*bernicla*: first and last dates; all records inland; on the coast, all records in summer and site monthly max counts outside this period.

rarer subspecies: all records required.

**Red-breasted Goose *Branta ruficollis***

Vagrant; 3-4 recent records, Oct-Nov and Feb-Mar, the last in Mar 1985.

All records required: BBRC

**Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiacus***

Rare/scarce feral visitor from the Norfolk population. Some local releases also involved and has bred occasionally.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	7	7	7	9	37

A pair bred successfully in 1999 and again in 2000

All records required.

**Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea***

Rare. Vagrant/feral birds are recorded in most years, probably mainly the latter category.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	5	6	1	7	-

All records required.

injured/escaped birds occasional in summer; a female incubated an infertile clutch in 1975.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Upper Humber WeBS peak	1009 (Ja)	487 (N)	130 (Ja)	601 (Ja)	1257 (N)
Lincs Wash peak count	4595 (Ja)	330 (D)	1796 (Ja)	6558 (Ja)	3413 (N)

Records required: first and last dates; all summer records; monthly site max counts in winter.

#### White-fronted Goose *Anser albifrons*

Rare/scarce winter visitor Sep-Apr, occasionally fairly common. Most *A a albifrons* European White-fronted Goose. *A f flavirostris* Greenland White-fronted Goose Vagrant, LBRC.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Aug-May totals	(750)	78	86	55	7

All records required.

#### Lesser White-fronted Goose *Anser erythropus*

Vagrant; the only acceptable wild record to date was in Jan 1943.

All records required: BBRC

#### Greylag Goose *Anser anser*

Formerly a common resident in the Fens up to about 1800. Feral population established in the 1950s with rapid expansion and now common. Wild birds present (scarce) Sep-Apr, but difficult to detect.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	1979	1665	3145	3026	3253
Number of sites	16	15	26	17	22

Records required: breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max counts all year.

#### Snow Goose *Anser caerulescens*

Rare. Vagrant/escaped birds recorded most years, probably mainly the latter category.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Annual totals	2	3	2-3	3-4	3

Includes 1-2 birds resident in Scunthorpe area to 1999. All believed to be escapes.

All records required: indicate if known to be escapes or possibly wild birds: LBRC

Description for potentially wild birds

#### Greater Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*

Common feral resident/partial migrant, much increased in recent years.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Dec-Feb peaks	1954	1235	1608	1302	1690
Number of sites	18	15	25	26	24

Records required: Breeding records (site, no. of pairs or nests, outcome where known); site monthly max.

## SYSTEMATIC LIST

### Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*

Fairly common resident and partial migrant.

Aug-May peaks	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
R Welland (Deeping H Bk)	283 (N)	nc	nc	247 (O)	287 (D)
Lincoln	nc	80 (N)	145 (F)	166 (Au)	142 (Au)
Barrow Haven-New Holland	65 (D)	141 (Ja)	202 (Ja)	214 (Au)	244 (Au)
New Holland-Goxhill Hvn	120 (O)	157 (N)	nc	107 (N)	264 (N)
Kirkby on Bain Pits	82 (S)	nc	80 (Ja)	81 (S)	55 (S)
Nocton Fen	23 (S)	36 (My)	42 (Mr)	49 (Mr)	23 (Ap)
Tattershall Lakes CP	nc	21 (Ja)	25 (D)	41 (S,O)	32 (O)

Records required: monthly max counts from all regularly watched sites.

### Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus*

*C c bewickii* Bewick's Swan fairly common passage migrant/winter visitor, mainly Oct-Mar and exceptional in summer.

*C c columbianus* Whistling Swan Vagrant; first confirmed Lincolnshire record of this subspecies in 1998.

<i>C c bewickii</i>	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	425	363	85	16	46
Number of sites	31	23	10	3	6
<i>C c columbianus</i>	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
All records	-	-	1	-	-

All records required. *C c columbianus*: BBRC

### Whooper Swan *Cygnus cygnus*

Fairly common passage migrant/winter visitor, mainly Oct-Apr and exceptional in summer.

	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
Summed Aug-May peaks	260	143	96	184	286
Number of sites	39	25	19	19	21

All records required.

### Bean Goose *Anser fabalis* Winter visitor, mainly coastal, Oct-Apr. Two races.

*A f fabalis* Taiga Bean Goose is rare. *A f rossicus* Tundra Bean Goose is scarce.

Aug-May totals	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00
<i>A f rossicus</i> *	30	29	15	20	5
<i>A f fabalis</i>	8	-	-	4	-

\*includes all birds not definitely identified as *A.f.fabalis*

All records required.

### Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

Common winter visitor Sep-Apr, mainly to the Humber and Wash, but many coastal and inland movements. Current numbers lower than formerly. A few

## 7. Breeding Records

The total number of displaying males is recorded for some species (eg churring nightjars), and this category is being steadily extended. Where possible the number of breeding pairs, or breeding sites, is recorded, and in some cases (eg Marsh Harrier) the number of young reared can also be censused. Finally colony counts are available for some species, either for the whole county (eg Grey Heron, where all known heronries are visited annually), or for specific areas (eg the Grantham house martin project).

### Records Required

With the volume of records submitted annually increasing steadily, this section provides a good opportunity to give members an indication of the sort of records which it is useful to receive for each species. The request given here for each species sets no minima and uses the smallest possible number of categories of records. The aim in every case is to provide data which can be used in monitoring. Thus for rare, scarce and many fairly common species (using the abundance definitions given above) all records (including all breeding records where relevant) are requested, as are all inland records of seabirds, all winter records of summer visitors and all summer records of winter visitors. First and last dates are also required for all migrants, together with any records of obvious passage, coastal or inland.

For the commoner species, the ideal would be a return to 'local patch' (ie regularly watched site) recording, with in most cases the monthly max count submitted. Where individual birders have no patch of their own, they are asked at least to submit their monthly max count for all visits made to the main birding sites in the county. Where these sites have a warden and produce an annual report, members are asked to provide their records direct to this recorder, so that only the final summary is input to the county database.

Specifically, Gib Point records should always be submitted directly to Gib Point, never to LBC. A system is in place to ensure that all records logged at Gib Point reach LBC and so far as possible any received from elsewhere are returned to Gib, but records short-cutting the system may be lost. Breeding records are also requested for some more abundant species, either in the form of colony counts or the results of nestbox schemes, where take-up of boxes and success rates can both be recorded.

Where more than one sub-species occurs, recording requirements are given for each, and for the rarer or scarcer species a reporting code may also be given. These are:

**BBRC** National Rarity: description required for submission to BBRC. Records in this category are never published in the annual report or input to the database if they have not been submitted to BBRC.

**LBRC** Rare or scarce in Lines; full description required by LBRC. Records in this category may not be published in the annual report or added to the database without the required information.

**RBBP** Nationally scarce breeding species monitored by the Rare Breeding Birds Panel; any breeding season sighting in suitable habitat should be reported to the County Recorder asap.

## 5. BTO Monitoring Projects

Over the period of this report there were four active Common Bird Census (CBC) plots, but the single Waterways Bird Survey (WES) site and the Constant Effort ringing Sites (CES) all stopped for various reasons. Although the total number of CBC territories annually are too small to indicate statistically significant differences, they are given for interest and for comparison with figures derived in other ways.

On the plus side, the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) began in the early 1990s and the BTO kindly provided the raw count data for all squares surveyed from 1994-2005. Between 1995 and 2000, 60 1km squares in total were surveyed in Lincolnshire (the historic county, with 32 of these surveyed in all 6 years. These data have been used in two ways, as follows.

**% of BBS squares:** for every species, the simple proportion of all squares surveyed in which it was recorded each year is given as a percentage. In calculating these percentages, the number of squares surveyed in each year was:

1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
42	46	49	53	52	49

**BBS Index:** for species recorded in at least 50% of squares in 1995 and at least one further year in the period, an index was calculated. This entailed determining the highest number counted in either of the two visits to the square in each year, setting the sum of these peak counts in 1995 to 100, and then 'chaining' the summed peak counts for that species in each subsequent year, using the formula:

$$\text{Index} = (\text{summed peak count for Year 2} / \text{summed peak count for Year 1}) \times 100$$

At each step of the chain, only squares counted in each pair of years were used in the calculation. The number of paired squares available for each year was:

1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000
41	44	45	48	47

With such small numbers, again no attempt has been made to derive error margins or significance, but as the numbers of squares surveyed annually in Lincolnshire hopefully increases, this should become possible.

## 6. Garden Bird Feeding Survey Index

A winter Garden Bird Feeding Survey (GBFS) has been operated by LBC since the early 1980s, with records from 80-150 gardens included each year. The index used for SoBiL 1 was the simple percentage of the study gardens in which each species was recorded. This shows how widespread the species is in gardens across the county, and is also given in the current volume, to provide a direct comparison. However, two additional indices are now routinely calculated and are given here. These are the percentage of all recording weeks in which the species was recorded, which gives an indication of the frequency of visits by the species to gardens taking part, and the mean peak count; the average of the highest recorded count across all gardens taking part, whether the species was recorded or not. This index gives an insight into the total numbers of the species using gardens, and into trends. It is also useful to compare this index with weather in each winter.

Other information given includes the frequency of winter records for summer visitors, and vice-versa, and the occurrence of sub-species. Where more than one sub-species occurs regularly, status information is given for both/all. Where most records refer to one sub-species this is stated, and records of the other(s) are given where only 1-2 are known or accepted, or summarised if there have been three or more.

## Types and Sources of Numerical Data

### 1. Annual Totals

Totals of all accepted records. For vagrants and passage migrants the annual total is used; for winter visitors the August-May total. For rare or scarce breeding birds the number of breeding pairs reported is also given.

### 2. Summed Peak Counts

Sum of the highest count within the stated period from each site for which records have been reported; the number of sites included each year is also given. (Note that this differs from SoBiL 1, which was manually collated so included only sites with significant records.) Periods used are commonly December-February for wintering birds or species in which dispersed residents congregate in winter flocks; March-May and/or August-November for passage migrants, but actual months included may vary for particular species.

### 3. WeBS Peak Counts

Sum of all sectors counted on the Lincolnshire shore of the Wash and/or Humber, as appropriate to the species. For most species the highest total in any month is given but in some cases the spring and/or autumn passage peak may (also) be used, where there is more than one significant peak. Month of the relevant peak count in each year is also indicated. Rarely, where a particular population is located in a specific area on one of the estuaries, (eg, Pink-footed Goose on the upper Humber) the peak count from this area is used, even though it may not have been made during a WeBS visit.

During most of the period covered by SoBiL 1 the county had no Inland WeBS count organiser. This post has now been filled again, and WeBS totals from the major inland sites are also included for relevant species.

### 4. Ringling Results

Totals for adults ringed in each year are given for a small number of species where trapping is considered to be random (ie, they are not the subject of special schemes). Since ringing effort, as judged by reports from most ringers, has remained fairly constant, the totals trapped are therefore considered to relate to the size of the population available for trapping. Annual totals for pulli ringed are given where a discrete population is handled annually (eg, the Helpringham swift colony) or where pulli are specifically targeted, eg owl-box schemes.

For the common passerines a passerine ringing index has been calculated. This is the number of each species ringed, expressed as a percentage of the total number of passerines ringed in each year. For reference, the mean indices for 1976/80 and 1986/90 are also given for each species. The passerine totals for each study year are:

1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
20516	16052	16795	13258	13200

## STATUS AND TRENDS 1996-2000

### FORMAT OF SPECIES ACCOUNTS

The species accounts follow a common format, described below, although the data available on them clearly differ greatly. Each account gives:

- a brief statement of recent status and any trends.
- for regular summer visitors and passage migrants, first and last dates to the end of 1995.
- numerical data from as many sources as are currently available and relevant for the species.
- where possible a summary of the Lincolnshire trend for the period 1990-2000.
- an indication of the categories of records required, and whether descriptions or supporting evidence are needed.

### Status and Trends

This describes the season(s) at which each species is present in Lincolnshire and gives an estimate of abundance in the following terms:

Vagrant	Recorded infrequently, less than annual
Rare	Population Order 1: 1-9 birds or pairs recorded annually (see notes)
Scarce	Order 2: 10-99 birds/pairs
Fairly common	Order 3: 100-999 birds/pairs
Common	Order 4: 1000-9999 birds/pairs
Very Common	Orders 5 or 6: more than 10,000 birds/pairs

Note that:

- 1 The abundance statement refers to the number of individuals recorded unless the breeding population is specified, when it refers to pairs.
- 2 For a population thought to be on the boundary between two categories, or fluctuating around this boundary in different years, both are given.
- 3 Where the abundance differs between seasons or between sectors of the population an abundance is given separately for each.
- 4 The status description also indicates, where relevant, whether populations are mainly coastal or found mainly inland.

For example, Grey Wagtail is described as 'Scarce/fairly common passage migrant (most marked on the coast) and winter visitor (mostly inland). Rare breeder, formerly sporadic, but has become regular in recent years'. This indicates that fewer than 100 birds are thought to occur on migration and in winter in most years, with more than this figure in good years; in addition 1-9 pairs now breed each year.

No abundance statement is given for vagrants as these are assumed to be rare. For most vagrants the number of accepted records (ie individual birds) to the end of 2000 is given, with dates where there have only been one or two records, or an indication of seasonality of the records for three or more. The year of the last record is also given if this was prior to 1996. Historical records to 1988 were extracted from all locatable sources for 'The Birds of Lincolnshire and South Humberside' (Lorand and Atkin, 1989) and have been given in annual Bird Reports since then.

# **THE STATUS OF BIRDS IN LINCOLNSHIRE 1996-2000**

## **INTRODUCTION**

This booklet is the second in a five-yearly series and like the first, its aims are to present the status of Lincolnshire birds in this 5-year period, to indicate any recent trends (during the last 10 years or so) and to build up a dataset allowing identification of longer term changes. For these purposes quantitative data are required, and the initial spur for this series was a project aimed at identifying ways to monitor as many of our bird species as possible, using the data supplied each year by members and others. Every species which has been recorded in the historic county of Lincolnshire to the end of 2000 is included, and this booklet therefore also provides a full county list to that point.

Lincolnshire is, in the main, an intensively farmed county, despite which it has a wide range of habitats, from sandy heathland to limestone grassland and from ancient woodland to marsh and fen. It is also very large: up to 120km from north to south and 90km west to east, and has a shoreline of 170km which includes the estuaries of the Humber and Wash. There are also more than 1500km of rivers and fenland drains and numerous man-made pits, reservoirs and lakes, all of which are becoming more important for birds as farmland populations decline. To monitor this the county has perhaps some 200 active birders to cover its 7000+ square kilometres, and it is obvious why there is a need to find ways to make optimal use of the mass of records in our growing database. This project is ongoing; as yet reliable methods to monitor both breeding and wintering populations are still being sought for many species.

This second booklet, SoBiL 2, incorporates two changes from SoBiL 1, both of which we believe increase its usefulness. Firstly, it includes a number of papers and reports of studies and surveys carried out during the report period, together with a ringing report for the 5 years covered. Secondly, since we now have a fully functioning electronic database, it has been possible to include more types of data, as described in the next section.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Probably at least a thousand members, visitors to the county and others will have supplied records for the county database over the 5 years of this summary. As many as we can trace are listed in the Contributors section, but there are certainly many more for whom we have no names. It would have been impossible to produce this publication without all of these recorders and their contribution is most gratefully acknowledged.



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# *The* STATUS *of* BIRDS *in* LINCOLNSHIRE 1996 - 2000

Anne Goodall & Janet Eastmead



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