



Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter - November 2020

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Bill Brooking

It is with great sadness we report on the passing in October of Bill Brooking. He was one of the founders of the Bird Club and was at the initial meeting at former Gibraltar Point warden, Dick Lambert's house at Gib in the autumn of 1979. He served on the committee during the club's early years.



It was Bill's organising of the Grimsby Group midweek and weekend counts that provided a lot of the information from the north east of the county recently published in the Lincolnshire Bird Atlas.

Bill was still actively birding, especially in the Wolds, up until early this year and still met up with the Grimsby Group on summer Wednesday evenings.

Steve Meek adds;

It was with tremendous sadness that I heard of the passing of Lincolnshire birding stalwart - and friend - Bill Brooking. I have been privileged enough to know Bill for most of my life. When I was a teenage birder he was, in a way, a mentor to me. He was always enthusiastic and knowledgeable without ever being patronising - he treated me as his equal, which I undoubtedly was not. In subsequent years his enthusiasm was always the most striking thing about him; he loved birds and the great outdoors and his passion for them was infectious. Often he would eschew the delights of the coast for gruelling

legwork in the Lincolnshire Wolds, where unusual birds were more rarely found, but he loved making discoveries and exploring new landscapes with his customary energy and determination. Later in life our paths diverged somewhat but I often used to see him in the local supermarket, where we would spend hours talking birds and putting the world to rights. In a way I still can't believe he's gone – he was such a vital and life-affirming presence. Lincolnshire birding, and the lives of all who knew him, will be much the poorer for his loss.

Photo by Geoff Beasley

A Bearded Vulture in Lincolnshire!

There can't be many birders who haven't heard that there's been a Bearded Vulture in the UK this summer, but who would have predicted it would turn up in Lincolnshire!

It is well known that young Bearded Vultures travel vast distances and explore new areas. Bearded Vulture vagrancy usually occurs during late spring and early summer, when young individuals leave their mountain habitats and disperse. Sometimes even breaking records like in May 2016 when a young bird first visited the UK. In June 2020 it seems history repeated itself and maybe Bearded Vulture vagrancy isn't going to be a one off?

A young Bearded Vulture was observed in northern Europe this spring being recorded in the Netherlands and Belgium in early June 2020. Then, having crossed the channel it was photographed in Kenilworth, England, on 25 June. The bird was identified as a second calendar Bearded Vulture, meaning that it hatched in 2019.

The bird continued heading north from the Midlands and was photographed on 30 June at the Edale Valley, Derbyshire! The trail went cold again until 6 July when it was filmed in flight over Cressbrook Dale. It was then seen over Froggatt Edge, heading north for Stanage Edge. Then, it was observed in the Big Moor area on 7 July and was later seen over Gardom's Edge, east of Baslow. After exploring Derbyshire, it seems that the Bearded Vulture moved to Yorkshire. It appears that it flew over the city of Sheffield, with many residents reporting sightings around 10 July. On 12 July it was photographed at Howden Moors just outside Sheffield where it settled before moving to Crowden in the Peak District.

After nearly three months in the region, the bird left Crowden on the 18 September, and was spotted the following day in Lathkill Dale and then near Leicester, flying high and travelling south-east! Then it was seen to the west of Oxford, again heading south-east at high altitude. Then, surprisingly it was found again on 28 September, this time in Norfolk, 225 km north-east from the last confirmed sighting in Oxfordshire on Monday 21 September!

Interestingly, on 26 September a White-tailed Eagle was seen briefly and at distance from Alkborough Flats in Lincolnshire and with hindsight it now looks to have been the vulture, with the hurried record shots showing a wing profile matching the bird!

Then on 7 October it was photographed over Moulton Chapel, Lincolnshire and roosted in roadside trees, to the delight of county birders the next morning! It lingered around the Lincolnshire-Cambridgeshire border near Thorney until 11 October, when it departed high to the south. Less than 90 minutes later it was reported over the RSPB headquarters at The Lodge,

Bedfordshire, being seen again by a small collection of lucky Beds birders over Sandy for an hour the next day.

It then made its way south once more, photographed over Fordcombe, Kent. After a brief visit to Kent, the wandering bird had made it as far as the East Sussex coast by 14th October and was watched disappearing high out to sea across the English Channel.

People have been speculating about the origin and sex of the Bearded Vulture, that has been touring the UK for the past few months. Now, thanks to receiving two feathers and undertaking a genetic analysis, the Vulture Conservation Foundation (VCF) finally has the answers! Two small feathers collected in the Peak District by local Yorkshire birder David Ball, determined that the Bearded Vulture comes from the French Alps, and is a female bird that hatched last year (2019) in a wild nest.

Andrew Chick (with data taken from Birdguides.com, rarebirdalert.co.uk and Vulture Conservation Foundation)

- Below is a selection of photographs of the bird.



The young Bearded Vulture has delighted large numbers of people during its stay in the Peak District (© Dan Martin)



**The Bearded Vulture attracted quite a bit of Corvid attention in Cowbit
8th October 2020 © Will Bowell**



**The Bearded Vulture and magpie (for scale!) at Cowbit in Lincolnshire
8th October © Will Bowell**



**The Bearded Vulture attracted quite a bit of Corvid attention in Cowbit
8th October 2020 © Will Bowell**



**The Bearded Vulture showed very well near Nene Terrace, Cambs. Amazing to see a
bird of altitude, feeding in the flat Fens © Will Bowell**



Birders enjoying a Bearded Vulture (!) in Lincolnshire!

Kenfig National Nature Reserve

You'll almost certainly know of Kenfig Nature Reserve from all the rare vagrant birds it's attracted over the years, but may not also know that it's extremely important for its botanical interest: it has huge orchid populations (including the only remaining site in western Britain for fen orchids). That the reserve has maintained this interest is in large part down to the management work undertaken by Bridgend Council over many years. Cost pressures have caused Bridgend to withdraw from this work and so the future of the reserve is in limbo. Natural Resources Wales has been in discussion with the site owners, the Kenfig Corporation, over the last couple of years, but those negotiations have reached an impasse. Local community leaders in the Kenfig area have been attempting to get the situation resolved, without success.

As a result, a group of naturalists and conservationists from across South Wales have set up a petition calling on the Welsh government to intervene. We are asking them to use compulsory purchase powers to acquire the reserve, draft a management plan and put the necessary funds in place to deliver that plan. This option is a last resort, and we are hoping that the petition will provide the public pressure that persuades the corporation to engage constructively with NRW. At least 5000 signatures are needed to trigger a debate in the Senedd (Welsh parliament) about this: we're around 80% of the way there already but need one last push to get us there.

Kenfig National Nature Reserve is threatened by the refusal of its owners to work with conservation organisations to deliver a new management plan for the site. To help the situation you may consider

signing a petition to safeguard the site, a link to the petition and some background information can be found below:

<https://petitions.senedd.wales/petitions/244222>

Steve Preddy (on behalf of the Kenfig campaign co-ordinating group)

Strictly Birding by Joy Croot

Joy is a Lincolnshire Bird Club member based in Healing, Grimsby, and sent this article about her big year in 2019;

It all began at Christmas 2017 when I received a DVD of the film ‘The Big Year’ starring Steve Martin, Jack Black and Owen Wilson. Based on a true story, it relates the triumphs and tribulations of three Birders in the States who attempt to break the record for the highest number of birds seen in a year. It’s an hilarious, moving and inspiring watch and the kernel of an idea was hatched.

With retirement planned for the end of 2018, my husband John and I would spend 2019 challenging ourselves to see just how many bird species we could find in the UK. To add an element of competition and incentive, five birding friends in Cheshire agreed to join us in the endeavour, forming the ‘Birding Buddies.’ We did our research during 2018 and recce’d various locations and reserves; appropriate holidays were booked for throughout 2019, and we were good to go. We opened the curtains on January 1st: posing in pole position on the bird feeder was a handsome male Great Spotted Woodpecker. We had our first tick. By late morning, a trip over to Aldi in Hull, secured a Waxwing on the list. Our Big Year 2019 had begun. First trip was the aptly named ‘New Year List Booster,’ a guided-holiday in the Cairngorms, based in Nethy Bridge (think Spring Watch). We scooted round northern Scotland, with Ptarmigan, Snow Goose, Crested Tit, stonking views of Capercaillie, American Wigeon, and Black Grouse being highlights.

Valuable field craft was learned. For example, never have a sandwich in one hand whilst simultaneously holding a mug of coffee in the other. When the shout of “Goshawk!” goes up, moving binoculars to eyes becomes a dangerously tricky manoeuvre and the raptor is long gone. Nevertheless, I ended the holiday on 110, one more than John. He had made the big mistake of nipping into a village shop for a newspaper and missed the White-tailed Eagle drifting majestically across the horizon. Frustratingly, January ended on a dip for the Dusky Warbler but compensation came in the form of Shorelarks, after four perishingly cold trips to a Lincolnshire beach. A gorgeous, showy Great Grey Shrike in Clumber Park, on a bizarrely warm day, was February’s best tick. I was now on 148 and feeling hopeful that 200 (the original target) would be achievable. The Bird Guides app had become my best friend; an addiction of choice; a daily fix. Hawfinches can be elusive, but we knew of a dead cert place in Lancashire; Sizergh Castle. A hotel was booked; reports checked “yes, seen every morning”; long, twisty, dark, foggy drive across; for an early start next day. We arrived full of hope and expectation. We stared into the slowly clearing, dawn gloom for a long, cold, two hours. Nothing, not a thing. Maybe the ‘dead certs’ were indeed... well, er, dead? We retreated to the only place frustrated twitchers can go and

warmed up with a Cappuccino. Obviously, the blighters showed well the next day when we were safely 175 miles away back home. Undaunted, (a useful attribute for a Birder), we trekked over to the same site a couple of weeks later and were rewarded with good views. Whilst we were on our 'Birding Buddies' territory in the west, our friend, Dot, helped us to find Ring-necked Parakeet, Willow Tit and Cattle Egret. A lifetime bogey bird of ours had always been Little Owl, but a tip-off about a breeding pair in a Doncaster cemetery enabled us to locate them, with much rejoicing complete with victory dance. (Probably not that appropriate for a cemetery).

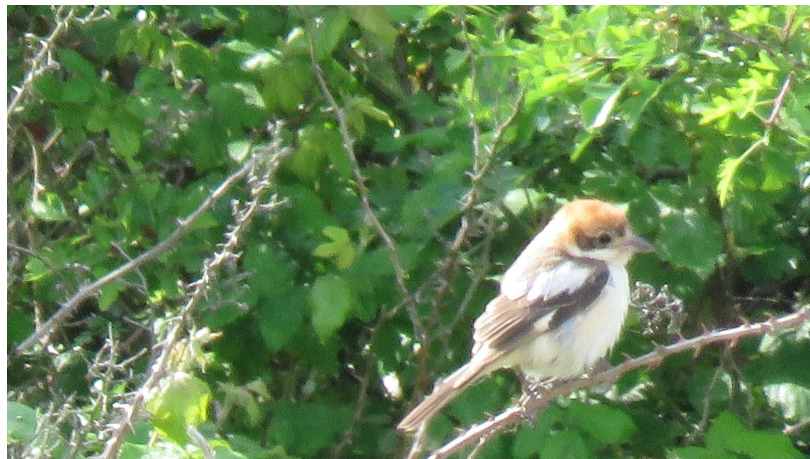


Spring migration was now getting underway and we ticked off Ferruginous Duck (yes, I know, they can be of iffy heritage, these quackers), Spotted Crake, Long-billed Dowitcher, Wood Sandpiper, and an unusually showy and vocal Nightingale. One Sunday I was just about to put a chicken in the oven for dinner when news came through of a Black Tern 20 minutes away. A nanosecond of debate followed, about the merits of a dead Hen versus a beautiful, bouncy-flighted stunner. Needless to say, the Tern won and dinner that evening was an omelette. The first week of May saw us off to the Isles of Scilly for a couple of weeks. Before embarking the Scillonian, we bagged the long staying Glossy Ibis in Penzance, an easy twitch from the Cornish road. Hoopoe, Stone Curlew, Cuckoo, Black Redstart, possible Golden Oriole, Turtle Dove were notable spots in the beautiful isles. A Garden Warbler did me the honour of being my 200th bird. It's a truism for the Scillies that you will always be on the wrong island. We had only just landed on Treviso from our base on St Mary's, when we heard that a Lesser Yellowlegs was on Bryher. We downed our coffee and rushed back to the quay for the next boat to the neighbouring island. As we disembarked, vague queries were proffered regarding the returning boat to St Mary's: equally vague replies were received. The familiar adrenaline rush, anxiety, half-jogging, frantic peering around for fellow twitchers, took over. Old Yellowlegs was duly found and admired, but our euphoria didn't last long as it slowly dawned that we could have a problem. It became apparent that the last boat had left for St Mary's precisely 5 minutes before: the next boat would be tomorrow. Stranded! Sleeping under the stars even on beautiful Bryher was somehow not appealing. Thank

goodness for mobile phones, complete with a reasonable phone signal for, after much negotiation on the price, a rescue boat was arranged which whizzed us back to base in some style. On the long journey home to Lincolnshire, we pulled into a car park in Devon and there on a bush, straight in front of the car, was perched an obliging male Cirl Bunting. Easy tick. Unfortunately, our fellow competitor, Dot, hadn't seen it, so we spent the next 3 hours trying to relocate one.

The next few weeks featured Baikal Teal, Temminck's Stint, Serin, Great Reed Warbler (surely, one of the noisiest birds?). A foray into our garden one night, in jimjams and slippers, was probably our most eco-friendly twitch. Silhouetted on top of an oak tree, 'our' vociferous Tawny Owl made it on to the list.

Then a week in Suffolk produced Woodchat Shrike, Iberian Chiffchaff, Wood Lark (one of the loveliest singers), Lesser Grey Shrike, Little Owl (another, yey!), Savi's Warbler, Caspian Gull, bringing my running total to 231. But it was bird 232, an almost mythical creature especially in the north, that gave me greatest pleasure. A few very wet hours in Thetford Forest finally yielded a tiny flying barcode over my head. Yes! A Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. Frustratingly, John



was just too late to see it. A break in Anglesey secured us Black Guillemot, along with the usual range of sea birds. One of our targets was the scarce Roseate Tern. After a bit of research, we learnt it was breeding on an off-shore island: the only thing for it was to take an exhilarating Rib Ride, James Bond-style. The bird's distinctive call enabled us to successfully locate it, albeit through sea-splattered bins. The following weeks produced Nightjar, Woodcock, White-rumped Sandpiper, Little Bustard, Marsh Warbler, Goshawk, Montague's Harrier, but one of the most memorable was two displaying male Honey Buzzards. It was my third visit to the Raptor Viewpoint in an attempt to connect with them, so their awesome wing-clapping performance was all the more satisfying. By August my enthusiasm for this way of birding was starting to wane and I was almost dreading a report on BirdGuides of something scarce, with that dilemma of 'do I really want to drive hours to see a Siberian Lesser-striped Do Da?'. Such a report appeared mid-afternoon at the end of August. We decided to go for it, grabbed our birding gear, loaded the car and sped off to Filey.

Sometimes seeing the target bird is the easy part but finding its general location can be the challenge and such was the case here. No-one locally seemed to know where this small pond on a farm was. After driving in ever decreasing circles, we bumped into a couple of local birders who, as the light was rapidly fading, pointed us in the right direction. Bingo! An elegant juvenile Black-winged Stilt. What a lovely bird for my 250th. A weekend at Spurn Migfest reignited our enthusiasm with some bracing sea-watching that enabled us to improve the pelagics section of our lists. A dubious bonus was that we became TV z-listed celebrities having been filmed for Look North, trudging down the road at an unearthly hour on our way to the sea-watch point. Autumn migration was now in full flow and as a warm-up for our next adventure we tracked down Little Crake, Red-necked Phalarope, American

Golden Plover, all on our way to Manchester airport for a trip to Shetland. Yellow-browed Warblers seemed to be leaping about in every bush; Common/Mealy Redpolls, Short-toed Lark, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Olive-backed Pipit, Red-backed Shrike, Lapland Bunting, Iceland Gull, Greenish Warbler and the ever present pirates of the sky, Bonxies, were the standout birds. Perhaps the rarest flying creature that we saw was the huge Monarch Butterfly.

We were also very lucky to have several sightings of otter. Another Big Birding mistake is to check on BirdGuides for reports from the place you've just left. Don't do it! The following couple of weeks in Shetland were off the scale for rarities. Nevertheless, I was now on 271, nip and tuck with my friend Dot, John 258. The other four were trailing in our wake: 280 seemed like a real possibility now. Next up was North Norfolk, accompanied by our Birding Buddies. The sheer number of birds along the coast was quite a revelation and was a stark contrast to the rather depleted biodiversity of my home patches in NE Lincolnshire and Peak District.

We twitched the Hooded Merganser and Grey Phalarope at Titchwell, en-route to Wells-next-the-Sea. Having several pairs of experienced eyes was a huge advantage and by the week's end we had well over 116 species including Firecrest, Rough-legged Buzzard, Jack Snipe, Black Redstart, Little Owl (becoming a bit like buses now!), Ring Ouzel. A particular target was Common Crane. John and I set off to the location allegedly 1 hour away. After a tortuous journey, we arrived 2.5 hours later with light rapidly failing, and tempers well and truly frayed. All of a sudden, the sun emerged from the dusky gloom, catching the silvery feathers of a quartering Barn Owl whilst three Cranes strutted, flew, and called. All was well with the world again. What a treat. 277. East Yorkshire came up



trumps towards the end of autumn migration with a 1st-winter male Bluethroat, Pallas's Leaf Warbler and Black Brant (yes, I did tick it.. though maybe very strictly speaking, it is not a separate species ??!). Yet another Little Owl, peering out of a haystack, helped to make up for all those Little Owl-less years.

Much more of a tricky ID was the 'mega' bird down a remote lane near Bridlington. A confused and stressed gathering of twitchers earnestly tried to morph a Common Kestrel into its Lesser cousin. 'Collin's' app was pored over and the finer details debated. Happily, our patience was rewarded when a couple of hours later two kestrels flew close together and the subtle difference was apparent. Relief. West Yorkshire was the site of our next adventure which involved a ducking and a duck. Squelching along a flooded, muddy mile-long path I heard a yell behind me. I looked around, and there was my husband emerging Venus-like from the waves having slipped on the mud and completely submerged in

a pond. It was a commendable imitation of the diving duck we were pursuing. Unfortunately his camera didn't survive the dunking but at least we did see the smart Ring-necked Duck. December was a lean month but determination paid off. Only a few hours of 2019 remained as we sped up to Saltholme on a sunny New Year's Eve for our sixth attempt to locate a Long-eared Owl. Our luck was in with a well-concealed bird having been located by one of the wardens that morning. We came; we saw, and a traditional victory dance performed. Job done. A fantastic bird, which made for a quality finale to a memorable year. So, scores on the doors? John 269; Dot 280; me 283. Did I enjoy the year? Absolutely! Would I do it again? Absolutely not..... although.....there's always my 'All Time UK List' to work on. Mmmm, I'm just going to click on the BirdGuides app.....!

2020 Postscript: In contrast to last year, I'm learning to appreciate the benefits of stress-free local patch birding during these constrained times..... not to mention our reduced carbon footprint!

Fair Isle Bird Observatory Appeal



Last week I received a letter from a Director of FIBO seeking donations towards the cost of rebuilding the Obs on Fair Isle. You probably remember the horrifying video of the still unexplained fire that totally destroyed the building in March 2019. The good news is they are rebuilding bigger, better and greener but there is a big shortfall between the cost and what the insurance will pay out.

Like the East Bank at Cley, Fair Isle is one of the key places of pilgrimage for any birder. The only time I stayed at the Obs was in Oct 2015 with Andy Sims, John Clarkson and Andrew Chick and we had a fantastic week, the highlight being the constant changing parade of migrants, oh and a Siberian Rubythroat. It really is a magical place and the most fantastic birding experience. Hopefully you've been or will get to go in the future. I've made a personal donation and perhaps you might consider doing so too at www.fairislebirdobs.co.uk.

At our next committee meeting I intend to propose LBC makes a donation, even if only a small one. I'd be interested in hearing your view on whether club funds should be spent entirely in the county or further afield too. Let me know on chairman@lincsbirdclub.co.uk or tweet me @philespin.

Phil Espin

Follow me on twitter @philespin

Birds of The Overseas Territories

A NEW book on the birds and other wildlife of the UK Overseas Territories has just been published, largely thanks to the endeavours of a former Lincolnshire birder.

Birds of The Overseas Territories is edited by Roger Riddington who grew up in Alford but later worked as a warden on Fair Isle and now lives in the Shetlands.

He worked on the project during interludes from his main job as editor of British Birds - a post from which will soon be stepping down.

Most of the overseas territories are small islands, or island complexes, occurring from the Caribbean to the furthest reaches of the South Atlantic via the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

In terms of global biodiversity, their importance cannot be overestimated.

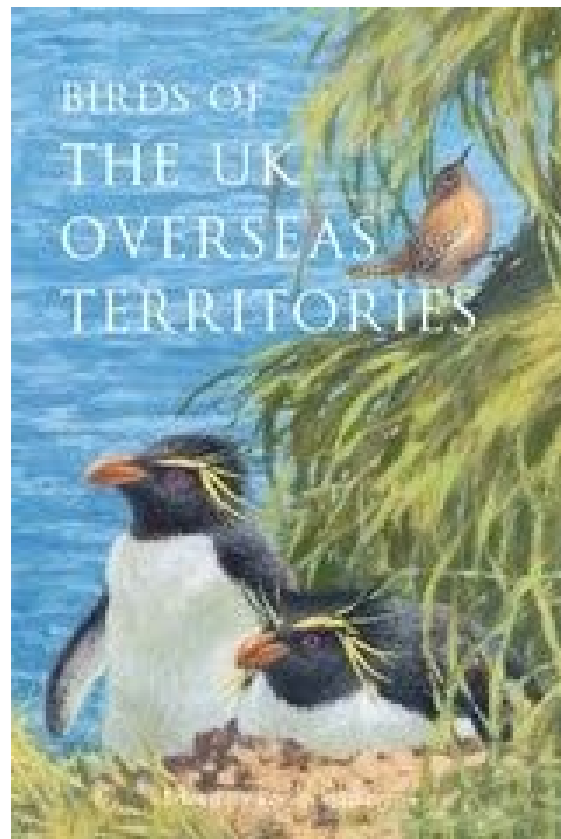
Their habitats range from coral atolls through mangroves and dry forests to the ice sheets of Antarctica, and they support at least 45 species of birds currently considered to be globally threatened.

The territories are also home to a third of all the world's breeding albatrosses, and nine of the world's 17 species of penguin.

The various chapters have been written by individual authors, and Roger has linked the contributions in such a way that there is a coherent theme.

Birds of The Overseas Territories is published by T.D. Poyser at £35.

Jim Wright



Advertisement

Cornwall Calling

Helen and Alec Grimsey have been in touch with Lincolnshire Bird Club.

They have a rental holiday home - great for birders - on the coast at Columb Major between Padstow and Newquay.

Bookings from LBC members are welcome for both short and long breaks, and they still have some vacancies for spring and beyond.

Cornwall is an ace county - one of the best in Britain - for seeing rare and unusual birds, especially marine species and wind-blown vagrants from North America.

Just in the first two months of 2020, its list includes such mouth-waterers as American buff-bellied pipit, bufflehead, Pacific diver, ring-necked duck and three rare gulls - Caspian, Kumlien's and ring-billed.

The couple's website is: <http://www.cornishholiday.info/> For more details (and to request a copy of their seabirds newsletter), contact the couple at: enquiries@cornishholiday.info



Caravan for rent on Cleethorpes foreshore

Nurse Lynd Adcock has been in touch with the Lincolnshire Bird Club.

She is offering a discount to any LBC members who would like to rent her static caravan overlooking the saltmarsh and beach in Cleethorpes and just a few minutes' walk from an RSPB reserve.

It is an excellent location for waders and migrant passerines.

Lynd can be contacted at: lynd.lynd@yahoo.co.uk or at 07870397393.



Lincolnshire Bird News - October 2020

Compiled by Chris Grimshaw

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

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

31/10/2020

Freiston Shore

Bean Geese (7 south)

Huttoft Pit

Great White Egret

30/10/2020

Boultham Mere

Swallow

Huttoft Pit

Great White Egret

29/10/2020

Anderby

Serin (south)

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Black-necked Grebe

Boultham Mere

Raven

Gibraltar Point

Black-throat Diver, 2 Great Northern Diver, 2 Gannet, 2 Merlin, 18 Whooper Swan

Paradise Pool

Long-tailed Duck

28/10/2020

West Ashby

Great White Egret

Chapel Point

Short-eared Owl

Frampton Marsh

Parrot Crossbill (west), 13 Tundra Bean Goose

Gibraltar Point

Little Stint

Huttoft car-terrace

Grey Phalarope

Marston

Jack Snipe

Paradise Pool

Long-tailed Duck

Rimac

Hen Harrier (ring-tail)

27/10/2020

Far Ings

Bittern, Marsh Harrier, Kingfisher

Frampton Marsh

Hen Harrier (male), Merlin, Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint, 2 Swallow

Gibraltar Point

Jack Snipe

Paradise Pool

Long-tailed Duck

RAF Woodhall

Great White Egret

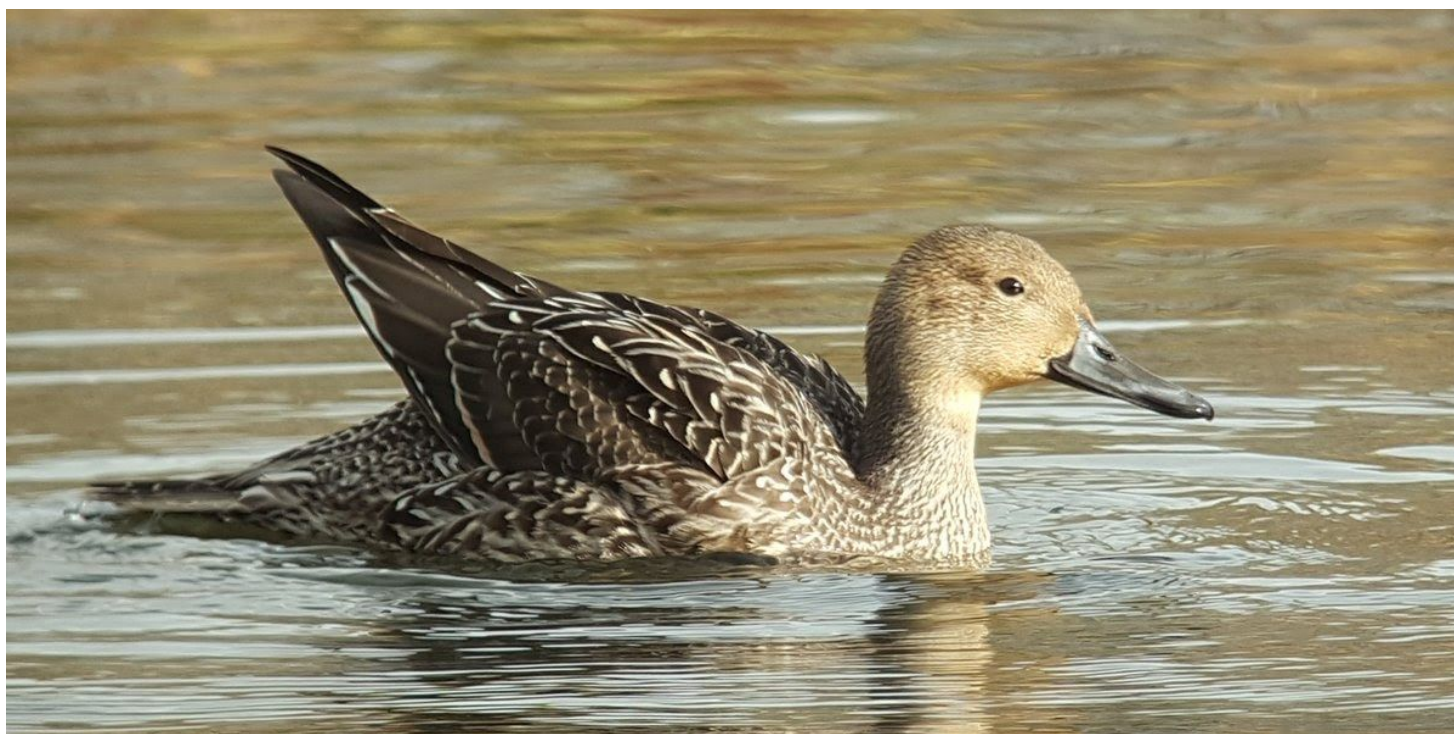
26/10/2020

Anderby Creek

Great White Egret

Marston

Pintail



Female Pintail at Marston - © Dave Roberts

Nene Mouth

Russian White-fronted Goose

Paradise Pool

Long-tailed Duck

Whisby

Bittern



Bittern at Whisby - © Neil Roberts

25/10/2020

West Ashby

Great White Egret

Boultham Mere

70 Fieldfare, 2 Goldcrest, Kingfisher, 60 Linnets, Water Rail, 15 Skylark, 3 Tree Sparrow, 7 Whooper Swan, 2 Green Woodpecker

Mablethorpe

Short-eared Owl (in off)

Trent Port

4 Bullfinch, 2 Chiffchaff, 180 Fieldfare, 4 Goldcrest, Goosander 5 Whooper Swan, 34 Wigeon

24/10/2020

Barton on Humber

Tundra Bean Goose, 7000 Pink-footed Geese, **White-fronted Geese**

23/10/2020

South Ferriby

Yellow-browed Warbler

Donna Nook

Firecrest, Glossy Ibis, Richard's Pipit

Gibraltar Point

Siberian Chiffchaff

22/10/2020

Baston Fen

Large Mummuration of Starling (10000+), many thousands of Lapwing and Golden Plover

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Black-necked Grebe

Chapel Point

Hen Harrier

Deeping Lakes

Tundra Bean Goose

Hartsholme Park/Swanholme Lakes

Kingfisher, Siskin, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Huttoft Pit

Great White Egret

21/10/2020

Boultham Mere

Great White Egret

Huttoft

Yellow-browed Warbler (in private garden)

20/10/2020

Baston Pits

Black-necked Grebe

Boultham Mere

Marsh Harrier

Covenham St Mary

Yellow-browed Warbler

Deeping High Bank

Short-eared Owl

Far Ings

Bittern, Great White Egret

Frampton Marsh

Kingfisher, 2000 Red Knot, 1000's Golden Plover, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, 80 Whooper Swan

Freiston Shore

Great Grey Shrike

Gibraltar Point

Dusky Warbler

Marston

13 Curlew, up to 3 Marsh Harrier, Green Sandpiper, 4 Stonechat

Read's Island

5 Marsh Harrier

Wolla Bank

Dusky Warbler

19/10/2020

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Black-necked Grebe

Boultham Mere

Great White Egret, 7 Whooper Swan

Brickyard Lane

Rough-legged Buzzard

Freiston

Great Grey Shrike (by the prison but check fence posts as you walk down the road)

Gibraltar Point

4 House Martin, 9 Swallow

18/10/2020

Anderby Creek

10 Barnacle Geese (north), Mandarin, 3 White-fronted Geese, Redstart

Donna Nook

Siberian Chiffchaff, 36 Little Egret, 9 Barnacle Geese, 8 Goldcrest, 145 Pink-footed Geese, Marsh Harrier, Kestrel, Grey Plover, 360 Redshank, Redwing, Purple Sandpiper, 4, Dusky Warbler



Goldcrest at Donna Nook - Image © Chris Grimshaw

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, 4 Greenshank, Kingfisher, Short-eared Owl, 60 Lesser Redpoll, 30 Siskin, Stonechat, 6 Swallow, 100 Whooper Swan, 9 Spotted Redshank, Green Woodpecker

SeaView Farm

Dusky Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler

Trent Port, Marton

15 Fieldfare, 6 Goldcrest, Kingfisher, 4 Golden Plover, 10 Lesser Redpoll, 68 Redwing, Tawny Owl, 2 Treecreeper

Marston

Chiffchaff, Fieldfare, Lesser Redpoll, Skylark, Redwing, 2 Stonechat

17/10/2020

Alkborough Flats

Snow Bunting

North Cotes

Dusky Warbler

Crowle Moor

800 Lesser Redpoll

Denton Reservoir

Scaup

Donna Nook

Dusky Warbler

SeaView Farm

Dusky Warbler, Pallas's Warbler

Frampton Marsh

Curlew Sandpiper, 5000 Starling (mumuration)

Gibraltar Point

Brambling, Firecrest, Water Pipit, Jack Snipe, Stonechat, Dusky Warbler

Huttoft

Red-breasted Flycatcher



Red-breasted Flycatcher at Huttoft - © Gary Wright

Lincoln

2 Mealy Redpoll (University)

Skegness

Yellow-browed Warbler

Whisby

5 Jay, Kingfisher, 25 Lesser Redpoll, 9 Siskin, 2 Treecreeper

16/10/2020

Boultham Mere

7 Whooper Swan

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Fiskerton Fen

Goosander, Cetti's Warbler

Freiston Shore

Great Grey Shrike

Gibraltar Point

Hawfinch, Dusky Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler

SeaView Farm

Dusky Warbler, Pallas's Warbler

Swanpool

235 Pink-footed Geese

15/10/2020

Covenham Reservoir

3 Goosander, Slavonian Grebe

Crook Bank

Olive-backed Pipit

Deeping Lakes

Bearded Tit

Denton Reservoir

Goldeneye, Scaup

Donna Nook

Spoonbill, Purple Sandpiper

Far Ings

Up to 4 Bitterns, Pink-footed Geese, 3 Marsh Harrier, Kingfisher, 2 Sparrowhawk

Frampton Marsh

3 Curlew Sandpiper, Greenshank, Stonechat 59 Whooper Swan

Freiston Shore

Lapland Bunting, 2 Pintail, Great Grey Shrike

Gibraltar Point

Brambling, Lapland Bunting, Great Northern Diver, Fieldfare, Goldcrest, Lesser Redpoll, Merlin (F), Ring Ouzel, 4 Short-eared Owl 2 Black Redstart, Redwing, 3 Scaup, Siskin, 2 Jack Snipe, Yellow-browed Warbler, Wheatear, Woodcock

Ingoldmells

Long-eared Owl

Ludford

Hen Harrier

Riseholme Lake

Great White Egret

Saltfleet (Crook Bank)

Dusky Warbler

14/10/2020

Baston

Yellow-browed Warbler (in a private garden)

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Frampton Marsh

Pink-footed Geese, Marsh Harrier, Merlin, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, Stonechat, 35 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

2 Firecrest, Black Redstart, Barred Warbler, Yellow-browed Warbler



Slavonian Grebe at Covenham Reservoir © Russell Hayes

Lincoln - Swanholme Lakes

Goosander (female - first of the winter?)

Marston

2 Red Kite, 2 Swallow

New Holland

Whooper Swan

Rimac

Dusky Warbler

SeaView Farm

Yellow-browed Warbler

13/10/2020

Boultham Mere

2 Fieldfare, Kingfisher, 120 Lesser Redpoll, 7 Whooper Swan, Cetti's Warbler



Kingfisher at Boultham Mere - © Andy Sims

Churchill Lane

10 Barnacle Geese, 25 Whooper Swan

Frampton Marsh

7 Goldeneye 200 Pink-footed Goose, Greenshank, Marsh Harrier, Kingfisher, Merlin, 9 Grey Plover, Water Rail, Spotted Redshank, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint, 8 Whooper Swan, Cetti's Warbler

Moggs Eye - Sandilands

Richard's Pipit

Skegness

Red-breasted Flycatcher (on a boat 20 miles off Skegness)

12/10/2020

Anderby Creek

3 Brambling, 33 Reed Bunting, 16 Crossbill, Little Gull, 14 Linnet, 97 Meadow Pipit, 188 Lesser Redpoll, 27 Siskin, 2 Whooper Swan, 5 Yellowhammer

Boultham Mere

7 Whooper Swan

Denton Reservoir

Scaup (male)

Frampton Marsh

5 Spotted Redshank, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint

SeaView Farm

Yellow-browed Warbler

11/10/2020

Callan's Lane Wood

2 Crossbill, Lesser Redpoll (a few), Siskin (a few)

Churchill Lane

11 Barnacle Geese

Frampton Marsh

Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Brambling, 11 Crossbill, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Hawfinch 7 Yellow-browed Warbler

East Halton to Goxhill Haven

6 Chiffchaff, 2 Fieldfare, 5600+ Pink-footed Geese, 2 Marsh Harrier, Merlin, Short-eared Owl, 13 Pintail, 87 Redwing, Great Scaup, 4 Common Scoter, Wheatear

Huttoft Car Terrace

Red-throated Diver, Eider, 215 Gannet, Guillemot

Trent Port, Marton

105 Fieldfare, 160 Pink-footed Geese, Goldcrest, 2 Kingfisher, Lesser Redpoll, 352 Redwing, Siskin, Swallow, 21 Pied Wagtail

Marston

13 Curlew, 4 Little Grebe, Marsh Harrier, Kestrel, Red Kite, Water Rail, 10 Redwing, Snipe, 2 Sparrowhawk, 2 Swallow, 63 Teal, Cetti's Warbler

Saltfleet

Barnacle Geese, Pink-footed Geese

Sutton on Sea

Great Northern Diver, 6 Eider, 257 Gannet, 746 Pink-footed Geese, 4 Guillemot, Little Gull, 2 Arctic Skua, Great Skua, 2 Pomarine Skua, 2 Whooper Swan

Theddlethorpe St Helen

Short-eared Owl

Witham Mouth

200 Gannet, Grey Phalarope, Arctic Skua (all from the Boston Belle)

RAF Woodhall

House Martin, 11 Whooper Swan, Swallow

10/10/2020

Barton Upon Humber - Waters Edge

2 Crossbill (one at each site)

Gibraltar Point

2 Lapland Bunting, 20 Crossbill. 1500 Pink-footed Goose, Ring Ouzel, c2800 Redwing, 2 Yellow-browed Warbler

Toft Newton Reservoir

24 Whooper Swan

Scupholme

36 Whooper Swan

09/10/2020

Cowbit - Whaplode Drove

Lammergeier (apparently now in Cambridgeshire at Thorney)

Deeping Lakes

Osprey

Freiston Shore

Yellow-browed Warbler

Swanpool

c100 Lesser Redpoll (in two flocks half a mile apart)

08/10/2020

Alkborough Flats

Lesser Yellowlegs

Boultham Mere

Great White Egret

Cowbit & Moulton Chapel

Lammergeier

Deeping High Bank

Short-eared Owl

Frampton Marsh

400 Pink-footed Geese, £7 Whooper Swan

Freiston Shore

Yellow-browed Warbler

East Halton Skitter

Scaup

Marston

Great White Egret

07/10/2020

Barton Pits

Pink-footed Goose (hundreds over)

Boultham Mere

Cetti's Warbler

Chapel Six Marshes

Red Kite, Sparrowhawk

Freiston Shore

Yellow-browed Warbler

Gibraltar Point

4 Lapland Bunting, 2 Crossbill, Great White Egret, 3 Hawfinch, Hobby, Merlin, Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, Ring Ouzel, Osprey, Short-eared Owl, Spoonbill, Yellow-browed Warbler

Holbeach St John's - Moulton Chapel

Lammergeier

Huttoft Bank Pits

Little Bittern (late report - but only around for ten minutes)

Cleethorpes

Red-throated Diver, 165 Ringed Plover, Great Skua

Rimac

Blackcap, Chiffchaff, Goldcrest

06/10/20

Alkborough Flats

2 Ruddy Shelduck

Anderby Creek

Lapland Bunting, Snow Bunting



One of the two Ruddy Shelduck at Alkborough Flats - © Neil Drinkall

Cleethorpes

11 Common Crossbill

Dunsby Fen

3 Chiffchaff, 20 Meadow Pipit, Pintail, Stonechat, 9 Swallow, Grey Wagtail

Freiston Shore

Goshawk, Hawfinch, Ruddy Shelduck, 3 Yellow-browed Warbler

Gibraltar Point

Hawfinch, Yellow-browed Warbler

East Halton to Goxhill Haven

2 Blackcap, 13 Chiffchaff, c2700 Pink-footed Goose, 2 Short-eared Owl, 9 Pintail, Spotted Redshank, Scaup (female), 24 Stonechat, Whimbrel

North Killingholme Pits

200 Avocet, 2000 Dunlin, 3000 Black-tailed Godwit, 500 Knot, 300 Lapwing

Lincs Coastal CP

Mediterranean Gull, Snipe, 267 Teal, 21 Wigeon

Saltfleetby

4 Yellow-browed Warbler

SeaView Farm

Chiffchaffs, Siskin, 3+ Yellow-browed Warbler

Toynton All Saints

Hobby

05/10/2020

Dawson City

4 Stonechat, Wheatear and a dead juvenile gannet

Donna Nook

3 Redstart, Richard's Pipit, Garden Warbler

Frampton Marsh

Brambling, 100 Pink-footed Geese, Hobby, Kingfisher, Merlin, Pintails, Stonechat, 2 Swallow, Cetti's Warbler, Wheatear, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Freiston Shore

37 Gannet

Gibraltar Point

Great White Egret

SeaView Farm

Brambling, Hawfinch, Yellow-browed Warbler



A stunning image of a Hawfinch at Seaview Farm possibly ringed in the New Forest - © John Clarkson

04/10/2020

Anderby Creek

Yellow-browed Warbler

Boultham Mere

Great White Egret

Caistor

70 Pink-footed Geese

Cleethorpes

Brambling, 60 Pink-footed Geese Jay, 6 Whooper Swan, Cetti's Warbler, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Donna Nook

3 Red-breasted Flycatcher, 2 Radde's Warbler



Raddes Warbler at Donna Nook - © Mark Johnson

Frampton Marsh

Merlin, 5 Little Stint, Whinchat, Wheatear, 11 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

20 Brambling, 20 Crossbill, 2 Fieldfare, 3 Common Redstart, Jack Snipe, 300 Siskin, 4 Stonechat, 12 Yellow-browed Warbler, Whinchat

Marston

13 Curlew, 2 Marsh Harrier, 26 Lapwing, 3 House Martin, 2 Cetti's Warbler

SeaView Farm

Yellow-browed Warbler

Skegness

50 Brambling, 3 Crossbill, Ring Ouzel, 30 Lesser Redpoll, Redwing 10 Stonechat, Siskin, Swallow, Wheatear, Lesser Whitethroat

Trent Port Marton

Great White Egret, 70 Pink-footed Geese, 185 Goldfinch, Kingfisher, 8 Lesser Redpoll, 9 Siskin, 71 Skylark, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Wolla Bank

Red-breasted Flycatcher

03/10/2020

Langrick Bridge, Boston

Great White Egret

Chapel Observatory

Grey Phalarope (north)

Donna Nook

10 Red-breasted Flycatcher, 10 Common Redstart

Gibraltar Point

20 Brambling, Siberian Chiffchaff, Pied Flycatcher, Red-breasted Flycatcher, Spotted Flycatcher, Hawfinch, Ring Ouzel, 6 Common Redstart, 3 Jack Snipe, 10 Yellow-browed Warbler, Barred Warbler

Ingoldmells

Short-eared Owl

Marston

6 Chiffchaff, 2 Marsh Harrier, 20 Barn Swallow, Reed Warbler, Sedge Warbler

Sandilands

Short-eared Owl

02/10/2020

Deeping High Bank

Short-eared Owl

Frampton Marsh

2 Buzzard, Peregrine Falcon, 68 Pink Footed Geese, Goldcrest, Kingfisher, Little Owl, Short-eared Owl, 7 Little Stints, Water Rail, Stonechat, 5 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

Goshawk, Hawfinch, 6 Spotted Redshank, Pomarine Skua, 2 Yellow-browed Warbler

Humberston Fitties

Yellow-browed Warbler

Sandilands (golf course)

Great Snipe, Wryneck

01/10/2020

Alkborough Flats

2 Curlew, Little Egret, 61 Pink-footed Geese, Greenshank, 40 Black-headed Gull, 3 Grey Heron, Marsh Harrier, 28 Lapwing, Water Rail at least one, 10 Common Redshank, 5 Spotted Redshank, 14 Whooper Swan, Bearded Tit (numerous), 5 Cetti's Warbler

Boultham Mere

2 Chiffchaff, Great White Egret, Little Egret, Kingfisher, Water Rail, 2 Lesser Redpoll, 2 Snipe, 5 Swallow

Chapel St Leonards

Great White Egret

Frampton Marsh

9 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

5 Lapland Bunting, 3 Crossbill, 2000 Pink-footed Geese, 4 Yellow-browed Warbler

Killingholme Haven

Curlew Sandpiper

Louth

3 Little Egret, 8 Fieldfare, 3 Kingfisher, 7 Grey Wagtail

Swanpool

172 Pink-footed Geese

Welton

50 Pink-footed Geese

Contact Information & Useful Lincs Websites

Lincs Bird Club Website

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

Twitter [@Lincsbirding](#)

Facebook:

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

LBC County Bird Recorder

Phil Hyde recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk

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

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

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

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

Recording

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

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

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

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

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

Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union Website

<http://lnu.org/>

LNU e-mail: info@lnu.org

Love Lincs Plants

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

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

Sir Joseph Banks Society

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

enquiries@joseph-banks.org.uk

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust

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

Lincolnshire Bat Group website

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

Butterfly Conservation Lincolnshire Branch

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

FIGHTING WILDLIFE CRIME

Rural Crime Officer

Pc 160 Nick Willey

Force Wildlife, Rural Crime Officer

Force Dog Training Establishment

Lincolnshire Showground.

Grange-De-Lings.

Lincoln

nicholas.willey@lincs.pnn.police.uk

OFFICE: 01522-731897

MOBILE :07768-501895

PAGER : 07654-330877

Rural Crime News -

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

STAYING SAFE

EasyTide

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

Met Office Severe Weather E-mail Service

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

Environment Agency Flood Information/Floodline

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

Lyme Disease

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

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION AND RECORDING

Botany

Botanical Group in South Lincs

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

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

LNU Sawflies, Bees, Wasps and Ants Recorder

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

Lincolnshire Mammals

Chris Manning, Chris.LincsDeer@gmail.com

Mammal Atlas

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

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

Lincs Amphibian and Reptile Group

The Lincolnshire ARG (Amphibian & Reptile Group)

Ashley Butterfield - learningoutdoors@btinternet.com

Local Bat Helpline

Grounded bats, bat problems, advice and information.

Contact Annette and Colin Faulkner on

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

Confidential Bat Records

You may send confidential bat records direct to Annette

Faulkner on: annettefaulkner@btinternet.com

USEFUL WILDLIFE CONTACTS

Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership

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

Contact: charlie.barnes@glnp.org.uk

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

Natural England

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

Lincolnshire Environmental Awards

www.lincsenvironmentalawards.org.uk

Life on the Verge and Wildflower Meadow Network Project

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



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

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

