

Lincolnshire Bird Club eNewsletter



The Heron - Lincs Bird Club eNewsletter - June 2022

Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter - June 2022

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Next Field Meeting

2.00 p.m. Alkborough Flats, 11th June 2022 (Meet at the car park at SE 886 223)

Garganey, Glossy Ibis, Purple Heron, Spoonbill, Bittern, Bearded Tit all present in the last couple of weeks, why not come along, should be a great afternoon.

SPRING BIRD RACE 2022

The Spring Bird Race day (in conjunction with Global Bird day) was a success with an <u>incredible 166 species recorded in Lincolnshire on 14th May</u>. Many thanks to all who took part in this county wide effort.

The day held many surprises in store for a few lucky sites; a red-letter day at Gibraltar Point with the finding of a Golden Oriole and a Red-rumped Swallow. RSPB Frampton Marsh delivered the goods on the wader front with sightings of a Temminck's Stint and a Pectoral Sandpiper. A Montagu's Harrier was recorded from The Wash. East Halton produced the only Cattle Egret in the county on the day. Away from the coast a stunning Wood Warbler was found in full song at Marton!

Sea watching produced some notably species at Anderby Creek which included a pair of Red-breasted Merganser, Little Tern (several also present at Gibraltar Point), Kittiwake, Gannet and a Razorbill.

Scarce species were well represented with a male Redstart at East Halton, a Pied Flycatcher and Ring Ouzel at Gibraltar Point, Spotted Flycatcher at RSPB Freiston Shore and an Osprey over Tallington Lakes. Little Stint, Wood Sandpiper and Curlew Sandpiper were all recorded from RSPB Frampton Marsh and Gibraltar Point. Little Gull sightings from RSPB Frampton Marsh and Alkborough.

Lingering winter migrants included a very late Pink-footed Goose, Merlin and Brambling at Gibraltar Point. Brent Goose and Wigeon were also found lingering at a few sites around The Wash.



Spoonbill numbers continue to increase with multiple sightings from Gibraltar Point, RSPB Freiston Shore, RSPB Frampton Marsh and Alkbrorough. The latter site and Far Ings also produced the only sightings of Bittern and Bearded Tit on the day. The breeding pair of Common Crane from Willowtree Fen were present alongside the two chicks!

An impressive 11 species of warbler were recorded throughout the county.

In North Lincolnshire: Goshawk, Nightjar, Tree Pipit, Longeared Owl, Crossbill and Woodlark were very welcome additions to an excellent day in the county.

A bird race would not be complete without a few plastics on the list in the form of a Barnacle Goose at RSPB Freiston Shore and an Egyptian Goose at Baston Pits. A special mention also to the Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon duo which always provide some amusement on a bird race.

As is customary with bird races there were several omissions on the day, most notably were Green Sandpiper, Guillemot and Willow Tit.

Another county wide effort bird race will be scheduled in for the upcoming autumn. Watch this space for dates!

1	Brent Goose	Gibraltar Point and
	_	Frampton Marsh
2	Canada Goose	
3	Barnacle Goose	RSPB Frampton
		Marsh/Alkborough
4	Greylag Goose	
5	Pink-footed Goose	Gibraltar Point
6	Egyptian Goose	Baston Gravel Pits
7	Mute Swan	
8	Shelduck	
9	Garganey	RSPB Frampton Marsh
10	Shoveler	
11	Gadwall	
12	Wigeon	
13	Mallard	
14	Teal	
15	Pochard	
16	Tufted Duck	_

17	Eider	Gib Point, Anderby & Freiston Shore	
18	Common Scoter	Anderby Creek	
19	Goldeneye	Undisclosed site in North Lincs	
20	Red-breasted	Pair north offshore at	
21	Merganser Red-legged Partridge	Anderby Creek	
22	Grey Partridge		
22	Quail		
23	Pheasant		
24	Little Grebe		
25	Great Crested Grebe		
25	Great crested Grebe	Gib Point/Alkborough	
26	Spoonbill	/ Freiston Shore	
27	Grey Heron	·	
28	Great White Egret	Alkborough	
29	Cattle Egret	East Halton	
30	Little Egret		
31	Bittern	Alkborough Flats	
32	Gannet	Anderby Creek	
33	Cormorant	-	
34	Osprey	Tallington Lakes	
35	Sparrowhawk	-	
36	Goshawk	Undisclosed site in North Lincs	
37	Marsh Harrier		
38	*Montagu's Harrier*	Ringtail in The Wash	
39	Red Kite	Marton	
40	Common Buzzard		
41	Water Rail	Far Ings	
42	Moorhen		
43	Coot		
44	Common Crane	Pair at Willowtree Fen with 2 chicks!	
45	Oystercatcher		
46	Avocet		
47	Lapwing		
48	Grey Plover		
49	Golden Plover	RSPB Frampton Marsh	
50	Ringed Plover		
51	Little Ringed Plover		
52	Whimbrel		

53	Curlew	
54	Bar-tailed Godwit	
55	Black-tailed Godwit	
56	Turnstone	
57	Knot	
58	Ruff	RSPB Frampton Marsh
59	*Pectoral Sandpiper*	RSPB Frampton Marsh
60	Sanderling	Notable inland record Baston Pits
61	Dunlin	2000011100
62	Little Stint	Gib Point/ RSPB Frampton Marsh
63	*Temminck's Stint*	RSPB Frampton Marsh
64	Curlew Sandpiper	Gib Point/ RSPB Frampton Marsh
65	Woodcock	Undisclosed site in North Lincs
66	Snipe	
	Green Sandpiper	
67	Common Sandpiper	
68	Redshank	
69	Wood Sandpiper	Gib Point/ RSPB Frampton Marsh
70	Spotted Redshank	Gib Point/RSPB Frampton Marsh
71	Greenshank	Gibraltar Point
72	Kittiwake	Anderby Creek
73	Black-headed Gull	
74	Mediterranean Gull	
75	Little Gull	RSPB Frampton Marsh/Alkborough
76	Common Gull	
77	Great B-backed Gull	
78	Herring Gull	
79	Lesser B-backed Gull	
80	Sandwich Tern	Gibraltar Point
81	Little Tern	Gib Point/Anderby Creek
82	Arctic Tern	
83	Common Tern	
	Guillemot	
84	Razorbill	Anderby Creek
	Rock/Feral Pigeon	

86	Stock Dove	
87	Collared Dove	
88	Turtle Dove	Old Bolingbroke
89	Wood Pigeon	
90	Cuckoo	
91	Barn Owl	
92	Tawny Owl	
93	Little Owl	
94	Short-eared Owl	Gibraltar Point
95	Long-eared Owl	Undisclosed site in North Lincs
96	Swift	
97	Kingfisher	
98	Great Spot. Woodpecker	
99	Green Woodpecker	
100	Nightjar	Undisclosed site in North Lincs
101	Kestrel	
102	Merlin	Gibraltar Point
103	Hobby	Alkborough Flats
104	Peregrine	
105	Magpie	
106	Jackdaw	
107	Rook	
108	Raven	Gibraltar Point/Tealby
109	Carrion Crow	
110	*Golden Oriole*	Adult male Gibraltar Point
111	Jay	
112	Blue Tit	
113	Great Tit	
114	Marsh Tit	Holywell Lake
115	Coal Tit	
	Willow Tit	
116	Bearded Tit	Alkborough/Far Ings
117	Skylark	
118	Woodlark	Undisclosed site in North Lincs
119	Sand Martin	
120	Swallow	
121	*Red-rumped Swallow*	Gibraltar Point

122	House Martin	
123	Cetti's Warbler	
124	Long-tailed Tit	
125	Willow Warbler	
126	Chiffchaff	
127	*Wood Warbler*	Singing bird at Marton!
128	Sedge Warbler	
129	Reed Warbler	
130	Grasshopper Warbler	
131	Blackcap	
132	Garden Warbler	
133	Lesser Whitethroat	
134	Whitethroat	
135	Goldcrest	
136	Wren	
137	Nuthatch	
138	Treecreeper	
139	Starling	
140	Ring Ouzel	Gibraltar Point
141	Blackbird	
142	Song Thrush	
143	Mistle Thrush	
144	Robin	
145	Pied Flycatcher	Gibraltar Point
146	Spotted Flycatcher	Freiston Shore

Redstart	Male at East Halton
Stonechat	Chapel Six Marshes
Wheatear	
House Sparrow	
Tree Sparrow	
Dunnock	
Yellow Wagtail	
Grey Wagtail	
Pied Wagtail	
Meadow Pipit	
Tree Pipit	Undisclosed site and Gib Point
Chaffinch	
Brambling	Gibraltar Point
Bullfinch	
Greenfinch	
Linnet	
Siskin	Gibraltar Point
Goldfinch	
Siskin	
Crossbill	Undisclosed site in North Lincs
Yellowhammer	
Reed Bunting	
Corn Bunting	Gibraltar Point
	Stonechat Wheatear House Sparrow Tree Sparrow Dunnock Yellow Wagtail Grey Wagtail Pied Wagtail Meadow Pipit Tree Pipit Chaffinch Brambling Bullfinch Greenfinch Linnet Siskin Goldfinch Siskin Crossbill Yellowhammer Reed Bunting

Thanks to Richard Doan for the write up!

Progress of Lincolnshire records submitted to BBRC

The British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC) has a "Work in Progress" (WIP) file which lists 'active' records, plus some of those within on-going reviews. This WIP file is for guidance as to the 'state of play' of submissions received - once a record is published in *British Birds* Annual Report, which comes out in the October edition, it is no longer held on the WIP file.

The WIP 'cycle' should be thought as starting in late September/October when the 'in circulation' file starts with all the records submitted for the new 'current' year and any earlier ones that have not been completed. The table here is taken from the WIP file updated to March 2022 and in the progress column "OK" and "OK same" indicate accepted county records. IC = still in circulation.



Thus, the two records for Lesser Scaup at two sites (assumed same bird), Baillon's Crake (a county first) and one of the two Pacific Golden Plovers at Frampton are all accepted.

Note that there are several earlier/late submissions still "IC", in particular the 1975 record of Pallid Swift, details of which were only recently submitted by Kev Wilson who painstakingly transcribed the original field notes of the original observers (Lenton Ottoway and Rodney Higgins) which came to light after a long hiatus. This would constitute a first for the UK if accepted and came at a time before the now established pattern of Pallid Swifts turning up in late October and November was recognised.

Progress	First Seen	Last Seen	Count	Name	Location
IC	21/09/2021	25/09/2021	1	Red-breasted Goose	Sea Lane, Wrangle
ОК	29/04/2021	29/04/2021	1	Lesser Scaup	Anderby Creek and Chapel Pit
OK same	24/05/2021	24/05/2021	1	Lesser Scaup	Manby Flashes
IC	12/08/2021	24/08/2021	1	Black Stork	RSPB Frampton Marsh and RSPB Freiston Shore
IC	07/05/2021	07/05/2021	1	Pallid Harrier	Bonby Carrs
ОК	05/06/2021	07/06/2021	1	Baillon's Crake	Alkborough Flats
IC	31/12/2021	02/01/2022	1	White-tailed Lapwing	Winter's Pit, East Halton
IC	05/06/2009	05/06/2009	1	Pacific Golden Plover	Gibraltar Point
ОК	19/07/2021	05/08/2021	1	Pacific Golden Plover	RSPB Frampton Marsh
IC	03/11/2021	03/11/2021	1	Bonaparte's Gull	Gibraltar Point NNR
IC	19/06/2021	19/06/2021	1	Caspian Tern	Barton on Humber
IC	20/06/2021	21/06/2021	1	Caspian Tern	Baston Pits
IC	25/06/2021	28/06/2021	1	Caspian Tern	Barton on Humber
IC	06/11/1975	06/11/1975	1	Pallid Swift	Rimac
IC	15/10/2016	15/10/2016	1	Northern Treecreeper	Theddlethorpe Dunes
IC	04/01/2022	04/01/2022	1	Black-throated Thrush	Lincoln

Work underway on new Grimsby habitat for wetland birds

WORK has started on the creation of a special 50-acre wetland habitat (pictured) for wading birds and wildfowl.

Located on the Humber Bank, just outside Grimsby, it will be named Novartis Ings in gratitude to Swiss multinational chemical and pharmaceuticals Group Novartis which is vacating the adjacent factory at the end of this year after a 70-year presence.

Says the company's Grimsby chief, Ian Johnson: "Novartis Grimsby is delighted to leave a lasting legacy towards this important project for the environment.

"We are enjoying watching the field transform into a wetland habitat, and the project will ensure our contribution and connection is remembered."

The site will not be a nature reserve open to the public but what is known as a "mitigation site", created to compensate for nearby bird habitat likely to be lost to industrial development.

There will be an observation hide, and it is understood Lincolnshire Bird Club members might have a monitoring and recording role.

To be managed by North East Lincolnshire Council, it will complement another mitigation site, the 100-acre Cress Marsh, Stallingborough, created in 2018.

Comments NELC leader Cllr Philip Jackson: "I am delighted that this second mitigation site is progressing, and would like to thank Novartis for the land."

The contract is being carried out by Skegness-based JE Spence and Sons, who created the first Humber mitigation site, and overseen by Roger Wardle, an expert in wetland design. His other Lincolnshire credits include Middlemarsh, near Burgh-le-Marsh.

Because of its location right alongside the estuary, it is hoped that Novartis Ings will attract thousands of godwits, curlew, redshanks plovers, teal, wigeon and other species including, fingers crossed, some rarities. JW



LBC Report – Photographs

Anyone looking at the most recent annual report will see that Lincolnshire is blessed with numerous quality bird photographers who freely provide their excellent images for use in the annual report. The quality of the images makes the report stand out from the crowd. The Lincolnshire Bird Club is extremely grateful to all the photographers that have over the years given their images so generously.

Andrew Chick has been responsible for collecting photographs for use in the Annual Report. The most difficult part of this role is selecting which images we are NOT going to use – it is often an embarrassment of riches!

Having undertaken this role for at least c. 10 years Andrew has decided to stand down. Fortunately, former Lincs North County Recorder, John Clarkson has agreed to take over and therefore ALL images for future reports should be sent direct to John (johnrclarkson @ btinternet.com).

To make life easier when compiling the report, it is very helpful if photographs can be renamed the image files to include the bird name, the date, the location and the photographs initials (e.g. Redshank_GibPt_030422_APC.jpg).

If you have a lot of images to send in for consideration, then it may be best to use the WeTransfer system. Finally, please accept our apologies, but we can't use every image we received, but we do use as many as we can!

Lincolnshire Bird Trail set to welcome first visitors

Visit Lincolnshire is extending an invitation to nature lovers across the UK to come to Lincolnshire and experience the very best that the County has to offer. The Lincolnshire Bird Trail brings together a suite of the County's finest birdwatching sites to showcase just how good an area Lincolnshire is for birdwatching.

The Birding Trail links key birdwatching sites, allowing visitors to plan ahead and get the most out of any visit.

The County has been split into a number of coherent trails and the first one – covering the amazing Lincolnshire Coast goes live on the visit Lincolnshire website this month.



The Lincolnshire Bird Trail is a partnership between Visit Lincolnshire, Lincolnshire Bird Club, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, The RSPB, Natural England, The National Trust and the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership.

The Trail can be found at www.visitlincolnshire.com/things-to-do/lincolnshire-bird-trail

The first trail covers the coast and includes nine sites that between them, offer the finest birding spectacle at any time of the year.

The sites are:

Alkborough Flats
Far Ings
Cleethorpes
Donna Nook
Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe Dunes

Lincolnshire Coastal Country Park Gibraltar Point Freiston Shore Frampton Marsh

Three further trails will be developed and launched over the coming months that will lead to coverage of the whole county.

They are;

The Fenland Trail

The Wolds Trail

The Trent and Limestone Trail

This has been a massive collaborative effort and special thanks go to Toby Collet who came up with the idea and to Owen Beaumont, Matthew Capper, Graham Catley, Richard Doan, Phil Espin and Jim Wright who provided material for the sites



LBC at Global Bird Fair 15-17 July: fancy a free day out and save £12.50?

It is now confirmed that LBC will have a stand at GBF. Our main purpose will be to showcase the Lincolnshire Bird Trail and promote LBC by selling Birds of Lincolnshire and our annual Bird Reports and hopefully recruit new members. Thank you to Visit Lincolnshire for paying for the stand.

Phil Espin will also be giving a 20 minute lecture "
Lincolnshire Bird Trail": the new Birds of Lincolnshire book and Bird Trail means it's time to visit Lincolnshire, (precise date and time to be confirmed).

We need a team of volunteers to help cover the stand. In return for 2 hours a day cover we are able to offer you a free ticket for either one day or three days, if you can make 3 days. If you'd like to help please contact Phil Espin on chairman@lincsbirdclub.co.uk.



Grimsby Boat Trip 6 August

This is an exploratory trip to offshore Lincs with no guarantees about birds or weather, but the date gives lots of scope for shearwaters, petrels, auks and skuas. We expect to be chumming with mackerel caught by the boat crew. The boat is the The Predator and will depart from Grimsby Number 2 Fish Dock around 8 a.m. and return at approx. 8 pm.

Parking Disused Forecourt DN31 3SD, where you will meet Craig, the skipper. Tea and coffee available and there are toilets on board. You will need to take your own food, bring plenty of sun cream and be prepared for getting wet. The trip is limited to 12 people. And the hosts will be Phil Espin, Phil Hyde and Jim Wright.

If you'd like to reserve a place the cost will be £75, with a refundable £25 deposit. There are 9 places so please book on the website at ($\frac{https://www.lincsbirdclub.co.uk/site/index.php/sales-list/665-grimsbby-6thaug$) as soon as you can. The balance of £50 will be payable in cash on the day. If weather prevents sailing and we cannot reschedule, your deposit will be returned. The places will go to the first 9 booking and we will have a reserve list thereafter.

Lincolnshire is one of top UK counties for breeding Yellow Wagtails

THE Yellow Wagtail emerged as one of the county's most successful species, relative to the rest of England in an informative and entertaining presentation on Lincolnshire's birds, past, present (and future). Across Britain, many farmland specialists have been in steady decline over the past 75 years, but, in this county, the "yellowbelly" has mostly been holding its own. Lincolnshire is currently believed to accommodate almost one in five of Britain's breeding pairs.

In an illustrated talk, co-delivered with county recorder Phil Hyde, Lincolnshire Bird Club chairman Phil Espin commended *Motacilla flava* for its ability to find insects in the sort of arable habitats where many other species have struggled.

Other (unsung) avian heroes of the county include Grey Partridge which, though in decline, is still reckoned to represent 12 per cent of the British breeding population - the same percentage as the Reed Bunting.

Also performing remarkably well is the Sedge Warbler whose county population (8 per cent of the British total) may actually be on the increase. On the other side of the coin, the sad loss to Lincolnshire of the Whinchat, Hawfinch and Redstart over the past 30 years has been well documented. In most parts of the county, breeding Corncrake, Turtle Dove, Spotted Flycatcher, Willow Tit and even Cuckoo are now but distant memories.



Yellow Wagtail from Nocton May 2022 © Andrew Chick

And, in retrospect, was not the Europe-wide culling, almost to the point of extirpation, of the Ruddy Duck, both heartless and inappropriate? This drastic measure was, according to Phil Espin, by edict of a EU directive to prevent it from cross-breeding in Spain with the rare White-headed Duck.

Whether any of the above four species will ever return to breed in our county seems doubtful, but, notwithstanding, there was a prevailingly upbeat note to the talk given by the two Phils.

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The Common Crane has recently returned to breed at the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust's reserve at Willow Tree Fen, near Spalding, while the installation of nesting platforms at its Frampton Marsh reserve, near Boston, is an indication of the RSPB's determination to achieve similar success with Spoonbills.

What else might we get back in the county? A lot of research and habitat creation (plus safeguarding measures) would be necessary, but Phil Espin reckons Stone Curlew and even Great Bustard are possibilities.

Phil Hyde paid tribute to ornithologists of yesteryear such as the Rev Francis Blathwayt, Caton Haigh and John Cordeaux, plus contributors over many years to the *Transactions* journal of the Lincolnshire Naturalists' Union whose combined chronicling of the birdlife of Lincolnshire had paved the way for the invaluable species-recording activities carried out by many subsequent commentators including, over the past 40-plus years, members of the Lincolnshire Bird Club. Phil Hyde went on to highlight some of the rare species that, over many years, have provided a showreel of magic memories for those birders who, through luck or fieldcraft (or both), have struck gold in Lincolnshire. These include the likes of Pallas Sandgrouse, Lanceolated Warbler, White-billed Diver, Northern Waterthrush, White-throated Sparrow, American Buff-bellied Pipit, Pacific Swift and Bobolink, not forgetting the Rufous Scrub-tailed Bush Robin which, in 1963, turned up at Butlins holiday camp at Ingoldmells, near Skegness.

Happily, such ornithological surprises are by no means confined to the past.

Just prior to the first Covid-enforced lockdown in 2020, the campus of Grimsby Institute was graced by the three-week presence of a Black-throated Thrush which seemed relatively unperturbed by the to-ing and fro-ing of students and their lecturers, plus the admiring attentions of numerous birders who had come from all parts of the UK and even a few from further afield.

Even more recent has been the long-staying presence of another Asian species, a White-tailed Lapwing with an evident penchant for RSPB reserves - firstly the one just over the county border at Blacktoft Sands in Yorkshire and subsequently the one at at

Frampton Marsh.

What could be the next rare bird to make its Lincolnshire debut and lift the List above the 405-mark where it stands at present? Melodious Warbler and Surf Scoter are reckoned to be among the front-runners, but, Phil Hyde reckons some of the speculative money should go on a rank outsider - the Spectacled Eider. However, for these three species and for other 'exotics', patience is the watchword.

* The talk by Phil Espin and Phil Hyde was held prior to the annual meeting of the Lincolnshire Bird Club at the Golf Hotel in Woodhall Spa on March 22. It was partly



based on the book *Birds of Lincolnshire* (published last year) of which they are co-authors with John Clarkson and the late Colin Casey.

JW

The Role of Birds in World War Two - How Ornithology Helped to Win the War

HATS off to historian-ornithologist Nicholas Milton for this entertaining account of the role of birds and birdwatchers during the 1939-45 war.

To suggest that between them, they might have "helped to win" the war is perhaps stretching things, but he comes up with plenty of fascinating insights and theories not to be found in other histories of the era.

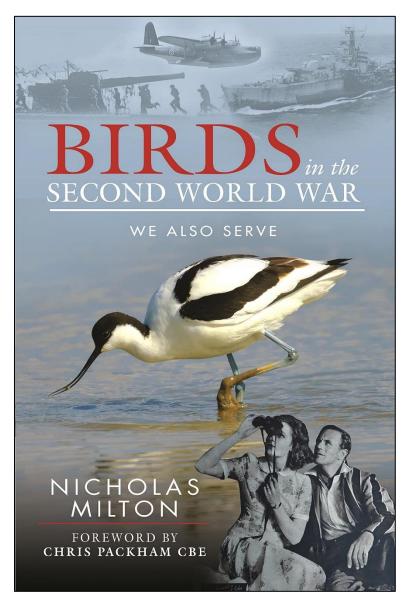
The author recounts in depth and detail the role of homing pigeons in delivering crucial messages, sometimes from servicemen in life-threateningly dangerous situations, and he looks favourably on the notion that R.J. Mitchell's design of the Spitfire fighter aircraft was inspired by his observations of the wings of gulls and Gannets and their effortless mode of flight.

A fascinating early chapter explores the morale-raising significance of certain popular wartime songs, particularly those with the lyrics A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square and There'll Be Bluebirds Over The White Cliffs of Dover.

Of the latter, famously sung by Forces sweetheart Vera Lynn, he suggests there might have been a hidden meaning in the lyric. "Perhaps the bluebirds aren't feathered birds but 'war birds' - the underside of the Spitfire was painted a duck-egg blue colour called 'sky' to camouflage it from the ground."

Of Black Redstarts breeding in London after the Blitz, he maintains this might have been because "the rubble resembled the scree slopes of the species' favoured Alpine habitat".

Milton goes on to credit the RAF for "doing their bit" to help the Avocet when a plane accidentally dropped its bombs on Havergate Island. "The result was that the sea flooded the low-lying land at both Havergate Island and Minsmere, creating shallow brackish lagoons which proved to be ideal habitat."



Also absorbing are the numerous references to prominent ornithologists of the wartime era.

The contributions of some, such as Peter Scott and photographer Eric Hosking, have lived on long after their lives ended, but the author 'rescues' the ornithological legacies of many others, including Richard Meinertzhagen and Ernest Ware whose work has largely been forgotten.

Into the latter category also falls Viscount Alanbrooke whose brilliant strategic input proved famously invaluable to Winston Churchill throughout the war.

At times of extreme mental stress, Alanbrooke ensured he retained his mental equilibrium by studying and cine-filming birds such as hobbies, hawfinches and marsh tits whenever the opportunity arose.

As he described birdwatching in his diary: "It was like rubbing Aladdin's lamp - I was transported to a fairyland and returned infinitely refreshed and recreated."

A word, too, for the book's range of illustrations, which excellently complement the text, and the superb jacket design by Paul Wilkinson.

The Role of Birds in World War Two is published at £25 by Yorkshire-based Pen and Sword and is available wherever books are sold.

Jim Wright

Events programme for summer 2022

Our Events organiser Chris Gunn has put together the following summer programme. Please support these events if you can. This is the first time in many years that we have arranged a programme like this and it is hoped that we can bring members together and enjoy a great time birding. If you'd like to go on a trip and have no transport please put a request on either the LBC Discussion Forum or tweet @Lincsbirding and we'll see what can be arranged.

Saturday 11th June

Visit to Alkborough
Meet at the car park at SE886 223 at 2.00 p.m.

Saturday 2nd July

Visit to Donna Nook
Either meet in the car park at 7.00 a.m. for the first circuit or 9.00 a.m. to join the first group for the second circuit.

15-17 July 2022 Global Bird Fair Rutland County Showground

LBC will be at the Bird Fair! We have been working with Visit Lincolnshire on developing a Lincs Birding Trail hosted on their website. Thank you to Visit Lincolnshire, the Lincs Tourism department at Lincolnshire County Council for paying for the stand. If you'd like to volunteer to help out on the stand and get free entry to GBF please email chairman@lincsbirdclub.co.uk.

Saturday 6th August

12 hour boat trip from Grimsby £75 Meet DN31 3SD at 8 a.m. This trip will be by booking only and further details are in this edition of The Heron.

Saturday 3rd September

Visit to Frampton Meeting at either or both 9.00 a.m. or 1.00 p.m. for a guided walk outside the Visitor Centre PE20 1AY Followed by a BBQ at 4.00 p.m. cost and venue TBA

The idea is to either spend a full day or half day birding as you wish followed by a BBQ at a nearby location on the edge of Boston. It is hoped that this will be a good social event. If you just wish to do the birding that is fine and you can also do just the BBQ but why not go for the full experience!

Saturday 1st October

Visit to Gibraltar Point Meet 9.00 a.m. at the Visitor Centre For further information see the Lincs Bird Club web site and future editions of The Heron.











MIKE WARREN swla & MATT UNDERWOOD swla

Paintings and prints including new images of Lincolnshire wildlife

Fri 3rd June - Sat 11th June. 10am - 4pm

Gallery at NORTH SEA OBSERVATORY, Chapel Point, Chapel St Leonards, Skegness, PE24 5XA.





Lincolnshire Bird News - May 2022

Compiled by Chris Grimshaw

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

If your sightings are missing from the list, then please let us know by emailing recorder_south@lincsbirdclub.co.uk. 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.

Lincolnshire Latest Bird News - May2022

31/05/2022

Frampton Marsh

4 Little Gull, 4 Spoonbill

Gibraltar Point

Curlew Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper

Willow Tree Fen

4 Common Crane

30/05/2022

Frampton Marsh

Golden Oriole, Collared Praticole (over), Spotted Redshank

Gibraltar Point

Great Northern Diver, Golden Oriole

29/05/2022

Cress Marsh

5 Avocet, 4 Little Egret, 6 Little Grebe, 3 Oystercatcher, 10 Shelduck, 3 Barn Swallow, Cetti's Warbler

Frampton Marsh

Cuckoo, Little Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Wood Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

Pectoral Sandpiper

28/05/2022

Alkborough

Spoonbill

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Greater Scaup

Frampton Marsh

Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

2 Curlew Sandpiper

Sea View Farm

White-tailed Lapwing (a few hundred yard to the north of Rimac)

27/05/2022

Anderby Marsh

10 Avocet, Garganey, 2 Greenshank, 2 Little Ringed Plover, 2 Ringed Plover, 2 Common Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper Belton Park

2 Little Egret, Spotted Flycatcher, 2 Kingfisher, Nuthatch

Boultham Mere

Red Kite

Rimac

2 Little Egret, 2 Marsh Harrier, Hobby, 4 Kestrel, White-tailed Lapwing, Oystercatcher, Barn Swallow, Swift

Manby Wetlands

Avocet, 400 Herring Gull,

Marston

Cuckoo

Willow Tree Fen

4 Common Crane (2 adults, 2 Juveniles)

26/05/2022

Anderby

Purple Heron

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Sanderling

Boultham Mere

Water Rail

Far Ings

Bittern

Frampton Marsh

Spoonbill

Grimsby

Little Bittern

Mablethorpe

4 Spoonbill (over)

Rimac

White-tailed Lapwing



A stunning photograph of an old friend. White-tailed Lapwing at Rimac - Image © Mark Johnson

Sleaford Area

3 Long-eared Owl

Stapleford Woods

2 Buzzard, 2 Nightjar, 3 Woodcock

25/05/2022

Cleethorpes

Cuckoo

Gibraltar Point

Wood Sandpiper, 4 Spoonbill

24/05/2022

Alkborough Flats

Garganey 7 Spoonbill

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Greater Scaup

Gibraltar Point

Bee-eater, Golden Oriole

Manby Wetlands

Osprey, Wood Sandpiper

Saltfleetby

Garganey, Osprey



Osprey over Manby Wetlands - Image © Owen Beaumont

23/05/2022 Alkborough Flats 2 Garganey, 4 Spoonbill Frampton Marsh White-fronted Goose Freiston Shore Little Gull

Gibraltar Point

Turtle Dove, Spotted Flycatcher, Golden Oriole

Manby Wetlands Wood Sandpiper

Rimac

Turtle Dove, Golden Oriole, Redwing, Grasshopper Warbler



Grasshopper Warbler at Rimac - Image © John Clarkson

22/05/2022

Alkborough

Purple Heron, 14 Spoonbill

Anderby Creek

Wood Sandpiper

Bardney

2 Cuckoo

Cress Marsh

11 Avocet, Kestrel, 5 Lapwing, 7 Little Egret, 2 Little Ringed Plover

Frampton Marsh

Cuckoo, 2 Temmincks Stint

Gibraltar Point

Golden Oriole, Short-eared Owl

Halton Marshes

Common Quail

Tetnet Lock

Yellow Wagtail, Wheatear, Willow Warbler, Lesser Whitethroat

Whisby

Garganey

21/05/2022

Alkborough Flats

Purple Heron, 9 Spoonbill

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Greater Scaup

Frampton Marsh

Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

Caspian Gull, Osprey, 5 Spoonbill

Huttoft

Redwing

Saltfleet Haven

Nightjar

20/05/2022

Alkborough

3 Glossy Ibis, Purple Sandpiper, 5 Spoonbill

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Greater Scaup

Frampton Marsh

Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

Bonaparte's Gull, 2 Golden Oriole

Revesby

Raven

19/05/2022

Alkborough Flats

Garganey, 2 Glossy Ibis, Purple Sandpiper, 8 Spoonbill



One of the two Gloosy Ibis at Alkborough Flats - Image © Neil Drinkall

Anderby Marsh

2 Garganey

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Garganey

Cleethorpes

3 Wheatear

Churchill Lane

Grasshopper Warbler

Frampton Marsh

Little Gull, Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

Turtle Dove, Great White Egret, Hobby, Golden Oriole, Short-eared Owl, 3 Spoonbill

Huttoft Bank Pit

Garganey

Manby Wetlands

2 Avocet, 15 Black-headed Gull, 6 Common Gull, 130+ Herring Gull, 4 Shelduck

Paradise

2 Avocet, Black-tailed Godwit, Oystercatcher, Shelduck, Shoveler

18/05/2022

Anderby Creek

2 Spotted Flycatcher

Asybyville Lake

Osprey

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Gargagney

Brickyard Lane

Hobby

Chapel Six Marshes

2 Spotted Flycatcher

Cleethorpes

200 Oystercatcher, 10 Sanderling, 9 Turnstone, Wheatear

Fiskerton Fen

Osprev

Frampton Marsh

Corn Bunting, Little Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Marsh Harrier, Common Sandpiper, Wood Sandpier, 2 Spoonbill, Temminck's

Stint, Wheatear, Whimbrel

Grantham

Swift

17/05/2022

Far Ings

Marsh Harrier

Frampton Marsh

Pectoral Sandpiper, Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

Turtle Dove, 2 Marsh Harrier, Hobby 2 Red Kite, Short-eared Owl, Curlew Sandpiper, 2 Spoonbill, Little Stint, Little

Tern17/05/2022

Frampton Marsh

Little Gull, Wood Sandpiper, 2 Spoonbill, 2 Little Stint, Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

Firecrest, Marsh Harrier, Purple Heron, Red Kite, Ring Ouzel, Short-eared Owl, Whimbrel

Tetney Marshes RSPB

Kentish Plover

Tunman Woods

2 Nightjar

16/05/2022

Alkborough Flats

2 Glossy Ibis, 5 Spoonbill

Frampton Marsh

2 Spoonbill

Fulbeck

Honey Buzzard

Gibraltar Point

Turtle Dove, Common Crane, Little Gull, 2 Wood Sandpiper, 3 Spoonbill

Nocton Fen

3 Cuckoo, 2 Wheatear

Upton (Gainsborough)

Osprey

Washingborough

Hobby

15/05/2022

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Black Tern

Frampton Marsh

Corn Bunting, Cuckoo, Little Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Merlin, Pectoral Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Temminck's Stint, Arctic

Gibratar Point

Ring Ouzel, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, 5 Spoonbill

Horseshoe Point

Rusic Bunting

Rutic Bunting near the car=park at Horseshoe Point - Image © Paul Sullivan

Snitterby Carr Hen Harrier (male) Tunman Woods Raven Whisby Turtle Dove

14/05/2022

Alkborough Flats

2 Bittern Little Gull, Hobby, Spoonbill, Swift

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Sanderling

Frampton Marsh

Pale-bellied Brent Goose, Pectoral Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Temminck's Stint

Freiston Shore

Spotted Flycatcher, Spoonbill



Spotted Flycatcher at Freiston Shore - Image © Paul Sullivan

Gibraltar Point

Cuckoo, Eider, Pied Flycatcher, Little Gull, Mediterranean Gull, Golden Oriole, Barn Owl, Short-eared Owl, Spotted Redshank, Spoonbill, Red-rumped Swallow, Little Tern, Whimbrel

Keelby

Hobby

Lincs Coastal CP

8 Cuckoo, 4 Gannet, 28 Kittiwake, 2 Red-breasted Merganser, 3 Razorbill, Little Stint Stonechat, Little Tern

Marton

Cuckoo, Hobby, Red Kite, Wood Warbler

Saltfleet

Short-eared Owl, Common Sandpiper

13/05/2022

Anderby Creek

Alpine Swift

Boultham Mere

Dunlin (over)

Deeping Lakes

Sanderling, Whooper Swan



Alpine Swift over Anderby Creek - Image © Richard Lorand

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, Osprey, Pectoral Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

Red-footed Falcon, Spotted Redshank, 2 Spoonbill, Red-rumped Swallow, Alpine Swift

Saltfleet Haven

Blue-headed Wagtail

12/05/2022

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Honey Buzzard, Sanderling

Far Ings

Bittern, Tawny Owl

Frampton Marsh

Little Gull, Wood Sandpiper, Spoonbill, 2 Temminck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

Red-rumped Swallow

Laughton Forest

Blackcap, Chiffchaff, 6 Swallow, Common Whitethroat

Pyewipe

1357 Grey Plover

Thurlby Fen

Honey Buzzard

Wolla Bank

Savi's Warbler

11/05/2022

Ancaster

Whinchat

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Turnstone

Crowle Moor

Stonechat

Dunston Fen

3 Wheatear

Gibraltar Point

Little Gull, Osprey, Short-eared Owl, Ring Ouzel, Wood Sandpiper, Spoonbill, Spotted Redshank

Louth

70 Swift

Trent Port

Kingfisher, House Martin, Sand Martin, Raven, 9 Swallow, 10 Swift, Yellow Wagtail, Garden Warbler

10/05/2022

Boultham Mere

8 Common Swift

Far Ings

Bittern



Bittern at Far Ings - Image © Martin Dodd

Frampton Marsh

Common Tern

Market Rasen

9 Common Swift

Marston

Kingfisher, 2 Water Rail, 6 Barn Swallow, Cetti's Warbler, Reed Warbler

North Hykeham

3 House Martin

09/05/2022

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Turnstone

Gibraltar Point

Spoonbill

Marston

2 Red Kite, Barn Swallow, Swift, Cetti's Warbler, Garden Warbler, Reed Warbler

Messingham SQ

2 Avocet, Bittern, 2 Hobby, 4 House Martin, 20 Sand Martin, 10 Shelduck, 10 Shoveler, 70 Swift, 3 Common Tern, Song Thrush, Treecreeper, Cetti's Warbler

Rosper Road Pools

Short-eared Owl

Willow Tree Fen

Garganey, Wood Sandpiper

08/05/2022

Apex Pits

2 Common Tern

Bardney

Sedge Warbler

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Whimbrel, Wood Sandpiper

Boultham Mere

Hobby

Cress Marsh

8 Avocet, 3 Little Egret, 3 Little-ringed Plover, Wood Sandpiper, Wheatear

Fiskerton Fen

Bittern

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, Russian White-fronted Goose, Little Gull, Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, Little Stint, Temninck's Stint

Gibraltar Point

Hawfinch, Spotted Redshank

Grimsby

Buzzard, White-tailed Eagle, Peregrinr Falcon

Lincoln Area

Turtle Dove

Nebraska Wetlands

2 Bullfinch, Great White Egret, Little Egret, Grey Heron, Marsh Harrier, 2 Oystercatcher, 5 Common Whitethroat, 4 Yellowhammer

Skegness

Wood Warbler

Trent Port

Cuckoo, Gadwall, Garden Warbler, 6 Red-legged Partridge, Shelduck, Shoveler

Winter's Pool

Garganey

07/05/2022

Alkborough Flats

Glossy Ibis

Cradge Bank

Whinchat

Deeping Lakes

Little Ringed Plover

Far Ings

Cuckoo, 3 Little Gull, Hobby

Frampton Marsh

Cuckoo, Turtle Dove, Firecrest, 3 Garganey, Greenshank, Little Gull, 6 Mediterranean Gull, Merlin, Barn Owl, 2 Wood

Sandpiper, Wheatear, 2 Whimbrel

Freiston Shore

Ring Ouzel

Gibraltar Point

Cuckoo, 2 Marsh Harrier, Short-eared Owl, 2 Spotted Redshank, 3 Grasshopper Warbler

South Ormsby

5 Red Kite, 21 Skylark, 14 Common Whitethroat, 2 Lesser Whitethroat

Ranby Bottoms

Osprey

06/05/2022

Cradge Bank (Spalding)

Whinchat

Freiston Shore

Ring Ouzel

Gibraltar Point

Common Crane, Short-eared Owl, 2 Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper

05/05/2022

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Arctic Tern

Baston Fen

Bar-tailed Godwit

Far Ings

3 Bittern, 2 Cuckoo, Marsh Harrier, Hobby, Bearded Tit

Frampton Marsh

Russian White-fronted Goose, Wood Sandpiper, Little Stint

Freiston Shore

Pale-bellied Brent Goose

Gibraltar Point

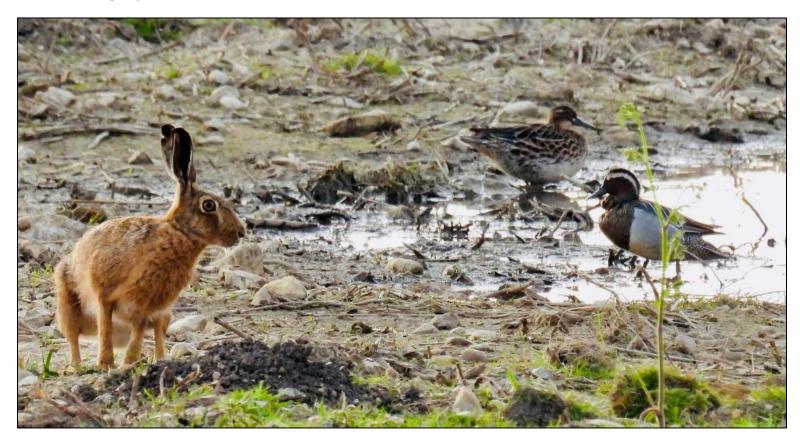
Short-eared Owl, Wood Sandpiper, Spoonbill, Grasshopper Warbler

Lincoln area

Cuckoo, Turtle Dove

South Lincs Fens

2 Cuckoo, 2 Garganey



Garganey in the South Lincolnshire Fens - Image © Matt Fitzgerald

04/05/2022 Anderby Creek Little Gull, 3 Wood Sandpiper Baston & Langtoft Pits Arctic Tern| Bonby Carrs

20+ Corn Bunting

Frampton Marsh

Turtle Dove, White-fronted Goose, Greenshank, Common Scoter, Spoonbill, Grasshopper Warbler

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl

Lincs Coastal CP

Marsh Harrier, Stonechat, Grasshopper Warbler, 11 Reed Warbler, 51 Sedge Warbler, 17 Common Whitethroat, 2 Lesser Whitethroat

Paradise

2 Common Sandpiper, Jack Snipe

Rimac

Great White Egret, 5 Grasshopper Warbler, Wheatear, Whimbrel

03/05/2022

Baston Fen

Bar-tail Godwit

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Arctic Tern

Bourne

2 Whooper Swan (over)

Frampton Marsh

Russian White-fronted Goose, Wood Sandpiper



Russian White-fronted Goose at Frampton Marsh - Image © Josh Fusiara

Gibraltar Point

2 Hawfinch, Nightingale, Water Pipit

Messingham

Arctic Tern

02/05/2022

Baston Fen

Wood Sandpiper

Deeping Lakes

Bar-tailed Godwit

Denton Reservoir

Whooper Swan

Donna Nook

Wheatear

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, Russian White-fronted Goose, Little Gull, 3 Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, 2 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl, Spotted Redshank, 2 Spoonbill

Holdingham

Hobby, House Martin, Swift

01/05/2022

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Ring-necked Duck, Bar-tailed Godwit

Boultham Mere

2 Common Tern



The Heron - Lincs Bird Club eNewsletter Issue June 2022

Returning Common Terns at Boultham Mere - Image © Andy Sims

Deeping Lakes

Bar-tailed Godwit

Frampton Marsh

Cuckoo, Great White Egret, Firecrest, 4 Red Kite, Sand Martin, Merlin, Golden Plover, Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, Swallow, Common Tern, Lesser Whitethroat

Gibraltar Point

Crossbill, 5 Cuckoo, Fieldfare, Firecrest, 4 Red Kite, Merlin, Ring Ouzel, Short-eared Owl, Tree Pipit, Redwing, Jack Snipe, 2 Spoonbill, Whimbrel, Wryneck

Marton

Cuckoo, Oystercatcher, Little ringed Plover, Shelduck, Garden Warbler, Reed Warbler, Green Woodpecker

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-

<u>do/love-lincs-plants</u>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 - <u>sarah.lambert7@ntlworld.com</u> 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 - <u>learningoutdoors@btinternet.com</u>

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















