



Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter - June 2023

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Lincs day list record broken – 7th May 2023

Owen Beaumont, Liam Andrews, Josh Fusiara

Before embarking on our birding adventure, we recognized the need to establish a clear set of rules. After examining various birding day lists and races, we identified three main categories for these rules; time, location, and record quality. Regarding time, we designated a 24-hour period from midnight to midnight, deliberately excluding the option of starting, for example, at 6am Saturday and extending until 6am Sunday. Although spanning two days could introduce intriguing strategies, it didn't seem in the spirit of the challenge.



The Bird Race Team - Owen Beaumont, Liam Andrews, Josh Fusiara

For the location aspect, we opted to focus on the historic country of Lincolnshire, as covered by LBC, thus avoiding any contentious areas. As for record quality, we agreed that Lincolnshire or national rarities would

require acceptance from the respective committees to be counted toward the day list total long-term. We also agreed that heard only species could be counted, as this still felt within the spirit of the day and would not impact the quality of records. Additionally, we decided that each species must be observed by more than half of the group. As a group of three, this meant that at least two of the members needed to see or hear each species for it to be counted on the list. Requiring more than half to witness each bird prevented the merging of separate lists and ensured cohesion. We also acknowledged that it might be challenging for larger teams to collectively spot all species during activities like sea watching or visible migration, although, in practice, our entire team managed to do so.

Following the establishment of rules to follow, we began planning the day itself. The big question was when. If we started too early, we would miss out on a wide variety of migrant breeders. On the other hand, if we started too late, we might miss the chance of some finches, thrushes, and wildfowl. It seemed like a lose-lose situation for all scenarios, but we eventually settled for a middle ground and went with 7th May. With this date, we believed that, while it might be more difficult to find birds like Nightjars and Swifts, we were more likely to come across Redwings, Fieldfares, and finches if we got lucky. As for wildfowl, we hoped to spot a few lingering winter species at coastal sites.

The next significant question was where to go. We compiled a list of sites and carefully planned the best routes between them to minimize driving time, especially during key times of the day such as dawn and dusk. The details of our route will become apparent below, however, the highlight of our plan, and what we hoped would set us apart from previous records, was a morning session at Gibraltar Point NNR. We had previously completed day lists at Gibraltar Point that far surpassed the 100 mark despite the site having a long list of tricky species which would be more achievable elsewhere. This strategy seemed to offer the best chance of success.

The day list started at 00:00 on the dot, just as we pulled into Crowle Moor; our first of multiple destinations for the day. With the potential of hearing Crane from just over the border, and us knowing that Willow Tree Fen would be too far away on the day, we knew this was realistically the only chance we'd get at this species. Along with some of the classic heath breeding species, it could have taken some pressure off from exploits later in the day, should we be successful.

It was a still, mild evening, and although there was some dampness in the air, we had a walk along the main path at Crowle. Rather predictably, the first species on the list was a Woodpigeon crashing out of a tree....not quite enough to build spirits or motivation further, but at least it was a start! Tawny Owl and Barn Owl were quickly added to the list, along with a few common wildfowl species calling in the night. Unfortunately, however, a Crane stakeout was unsuccessful and the hoped-for heathland specials were also not obliging. With the best part of a whole hour of the day gone, we knew we didn't have another second to spare, so we ambled back to the car before heading to stop number two.

Not knowing where the day would take us, we decided to get Bittern out the way nice and early with a trip to Far Ings. The car park was closed with it being the early hours, so we drove past this and to the next viewpoint by the roadside. It only took a few minutes for a Bittern to start booming, along with some keen warblers and wildfowl adding further to the list. The highlight from Far Ings came in a non-feathery form, with a Marsh Frog heard calling just next to the viewpoint for most of the time we were at the reserve; a rather unexpected county

first! By this time we had started to think about daylight, which was still a couple of hours away, but in a county like Lincolnshire where it's impossible to navigate between sites quickly, it was time to continue our journey.

Our initial plan was to spend the first few hours of daylight at Gibraltar Point NNR, and this was indeed what we decided to do. We started our journey into the Lincolnshire Wolds just as the fog started to thicken, but this didn't seem to stop us adding to the day list as an unexpected Nightjar flew off the road adjacent to some plantation woodland. After a few unsuccessful stops to listen for Partridges and still in thick fog, we arrived at Gib about half an hour before daybreak.

Following a short stakeout in the main car park, and adding a few birds including Grasshopper Warbler, we headed back to beach car park and walked out to Mill Hill. With visible migration and seawatching providing some good species in recent days, this was where we had hoped would be the most productive place to kick-start a record-breaking list. Spirits were somewhat dampened with lingering thick fog, but a slither of the sea eventually showed itself and views back inland gradually improved, too. 'Vis-mig' was fairly non-existent, with little of value flying over the dunes on the day, but seawatching was surprisingly useful with species including Gannet, Sandwich Tern and Little Tern very welcome additions. The morning high tide was well-timed for our morning visit, so a nice suite of waders were ticked off as they were pushed off the Wash. The highlight of the morning was a bit of day list gold in the form of a Long-eared Owl, which landed in a nearby hawthorn briefly before disappearing into the dunes.

After a few hours on Mill Hill, we walked back inland to check the water bodies, adding other common waders and wildfowl, along with Pink-footed Goose; another useful addition to any May day list. Our improvisational tactics then took us towards the Wash viewpoint and visitor centre, where a few Wheatear were present and Marsh Harrier picked up with ease over the saltmarsh. On a final scan back over the saltmarsh as we were leaving, a ringtail Harrier flew across and gave some tantalising, yet ultimately unsatisfactory views. With the bird still flying around, we left it in the capable hands of a local birder, who thankfully got some closer views just after we left and confirmed it as a Montagu's Harrier....some proper day list gold!



Montagu's Harrier at Gibraltar Point - Josh Fusiara.

With a range of rare and niche birds in recent days, we decided RSPB Frampton Marsh would be another key site for us on the day, so as we reached mid-morning and the fog cleared, it was time to head west. By this time, our tally was very unimpressive having been hampered by the morning fog, but, as we'd received help from a number of kind Lincs birders to set the day up, we knew we had to carry on and try to retain some respect!

With some leeway in time, an opportunistic dash to RSPB Freiston Shore made for a productive flying visit, adding species including Eider and Tree Sparrow at the reserve, plus Little Owl (the final species of Lincolnshire's resident owls), Red-legged Partridge, Corn Bunting and Yellowhammer in nearby fields. Peregrine was a nice tick as we navigated through Boston, and as we got to late morning we arrived at Frampton.

Wood Sandpipers and a drake Garganey within metres of the car park were excellent and quick additions to the list, so we walked down into the main reserve to try and catch up with the rarities. The pair of Black-winged Stilt and drake Blue-winged Teal took a bit of time up to walk to, but were easy to see and also helped us see some other species like Pintail, Mediterranean Gull and Spotted Redshank, to name a few. The main omissions from this visit were Little Stint and Curlew Sandpiper; both of which had been reported on the day. This was a little irritating, but we didn't have time to scan for too long.



Wood Sandpiper at Frampton by Owen Beaumont.

Following a successful few hours we were now over the 120 mark and starting to believe we might actually get close to the existing record, so being into early afternoon, we agreed it was time to start heading back north - where we needed to be for late afternoon and dusk for some additional target species. As predicted, the drive was a long one time wise, so it was near enough a straight point-to-point, with the exception of a quick pit stop to Woodhall Spa LWT. Woodhall was pretty handy on reflection, with Egyptian Goose and Green Woodpecker

the best additions, both species which we didn't manage anywhere else along the way. The rest of the drive north helped to add Red Kite and Grey Partridge; another couple of handy additions!



Black-winged Stilts at Frampton RSPB by Josh Fusiara.

Arriving at woodland in the north of the county, it took less time than expected to see the target specialities, including Jay, Woodlark, Tree Pipit, Goshawk and Raven. So, with some time to play with before dusk, we shot up to Alkborough Flats and, with help from local birders, we managed to see a couple of a few species in the form of Bearded Tit, Grey Wagtail, Greenshank and some Barnacle Geese (which didn't leave us feeling as dodgy as our back-up plan of the Cleethorpes population!). Sadly, despite being seen earlier in the day, Hobby eluded us during the visit, but, following local advice, we popped over to Bagmoor Lake where Kingfishers were being seen regularly. It didn't take long for two to appear, which meant we were now level with the previous record. The pressure was now on to beat this, and to our relief, a few Common Snipe also appeared around the margins as the light started to fade. We had done it, 139 had been reached and we still had several hours left to try and scrape another for a nice round 140.



Alkborough Flats at Duck - Josh Fusiara



North Lincs Heathland

It was now time to see out the day with Woodcock, the final target species. Upon returning to the woodland, and after a short wait whilst being serenaded by churring Nightjar, a few roding Woodcock made their way over the area....mission success! At around 22:30, this was the final tick, taking us onto the total of 140; a new Lincolnshire Day List record!

Although we managed a hefty dose of jamminess throughout the day, the worst omissions from the final day list tally included (but were not limited to!); Bullfinch, Green Sandpiper, Hobby and Stonechat. With extra portion of luck, and a more productive day for migrant arrivals, there is no reason why 150 species would not be possible to achieve. Good luck to anyone wishing to take on the challenge!

Just to finish the reflection, I hate to think what embarrassingly low score we would have been stuck on without help from some experienced Lincs birders. As such, we'd like to take this opportunity to say thanks again to all the people who helped us leading up to, and during, the day list, with special thanks to Wayne and Clare Gillatt, Graham Catley, Neil Drinkall, Kevin Wilson, Nige Lound and Andy Sims.

Destination Cairngorms - Lincolnshire Bird Club's inaugural birding holiday

NO point in beating about the bush - the species tally on the inaugural Lincolnshire Bird Club holiday scarcely set the heather alight.

A trip to the Highlands seemed to promise much, but most of Scotland's 'celebrity' birds were conspicuous only by their absence.

Crossbills were hiding unseen in the pinetops, while Capercaillies and both eagle species were feigning extinction. As for Black-throated Divers, they were either not where they ought to have been (on Lochindorb) or they were spending more minutes under the water than is typical.

Perhaps April 28 - May 2 was a week or a fortnight too early. At short notice, it was the only spring/summer slot available. Or perhaps our collective bird-detection skills were not as sharp as they ought to have been.

On the plus side, a few members of our 31-strong party did secure brief glimpses of Crested Tits, and, for everyone inclined, there were good views from the RSPB visitor centre of Loch Garten's famous breeding Ospreys - including one all-action episode when they had to fight off an opportunistic Carrion Crow.



The road to Insh Marshes RSPB

On the banks of Loch Mallachie, opposite the RSPB car park, a singing Wood Warbler was heard plus, not far away, two or more early-arriving Tree Pipits.

It had been a long trek from Lincolnshire to our hotel in Kingussie, but holiday company Cairngorm Travel, which is based in Goole, did us proud.

Coach driver Paul could not have been more helpful, while our hotel, the Duke of Gordon, provided hospitality in the best Scottish traditions, notably in the quality and variety of the meals. For the last evening, there was even a piper to lead us into the restaurant - surely a first for a birding holiday!

For location, the hotel could scarcely be bettered, just a few minutes walk from the Spey where Dippers were courting and Sand Martins were nesting in a riverbank. Here, too, were to be seen Common Sandpipers, Goosanders and, on one occasion, an Otter. And, as dusk fell, the Pipistrelle bats emerged.

In the woodland behind the Duke were yet more delights - scampering Red Squirrels, confiding Treecreepers, Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Coal Tits, Mistle Thrushes (very much a woodland bird in Scotland) and singing Willow Warblers galore.

Just over two miles walk away from the hotel, was another RSPB reserve, Insh Marshes, where word was that two Cranes were present along with many Curlews and other wetland birds.

A trip on the funicular to the top of Cairngorm failed to yield either Ptarmigan or Dotterel, but compensation came in the form of Snow Buntings in breeding plumage and two Ring Ouzels, a male and a female.

Other destinations included Aviemore and Grangetown-on-Spey where Long-tailed tits and Siskins were watched on feeders in the many large gardens.

Chaffinches, meanwhile, were everywhere! Likewise, Song Thrushes, Grey Lag Geese and Oystercatchers.

In fairness to Lochindorb, it may have been diver-free but it did at least provide close-up views of a pair of Goldeneye, still more Common Sandpipers, plentiful Wheatears and a species gamebird seldom encountered in Lincolnshire (except on the label of a whisky bottle).

Other features of the holiday were two free prize draws - one on the outward trip, one on the return - where the prizes were, respectively, The Green Woodpecker by Gerard Gorman and the 3rd Edition of Collins Bird Guide.

This was a pilot venture for the Lincolnshire Bird Club, and gratitude is due to the Grimsby and Lincoln RSPB groups, both of which helped to promote the holiday and whose two leaders were on board.

People were of mixed birding experience but all seemed to enjoy the holiday - or at least no one demanded their money back!

It was also an experiment for Cairngorm Travel who are keen to repeat it, perhaps to other destinations, not necessarily Costa Rica but more likely somewhere within Britain or on the continent.

Says the company: "These holidays are something we are really keen to explore further.

"There are at least two hotels we work with that welcome birding groups. If we could build enough interest into this, we could explore it on a wider level.

"We'd very much be open to co-operating with you on future projects to see if we could create something more specialised for birders."

So, all-in-all, five days enjoyably spent - and keep watching this space for news of the next LBC birding holiday.

* More pictures at: <https://thewryneck.blogspot.com>

Jim Wright



Well done to book prize winner Sam Mather seen with partner Elysha McBride, the two youngest members of the group



The Breeding Bird Survey Report 2022

The Breeding Bird Survey started in 1994, and a report is produced every year containing population changes and other results from the scheme. BBS reports are sent free to all BBS volunteers and to a range of conservation practitioners and policymakers. Further printed copies of these reports can be obtained by emailing the BBS organiser: bbs@bto.org Download the latest copy at <https://www.bto.org/our-science/publications/breeding-bird-survey-report/breeding-bird-survey-2022>

The latest Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) report offers hope for two iconic farmland species, Skylark and Corn Bunting.

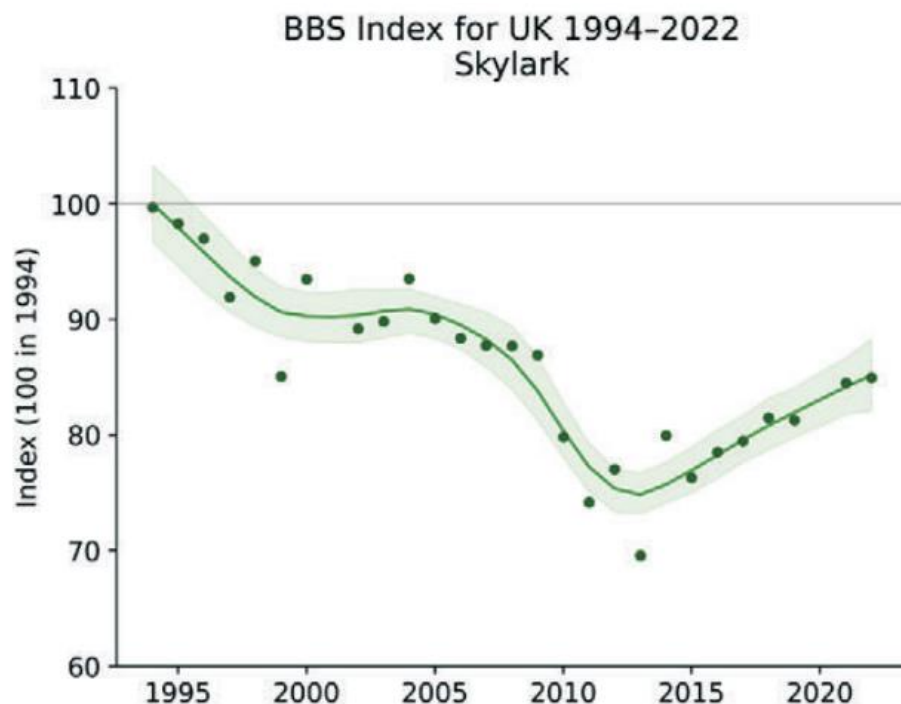
However, the report, produced by the BTO and RSPB, also reveals continued declines for other species typically associated with farmland in Britain, including Yellowhammer, Tree Sparrow, Grey Partridge and Turtle Dove.

Skylark has endured a severe long-term decline across Britain.

However, according to the latest report, numbers have increased by 9% during the past decade and, encouragingly, nearly 20% in the last five years in south-east England and the East Midlands.

These figures buck the long-term trend, although the recent increases in England and Scotland are not mirrored in Wales, where there has been a 23% decline since 2016. In England, the outlook looks even more promising for Corn Bunting, a species that has seen its UK population crash by 82% since the late 1960s and which has disappeared from many parts of the country. Numbers in England have increased by 35% over the past decade, the report reveals, with this partial recovery particularly evident in the South-West.

Dr James Heywood, BBS National Organiser, said: "These positive signs for two iconic farmland species is really encouraging. We await the results of ongoing analyses to establish whether they are indeed linked to changes in farming practices. These signs of hope must not distract us from the fact that many farmland species are still in decline. There is much work to be done." Dr Simon Wotton, RSPB Senior Conservation Science, added: "While the news of Eurasian Skylark and Corn Bunting short-term recovery is positive, it's disheartening to see that other farmland birds are still declining. We know that agri-environment schemes can work if deployed in the right way and it is essential that we have a functioning Environment Land Management scheme that supports farmers managing their land for nature and climate."



Skylark population trend in the UK. Skylark has increased by 9% in the last 10 years and 8% in the last five years.

Book review: The Green Woodpecker by Gerard Gorman

GREEN Woodpeckers are often at the mercy of pet and feral cats.

That is one of the sadder observations in a new book that explores the life and times of this handsome species, one of our most exotic native birds.

In *The Green Woodpecker, A Natural and Cultural History of Picus viridis*, author Gerard Gorman notes that, as they often forage on garden lawns, they can become easy targets for non-wild predators.

He continues: "Human-related factors probably account for a significant number of deaths, too - collisions with vehicles and windows are other dangers that birds living among people face.

"Ironically, the oldest Green Woodpecker documented is a road-killed individual in England known from ringing data to have been just over 15 years old."

So much for the sad stuff - this informative and entertaining book is essentially a celebration of a species which is reckoned to number a British breeding population of about 52,000 pairs - "widespread across southern England, patchier in the north"- with research indicating "a long-term trend of increasing numbers".

Elsewhere in Europe, the picture is mixed. Germany and France have "common, widespread and stable" populations, while, in Denmark, the species is declining and, in Latvia, it is very rare.

Like other woodpecker species, the greenie seems reluctant to fly over open waters, especially the sea, probably explaining why it currently does not exist in Ireland which only has three records of its occurrence, all dating back to the 19th Century and possibly unreliable.

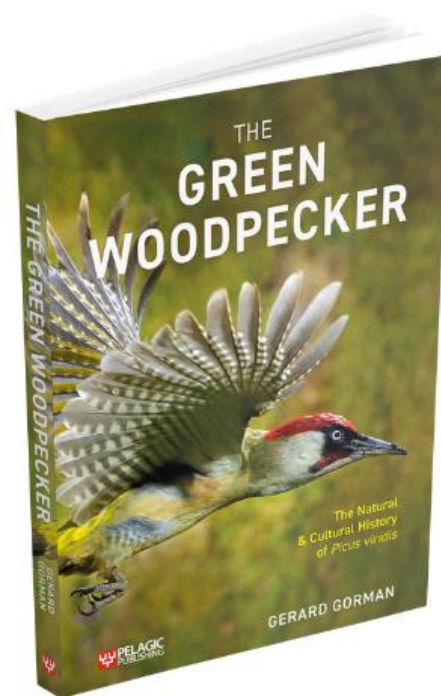
As the title indicates, the author also explores the multiple references to the species in art and literature, relating back to earliest times.

Understandably, our forebears were as intrigued as we are by this bird of mystery which has often been the subject of superstition, not always to its advantage.

The author also explores the reputation - widespread throughout Europe - of the species' call as being a reliable sign of rainy weather ahead. "In parts of France, the bird is still known as pleu-pleu (rain-rain)."

The Green Woodpecker is extensively illustrated with captivating photographs and artwork which support Gorman's narrative which is always authoritative, entertaining and fast-paced.

Published by Pelagic in paperback at £24.99, it is available wherever books are sold. **Jim Wright**



Volunteer help needed to fly the flag at county events.

Lincolnshire Show

LBC has been invited by Lincs County Council to assist with their stand at the Lincolnshire Show on June 21st to June 22nd. Contractors will be building a mock up of a bird hide which will look out on to a canvas on which will be projected bird images. The idea is to engage people and talk to them and share birding experiences. It's a long day requiring presence from 08.00 to 19.00 and engaging with the public from 09.00 to 18.00. Two people are needed each day so at least one can be present all the time while the other takes breaks. We will also be able to promote membership of the club and sell our Bird Reports and Birds of Lincolnshire etc. I will be attending both days so will need either one volunteer for both days or two, one for each day. If you are interested please contact me, Phil Espin on email chairman@lincsbirdclub.co.uk.

Wilder Lincolnshire Festival

Lincs Wildlife Trust have written to us to invite LBC to attend their birthday party. I won't be able to attend as I will be abroad but LWT and LBC are closely linked and I would like us to be there as a club. We need someone to take the lead in organising this and preferably a group of people to assist. We have until June 16th to confirm our attendance. Please read below and if you would like to help please contact me, Phil Espin on email chairman@lincsbirdclub.co.uk.

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

The **Wilder Lincolnshire Festival** will be on **Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September 2023**, times to be confirmed, at Doddington Hall.

The aim is to bring together the organisations, communities and individuals who are working to make Lincolnshire Wilder. It's part networking, part raising awareness and part celebration of what has and what can be achieved. We're also inviting some of the community groups that we work with to have stands and to attend. Hopefully it will help the communities, visitors to the event and all of us, feel that we're all making valued contributions and take inspiration from each other. There will be marquees with stands, interactive elements, activities, guided walks and workshops.

We would like to invite you and the Lincolnshire Bird Club to have a stand and provide an activity or something interactive relevant to how your organisation helps nature and/or communities. Perhaps you would like to lead some bird walks around Doddington and help to promote the Lincolnshire Bird Trail, alongside anything else you might like to cover?

There is space in a marquee where we can provide a table but, if you have your own gazebo you are welcome to bring that instead. We'd like the stands to be as interactive as possible, however please note there's no electricity on site. It's an opportunity to share what you've achieved and how you're making a difference.

Initially, we'd just like to know if you're able to come - preferably for both days but you're still very welcome to attend if it's only for one day (please let us know which day). If you could let us know before 16 June at the latest please so that we can start to plan the space."

Breeding Curlews on Lincolnshire Airfields

We've reported about this in recent months and have been in touch with Natural England. Our position is that Curlew nests that are clearly doomed are suitable candidates for head starting and releasing preferably within the county but otherwise as close to the county as possible. The good news is that no licences have been issued to collect eggs from Scampton this year so the Curlews there have a chance to raise young. The question is will they be able to, given the levels of predation Curlew nest generally experience in the English lowlands. The club plans to organise a survey of Curlews in Lincolnshire next year as we did not have the resources to put one into effect this spring. We've also spoken with BTO and they and Natural England are supportive of the idea. The difficulty is identifying a suitable person with some survey experience preferably based in the West of the county at Curlew ground zero who can lead the effort. I would love to do it myself but I am already at full stretch with running the bird club, assisting with the bird report, doing the rare breeding birds report, my own voluntary survey work with BTO and paid work I do as a bird surveyor, especially in spring time which is peak season. I was impressed with the level of support when the issue was first raised in January and hopefully one of you can step up. If so please contact me, Phil Espin on chairman@lincsbirdclub.co.uk.

Lincolnshire Bird Report 2021

The report is now fully written and being assembled to send to our printers Swallowtail of Norwich. It should go off in the next week and be with you by the end of July. However, no guarantees as we may have lost our slot at the printers and be pushed back a little. It should be a great report and hopefully you'll see it will have been worth waiting for.

Lincolnshire Bird News - May 2023

Compiled by Chris Grimshaw

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

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

Lincolnshire Latest Bird News - May 2023

31/05/2021

Anderby Creek

3 Little Stint

Baston & Langtoft Pits

9 Black Tern, 7 Ringed Plover

Frampton Marsh

Black Tern

Freiston Shore

Red-necked Phalarope, Black Tern



Black Tern at Freiston Shore - Image © Paul Sullivan

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl

30/05/2023

Anderby Marsh

2 Spoonbill, Little Stint

Frampton Marsh

150 Avocet, 30 Dunlin, 4 Barnacle Goose, 150 Greylag Goose, Little-ringed Plover, Ringed Plover, 1 Ruff, 100+ Swift, Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl

Kirkby on Bain

30 Gadwall, Shelduck (with young), Swift

Trent Port

Bullfinch, Cuckoo, Sparrowhawk, Cetti's Warbler, Green Woodpecker

RAF Woodhall

Cuckoo, 10 Little Egret, 4 Lapwing 12 House Martin, 4 Sand Martin, 100 Swift, Black Tern

29/05/2023

Alkborough Flats

Cuckoo, Glossy Ibis

Covenham

14 Great Crested Grebe, 2 House Martin, 3 Raven, 4 Common Sandpiper, 50 Swift, 2 Common Tern, 2 Yellow Wagtail

Cress Marsh

Buzzard, Chiffchaff, 2 Little Egret, 6 Lapwing, 2 Yellow Wagtail, Cetti's Warbler

Gibraltar Point

Turtle Dove, Short-eared Owl

Halton Marsh

Garganey

Kirkby on Bain

Garganey

Kirkby on Bain

7 Avocet, 30 Gadwall, Shelduck, Swift

RAF Woodhall

Garganey

28/05/2023

Alkborough Flats

Cuckoo, 9 Glossy Ibis

Cress Marsh

Buzzard, Cetti's Warbler, Chiffchaff, 6 Lapwing, 2 Little Egret, 1 Little-ringed Plover, 2 Yellow Wagtail

Frampton Marsh

9 Mediterranean Gull, 3 Marsh Harrier

Gibraltar Point

Turtle Dove

Kirkby on Bain

Garganey

RAF Woodhall Spa

Garganey

27/05/2023

Alkborough

Bittern, Cuckoo, Greenshank, 4 Glossy Ibis, 2 Spoonbill

Frampton Marsh

Cattle Egret, Cuckoo, Peregrine Falcon, Greenshank, 9 Mediterranean Gull, 2 Marsh Harrier, Hobby, Pintail, Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Temminck's Stint, Whooper Swan, Yellow Wagtail

Gibraltar Point

Garganey, 6 Glossy Ibis (over), 2 Temminck's Stint

Toft Newton

Sanderling

Willingham

Hobby

26/05/2023

Alkborough

11 Glossy Ibis

Frampton Marsh

Red Kite, Common Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

2 Spoonbill

Novartis Ings

Caspian Gull

Toft Newton

Temminck's Stint

Trent Port

Little Egret, 25 House Martin, Grey Partridge, Red-legged Partridge, 2 Shelduck, Treecreeper, Green Woodpecker



Bee-eater at Seaview Farm © Owen Beaumont

25/05/2023

Alkborough Flats

11 Glossy Ibis, Green-winged Teal

Baston & Langtoft Pits

2 Black-winged Stilt

Frampton Marsh

Cuckoo, Spoonbill, Wood Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl

Seaview Farm

Bee-eater

Toft Newton

Temminck's Stint

24/05/2023

Anderby Marsh

Wood Sandpiper

Cleethorpes

Hooded Crow

Frampton Marsh

Little Gull

Gibraltar Point

Bee-eater, Short-eared Owl

Novartis Ings

Little Stint, Temminck's Stint

23/05/2023

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl

Rimac

Red-backed Shrike

22/05/2023

Anderby Marsh

2 Wood Sandpiper

Frampton Marsh

Spoonbill

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl

Job's Lane

2 Red-crested Pochard (male)

Lincoln

2 Nightjar

Swanpool cow-fields

Greenshank, 2 Egyptian Goose

21/05/2023

Anderby Marsh

Wood Sandpiper

Cress Marsh

8 Avocet, 5 Little Egret, 105 Black-tailed Godwit, 17 Herring Gull, 2 Lesser Black-backed Gull

Frampton Marsh

Little Stint, 2 Water Pipit, Spoonbill

Seaview Farm

Garganey

Spalding

Bee-eater (over, south)

20/05/2023

Deeping Lakes

Spoonbill

Frampton Marsh

Bittern, Cuckoo, Cattle Egret, Barn Owl, Spoonbill

Gibraltar Point

Avocet, 13 Bee-eater, Cuckoo, 52 Black-tailed Godwit, Little Gull, Short-eared Owl

One of the thirteen Bee-eaters that over-nighted at Gibraltar Point - Image © Paul Neale

Trent Port

2 Cuckoo, 2 Common Tern

Withcall

Common Quail

19/05/2023

Frampton Marsh

3 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

13 Bee-eater

Lincoln

3 Nightjar

Rimac

Garganey

18/05/2023

Alkborough Flats

Green-winged Teal

Dunsby Fen

Common Quail

Frampton Marsh

Cattle Egret, Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Spoonbill

Seaview Farm

Garganey

17/05/2023

Frampton Marsh

American Golden Plover, 2 Spotted Redshank



American Golden Plover on the wet-grassland at Frampton Marsh - Image © John Badley

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl, Spoonbill, Temminck's Stint

Seaview Farm

Night Heron (seen to fly off towards Rimac), Lesser Scaup



The two Night Herons flying from Seaview Farm towards Rimac - Image © Owen Beaumont

Tetney Lock

3 Dotterel

16/05/2023

Alkborough Flats

Osprey

Frampton Marsh

Little Stint

Freiston Shore

5 Avocet, Little-ringed Plover

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl, Temminck's Stint

Lincoln

Turtle Dove



Turtle Dove in the Lincoln area - Image © Andrew Vaughan

Manby Wetlands

4 Oystercatcher, Garganey

Seaview Farm

Lesser Scaup



The Lesser Scaup at Seaview Farm _image © Roy Harvey

15/05/2023

Far Ings

1-4 Bittern, Cuckoo, Marsh Harrier, 6 House Martin, 2 Common Tern, 100 Swift, 8 Cetti's Warbler

Frampton Marsh

2 Pale-bellied Brent Goose, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, 3 Spoonbill, Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Turtle Dove, Hen Harrier, Short-eared Owl, Red-backed Shrike, Temminck's Stint, Woodlark

Saltfleetby St Peter

Spoonbill

Seaview Farm

2 Black-crowned Night Heron, Hobby

14/05/2023

Freiston Shore

Cattle Egret, 2 Garganey, Blue-winged Teal, Whimbrel



Another photograph of the Blue-winged Teal at Freiston Shore - Image © Dave Roberts

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl, Red-backed Shrike (trapped & ringed again)

Messingham

Osprey

13/05/2023

Crook Bank

Ring Ouzel

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, Spoonbill, Little Stint

Freiston Shore

2 Garganey, Blue-winged Teal, Turnstone

Gibraltar Point

Short-eared Owl Red-backed Shrike (trapped and ringed)

Willow Tree Fen

Wood Sandpiper

Worlaby

Hen Harrier (male)

12/05/2023

Frampton

Little Stint

Freiston Shore

2 Garganey, Temminck's Stint, Blue-winged Teal

Novartis Ings

Caspian Gull

Withern

Garganey

11/05/2023

Boultham Mere

Peregrine Falcon, Kestrel

Denton Reservoir

Mandarin Duck, Spotted Flycatcher, Hobby, 2 Common Sandpiper

Frampton Marsh

Curlew Sandpiper, 2 Black-winged Stilt

Freiston Shore

Cuckoo, 2 Garganey, Blue-winged Teal, Common Tern, Turnstone



Perseverance pays off for Roy & Linda as the Blue-winged Teal returns to the Reservoir at Freiston - Image © Roy Harvey



Blue-winged Teal and Garganey together this morning - Image © Paul Sullivan

Gibraltar Point

Pied Flycatcher, Short-eared Owl, Spoonbill

Novartis Ings

Osprey

10/05/2023

Black Bank

Cuckoo, Skylark

Carr Dyke

Grey Heron, Kestrel, 2 Tree Sparrow, 2 Swallow, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Frampton Marsh

2 Cuckoo, Garganey, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, 3 Black-winged Stilt, 2 Spoonbill, Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint, 3 Whimbrel

Gibraltar Point

Cuckoo, Greenshank, Short-eared Owl

Lincoln area

Turtle Dove

Swanholme Lakes

Grey Heron, Jay

RAF Woodhall Spa

Cuckoo



Cuckoo at RAF Woodhall Spa - Image © Russell Hayes

09/05/2023

Far Ings

5 Bittern

Frampton Marsh

c 250 Avocet, Buzzard, c150 Black-tailed Godwit, Marsh Harrier, Red Kite, Barn Owl, 2 Pintail, Little-ringed Plover, c300 Ringed

Plover, 3 Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint, Cetti's Warbler, Wheatear, Whimbrel

Saltfleetby St Clement

Hen Harrier and not Pallid Harrier as reported previously

Trent Port

Osprey

08/05/2023

Anderby Creek

182 Ruff, Curlew Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper

Cress Marsh

13 Avocet, 2 Little Egret, 27 Black-tailed Godwit, 12 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 2 Little Ringed Plover, Common Sandpiper, Cetti's Warbler, Wheatear

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, Little Gull, Wood Sandpiper, Spoonbill, Black-winged Stilt

Gibraltar Point

Red-rumped Swallow

Rimac

Cuckoo, Merlin, Wheatear, 7 Whimbrel

Seacroft

Bluethroat

07/05/2023

Alkborough

Bearded Tit, Bittern, Marsh Harrier, Barn Owl, 3 Water Rail, Barn Swallow, 2 Wood Sandpiper, Grey Wagtail, Whimbrel

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Arctic Tern, Roseate Tern

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, Mediterranean Gull, Marsh Harrier, Hobby, Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, Sedge Warbler, Wood Sandpiper, Spoonbill, 2 Black-winged Stilt, Blue-winged Teal, Yellow Wagtail, Whimbrel

Gibraltar Point

Montagu's Harrier, Short-eared Owl

Trent Port

Bullfinch, Cuckoo, 2 Swift, Raven, Common Sandpiper, Yellow Wagtail, Reed Warbler

RAF Wainfleet

Montagu's Harrier

06/05/2023

Anderby Creek

Short-eared Owl

Cleethorpes

10 Dunlin, 30 Grey Plover, 2 Spoonbill (over)

Far Ings

Bittern

Frampton Marsh

Cattle Egret, Garganey, Little Owl, Little Stint, Grey Plover, Spotted Redshank, Curlew Sandpiper, 3 Wood Sandpiper, Spoonbill, 2 Black-winged Stilt, Blue-winged Teal, Wheatear, Whimbrel

Gibraltar Point

Fieldfare, 2 Greenshank, Montagu's Harrier, Merlin, Wheatear, 35 Whimbrel

Rimac

2 Avocet, 2 Marsh Harrier, Grasshopper Warbler, 6 Sedge Warbler, 4 Whimbrel, 2 Lesser Whitethroat, 24 Whitethroat

Saltfleet Haven

Subalpine Warbler

05/05/2023

Anderby Creek

Garganey, 141+ Ruff, Wood Sandpiper

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Black Tern

Cleethorpes CP

Grasshopper Warbler

Donna Nook

Pallid/Montagu's Harrier (north)

Frampton Marsh

3 Black-winged Stilt, Wood Sandpiper

04/05/2023

Alkborough

85 Ruff

Anderby Creek

141 Ruff

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Black Tern

Baston Fen

Spoonbill

Boultham Mere

2 Hobby

Far Ings

4 Hobby

Frampton Marsh

120 Dunlin, 12 Mediterranean Gull, Spotted Redshank, 158 Ruff, Curlew Sandpiper, 4 Wood Sandpiper, 2 Black-winged Stilt, 2 Little Stint

Gibraltar Point

Pied Flycatcher

Scartho

Yellowhammer

Willow Tree Fen

26 Ruff, Wood Sandpiper

03/05/2023

Frampton Marsh

4 Barnacle Goose, Bittern, 2 Spotted Redshank, Wood Sandpiper, Spoonbill, Blue-winged Teal (was seen to fly off but is now back), Spotted Redshank, Common Sandpiper, 2 Garden Warbler, 4 Whimbrel

Kirkby on Bain

2 Black-winged Stilt

Fillingham

Marsh Harrier 2 Reed Warbler

Gibraltar Point

32 Avocet, 2 Cuckoo, 3 Dotterel, 50 Black-tailed Godwit, Barnacle Goose, 4 Greenshank, Spoonbill, Little Ringed Plover, 3 Yellow Wagtail, 2 Grasshopper Warbler, 3 Wheatear, 2 Lesser Whitethroat, 12 Whimbrel

Hartsholme Park

4 Blackcap, 2 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 11 Grey Heron, Kingfisher,

Messingham

2 Hobby, 20 Sand Martin, 2 Grey Partridge, 6 Pochard, 5 Common Tern, 5 Cetti's Warbler, 5 Reed Warbler

Swanpool

Cuckoo, Lesser Whitethroat

02/05/2023

Alkborough

Hoopoe (over)

Anderby Creek

Glossy Ibis

Baston & Langtoft Pits

Garganey

Fillingham

Hobby

Frampton Marsh

Cuckoo, 16 Mediterranean Gull, 3 Marsh Harrier, 3 Barnacle Goose, Barn Owl, Spotted Redshank, Common Sandpiper, Spoonbill, Temminck'd Stint, 3 Black-winged Stilt, Blue Winged Teal, Lesser Whitethroat

Scartho

4 Skylark, 3 Whitethroat



A beautiful Hobby over Fikkingham - Image © Colin Scott

Tetney Marsh

2 Spoonbill

01/05/2023

Frampton Marsh

2 Barnacle Goose, Great Crested Grebe, 2 Little Ringed Plover, 3 Black-Winged Stilt, Wood Sandpiper



A Black-Winged Stilt early at Frampton Marsh, but eventually there were three - Image © Paul Sullivan

Huttoft Marsh

Night Heron

Scunthorpe

Great Crested Grebe

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-](http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php)

[publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php](http://www.glnp.org.uk/our-publications/biodiversity/projects-and-reports.php)

Lincs Amphibian and Reptile Group

The Lincolnshire ARG (Amphibian & Reptile Group)

Ashley Butterfield - learningoutdoors@btinternet.com

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

