



Welcome to the LBC eNewsletter – November 2023

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Pallid Patch!

Lincs birders were stunned by events on Sunday 29th October when **5 Pallid Swifts** were found in the county, more than doubling the previous total of 4 county records since the first for Britain in Kent in 1978. First up early morning was Owen Beaumont enjoying a day out with his mates at Gibraltar Point when he had a bird fly over Aylmer Avenue. He managed to get some great photos, one of which is shown below.



Sadly it didn't hang around for long and very few were able to get there and see it. Next it was Mablethorpe birder Gary Wright's turn. He was pounding his local patch Huttoft Pit at the North end of the Coastal Country Park in the early afternoon when he discovered 2 Pallid Swifts feeding over Huttoft Pit and ranging along Huttoft Bank. These birds stuck around and while birders were arriving, Neil Drinkell, in a rare afternoon away from his Alkborough patch, put out the news 2 more Pallid Swifts had been found over Far Ings. Which way to turn? Lincs rare bird WhatsApp group was buzzing. Both duos stayed until late afternoon giving those who needed Pallid Swift a great chance to see one. For further details of the Far Ings events see <https://www.grahamcatley.com/blog-1/zbbt9563rpzsh3nj8ndhlmcqhb00l>.

Upcoming Bird Surveys 1: WinGS January 2024

The BTO is organising the Winter Gull Survey (WinGS) for 2023/24–2024/25. The last survey took place from 2003/04–2005/06 and concluded that the UK and near-shore coastal waters supported over 3.8 million wintering gulls at that time. Population trends from the BTO/RSPB/JNCC Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) for gull species present in the UK in winter are variable and updated information is necessary to identify potential Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for gulls. The primary goal of the survey is to produce new population estimates for wintering gulls in the UK and assess how populations have changed since the last survey in 2003/04–2005/06. The results of this survey will also aid us in assessing the impact of the ongoing outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) on gull populations and enable us to identify sites where the 1% threshold for the population is exceeded to thus recommend potential protected area designation for the species.

The primary winter surveys will take place in January 2024 and January 2025. Each site will need to be covered in one of these two winters only. Supplementary visits to Key Sites (see below) are also requested in autumn 2024 to understand variation in numbers between seasons. A clear understanding of the identification criteria for the UK's six primary gull species is essential: Common, Black-headed, Mediterranean, Herring, Lesser Black-backed and Great Black-backed Gulls. More unusual gull species may also be observed so broad knowledge is helpful.

If you'd like to take part full details of the survey and the sites available can be found by opening or logging in to your BTO account and signing up for WinGS, listed amongst other BTO surveys here: <https://www.bto.org/my-bto>

After you sign up it may take a few minutes for the survey to appear under "My Current Projects". Please refresh your browser after signing up if you encounter a longer wait time.

Upcoming Bird Surveys 2: Lincolnshire Airfields Curlew Survey March 2024

Curlews have never been a common or widespread breeding bird in Lincolnshire with the number of pairs put at between 30–50 over the last 40 years. There have been no confirmed breeding reports in the Lincolnshire Bird Report since 2016. The news that large numbers of Curlew eggs were being taken from Lincolnshire RAF stations from 2021 onwards for the purposes of hatching "head started" Curlews to be released in other parts of the country, principally Norfolk where they would hopefully start new populations or boost faltering ones, therefore came as a surprise and even shock to Lincolnshire birders.

One part of the shock was realising how little we know about breeding Lincolnshire Curlews, especially as Curlew is now a red-listed species. To try and rectify our lack of knowledge LBC will be conducting a survey jointly with Natural England and the RAF Ornithological (who have access to the RAF airfields themselves). The aims of the survey are as follows:

1. Identify areas where Curlew breed in and around airfields and the habitats they use.
2. Assess the number of breeding pairs in these areas.
3. Assess the productivity of Curlews on airfields and around them.
4. On RAF sites where clutches are collected what proportion of the birds lay second clutches and up to what dates.
5. Determine sites where “headstarted” birds might be released and have a safe future in Lincolnshire where their breeding success could be maximised.
6. Appeal to LBC members for a wider qualitative look at whether Curlews are breeding successfully at any of the other sites they have bred in since 2011.
7. Achieve a stable/growing Curlew population in Lincolnshire

The survey will be based on tetrads around the following airfields:

Site	Squares	RAFOS	LBC	NE
Barkston	5	1	4	
Cranwell	6	1	5	
Digby	5	1	4	
Waddington	4	1	3	
Scampton	6	1	5	
Coningsby	2	1		1
Total	28	6	21	1

If you would like to take part in the survey and receive a copy of the research information and survey details including squares to be covered, please email the survey organiser Phil Espin on pmjespin@gmail.com. Each tetrad square will need 2 visits lasting 2 hours each from the same person, one during mid-March to April 30th and the second during 1 May to June 15th. If Curlews are present in May, a final visit to check for well grown young will be done from June 21st to July 15th. If you have a particular interest in a specific site please get in quick to ensure you can cover the sites you need. Previous experience shows that one observer can easily cover 2 adjacent tetrads in one morning visit. Data will be collected via Birdtrack or ebird lists of all species recorded, using the appropriate breeding codes to reflect the behaviour noted.

All the sites to be covered by LBC are in the west of the county but all members can take part by going into their local countryside and recording the presence or absence of Curlews showing breeding behaviour during mid March to mid June. Visits to areas that have previously held breeding Curlews would be particularly welcome. These are described in the research note so if you are interested please do email Phil Espin to obtain a copy.

Our New Lincolnshire Listmaster

Following John Clarkson's tragic death in August, a vacancy has arisen for the above role which I'm pleased John's longstanding birding buddy Andy Sims has volunteered to fill. Andy is well known throughout the county as a dedicated patch worker at Boultham Mere but he also probably has the biggest British List of any Lincs birder and the third biggest known Lincolnshire list. His excellent knowledge of the birds and birders of the county make him admirably qualified to take over from John.



Andy (left) and John (right) birding in the Lincs Wolds or was it the Sela Pass, Arunachal Pradesh India? March 2019

What does the Lincolnshire Listmaster do? Well to some keeping a list of the birds one has personally seen in Lincolnshire is pointless, for others it's a bit of fun and for a smaller band its deadly serious. The role of Listmaster is to keep a spreadsheet recording all the birds seen in the county by any birder who wishes to take part. It provides a

benchmark so that people can see who has seen what, and how they are doing against each other and the leader of the pack, currently Graham Catley. Not everybody takes part and there are a handful of people who might easily be in the top 10 should they decide to take part and submit their list. There is no detailed scrutiny but when it comes to rarities only birds accepted by BBRC are countable.

John used to send out and update the list annually but it is usually out of date as birders keep adding seeing new species as often as they can! The latest version has the following rankings:

1. Graham Catley	368
2. Kev Wilson	363
3. Andy Sims	362
4. John Clarkson (died 2023)	360
5. Phil Espin	355
6. Nige Lound	353
7. Neil Drinkall	351
8. Phil Hyde	346
9. Barry Clarkson	344
10. Keith Atkin (died 2017)	343

If you'd like to take part, please email Andy Sims on a.c.sims@ntlworld.com and he will send you the spreadsheet to either update your current list or insert a column for you if you haven't previously taken part. All entries are welcome from 200 species seen and over. Andy will compile all the data and we'll hopefully publish a full up to date list in the January Heron.

Meet the BTO in Lincolnshire, an invite to a Zoom Meeting

David White, the British Trust for Ornithology's (BTO) Engagement & Surveys Officer for England writes to us as follows:

"I am currently in the process of organising a **free** 'Meet the BTO in South Lincolnshire' Zoom session on **Wednesday 22 November, 7pm–8.30pm**.

The session will consist of an opportunity to find out more about the BTO, and some information about how bird populations are currently fairing in the area. There will also be an opportunity to meet BTO staff and local representatives virtually and ask any questions about the organisation that you may like to know the answer to. The link to book onto the session is as follows:

<https://www.bto.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=1503>

Please note that registration for this session will end at **9am on Monday 20 November**.

If you have any questions or queries about the above, please email me on david.white@bto.org.uk or ring me on 01842 750050. We hope to see you virtually on that evening. “

Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe NNR LBC Walk - Saturday October 14th 2023

After a day of torrential rain on Friday, Saturday dawned dry, if a bit chilly, with a westerly airflow. As the morning progressed the sun came out and all sixteen participants enjoyed a lovely walk, led by the Reserve Warden, Owen Beaumont.

Gathering in the car park we were treated to a good flock of pink footed geese flying out from their roost site and heading inland to feed. A small group of long-tailed tits were foraging in the trees along the access path. We then set off south along the track at the back of the Reserve. Here the willows, hawthorns, and other varied trees and shrubs hosted a few mixed tits, goldcrests and chaffinch with some members of the group seeing a handsome great spotted woodpecker, which flew across and landed in a dead tree. Several mute swans were on the river Eau and a pheasant and three pied wagtails on the intervening fields. Perhaps the main interest was overhead, with a single cattle egret rapidly disappearing behind the trees towards Elm House farm, a cormorant, black-headed gulls and a buzzard all seen. Skylarks were much in evidence throughout the morning, both here and over the salt marsh, with around 40 being counted by one participant. A grey heron and little egrets were also present.

Leaving the rear path we cut back across the Reserve, where linnets and a reed bunting were vocal, to return via the track bordering the salt marsh. A mixed group of gulls was resting on one of the sand spits comprising Greater black backs, herring, black headed and common gulls. Distant waders picked up and identified through the scope included sanderling, dunlin, a ringed plover, a small flock of golden plover, a few curlew, oystercatchers, some shelduck and redshank.

The highlight of the morning however, was undoubtedly the display of raptors. Firstly, two marsh harriers and a peregrine, followed by a male merlin which we watched hunting, and then catching, a fleeing snipe, whereupon one of the marsh harriers immediately swooped in and snatched it. The harrier landed out of sight but this attracted the attention of the carrion crows and a further harrier. Some group members also had a sparrowhawk. Quite a spectacle!

Further along a variety of ducks, mainly teal, mallard and shoveler were visible on the lagoon out on the marsh, also a single ruff. A whooper swan flew in over our heads and Owen thought that he saw a fieldfare, this being the only thrush seen.

The final bird count for the morning was around 50 species. Other interesting observations included a parasol mushroom, two common darters, and a fox moth caterpillar.

The group dispersed around 11.0, with several members subsequently catching up with four cattle egrets in the company of the cows at Elm House farm. A very enjoyable walk and many thanks to Owen for giving up his time to lead us.

Sally Prescott

News in brief

The next Lincolnshire Bird Club Event will take place on

Saturday January 21st 2024 8.30 – 11.30

A guided walk around South Ormsby Estate, by kind invitation of the owner Jon Thornes who will lead the walk and explain his vision for the development of the Estate for the benefit of birds and wildlife.

Starting from the courtyard of South Ormsby Hall, we will progress to see the bird life surrounding the Lake, followed by the bird feeders and the stream that runs through the parkland. From there the surrounding woodland and area around the Lincoln red cattle herd will provide further interest. The walk will end with a stop at the Old School House for hot drinks and a hot beef roll.

This is a free event and all members of the Lincs. Bird club are welcome, however, numbers are limited to 30 and will be reserved on a "First come, first served " basis.

If you are interested in going please contact Sally Prescott: sally.prescott142@btinternet.com

South Ormsby Estate. South Ormsby Hall, South Ormsby LN11 8QS

Old Lincolnshire bird reports: going free while stocks last

Now that all our old Lincolnshire Bird Reports up to 2019 are scanned and available to read/download free from our website we have decided it is no longer necessary to hold the printed stocks of reports we have accumulated in the loft of our long standing Sales Officer, Bill Sterling.

We are therefore offering free sets of available back copies to anyone who wishes to get them from Bill in Healing near Grimsby. This will be the last chance to acquire old reports from LBC as in the new year they will be disposed of at Bill's leisure. So hurry while stocks last. Bill can be contacted on sales@lincsbirdclub.co.uk and you can either collect your reports from him or pay the postage to have them delivered to you.

Looking for a Christmas Present? Birds of Lincolnshire 2021 for £20

It is now over 2.5 years since Birds of Lincolnshire was published in March 2021. The club printed 800 copies and we have 60 left which we'd like to dispose of. We are therefore reducing the price to the original pre-publication price for members of £20 plus post and packaging. If you'd like a half price copy you can buy one via the sales section of our website www.lincsbirdclub.

Which will be the next American warbler species to make its debut in Britain?

THE mini-invasion of American passerines to western and northern Britain that occurred in September but sadly left Lincolnshire untouched would have intrigued and delighted the late Eric Simms, formerly Honorary President of the Lincolnshire Bird Club.

It was he who wrote the authoritative study, *British Warblers*, which was published in the Collins New Naturalist series in 1985.

In a section on American vagrant warblers, he quotes Roger Tory Petersen who poignantly described them as the 'butterflies of the bird world - bright-coloured mites'.

Simms notes: "Most eat insects but a few species will take berries and fruit in winter.

"Some species hawk for insects on the wing, others forage under leaves for insects and their eggs or spiders. Others climb the bark, forage in trees of all kinds as well as scrub or grassland or feed on the ground."

Simms does not discount the possibility of ship-assisted visitants.

He highlights the example of a Blackpoll Warbler that arrived aboard a ship in Southampton in autumn 1961, sailed with the same vessel on her return and died halfway across the Atlantic.

In his book, Simms also explores the research of British birder-meteorologist Norman Elkins and American ornithologist Chandler S. Robbins, the latter correctly predicting that Bay-breasted Warbler, Magnolia Warbler and Canada Warbler would be recorded in Britain and Ireland, though it has taken 43 years for the first Magnolia to be recorded in Britain.

Other of Robbins' most likely candidates for an appearance in Europe include: Connecticut Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler and Orange-crowned Warbler.

According to Simms, crossings may be initiated anywhere between Nova Scotia and Bermuda while the birds are migrating south "although some may have been on a random dispersal or reversed passage".

More recently, the subject of vagrancy has also been explored by Alex Lees, also of Lincolnshire roots, and James Gilroy in their informative book, *Vagrancy in Birds*, which was published in December 2021.

What has happened to all those American warblers that turned up on the Welsh coast in September? There seem to have been no subsequent sightings so either they died in inclement storms or pressed on further south, hopefully to return next spring? The chances of a successful return across the Atlantic are thought to be infinitesimally small.

JW

Bygone birding: Recalling an 'extraordinary migratory arrival' 150 years ago

This report by Lincolnshire ornithologist John Cordeaux *On the Migration and Habits of the Curlew-Sandpiper* is taken from the October 1873 edition of *The Zoologist* journal.

At the end of the last week in August and early in September, there was an extraordinary migratory arrival of Curlew-sandpipers in the Great Cotes marshes.

On the 31st of August, I was crossing a very bare sheep-walk, about a mile from the shore, when I came upon a flock of small waders sitting breast to the wind, and very much resembling little lumps of chalk scattered over the short green herbage. I supposed them either Dunlins or Ringed Plovers, hundreds of which at this season frequent these marshes, but on bringing my binocular to bear it became at once apparent that they were neither of these.

From the peculiar tint of the underparts they might, however, have passed muster for young Knots in the plumage of the first autumn, but, if so, they were the smallest Knots I had ever seen. A nearer acquaintance therefore became absolutely necessary before I could determine the species, and I had no gun.

A slight hollow, where an old top grip had been filled in, favoured an approach, and up this I wriggled for some distance, and then, slowly bringing my eyes level with the surface, found I was within twenty yards. One look through the glass at this distance was sufficient to show they were Curlew-sandpipers.

There were sixty or seventy, somewhat scattered at first, but, suspecting something was wrong, they ran together in a cluster, and stood looking towards my hiding-place. A well-directed shot at this range would have half exterminated them.

They appeared birds of the year, having the same buff-coloured wash on the lower neck and breast which we find in the young Knot. There was a rather conspicuous lightish streak over the eye; the bill was long and decurved at the end, but not more so than in the Dunlin. However, they stood higher and looked a larger bird than this species.

Some on the outside kept rising and flying over the heads of those in the rear, showing at the same time their most characteristic distinctive mark, the white upper tail-coverts. In their habits, they more nearly resemble the Reeve than the Dunlin.

They run rapidly with the tibio-larsal joints much bent, and they have the same habit which we see in the reeve of raising themselves, stretching their necks, and peering about when they suspect danger. Their flight also is very Reeve-like, their long pointed wings increasing the resemblance.

They fly in a lump or cluster, close together, sometimes rising to a considerable height, and then again sweeping or skimming the ground, wheeling rapidly round the pasture and dashing up to windward, they will alight suddenly and commence feeding.

Later in the day, I returned to this field with my gun, but did not get a shot: they had then got mixed up with a flock of Peewits, rising and going off to the coast together.

September 1st. Again on the look out for the Curlew-sandpipers, but did not find them in this field.

In a marsh about half-a-mile further inland, there were about fifteen or twenty in company with Peewits, and feeding with them. I got a long shot at three, dropping one. The survivors, instead of making off, continued to fly round and hover (winnowing the air like Kestrels) above their wounded mate, and uttering the most piteous little bird-wail I ever heard. It was wonderful to see such an exhibition of feeling and sympathy on the part of these little creatures.

In an adjoining field, a very bare summer-eaten clover, there were many more foraging in company with Curlews and Peewits; these latter rose, leading the sandpipers with them. There were probably from one hundred to a hundred and fifty, these collected into two flocks, flying round in a wide circle and not offering a shot.

Their call is peculiar. It is not a whistle, but a "chirrup," and may not inaptly be rendered by this word. When the flock are in full chorus, which is generally the case when they are on the wing, the effect is exceedingly musical and pleasing. It is not unlike the twittering of Snow Buntings, and most opposite to the sharp distinct call of the Dunlin.

I saw several other small parties during the next two hours, and later two flocks in a thirty-five acre pasture near my marsh farmstead - probably about seventy in one, fifty in the other. I killed four out of these, some of the survivors, as in the previous instance, hovering for a short time over the dead birds, uttering the same pitiful wailing note.

These flocks all occurred within a comparatively circumscribed area, and I can speak positively as to their having been composed exclusively of Curlew-sandpipers. I saw, however, during the day many very extensive gatherings of similar appearance careering above the marshes at great distances, much too far indeed for identification, yet, judging from what I had seen on my own land, I feel tolerably confident that they also were Curlew-sandpipers, and probably all of them migratory flocks.

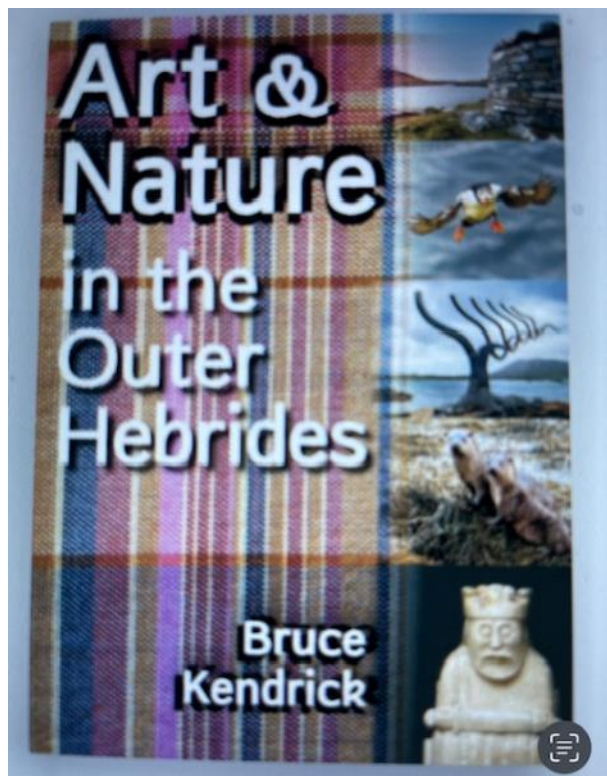
On the following day, as far as I could judge, they had entirely left the district, and I have only seen half a dozen since. In the specimens procured, the bill and claws are black; the legs, tarsi and feet very dark green - the colour known as "invisible green"; iris dark brown.

The stomachs of three examined were filled entirely with insect remains - *Coleoptera*, *Diptera*, and their larvae - also several sharp angular fragments of quartz, not picked up in this district.

JW

Book review: *Art and Nature in The Outer Hebrides*

Imagine this! It is 7.30am You are out birding in wide open countryside when, far in the distance, you see a 'thing', possibly a bird perched on a post.



It could be a carrion crow but, if it is a bird, the silhouette suggests a buzzard. Without a 'scope, it is hard to tell just through binoculars.

As you get closer, the 'thing' definitely has a head - and it moves.

Midway through his captivating book, an excited Bruce Kendrick takes up the story as he reaches to about 200 metres from his 'target'.

"It must be. Could it be? Surely not! Think of the odds. This is a once-in-a-lifetime event.

"I'm trying to tell myself to calm down and be rational. Rational? What do I do right now, this very second? Think hard. Call on all your birdcraft, your experience. This is not a time to screw up. Any movement could scare it out on to the vast mudflats."

For those who have not already guessed it, I won't reveal the species, except to say that Kendrick understandably describes the 30-minute experience as a 'pinnacle' of his birding career.

"Why am I so transfixed?" he asks. "Is it the success at last, after so many birding days when hope and optimism are rarely rewarded?"

In a way, this is two books in one - structured around a single Hebridean journey from Lewis in the north to Vatersay in the south.

The thrust of the fast-moving narrative recounts the author's absorbing birding experiences along the way, including precious time spent with like-minded enthusiasts Tony Marr on Lewis and *Rare Bird Alert* contributor Bruce Taylor on Barra, but it is enriched by interviews with some of the brilliant creative artists who have made their lives in the Outer Hebrides.

A word, too, for the excellent photographs, many by the author, including two of the 'thing' that caused him such euphoria.

"Nature is not an exotic faraway construct of a place," he concludes. "It's right here with us, wherever we live. We need nature. We *are* nature."

Art and Nature in The Outer Hebrides is published in paperback at £18,99 by go-ahead Caithness-based firm Whittles Publishing. (www.whittlespublishing.com)

JW

Andrew Chick, our proficient editor of The Heron is on a well earned break in Nepal at the moment. This November edition has been produced by Phil Espin. Any mistakes blame him!

Unfortunately, technical issues have meant that we can only bring you Lincolnshire Bird News up to 29th October. If you are missing your full fix, check out the Sightings section on the website.

Lincolnshire Bird News - October 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.

29/10/2023

Barton Pits

4 Waxwing

Carlton Scroop

Shag

Deeping Lakes

Glossy Ibis

Elmhouse Farm

20 Reed Bunting, 2 Cattle Egret, 3 Kestrel, Marsh Harrier, 25 Meadow Pipit, 4 Short-eared Owl, 350 Starling

Far Ings

2 Pallid Swift

Frampton Marsh

Long-tailed Duck, 2 Cattle Egret, Great White Egret, Peregrine Falcon, Stonechat, 2 Whooper Swan

Gibraltar Point

Rough-legged Buzzard, Common Crossbill, Mealy Redpoll, Pallid Swift, Waxwing

Huttoft Bank

2 Pallid Swift

Ingham

c 4000 Fieldfare

Saltfleetby

Cattle Egret, 58 Fieldfare, Gannet, 425 Pink-footed Goose, 2 Hen Harrier, Marsh Harrier, Raven, 11 Lesser Redpoll, 310 Starling, Sparrowhawk, Stonechat

28/10/2023

Deeping Lakes

Glossy Ibis

Donna Nook

Goldcrest (trapped & ringed in Estonia, Ring Ouzel

Frampton Marsh

Long-tailed Duck, Slavonian Grebe (reservoir)

Gibraltar Point

Caspian Gull

Toft Newton

Great Nothern Diver

Wolla Bank

Blackbird, Fieldfare, Redwing, 3 Waxwing (over north)

27/10/2023

Apex Pits

Shag

Deeping Lakes

Cattle Egret, Glossy Ibis

Donna Nook

Short-eared Owl, Mealy Redpoll

Frampton Marsh

Long-tailed Duck, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Black-throated Diver

Huttoft

Little Gull, Velvet Scoter

Rimac

Firecrest, Mealy Redpoll

Saltfleetby

2 Snow Bunting

Willow Tree Fen

9 Common Crane

26/10/2023

Apex Pits

3 Shag

Ashbyville Lake

Shag

Frampton Marsh

Long-tailed Duck, Great White Egret, 300+ Goldfinch, Kingfisher, Rock Pipit, 5 Snipe, Stonechat, Lesser Yellowlegs

Freiston Shore

Water Pipit

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, 15 White-fronted Goose, Red-necked Grebe, Ring Ouzel, 2 Purple Sandpiper, Velvet Scoter

Huttoft

Caspian Gull, Little Gull, Ring Ouzel, Mealey Redpoll

Louth

2 Shag



Two Shag in Louth - Image © Phil Espin

Willow Tree Fen

Common Crane

25/10/2023

Apex Pits

Shag, Green Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper

Crook Bank

Short-eared Owl

Deeping High Bank

Short-eared Owl

Deeping Lakes

Bittern, Glossy Ibis

Donna Nook

Brambling, Fieldfare, Goldcrest, Pink-footed Goose, Marsh Harrier, Merlin, Mealy Redpoll, Redwing, Yellow-browed Warbler

Frampton Marsh

Brambling, Long-tailed Duck, Great White Egret, Peregrine Falcon, Goldeneye, Slavonian Grebe, Merlin, Pintail, Water

Pipit, Cetti's Warbler, Lesser Yellowlegs

Far Ings

3 Bittern

Mablethorpe

Waxwing

Swanpool cow-fields

Great White Egret

24/10/2023

Boultham Mere

4 Whooper Swan

Deeping Lakes

Osprey

Ewerby Waithe

Caspian Gull

Frampton Marsh

Long-tailed Duck, Cattle Egret, Slavonian Grebe, Boff-breasted Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs



The Buff-breasted Sandpiper which seems to have re-appeared after a few days missing - Image © David Smith

Immingham

Caspian Gull

23/10/2023

Deeping Lakes

Glossy Ibis

Donna Nook

6 Eider, Peregrine Falcon, 3 Little Gull, Hen Harrier (m), 3 Red-breasted Merganser, Merlin, Greater Scaup. 48 Shag, 3 Arctic Skua, Jack Snipe, 5 Twite

Frampton Marsh

Brambling, Great White Egret, 2 Peregrine Falcon, 4 Barnacle Goose, Slavonian Grebe, Little Gull, Merlin, 2 Water Rail, Curlew Sandpiper, Stonechat. Little Stint, Bearded Tit, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

2 Brambling, 30 Gannet, 2 Greenshank, Marsh Harrier, 185 Brent Goose, 126 Sanderling, 5 Stonechat, 4 Siskin, Whooper Swan, Arctic Tern, 2 Sandwich Tern, 28 Turnstone, Grey Wagtail, Cetti's Warbler

Pyewipe

28 Shag

Trusthorpe

75 Sanderling, Purple Sandpiper, 25 Shag

22/10/2023

Boultham Mere

5 Whooper Swan

Covenham Reservoir

Slavonian Grebe

Deeping Lakes

Glossy Ibis

Fillingham

4 Brambling, Great White Egret, 60 Fieldfare, Goldeneye, 78 Pink-footed Goose, **Raven**, 70 Redwing

Frampton Marsh

Long-tailed Duck, Cattle Egret, Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, Pomarine Skua

Halton Marsh

3 Cattle Egret, 4 Russian White-fronted Goose

Mablethorpe

Caspian Gull, Little Gull

Pyewipe

Snow Bunting, Caspian Gull

Saltfleetby

2 Cattle Egret, 3 Russian White-fronted Goose

Sutton on Sea

4 Gannet, Barnacle Goose, **66 Little Gull**, Guillemot, **Hen Harrier**, 75 Sanderling, **Stonechat**, **Woodcock**, Great Spotted Woodpecker

Trent Port

Chiffchaff, 287 Pink-footed Goose, 2 Jay, Siskin, Sparrowhawk

Barton upon Humber Pits

2 Long-tailed Duck



Long-tailed Duck at Barton upon Humber - Image © Graham Catley

Brickyard Lane

Bluethroat

Cut End

11 Little Gull, Hen Harrier, Ring Ouzel

Deeping Lakes

Glossy Ibis

Far Ings

Bittern

Frampton Marsh

Long-tailed Duck, Cattle Egret, Great White Egret, Little Gull, 2 Curlew Sandpiper, Little Stint, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Black-throated Diver, Caspian Gull, Hen Harrier, Water Pipit

Mablethorpe

Little Gull, Greater Scaup

Rimac

Firecrest

20/10/2023

Cut End

200+ Little Gull, 60 Kittiwake, 5 Leach's Storm Petrel, Arctic Skua, Great Skua, Long-tailed Skua, Pomarine Skua

Deeping High Bank

Glossy Ibis

Frampton Marsh

22 Little Gull, Arctic Skua

Halton Marsh

2 Little Gull, 2 Long-tailed Skua

Sutton on Sea

4 Little Gull, Leach's Storm Petrel, Pomarine Skua

Trent Port

Blackcap, 2 Bullfinch, Chiffchaff, 220 Fieldfare, 5 Goldcrest, 280 Redwing, 2 Stonechat, Grey Wagtail, **Green Woodpecker**

Water's Edge

Caspian Skua, 300 Little Gull, 25 Arctic Skua

19/10/2023

Gibraltar Point

Hen Harrier (rt), Shore Lark, Ring Ouzel

Grainthorpe

Hoopoe

Huttoft Bank

Short-eared Owl

Saltfleetby

Ring Ouzel, Short-eared Owl

Rimac

Firecrest

Sutton on Sea

3 Red-throated Diver, 2 Bar-tailed Godwit, Goldeneye, 29 Brent Goose, **5 Red-breasted Merganser**, Pintail, Razorbill, 11 Common Scoter, **2 Velvet Scoter**, **Arctic Skua**, 361 Teal, 520 Wigeon

18/10/2023

Caistor

Osprey

Chapel Point

Little Auk

Cut End

Long-tailed Skua

Deeping Lakes

Bittern, Glossy Ibis

Frampton Marsh

Garganey, Lesser Yellowlegs

Mablethorpe

Pomarine Skua, Greater Scaup

Sutton on Sea

2 Great Northern Diver, 4 Red-throated Diver, 2 Eider, 27 Gannet, 3 Bar-tailed Godwit, 2 Kittiwake, 4 Common Scoter, Manx

Shearwater, 3 Arctic Skua, Woodcock

Trent Port

190 Fieldfare, 6 Goldcrest, 65 Redwing, Siskin, Sparrowhawk, 2 Stonechat, Barn Swallow, Green Woodpecker

17/10/2023

Cut End

3 Pomarine Skua

Deeping Lakes

Bittern, Glossy Ibis, Rock Pipit



Glossy Ibis at Deeping Lakes - Image © Mike Weedon

Gibraltar Point

3 Little Auk, Black Redstart, 3 Sooty Shearwater, 6 Pomarine Skua

North Somercotes

Brambling

Sutton on Sea

10 Red-throated Diver, **Great Norther Diver**, 22 Eider, 51 Brent Geese, 3 Guillemot, 2 Razorbill, 73 Sanderling, 42 Common Scoter, **Manx Shearwater**, **Sooty Shearwater**, **Pomarine Skua**

16/10/2023

Anderby Creek

Blyth's Reed Warbler

Deeping Lakes

Glossy Ibis

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, **Cattle Egret**, 10+ Little Egret, **Peregrine Falcon**, **Merlin**, 2 **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Pectoral Sandpiper**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Little Stint**, **Stonechat**, **Whooper Swan**, **Lesser Yellowlegs**

Gibraltar Point

Hooded Crow, **Pomarine Skua**

Halton Marsh

3 Cattle Egret

Kirton Marsh

6 Cattle Egret

Mablethorpe

Long-tailed Skua

Saltfleet/Theddlethorpe NNR

Bluethroat (trapped & ringed), **Brambling**, **Merlin**, **Siskin**

North Somercotes

Brambling

15/10/2023

Elm House Farm

4 Cattle Egret

Frampton Marsh

Pectoral Sandpiper, **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Lesser Yellowlegs**

Gibraltar Point

2 Cattle Egret, **Water Pipit**, **6 Pomarine Skua**

Halton Marsh

Richardson's Cackling Goose, **Baird's Sandpiper**

Haxey

Hooded Crow

Kirton Marsh

6 Cattle Egret

Marston

Caspian Gull

Willow Tree Fen

7-9 Common Crane

14/10/2023

Anderby Creek

Pomarine Skua

Frampton Marsh

Spotted Redshank, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Pectoral Sandpiper**, **Semipalmated Sandpiper**, **Little Stint**, **Lesser Yellowlegs**

Gibraltar Point

Leach's Storm Petrel, **3 Pomarine Skua**

Halton Marsh

Baird's Sandpiper, **Cattle Egret**

Haxey

Hooded Crow

Saltfleetby

Cattle Egret, **4800 Pink-footed Goose**, **4 Whooper Swan**

13/10/2023

Covenham Reservoir

200 Canada Goose, Common Sandpiper, 2 Whooper Swan



An interesting view of some of the Canada Geese at Covenham Reservoir - Image © Jim Wright

Frampton Marsh

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Haxey

Hooded Crow

Kirton Marsh

6 Cattle Egret

RSPB Tetney Marsh

Dunlin Red Knot, Osprey, Golden Plover, 3 Snipe

Trent Port, Marton

Brambling, 2 Chiffchaff, 2 Goldcrest, Peregrine Falcon, Kingfisher, Treecreeper

Willow Tree Fen

9 Common Crane

12/10/2023

Allkborough Flats

Glossy Ibis

Fillingham

Whooper Swan

Frampton Marsh

Semipalmated Sandpiper, Jack Snipe, 4 Little Stint. Lesser Yellowlegs

Haxey

Hooded Crow

11/10/2023

Boultham Mere

Pintail

Deeping Lakes

Bittern

Far Ings

65 Pink-footed Goose, 2 Marsh Harrier, 3 Water Rail, 4 Barn Swallow, 2 Bearded Tit

Frampton Marsh

Semipalmated Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Pomarine Skua, Yellow-browed Warbler

Haxey

Hooded Crow

10/10/2023

Anderby Creek

2 Black Tern

Anderby Marsh

9 Dunlin, Little Stint, Water Rail, Redshank, 10 Snipe, Sparrowhawk

Frampton Marsh

2 Cattle Egret, 3 Curlew Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Little Stint, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Bittern, Honey Buzzard, Cattle Egret, 2 Short-eared Owl, 2 Jack Snipe, 3 Yellow-browed Warbler

Haxey

Hooded Crow

Huttoft Car Terrace

c12 Bottle-nosed Dolphin (travelling South a mile or so out at sea), 2 Common Scoter

Huttoft Pit

Buzzard, 27 Black-tailed Godwit, 3 Common Snipe, Jack Snipe

Kirton Marsh

5 Cattle Egret

Saltfleet Haven

Little Bunting

Sea-View

200+ Pink-footed Goose

09/10/23

Frampton Marsh

Lapland Bunting, Cattle Egret, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs

Mablethorpe

Pomarine Skua

Sandilands

Short-eared Owl

Saltfleetby NNR

2 Ring Ouzel, Yellow-browed Warbler

Wolla Bank

Radde's Warbler

08/10/2023

Alkborough Flats

Glossy Ibis

Anderby Creek

Ring Ouzel, 400 Redwing

Deeping Lakes

Bittern

Donna Nook

Ring Ouzel

Frampton Marsh

Great White Egret, Glossy Ibis, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, 8 Bearded Tit, Whimbrel, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Brambling, 4 Cattle Egret, Brent Goose, 4000 Pink-footed Goose, 3 Buzzard, Lapland Bunting, 100 Fieldfare, Gannet, Guillemot, 5 Marsh Harrier, 8 Ring Ouzel, 42 Short-eared Owl, 2 Tree Pipit, Raven, Razorbill, 5000 Redwing, Shorelark, 22 Arctic Skua, 3 Great Skua, Jack Snipe, Barn Swallow, 150 Song Thrush, 7 Arctic Tern, Roseate Tern, Yellow-browed Warbler

Haxey

Hooded Crow

Huttoft

Yellow-browed Warbler

Kirton Marsh

5 Cattle Egret

Saltfleetby

Hawfinch, 4 Ring Ouzel, Yellow-browed Warbler

Sutton on Sea

2 Brambling, 5 Red-throated Diver, Peregrine Falcon, 4 Gannet, 2 Goldeneye, 224 Pink-footed Goose, 5 Ring Ouzel, 150 Redwing, 135 Sanderling, 10 Shelduck, 20 Song Thrush, 2 Stonechat

North Thoresby

Osprey

Trent Port

Chiffchaff, Great White Egret, Little Egret, Kingfisher, 200 Redwing, Mistle Thrush

Scampton

Great Grey Shrike

Swanpool cow-field

140 Redwing, Stonechat

07/10/2023

Boultham Mere

Buzzard, Great White Egret

Deeping Lakes

Black Tern

Frampton Marsh

Lapland Bunting, Siberian Chiffchaff, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, 3 Glossy Ibis, Greater Scaup

Haxey

Hooded Crow

Swanpool cow-fields

Green Woodpecker, 2 Redwing

06/10/2023

Cleethorpes

Common Tern, Turnstone

Elm House Farm

3 Cattle Egret

Frampton Marsh

Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs

Haxey

Hooded Crow

Saltfleetby/ Theddlethorpe NNR

3500 Pink-footed Goose

05/10/2023

Cleethorpes

30 Curlew, 600 Oystercatcher, 20 Greenshank, Guillemot, 50 Redshank, 100 Turnstone

Frampton Marsh

Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper

Gibraltar Point

Bittern, 2 Cattle Egret, Woodlark

Huttoft Terrace & Pit

2 Buzzard, 18 Black-tailed Godwit, 263 Golden Plover, Marsh Harrier, Kingfisher, Short-eared Owl, Teal, 2 Shoveler

Manby

c250 Pink-footed Goose

Saltfleetby St Clements (Elmhouse Farm)

Curlew, 4 Cattle Egret, 8 Kestrel, 3 Stonechat



A juvenile Cattle Egret (one of four birds) at Elmhouse Farm - Image © of Andy Sims

Sutton on Sea

11 Red-throated Diver, 2 Dunlin, 22 Gannet, Great Crested Grebe, Guillemot, 394 Pink-footed Goose, 2 Grey Plover, 1 Razorbill, 117 Sanderling, Common Scoter, 2 Sandwich Tern

Willow Tree Fen

Common Crane

04/10/2023

Boultham Mere

21 Common Gull, Kingfisher

Frampton Marsh

White-tailed Eagle, Spotted Redshank, Buff-bellied Sandpiper, 15 Curlew Sandpiper Semipalmated Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs

Gibraltar Point

Lapland Bunting, 2 Cattle Egret, Pomarine Skua

Middlemarsh Farm

Osprey

Rimac

Pomarine Skua

Saltfleetby St Clements (Elmhouse Farm)

4 Cattle Egret

Sot's Hole Bank (Dawsmere)

Black Stork

03/10/2023

Burgh le Marsh

Osprey

Frampton Marsh

Lapland Bunting, Cattle Egret, Goldfinch, Meadow Pipit, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, 12 Curlew Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Tree Sparrow, 10 Little Stint. Stonechat, Whinchat, Lesser Yellowlegs

Grantham

Black Kite (possible)

Huttoft Pit

Garganey

Whisby

Garganey

02/10/2023

Barton upon Humber

2 Black Tern

Belton House

4 Buzzard, 5 Red Kite

Boiutham Mere

Raven

Frampton Marsh

Lapland Bunting, 2 Great White Egret, 15 Little Egret, Garganey, Hen Harrier, Short-eared Owl, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, 12 Little Stint, Black Stork, 3 Whooper Swan, Lesser Yellowlegs



Semipalmated Sandpiper from 360 Hide at Frampton Marsh - Image © Toby Collett



Buff-breasted Sandpiper from the sea wall Frampton Marsh - Image © Paul Sullivan

Gibraltar Point

Greater Scaup

01/10/2023

Barton upon Humber

2 Black Tern

Cress Marsh

2 Collared Dove, Common Gull 80. Curlew, 47 Gadwall, 15 Shoveler. Stonechat, 24 Mute Swan

Job's Lane

2 Barnacle Goose

Tertney Lock

2 Dunlin, 5 Little Grebe, Kingfisher, 2 Common Sandpiper, Greenshank, Green Sandpiper, 6 Teal

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

