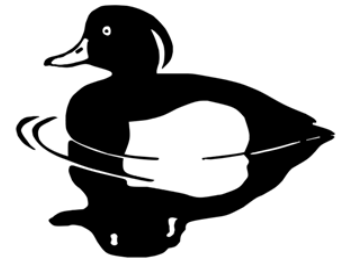


Newsletter No 97

August 2025



Editorial

Iain Oldcorn (bocmembershipsec@gmail.com)

Welcome to our 97th BOC Newsletter. Neil Kicks off with our latest local Conservation news while Sean follows with the national BTO news, including info on Surveys and ID skills training. Elaine brings news of an exciting NNR development in the Surrey Hills; and unscrambles her sightings from our last Newsletter. Next we have an anonymous report of a weekend BOC trip organised by Robert Godden. Peter Driver had an enjoyable time at this year's Global Bird Fair and is very much looking forward to returning next year – maybe you could join him!? Then we have another of Peter's Quick Crosswords. Jane reminds us of the need to fill some Committee vacancies at this year's late November AGM"; and I include a short piece about our falling Memberships numbers. Member Liz Carr describes an informative trip to "Wild Oakingham Rewilding". Ray Reedman reminisces again on his "weird" past; this time on how Owls played a big part in his childhood and beyond. Finally, another Gallery of Andy's excellent photos! (Ed. Unless otherwise stated, photos are copyright of the author of the article in which they appear.)

BOC Conservation Sub-committee Update – August 2025

Neil Bucknell

Berkshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy – is now being finalised and should go to the six Berkshire unitary authorities for approval this autumn. In common with a number of other local wildlife groups, the BOC has made representations and participated in the working groups. The strategy is intended to set out priority measures for nature conservation in the county and, where appropriate, locations for implementing these will be shown on maps. Among the measures we have supported are protection for heathland birds, waders of wetlands, conservation of areas around water bodies, measures to encourage wildlife in urban areas and more sympathetic management of both farmland and public open space. What is still awaited from the Government is how the local strategies will be implemented through the planning system or rural grant schemes, and whether any funds will be made available to support measures in them.

There has still been little progress at **Padworth Lane GP**, where a revised restoration plan for the site has still not been received from the mineral company that dug the gravel from the site. The Canal and Rivers Trust who own the site have suggested that we apply for partner status with them which would enable us to undertake interim management work there, and this is being taken forward by the club.

Grants – It is a while since any applications for grants have been received, so if anyone knows of any project suitable, please do apply, or encourage the group involved to do so. Our last grant made earlier this year supported the acquisition of a monitoring camera for nesting Peregrines and a new spare nest box for Peregrines if one of the present boxes needs replacement, or a new site requires one.

Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre Recorders' Day, Pangbourne, Sept 20th – TVERC hold meetings for local naturalists twice yearly at venues in either Berkshire or Oxfordshire, the two counties they serve. The next meeting is at Pangbourne Village Hall on Saturday September 20th; the talks will include one on "Boosting Barn Owls in Wokingham Borough". For more details, and booking on-line, see: <https://tverc.org/records/records-conferences-0/our-next-records-conference>

First a note about a new survey for this coming winter. This is the International Swan Census (ISC) which is a survey that falls within the Goose and Swan Monitoring Programme (GSMP). The ISC aims to assess the wintering sites and populations of Whooper and Bewick Swans. These swans are monitored annually in the UK through the BTO Wetland Bird Survey; however, the swans also use other sites, e.g. non-wetland and temporally flooded areas, not covered by this survey, so a more comprehensive survey is required, and this is now done every six years. The ISC involves one coordinated site-based survey which takes place at the same time as the wider International Waterbird Census. In the UK, this coincides with the WeBS count in the weekend of 17th-18th January 2026. If you are interested in taking part in the ISC, more details can be found at: www.bto.org/gsmpp. And there is also a "vacant site" map for the survey at: <https://app.bto.org/gsmpp/public/vacant-isc.jsp>. This should be available from 1st August.

Moving to BTO existing surveys, a **big thank you** to all volunteers who participated in the regular annual BTO run bird surveys (Breeding and Waterways Breeding Bird, Wetland Bird, Heronries, and Woodcock). As usual, these all drew to a close at the end of June. Also, another big thank you to all who participated in the national Heathland Bird Survey also run by BTO; this survey ended on 31st July. The main aim of this survey was to assess the population incidence and distribution of the Dartford Warbler, Woodlark and Nightjar. The last national survey for these species was run nearly 20 years ago so this year's data will enable a timely update on the status of these species to be produced. For all volunteers involved in one or more of these BTO surveys, and if possible, please enter your data by the end of August. However, if you need more time after this, please let me know at: seantmurphy8@gmail.com or s.murphy@cabi.org

For those who would like to improve their waterbird identification skills, the BTO training team are running an online Waterbird ID course this September. The course is split into two sessions, one week apart. There are several day and timing options as follows:

Tuesday 2nd and 9th September 7 – 9 pm

Wednesday 3rd and 10th September 10 – 12am

Wednesday 3rd and 10th September 7 – 9pm.

The course costs £24 so if you are interested and would like to register, see: [Training | BTO](#)

Some news about the next BTO Annual Conference. This will be held on Saturday 28th February 2026 in Northampton. The venue is at the Mercure Hotel, Silver Street, NN1 2TA. Booking is now open, so if you are interested, please see: [BTO Annual Conference 2026 | BTO](#)

And finally, the BTO Youth Representatives for Berkshire have now moved on, so the BTO HQ Youth Engagement team are planning to recruit a little later this year. The scheme is for 16 – 24-year-olds. If you fall in to this category and are interested, you can get more information from the BTO [Youth Hub](#) website. Please also pass this on to anyone else who may be interested but not aware of the BTO scheme.

A new 2766-hectare National Nature Reserve (NNR), announced on 28th June 2025 by Natural England, has been created in Surrey. It is a collaboration between nine partners: Natural England, RSPB, National Trust, Hampton Estate, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust, Waverley Borough Council, Surrey County Council and Forestry England; with further support from the Surrey Hills National Landscape. It consists of: a rich mix of open dry and wet heath, acidic grassland, regenerating woodland, and scrubby heath; thus making it a haven for rare species such as Sand Lizards, Nightjars, Adders and Natterjack Toads.

The reserve is the ninth to be created as part of the King's Series, which aims to make or extend 25 NNRs by 2027, and combines Thursley NNR (325ha), with 2,440ha of partner-managed land, of which 1,784ha is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), plus 921ha of non-SSSI land Thus making it the largest area of any NNR with previously undesignated land being formally brought into conservation management.

Wildfires, climate change and habitat fragmentation have placed increasing strain on Britain’s heathlands, which have declined by more than 80% since the Industrial Revolution. The creation of Wealden Heaths is a leading example of joined-up land management making a real difference to wildlife.

Find out much fuller details on the Wealden Hills NNR website: [here](#).



Photos of Adder and Grass Snake with young © Elaine Charlson.

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In the last Newsletter Elaine advised us of some scrambled sighting records she had received. Here are her translations. Ed.

Tree Sparrow	Moorhen	Backcap
Short-eared Owl	Brent Goose	Dipper
Sanderling	Fulmar	Collared Dove
Water Rail	Kestrel	Long-eared Owl
Ptarmigan	Bearded Tit	Common Sandpiper
Fieldfare	Red-backed Shrike	Parrot Crossbill

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BOC Weekend Away Trip to Somerset; 7th - 9th February 2025

This records the first BOC away weekend trip for some years; destination: Somerset.

Friday 7th The weekend began by meeting at Heron’s Green Bay causeway at the Chew Valley Lake with a bitterly cold (minimum five layers) wind blowing into our faces as we searched for birds. All the normal wildfowl were in sight with some Goldeneye and in the distance a Great White Egret (couldn’t escape them on the trip). A female Pintail was very close hiding amongst female Mallards and three flew over. In a pond across the road there were two Little Grebes and an almost invisible Snipe.

The sun came out which improved the day as we reached the second stop at Herriott's Bridge also at Chew Valley Lake where we had great views of a male Marsh Harrier which preformed close in front with the light behind. The Great White Egret count rose by eight; again, just off the road. Two Barnacle Geese flew over and a large flock of Teal spooked and gave us a flying display before settling back down.

Onwards to Cheddar Reservoir where the wind penetrated everything. Three female and one male Scaup were in evidence but the much-promoted party of three Black-necked Grebes was nowhere to be seen. Plenty of waterfowl – Mallard, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Coot, Wigeon, Great Crested Grebe etc.

RSPB Greylake was the last stop with a rush for the hide to get out of the wind. Three Cranes flew over and two Peregrines stopped by. Again, large numbers of "normal" waterfowl and a Water Rail decided to give the best view possible from a few yards away by leaving the safety of the reeds. Further away there were good views to be had of a Snipe. On leaving the hide a Cetti's Warbler chattered a brief farewell.

As dark was falling time for R & R at The Admiral's Table, a Marston's pub where the BOC had taken all rooms. They did us well.

Number of species seen on Day 1: 61

Saturday 8th Straight to Steart Marshes WWT – parked up and on the way to the Quantock hide a Stonechat welcomed us and a large flock of Lapwings and Golden Plover circled around. We were hoping to see the Least Sandpiper that had taken up residence. No such luck but a Little Stint was around with a flock of Dunlin and numerous waterfowl, nothing special. A couple of Avocets and a Greenshank were also seen. On the way back to the car park for lunch, a Raven sat in a pylon.

Post lunch we moved to the Steart Point car park and loped up to Steart Point itself.

Even though it was nearly high tide, the birds were still a long way off - Knot, Grey Plover, Turnstone and Curlew were seen. Excitement when it was learned that the Least Sandpiper had just been seen so back double quick to the Quantock Hide but it had vanished. As dusk was falling, back to The Admiral's Table.

Number of species seen on Day 2: 57

Sunday 9th After a hearty breakfast first stop was at Burnham-On-Sea hoping to see the Kentish Plover which had been there for several winters and had been seen earlier in the morning. Unfortunately, the tide was out so vast reaches of sand with telescopes being at a premium but no sign. There was a small flock of Ringed Plover with some Wigeon, Shelduck and Canada geese with two Ravens flying over. Promenading along the esplanade with the sun out was very pleasant.

On to RSPB Ham Wall stopping off at a hidden gem known about by Robert at Sharpham Lane. Parking was outside a rather unprepossessing warehouse which neatly divided two contrasting landscapes; one was fields and a canal like ditch and on the other side was a large lake and reedbed with a fishing lake in front. The former had a large flock of Greylags in the fields with two Whitefronts and a Buzzard with around 50 Mute Swans and 10 Cattle Egrets in surrounding fields with a Kingfisher flashing down the ditch past a Stonechat. On the other a reedbed with a Great White Egret, a Little Grebe, and a variety of waterfowl including Pochard with a Chiffchaff in the trees abutting the fishing pond.

On reaching RSPB Ham Wall the day had changed to overcast and drizzly, and we were greeted by a mixed flock of mainly Siskins and Goldfinches feeding in the alders and masses of waterfowl where most of us saw Gadwall for the first time on the trip. There were Herons which appeared to be nesting in the reeds. Marsh Harriers were in the distance with an Egyptian Goose for colour. Notwithstanding all this, there were rumours of two Ring-necked Ducks at the next-door reserve, Shapwick Heath, and that was enough to propel the keenest to the Decoy Hide where they were; a small problem was that it was some [2.5m] from the entrance and Angela was the only one to make, and then only as darkness fell. The Ring-necked Ducks got away unobserved! Again, there were more Marsh Harriers and a Bittern boomed in the background.



Tower Hide; Steart Marshes; J Froy



The Group; Steart Marshes; J Campbell



Marsh Harrier; Chew Valley Lake; A Tomczynski



Steart I. from Burnham-on-Sea Slipway; A Houghton



River Parrett at Steart Marshes; W Taylor



Pintail; Chew Valley Lake; A Tomczynski

One of the stars of the trip was the Starling murmuration which built continuously as flocks flew in and it wheeled over the reed beds. Unfortunately, the light was poor and it was in the distance but it was still a great spectacle.

And so back to Berkshire. It rained all the way.

Number of species seen on Day 3: 55. Overall, 86 species on the trip.

Everyone said how much they had enjoyed the trip and this must be down to all the time, expertise and effort Robert put into its organisation, both in finding The Admiral's Table and linking together all the sites we visited. Very many thanks to you, Robert, from those of who were lucky enough to be on the trip. A quote from our youngest member, 13-year-old Tomos who came with his dad' sums it up well: "Amazing experience, so many highlights from the weekend but my favourites were the Marsh Harriers and the Starling murmuration. Would come again and can't wait for the next one."

[The following went on the trip: Edwin Bruce-Gardner, Gray Burfoot, Elaine Butler, Jane Campbell, Liz Carr, Elaine Charlson, Chris Ezard, Carl Flint, John Froy, Robert Godden, Angela Houghton, Erica Johnson, William and Tomos Taylor, Andy Tomczinski and Liz Wild.]

BOC Minibus Trip to the Global Bird Fair - 12th July 2025

Peter Driver

BOC organised a minibus trip to the Global Bird Fair on 12th July. After several last-minute cancellations, just six of us gathered in the University car park for the 7:00am pick-up. We arrived at Rutland Water around 9:40am and soon dispersed to explore the wide range of stalls, talks, and events on offer throughout the day.

This was my first time attending the Global Bird Fair. Often described as the "Glastonbury of Birding," I had assumed it would mainly focus on promotions for exotic birding holidays. As a committed non-flyer, I had expected much of the content to be irrelevant to me. However, whether or not you're persuaded by the case for eco-tourism, I found there was still plenty to see and do at Bird Fair. With around 300 stands and exhibitors, it's entirely possible to curate your own experience and fill your day with talks and events tailored to your interests.

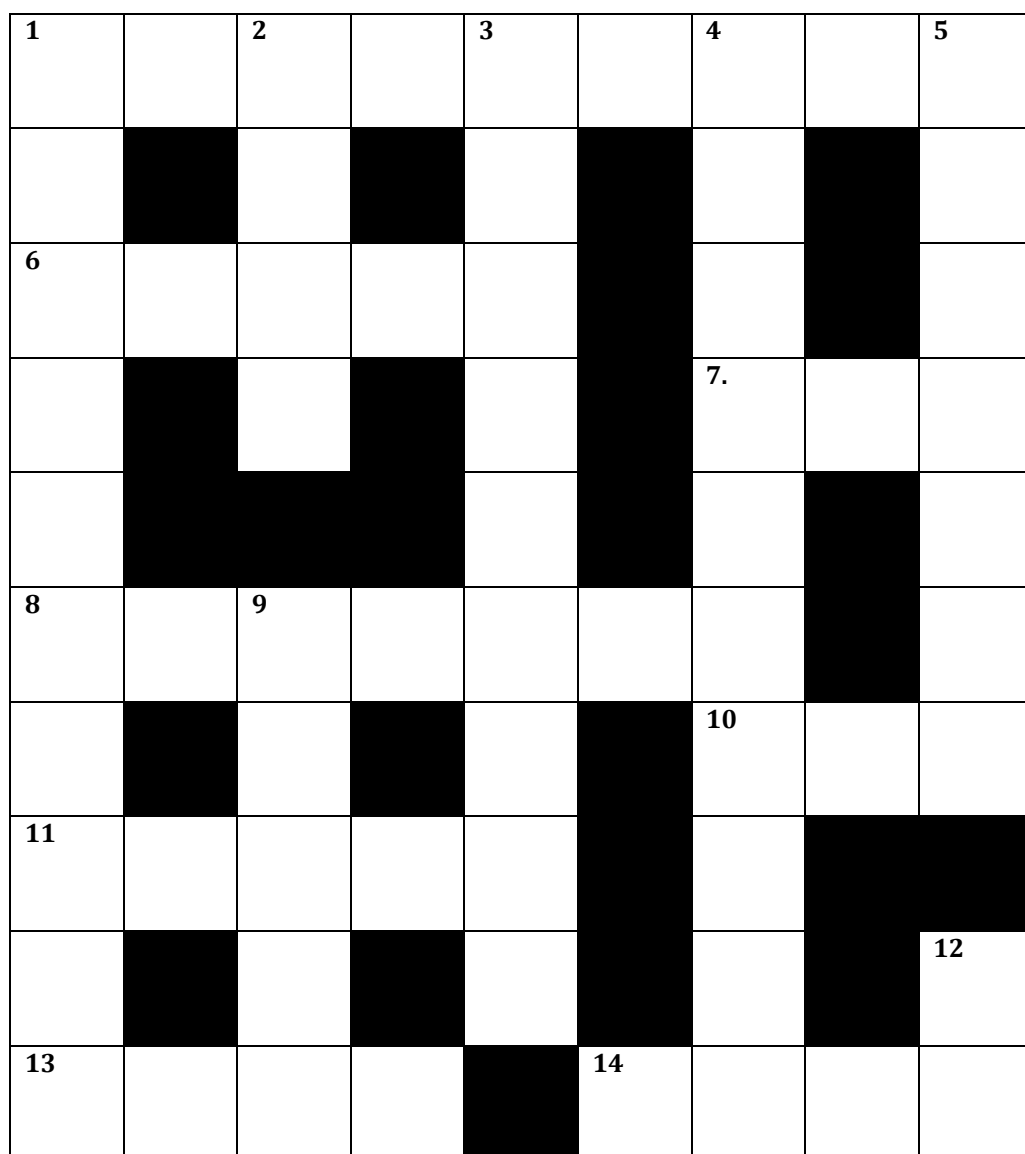
I attended talks on: the UK's and Ireland's Bird Observatories, NatureScot's "Biodiversity Strategy", and the Birdlife of the Scottish Islands.

The fair was also full of well-known names - broadcasters, authors, and podcasters - offering talks and panel discussions that ranged from the deeply scientific to light-hearted and entertaining. The BTO ran bird-ringing demonstrations throughout the day. BOC member Rackie Powell was among the demonstrators, giving an insightful presentation on the Chiffchaff she was ringing.

All the major optics and camera brands were represented, with opportunities to try out, compare, and contrast their latest models. Most of the big names also offered complimentary cleaning and servicing - Zeiss even replaced my binocular strap, which was a welcome and unexpected bonus.

There was a dedicated marquee for wildlife art, and another filled with tour operators and local tourism boards from some of the world's top birding destinations. In contrast, the local Ornithological Club was proudly promoting birding in Leicestershire and Rutland; their stand was especially inspiring. I also spent some time speaking with a representative from Greenpeace and a team working to combat the illegal hunting of European songbirds.

In summary, I thoroughly enjoyed the day and the company of fellow birders. I'll definitely be returning next year - and I hope we can fill the minibus on 11th July 2026!



Across

1. Land Rail (9)
6. Old English eggs (5)
7. Two year old sheep (3)
8. Species peculiar to a location (7)
10. Might be sombre (3)
11. Small finch may have pink rump (5)
13. See 5 down
14. Bunting or Goose?

Down

1. Little punk from Abernethy Forest, etc. (7,3)
2. Abundance status for Goshawk in Berkshire (4)
3. What perpetrators of wildlife crime should be (9)
4. The longest-distance migrator? (6,4)
5. and 13 across, *Thalasseus elegans* (7,4)
9. What we're told our summers will become (5)
12. Prevailing wind direction (1,1)

Membership Matters

Iain Oldcorn

We have had only three new members join us since the start of May this year; giving us a total membership of 270 active members. Many of you will realise that this means that we are still losing a few members each year. Can you play a part in helping us extend our membership? On average our members have been with us for just over 15 years - so we must be doing something right. If you enjoy your membership of the BOC, why not encourage your family and friends to join you and us by becoming members?

Details about joining can be found on our website: <http://berksoc.org.uk/about/club-membership/>

Please also remember to keep us advised of any changes in your contact details: email address, postal address, land/mobile 'phone numbers.

Your Committee Needs YOU

Jane Campbell

This year three members of your committee have reached the end of the terms they can serve.

- *Our Chair, Sally Wearing is retiring at the end of her six-year term*
- *Two ordinary committee members, Elaine Charlson and Robert Godden, have reached the end of their three year terms.*

If you can help, or know of anyone else who might like to join the committee please let me know.

Jane (berksocsecretary@gmail.com)

Wild Oakingham Rewilding Visit: 21st May 2025

Liz Carr

On our informative walk, Jane Ibrahim, the owner, guided us around the 80-hectare site, which has been rewilded under the guidance of Rewilding Britain for the last 4 years. Previously a stud farm, the area was handed over to rewilding in March 2021 and over the next 2 years underwent conversion to organic status with the Soil Association. Jane pointed out developments to the natural history of the site, doing a 'double act' with Alastair Driver, who was chief executive of Rewilding Britain until recently and now focuses on international rewilding. BOC member Adrian Hickman has been carrying out official bird counts on the site over the last 3 years and was there to answer any birding queries in depth. Estate manager Tom also attended to give further details on the site.

We started the walk at the lodge where we'd parked and had an unexpected treat of seeing over 30 species of moths caught at a different site overnight. We saw carpet moths (which are not the carpet eaters at all) and a pale shouldered brocade amongst many others. At the last official count at the Wild Oakingham site in November, 124 species were recorded.

We moved onto the field where anthills and oak saplings are thriving on being left with no horse or other livestock activity. The association between jays and acorns was discussed, jays planting the acorn and returning for the cotyledons and a part of the acorn only. By then, the remainder of the acorn has a tap root that remains in the ground and continues to grow.

In the adjacent field, the longhorn cattle are under managed grazing, including grazing on trees. Thirty bullocks are moved between fields in certain months, changing their plant profile. Jane belongs to a local farmers' group and works with them to introduce new practices. The management of ragwort, which has a reputation as being very poisonous to livestock, is a high-profile issue. In fact, it is only poisonous in very specific circumstances, so it is useful to keep because it is home to a number of species, as well as providing a bright yellow flower. All of the fields had water troughs piped in, and Jane has been investigating restoring two dewponds, which currently require planning permission despite appearing on an OS map from the 19th century. The estate manager had noticed an increase in swallow nest building after recent rainy periods, the swallows were unable to construct their mud nests without the water.

One of the 20ha fields had ancient woodland bordering it on two sides. Jane and Alistair explained the progression of the woodland with bramble and blackthorn protecting the younger trees' growth. As the trees develop, they begin to shade out the undergrowth, which spreads to more open areas over time. Within that undergrowth, birds have nested and acted as vectors for seeds from other plants. In the oaks, purple hairstreak butterflies have been spotted.

In wooded areas, vertical and horizontal 'dead' trees are kept, if safe, so that the usual decaying process can continue. The longhorn cattle are very partial to a good scratch on a dead tree in one of the fields.

A barn owl had been sighted quartering the fields, but not found nesting in either of the owl boxes. Birds seen or heard on our visit were: pheasant, red kite, carrion crow, skylark, swallow, chiffchaff, blackcap, blackbird, song thrush, robin, stonechat and dunnock. At the last official count in November 2024, 75 species were recorded.

We finished the tour with a light lunch back at the lodge, thanking our host and Alastair for a very informative experience.

Wild Oakingham can be followed on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wildoakingham>

The Visitors.

Photo © Liz Carr



Owls Down Memory Lane

Ray Reedman

The problem with getting older is a tendency to do less bird watching than I might wish and much more reminiscing than I ought. While I will fancy my chances of being seen at the 'Wise Old Owl' stage, some of my family, and I daresay, some of my friends, may prefer the term 'Old Twit'. These days Mary and I frequently take a gentle stroll through Maiden Erlegh woods and we very often see a Tawny Owl sitting in one of the nest-boxes and it is definitely watching us back. I now have more 'Tawny at nest box' pictures than I care to admit and precious few taken elsewhere. I do not disdain such sightings, but somehow, they don't have the thrill of a bird seen by chance.



I often recall that a Barn Owl was my great inspiration as a child and I promise that this opening anecdote is not embellished by fancy - it really did happen! In the immediate post-war years we lived on a small farm for a time. Meat was strictly rationed and, at one time, the best offer in the butcher's was a chunk of whale meat. My father had the solution to this, because he kept us supplied with fresh game and I trailed around with him whenever I could. We had about 150 acres, with a couple of arable fields, several rough paddocks, through which ran a small river, and a patch of oak-dotted parkland. In particular, Grey Partridges were plentiful, Woodpigeons abounded and the River Ray (yes that was its real name!) harboured Mallard, Teal and the occasional Wigeon. In the parkland were a couple of rabbit warrens and myxomatosis was still in a laboratory test tube. In short, my father's twelve-bore was deployed on most days to keep us supplied with meat. One evening, we waited in the shadows of a large oak for the rabbits to emerge and start feeding. I was about eight at the time and was too fidgety, so in desperation my father hoisted me onto the lowest branch of the oak with words to the effect that if I sat still, we might see something. As the light faded, the white shape of a Barn Owl drifted up and sat on the outer part of my branch. That bird, I believe, started me off down the path to bird watching, though in truth that moment was only part of the slow and steady infusion of an awareness of wildlife and field-craft that was part of my childhood, because I spent a lot of my time outdoors and observing. To this very day it is the quality of watching that intrigues me far more than the quantity of listing.



Barn Owls were a lot easier to see than Tawny Owls, or so it seemed. A pair nested regularly in the local church tower and a word with the right person would earn me a close-up view of an owl and her young via some medieval stone stairs and a dodgy antique ladder. One of the older names for this bird was a Church Owl and its white form gliding through misty churchyards was probably responsible for more ghost stories than a little, especially when it uttered its death-rattle call.

With Tawny Owl in particular, I learned to recognise that the clatter of protesting songbirds might reveal a glimpse of one, or even a proper view if the bird chose to fly to a quieter spot. Being nocturnal, and hiding away in daylight, they are not always easy. Very often sightings are limited to a patch of orange-brown glimpsed between the ivy leaves. Not all Tawny Owls are russet: their traditional names included Brown Owl and Grey Owl, with the browner birds more numerous in Britain. Tawny was Thomas Pennant's compromise name.

The giveaway calls of hostile passerines have sometimes also revealed a Little Owl. Pictured is part of a scene where four Blackbirds and two Whitethroats were doing their best to drive off an unwelcome neighbour. Little Owls tend to sit about in daylight, especially in the vicinity of horses, because they like to find disturbed worms and insects. I recently spotted on a fence post a regurgitated pellet that was full of the small beetle shards that are the typical summer food of these birds, but I have yet to actually see the owl.



I confess that I have never seen a Long-eared Owl by chance: even with good directions I have sometime had to search hard in thorn thickets to find a well-hidden known bird. Curiously three of my very rare sightings occurred within eighteen months, as far apart as Hampshire, Essex and Norfolk. The Essex bird in particular was significant for purely social reasons because mention of it in conversation with a fellow BOC member led me to a reunion with his mother-in-law, my former grammar school Art teacher. The Norfolk bird carries with it memories of a favour returned, because if BOC members had not shared a scope with a young stranger, he may not have recognised us later to give us news of a very easy Long Eared Owl at Thornham. This was obviously not such a wise owl because it seemed to have returned to a favourite perch without realising that the hedge had recently been cut back. It sat in full view, quite oblivious to a constant stream of visitors.



Short-eared Owls are another matter: in the right place (in open country) and at the right time (usually in daylight) they are one of the easiest to see. I once saw seven hunting in the same area on the Ridgeway. The russet-orange of the outer wings gives rise to the scientific name *flammeus*. On one BOC October trip to Norfolk, we watched one arrive off the sea at Cley beach, reminding me that they were once called Woodcock Owls, because their migration coincided with that of the wader.

Snowy Owls do not crop up in Britain that often, but one did find its way into my lists by sheer chance. In 2003, I was back in Essex to visit my mother when I received a tip via *Birdline* that one had turned up at Felixstowe dock. All it needed was an early vigil with my scope on Harwich promenade on the south side of the estuary – and, of course, a bit of luck. I did

see it just after dawn when it moved to a new perch. Its back story was quite fascinating, because this was a juvenile that had been storm-stranded on the deck of a container ship as it navigated the St Lawrence River in Canada. It had then been carried right across the Atlantic - unlike a number of other species that had provided it with hot dinners on the way. The unique combination of circumstances makes that a top treasure in my bank of special birding memories alongside that first Barn Owl. Meanwhile, I will be very happy to see our local Tawny Owls and will be even more pleased if I locate that Little Owl.



((The Barn Owl illustrated was hunting by day behind Farmoor Reservoir, a good sign that it was fairly hungry. The young Snowy Owl pictured was being exercised at the Hawk Conservancy, Andover.))



**Hawfinch;
Basildon Park; 26Feb2025**



**Dunlin;
QMR; 15April2025**



**Cattle Egret;
Chamberhouse Marsh; 28Feb2025**



**Blackcap;
Fobney Meadow; 17April2025**



**Garganey;
Fobney Meadow; 18Mar2025**



**Black-tailed Godwit;
Lavell's Lake; 6July2025**

(Disclaimer: The views expressed in articles in this Newsletter are those of their respective authors and may not be representative of those of the BOC or of any of its Committee.)

Finally, a message from your committee: "Best wishes for the Summer Holidays"