



## AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members

It has been a while since we had a newsletter so the committee thought that we would bring you all up to date on various bits and pieces of club news.

### **From our Chairman**

We were all saddened by the recent loss of Steve Piotrowski, it was a terrible blow, even though we knew it was coming. We all know what an absolute star Steve was and this is not the time for another glowing tribute, that has been done far more competently by others. It is the time, for the committee to do what it can to ensure that Waveney Bird Club continues to prosper and develop as part of Steve's legacy.

The club is doing well, with increasing membership, higher numbers attending field meetings, the ever-popular ringing demo's at Minsmere and our finances are in a robust position.

The Swift Tower official opening on the 7<sup>th</sup> May was a great success. Many thanks to all who helped to make the event such a good one. The catering was just right and free beer from Adnams was very welcome. There are a few loose ends to tie up, to do with ongoing maintenance schedules, safety checks and monitoring but to all intents and purposes the building project is complete. We also have plenty of funds to cover maintenance and monitoring.

### **From our Events Organiser**

Our events continue to be well attended and all details can be found on the Waveney Bird club web site. [waveneybirdclub.com/programme-of-events](http://waveneybirdclub.com/programme-of-events). Unfortunately, we have had to change the dates of some of our indoor meetings this Autumn as the football club need the hall. I have now rearranged all the indoor meetings. They are now:

24 September	The Hobby and Stone Curlew – Ed Keeble
29 October	Brown Hares – Sue Alderman
26 November	Exploring the Brazilian Pantanal and More – Ian Barthorpe
3 December	Christmas meeting with members' talks

All the new dates are on the web site.

We are in the process of compiling our 2025 programmes. We are hoping to include a trip abroad next year and some trips in the UK. Various Ideas are being looked into but if any members have

thoughts as to where they may like to go, have contacts or have been to somewhere they think WBC could organise a trip to, please get in contact with me at [rbedwell06@gmail.com](mailto:rbedwell06@gmail.com) or Wendy Bainbridge [wendy@planetry.net](mailto:wendy@planetry.net)

Also, if there are any talks that you have been to or are interested in, contact either of us and we can try and arrange a speaker.

### **From Our Membership Secretary**

The club continues to attract new members which is great. At present we have 169 members of which 38 are new members this year. I think this is a tribute to the fact that everyone says what a friendly and inclusive club we are. So, thank you to all members for being so friendly and continuing to support us and making new members feel welcome.

### **Ringling News**

The Waveney Bird Club Ringing Group are continuing to have ringing demonstrations at Minsmere on Thursdays. The demonstrations start at 9.30am. and the staff at Minsmere will tell you where they are being held.

Here is a bit of background about the Ringing group. We are now a band of twenty ringers from new trainees to those long experienced. This, on the back of the wide range of projects we run, puts us in a very strong place going forward. We have 9 trainees all from various background, and all at different stages of their training, from complete beginners to those who hopefully will gain their C permits soon, 4 C permit holders and 4 A permit holders plus 5 trainers who oversee the whole operation.

On top of all these people we also have some very dedicated helpers who set up the tables, scribe when we are giving demonstration and help with the running backwards and forwards during our ringing sessions, as well as bringing us cakes most weeks to keep us going!

Barn Owl Box Monitoring is also part of the ringing groups activities.

### **Social Media**

Harry Read has taken over the role of coordinating our Facebook and Twitter accounts and would appreciate any news including photographs sending to him for posting [harryread@hotmail.com](mailto:harryread@hotmail.com)

### **Clothing**

A number of our members have enquired about getting some clothing with the WBC logo on it. The company that we have used and has the WBC logo is **Admiral Tees** based in Lowestoft. They have a web site and their phone number is 01502 511132. They can put the logo on clothes they can buy in or are happy for you to bring your own item to have the logo put on. Navy is the colour that the WBC have chosen, but there are other colours to choose from. For your information I have contacted Admiral Tees and here is their reply

Further to our earlier telephone conversation. Please find the Waveney Bird Club garment prices as follows:

Hoodies @£32.0

Polo Shirts @£16.00

Fleece Jacket @£35.00

Gilet Fleece @£30.00

Embroidery on to own garments @£8.00

Other garments, such as sweatshirts and beanies available upon request.

### **Swift Tower**

Since the installation of the Swift Tower, I have had 3 inquires via the web site from people who have visited it, remarked on how impressed they are with it and have wanted information about how we went about funding and building it. Now we may see them popping up all over the country! What a fantastic endorsement for our club.

That's all for now. Happy Birding!

Best Wishes

Rebecca Bedwell

Secretary