

# CHESHIRE AND WIRRAL BIRD REPORT 2016

We're delighted to say that the annual *Bird Report* for 2016 is now available – with many people working together to develop the content and get it printed.

The front cover features 8 of the 12 Spoonbills which graced BMW in August and September and delighted many observers.

The Report has 144 pages of text, 7 pages of photos and the colour map of the main birding sites of the county as the centre spread. The photos capture some of the highlights of the year, including stunning shots of Nightjar and Marsh Harrier (taken under licence) and the full Spoonbill cast.



The Report is the one document that brings together individual observer sightings (including Birdtrack), records from major sites and annual counts from the key BTO surveys of WeBS, WBBS and BBS. This all goes to demonstrate that Cheshire and Wirral has a rich avifauna – 232 species were recorded in 2016 of which no less than 28 were BBRC or County Rarities.

As well as the Systematic List, the Report contains articles on:

- A White-crowned Sparrow ringed at Woolston Eyes - the first for Cheshire and Wirral. This was accepted as the first record of the sub-species *gambelii* recorded in Britain.
- Finder's accounts of two rare tern species and an inland Sabine's Gull.
- An account of the influx of Yellow-browed Warblers during the autumn.
- The regular 'Early and late dates for migrants' including an October Cuckoo (the latest ever) and a December Swallow.
- Cheshire and Wirral in the BTO Online Ringing Report, which now selectively focusses on recoveries chosen to illustrate movements and longevity – or both in the case of the Reed Warbler which crossed the Sahara at least 24 times!

For 2016, the Index might be particularly helpful. The Systematic List now follows the International Ornithological Congress (IOC) order – so you if you are looking for Falcons, they sneak in between Woodpeckers and Parakeets.

The *Bird Report* is free to Cheshire and Wirral Ornithological Society members (ordinary membership costs £12), otherwise it costs £8 + £2 p&p and copies are available from:

**David Cogger, 71 Parkgate, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 8HF**

**Tel: 01565 228503 Email: [davidcogger@cawos.org](mailto:davidcogger@cawos.org)**