

Reporting ringed and tagged birds seen in the Cley 10km square.

Sightings are primarily of colour-ringed, collared or wing-tagged birds seen or photographed in the field. Patient birders and photographers have also been able to read the full inscription on standard metal rings for some close birds.

Any records for Blakeney Point are included despite the fact that the westernmost section (beyond Long Hills and Pinchen's Creek) does in fact lie outside the TG04 10km square. Similarly, any records for Kelling Heath and the Bayfield Estate are also included despite parts of these sites also being outside the 10km square.

It is usually best if the finders of ringed birds send in the observations themselves to the ringing scheme coordinator in case there are questions as to whether the rings have been read correctly or the coordinator is keen to get further information. If you do not wish to send in records to the ringers yourself (easiest by e-mail) then we are very happy to do this for you for any birds seen in the Cley Square.

Birds with standard metal rings can be reported on the EURING site <http://blx1.bto.org/eurring/main/> or www.ring.ac (easy to remember)

For colour-ringed, collared and wing-tagged birds it is best to contact the scheme coordinator directly. The EURING website administered by BTO

<http://www.cr-birding.org/>

lists by species the different European colour-marking schemes and give the contact details for each scheme co-ordinator.

For wader species the EURING website now gives a link to the International Wader Study Group register of colour-ringer schemes which can be found at

<http://www.waderstudygroup.org/projects/colour-marking/the-register/>

If the bird does not match any of the schemes listed or the scheme coordinator does not reply within six months then e-mail colourringing@bto.org and BTO will try and help.

The normal arrangement is that the ringer will send the observer of a ringed bird its life history detailing where and when it was ringed and all field observations of it. For birds that have only a standard metal ring you only get the details of where and when it was first caught and some coordinators of colour-ringing schemes also seem to restrict themselves to giving this information only. We would very much like to receive copies of the details for any birds seen in the Cley Square in order to keep our records as comprehensive as possible. Obviously ringers are usually unable to keep you up to date with future observations of birds, as the workload would become far too high. In some new web-based reporting schemes (e.g. Geese ringed on the continent <http://www.geese.org/Ganzen/index.jsp> gulls ringed in Norway <http://www.ringmerking.no/cr/> and Avocets ringed in France <http://www.bretagne-vivante-dev.org/avocette/indexen.php>), however, it is possible to login at any time and get up to date histories for the birds you have seen yourself.

Ages of birds are sometimes given in terms of calendar years. If a bird was hatched in 2004 then that was its first calendar year, throughout 2005 it will have been a second calendar year bird and on 1/1/06 it will then have become a third calendar year bird.