

D122 - 124

9 CHAUVERS WAY

SPALDING

LINCS

PE11-1LH

Please find enclosed evidence of a hawk attack which happened in my front garden. I walk out in the countryside everyday and over the past few years these attacks have now become very frequent. The small birds numbers have reduced alarmingly and some action must be done to prevent this decline. The bird in this attack is a female sparrowhawk which has taken a collared dove. I thought this photograph was quite explicit and would portray the viciousness and destruction these birds are causing

↳ Lynex EM5415
01775 769541



From: "Stephen Rickett" racing123@btconnect.com
Subject: Fwd: Peregrines and birds of prey
Date: 21 April 2015 13:47
To: Lee Fribbins leefribbins@btconnect.com

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Tyerman <johntyerman@yahoo.co.uk>
Subject: Fw: Peregrines and birds of prey
Date: 21 April 2015 11:01:43 BST
To: "racing123btconnect.com" <racing123@btconnect.com>
Reply-To: John Tyerman <johntyerman@yahoo.co.uk>

Hi Lee,

Congratulations to you both on the new arrival.

I am sending you a copy of a letter I sent to a Mr Rosekilly of the RSPB. It is self explanatory and just for your info. as I know you are still involved with the Raptor Alliance.

Regards,
 John.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: John Tyerman <johntyerman@yahoo.co.uk>
To: "nick.rosekilly@rspb.org.uk" <nick.rosekilly@rspb.org.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 April 2015, 10:49
Subject: Peregrines and birds of prey

Dear Mr Rosekilly,

As a member of the Bognor and Chichester Racing pigeon Club I have recently been forwarded a copy of correspondence you sent to Steve and Lesley Wright in response to their questions concerning the artificial peregrine nesting site on Chichester Cathedral. This nest box supplied and monitored by the RSPB must surely contain some evidence in the form of registered pigeon rings - even I have seen previous film footage of pigeons being eaten at this nest by the young peregrines. You seem quite reluctant to divulge the true facts to Steve and Lesley, but as a retired Police Officer let me assure you that in the past 5 years, this resident pair have been responsible for killing hundreds of birds in this area, including many racing pigeons owned by our Club members. The former Chichester RPRR race liberation site was closed due to the persistent attacks by the local peregrines from the Cathedral. Indeed it has previously been reported in the local press that a member of the public had been hit by a dead bird dropped from the Cathedral peregrine nest when the young were squabbling over it.

Two of our Club members reside within the City and their racing pigeons are so terrified they will not leave the lofts, due to constantly being attacked by this particular pair of peregrines, (or their young) and on race days our Federation birds run the gauntlet as they pass near the city. I reside some four miles away but last week saw one of my old favourites plucked from the sky by a peregrine and would strongly suspect it was one of the pair from Chichester Cathedral. In the past two weeks I have had four injured, some with missing tail feathers, a sure sign that a peregrine has made an unsuccessful attempt to catch them, plus others injured when they fly into trees in terror whilst trying to escape. Yesterday I put 5 stitches in one of my birds and thankfully he will survive. I have also on a previous occasion personally witnessed 40 of my birds being attacked in a double peregrine strike and diving into trees in terror to escape. I watched in horror and felt so helpless - I lost 8 that day and four were so badly injured they

were unable to race again.

I could of course go on outlining a catalogue of countless predatory falcon attacks locally and Nationally, but I am sure you are already well aware of the dreadful losses even to the small bird population on a massive scale. I have seen statistics that state there are some 20,000 breeding pairs of sparrowhawks alone in the UK and it is reported that they need to kill 3 small birds each day to survive - so by my calculation that is 120,00 a day being killed by these cannibal predators. How on earth can the RSPB expect to justify and sustain any credible support for this kind of mass killing of our songbird population. There most certainly needs to be some form of serious control over the breeding of so many predators and a good argument for the RSPB to stop providing artificial breeding sites as a means of exercising some control over at least the peregrine population.

You are probably aware that any Racing Pigeons carrying an official Union ring are deemed to be classed as 'property' under the Theft Act, and Criminal Damage Act and anyone caught stealing, shooting or injuring them can be prosecuted. The rings, even from dead birds, remain the property of the registered owner. Can you confirm that the RSPB do in fact send any rings collected from peregrine nesting sites back to our respective Unions, to allow the owners to at least know the fate of their birds?

Surely the RSPB must be aware that there is a grave imbalance created when artificial nesting sites are supplied to the many locations over the UK - this is not natural and we need sensible legislation to protect our song bird population and the mass annual killing of our beloved racing pigeons. In my capacity as the President of the British International Championship Club (BICC) I learn almost daily of the vast number of attacks on our members birds - surely even they are entitled to some form of protection in the eyes of the RSPB.

Yours sincerely,
John Tyerman (BICC President)

Sharon Ayling

From: Lesley Wright <lesleywright@googlemail.com>
Sent: 27 April 2015 19:28
To: Sharon Ayling
Subject: Fwd: Peregrines at Truro Cathedral

Hi Sharon here is the email I have had back from Truro Cathedral. Regards Steve, The House of Aarden
 ----- Forwarded message -----

From: Peter Kent <peter.kent@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk>
Date: Mon, Apr 27, 2015 at 2:11 PM
Subject: Peregrines at Truro Cathedral
To: "lesleywright@googlemail.com" <lesleywright@googlemail.com>
Cc: John Rance <john.rance@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk>

Dear Mr Wright

John Rance from the Wildlife Information Service has asked me to contact you with regards to your enquiry about Peregrines at Truro Cathedral as I have some knowledge of this subject.

Whilst there is plenty of anecdotal evidence to suggest that Peregrines once nested on the cathedral tower the consensus from local wildlife organisations and the cathedral authorities is that they haven't bred at the site for some time and probably not since restoration work took place on the tower in the 2000s. Peregrine are occasionally seen in the area but when I visited the tower last spring there was no evidence of their presence, such as the remains of prey items or droppings. I can confirm that currently there is no nest box or ledge on the tower and, to my knowledge, hasn't been for many years, if ever.

Regards

Peter

Peter Kent
 East Cornwall Reserves Manager

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Twitter: www.twitter.com/CornwallNature

Address: Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Five Acres, Allet, Truro, Cornwall, TR4 9DJ (Registered office)

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THE ROYAL PIGEON RACING ASSOCIATION

Patron : Her Majesty the Queen

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Mr Kevin Cumberland
15 Church Lane
Wighill
Nr Tadcaster
North Yorks
LS24 8BG

01st June 2015

Dear Mr Cumberland,

Thank you for your recent letter and enclosed newspaper article.

I must disagree that all you read about is "talk and talk" as hopefully you will have seen the Raptor alliance updates in both the BHW and RP along with the substantial amount of press coverage we have been getting about this issue in the national press and on radio. There is more planned to follow shortly.

I have forwarded the newspaper article to the Raptor Alliance secretary who will use it in our press pack which we use to "inform" our contacts within the now large contact group we have built up supporting our campaign to manage raptor numbers in a responsible manner. All of this press activity is stored on the raptor alliance website – and now runs to some 5 volumes of information – over 400 articles.

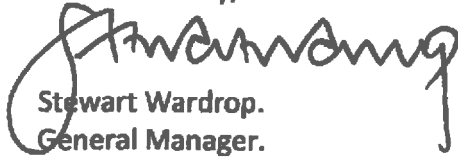
Whilst it remains a long and difficult task we have made some real and significant progress over the past 30 months or so – all for the cost of £1 per member per year – there's value for you!

We now await the Law commission revision of the Wildlife act with bated breath; a decision will hopefully be forthcoming after the May 2015 General election. This will be the key change in the law we have all been seeking so at last we can, at last, apply for a licence to remove problem raptors!

You can do your bit and help by going to see your local MP. Go and tell him/her about the plight of racing pigeons and that you hope he will support the law commission review of the 1981 act that will finally give some protection. I have enclosed a briefing card that will help in any future meeting with your local MP!

Once again thank you for your comments and please pass on the good news that something real and substantive is actually being done to all your members.

Yours faithfully,



Stewart Wardrop.
General Manager.

CC – Mrs Sharon Ayling – Raptor Alliance Secretary.

CC – David Higgins – Reg Sec – North East Region.

TEL 01937 833699



Mr. Kewat Cumberland
15 Church Lane
Wighill
NR Tapcaster North Yorks
LS24 8B9

Dear Sir I enclose photo of Hawks with other
Hen Race birds

Don't you think it is time you did
something about the Hawk situation I have
been a member of the R.P.R.A for nearly
60 years all I read about is talk talk
talk and nothing gets done. All my
members and friends have trouble with the
hawks killing these beloved birds daily.
They kill all the song birds too So don't
you think you should do more of this
action we all want not talking

Yours truly K.P. Cumberland member

Wetherby Homing Society

P.S I am 72 years old. and this
year I have lost 8 Race birds to (Hawks)

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THE NEW YORK

Nestmate One of the peregrine falcons believed to be sitting on eggs at York Minster's nest, a falcon with its pigeon prey.

Birdwatchers keep a beady eye on Minster's nesting falcons

A PAIR of peregrine falcons are sitting on eggs in York Minster.

William, when Robert Fuller said he noticed the male and female together in a "nest chamber", and believes there is definitely a clutch of

eggs in the bell tower. He said the news had been verified by birdwatching group York Peregrines, which has kept a daily check on the peregrine's progress.

Minster" said Robert, adding that the bird then caught a pigeon and entered the tower calling until the female came out. "He passed the pigeon to her and then flew into the nest to take over brooding. This means the pair definitely

sitting on eggs. This is such good news for York. People can now go into the city for a spot of shopping and then go and see the best bird in the world nesting on one of Yorkshire's most magnificent buildings."

Picture: Andrew Fallick

