

WHAT TO DO IF YOU LOSE YOUR BIRD

Remain calm! Where did you lose it? When did you last see it?

If your bird was lost whilst out hunting, look for it! If it's a hawk there is comfort in the fact that it has probably not gone too far and is most likely sitting watching you, or is over in the next field on a kill. When you have exhausted the possibilities of it being in the locality you need to tell everyone you think can help you, such as:

IBR. Telephone us **whether your bird is registered or not.** The police, RSPCA and members of public all phone us with sightings. It is far easier for them to give us the details of sightings than deal with it themselves. Frequently we know where your bird is before you do, so ring us **immediately.** Don't wait a few days.

Police. Phone the nearest police station to where you have lost your bird. Describe the bird and give its ring number, when and where you lost it and ask for the police log number for your reported lost bird (**it is classed as lost property and they are obliged to take a report**). It is well worth finding out who your local wildlife officer is and speaking to them as well.

The Farmer/Landowner where you flew your bird. Tell them. They are far more likely to hear of sightings than you.

Local Newspapers/Local Radio. After 24 hours, having continued the search, inform your local media. If you can produce a small amount of editorial, a short story for the papers, you are far more likely to get a feature done about your bird. Same for local radio.

Posters/Flyers. Easy to produce on a home computer to stick to lamp posts, trees and gates. We receive many reports of found birds by dog walkers every week. So stick posters up where they will be seen.

Local Kids & Local Bird Watchers. Ask them to keep an eye open whilst they are out and about.

Animal Health (AHVLA). If the bird is a Schedule 4 bird telephone Animal Health and inform them to record it as lost. If your bird has an Article 10, there is no harm in informing AHVLA as well just in case someone acquires the bird and tries to obtain a replacement A10.

STOLEN. If your bird is stolen inform your local police, get a log/incident number. Ring the **IBR** as thieves often lose stolen birds or may try to register your bird with us, so if you tell us, we are warned and can hopefully help you and the police get your bird back.

FOUND. Inform the **IBR** straight away. It doesn't matter if the bird is not wearing an IBR ring. We will always try and find the owner. In the case of a Schedule 4 bird, also inform Animal Health.

The chances of getting your lost bird back are far higher if your bird is wearing identification! We issue free split telephone rings for all birds registered with us (IBR). The finder just reads the phone number on the ring and contacts us. It's that easy and it works.

**AND OF COURSE YOU WERE FLYING YOUR BIRD WITH TELEMETRY
IN THE FIRST PLACE, WEREN'T YOU?**