

New Laithe Farm

Newton-in-Bowland, Clitheroe

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The whole family have great pleasure and satisfaction in recording wildlife both on the farm and in the surrounding area.

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Image #1: Morning at New Laithe

Image #2: New Laithe wildlife records

Image #3: Wader scrapes

A 198 acre tenanted farm (Brian and Margaret Breakes) with 200 breeding sheep plus 60 followers. The farm has been in environmental stewardship for 20 years: restoring 2000m hedgerows and dry stone walls, managing the land to encourage nesting wading birds and a barn owl, including the development of scrapes and pond creation.

Contribution to the AONB

- Erected bird boxes which attract pied flycatchers and redstart
- A Biological Heritage Site (BHS) with clough woodland corridors with associated species-rich grassland
- The family are experienced bird recorders: there are 123 species of birds on the farm, with 41 species nesting in 2014. Also record butterflies (21), moths (268), dragon/damsel flies (14 species), amphibians and mammals
- Meadow management proposals include re-introduction of globe flower through the Bowland AONB Networks for Nectar programme



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Brian spoke of the ‘red letter day’: when the Redshank returned to nest on the farm.

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