


#BOU2025

## Frontiers in ornithology

1 – 3 April 2025 | University of Nottingham, UK



# PROGRAMME

All presentations with a  Bluesky logo will be appearing on Bluesky at the indicated time (BST).

## DAY 1: TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 2025

1400-1700 **ECR WORKSHOPS** | The Exchange (C1 / C4 / C34)

1500-1800 **ACCOMMODATION CHECK-IN** | Jubilee Welcome Point (Newark Hall)

1700-1900 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION** | The Exchange

1700-1900 **POSTERS & EXHIBITS** | The Exchange (C3)

1900-2030 **DINNER** | The Atrium

### ALFRED NEWTON LECTURE | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2)

#ALFREDNEWTONLECTURE

2030 **WELCOME**

Graeme Buchanan | BOU President & RSPB, UK

#### ALFRED NEWTON LECTURE

**Synergies between ornithology, technology and movement ecology**

Judy Shamoun-Baranes | University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands



2145-late **BAR** | Newark Hall

## DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, 2 APRIL 2025

0730-0900 **BREAKFAST** | The Atrium

0830-0900 **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION** | The Exchange

### SESSION 1 | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2)

**ADVANCES IN THE STUDY OF MOVEMENT AND MIGRATION**

#SESH1

Chair: Marius Somveille | University of East Anglia, UK

0900 **WELCOME**

Graeme Buchanan | BOU President & RSPB, UK

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0905

### KEYNOTE

#### Bird migration through urban landscapes: challenges and opportunities

Benjamin Van Doren | University of Illinois, USA



0935

#### Community movement ecology in the Wadden Sea: studying multi-species shorebird movement with WATLAS

Allert Bijlveld (he/him/his) | NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research, Netherlands

0950

#### Going through the world's roof? How Black-tailed Godwits negotiate the Himalayas in migratory flight

Delip K. Das (he/him) | University of Groningen, Netherlands & Jagannath University, Bangladesh

1005

#### Understanding migratory birds' exposure to threats in the Afro-palearctic system

Charlie Russell (he/him) | University of East Anglia, UK

1020

#### GPS tracking reveals intra- and interspecific differences in habitat use and selection along wader flyways

Tohar Tal (he/him) | University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands & University of Aveiro, Portugal |

[tohar-tal.bsky.social](#)

1035

#### Speedy Posters

30-second poster elevator pitches | Various presenters

1045-

#### MORNING BREAK | The Exchange (C3)

1130

Tea, coffee & refreshments | Time to view poster and exhibits

1055

#### Migration phenology of the Egyptian Vulture on the Central Asian Flyway

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Cat Taras (she/her) | Central Asian Vultures Project | [vulturecat.bsky.social](#)

1110

#### Skyglow facilitates prey detection in a crepuscular insectivore: distant light sources create bright skies

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Jitse Creemers (he/him) | Université Catholique de Louvain & University of Antwerp, Belgium |

[bou.org.uk](#)

### SESSION 2 | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2)

#### APPLICATIONS OF BIOACOUSTIC MONITORING

#SESH2

Chair: Claire Buchan | University of East Anglia, UK

1130

### KEYNOTE

#### Advances, opportunities and challenges in acoustic monitoring of birds

Simon Gillings | British Trust for Ornithology, UK | [simongillings.bsky.social](#)





- 1200 **Bioacoustics as a tool to monitor European Storm Petrels**  
Sophie Bennett (she/her) | British Trust for Ornithology, UK | [bennett-sophie.bsky.social](#)
- 1215 **Quiet and close or loud and far away? Estimating call amplitude and distance in birds**  
Oliver Metcalf (he/him) | Lancaster University, UK | [ollie333.bsky.social](#)
- 1230 **Linking bird diversity, soundscapes and tour satisfaction in English vineyards**  
Natalia Zielonka (she/her) | University of East Anglia & University of Kent, UK | [natbzielonka.bsky.social](#)
- 1245-1415 **LUNCH** | The Exchange (C3)  
Time to view poster and exhibits
- 1315-1400 **WILDLIFE ACOUSTICS WORKSHOP** | The Exchange (C1)  
**Bioacoustics as a research tool for birds: from data collection to analysis**  
Paul Howden-Leach | Wildlife Acoustics
- 1300 Bluesky **Man made reservoirs act as regugia for local avian biodiversity, in Tigray, Northern Ethiopia**  
Tsegazeabe Hadush Haileselasie | Mekelle University, Ethiopia | [bou.org.uk](#)
- 1315 Bluesky **Applications of iButton “Thermochron” Miniature Temperature Loggers in Ornithological Research**  
Mark Eddowes (he/him) | Independent researcher | [markeddowes.bsky.social](#)
- 1330 Bluesky **Using bio-logging to study fine-scale foraging behaviour of European Shags during the non-breeding season in Shetland**  
Tom Gale (he/him) | UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology & Bangor University, UK | [ukcehseabirds.bsky.social](#)
- 1345 Bluesky **Identifying predators of Northern Lapwing chicks using DNA metabarcoding of predated remains**  
Leah Gray (she/her) | University of Aberdeen, UK | [leahgray.bsky.social](#)
- 1400 Bluesky **Dynamics of Flocking in Birds: Significant Changes in a Key Flight Parameter**  
Robin S Mehlhausen-Franks (he/him) | Royal Holloway University of London, UK | [rsmehlhausenfranks.bsky.social](#)



**SESSION 3 | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2)**

**AVIAN SOCIO-ECOLOGY**

#SESH3

Chair: Aldina Franco | University of East Anglia, UK

1415 **KEYNOTE**

**“Avian anthropologists” and cultural crossroads in lively cities**

Nishant Kumar | University of Oxford, UK & Wildlife Institute of India



1445 **Foraging movements and habitat use of the vulnerable Sooty Falcon (*Falco concolor*) in Saudi Arabia**

Licia Calabrese | Red Sea Global - Red Sea Zone

1500 **Combining modelling and social science approaches to understand artisanal fisheries bycatch**

Daniel Villar (he/him) | University of Oxford, UK

1515 **Using web-sourced images and Convolutional Neural Networks to study raptor diet**

Arjun Amar (he/him) | Fitzpatrick Institute, University of Cape Town, South Africa

1530- **AFTERNOON BREAK** | The Exchange (C3)

1615 Tea, coffee & refreshments | Time to view poster and exhibits

1540 **Exploring Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*) DNA transportation through lake sediment in a spatiotemporal analysis using ddPCR**

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Sophie Harris (she/her) | Newcastle University, UK | [sophiesww.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/sophiesww.bsky.social)

1555 **Implications of natal philopatry for Great Black-backed Gull reproductive success**

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Dylan Titmuss (they/them) | Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution & Gulls of Appledore Research Group, USA | [dylantitmuss.bsky.social](https://bsky.app/profile/dylantitmuss.bsky.social)

**SESSION 4 | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2)**

**AVIAN CONSERVATION ACROSS SCALES**

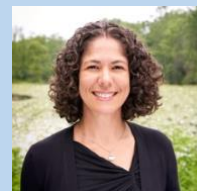
#SESH4

Chair: Oliver Leedham | UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

1615 **KEYNOTE**

**Science to action through partnerships: applications of eBird data to inform avian conservation and management**

Viviana Ruiz Gutierrez | Cornell Lab of Ornithology, USA



1645 **Assessing threats and conservation action using Population Viability Analysis for the Critically Endangered Grenada Dove**

Catherine Wise (she/her) | University of Chester, UK

1700 **Isolating drivers of distributional variation in British birds over 30 years of climate change**

Beckie George (she/her) | University of East Anglia, UK

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1715 **Using Bayesian mixed models to understand reproductive success in the extinct-in-the-wild sihek (Guam Kingfisher)**

Matthew Mitchell (he/him) | University College London & Institute of Zoology, UK |

[m-j-Mitchell.bsky.social](#)

1730 **Presentation of BOU Godman-Salvin Prize**

1800- **BOU AGM** | The Exchange (C.LT2)

1830 All welcome

1830- **BOU ECR EVENT** | The Exchange Foyer (Ground Floor)

2000 Roundtable event for ECRs, with free bar

1800- **BAR** | Newark Hall

late

2000- **DINNER** | The Atrium

2100

## DAY 3: THURSDAY, 3 APRIL 2025

0730- **BREAKFAST** | The Atrium

0900

0830- **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION** | The Exchange

0900

### SESSION 5 | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2)

#### APPROACHES IN DISEASE AND POLLUTION

#SESH5

Chair: Alice Risely | University of Salford, UK

0900 **KEYNOTE**

**Advances in wild bird disease surveillance within the One Health paradigm**

Becki Lawson (she/her) | Institute of Zoology, London, UK |

[wildlife-health.bsky.social](#)



0930 **Differences in the biovectoring role of three waterbird species in a coastal wetland**

Julián Cano-Povedano | Estación Biológica de Doñana – CSIC, Spain | [juliancap.bsky.social](#)

0945 **Evaluating whether modern environmental contaminants have the potential to cause eggshell thinning**

Jacob Parkman (he/him) | University of Sheffield, UK | [ecologist-jacob.bsky.social](#)

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1000 **Beyond a cradle-to-grave perspective of the lifespan: prenatality as an observable life-history stage in birds**

Simon Evans (he/him) | University of Exeter, UK

1015 **Impacts of river flow changes on the breeding ecology of the White-throated Dipper**

Noelia Alvarez (she/her) | Lancaster Environment Centre, Lancaster University, UK |

[noealvarez88.bsky.social](#)

1030- **MORNING BREAK** | The Exchange (C3)

1115 Tea, coffee & refreshments | Time to view poster and exhibits

### SESSION 6 | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2)

#### INSIGHTS FROM GENETIC ANALYSES

#SESH6

Chair: Christine Howard | Durham University, UK

1115 **KEYNOTE**

**Using DNA metabarcoding to investigate links between diet and reproductive success in rural and urban Blue Tits**

Andreanna Welch | Durham University, UK



1145 **Once a specialist always a specialist? Multiple techniques determine consistency of individual specialisation across traits**

Danni Thompson (she/her) | University of Aberdeen, UK | [scottishseabird.bsky.social](#)

1200 **Morphological and molecular forensics of select Galliformes for species identification**

Bhawani Sabat (she/her) | Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, India |

[bhawanisabat.bsky.social](#)

1215 **Track and trace: Using combined techniques to uncover movement and foraging strategies of Alpine Swift**

Alex Brighten (she/her) | University of Aberdeen, UK | [alexbrighten1.bsky.social](#)

1230 **Can riparian habitats buffer populations of the Spotted Flycatcher, a declining, Afro-Palearctic migrant?**

Catrin Eden (she/her) | Lancaster University, UK | [cateden91.bsky.social](#)

1245- **LUNCH** | The Exchange (C3)

1415 Time to view poster and exhibits

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### SESSION 7 | THE EXCHANGE (C.LT2) DRIVERS OF AVIAN BEHAVIOUR

#SESH7

Chair: Arjun Amar (he/him) | Fitzpatrick Institute, University of Cape Town, South Africa

1415 **Microclimate refugia use and behavioural responses to extreme temperatures by Eurasian Kestrels (*Falco tinnunculus*)**

Karolina Zalewska (she/they) | University of East Anglia, UK | [@kazalews.bsky.social](#)

1430 **The influence of abundance on within-patch breeding season habitat characteristics for Chiffchaff**

Rachel Jade Kuzmich (she/her) | Queen's University, Canada | [@thatracheljade.bsky.social](#)

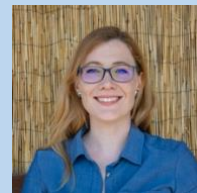
1445 **Does forest cover influence the movements and behaviour of GPS tagged Golden Eagles *Aquila chrysaetos*?**

Charlotte Jennifer Chandler | University of Chester, UK

1500 **KEYNOTE**

**Cognition and culture in our urban birds**

Lucy Aplin | University of Zurich, Switzerland & Australian National University



1530 **CONFERENCE CLOSE**

Graeme Buchanan | BOU President & RSPB, UK

1545- **AFTERNOON BREAK** | The Exchange (C3)

1615 Tea, coffee & refreshments | Time to view poster and exhibits

1615 **DEPARTURE**