

GOING FOR THE BIG ONE

A personal look at local year-listing by a compulsive year-lister

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REGULAR READERS WILL know that I'm not a native of Peterborough, but I moved here in order to work on Britain's most popular monthly bird magazine. When I got here I found a ready-made community of birdwatchers, with their own bird club and their own recently established recording region: the Peterborough Bird Club (PBC) area. I also found some of the keenest, most dedicated patch-watchers I had ever encountered, including one or two who would bird before work, at lunch time and on the way home from work (as well as out of the office window when they could).



David Whitaker / Alamy

Male Whinchat at its best in spring



Calum Dickson / Alamy

Male Redstart



Andrew Parkinson / Alamy

Bittern on ice