

Highland SOC Outing Sunday 15th January 2023

BIRD RACE

It's that time of year again! Get your 2023 bird list off to a great start by taking part in our bird race on **Sunday 15th January 2023**. Just a bit of fun and definitely NOT competitive with the short day length making it all the more exciting!

The object of the day is to go out birding – with a friend or friends – and try to find as many different species as you can. It is up to you and your team to decide **if** you drive, **who** will drive and **where** you will go – so long as you stay in **Highland** recording area. You could always decide to walk or cycle around your local area and not use the car at all.

We will gather at the end of the day for a virtual post-race get together at 7.30pm over ZOOM, chat about how your day has been and reveal some winners. It will be great to have groups taking part from all over the Highland recording area – maybe with teams from Skye, Lochaber, W Ross, Outer Isles, Rum, Eigg, Sutherland, Strathspey and so on.

A special 'What's App' messaging group will be set up for the day so we can all keep in touch with our latest 'finds'.

Unfortunately.....we have to have a few RULES.....

- Teams of up to 4 (4 maximum, 2 minimum).
- In order to encourage some younger people to take part, if your team includes a member less than 30 years old, then you automatically gain 3 extra points!
- Race duration – anytime from 0000hrs to 1700hrs, and it is up to you to choose how long you spend birdwatching within this birding window.
- Team members must stay together if birding.
- At least 2 of the team members must see/hear each bird species to count it.
- Please print and use the attached winter checklist to record species seen/heard.
- No tape luring allowed.
- When a bird is identified to family but not to species level, it can in some cases still be a tick – e.g. a distant auk that might be Guillemot or Razorbill, can be ticked as 'Auk sp.', although neither Guillemot nor Razorbill can be subsequently ticked in addition.
- Bird lists must be submitted by phone or email to Carol by 1730hrs. You can always take photos of your bird list and send to Carol.
- **Please register teams with Carol Miller by 6pm on Saturday 14th January giving a mobile contact number.**
- People looking for a team to join should also register an interest with Carol and I will try to match you up. Please say if you have a car and are willing to drive. Please feel free to contact me if you have any queries.
- Carol's email address is carol.miller1230@outlook.com
- Mobile phone number 07901 228737
- Persons take part in the bird race at their own risk.

Have Fun and Happy Birding!