

Black Stork

Ciconia nigra

Category A

Very rare vagrant

3 records

Breeds mainly across mid-latitude Europe, from Germany eastwards, with small populations in central and eastern France and occasional pairs as close as Belgium. Migrates south to winter in tropical Africa.

A rare vagrant to Kent with 25 appearances to the end of 2014. Records are well spread between the 28th April and 10th October, with sightings in all the months in between, though with a peak in May (6) and June (5). There is a wide spread also to the locations involved.



Black Stork at Dungeness (Martin Casemore), the same bird earlier seen at Hythe

There have been three records at Folkestone and Hythe as demonstrated by figure 1.

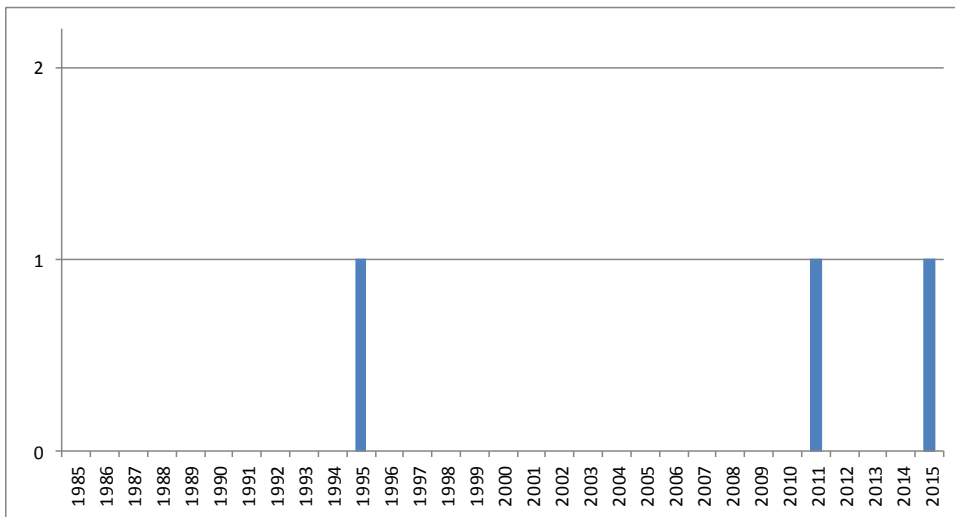


Figure 1: Black Stork records at Folkestone and Hythe

Two sightings were in June and one in August, as shown by figure 2.

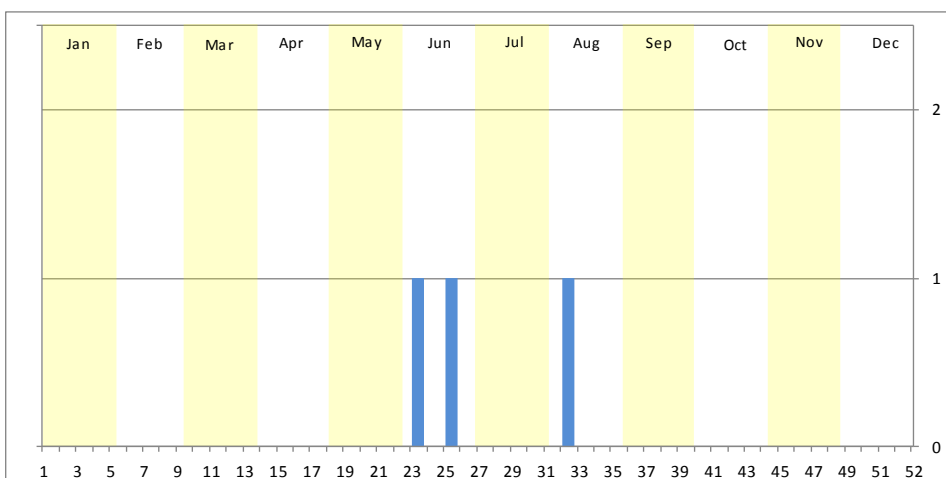


Figure 2: Black Stork records at Folkestone and Hythe by week

The full details of the records are as follows:

1995 Folkestone, one flew in off the sea, 22nd June (J. H. Van der Dol)

2011 Hythe, one flew north-east, 8th June (S. McMinn)

2015 Saltwood and Hythe, one west, 7th August (P. Howe, S. McMinn, N. Webster), later seen and photographed at Dungeness