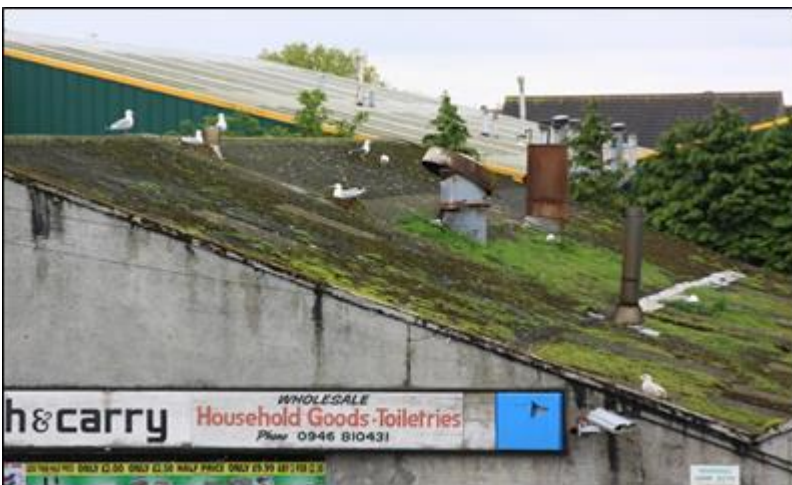


INVENTORY OF URBAN GULL COLONIES IN CUMBRIA

No.1, Issue 3

September 2021



Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre collects, collates, manages and disseminates information relating to the biodiversity and geodiversity of the county on a not-for-profit basis, enabling others to better understand, protect and foster the natural environment of the region.

Tel: 01228 618717 Email: info@cbdc.org.uk Post: Tullie House Museum, Castle Street, Carlisle. CA3 8TP Twitter: [@CumbriaBDC](https://twitter.com/CumbriaBDC)

Inventory of urban gull colonies in Cumbria

Robin M. Sellers

Crag House, Eilerslie Park, Gosforth, Cumbria CA20 1BL, e-mail: robin.m.sellers.gosforth@gmail.com

Abstract: The past fifty or so years have seen a dramatic increase in the numbers of Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Herring Gulls breeding in urban areas in Cumbria. Great Black-backed Gulls have also taken to breeding in built-up areas but in much smaller numbers. To the end of the 2021 breeding season a total of 58 urban gull colonies had been identified in the county. This short report provides an inventory of these colonies, together with an indication of their current size, nesting habitat, location and, where known, their date of formation.

Keywords: breeding, built-up areas, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, roof-nesting gulls, Cumbria.

Recommended citation: R.M.Sellers, (2020), *Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre Occasional Publication No.1, Issue 3*, Inventory of urban gull colonies in Cumbria.

Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| Introduction | 1 |
| Material and methods | 1 |
| Results and discussion | 2 |
| Changes since the appearance of Issue 1 | 2 |
| Changes since the appearance of Issue 2 | 2 |
| Acknowledgements | 2 |
| References | 2 |
| Table 1 Inventory of urban gull colonies in Cumbria | 3 |
| Table 2 Location of urban gull colonies in Cumbria | 6 |
| Cover illustrations | 7 |

Introduction

Cumbria has been an important breeding area for Lesser Black-backed Gulls *Larus fuscus* and Herring Gulls *L. argentatus* for the past half century or so. The colony at South Walney was the largest in Britain at the time of *Seabird 2000*, the national seabird survey carried out between 1998 and 2002, whilst that at Rockcliffe Marsh was ranked the fourth largest (Mitchell *et al* 2004). Both have shown substantial declines in recent years. By contrast urban gull colonies in Cumbria have grown both in size and number in recent decades, such that by 2009, when all colonies of large gulls in Cumbria were surveyed, there were 29 Lesser Black-backed Gull colonies and 30 Herring Gull colonies in urban areas in the county (Sellers & Shackleton 2011; these figures omit one small colony that was probably overlooked during the 2009 survey – details below). These held around 10% and 23% respectively of the county's Lesser Black-backed Gull and Herring Gull populations. A few pairs of Great Black-backed Gulls *L. marinus* can also sometimes be found in these urban colonies, but overall made up only about 7% of the county's population of this species in 2009.

The early history of urban gull colonies in Cumbria is not well documented, but the first seem to have been established in the 1960's. New colonies continue to be formed, and the purpose of this document is to provide an up-to-date summary of the location, extent, approximate composition, size and date of establishment of these

colonies, together with information on the type of sites they occupy.

Material and Methods

This inventory draws mainly on information collected as part of the 2009 survey (Sellers & Shackleton 2010a, b, 2011), an update covering the period to the end of 2013 (Sellers & Shackleton 2015) and unpublished data collected by the compiler between 2014 and 2021 inclusive. As previously, a colony is defined as any nest or group of nests separated by more than 500 m from the nearest nest or group of nests (but note comments in footnotes c, g and k to Table 1) . Some colonies were separated from one another by only 500-1,500 m and such clusters are referred to here as 'colony groups'.

The 2009 survey sought to identify all colonies of large gulls in Cumbria, whether in coastal, urban or rural locations. All coastal towns and villages as well as all inland towns were investigated, and further checks have been made in most subsequent years. Every effort has been made to identify all urban colonies and ensure that the details provided here are as complete as possible, but it may be that one or two have been overlooked. One colony, that at Durranhill, Carlisle, was not identified until 2010 and it is probable that it was overlooked in the 2009 survey – locating small, isolated colonies in large urban areas remains a challenge.

The type of nesting habitat used in these colonies was assigned to one of the following categories:

- (i) warehouses and other commercial premises, typically with large, open, flat or gently sloping roofs;
- (ii) factories (typically buildings with a series of pitched roofs fitted with north-light glazing);
- (iii) the ground;
- (iv) houses;
- (v) shops, hotels and similar premises
- (vi) other (specified separately).

Obtaining information about when these colonies were established has proved difficult, and the only really reliable dates are those collected since 2009, though even with these some uncertainties remain. Earlier data derive in the main from records collected as part of the 2009 survey (Sellers & Shackleton 2010a, b) and the results of the 2007-11 Cumbria Atlas Survey (Anon. 2015).

Information on the location and extent of colonies is based on Sellers & Shackleton (2010a) for colonies extant at the time of the 2009 survey, updated as appropriate, or data collected subsequently, in the case of colonies established since 2009.

Results and Discussion

A list of the urban gull colonies identified in this investigation is shown in Table 1. By the close of the 2021 breeding season they numbered 58 in total. Of these, Lesser Black-backed Gulls were present in 44 colonies (one now defunct), Herring Gulls in 57 (two now defunct) and Great Black-backed Gulls in six. Overall 42 colonies held both Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Herring Gulls, and six held all three species.

At the time of the 2009 survey there were 34 urban gull colonies in Cumbria (this figure takes into account the colony at Durrhill (colony 8) thought to have been overlooked in 2009 (see above), but ignores another, that at St. Bees (West) (colony 35), established in 2005 but at which no birds bred in 2009, though they have bred here each year since). Treating St. Bees (West) (colony 35) and Parton (colony 31; *cf.* footnote (g) in Table 1) as having been formed since 2009, a total of 23 new colonies have been formed or re-established in the 12 breeding seasons since 2009, a mean rate of 1.9 colonies established per annum. All 23 of these newly established colonies (numbers 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 31, 35, 36, 41, 42, 44, 51, 53, 54, 57 and 58 in Table 1) were small in size, typically being founded by either a single pair of birds (13 instances), a small number of pairs (nine instances) or to have budded off from a larger colony (one instance, colony 31). Most involved Herring Gulls, but four (colonies 14, 41, 51 and 54) appear to have been established jointly by Herring and Lesser Black-backed Gulls. In addition, Herring Gulls have started breeding at Lillyhall (colony 29) and Sowerby (colony 44), colonies at which previously only Lesser Black-backed Gulls had bred, and Lesser Black-backed Gulls have begun breeding at colonies 12, 21, 23, 39, 44, 47 and 48, at all of which only Herring Gulls had previously bred. Only one new purely Lesser Black-backed Gull colony, that at Keswick (colony 56), has been identified. In addition, there is one colony,

that at Cockerthorpe (North) (colony 56), at which it is unclear which of these two species initially established the colony or whether first breeding took place by both species in the same year. Finally, just one new Great Black-backed Gull colony, that at Silloth (Town) (colony 12), has been identified since the 2009 survey

Most urban areas within 10 km of the coast in Cumbria are already occupied by gulls so the possibilities for the formation of further colonies in such areas is limited. Indeed several of the recent additions appear to have been local extensions of nearby colonies, for instance Durrhill and Rosehill in Carlisle, Silloth (Town), Skinburness and West Silloth in the Silloth colony group, Netherton in Maryport and so on. Some further developments of this kind can be expected. Urban areas further inland would appear to be more promising in terms of the establishment of new colony groups, but again the number of such places in the county is limited.

The approximate location of most colonies will be apparent from their names (which have been selected with this in mind). Nevertheless it is useful to have a more detailed knowledge of the location of colonies, not least to aid any future surveys and the information in Table 2 is a first step in this direction. Many of the colonies listed are increasing in size, and in consequence the areas they cover, their 'footprint', is expanding. The number of occupied 1 km squares gives a very rough indication of the extent of colonies, but more accurate information is required to characterise this more fully, a task for the future.

It is proposed to produce updates of this document to track further changes in the development of Cumbria's urban gull population. The compiler would be pleased to receive details of any colonies not listed here or significant changes to those that are.

Changes since the appearance of Issue 2

Two main changes have been made since the appearance of Issue 2 in October 2017 as follows: (a) updating of the tables taking into account the colonies newly identified in 2018, 2019 and 2021 (no new colonies were identified in 2020, but only very limited fieldwork was undertaken then because of the Covid-19 pandemic), and (b) a re-evaluation of the dates of establishment of the colonies particularly in light of the results of the 2007-11 Tetrad Atlas Survey (Anon. 2015).

Acknowledgements

I thank Dr Bart Donato for drawing attention to the existence of the colony in Kendal and Dave Shackleton and Dave Piercy for information about the Keswick colony.

References

- Anon., (2015), *Cumbria Bird Atlas Survey 2007-11. Non-passerines*, (Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre/Cumbria Bird Club) [cbdc.org.uk/wildlife-in-cumbria/bird-atlas]
- P.I.Mitchell, S.F.Newton, N.Ratcliffe and T.E.Dunn, (2004), *Seabird Populations of Britain and Ireland*, (T. & A.D.Poyser, London).

R.M.Sellers and D.Shackleton, (2010a), *Report No. ORN-002, Issue 1* Numbers, distribution and population trends of large gulls breeding in Cumbria, supplementary material, Part 1. Colony descriptions.

R.M.Sellers and D.Shackleton, (2010b), *Report No. ORN-003, Issue 1* Numbers, distribution and population trends of large gulls breeding in Cumbria, supplementary material, Part 2. Colony counts.

R.M.Sellers and D.Shackleton, (2011), *Seabird*, **24**, 90-102, Numbers, distribution and population trends of large gulls breeding in Cumbria, northwest England.

R.M.Sellers and D.Shackleton, (2015), *Report No. ORN-028, Issue 1*, Roof-nesting gulls in Cumbria – an update.

D.Shackleton (ed), (2015), *Birds and Wildlife in Cumbria 2013*, p.138, Herring Gull.

Table I. Inventory of urban gull colonies in Cumbria

| Colony ^{a,b} | Habitat | When Established | Lesser Black-backed Gull | Herring Gull | Great Black-backed Gull |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Kingmoor Park colony group | | | | | |
| 1. Crookdyke | C | before 2000 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 2. Heathlands | C | before 2000 | ◆◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 3. Low Harker | C | before 2000 | ◆◆◆ | ◆ | - |
| 4. Kingmoor Park (North) | C | 2000's? | ◆◆ | ◆ | - |
| 5. Kingmoor Park (Central) | C | 2000's? | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 6. Kingstown | C | before 2009 | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| Carlisle colony group | | | | | |
| 7. Carlisle (Central) | C H S | before 1990 | ◆◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 8. Durranshill | C | before 2010 | ◆◆ | ◆ | - |
| 9. Rosehill | C | 2011-17 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| Silloth colony group | | | | | |
| 10. Skinburness | H | 2016 | - | ◆ | - |
| 11. Silloth (Airfield) | C | before 1970 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 12. Silloth (Town) | C H S | HG 2010 GBBG 2018 LBBG 2019 | ◆ | ◆◆ | ◆ |
| 13. West Silloth | H | 2016 | - | ◆ | - |
| 14. Wigton | F | 2015 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 15. Allonby | H | 2013 | - | ◆ | - |
| Maryport colony group | | | | | |
| 16. Maryport (Town) | (C) H S | before 1990 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 17. Netherton ^c | H | ca.2017 | - | ◆◆ | - |
| 18. Glasson & Grasslot | C G (H) | before 1990? | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| Flimby colony group | | | | | |
| 19. Risehow | C | before 2009 | †(◆) | ◆ | ◆ |
| 20. Flimby | H | ca.2009 | - | ◆ | - |
| 21. St. Helens | C | HG 2017 LBBG 2018-20 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| Workington colony group | | | | | |
| 22. Siddick | F | ca.2010 | - | ◆ | - |
| 23. Dunmail Park ^d | C | HG 2014 LBBG 2015-20 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 24. Northside | O ^e | 2015 | - | ◆(†) | - |
| 25. Workington (Town) | C H S | ca.1970? | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 26. Mossbay | G | before 2009 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 27. Salterbeck | F | before 2009 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 28. Harrington | H | 2014 | - | ◆ | - |
| 29. Lillyhall ^f | C | LBBG 1990's HG 2011-16 | ◆◆ | ◆ | - |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----|------|---|
| 30. | Cleator Moor | C (H S) | before 2007 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| Whitehaven colony group | | | | | | |
| 31. | Parton | H | see footnote (g) | - | ◆ | - |
| 32. | Whitehaven (Town) | C H S | 1976-90? | ◆◆ | ◆◆◆ | ◆ |
| 33. | Moresby Parks | C | before 2009 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 34. | Hensingham | C H | ca.1992? | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| St.Bees colony group^h | | | | | | |
| 35. | St.Bees (West) | H | ca.2005 | - | ◆◆ | - |
| 36. | St.Bees (East) | H | 2017 | - | ◆ | - |
| 37. | Sellafield | F | ca.1960 | ◆◆◆ | ◆◆◆ | ◆ |
| Haverigg & Millom colony groupⁱ | | | | | | |
| 38. | Haverigg Haws | G O ^j | before 2000 | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | ◆ |
| 39. | Haverigg (Town) | C H | HG before 2009 LBBG 2010-14 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 40. | Millom | H S | before 2008 | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 41. | Borwick Rails | C | 2020-21 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 42. | Broughton-in-Furness | S | 2018 | - | ◆(†) | - |
| 43. | Askham-in-Furness | F H | ca.1990's | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 44. | Dalton-in-Furness | H | HG 2015 LBBG 2020-21 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 45. | Sowerby | C | LBBG 2000's HG 2010-19 | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| Barrow-in-Furness colony group | | | | | | |
| 46. | Barrow (Town) | C F G H S | ca.1980 | ◆◆◆ | ◆◆◆ | ◆ |
| 47. | North Scale | H | HG ca.2009? LBBG 2010-19 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 48. | North Walney ^k | H | ca.2009? LBBG 2010-19 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 49. | Vickerstown (Northeast) ^k | H | ca.2000? | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 50. | Vickerstown (West) | H | ca.2000? | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| Ulverston colony group | | | | | | |
| 51. | Ulverston (Town) | C H S | 2012-14 | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 52. | South Ulverston | F | before 1986 | ◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 53. | Grange-over-Sands | S | 2018 | - | ◆ | - |
| 54. | Kendal (Town)^l | C | ca.2016 | ◆ | ◆ | - |
| 55. | Penrith | C | before 2009 | ◆◆◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 56. | Keswick^m | C | 2018 | ◆ | - | - |
| Cockermouth colony group | | | | | | |
| 57. | Cockermouth (North) | F | 2010-17 | ◆ | ◆◆ | - |
| 58. | Cockermouth (Town) | H S W | 2013 ⁿ | - | ◆◆ | - |

Abbreviations: LBBG, Lesser Black-backed Gull; HG, Herring Gull; GBBG, Great Black-backed Gull.

Abundance codes: - no birds, ◆ 1-9 aon, ◆◆ 10-99 aon, ◆◆◆ 100-999 aon (aon, apparently occupied nest), † colony defunct (at least three seasons have passed since last known occupancy; (abundance code shown in such cases is based on the maximum number of apparently occupied nests found whilst the colony was active), (†) colony apparently defunct (only one or two seasons have passed since last known occupancy).

Habitat codes: C warehouses and other commercial premises (typically with large, open, flat or gently sloping roofs), F factories (typically buildings with a series of pitched roofs fitted with north-light glazing), G ground, H houses, O other (specified in footnote), S shops or similar premises; in brackets if minor habitat only.

(a) For greater clarity, some of the colony names used in the 2009 survey have been revised as follows: Carlisle has become Carlisle (Central), Silloth has become Silloth (Airfield) to distinguish it from the newly established Silloth (Town) colony, Barrow (Park Road Industrial Estate) has been shortened to Sowerby, and Ulverston has become South Ulverston to distinguish it from the newly formed Ulverston (Town) colony.

- (b) In addition to the colonies listed here, the 2007-11 Atlas Survey (Anon. 2015) shows confirmed breeding in the following tetrads not covered by any of the 1 km squares listed above:
 Herring Gull: NY36K (Rockcliffe village), NY36U (Longtown), NY02H (Lillyhall), SD16T (Vickerstown), SD16Y (Vickerstown) and SD17J (west of Haverigg Haws).
 Lesser Black-backed Gull: NY36K (Rockcliffe village), NY36U (Longtown), SD16T (Vickerstown), SD16Y (Vickerstown) and SD17J (west of Haverigg Haws).
 It is unclear whether these are colonies newly established in 2010 or 2011 (that is, after the completion of the 2009 survey), extensions to existing colonies that took place after the 2009, colonies overlooked in the 2009 survey, or errors (due to, say, confusing loafing or prospecting birds with breeders, or records assigned to the wrong tetrad), or, indeed whether they all relate to urban (roof-nesting) colonies but are listed here for completeness. It should also be noted that there are a number of tetrads shown on the 2007-11 Atlas Survey maps as unoccupied by breeding birds but which were in fact occupied – errors, both false positives and false negatives, do, unfortunately, occur!
- (c) Only a single nest was found at Netherton in 2017, some 600 m from the nearest nest in Maryport (Town) and thus constituting a 'colony' by the '500 m rule' described in the Materials and Methods section. By the following season there was a total of 10 aon here, nests having been established in the neighbouring district of Ellenborough, and to the south-east of the original nest in Netherton, narrowing the gap with the Maryport (Town) colony to 400 m. Moreover, there were 2 aon in Ewanrigg in 2018, effectively creating a bridge between the Netherton and Ellenborough group of nests and the Glasson & Grasslot colony, separations being 360 m between the latter and Ewanrigg, and 410 m between Ewanrigg and Netherton. Thus, what had been an isolated nest in 2017 (that is, one separated by 500 m from the next nearest nest) had in effect become a bridge between the Glasson & Grasslot and Maryport (Town) colonies, rendering them a single colony; for convenience they are treated here as separate colonies.
- (d) In Issues 1 and 2 of this document this colony was referred to as St. Helen's Business Park, but to distinguish it from the colony at St. Helens, *ca.* 3 km to the north-north-east, it has been renamed Dunmail Park.
- (e) Northside – nests on an office building.
- (f) Lillyhall was originally colonised by Lesser Black-backed Gulls (probably in the 1990's) and only later (in either 2010 or 2012) by Herring Gulls; one of only two colonies listed here at which Herring Gulls have joined a pre-existing Lesser Black-backed gull colony (the other is Sowerby).
- (g) At the time of the 2009 survey Parton was included with the Whitehaven Town colony; since then breeding has ceased at Briscoe Bank (between Parton proper and Whitehaven) such that the Parton colony is now separated by a little over 500 m from the nearest part of the Whitehaven Town colony at Bransty, and hence is now treated as a separate colony.
- (h) With the establishment of a new colony at the eastern side of St. Bees in 2017, the original colony (referred to earlier as St. Bees (Town) to distinguish it from the colony on the cliffs at nearby St. Bees Head) has been renamed St. Bees (West), and the new colony named St. Bees (East).
- (i) The coastal (*i.e.* non-urban) colony at Hodbarrow also forms part of the Millom colony group.
- (j) Haverigg Haws – colony partly on roofs of prison buildings, partly on the ground within the prison grounds and in some seasons on buildings just beyond the prison walls.
- (k) North Scale and Vickerstown Northeast were two distinct colonies when first surveyed in 2009; by 2020 Lesser Black-backed Gulls had expanded into North Scale with no nest more than about 200 m from its nearest neighbour. With Herring Gulls, however, the gap between the two remained as it had been in 2009, that is about 500 m.
- (l) Details supplied by B.Donato. The non-urban colony at Kendal Fell Quarry forms a colony group with the Kendal (Town) colony.
- (m) Details supplied by D.Piercy.
- (n) A pair of Herring Gulls is reported to have bred in Cockermouth (Town) in 2013 (Shackleton 2015); no breeding birds could be found here in 2014, but a pair certainly bred in 2015 and they have bred here every year since (RMS, unpublished observations).

Table 2. Location of urban gull colonies in Cumbria

| <i>Colony</i> ^a | <i>Species</i> | <i>1 km squares occupied</i> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| 1. Crookdyke | LBBG/HG | NY3660 |
| 2. Heathlands | LBBG/HG | NY3760, NY3761 |
| 3. Low Harker | LBBG/HG | NY3860, NY3960 |
| 4. Kingmoor Park (North) | LBBG/HG | NY3959 |
| 5. Kingmoor Park (Central) | LBBG/HG | NY3859 |
| 6. Kingstown | LBBG/HG | NY3859, NY3959 |
| 7. Carlisle (Central) | LBBG | NY3856, NY3955, NY3956, NY4055, NY4155 ^a |
| | HG | NY3955, NY3956, NY4055, NY4056 |
| 8. Durranhill | HG/LBBG | NY4154 |
| 9. Rosehill | HG/LBBG | NY4255 |
| 10. Skinburness | HG | NY1155 |
| 11. Silloth (Airfield) | LBBG/HG | NY1253 |
| 12. Silloth (Town) | HG | NY1053, NY1153, NY1154 |
| | LBBG | NY1053 |
| | GBBG | NY1153 |
| 13. West Silloth | HG | NY1152, NY1153 |
| 14. Wigton | LBBG/HG | NY2548 |
| 15. Allonby | HG | NY0842 |
| 16. Maryport (Town) | LBBG | NY0336 |
| | HG | NY0336, NY0337 |
| 17. Netherton | HG | NY0435, NY0436 |
| 18. Glasson & Grasslot | LBBG | NY0335 |
| | HG | NY0235, NY0335 |
| 19. Risehow | LBBG/HG/GBBG | NY0234 |
| 20. Flimby | HG | NY0233 |
| 21. St. Helens | LBBG/HG | NY0132 |
| 22. Siddick | HG | NY0031 |
| 23. Dunmail Park | LBBG/HG | NX9930 |
| 24. Northside | HG | NX9929 |
| 25. Workington (Town) | LBBG | NX9828, NX9928 |
| | HG | NX9827, NX9828, NX9829, NX9927, NX9928, NY0027, NY0028 |
| 26. Mossbay | LBBG/HG | NX9827 |
| 27. Salterbeck | LBBG/HG | NX9926 |
| 28. Harrington | HG | NX9925 |
| 29. Lillyhall | LBBG | NY0124, NY0125 |
| | HG | NY0124 |
| 30. Cleator Moor | LBBG/HG | NY0115 |
| 31. Parton | HG | NX9720, NX9820 |
| 32. Whitehaven (Town) ^b | LBBG | NX9717, NX9718 |
| | HG | NX9616, NX9617, NX9618, NX9716, NX9717, NX9718, NX9719, NX9816, NX9817, NX9818, NX9819, NX9820 |
| | GBBG | NX9616, NX9717 |
| 33. Moresby Parks | LBBG/HG | NX9918 |
| 34. Hensingham | LBBG/HG | NX9917 |
| 35. St. Bees (West) | HG | NX9611 |
| 36. St. Bees (East) | HG | NX9711 |
| 37. Sellafield | LBBG/HG | NY0203, NY0204, NY0303, NY0304 |
| | GBBG | ? ^c |
| 38. Haverigg Haws | LBBG/HG/GBBG | SD1479 |
| 39. Haverigg (Town) ^d | LBBG | SD1578, SD1679 |
| | HG | SD1578, SD1678, SD1679 |
| 40. Millom | LBBG/HG | SD1680, SD1779, SD1780 |
| 41. Borwick Rails | LBBG/HG | SD1879 |
| 42. Broughton-in-Furness | HG | SD2187 |
| 43. Askham-in-Furness | LBBG/HG | SD2177 |

| | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|---------|--|
| 44. | Dalton-in-Furness | HG | SD2273, SD2274, SD2374 |
| 45. | Sowerby | LBBG | SD1972 |
| 46. | Barrow (Town) | LBBG | SD1869, SD1968, SD1969, SD1970, SD2069, SD2070 |
| | | HG | SD1869, SD1968, SD1969, SD1970, SD2068, SD2069, SD2070 |
| 47. | North Scale | LBBG/HG | SD1870 |
| 48. | North Walney | LBBG/HG | SD1769 |
| 49. | Vickerstown (North-east) | LBBG/HG | SD1868, SD1869 |
| 50. | Vickerstown (West) | LBBG | SD1868 |
| | | HG | SD1768, SD1868 |
| 51. | Ulverston (Town) | LBBG/HG | SD2877, SD2878 |
| 52. | South Ulverston | LBBG/HG | SD3077 |
| 53. | Grange-over-Sands | HG | SD4178 |
| 54. | Kendal (Town) ^e | LBBG/HG | SD5191 |
| 55. | Penrith ^f | LBBG/HG | NY5029, NY5030 |
| 56. | Keswick | LBBG | NY2623 |
| 57. | Cockermouth (North) | LBBG/HG | NY1131 |
| 58. | Cockermouth (Town) | HG | NY1130, NY1230 |

Abbreviations: LBBG, Lesser Black-backed Gull; HG, Herring Gull; GBBG, Great Black-backed Gull.

(a) Carlisle (Central): NY4155 colonised since 2009 survey.

(b) The Whitehaven (Town) colony is in four distinct parts; the main colony centred on the town centre and separate parts in Bransty (NX9718/19) *ca.*400 m from the main part of the colony, Kells (NX9616/17) *ca.*400 m from the main part of the colony, and Woodhouse (NX9616), *ca.*400 m south of Kells. This reflects the pattern of human settlement over the past century and a half and the current disposition of potential nesting sites in Whitehaven rather than any special preference shown by the birds.

(c) The precise distribution of nests on the Sellafield site is unknown; Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Herring Gulls are assumed to have roughly the same distributions; only a few pairs of Great Black-backed Gulls are present but where they breed on the site is unknown.

(d) The Haverigg (Town) colony is in two distinct parts, one associated with Haverigg town proper (SD1578 & SD1678) and the other *ca.*200 m away on the former tannery, now an industrial estate, at Port Haverigg (SD1679).

(e) Details supplied by B.Donato.

(f) The Penrith colony is in two distinct parts, one associated with the Gilwilly Industrial Estate (NY5030) and the other with the Penrith Industrial Estate, *ca.*400 m away in NY5029.

Cover illustrations

Top left: Spikes do not always discourage gulls from nesting on roofs, as this Herring Gull on a nest in Swingpump Lane, Whitehaven in June 2009 illustrates (R.M.Sellers).

Top right: Street sign in West Tower Street, Carlisle (R.M.Sellers).

Bottom left: Herring Gulls and Lesser Black-backed Gulls nesting on a roof in Cleator Moor, May 2009; the building has since been renovated and is no longer used by the gulls (R.M.Sellers).

Bottom right: Adult and juvenile Herring Gulls, Workington, November 2013 (R.M.Sellers).