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Working for wild Birds of Prey and their Habitats

Wild Peregrine Falcons on St John's Church, Bath Lay First Egg of 2014



The falcon (female) maintains a vigil over her egg

The peregrine falcons using the St John's RC Church nesting platform, installed and maintained by wild bird of prey conservation charity the Hawk and Owl Trust, have laid their first egg of the 2014 breeding season. It appeared at about 14:00 on Sunday 30 March 2014. Both birds are taking it in turns to protect the egg and to keep it warm until full incubation starts, normally after the third egg has been laid. The second egg is due in the next day or two.

Short video clip of the moment the first egg was revealed:

http://youtu.be/e2w_uEjV5xs

Peregrines were first observed regularly at Bath from around 2000. After three years of peregrine residence without any indication of successful breeding, the Hawk and Owl Trust designed, built and installed the nest platform on the spire of what had been identified as one of the peregrine's favourite roost sites. The birds first bred successfully in 2006, and have hatched young every season since.

President | Chris Packham

Registered Charity No 1068565

A Company Limited by Guarantee in England No 3254207

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Mike Rogers, Trustee of the Hawk and Owl Trust, says: XXXXXXXX

Before the 2014 breeding season started, the H&OT Bath and West Wilts Group modified the nest box and installed a camera system. An extension to the front with an integrated perch, primarily to provide more room for the young to exercise pre-fledging, was designed and installed. The breeding pair have really taken to the perch as it allows them to watch the wildlife pass in greater comfort. The camera system was designed by and procured from iCode Systems, a Hampshire based IT/CCTV company with extensive experience in the installation and operation of covert wildlife camera systems which already supports the H&OT live streaming service from Norwich Cathedral. It is planned that live streaming to the Internet from Bath will be in place by the end of April.