

## Red-necked Phalarope

*Phalaropus lobatus*

Category A

Very rare vagrant.

2 records,  
2 birds

*World/British distribution (Snow & Perrins 1998, Holling et al. 2019):*

Breeds in Iceland, northern Fenno-Scandia and Russia, eastwards across northern Siberia to Alaska, northern Canada and Greenland. Migrates mainly overland but winters pelagically off western South America, in the Arabian Sea and among the East Indies. A rare breeding species in Britain, mainly in Shetland and the Outer Hebrides, where there has been a recent increase to around 80 "pairs".

*Kent status (KOS 2022, KOS no date):*

A rare spring and autumn migrant to Kent, with most recorded in August and September.



Red-necked Phalarope at Donkey Street (Brian Harper)

Kent (KOS) records to end 2020: 83 since 1952

Ticehurst (1909), Harrison (1953) and Taylor *et al.* (1981) all considered it to be a rare visitor to the county and it was not included in Knight & Tolputt's "List of birds observed in Folkestone and its immediate neighbourhood" (1871).

There have been two local records. On the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2009 David Featherbe saw a juvenile from a boat close inshore off Folkestone, whilst on the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Ian Roberts found a confiding individual at Donkey Street, where it remained until the 4<sup>th</sup> December. The second record was the latest ever occurrence in the county. The records by year are shown in figure 1.

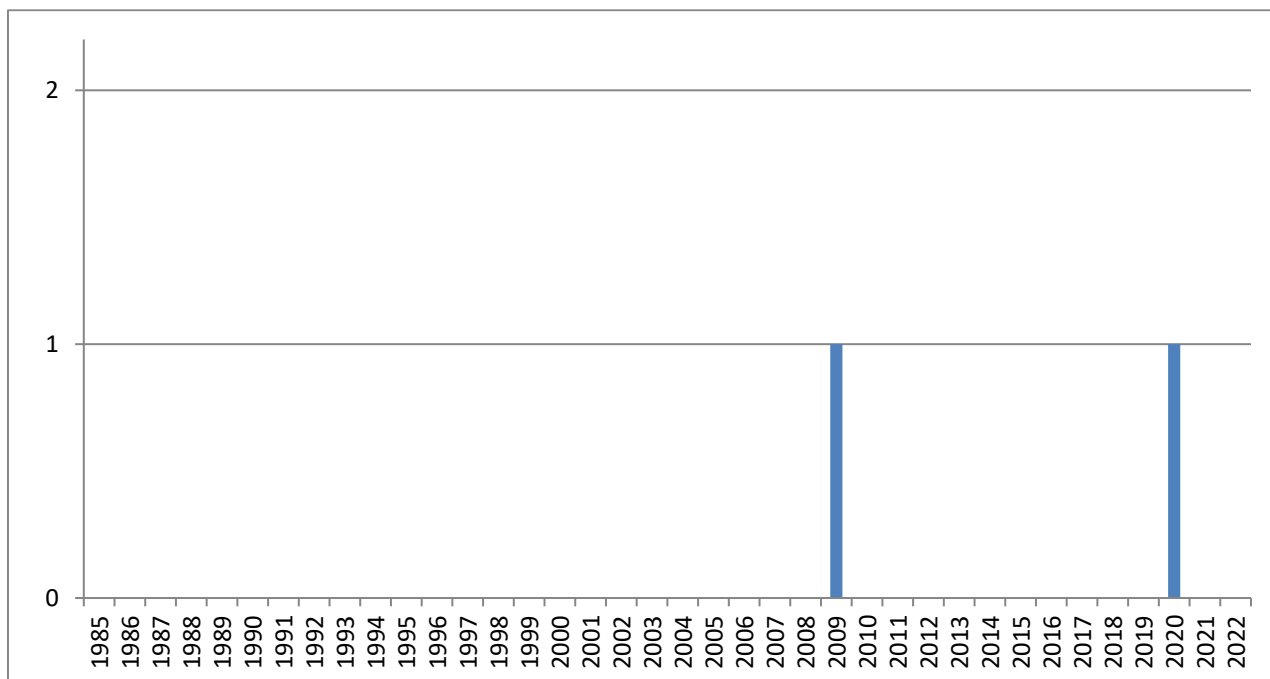


Figure 1: Red-necked Phalarope records at Folkestone and Hythe

The records by week are shown in figure 2.

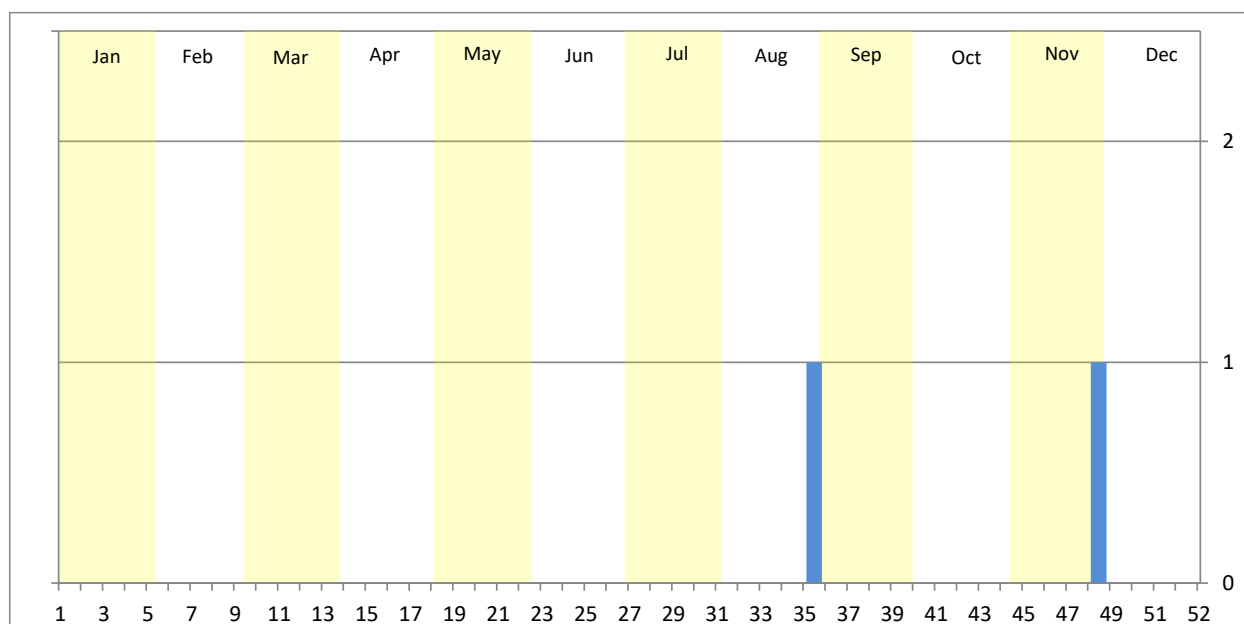


Figure 2: Red-necked Phalarope records at Folkestone and Hythe by week

Figure 3 shows the location of records by tetrad.



Figure 3: Distribution of Red-necked Phalarope records at Folkestone and Hythe by tetrad

The full list of records is as follows:

**2009** Folkestone Pier, juvenile seen from a boat close inshore, 29<sup>th</sup> August (D. Featherbe)

**2020** Donkey Street, juvenile, 29<sup>th</sup> November to 4<sup>th</sup> December, photographed, video-recorded (I. A. Roberts, B. Harper)

Click [here](#) to watch a local short video recording of the one at Donkey Street in November 2020 (Ian Roberts).

## References

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Taylor, D., Davenport, D. & Flegg, J. 1981. *Birds of Kent*. Kent Ornithological Society.

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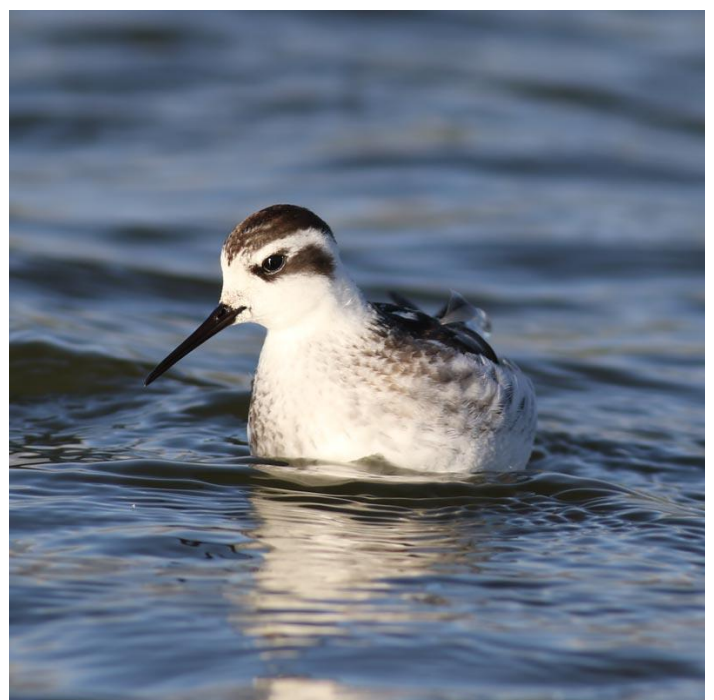
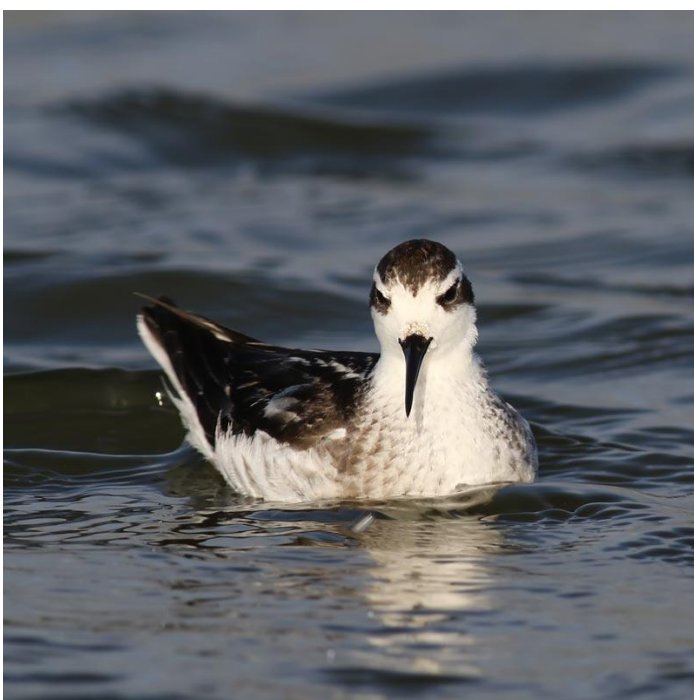
### **Acknowledgements**

The tetrad map images were produced from the Ordnance Survey [Get-a-map service](#) and are reproduced with kind permission of [Ordnance Survey](#).

I am indebted to Andrew Henderson and Tim Hodge for providing access to the Kent Ornithological Society archives.



Red-necked Phalarope at Donkey Street (Ian Roberts)



Red-necked Phalarope at Donkey Street (Brian Harper)





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