The ‘British Birds’ Best Bird Book of the Year

For the benefit of those who may wish to acquire (or give as a present) just one of the many bird books published each year, British Birds selects annually its choice of the ‘Best Bird Book of the Year’ from those reviewed in the journal during the previous 12 months. The winner may, in one year, be an important, erudite scientific treatise and, in another, a lighter, less academic work, but it will always be reliable, well produced and thoroughly worthy of inclusion in any birdwatcher’s library.

Our choice for BEST BIRD BOOK OF 1994 is:


Compiled by
David Wingfield Gibbons,
James B. Reid
& Robert A. Chapman.


(Review: Brit. Birds 87: 221-222)

We also wish especially to draw attention to three other top-class bird books published in a vintage year for county avifaunas:


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lighter, less academic work, but it will always be reliable, well produced and thoroughly worthy of inclusion in any birdwatcher’s library.
Our choice for BEST BIR... The previous volume of this atlas was the result of the first national survey of breeding birds in Britain and
Ireland and its maps presented data only in the confirmed or probable breeding of each species in each grid square. In this more
detailed volume, each species account includes three maps, one showing breeding distribution as before, one in full colour showing rela
The previous volume of this atlas was the result of the first national survey of breeding birds in Britain and Ireland and its maps
presented data only in the confirmed or probable breeding of each species in each grid square... Â The New Atlas of Breeding Birds in
responses to climate change demonstrate that the distribution of many breeding birds in Britain and Ireland may be affected by climate
change, but that the effects are likely to differ between species. Short-term and less severe changes in climate had a positive effect on
the potential climate space of five species (Streptopelia turtur, Motacilla flava, Luscinia megarhynchos, Acrocephalus scirpaceus and
Sitta europaea) and a negative affect on one species (Tetrao urogallus), whereas the overall suitability of Parus montanus and Gavia
stellata remained relatively stable.