

THE OSPREY OBSERVER

Bywyd Gwylt Glaslyn Wildlife



THE 2021 SEASON SO FAR

MARCH 25TH

MRS G RETURNS

MARCH 29TH

ARAN RETURNS

APRIL 10TH

MRS G LAYS FIRST EGG

APRIL 13TH

MRS G LAYS SECOND EGG

APRIL 16TH

MRS G LAYS THIRD EGG

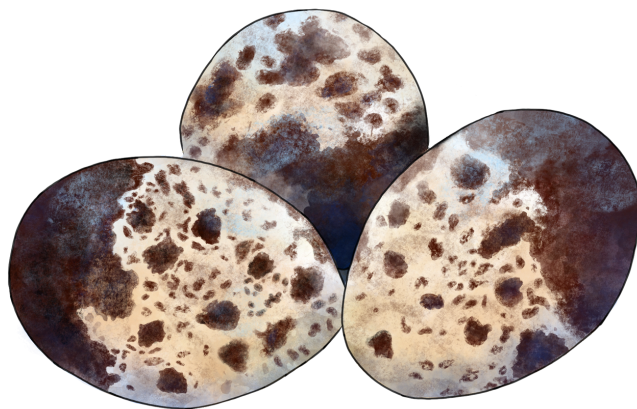
Mrs G and Aran Return

On Thursday 25th March at 08:42, Mrs G landed on the Glaslyn nest for the 18th year. First seen breeding in the Glaslyn valley in 2004, she is the longest breeding osprey in Wales. To date she has hatched 46 live chicks, she is grandmother to at least 100 ospreys and is now great-grandmother to four. A remarkable achievement. It was a joyous day when she returned to her summer home in the Valley.

She was joined four days later by her partner, Aran. He landed at 09:48 for his 7th breeding season with Mrs G.

Both soon fell into the old routine of eating, mating, nest building and crow chasing, and twelve days after their reunion, Mrs G laid the first egg of the season at 17:07 on the 10th April.





© CERI THOMAS

Eggs by Numbers

Mrs G has now laid at least 57 eggs. We will never know exactly how many she laid in 2004 when she was first found breeding in the Glaslyn valley, but we do know there were at least two chicks who sadly died when the nest blew down in a storm.

In 2015, Mrs G laid five infertile or hormonal eggs when her previous partner, 11(98), failed to return from his migration. She eventually raised two chicks that year when Aran arrived at Glaslyn for the first time.

Mrs G's Offspring

We can confirm that we know of four of Mrs G's offspring who have returned to their nests in the UK so far in 2021.

They are:

White YC (2008) at Roudsea Wood NR, Cumbria

Black 80 (2006) at Threave, Dunfries and Galloway

Yellow 37 (2005) at Kielder Nest 2

White YA (2007) at Kielder Nest 1A



BLACK 80 BEING RINGED IN 2006

© EMYR EVANS



2006 CHICKS ON RINGING DAY

© EMYR EVANS

Glaslyn Visitors

Since the pair returned to their nest in March, they have had their fair share of visiting ospreys. Many of the intruders are difficult to identify as they are unringed or are only on camera for a fleeting moment, but one young male made himself quite at home on the nest for an hour or so. Mrs G and Aran didn't seem to mind too much.



MRS G AND AERON (Z2)



MRS G, AERON (Z2) AND ARAN

The young osprey was Aeron (Z2), hatched on the Dyfi nest in 2017. Aeron (Z2) landed on the nest next to Mrs G shortly after Aran had arrived on the perch with a freshly caught mullet. The three ospreys remained on the nest for nearly an hour, showing no aggression towards each other, before Aran decided to chase away their visitor.



ANOTHER UNIDENTIFIED INTRUDER WITH DISTINCTIVE WING FEATHERS

© GARY JONES

Visitor Centre News

We are thrilled to announce that the outdoor area of our Visitor Centre at Pont Croesor will open on the 26th April, with the VC building open for retail and takeaway refreshments.

Thanks to the generosity of our followers who donated towards our 2021 Live Streaming Appeal, we have been able to install an outdoor screen on the side of our building, which will allow visitors to enjoy the live views from the nest against the magnificent backdrop of the Glaslyn valley and the mountains of Snowdonia.

RIGHT: ARAN ON THE BIG SCREEN



We will see you soon.