A survey of Swift (Apus apus) nesting sites in county Carlow 2018/19/20.

January 2021



Table of Contents

Findings		1
Swift Nest	t Sites 2018/19	2
Leigh	nlinbridge	2
	Mill above Cullen's Butchers	2
	The Old Mill (Now Apartments)	4
	The Black Castle.	6
Harro	7	
Ballor	n	8
	Old National School	8
	Joe Doyle's Pub	9
Carlov	v Town	11
	Number 10. Brown St	11
	Number 13. Castle St	12
	Riverside Estate	13
	Askea Lawns	14
	Carlow Castle	15
	Castle Mill House	16
	St Patricks College (Carlow College)	17
	Youth Centre	18
Swift Activ	ve Areas	25
Carlo	w Town	25
	Old Perry's Cash and Carry	25
	Leinster Crescent	25
	Saint Vincent de Paul.	25
	Dublin St	25
	Hanrahans/Kevin Barry/JKL Avenues	25
	St. Dympna's Hospital	26
	7 Springs/ Spring Dale/ Oakley Park	26
	St. Patricks Avenue	26
	Green Road Estate	26
Muin	e Bheag (Bagenalstown)	27
	Queen of the Universe National School	27
	St. Bridget's Crescent	27
Ballo	n	27

	Sandbrook House	27
Appendix A	Co. Carlow Swift Survey 2020	28
Ballon .		28
	Altamont Gardens	28
Tullow.		29
	Saint Columba's National School	29
	Scoil Phádraig Naofa	29
	Cobblers Corner	29
Muine I	Bheag (Bagenalstown)	30
	Queen of the Universe National School	30
	St. Brigid's National School	31
Kildavir	1	32
	N80 roadbridge over R724	32
Carlow	Town	33
	Corless Pharmacy	33
	Leinster Crescent	34
	Roncalli Place	35
	Pollerton Road	37
	St. Partrick's Avenue	37
	Old Perry's Cash and Carry	39
Graigue	ecullen	40
	The Weirs	40
Swift Active	Areas 2020	41
Carlow	Town	41
Clonega	al	41
Appendix B	Swift Nest Box Projects County Carlow	42
Carlow	Town	43
Tinrylar	nd	44
Ballinak	oranagh	44
Muine I	Bheag (Bagenalstown)	44
Ballon .		45
Leighlin	ıbridge	45
References .		46
Acknowledg	rements	47

Summary

- A total of 88 nest sites were identified within the county over three years.
- 9 towns and villages were identified as having a population of Swifts.
- Accounting for half the number of nest sites, Carlow Town was found to have the highest density of Swift nests with 44 found over the three years.
- The Youth Centre (Carlow Town) was found to contain the most nest sites per single structure with 15 nests.
- The highest number of Swifts observed at any one time was 127 in Carlow Town.

Findings

The 2018 survey of swift nesting sites in county Carlow identified a total of 27 nest entrances (16 Leighlinbridge, 3 Ballon and 8 Carlow Town) across 8 sites. A further 14 sites have been identified as harbouring swift activity indicative of nesting activity. These include areas where swifts were repeatedly seen over the season and areas where bangers/screamers were seen to fly low by at buildings (which is indicative of nesting swifts). It is likely that many of these sites contain nesting swifts and additional prolonged surveying of these sites and those already known to be harbouring nesting swifts should lead to the discovery of new nests.

2019 saw the addition of 25 (possibly 30) new nests to make at least 52 known nest sites in Carlow (18 Leighlinbridge, 5 Ballon, 28 Carlow Town and 1 Harrow Cross). This figure, however, may range from 52-57 due to locations where swifts were seen to pass close by potential nest sites or due to other signs of occupancy but where no swift was observed to enter a cavity (see Mill above Cullen's Butchers, Old National School, Queen of the Universe National School and Sandbrook House). Such instances are recorded below at each respective site.

In 2020, a further 36 new nest sites were located across the county in six different towns and villages (3 Ballon, 8 Tullow, 5 Muine Bheag (Bagenalstown), 1 Kildavin, 16 Carlow Town and 3 Graiguecullen). Many of these sites are likely to contain additional nesting pairs. While most of the sites mentioned in the 2018 and 2019 sections still contained nesting swifts in 2020, only additional nest sites are included in the 2020 section. Details of these nest sites are included in Appendix A.

This brings the total confirmed number of Swift nesting sites identified within the county over the three years to 88, broken down as follows:

Town/ Village	No. of Nest Sites	Town/ Village	No. of Nest Sites
Carlow Town	44	Muine Bheag (Bagenalstown)	5
Leighlinbridge	18	Graiguecullen	3
Ballon	8	Kildavin	1
Tullow	8	Harrow Cross/ Oldtown	1

At locations where nests were found, a coloured dot is used to pinpoint on an image the spot at which the swifts were seen entering/exiting from their nesting cavity. The blue dots indicate nests found in 2018 and green dots are additional nests found in 2019 and 2020, unless otherwise stated (see Youth Centre). The images of the nest sites at the Youth Centre use blue coloured dots to show the exact location of a nest entrance, while an orange coloured dot indicates the approximate location of a nest entrance. Each image is accompanied by a written description of the position of the nest site as indicated on that image. The orientation refers to the direction the nest site faces, ie the direction the Swift will be headed when leaving the nest.

16/07/2018 60 swifts over village

- A very active swift population with 60-70 birds seen regularly throughout the summer.
- A total of 19 nest entrances have been located at the following sites.

Mill above Cullen's Butchers. Milford St. (9 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 68957 65539** Orientation: East

Latitude = **52.73660** (north) Longitude = **-6.97899** (west)

Description of nest sites.

- 1. Before first set of windows on left in hole in wall above the 2nd story.
- 2. Before first set of windows on left in hole in wall above the 3rd story.
- 3. Between windows 5 and 6 from left under gutter above metal plate.
- 4. Between windows 6 and 7 from left under gutter above metal plate.
- 5. Above the 7th window on right under gutter.
- 6. Right of (black) 7th window on 1st floor in hole in wall.
- 7. Hole in wall on right of building between $1^{st} + 2^{nd}$ stories (still feeding chicks on 21/08/2019).
- 8. Between 2nd and 3rd story on right in hole in wall.
- 9. On the north side of this mill under roof tiles above the line of the red wall tie (2019). There is possibly another nest under the gutter on the adjoining premises to the left. This is thought to be above the 3rd window from the right.









The swift was spotted entering the roof space under the tile either to the left or right of the timber beam (2019).

Orientation: North.

The Old Mill (Now Apartments). Church St. (8 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 68924 65451** Latitude = **52.73581** (north) Longitude = **-6.97950** (west)

Orientation: South East

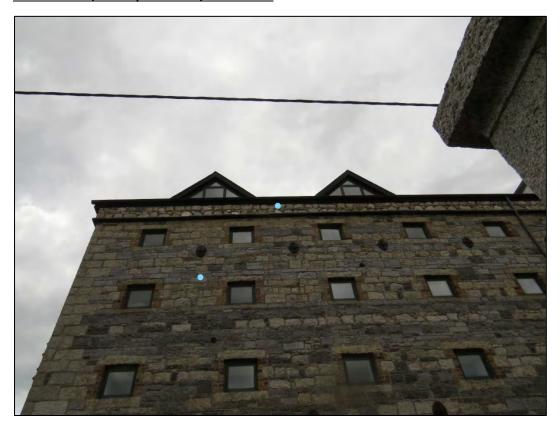
• 8 nests mostly below gutter at top in holes in stonework.

Description of nest sites.

- 1. In the hole between 1st and 2nd windows from left, above 4th level, below metal plate.
- 2. Hole under fascia between 2nd and 3rd windows from left, by a grey dimple rock, above the metal plate, slightly to the left.
- 3. Above the centre of 7th window from left, under fascia.
- 4. Above the right of 7th window from left, under fascia.
- 5. Between 7th and 8th windows from left, under fascia, above the metal plate over a limestone rock with a streak through it.
- 6. Above 8th window from left, on the left under fascia over a round granite stone on right and a narrow stone on left.
- 7. Between 8th and 9th windows from left, above the metal plate under fascia.
- 8. Above 9th window from left, on the right under the fascia left of a long narrow granite stone.



The Old Mill (Now Apartments). Church St.



The Black Castle. Main St. (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 69042 65488 Orientation: North

Latitude = **52.73613** (north) Longitude = **-6.97775** (west)

16/07/2018 10 bangers

Images and description by Margaret Brennan

As you look at the castle there is a tall narrow slit window in the centre of the castle very near the top. Now look to the very top of the castle and you will see a large rectangular stone just under the top and underneath this is a line of grass/plants, underneath this are 3 smaller blocks with holes between them...the left hand of these 2 holes is the one...enlarge the picture to see this better.

During 2019, this nest was still actively feeding chicks on 19/08/2019.





Harrow Cross/ Oldtown.

The Harrow Cross L3044 Nurney (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 71707 66791** Orientation: South

Latitude = **52.74749** (north) Longitude = **-6.93801** (west)

19/07/2018 1 Swift banging at south side above left window on right.

07/07/2019 4 bangers and one active nest feeding chicks.

Description of nest site.

1. Between the left and central windows under the galvanised roof at the point where the galvanised overlaps, above the old slate.





Ballon Village

At least 5 nest entrances with more nests likely in pub and school.

Old National School. Ballykealey Lane (2-4 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 83036 65870** Latitude = **52.73759** (north) Longitude = **-6.77050** (west)

(Still active in 2020).

29/07/2018 6 bangers at NW side.

1 bird landed on right hand side of building under gutter and dropped off again on NW side. <u>Possible</u> nest sites on southeast side are denoted by blue dots. No birds were seen entering. Fresh droppings underneath in 2018 and 2019 suggest occupancy in these two locations, however.

26/07/2019 2 nests active on northwest side

Description of nest site.

- 1. On the northwest side between the $2^{nd} + 3^{rd}$ windows from right under overhang.
- 2. On the northwest side between the 3rd + 4th windows from right under overhang.

North West South East





One of the possible nest sites on the southeast side.



Ballon Village

Joe Doyle's Pub, Main Street Ballon (N80) (3 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 83098 66026** Orientation: West

Latitude = **52.73898** (north)

Longitude = -6.76954 (west)

29/07/2018 7 Bangers.

Description of nest sites.

- 1. From left on west side above the 1st window under the tiles above the gutter.
- 2. From left on west side above the 3rd window above the box to left under the tiles over the gutter in one of holes.
- 3. On south side over gutter under tiles about 2^{nd} or 3^{rd} tile from left.



Ballon Village

Joe Doyle's Pub Main Street Ballon (N80)

Orientation: North



Orientation: South





- A very active swift population with the most birds seen over the town at 127 on 04/08/2018.
- A total of 8 swift nest entrances were identified in 2018 with an additional 20 identified in 2019. Many more sites show swift activity. **See appendix A for 2020**.

Number 10. Brown St (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 72136 76798** Orientation: North

Latitude = **52.83735** (north) Longitude = **-6.92945** (west)

08/07/2018 2 swifts seen entering and exiting this entrance

Description of nest site.

1. On the very right of building under the gutter in the long horizontal hole.





Number 13. Castle St (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 71883 76703** Orientation: South

Latitude = **52.83653** (north) Longitude = **-6.93323** (west)

Description of nest site.

1. This nest is on No. 13 Castle St. on the back wall of that building facing south. Above window on left under gutter below chimney to right.





Riverside Estate. R448 (4 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 72088 76304** Orientation: South

Latitude = **52.83291** (north) Longitude = **-6.93026** (west)

Nests under tiles over gutter. Very active with around 40 birds including bangers over this row of houses. Likely to be a lot more nests.

04/08/2018 with 42 swifts overhead

Description of nest sites.

- 1. Above wall on extreme right of building above gutter under tile of house number 2.
- 2. 1, slightly left of window over wall above gutter under tile on house number 3.
- 3. 1 above extreme left-hand side of window above gutter under tile on number 3.
- 4. 1 above right side of window above gutter under tile on number 3.

Riverside estate. Number 2.



Riverside estate. Number 3



Askea Lawns (1986) numbers 22 and 24 (2 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 73381 76163** Orientation: North West

Latitude = **52.83147** (north) Longitude = **-6.91111** (west)

18/07/2018 with 9 bangers

31/07/2018 with 14 bangers

Description of nest sites

1. At very right of building where fascia ends under gutter on number 22.

2. At very right of building where fascia ends under gutter on number 24.

Swifts were seeing landing/ attempting to land at these points. It was unclear whether a hole was present for access.





Carlow Castle, Mill Lane/Governey Square (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 71698 76664** Orientation: West

Latitude = **52.83620** (north) Longitude = **-6.93597** (west)

Description of nest site.

1. On northwest tower on west side $\frac{3}{4}$ way up below where vegetation begins to appear in a hole between two blocks (28/07/2019).





Castle Mill House, Mill Lane (3 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 71689 76624** Orientation: North

Latitude = **52.83584** (north) Longitude = **-6.93611** (west)

25/07/2018 18 bangers, on the south side of the building, the other side to that in view here.

28/07/2019 3 nests identified with at least 5 birds seen entering at three different points.

Description of nest sites

- 1. Directly above line of wire going down wall behind fascia.
- 2. To the right of the first nest behind fascia.
- 3. To the right again behind fascia.



St Patricks College (Carlow College), College St (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 72337 76800** Orientation: North West

Latitude = **52.83734** (north) Longitude = **-6.92646** (west)

05/07/2018 14 Swifts banging at back of college around Student Union Building (possible nesting

sites under eaves where holes are available).

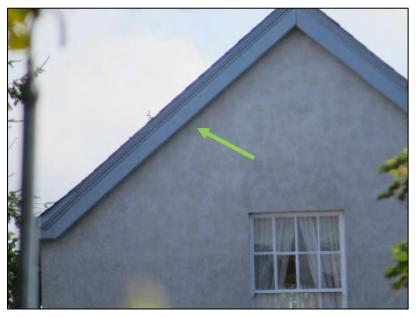
06/07/2018 10 Swifts flying overhead above college

Description of nest site (found 2019).

1. Behind fascia board on left side of gable end halfway up in presumed hole in wall.



This is on the back (east) of the main building on the northwest facing side of the most south easterly wing.



A swift was observed entering underneath the fascia somewhere near here during summer 2019.

Youth Centre, Glendale Avenue (15 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 72701 77224** Orientation: North West

Latitude = **52.84110** (north) Longitude = **-6.92097** (west)

31/07/2018 17 active swifts

27/07/2019 26 bangers flying low past the building, three pairs actively feeding chicks, a total of

15 nest entrances identified (all in 2019).

Description of nest sites from left to right.

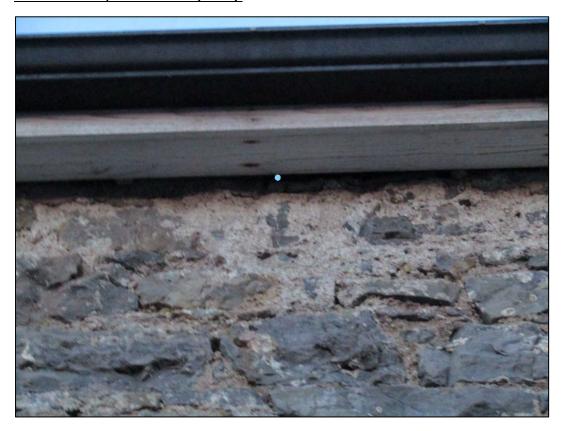
1. On left wing, right of light behind timber fascia between the gap of two pieces of stone.

- 2. To right of leftmost window behind timber fascia where three knots are on timber and a piece of limestone rock is surrounded by mortar beneath.
- 3. On south facing part of front behind fascia above small piece of limestone between mortar to left of cement with reddish brick.
- 4. To right of downpipe behind fascia above the split between the two blocks.
- 5. Above 2nd window from left on right behind fascia.
- 6. Above 3rd window from left on left behind fascia.
- 7. Above 3rd window from left on right behind fascia above line with edge of windowsill.
- 8. Behind fascia left of top light in line with light to left of doors.
- 9. In hole above central window.
- 10. Behind fascia over/in line with light to right of doors.
- 11. Between windows 5+6 from left behind fascia above where crack in block is.
- 12. Above 6th window from left behind fascia where gap at top of wall extends into fascia.
- 13. Behind fascia to left of rightmost window where stone changes to mortar.
- 14. Behind fascia at slit in mortar above left side of rightmost window.
- 15. In hole on left above timber part of rightmost window.





Nest Number 1, Youth Centre (exact).



Nest Number 2, Youth Centre (exact).



Nest Number 3, Youth Centre (exact).



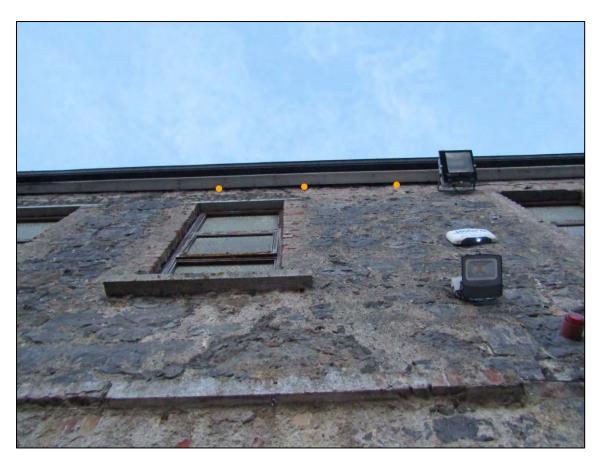
Nest Number 4, Youth Centre (exact).



Nests 3+4, Youth Centre.



Nest Number 5, Youth Centre.



Nests 6,7,8, Youth Centre.



Nest Number 9, Youth Centre (exact).



Nest Number 10, Youth Centre.



Nest Number 11, Youth Centre (exact).



Nest Number 12, Youth Centre (exact).



Nests 13,14,15, Youth Centre (exact).

Other sites with bangers and active swifts in Carlow Town

Old Perry's Cash and Carry. Kennedy St.

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 71874 76624** Latitude = **52.83582** (north) Longitude = -**6.93338** (west)

25/07/2018 with 12 bangers

Orientation: South East

*See 2020



<u>Leinster Crescent (Numbers 1,2,3 and 4) (all same building). Dublin Road</u>

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 72342 77179 Latitude = 52.84075 (north) Longitude = -6.92630 (west)

09/07/2018 2 bangers

12/07/2018 6 bangers

Orientation: South East

*See 2020



Saint Vincent de Paul. Dublin Road

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 72453 77281 Latitude = 52.84164 (north) Longitude = -6.92463 (west)

07/07/2018 6 bangers

Orientation: North West



Dublin St.

12/07/2018 27 swifts over street at 20:45. 12/07/2018 *See 2020

Hanrahans/Kevin Barry/JKL avenues

31/07/2018. 22 active swifts *See 2020

Other sites with bangers and active swifts in Carlow Town

St. Dympna's Hospital, Carlow

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 72309 77428** Latitude = **52.84298** (north) Longitude = -**6.92675** (west)

07/07/2018 24 birds overhead with 6 bangers low over outbuildings

12/07/2018 13 bangers

Still active in 2020.



7 Springs/ Spring Dale/ Oakley Park

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 73013 76409** Latitude = **52.83373** (north) Longitude = -**6.91652** (west)

18/07/2018. 19 bangers

31/07/2018 34 active swifts

Bangers seen flying at back of houses from number 10-17 Seven Springs, and back of numbers 22-39 Springdale.



St. Patricks Avenue numbers 31,33,34

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 72994 76695** Latitude = **52.83631** (north) Longitude = -**6.91674** (west)

22/06/2018 11 bangers

18/07/2018. 4 bangers.

31/07/2018. 8 bangers. *See 2020



Green Road Estate

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 71962 75483** Latitude = **52.82556** (north) Longitude = -**6.93232** (west)

25/07/2018 with 27 screeching swifts over estate

04/08/2018 with 32 screeching swifts over estate

(Still active in 2020).

Other sites with bangers and active swifts in Muine Bheag (Bagenalstown)

Queen of the Universe National School, Long Range (possibly 1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 70065 61675 Latitude = 52.70173 (north) Longitude = -6.96342 (west)

*See 2020

03/06/2019 7 swifts circling overhead and some screeching and banging off school water tower.

05/07/2019 2 swifts banging at hole on north facing side of school.

St. Bridget's Crescent Housing Estate.

03/07/2019 4 swifts flying low around estate.

Other sites with bangers and active swifts in Ballon

Sandbrook House (possibly 1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 83694 68198**

Latitude = **52.75840** (north)

Longitude = **-6.76015** (west)

(Still active 2020).

07/07/2019 2 swifts regularly passing close by/banging a vent with House Sparrows nesting in it,

swifts not seen to enter.

04/07/2020 2 swifts banging at nest boxes with call system.



Appendix A Co. Carlow Swift Survey 2020

Ballon

Altamont Gardens (3 nests).

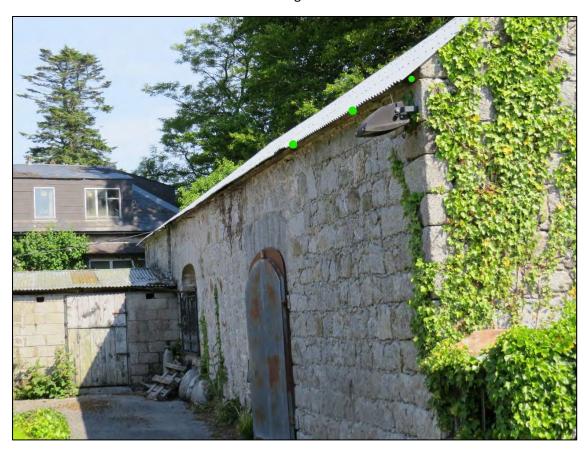
10 digit Grid Ref = S 86491 65648 Latitude = 52.735275 (north) Longitude = -6.7201258 (west)

Orientation: West

Description of nest sites.

The swifts are nesting under the galvanised roof above the wall plate in a one story outbuilding. The birds enter between the galvanised sheeting and the horizontal slates on top of the wall.

Thanks to Paul Cutler for his assistance in finding two of these nests.



Tullow

<u>Saint Columba's National School (1 nest).</u>

10 digit Grid Ref = S 85496 73287 Latitude = 52.804068 (north) Longitude = -6.7328569 (west)

Orientation: North West

Description of nest sites.

The swifts are nesting on the northwest side of the building in a hole under the roof where the timber meets the granite wall.



Scoil Phádraig Naofa (6 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 85511 73196 Latitude = 52.803250 (north) Longitude = -6.7326625 (west)

Orientation: South

Description of nest sites.

The swifts are nesting between the gutter and ridge tiles on the south facing side of the school facing onto the basketball court. They enter under the ridge tiles.

There is definitely additional nests to be found at this school.



Cobblers Corner (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 85366 73113 Latitude = 52.802531 (north) Longitude = -6.7348270 (west)

Orientation: South

Description of nest site.

The swifts are nesting under the soffit at the top of the granite wall in a hole in the masonry. It is possible that there may be additional nests here.



Muine Bheag (Bagenalstown)

Queen of the Universe National School (4 nests).

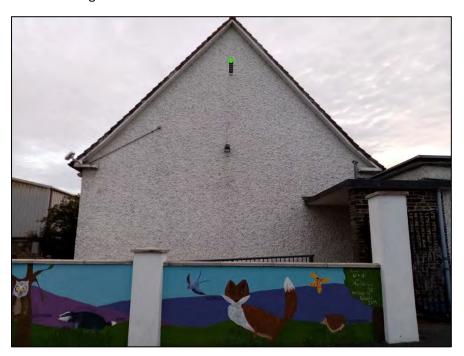
10 digit Grid Ref = S 70170 61625 Latitude = 52.701494 (north) Longitude = -6.9625841 (west)

Orientation: North and West

Description of nest sites.

On the north facing side of the eastern most wing of the school in the top of the vent towards the apex.

The remaining nests are in the nest boxes on the water tower at the western end of the school.





Muine Bheag (Bagenalstown)

St Brigid's National School (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 70698 61503 Latitude = 52.700328 (north) Longitude = -6.9547936 (west)

Orientation: West

Description of nest site.

The swifts are using the left hole entrance of the triple cavity nest box on the west facing side of the tower.



Kildavin

N80 bridge over R724 (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 88762 59963 Latitude = 52.683830 (north) Longitude = -6.6880426 (west)

Orientation: South

Description of nest sites.

The swifts are nesting in the gap between the top of the concrete wall and the bottom of the underside of the N80 road bridge on the north side of the R724.

It is highly likely that there are additional nests either side of the road in this bridge.





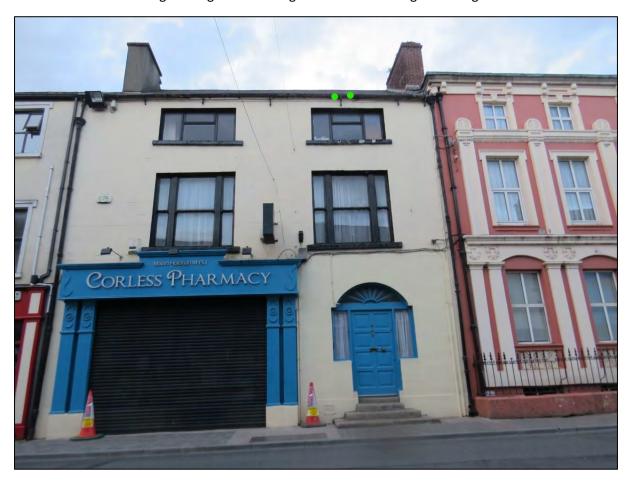
Corless Pharmacy No44. Dublin St. (2 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 72049 76812 Latitude = 52.837707 (north) Longitude = -6.9314571 (west)

Orientation: Southeast

Description of nest sites.

- 1. Underneath the guttering above the right window to the left of the gutter bracket.
- 2. Underneath the guttering above the right window to the right of the gutter bracket.



Leinster Crescent. Old Dublin Rd. (3 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 72395 77154 Latitude = 52.840730 (north) Longitude = -6.9262362 (west)

Orientation: Southeast

23/07/2020 Very active site with 23 bangers so probably more nests.

- 1. Under felt below guttering between the two downpipes right of the first window from left.
- 2. Under guttering to the left of the second chimney from left.
- 3. Under felt below guttering to the left of the downpipes after the second chimney from left.



Roncalli Place. (5 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 72833 76889 Latitude = 52.838295 (north) Longitude = -6.9198056 (west)

Orientation: Various

10/08/2020 There were 3 bangers at the rear of No. 28 on this day and at various points over the summer. Also, there is a suspected nest at the rear of No. 20. In general, the Swifts appear to be entering at the corner of the houses where the guttering meets the ridge tiles.

- 1. Southwestern corner near ridge tile and guttering (No. 3).
- 2. On the southwest corner of the house under the roof tile over the gutter (No. 5).
- 3. On the northeast corner of the house under the roof tile over the gutter (No.23).
- 4. On the southeast corner of the house under the roof tile over the gutter (No.23).
- 5. Above window on left at front, under roof tile over gutter (north side of building) (No.28).









Pollerton Road. (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 73039 76743 Latitude = 52.836955 (north) Longitude = -6.9167814 (west)

Orientation: South

Description of nest site.

1. Birds entering southwest corner above gutter under roof tile (Starlings nested here prior to the Swifts this year) (No. 181).



St. Patrick's Avenue. (4 nests).

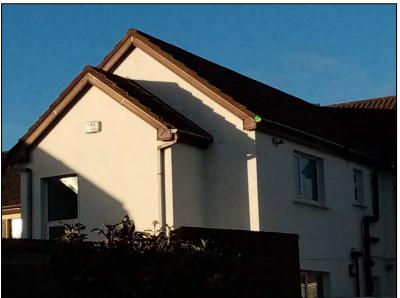
10 digit Grid Ref = S 73021 76686 Latitude = 52.836447 (north) Longitude = -6.9170603 (west)

Orientation: Various

25/07/2020 Very active swift population with 40 birds flying overhead.

- 1. Nest on the rear of the house on the northwest corner under roof tile above gutter (No.29).
- 2. Nest on the southwestern corner of the rear wing at the back of the house. Nest over gutter under roof tile on corner (No. 35A).
- 3. On southwest corner at rear of house under roof tile above gutter (No.38 (Pollerton Road)).
- 4. Under the soffit on the west side of the house in an overflow pipe from the attic (No.38 (Pollerton Road)).







Old Perry's Cash and Carry. Kennedy St. (1 nest).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 71926 76615 Latitude = 52.835955 (north) Longitude = -6.9333145 (west)

Orientation: Southeast

Description of nest site.

1. Behind and underneath the gutter above the right hand side of the window in a gap just to right of where gutter is attached to the roof (on the northeast corner of the building).



Graiguecullen

The Weirs (on Walsh/Mill Lane) (3 nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 71559 76507 Latitude = 52.835035 (north) Longitude = -6.9387808 (west)

Orientation: East and West

- 1. Behind the fascia board on the northwest corner of the building parallel and adjacent to the river facing west (viewed from Leighlin Rd.).
- 2. In the hole by the vent pipe facing east onto the river Barrow (the gable end of the building where Walsh Lane meets Castle View Quay).
- 3. Behind the fascia board on the northeast corner facing onto the river Barrow (the gable end of the building where Walsh Lane meets Castle View Quay).





Swift Active Areas 2020



Carlow Town

<u>Back of Town Hall and Ewing's Pub. Centaur St. (Facing onto Cox's Lane) (unknown number of nests).</u>

10 digit Grid Ref = S 71963 76822 Latitude = 52.837810 (north) Longitude = -6.9327177 (west)

Description

09/05/2020 5 Bangers flying at back of Town Hall and Ewing's pub (north side of buildings).

Clonegal

St Brigid's Church (unknown number of nests).

10 digit Grid Ref = S 91298 61364 Latitude = 52.695997 (north) Longitude = -6.6501510 (west)

Description

24/07/2020 5 Bangers at this church focusing on south eastern, east and north eastern sides.

Appendix B

Swift Nest Box Projects County Carlow

As of January 2020, a total of 107 potential nest sites are provided for by public nest box projects around Co. Carlow. An additional 21 nest sites are provided for by two projects on private dwellings bringing the total to 128. It is expected that additional projects will be complete in the coming year.



An Gairdín Beo, Dublin Road, Carlow.

2x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes and call system (An Gairdín Beo biodiversity group).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 72384 77166** Latitude = **52.84062** (north) Longitude = **-6.92568** (west)



<u>Scoil Mhuire Gan Small National School, Green Lane,</u> Carlow.

4x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes and call system.

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 72565 76910 Latitude = 52.83829 (north) Longitude = -6.92305 (west)



St Patricks College (Carlow College), College St.

4x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes and call system.

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 72390 76774** Latitude = **52.83734** (north) Longitude = **-6.92646** (west)



Youth Centre, Glendale Avenue, Carlow.

3x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes.

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 72701 77224** Latitude = **52.84110** (north) Longitude = -**6.92097** (west)



Tinryland

Parochial House, Tinryland, Carlow.

1x triple cavity Genesis nest box and call system.

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 74484 72297** Latitude = **52.796804** (north) Longitude = -6.8963550 (west)

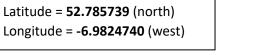


Ballinabranagh

Ballinabranagh National School, Carlow.

3x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes and call system.

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 68693 70980 Latitude = **52.785739** (north) Longitude = -6.9824740 (west)



Muine Bheag (Bagenalstown)

Queen of the Universe National School, Long Range, Bagenalstown, Carlow.

5x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes (Bagenalstown Tidy Towns).

10 digit Grid Ref = **S 70061 61656** Latitude = **52.70156** (north) Longitude = **-6.96347** (west)





St Brigid's National School, Station Road, Bagenalstown, Carlow.

2x triple and 1x double cavity Genesis nest boxes (Bagenalstown Tidy Towns).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 70648 61525** Latitude = **52.70031** (north) Longitude = **-6.95482** (west)



Ballon

<u>Ballon Rathoe Community Playschool, Ballon</u> <u>Enterprise Centre, Ballon, Co. Carlow.</u>

6x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes (Ballon Improvement Group/Tidy Towns).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 83020 65894** Latitude = **52.73781** (north) Longitude = **-6.77072** (west)



Sandbrook House, Ballon, Co. Carlow.

2x Triple cavity Genesis nest boxes (private dwelling).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 83658 68219** Latitude = **52.75860** (north) Longitude = **-6.76069** (west)



Leighlinbridge

St. Lazerians National School, Ballynaboley, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow

3x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes and call system (Leighlinbridge Tidy Towns).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 69417 65408** Latitude = **52.73536** (north) Longitude = **-6.97221** (west)



Leighlinbridge

<u>Teac Uí Braonáin, River Barrow, Leighlinbridge, Co.</u> Carlow.

2x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes (private dwelling).

10 digit Grid Ref = **\$ 69049 65515** Latitude = **52.73637** (north) Longitude = **-6.97764** (west)



Old Leighlin, Co. Carlow.

5x triple cavity Genesis nest boxes (private dwelling).

10 digit Grid Ref = \$ 65432 67280 Latitude = 52.75268 (north) Longitude = -7.03084 (west)



References

All images copyright Pádraig Webb except for those of the Black Castle site which are copyright Margaret Brenann.

Grid references and coordinates obtained using gridreference.ie and Irish Grid Reference Finder

Grid Reference Ireland, 2018. Available at < http://www.gridreference.ie/ > Accessed 19 September 2018.

Irish Grid Reference Finder, 2011. Available at: https://irish.gridreferencefinder.com/ > Accessed 10 January 2020.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Margaret Brennan for helping with Swift surveying in Leighlinbridge. To Paddy Gardener for helping with finding Swifts in Bagenalstown and for setting up the nest box projects there. To Pat Doran and Brian Power who helped locate the Swifts at the Harrow Cross and Kildavin respectively, and to Paul Cutler who helped with finding nests at Altamont Gardens. Thanks also to the biodiversity group at An Gairdín Beo for allowing access to survey for Swifts, and to Larry O'Toole for his kind assistance in facilitating surveying at St. Patrick's College. Thanks to Stephen Bolger for his support at the Youth Centre and to the kind residents at Roncalli Place. Special thanks to all at the Carlow Branch of BirdWatch Ireland for their guidance and support over the years, and to Brian Caffrey (BirdWatch Ireland) for giving an inspiring talk about Swifts at a branch event in May 2017. Lastly, I would like to acknowledge the support and guidance from Lynda Huxley (Swift Conservation Ireland) and Ricky Whelan (BirdWatch Ireland) over the years for everything to do with Swifts, but most especially thanks to Paddy Sheridan for his inspirational conservation work with Swifts in Co. Kildare, without whom the Swift conservation projects and survey work undertaken in Carlow would likely have never been. RIP Paddy.

