

Dawlish Water is home to a large selection of waterfowl as well as the famous Black Swans. Species include: Lesser white-fronted geese; Whistling Tree ducks; African geese; Barnacle geese; Carolina ducks; Bantam ducks; Red Crested Pochard; Call ducks; Pintails; Sheld ducks; Mandarin ducks and Chinese geese.

The waterfowl thrive under the watchful eye of the Wardens, Julian Lawley and Derek Porter, who are responsible for their day to day care. They are ably assisted by a willing band of volunteers who also feed the waterfowl at weekends. If you would like to become a volunteer waterfowl feeder, please contact the office.

### ***The Black Swans***

There are records of Black Swans being on the brook in the early 1900's. However, at some point between the two World Wars, the line was lost. In the late 1940's Captain G.R.S. Pitman, employed as a game warden in Uganda, presented a pair of Black Swans to the Town of Dawlish in memory of his late parents. His father, Charles Pitman, had been a County Councillor and Chairman of the County Education Committee. Charles Pitman and his wife resided at 'Greystoke', Dawlish. Black Swans have inhabited the brook ever since.

## DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL

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# avian flu



## DAWLISH TOWN COUNCIL



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# Avian Flu

Following recent news of swans being referred for examination as close as Winchester, Dawlish Town Council has obtained advice with regard to the Town's flock of Black Swans.

Dawlish and the Warren have a large amount of wetland area with a huge migratory bird population and the Town Council is keen to take all steps it can to protect the swans and other waterfowl on Dawlish Water.



## Advice for Volunteer Feeders:

At the present time, there is no reported incidence of Avian flu in Devon.

However, it is sensible to take all necessary steps to avoid the spread of infection.

Birds die all the time for all sorts of reasons and you are likely to come across them from time to time.

- Do not touch any dead or sick birds.
- If you find a dead or sick bird contact Defra on;

08459 335577



The situation is being monitored constantly and the Waterfowl Wardens and Volunteer Feeders will be kept up to date with any information received by the Town Council from Defra. In the meantime, Volunteer Feeders who wish to, can collect lightweight nitrile one-use disposable gloves from the Town Council offices. Latex gloves are not suitable or sufficient. For further information, contact Town Council staff.