



<http://www.birdtheme.org/showimages/ireland/i/ire198999l.jpg>

## Lapwing

1.

Dear Catherine, dear Vincent,

It's getting colder again here in Ireland. Winter isn't over. As I looked out the window, I saw some lapwings preparing themselves for their migration back to the continent, after wintering here. There, they are normally a first herald of spring. They prefer a habitat of wet meadows, or wealds, and are skilled fliers. They eat earthworms, insects and such.

If the birds start off too early, a lot of them may starve because the soil is frozen. This happens sometimes. So our ongoing loss of weald biotope isn't their only problem.

Lots of love

Brigit

[https://www.rspb.org.uk/Images/lapwing\\_tcm9-132791.pdf](https://www.rspb.org.uk/Images/lapwing_tcm9-132791.pdf)

<http://www.birdwatchireland.ie/IrelandsBirds/Waders/Lapwing/tabid/319/Default.aspx>

<http://www.irelandswildlife.com/lapwing-vanellus-vanellus/>

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/unexpected-collapse-of-the-lapwing-population-causes-concern-1.134533>

<http://www.habitas.org.uk/priority/species.asp?item=27>



Dear Brigit,

Thank you so much for your letter and these wonderful stamps. We always rejoice when we hear news from you.

The bird you told us about is unknown here. I can tell you it was a challenge to discover this fact, especially for me as an uptown girl. But don't worry, I felt better than did Mr. Hobbs, making his ornithological trip with Mr. Turner. Do you remember the old movie "*Mr. Hobbs Takes a Vacation*"?

We visited the library, but finally it took our entire tunnel family to help us find the answer.

Lots of love

Catherine

*Vincent*