

Regents Park



Bird Report 2004

By
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Little Grebe

Summer visitor. Four pairs were present during May. Only one pair managed to breed, rearing two young. Numbers declined from late summer until the last bird left in December.

Great Crested Grebe

Resident. Two birds present throughout the winter period. Four pairs attempted to breed, but no young fledged.



Great Crested Grebe with chicks

Cormorant

Resident. Seen daily throughout the year, the winter roost peaked at over eighty birds in December.

Heron

Resident. Twenty-seven pairs bred. Four more nest-baskets were added making a total of ten. Five baskets were used successfully.

Mute Swan

Resident. One pair nested, rearing three cygnets.

Grey Lag Goose

Resident. Peak count of seventy birds during September.

Canada Goose

Resident. Peak count of two hundred and fifty birds during July.

Egyptian Goose

Occasional visitor. One on 24/3, then a pair sporadically from 30/3 - 22/7. A pair returned 18/10 and staying into the new year.

Mandarin Duck

Resident. One pair bred. Maximum number fourteen during October.

Eurasian Wigeon

Occasional winter visitor. Only one record in the first quarter of the year, on 9/2. Autumn records' started with singles on the 7/11 and 8/11, and then present from the 15/12 – 20/12.

Gadwall

Resident. Maximum number of ten on 15/12. Some of these birds may have originated from St. James's Park.

Teal

Winter visitor. Up to three birds present from 28/1 - 12/3. Then singles on 14/10 and from 13/12 until the end of the year.

Mallard

Resident. Peak count of three hundred and sixty during January.

Pintail

Winter visitor. Up to three birds seen during the winter period, which are part of the small feral population in the London area.

Shoveler

Winter visitor. Possibly due to the lack of cold weather the numbers were unusually low, not exceeding more than twenty birds during the winter months.

Red Crested Pochard

Resident. Twenty birds present on the lake form part of the feral population that roams the Central London parks'.

Pochard

Resident. Maximum count of two hundred and sixty three. Fourteen pairs bred.

Tufted Duck

Resident. Maximum count of three hundred and one.
Nine pairs bred.

Scaup

Resident. A drake is still present at the Longbridge Sanctuary, this being its eighth year.

Ruddy Duck

Resident. Numbers reaching twenty five birds during January and February.

Common Buzzard

Passage migrant. One bird flying south at 2pm 24/8. With birds breeding close to London more sighting should soon occur.

Sparrowhawk

Resident. Two pairs nested.



Sparrowhawk male

Osprey

Passage migrant. One drifted over at 10.50am on the 17/5.

Kestrel

Resident. Two pairs bred for the first time in over eight years.

Hobby

Summer visitor and passage migrant. Another disappointing year with only three singles on 2/5, 29/5, and 10/9; the latter was seen eating prey on the wing.

Peregrine Falcon

Occasional visitor. One pair nested just south of the park on a ledge at the University of Westminster.

Merlin

Scarce passage migrant. A female flew north 4/4.

Moorhen

Resident. Can be hard to monitor because of their sometimes secretive behaviour.

Coot

Resident. Common and at times very territorial.

Ringed Plover

Rare passage migrant. One flew south-east on 18/3, the first record since 1965.

Lapwing

Passage migrant. Yet another poor year, with birds only seen on 8/3, when two groups totalling forty-four, flew south-west.

Woodcock

Winter visitor. Two sightings during the peak period, on 18/3, and 24/11.

Common Snipe

Winter visitor. Three flew north-west on 20/11 and one was flushed from the wetland area on 8/12.

Curlew

Occasional visitor. Twenty birds flew north-east 19/6. Another individual was seen from Primrose Hill flying over London 25/7.

Green Sandpiper

Scarce visitor. A good year with two records, one was feeding in the wetland area 22/7 and another bird flew north-west 5/10.

Common Sandpiper

Passage migrant. Sightings were slightly down on recent years. Singles seen on 1/5 and 10/5. The autumn passage began with two birds 2/7 and 10/8. Then one on 13/8 and a very late bird on 18/11.

Black-headed Gull

Winter visitor. Seen in every month of the year, with a peak count of three hundred and fifty in February.

Common Gull

Winter visitor. Numbers normally peak during February.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Summer visitor. Small numbers occur during the winter months. Is breeding in increasing numbers in the surrounding area.

Herring Gull

Resident. Numbers increase during the winter period. Like the above species is also increasing locally as a breeding species.

Great Black-backed Gull

Occasional winter visitor. One record of four birds on 1/3.

Yellow-legged Gull

Winter visitor. One adult seen from on 15/12, which stayed into the new year.

Common Tern

Summer visitor. A very disappointing year with only four records. Singles on 23/6, 29/6, and 2/7 and a family party of three on 16/7.

Feral Pigeon

Resident. Breeding under Clarence Bridge.

Stock Dove

Resident. At least twelve pairs bred. Birds regularly come to the bird table at the Nature Study Centre and the feeding station in the small plantation which held up to fifty birds in the winter.



Stock Dove

Wood Pigeon

Resident. The autumn was disappointing with the only large scale movements noted being five hundred and fifty on 26/10, and eighteen hundred on 27/10.

Collared Dove

Passage migrant. Recorded on five dates with singles on 9/3, 2/7, 15/7, 19/7, and 19/8. This was a below average showing.

Ring-necked Parakeet

Occasional visitor. This species is moving further into London, with birds now in Hyde Park. In Regent's Park, four birds seen on 18/5, one on 8/11, and then three present from 27/12 into the new year.

Little Owl

Resident, though difficult to see. A lone bird was joined by a second bird on 13/1, but no proof of breeding was observed.

Tawny Owl

Resident. One pair bred rearing three young.

Swift

Summer visitor. First seen on 26/4. Last sighting of two birds on 5/9.

Green Woodpecker

Resident. Two pairs breeding.



Green Woodpecker bathing

Great Spotted Woodpecker

Resident. Six pairs breeding. Regularly uses the peanut holders at the feeding stations.

Woodlark

Scarce passage migrant. One flew west on 19/10.

Skylark

Passage migrant. Recorded on four dates, One in the spring on 16/4, then autumn records of two on 10/10, 19/10 and a single 2/11.

Sand Martin

Passage migrant. Recorded in low numbers. Spring records of two on both 23/4 and 7/5. Autumn passage birds being seen on 31/8, then from 24/9 to 26/9.

Swallow

Passage migrant. First of the year on 3/4. Autumn passage peaked with four hundred and fifty on 19/9 and two hundred on 25/9. Last bird of the year was a single on 19/10.

House Martin

Summer visitor. Breeds close to the park in decreasing numbers. First bird of the year on 22/4. Autumn passage peaked at two hundred and fifty on 19/9 and two hundred on 25/9. Last birds of the year were forty-five on 6/10.

Red-rumped Swallow

Vagrant. One bird was seen with a group of house martins after narrowly escaping the attention of the peregrine on the 29/4.

Tree Pipit

Passage migrant. Only two records, on 17/9 and 25/9.

Meadow Pipit

Passage migrant. First seen on 16/3. Spring passage was light. Autumn passage peaked with one hundred and seventy 16/9, two hundred on 19/9, and ninety on 19/10. Last bird of the year was one 22/11.

Rock Pipit

Scarce passage migrant. Only two records, both in the autumn on 28/9 and 25/10.

Water Pipit

Scarce passage migrant. Exceptionally two spring records on 23/3 and 1/4.

Yellow Wagtail

Passage migrant. After 2003's good showing, numbers returned to normal. Recorded on two spring dates, two on 3/4 and one on 5/5. In autumn birds were seen on five dates from 2/9 -16/9 with eight birds on the last date.

Grey Wagtail

Resident. Recorded in every month, with two pairs nesting close to the park. A small passage was noted during September.

Pied Wagtail

Resident. Two pairs possibly bred close to the park as family groups were noted. Up to thirty birds could be seen feeding on Marylebone Green during late afternoons throughout November and December before going to roost.

Wren

Resident. Widespread in most areas of suitable habitat.

Dunnock

Resident. Very secretive, easily overlooked once the males have stopped singing in spring.

Robin

Resident. Widespread in most areas of suitable habitat

Common Redstart

Passage migrant. The best year for over thirty years, one's and two's seen on five dates between 1/9 and 15/9.



Common Redstart skulking in Leaf Yard

Whinchat

Passage migrant. The worst year since the 1930's with only two birds on 16/9.

Wheatear

Passage migrant. Also a poor year, with three spring records on 29/3, 30/3, and 22/4, and only one autumn record on 12/9.

Ring Ouzel

Scarce passage migrant. A female was present all day on 11/5.



Ring Ouzel female

Blackbird

Resident.

Fieldfare

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Several cold weather movements during the early part of the year with eighty on 28/1, thirty on 29/1, and eighty on 28/2. One very late spring bird seen on 12/5. The first sighting of the autumn was six hundred on 9/10, with the occasional bird being seen overhead until the end of the year.

Song Thrush

Resident. Numbers are still low. Birds are seldom seen far away from dense cover, apart from birds flying overhead during the autumn migration.

Redwing

Passage migrant and winter visitor. A wintering flock reached sixty birds in the early part of the year. Four birds stayed until 24/3. Autumn passage began with fourteen birds on 30/9. There was a large movement involving over a thousand birds on 9/10. A small number of birds were seen in the early mornings until the end of the year.

Mistle Thrush

Resident. No large gatherings were noted this year.

Sedge Warbler

Passage migrant. Four singles recorded on 17/4, 15/5, 30/7 and 3/8.

Reed Warbler

Summer visitor and passage migrant. Four males held territories. There was only one proven breeding record near Hanover Bridge. One passage bird was seen in the leaf yard wood on 8/9.

Lesser Whitethroat

Passage migrant. Recorded once in the spring on 11/5. There were three sightings of four birds from 22/8 - 4/9 during the autumn.

Common Whitethroat

Passage migrant. An average showing but only one spring record on 30/4. During the autumn birds were recorded from 11/8 until 23/8, with a maximum of five on 22/8.

Blackcap

Summer visitor. Twelve males held territories. The peak day count in the autumn was ten, seen from 22/8 - 4/9. Several birds were recorded during the winter months.

Garden Warbler

Passage migrant. Only one spring bird seen, from 1/5 - 2/5. Autumn passage observed from 3/8 - 7/9, with two birds seen on several dates.

Wood Warbler

Passage migrant. Only recorded once on 22/8.

Chiffchaff

Summer visitor and passage migrant. First bird of the year seen on 17/3. Four males held territories, with a family party seen along the canal. Peak autumn passage saw fifteen birds on 10/9. Last bird of the year was recorded on 15/11.



Chiffchaff in Leaf Yard wood

Willow Warbler

Passage migrant. First seen on 16/4; spring numbers being low. Autumn passage commenced on 3/8 peaking at twelve birds on 22/8. Last bird of the year was on 10/9.

Goldcrest

Resident. At least eight pairs breeding.

Firecrest

Passage migrant and winter visitor. Two records possibly involving the same bird, on 12/11 and 15/11.

Spotted Flycatcher

Passage migrant. One spring record 9/5. Autumn passage began with five birds on 22/8 with a last sighting on 27/9.

Pied Flycatcher

Passage migrant. A good autumn showing from 9/8 - 10/9 with a maximum of three birds 12/8 and 13/8.



Pied Flycatcher in Leaf Yard

Long-tailed Tit

Resident. At least ten pairs breeding.

Coal Tit

Resident. Six pairs breeding.

Blue Tit

Resident. Makes good use of nest boxes that have been erected.

Great Tit

Resident,. Breeding in slightly less numbers than the above species.

Nuthatch

Scarce summer visitor. One present from 19/7 - 26/7.

Tree Creeper

Resident. One male present all year.

Jay

Resident. The most secretive member of the crow family.

Magpie

Resident. Numbers appear slightly down, birds have a pre-roost gathering on Primrose Hill.

Crow

Resident. The non-breeding flock totalled ninety.

Jackdaw

Passage migrant. During the spring seen on 9/3 and 31/3. Recorded on three dates during autumn two on 9/10, and singles on 3/11 and 7/11.

Starling

Resident, passage migrant. Four hundred flew west on 19/10.

House Sparrow

Resident in London Zoo. Only one recorded in the park on 5/10.

Chaffinch

Resident, passage migrant. At least thirty birds fed at the feeding station in the small plantation. Autumn passage was light peaking at fifty on 9/10.

Brambling

Passage migrant, winter visitor. One fed at a feeding station from the 30/1, being joined by a second bird on 17/3, with one staying until 29/3. The only two autumn records were on 9/10 and 31/10.

Greenfinch

Resident. No significant autumn passage noted.

Goldfinch

Resident. One pair bred. Up to six birds fed in the garden by St. Marks Bridge during the winter.



Goldfinch on Thistle

Siskin

Passage migrant. A very poor year with one on 11/2 and two autumn records on 9/10 and 13/10.

Lesser Redpoll

Passage migrant. Yet another poor showing, with only three seen between the 5/10 – 14/11.

Linnet

Passage migrant. The worst year on record with only two sightings, one bird on 29/3, and two on 5/10.

Crossbill

Rare passage migrant. One flew north on 23/2.

Yellow Hammer

Scarce passage migrant. Two birds seen by the small plantation on 29/1.

Reed Bunting

Scarce passage migrant. One pair probably bred, as a male first seen on 23/4, was observed collecting food 29/5.

Snow Bunting

Vagrant. A first winter bird flew south-west at 7.50am on 13/10.

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