

The Birds of Richmond Park National Nature Reserve 2014-2023



female Goosanders at Pen Ponds

**A summary of ten years of records by
The Richmond Park Bird Group**

Species	Status *	Key: ✓ = Observed/Heard, B = Breeding, Pb = Probably Bred	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Cetti's Warbler	Rare	First Park records in 2018.					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dartford Warbler	Sc	A few winter visitors. A record of seven on 3rd Nov 2017.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wood Warbler	Rare	Passage migrant. Only two since 2009.						✓		✓		
Chiffchaff	RegSV	Common breeding summer visitor.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	Pb	Pb
Willow Warbler	RegSV	Fairly common passage migrant. Rarely breeds.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Yellow-browed Warbler	Rare	First ever record, at Thatched House Lodge on 13 October 2023									✓	✓
Goldcrest	Res	Resident. Numbers increase in winter.	B	B	B	Pb	Pb	B	B	B	B	B
Firecrest	UWV	Mainly a passage migrant, but a few overwintering more recently.		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Spotted Flycatcher	RegSV	Formerly bred, now a scarce passage migrant.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pied Flycatcher	Rare	Passage migrant.							✓		✓	
Long Tailed Tit	Res	Fairly common resident breeder.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Blue Tit	Res	Common resident breeder.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Great Tit	Res	Common resident breeder.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Coal Tit	Res	Fairly common resident breeder.	B	B	B	Pb	Pb	Pb	B	Pb	B	B
Bearded Tit	Rare	Single bird at Pen Ponds on 17th Oct 2017. First since 1975.				✓						
Nuthatch	Res	Common resident breeder.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Treecreeper	Res	Fairly common resident breeder.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Golden Oriole	Rare	Passage migrant. One heard on 20th May 2019. First since 2006.						✓				
Jay	Res	Fairly common breeding resident. Autumn influx from Europe	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Magpie	Res	Fairly common breeding resident.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Jackdaw	Res	Abundant breeding resident.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Rook	Rare	Only a single bird overflying seen each year reported.	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Carrion Crow	Res	Common breeding resident.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
Raven	Res?	Recorded increasingly. A few are now probably resident.	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Starling	Res	Fairly common, but only breeds in small numbers if at all now.	B	B	B	✓	B	✓	B	✓	✓	✓
House Sparrow	U	Once common, but very few in number now.		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chaffinch	Res	Fairly common breeding resident and winter visitor.	B	B	B	Pb	✓	B	Pb	Pb	Pb	Pb
Brambling	U	Scarce autumn migrant in small numbers.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greenfinch	Res	Declining resident that may no longer breed in the Park.	✓	B	B	B	B	B	✓	✓	✓	✓
Goldfinch	Res	Resident in small numbers. More on passage	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	B	B	Pb	B	B
Siskin	RegWV	Usually seen by Pen Ponds.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Snow Bunting	RareWV	One flew over on 16th Oct 2018 for a first Park record.					✓					
Linnet	U	Passage migrant in small numbers usually flying over.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lesser Redpoll	RegWV	Winter visitor in variable numbers.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mealy Redpoll	Rare	The 'continental' redpoll is a rare winter visitor.					✓					✓
Common Crossbill	Rare	Rare visitor on passage.	✓	✓						✓		✓
Bullfinch	U	Occasional mainly winter visitor.	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	
Hawfinch	Rare	Five flew over in Nov 2021, one in November 2023			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
Yellowhammer	Rare	Bred in the park until the early 1970s.									✓	
Reed Bunting	Res	Fairly common breeding resident.	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B
TOTAL SPECIES FOR YEAR			127	125	115	115	128	126	123	133	128	129

Park Status Key

Res	Resident
RegSV	Regular Summer Visitor
RegWV	Regular Winter Visitor
U	Uncommon
UWV	Uncommon Winter Visitor
S	Scarce
ScWV	Scarce Winter Visitor
Rare	Rare Occurrence

Key to Birds of Conservation Concern in Britain

■	Red List, Highest Concern
■	Amber List, High Concern

Additional species (excl. escaped or non-naturalised feral exotic species) seen in the prior ten -year period 2004 to 2013:

Bittern (2004), Brent Goose (2005), Spoonbill (2013), Red-necked Grebe (2013), Woodchat Shrike (2005), Gannet (2008), Grey Plover (2008), Long-eared Owl (2009), Stone Curlew (2010), Red-backed Shrike (2010), Goshawk (2013), Montagu Harrier (2011), Oortolan Bunting (2011), Ruddy Duck (2012), Black-necked Grebe (2012)

Totals (excluding escaped or non-naturalised feral exotic species)

Number of species recorded in 10-year period: 175, of which 69 are thought to have bred

Number of species recorded since records began in 1921: 218

Richmond Park is an ancient parkland with an area of almost 2,500 acres (1,000 hectares) comprising diverse habitats such as ancient trees and decaying wood, grasslands, bracken, wetlands and waterbodies (including the Pen Ponds). Consequently it attracts a wide variety of birds, both resident and migrating. The populations of some species resident in the Park, namely skylark, little owl, jackdaw, all three woodpeckers, reed bunting and stonechat, are significant in the London context. As these records show, some species are in decline locally, as well as nationally, but the Park can often reward the alert observer, occasionally with a species never before or rarely seen within its confines or airspace