

## Birds - species seen (or heard - h) in Selsdon Wood

The following bird list was originally based on Ted Forsyth's regular observations over many years, with additions from David Malins. This information is given in the Notes and Sightings column. **Red text** shows a bird sighted for the first time this year or rare species not sighted for many years previously.

Species recorded between 1972 & 1977 in the Penry-Jones booklet\* are noted by a Y in the 1978 column. Photographs on our website are indicated by a Y in the Photo column. Sightings in 2020 and thereafter are first recorded sightings/photographs (or hearings - marked with H) of the year supplied mainly by FSW members and members of the FSW Facebook group. Initials indicate the spotter/photographer:- Jack Branscombe (JB), Steve Budd (SB), Ruth Budd (RB), Neale Fox (NF), Lee Butcher (LB), James Moon (JM), Heather Govier (HG), Sarah Murton (SM), Ted Forsyth (TFo), Tony Flecchia (TFI), Rosalyn Heaton (RH), Gillian Davey (GD), Lorna Wall (LW), Chris Bennett (CB), Mark Hodges (MH), Owen Moore (OM), Alan Wickenden (AW), Chris Green (CG), Susanne Hulme (SH), Lucinda Offer (LO), Morag Niven (MN), Lisa Singh (LS), Slawomir Wnuk (SW), Denise Tann (DT), Samantha Coppock (SC), Annette Lawrence (AL)

Birds are listed in alphabetical order, although some are grouped in families.

**2023** Marks birds heard on the 6<sup>th</sup> May Dawn Chorus Walk. This includes a Cuckoo which has not been heard in our wood for almost a decade.

Less than half of these species have been photographed and we would love to have more pictures. If you can spot any of them and send us a photograph, we would love to hear from you.

\* We have a booklet entitled "Selsdon Wood Nature Reserve - Its history and Management: Some records of Flora and Fauna" which was produced in 1978 by Jack Penry-Jones on behalf of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society. This contains lists of fungi, flora, birds, mammals, reptiles & amphibians, macro-lepidoptera, spiders and mollusks seen in Selsdon Wood.

| Bird                | Notes & Sightings   | 1978 | Photo | 2020          | 2021  | 2022         | 2023          | 2024                                     | 2025        | 2026            |
|---------------------|---|------|-------|---------------|---|--------------|---------------|--|-------------|-----------------|
| American Bald Eagle | Flying over - an escape from captivity                                    |      |       |               |   |              |               |  |             |                 |
| Blackbird           | Resident – breeding.  | Y    | Y     | 18/5/20 (TFI) | 10 Jan (RB)<br><small>Predated egg 3 Apr (RB)</small> | 9 Feb (TFI)  | 28 Jan (RB) * | 11 Jan (m&f)<br>(RB)                     | 24 Jan (RB) | 6 Feb (RB)<br>m |
| Blackcap            | Summer visitor – Breeding. Occasional Winter visitor.                     | Y    | Y     | 6/5/20 (JB)   | 30/3/21 (RB)  | 16 Apr (RB)  | 3 Apr (RB) *  | 16 Jan (RB)                              | 17 Apr (SB) | 7 Apr (SB)      |
| Brambling           | Rare - Occasional Winter visitor. Small flock in Farleigh border - 6.1.85 |      | Y     |               |   | 8 Apr (RB)   |               |  |             |                 |
| Bullfinch           | Resident - Breeding   | Y    |       |               | 28/1/21 (SM)  | 22 Jan (RB)  |               |  | 14 Feb (LO) |                 |
| Buzzard             | Year round visitor  |      | Y     | 11/3/20 (SB)  | 6/1/21 (RB)   | 24 Apr (RB)  | 7 Jan (RB)    | 13 Feb (RB)                              | 7 Jan (RB)  | 4 Mar (RB)      |
| Buzzard, Honey      | Rare - Occasional passage migrant   |      | Y     |               |   |              |               |  |             |                 |
| Carrion Crow        | Resident - Breeding   | Y    | Y     | 27/3/20 (SB)  | 7/1/21 (RB)   | 9 Feb - (HG) | 20 Jan (RB)   | 31 Jan (RB)                              | 4 Jan (LS)  | 1 Jan (RB)      |
| Chaffinch           | Resident - Breeding   | Y    |       |               | 11/1/21 (RB)  | 2 Jan (RB)   | 20 Jan (RB)   | 14 Jan (f)<br>(LW)<br>21 Jan (m)<br>(LO) | 9 Jan (RB)  | 12 Jan (LO)     |
| Chiffchaff          | Summer visitor - Breeding   | Y    | Y     | 6/7/20 (RB)   | 16/3/21 (RB)  | 15 Mar (RB)  | 20 Mar (RB)   | 16 Mar (RB)                              | 19 Mar (RB) | 5 Mar (RB)      |
| Cormorant           | Occasional flying over  |      |       |               |   |              |               |  |             |                 |
| Corn Bunting        | Now a rare vagrant. Singing in Haggler's Dean - 20.7.74                   |      |       |               |   |              |               |  |             |                 |
| Crossbill           | 1 flying West – 14.9.90. 11 flew out of larches in The Gorses 18.7.10.    |      |       | 22/6/20 (DB)  |   |              |               |  |             |                 |
| Cuckoo              | Rare - Occasionally recorded in Spring.<br>Heard - 5.5.86                 |      |       |               |   |              | 6 May (CG)    |  |             |                 |
| Dove - Collared     | Resident - Breeding   | Y    | Y     |               |   |              |               |  |             |                 |





|                             |   |   |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Starling                    | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 20/4/20 (TFI) |                | 13 May (TFI) |               | 19 June (TFI) | 6 May (RB)               |             |
| Stonechat                   | Rare - Occasional Autumn/Winter visitor. Occasional seen on golf course.  |   |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Swallow                     | Summer visitor breeding outside woods & on Spring & Autumn migration  | Y | Y | 16/5/20 (SB)  |                | 28 June (SB) |               |               |                          |             |
| Swift                       | Summer visitor breeding outside the woods   | Y | Y | 14/5/20 (JB)  | 14/7/21 (RB)   | 27 June (RB) |               | 26 July (SB)  | 2 June (RB)              |             |
| Tit - Blue                  | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 16/3/20 (SB)  | 9/1/21 (SB)    | 3 Jan (SB)   | 4 Jan (RB) *  | 14 Jan (LW)   | 2 Jan (RB)               | 4 Jan (LO)  |
| Tit - Coal                  | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y |               | 9/1/21 (SB)    | 3 Jan (RB)   | 7 Jan (RB)    | 16 Jan (RB)   | 2 Jan (RB)               | 4 Jan (LO)  |
| Tit - Great                 | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 17/3/20 (SB)  | 24/2/1 (SB)    | 3 Jan (RB)   | 4 Jan (RB)    | 14 Jan (LW)   | 2 Jan (RB)               | 4 Feb (LO)  |
| Tit - Long-tailed           | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 17/3/20 (SB)  | 15/1/21 (JB)   | 6 Jan (RB)   | 7 Jan (RB)    | 14 Jan (LW)   | 2 Jan (RB)               | 4 Jan (LO)  |
| Tit - Marsh                 | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y |               | 19/3/21 (GD)   | 24 Nov (RB)  |               | 26 Dec (RB)   | 2 Jan (RB)               | 4 Jan (RB)  |
| Tit - Willow                | Present 1984 now locally extinct  |   |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Tree Pipit                  | Rare - Occasional passage migrant. Has bred. Singing in Gorses – 5.5.74 & 2.5.82. Haggler's Dean - 7.5.84.      |   |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Treecreeper                 | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 24/4/20 (SB)  | 28/1/21 (SM)   | 10 Jan (RB)  | 7 Feb (MH)    | 31 Jan (RB)   | 2 Feb (SW)               | 4 Jan (LO)  |
| Wagtail - Grey              | Rare - Occasional Winter visitor to ponds. Brookcroft garden – 16.5.10.   |   |   |               |                |              |               |               | 16 Dec (SB) trail camera |             |
| Wagtail - Pied              | Occasional Winter/Spring visitor. Singles 1.11.06 & 10.12.06  | Y |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Warbler - Garden            | Occasional Summer visitor usually on passage – 23.4.87, 6.16, 8.10.   | Y |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Warbler - Grasshopper       | Rare – no recent sightings on migration.  | Y |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Warbler - Willow            | Occasional passage migrant - may have bred.   | Y |   |               |                |              |               |               | 28 Apr (RB)              |             |
| Warbler - Wood              | Rare - Occasional passage migrant - may have bred. 1 singing in The Wend - 2.70 & in Courtwood Grove - 20.4.05. | Y |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Whitethroat                 | Rare - Occasional on passage, May have bred in the past. I in Markfield garden - 4-5.7.88                       | Y |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Woodcock                    | Rare - Has been recorded but no evidence of breeding  |   |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Woodpecker – Gr Spott       | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 26/4/20 (JB)  | 8/1/21 (JM)    | 4 Feb (RB)   | 2 Jan (RB)    | 4 Jan (RB)    | 16 Jan (RB)              | 1 Jan (RB)  |
| Woodpecker - Green          | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 16/3/20 (SB)  | 18/3/21 ((RB)  | 2 Feb (TFI)  | 30 Jan (RB)   | 21 Jan (LO)   | 7 Jan (RB)               | 17 Jan (RB) |
| Woodpecker - Lesser Spotted | Rare - Has bred. I Middle Gorse 10.5.95. May now be locally extinct.  |   |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |
| Woodpigeon                  | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 11/3/20 (SB)  | H 5/2/21 (TFo) | 5 Jan(SB)    | 19 Feb (OM)   |               | 25 Feb (RB)              | 28 Feb (RB) |
| Wren                        | Resident - Breeding   | Y | Y | 17/3/20 (SB)  | 13/1/21 (RB)   | 6 Jan (RB)   | 13 Jan (RB) * | 12 July (RB)  | 4 Jan (RB)               | 12 Jan (LO) |
| Yellowhammer                | Rare - Has bred on golf course.   | Y |   |               |                |              |               |               |                          |             |