

BRENT BIRDERS GARDEN BIRD SURVEY (BBGBS)

*During 2014– 16, Brent Birders recorded the species seen and heard in all 52 1-km squares of the parish every month for three years and summarised the findings in *The Birds of South Brent Parish* published in 2018. The survey has continued since then, but only in January and May to represent winter and the breeding season. In addition, the BBGBS was launched in 2018 to encourage bird recording in gardens from October to April. The results from the first winter were circulated to participants and can also be downloaded from the website www.brentbirdssurvey.co.uk.*

Although only 25 people participated, the BBGBS provided very useful information on the number of gardens in which each species occurred, the numbers in which they occurred and monthly changes during the 2018– 19 winter. Such a survey can also be used, alongside the January and March surveys, to monitor changes from year to year, and so we'd like to continue the survey in the 2019/20 winter and hopefully beyond.

Participation. The survey is open to all. It is aimed at gardens in South Brent Parish, but this can be extended to include any within 1-km of the parish boundary.

Choosing a garden area. For our purposes a garden is an enclosed area of land adjacent to or surrounding a dwelling. Most people will want to record just from their own garden, but if you want to include the gardens of one or more neighbours that you can see from yours, that is acceptable, as also is just choosing part of your garden. Whatever area you choose, however, try to record from the same area each month.

Which birds to record. The list on the form includes almost all of those you're likely to see or hear. Any other can be added at the bottom. Only include birds that you consider are using your house or garden for perching, resting, bathing, feeding, nesting etc. Thus high soaring Buzzards, or Herring Gulls flying over, would normally be excluded, but hunting Sparrowhawks or murmuring Starlings would be included. If you have problems identifying a bird, please try to get a photo and/or provide a short description and get in touch (see below)

Filling in the form. Fill in your contact details and information about your garden in the top box on the form. Against each species indicate a P (for Present) if it occurred in that month OR give the maximum number seen *at any one time* during the month. Add any comments in the final column, or separately.

Returning your form. At the end of December, and again at the end of April please return your forms to either of the email addresses below, or if you'd prefer to send your data using paper forms please contact us to arrange a handover!

Further information. If you have any questions or need help or clarification please contact us at brentbirdssurvey@gmail.com or Mike Goss on 01364 72539 or at mrgandjng@tiscali.co.uk

BRENT BIRDERS GARDEN BIRD SURVEY (BBGBS) - Recording Form

Name		Survey year	2019/2020
Your address <u>or</u> six figure grid reference (eg SX 685 594)		Size of garden area surveyed	
Telephone and/or email address			
Brief description of garden area surveyed			
What are the main features that you think a) attract b) discourage birds in your garden	a) attract birds.	b) discourage birds.	

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	Comments
Blackbird								
Blackcap								
Blue Tit								
Brambling								
Bullfinch								
Buzzard								
Carrion Crow								
Chaffinch								
Chiffchaff								
Coal Tit								
Collared Dove								
Dunnock								
Fieldfare								
Goldcrest								
Goldfinch								
Great Tit								
Great Spotted Woodpecker								
Greenfinch								
Green Woodpecker								
Grey Heron								
Grey Wagtail								
Herring Gull								
House Martin								
House Sparrow								
Jackdaw								
Jay								
Little Owl								
Long-tailed Tit								
Magpie								
Marsh/Willow Tit								
Mistle Thrush								
Moorhen								
Nuthatch								
Pheasant								
Pied Wagtail								
Redwing								
Reed Bunting								
Robin								
Rook								
Siskin								
Song Thrush								
Sparrowhawk								
Starling								
Swallow								
Tawny Owl								
Treecreeper								
Woodpigeon								
Wren								
Yellowhammer								