

FRIENDS of WEST HAM PARK



WE ♥ WEST HAM PARK

2011 Bird Survey Report

The Friends of West Ham Park have completed another successful year of bird surveys and the highlight results are listed below.

As would be expected, little has changed in the list of birds that can be seen in the Park, but this is the first year since surveys begun in 2006 that a Goldcrest has not been seen, and it is likely that the Park no longer has a breeding population.

Sightings of Goldfinches have increased and the resident population of Mistle Thrush continues to thrive. Although not nesting in the Park in 2011, we have had regular visits from a family of Sparrowhawk and a small flock of Long Tail Tits has continued to delight. A single sighting of Waxwing earlier in the year is the new addition to the list, and the flock was large enough for that bird to make it into the top 20.

In order of numbers taken from survey reports the top twenty 2011 bird list is as follows:-

- Wood Pigeon (17.5%)
- Feral Pigeon (11.9%)
- Blackbird (9.3%)
- Crow (8.6%)
- Starling (8.5%)
- Magpie (8.1%)
- Blue Tit (5.4%)
- Great Tit (4.7%)
- Common Gull (4.2%)
- Black Headed Gull (3.3%)
- Robin (2.7%)
- House Sparrow (2.3%)
- Mistle Thrush (2.2%)
- Pied Wagtail (1.8%)
- Long Tail Tit (1.7%)
- Waxwing (1.6%)
- Redwing (1.2%)
- Jay (1%)
- Chaffinch (0.9%)
- Goldfinch (0.6%)

This list accounts for around 97% of all birds seen, but it is important to note that Wren, Song Thrush, Green Woodpecker, Great Spotted Woodpecker and at least a dozen other types of bird are also seen. This rich variety is a testament to the diversity of flora in the Park and the sensitive manner in which it is managed.

The results since 2008 have been passed to the London Natural History Society (LNHS) and in their latest annual Bird Report the presence of our Mistle Thrush population is of particular note.