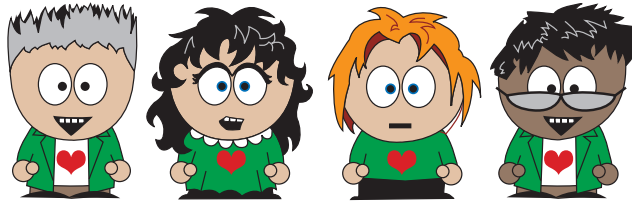


FRIENDS of WEST HAM PARK



WE ♥ WEST HAM PARK

2012 Bird Survey Report

The Friends of West Ham Park have completed another successful year of bird surveys and the highlight results are listed below. New observers have taken over some of the counts and their results are welcome and encouraging.

The highlight for me is the reappearance of the Goldcrest and the indications are that they are breeding in the park again. The feral pigeon gets top spot by a long way this year but positions in the table have changed little. The percentage of Mistle Thrush seen has increased which is a welcome sign, as is the regular recording of Sparrow Hawk. Hopefully we will see them breed in the Park again soon.

There were no waxwings this year and this has changed the order a little. Their one and only appearance in 2011 was, perhaps, an anomaly, which we will only see again in a harsh winter. The one result that has changed significantly is the number of common gulls recorded and I do wonder whether closer scrutiny of the gull population is needed. In winter the black headed gull loses its obvious feature and from a distance it is easy for the observer to count them in as common gulls.

In order of numbers taken from survey reports the top twenty 2012 bird list is as follows:-

- Feral Pigeon (20.9%)
- Wood Pigeon (13.5%)
- Blackbird (8.9%)
- Common Gull (8.7%)
- Starling (7.4%)
- Crow (6.9%)
- Magpie (6.3%)
- Blue Tit (5.8%)
- Great Tit (4.9%)
- Mistle Thrush (2.7%)
- Robin (2.5%)
- Redwing (2%)
- Long Tailed Tit (1.4%)
- 14. Lesser Black Backed Gull (1.1%)
- 14. Pied Wagtail (1.1%)
- 16. House Sparrow (0.9%)
- 16. Jay (0.9%)
- 18. Great Spotted Woodpecker (0.8%)
- 19. Green Woodpecker (0.6%)
- 19. Wren (0.6%)

This list accounts for most of the birds seen, but it is important to note that at least a dozen other types of bird are also seen, including the Goldcrest, Dunnock, Sparrow Hawk and Garden Warbler.