



LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR
LONDON BIRD REPORT
ASSISTANT DATA MANAGER



LONDON NATURAL
HISTORY SOCIETY

**LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
(LNHS)**

is a Registered Charity.

We are seeking applications for the position of
ASSISTANT DATA MANAGER
for the London Bird Report
to act as an understudy to our current Data Manager.

Vacancy posted 24th February 2025.

NOTES

This is a **VOLUNTARY POSITION**
as are all other positions in the LNHS.

REQUIREMENTS

We consider that the successful applicant(s) should have good skills in handling data and also be familiar with the birds of the London Area (a circle of 20 miles radius from St Paul's Cathedral) - see the map on page 4.

For further details, see the **JOB DESCRIPTION** opposite.

TO APPLY FOR THIS POSITION, PLEASE EMAIL

Roger Payne

Data Manager of the London Bird Report

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ASSISTANT DATA MANAGER - JOB DESCRIPTION

A CONTINUOUS POSITION IN THE LNHS

The Data Manager processes and validates the observations recorded each year by birders in the London area. The work involves:

- importing and reorganising records from a variety of sources (see <https://lnhs.org.uk/index.php/recording/birds>);
- standardising the observers' names, and forming the list of Contributors for the Report;
- checking the species names, and sending a list of rarities to the Rarities Committee;
- identifying the locations in the Bird Club's Gazetteer, and allocating them to Sectors;
- organising checks of potentially unreliable or unusual records;
- preparing the files of records for the writers of the Annual Report.

We are looking for a birder with strong computing skills to share the work and act as an understudy to the current Data Manager.

160 LONDON BIRD REPORT NO.86 2021


Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*
 Status: breeding summer visitor, passage migrant and winter visitor in small numbers.
RBBP

Brooding reports this year showed a slight increase on last year, with one pair confirmed breeding in Middlessex, three other pairs and 13 singing males. The total number of males on territory, 17, is the highest since 2017, when 19 territories were held, indicating that last year's exceptional low of just seven territories was likely due to the impact of the pandemic on inner city recording. Brooding records are shown in the table and records for other sites are listed below.

Black Redstart	Pairs proved breeding	Other pairs present	Additional singing males
Essex	-	-	4
Herts	-	-	-
Middx	1	1	1
Kent	-	-	-
Surrey	-	1	-
In Land	-	2	8

Essex: Banbury Res, one on Oct 22nd. Backton; singles on Feb 13th, Jun 2nd and 8th. Beckton SW, one on Mar 21st. Chingford Plain, one on Apr 9th. KGV Res; one on Jan

Black Redstart is clinging on as a London breeding species, and can sometimes be heard singing above the morning commute. (Eugene Dillon-Hooper)



MAP OF THE LONDON AREA

LNHS Area map. In the LNHS Area, 374 species of bird have been recorded in an apparently wild state since 1900. Of these, 237 were recorded during the year 2022 and written up for the London Bird Report.



LNHS Area map with locations of some well-known bird-watching sites. Boundary sites give an indication of the extent of the LNHS Area. A grey background shows a built-up area. (Contains Ordnance Survey data ©Crown copyright and database rights 2012)

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

Status: very common and widespread breeding resident.

The total number of broods was 234, down from 329 last year, but more comparable to 252 in 2019. The spike last year is assumed to be due to lockdown exercise walks during the Covid-19 pandemic resulting in an increase in observations at local sites such as urban parks.

The peak count was 778 on March 2nd at Swanscombe Marshes, substantially higher than 283 at Rainham Marshes last year, and the highest count since 870 at Panshanger Park in 1995, which is believed to have included up to 500 birds released for shooting. The peak summer count was 250 at Coopers Green GP on July 22nd (177 at Connaught Water in August last year), however note that this count may relate to releases for shooting.

The table below shows regularly watched sites that had a count of 150 or more. Breeding records and other high counts are summarised below the table.

Mallard	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
EX Rainham Marshes	132	145	123	85	65	47	41	50	50	195	53	290
HR Coopers Green GP	15	-	4	5	-	-	250	180	-	130	200	188
Stanborough Lakes	50	-	-	2	-	-	-	180	176	80	250	130
MX Q. Mary Res	11	13	2	22	19	8	17	42	261	12	-	34
KT Swanscombe Marshes	21	571	778	126	38	29	18	25	108	32	38	28
SY Putney Bridge-Barnes	30	-	20	54	-	-	-	-	220	275	187	199
Richmond Park	150	120	50	57	40	25	64	25	40	20	40	80
Wetland Centre	122	83	117	130	132	159	118	145	143	141	152	143

Essex: 59 broods from 19 sites. Connaught Water, 130 on Nov 26th. Dagenham Chase, 105 on Jul 28th. Ingrebourne Valley, 100 on Oct 16th. Mar Dyke Valley, 141 on Nov 10th. Rainham Marshes (29). Walthamstow Wetlands, 120 on Oct 7th. Wanstead Flats, 140 on Oct 17th. Wanstead Park, 125 on Nov 20th.

Herts: 49 broods from 27 sites. Hilfield Park Res (11). Radlett, 106 on Sep 30th. Stocker's Lake, 101 on Mar 13th.

Middx: 61 broods from 35 sites. Brent Res, 110 on Jun 24th. Hampstead Heath, 105 on Oct 10th.

Kent: 31 broods from 15 sites. Bradbourne Lakes, 105 on Sep 19th. Kelsey Park, 130 on Sep 21st.

Surrey: 29 broods from 24 sites. Beddington Farmlands, 119 on Oct 16th. R Thames: Kew Bridge to Barnes Bridge, 107 on Nov 21st. R Thames: Kew to Richmond, 103 on Dec 28th. R Wandle: Carshalton Ponds to Wandsworth, 274 on Dec 30th. R Wandle: Mitcham Bridge to Morden Hall Tram Crossing, 104 on Dec 19th. Truss's Island, 126 on Oct 19th.

In Lond: Five broods from four sites. Battersea Park, 80 on Jul 24th. Hyde Park/Kensington Gdns, 50 on Jun 26th, c50 on Aug 10th and Nov 25th. Regent's Park, 50 on Dec 16th. St James's Park, 75 on Jul 10th. Victoria Park, 82 on Mar 20th. Wapping Canals, 54 on Oct 28th.

THE LONDON BIRD REPORT EDITORIAL BOARD

The London Bird Report (LBR) is an outstanding example of an annual, ornithological publication which has been published since 1936. It is currently a handsome 256-page publication and counts amongst its editorial team some of the best known names in London and the home counties as well as people who are personalities on the wider British scene.

The authoritative publication brings together the efforts of professional ornithologists and casual bird watchers to produce an annual distillation of bird records in the recording area of the London Natural History Society (a 20-mile radius of St Pauls Cathedral). See map on page 4.

The core of the LBR is the systematic accounts compiled by a team of volunteers who carve up the accounts between them using records submitted by hundreds of observers. In addition in the LBR there are a numbers of papers including Ringing Reports, reports of Surveys, site-specific accounts and a mix of other popular and scientific papers. The LBR is elegantly designed to show tables and graphical data to best effect and is a full colour publication with use of photographs and illustrations. Many people volunteer to take on a range of tasks from copy editing to the compilation of species accounts and the commissioning and editing of papers. The work is overseen by a strong LBR Editorial Board. The LBR for 2023 will be published in May 2025.



ABOUT THE LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1858

The London Natural History Society (or LNHS as it is commonly known) is a local natural history society within the UK concerned with recording the wildlife of London within a circular area of 20-miles radius from St. Paul's Cathedral. The Society's aims are to foster the appreciation and study of London's wildlife and natural environment, and to assist in the conservation of wildlife in the London area by helping to record London's wildlife.

The LNHS consists of a number of active sections. This results in a highly varied programme of talks, organised nature walks and other activities. The variety and number of events for members make the LNHS one of the most active nature societies in the world which is run entirely by volunteers. Whether it is purely for recreation, or to develop field skills for a career in conservation, the LNHS offers a wide range of indoor and outdoor activities. Beginners are welcome at every event and gain access to the knowledge of some very skilled naturalists.

On top of its varied public engagement, the LNHS also has a raft of publications free to members. The London Naturalist is its annual journal, with scientific papers as well as lighter material such as book reviews. The annual London Bird Report is an important compilation of bird records during a year. Furthermore, there is a quarterly newsletter, which carries many field trip reports and useful announcements, and a six-monthly illustrated Programme of events and information.

The LNHS maintains its annual membership at a modest level, representing fantastic value for money.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Bluesky: London Natural History Society @lnhs.bsky.social

Instagram: London Natural History Society @thelondonnaturalhistorysociety

Facebook: London Natural History Society Forum and London Natural History Society page

YouTube: London Natural History Society channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx8DQybWBQYxbEdLNA3kfCg>

Email: secretary@lnhs.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 206228



LONDON NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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