



Mountsorrel Garden Birdwatch 2016



The RSPB's national Garden Birdwatch took place over the weekend 30/31 January 2016 and some twelve members of the Heritage Group carried out a local watch to see what we have in our gardens here in Mountsorrel. Records were taken of the numbers and varieties of birds seen in a one hour period in our gardens that weekend.



Garden locations ★

Members taking part in the Watch live in the core of the village and have a variety of garden types ranging from the suburban with medium or small gardens to a riverside wild garden. All however benefit from the village location adjacent to open countryside and the river valley.

Observations

What should we have seen and what did we see? Prior to the Birdwatch weekend the RSPB publishes a “What to look for list” based on the most common garden birds in Britain. For 2016 this included:

Blackbird	Blue Tit	Carrion Crow
Chaffinch	Coal Tit	Collared Dove
Dunnock	Feral Pigeon	Goldfinch
Great Tit	Greenfinch	House Sparrow
Jackdaw	Long-Tailed Tit	Magpie
Robin	Song Thrush	Starling
Woodpigeon	Wren	

The RSPB’s Leicestershire county-wide results for 2015 and 2016 show the top 10 Garden Birds in Leicestershire for the last two years to be:

2015	Rank	2016	Rank
House Sparrow	1	House Sparrow	1
Blackbird	2	Blackbird	2
Blue Tit	3	Woodpigeon	3
Starling	4	Blue Tit	4
Woodpigeon	5	Starling	5
Great Tit	6	Goldfinch	6
Goldfinch	7	Great Tit	7
Robin	8	Robin	8
Chaffinch	9	Long-Tailed Tit	9
Dunnock	10	Chaffinch	10

Mountsorrel Sightings 2016

Whilst we had a good diversity of sightings one or two “the usual suspects”, notably Chaffinch and Goldfinch were missing from the “Top 10”. We did however have a couple of less common sightings in the full list. Based on our small, and totally unscientific (but fun) snapshot survey, our village Top 10 for 2016 compared with the national and county-wide results for 2016 shows:

Rank	Mountsorrel 2016	Leicestershire 2016	National 2016
1	Blue Tit	House Sparrow	House sparrow
2	Blackbird	Blackbird	Blue tit
3	House Sparrow & Woodpigeon	Woodpigeon	Starling
4	-	Blue Tit	Blackbird
5	Robin	Starling	Woodpigeon
6	Dunnock	Goldfinch	Goldfinch
7	Great Tit	Great Tit	Great tit
8	Magpie & Starling	Robin	Chaffinch
9	-	Long-Tailed Tit	Collared dove
10	Long-tailed Tit	Chaffinch	Robin

Mountsorrel Full Listing

Gardens	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Totals	Rank
Birds														
Blackbird	3	2	1	5	1	2	1	1	2	2	3	4	27	2
Blackcap	2												2	
Blue Tit	1		1		4	5	2	4	6	2		3	28	1
Bullfinch	1												1	
Carrion Crow				2					2				4	
Chaffinch	1							1					2	
Coal Tit	1											1	2	
Collared Dove									2		2	2	6	
Common Tern				1									1	
Dunnock	1	1	2	4		1	3			1	1	1	15	6
Goldfinch												1	1	
Great Spotted Woodpecker								1					1	
Great Tit	1				2	3		1		2		1	10	7
Greenfinch					1								1	
House Sparrow	5	2							8		2		17	Joint 3
Jackdaw									4				4	

Kestrel										1			1	
Long-Tailed Tit	4			1				3					8	10
Magpie					2	1		1			4	1	9	Joint 8
Mallard										2			2	
Moorhen										1			1	
Mute Swan										1			1	
Robin	1		1	4	1		2	1	2	1	1	2	16	5
Starling	1	2						1				5	9	Joint 8
Tree Sparrow								1		1			2	
Wood Pigeon	1	2	1	5	2	2		1		2		1	17	Joint 3
Wren	1					1						1	3	

The full national results are on the RSPB website at

<http://www.rspb.org.uk/discoverandenjoynature/discoverandlearn/birdwatch/results.aspx>