



BIRDS

This book belongs to.
Name:
Age:
Address:
Email:

Text and pictures from David "Birdman" Hammant Layout by Richard Rowlands

Published by BSANA, 28 Anstey Road, Reading, RG1 7JR, UK

First published: April 2014

Copyright Richard Rowlands, Garreth Davies, Karen Rowland, David Hammant, 2014

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without the prior permission in writing. You must not circulate this publication in any other binding or cover and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer.

## Introduction

#### Welcome!

#### NATURE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

We are delighted to present to you the first book in the "BSANA Spots" series! This book has pictures and descriptions of many of the birds that can be found in the BSANA area (there's an area map on the back). You may not think that you can find nature so easily in your area — where there are so many streets, houses and cars all around you — but you most definitely can!

Your mission is to go out into the area and see how many of the birds you can spot. Every time you see a bird, you need to identify it from the picture and description and then fill in where and when you saw it.

Each bird will get you points. Once you have 300 points, you can write off for a certificate (see page 11 for details) and you will even be eligible for a prize for the most points gathered!

We hope you enjoy this first book — and find nature right there on the doorstep of your very own home!

#### Happy Birding!

Karen Rowland (Chairperson) and the entire BSANA Management Committee The Baker Street Area Neighbourhood Association (BSANA)

#### Spotting birds

These birds can all be seen all over, even in and around built up areas like ours.

They have adapted and leaned to live alongside houses and roads, finding ways to forage amongst our buildings and gardens.

The best times for seeing the birds in your neighbourhood are first thing in the morning and during the evening. At these times they are at their most active feeding and they are not disturbed by too many people moving around.

Look for small flocks of Blue, Great and Longtailed Tits working their way through bushes and trees, along fences and on bird tables. These are frequent visitors to gardens and bird tables.

Look along rooftops for Crows, Magpies, Jackdaws and Jays. They like to rest in these places as they can see a long way in all directions, making them feel safe. You can also see Black Headed Gulls resting before flying off in small groups.

All the birds in the booklet are seen in your area. Some are more common than others. The harder they are to find, the higher the point value.

#### **Sizes**

Small Up to four inches (10cm)

Medium Between four and seven inches (10cm-18cm)

Large Above seven inches (18cm)



## Robin

Common small garden bird with a bright red chest.

Look for this bird in gardens, at bird feeders and on lawns.

Seen all through the day.

Street:		
TD		
Date Seen:		

## Crow

Large black bird with a black bill.

Look for this bird in trees and on rooftops, usually singly or in pairs. Sometimes feeds on lawns or paths where there may be some rubbish lying. Can be seen all through the day.

Street:		
Date Seen:		





## **Red Kite**

Large hawk with a distinctive long tail.

Look for this bird circling and gliding in the sky. Usually seen from mid morning until dusk, normally flying.

It is very rarely seen perching in trees or on roofs, and then only in the evening when going to roost.

Street:			

Date Seen:



## **Starling**

A medium size bird with a glossy, speckled coat.

Usually seen in small groups in gardens, trees and on roofs. Often seen at bird feeders. Usually seen in the early morning or late afternoon.

Street:			

Date Seen:



## **Collared Dove**

Large grey bird. Look for the black band on the back of its neck.

Find this bird in gardens with trees where it perches and on rooftops, often seen in pairs. Can be seen all day.

Street:
---------

Date Seen:



A large glossy black and white bird with a long black tail.

Date Seen:

Look for this bird on rooftops, in gardens and trees. Often in small groups. Can be seen all day.

Street:			

#### **Black Headed Gull**

Large bird with a white body and a black head.

Look for this bird flying overhead or perched on rooftops, often in groups perhaps with other gulls.

Can be seen all day.

Street:

Date Seen: \_\_\_\_





## **Pied Wagtail**

A small black and white bird with a long tail.

Look for this bird on lawns and in gardens where it runs around collecting insects. Usually only one or two birds seen at a time.

Look for these anytime during the day.

Street:

Date Seen:

## Wren

Small brown bird usually found close to the ground. A short tail often held at a right angle to the body.

Look for this bird working in bushes and fences, hunting for insects and spiders.

Seen at any time during the day.

Street:

Date Seen: \_\_\_\_\_





## **Great Tit**

Small bird usually seen in groups. Larger than the Blue Tit, recognised by its white cheeks and black head. Commonly found on bird tables and in gardens.

Can be found with other types of tits in gardens.

Seen all through the day.

Date Seen:

## **Blackbird**

Medium size bird with a bright orange bill.

Look for this bird in gardens and shrubs where it can often be seen feeding among dead leaves and pathways . Often feeds at bird tables.

Can be seen all day.

Date Seen:



## Chaffinch

Common small garden bird with a blue head and pink chest.

Look for this bird in gardens. Often seen on bird tables and feeders.

Can be seen all through the day.

CI.	
Street:	 

Date Seen: \_\_\_\_

30



## **Greater Spotted Woodpecker**

Medium size bird with black and white feathers and a red rump.

Commonly seen on bird feeders especially those with peanuts or climbing up tree trunks using its tail as a support. Normally only seen one at a time.

Usually seen early in the morning or late afternoon.

Street:			

Date Seen:\_\_\_\_

## Jay

Large colourful bird. Very shy. Recognised by its white and black head markings, white rear and pinkish body.

Look for this bird mainly in trees, sometimes feeding on lawns.

Usually seen in pairs, this bird is most often seen first thing in the morning.

Street:	

Date Seen:





## Song Thrush

Medium size bird with brown wings and a speckled chest.

Look for this bird in gardens and on lawns. Usually seen singly, often feeding in among dead leaves and on lawns.

Most usually seen early in the morning and late afternoon.

Street:		

Date Seen:\_\_\_\_\_



## **Long Tail Tit**

A small bird with a long tail. Underparts are pinkish, head white with black marks.

Usually in groups, look for these birds hunting for insects in trees and shrubs. Often seen on bird feeders. Can be found with other types of tits in gardens.

Can be seen all day.

Street:	 	 
Date Seen:		

## **Dunnock**

Small bird, with brown wings and a grey body usually found close to the ground. Look for this bird in bushes and at the base of trees. Can be seen at any time during the day.

Street:		
Date Seen:		





## **Jackdaw**

A large black bird with grey on the head.

Look for these birds on rooftops, in gardens and trees and small groups flying overhead.

Most often seen in the early morning or late evening as they go to roost.

Street:	

Date Seen:



#### Nuthatch

Small bird that climbs up and down tree trunks looking for insects and spiders.

Look for the short tail and blue back. Often feeds at bird tables — it likes peanuts.

Usually seen first thing in the morning or late afternoon.

Street:			

Date	Seen:
Dave	Deen.

## **Green Woodpecker**

Large bird usually seen alone.

Look for red crest and green wings.

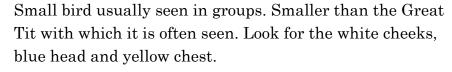
Often seen feeding on lawns early in the morning.

Street:

Date Seen:



## **Blue Tit**



Commonly found on bird tables and in gardens. Can be found with other types of tit in gardens.

Can be seen all day.

Street:			

## **Summary and Index**

Bird	Page	Points	Score
Black Headed Gull	6	20	
Blackbird	7	20	
Blue Tit	10	10	
Chaffinch	7	30	
Collared Dove	5	10	
Crow	4	20	
Dunnock	9	20	
Great Tit	7	10	
Greater Spotted Woodpecker	8	50	
Green Woodpecker	10	40	
Jackdaw	9	10	
Jay	8	30	
Long Tail Tit	9	20	
Magpie	5	10	
Nuthatch	10	30	
Pied Wagtail	6	30	
Red Kite	4	20	
Robin	4	10	
Song Thrush	8	30	
Starling	5	15	
Wren	6	20	
Total number of points you got			

Once you have at least 300 points, you can get your certificate! Just email:

- ⇒ Your name
- ⇒ Age (if under 18)
- ⇒ Address
- ⇒ How many points you got

to birdbook@bsana.org and your certificate will be sent to you.

# **BSANA Information**



## **BSANA Aims**

The objects of the Association shall be to improve the quality of life for present and future residents of the Area by promoting a sense of community and by action to conserve, protect and improve the character of the Area.

## **BSANA Welcome**

If you live in the area, work in the area, or just visiting, please come along to our events, you are most welcome.

We'd love to hear from you — All comments, suggestions and ideas are appreciated. This is our first book in the series. If you would like to be involved in future books, please get in touch. Who knows, there could be a book with your name on it!

## For more information

Web site: www.bsana.org

Bird Book feedback: birdbook@bsana.org

Postal Address: 28 Anstey Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 7JR, UK