

2013 Sightings

Winter sightings (2013/2014)

17th February 2014

Stirling Castle (Michael Brown)

Single bird seen in grounds of Stirling Castle on 17th Feb 2014

30th January 2014

Harrogate (Keith Johnson)

Bogs Lane, Harrogate in a field with Blackbirds and Fieldfares.

4th January 2014

Brompton on Swale, North Yorkshire (James Harper)

I saw a solitary Ring Ouzel (male) in a hedgerow in Brompton on Swale, North Yorkshire today 04/01/2014. I have seen pictures of this bird before but have never seen one in the flesh. My wife also saw the bird and confirmed that it was a Ring Ouzel when we returned home.

Autumn Migration

23rd November 2013

Dungeness, Kent (Janet Wilkes)

Male Ring Ouzel flushed from the shingle at the side of the outer fence at Dungeness B Nuclear Power Station by Paul Trodds Dog Barney.

Paul has given his permission to pass this sighting on.

Also 15th, 19th and 23rd November sightings of singles reported at Samphire Hoe, coastal site between Folkestone and Dover.

All quiet at Downland coastal sites in East Sussex.

Hope this helps for the website

Regards, Janet Wilkes.

18th November 2013

Powys, Wales (Brendan Sheils)

5 Ring Ouzels present in the Elan Valley Visitor Car park, Powys, Wales today 18 November 2013.

Birds on rowan trees in mixed flock of winter thrush flock.

1 Adult Male, Adult female and three 1st winter birds together.

17th November 2013

Ipswich Suffolk (Jacqueline Runnacles)

I spotted a ring ouzel in my garden on the 17 Nov. I live in Ipswich Suffolk near Tuddenham road

31st October 2013

Maidstone Kent (Margaret Everest)

Park Way, Coxheath, near Maidstone, Kent.

Yesterday and again today, each time around lunchtime, I have seen a male ring ouzel in the rowan tree in our back garden. This is a first sighting for me, having been bird watching in the back garden for the past 6 years.

29th October 2013

Garw and Ogmere Valleys, Glamorgan (Colin Richards)

Single male Ring Ouzel at the Werfa tracks between the Garw and Ogmere Valleys, Glamorgan on 29th October 2013.

Autumn 2013

Ouzel Migration in Sussex - Autumn 2013 (Janet Wilkes)

Arrival was later this year and first sightings on Cissbury Ring West Sussex late September, high point chalk downland within site of the coast.

Autumn 2013 it would seem will be the best year since 1998 on the South Coast of Kent and East Sussex

Unprecedented fall of Fenno Scandian migrants along the coast from Folkestone, Kent to Hope Gap Seaford Head East Sussex on Saturday 12th October; hundreds. Ideal weather conditions for them One birder counted 59 in Hope Gap on that day.(coastal chalk cliff site in a valley) during the preceding days counts of 18 were recorded early morning in one bush.

150 overhead in 4 hours chacking and the noise echoing around Hope Gap - these birds flying east. Birders down here are still talking about it.

Any ideas why spring counts are so low on the coast - only 20 or 30 recorded some years.?

[The answer to your question is – ring ouzels undertake what is called a circular or loop migration, whereby they track slightly further east

on the way back. The birds you are seeing in the south-east from late Sept are all Fenno-Scandian birds, who migrate a little bit later than our

own. In spring migration most of them are further east and so there are fewer, and because they leave their wintering grounds later, many of our

birds are already on territories. Snow melts later in Fenno-Scandia, hence the delay I suppose.]

I have been told they are in a hurry to get to their breeding grounds.

Spring migrants arrive in late March and early April after birds have reached the North Pennines.

All very interesting as I have records of spring and autumn migration counts 1990 to 2011

Kind regards

Janet Wilkes.

PS I live in East Sussex and try to visit the North Pennines in Spring and Summer, I have also given this info to James Anderson.

Still a few migrants drifting through.

27th October 2013

Portland, Dorset (Keith V. Pritchard)

First year winter male(?) - See the photos [here](#)

Penn's Weare, Portland, Dorset

(50.54529,-2.420899 approx)

Right Leg ring colours: green above red

Left Leg ring colours: white below silver

Other comments: 4 Ouzels present this morning.

ROSG Update: This is thought to be a bird ringed this year in Glen Clunie (near Braemar). Awaiting confirmation.

25th October 2013

Staddiscombe Devon (John Stanley)

Solitary male Ring Ouzel today 25/10/2013 early afternoon on Hooe Lane between Staddiscombe and Bovisand, Devon

24th October 2013

Plymouth (Rod Worrall)

Thursday 24th October at approx 11.00am at Staddon Heights (Plymouth grid reference Sx 518484).

Small family group of adult male and female with one juvenile. The birds were feeding on a large pyracanthas bush that is covered in red berries.

I have some reasonable photographs of the male and the juvenile.

19th October 2013

Lindisfarne, Holy Island (Ann Rae)

My dad saw ring ousels on Lindisfarne, Holy Island this morning - first time

15th October 2013

St Agnes, Isles of Scilly (Philip Kenyon)

Colour Ringed sighting

Male/Female (if known) 1st winter

Location Isles of Scilly. St Agnes

Right Leg ring colours White top, Yellow bottom

Left Leg ring colours Possibly grey (BTO ring?)

Other comments Record given to the Isle of Scilly Bird Group ISBG.

See photos [here](#)

13th October 2013

Rollesby Norfolk (Arthur Tomlinson)

Female been seen all today from 0900 in very large hawthorns and other trees on land behind bungalow. We are in Rollesby and close to Rollesby Broad. Bird watched at 50y range very

distinctive through swarovision 8x32. The tree is used as roost for many birds. As I work from home I can pass on daily info if needed. Kind regards, Arthur Tomlinson

13th October 2013

East Dereham, Norfolk (Terry Holkham)

A pair. Male and female digging along the edge of my patio for worms at North Tuddenham near East Dereham, Norfolk

12th October 2013

Bognor Regis West Sussex (Phyllis Buck)

In garden at home in Parkfield Ave, Rose Green, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 3BW on 12th Oct 2013. See the photos [here](#).

12th October 2013

Lodmoor Country Park Weymouth (Colin Perry)

Saw Ring Ouzel this morning at Lodmoor Country Park Weymouth.

6th October 2013

East Sussex Belle Toute, Beachy Head (Janet Wilkes)

Female Ring Ouzel seen 50yards out of Horseshoe Plantation. Seen by friend and fellow birder Roy Gardiner.

4th October 2013

Bitterne Southampton (Elaine Kneller)

Spotted my very first ring ouzel from our garden in Bitterne, Southampton. It flew into the very top of a neighbours fir tree. I managed to see him through my binoculars. So excited.

28th September 2013

Rochester Kent (John David Clarke)

Seen this morning on lawn in large garden in Rochester Kent. Upright posture and long tail Silvery wing margins and White bib with clear edge. Dined on worm and left. Is this a migrating ouzel?

15th September 2013

Chaddesden, Derby (Simon Staples)

Two birds in the garden foraging on and around the bird table. One seemingly juvenile male - mostly brown with black plumage emerging but a cream bib. Possible juvenile female - brown - almost thrush like bars on the chest. I am quite happy to concede Blackbird variants as they had disappeared by the time I had my camera. Never seen before or since. Are there other sightings in the area?

Spring/Summer Breeding

10th September 2013

Stanage Edge, Derbyshire (Bill Gordon)

Have just seen **14 Ring Ouzels** in a single flock mobbing a Kestrel at Stanage Edge.

3rd September 2013

Troutbeck bridge, Windermere (Lee Thorley}

3rd September 10:15am Troutbeck bridge Windermere. Saw male ouzel in my garden. Never seen one before today.

14th August 2013

Trebarwith, Cornwall (Ian Page)

I saw a Ring Ouzel beside a stream in Trebarwith, Cornwall

6th August 2013

Bowland (Jude Lane)

A short end of season report from Bowland – RZ had another excellent year with at least 21 singing males located on the UU estate. From these we had a definite 16 pairs, with fledged young confirmed from 11 nests. Some of these pairs definitely double brooded although we can't confirm how many.

26th July 2013

Cuillins on Skye (Simon Booth)

Male bird calling at 500metres at Coir an Ech en route to Sgurr na Banachdaich on the Cuillins on Skye 26th July 2013 @ 1600 hrs

24th July 2013

Inchnadamph Bone Caves (Sam Paterson)

Whilst on a walk to the Inchnadamph Bone Caves, NC 253 179, on the A837 about 35 kilometres north of Ullapool in the North West of Scotland, we saw a male and female Ring Ouzel, hunting for food. We observed them for around 10 minutes and took a couple of grainy photos.

18th July 2013

SAD FATE OF FLEDGLING RING OUZEL (Ian R Poxton)

Not sure the ring ouzel group will like this [photograph](#), but it is one they should see. These rail traps are everywhere on our local grouse moors. They are legal, but they are indiscriminate in what they catch. We've had several dippers in them - so much so that dippers are a rarity when once there were common in our area. However, this is the first ring ouzel we've found.

We must fight to have them banned

4th July 2013

Honister Crag (Paul Mattinson)

I work as a guide for honister slate mine and have seen and regularly photographed a pair of ring ouzels near the top of honister crag

29th June 2013

Snowdonia (Jane Somerville)

We were in Snowdonia on Saturday June 29th following the footpath between Llyn Bochlwyd and Llyn Idwal (SH 653 594). Just before the steep descent we saw a female Ring Ouzel who flew away from rock to rock.

27th June 2013

Ullapool, Scotland (Peter Lisney)

Single Ring Ouzel seen at Knockan Crag, near Ullapool, Scotland

25th June 2013

Trough of Bowland (Keith Gratton)

Seen sat on fence in Trough of Bowland Tuesday 25th. June. At approx. 16.00 hours

23rd June 2013

Honister (James Austrums)

1 female ouzel 23rd June, mines at. Not the busy side of the pass. Grid ref: NY224143

21st June 2013

Bollihope Burn, North Pennines, Weardale (Janet Wilkes)

Male Ring Ouzel, heard before seen on a short tufted rocky bank on the South side of the burn 3/4 mile from off road parking area on B6278 Eggleston to Stanhope Road.

It would seem that Jackdaws have taken over the Ring Ouzels previous nesting site (year 2010) in the disused old quarries around the roadside areas.

19th June 2013

Cheviot Northumberland (Fiona Bitters)

19.6.13 at Harthope Burn Cheviot Northumberland.

15th June 2013

Durham (Paul Gildersleeve)

15th June 2013 NZ 31407 43352 Belmont Scrambles in Durham. Sighted on a branch hanging over a beck, area is a short grassland and scrub area.

13th June 2013

Skye (James Austrums)

Three ouzels at old man of storr, skye. Adults male and female and a young one. 13th June 2014.

Grid ref: NG500540

13th June 2013

Harthope (Sally Price)

Two seen in the Harthope just at the end of the road by Langleford Farm Valley near Wooler. 13th June at about 3.30pm

9th June 2013

NT 183 619 (David Swann)

Male spotted gathering food from grassy slope. When mouth full, flew off in direction of fenced-off waterfall opposite ? to feed nesting young.

9th June 2013

Dartmoor, Devon (Shaun Michael Fry)

Grid Reference - not sure what to put other than Yes Tor as it was flying up and down the valley
Got some pictures of 2 pairs of the Ring Ouzel flying up and down a small valley below Yes Tor just up from the car park by Meldon Quarry

5th June 2013

Edale in Derbyshire (Robert Pakes)

We were walking on the ridge above Edale in Derbyshire when we saw what a female Ring Ouzal. The bird was below us in the valley as we walked the beginnings of the Penine Way. The weather at the time was bright sunshine and the coloring on the bird was really good.

5th June 2013

Stanage Derbyshire (Bill Gordon)

Four fledged young at one nest on Stanage, and another nest failed but relayed, and started incubation yesterday. At nearby Burbage a pair has fledged 3 young.

Interestingly at the Burbage nest, Bill watched the male remove a faecal sac, fly some distance across the river then poked it deep into the grass with its bill, then proceeded to cover it up with vegetation. I have never heard of such fastidious behaviour before.

3rd June 2013

Scar House Reservoir NY Moors (Peter Curran)

I went up on the Moors around Scar House Reservoir on Monday the 3rd June. I located 3 pair of Ouzels and found one nest containing 4 eggs. A bit late I am guessing the first attempt failed or a very late first brood.

Unfortunately I was asked to leave by the game keeper as I walked along a track built for vehicles. I asked him why and he said due to birds nesting and said not to come back for 2 months.

I am very concerned by the lack of Raptors up there and often see Larson traps for crows. My concern is he does not want me to see any illegal activities. Please can you let me know if he has the authority to banish me from the moors where generally public access is allowed.

If he does is there any way around it? Please advise so I can hopefully keep giving you Ouzel data.
Peter Curran

Hi Peter,

Generally, they have no right to ask you to leave if you are walking in an area of open access land. However, landowners are at liberty to apply for access restrictions for land management reasons. You can read all about these restrictions in this NE publication

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/53001?category=211280>

In brief they can restrict access completely to the public for up to 28 days a year but this cannot include weekends or public holidays. You can look up whether the land you were walking on has any access restrictions on this page.

<http://www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk/wps/portal/oasys/maps/MapSearch>

Having typed in a random grid ref from near Scar house reservoir, it shows that the landowner has applied for some temporary restrictions – I've attached the maps to this email. As you'll see, these restrictions apply from May through to the end of June but do not include the weekends or bank holidays.

In reality, most people will not check these maps before going out for a walk so there is also a responsibility on the landowner to publicise the restriction at the open access entry points. So essentially, depending on where you were walking on Monday the keeper potentially did have the right to ask you to leave (unless you were on a public right of way) but was incorrect to say not to come back for 2 months. According to these published restrictions (attached), they end on the 20th and 25th June.

I hope this helps. If anyone can add or correct anything I have said then please let me/us all know.

Kind regards,

Jude Lane

Bowland Project Officer

Hi All

I come across this quite a lot.

Because open access land is habitat based (moor, fell, heath, down etc), any pre-existing tracks are not technically CRoW access land. One gamekeeper near me blocked my access and just kept repeating himself "you are not on access land?" until I twigged that if I stepped off the track, I would be on access land.

Farmers and landowners have the discretion to suspend or restrict access rights for up to 28 days each year, for any reason. They may also apply for additional restrictions or closures, where necessary for land management, safety or fire prevention reasons. So telling you to come back in two months was probably done without authority. Also, grouse moors usually utilise much of their 28 day allocation to close the moors on shoot days in autumn.

Public footpaths remain open even when open access closures are in place.

Access legislation requires dogs be kept on a lead of no more than 2m long between 1st March and 31st July (the main breeding period for ground-nesting birds, ie grouse!) or at any time of year when near livestock. Specific local restrictions may also be in place, such as excluding dogs from grouse moors completely. Some moor owners use this one, whereas others don't.

You can find out about access areas and restrictions using this NE search

page. <http://www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk/wps/portal/oasys/maps/MapSearch>

[h](#)

Hope that helps

Best wishes

Tim Melling

2nd June 2013

Edale, Derbyshire (Sue Carline)

2nd June 2013 3pm. Jagers Clough, Edale, Derbyshire. Flew into the heather, then visible for about 10 metres moving up the hillside under the heather.

30th May 2013

Millstone Edge, Over Owler Tor (Russ Payne)

Male seen on 30 May 2013 at Sk249806 Millstone Edge, Over Owler Tor area with food on numerous occasions from 1300-1400 so assume nesting.

30th May 2013

Wigan, Lancashire (Judith McGivern)

I saw a Ring Ouzel in Gidlow cemetery near Wigan in Lancashire last week. Wasn't sure what I was seeing so I checked my bird book to help me to identify it. It was definitely a Ring Ouzel....a male I think.

25th May 2013

Robinson, Lake District (Neil Prior)

Saw my first ever Ring Ouzel on 25th May, happily foraging on moorland, near the top of Robinson, Lake District

24th May 2013

Glen Dye in the Angus Hills (Chris Laurie)

I was in Glen Dye in the Angus Hills (Grid Reference: NO 61557 83106) yesterday and came across four different Ring Ouzel. One of these chaps was happily foraging at the side of the track and we watched him for some time. It turns out he had a selection of colour rings and wondered if this was a local project or worth reporting fully. The details are:

L: Green over metal/silver over green

R: Silver/metal over orange

18th May 2013

Long Eaton, Nottingham(Andrew Skadorwa)

18/05/2013 10.30 am sighted in my front garden long eaton Nottingham

17th May 2013

Pen yr Ole Wen (Gareth)

17th May sighted a male Ring Ouzel about 150m above the bridge at Ogwen Cottage on Pen yr Ole Wen. 12:30 and raining.

10th May 2013

Aberdeenshire. Grid ref NJ 60646 22215 (Alexandra Sinclair)

Spotted 10 05 2013 perched on 10 ft Nordman fir in mixed woodland hillside where I live in

Aberdeenshire. Grid ref NJ 60646 22215

First ever sighting and after 15 minutes flew off.

7th May 2013

Ballykinlar, County Down (John Edgar)

Seen in Ballykinlar, County Down on 7 May 2013

Early May 2013

Rachel Davie (Upper Derwent valley)

Two sightings in a last month at 2 different locations in the Peak District National Park, Upper Derwent valley. 1st sighting in Early May sitting at the top of a dead tree grid ref SK151 966 (Ronsley Moor) and 2nd bird spotted on 8 June 2013 - watched flying about for about 1 to 2 hrs at grid ref SK131 946 River Westend (rowan trees and rock face opposite sheep fold on OS map, also on grassland opposite) also saw 2 smaller brown black birds flying with this bird that came out of rocks but can't be sure if they were Ring Ouzel young or blackbirds). Both birds were male Ring Ouzel, both piping 3-5 pips.

3rd May 2013

Tony Fraser (Urquhart in Moray)

Hi-I saw a female Ring Ouzel in my back garden on May 3rd 2013. It was my first ever sighting of one and I was quite amazed to see it from my bedroom window. I have a large pond in my garden and the bird had landed on a willow stump for a drink before spending about 20 minutes on my lawn. I guess it had just been passing and stopped for a drink. I live just outside the village of Urquhart in Moray, Scotland.

Early arrivals

7th May 2013

Plymouth (Paul Shepherd)

I saw 2 Ring Ouzels twice in 2 days cycling through Saltram which is located in Plymouth

6th May 2013

Brecon Beacons (Mrs. J. Broome)

High moorlands close to Storey Arms in the Brecon Beacons on Monday, 6th May singing in the top of a silver birch tree.

2nd May 2013

Faversham, Kent (Andrew Bowles)

1 bird (male?) seen on lawn in front garden - Selling, Faversham, Kent 19.00 on Thur 2nd May 2013.

28th April 2013

Stanage Edge, Derbyshire (Clive Part)

Male bird seen today 09:30 April 28th on Cowper Stone near Stanage Edge, Derbyshire.

Grid ref: SK2583. Watched the bird for 10-15 minutes whilst it was calling and sheltering from the strong winds.

25th April 2013

Lindisfarne (Sonia Dilcock)

Staying on Lindisfarne and today sighted female Ring Ouzel on track at side of coach car park leading down to dunes. Showed well coming out of bush to sit on wall in clear view. Seen at approximately 17:30 pm. First sighting I have ever had and was convinced it could be nothing else and your information confirms this.

25th April 2013

Co Donegal (Hilary Morton)

Seen at about 8.30am at Inverbeg, Downings, Co Donegal. The bird took flight and as he lifted we saw the white breast. As we were near the coast we assumed it was a type of gull but couldn't identify it later. Today I was reading information about Ring Ouzels in the Cairngorms and recognised this as the one we had seen in Donegal, seemingly on the edges of your sightings map.

23rd April 2013

Lakenheath Suffolk (Janet.Bacon)

Husband and I sighted 2 male and 1 female ring ouzels 6:30 to gone 7 pm, on Lakenheath Warren Lakenheath Suffolk.

21st April 2013

Weymouth Dorset (ANDREW ROLLS)

I saw a Ring Ouzel at 1100 hours on Sunday the 21st April 2013 at the Hardy Monument at Black Down which is just outside Weymouth in Dorset feeding in the ground on grassed area. It stayed for several minutes whilst I watched it with Binoculars, and flew off when a large Crow took an interest in it, when it flew into thick cover and disappeared. 100% certain of the identification

21st April 2013

Fakenham, Norfolk (Jon Mee)

TWO BIRDS TOGETHER SEEN ON SUNDAY 21st APRIL 2013. Horse grazed flood meadows with scattered trees and bushes, near Sculthorpe Moor, Fakenham, Norfolk

21st April 2013

East of Langholm (Kevan Johnstone)

On 21st. April 1km east of Langholm. Alt 260m. 1male ring ouzel.

20th April 2013

Anglesey (Andrew Fletcher)
Scrub land behind Ligwy Beach Anglesey

20th April 2013

Grantham Lincolnshire (Andrew Williamson)
Spotted 1 male at 16:30 Marston Grantham Lincolnshire

17th April 2013

Stansted Airport (Peter Grayson)
I have seen a male Ring Ouzel outside my hangar at Stansted airport on 2 consecutive days (17, 18 Apr). The first time it was with a female bird but I couldn't confirm that this was also an Ouzel or a female Black bird as it was predominantly brown.

17th April 2013

Reigate Surrey (Ben Newsam)
Saw on a roof in Nutley Lane, Reigate Surrey RH2 Very clear sighting and gave its beautiful song.

17th April 2013

St Asaph (John Carter)
Female. Location near St Asaph. **Left Leg ring colours silver ring and blue ring**
Found exhausted in gale put in open shed out of gale.

16th April 2013

Bredon Hill, Worcestershire (Warren Gill)
6 (3 males) on northern escarpment of Bredon Hill, Worcestershire 16/04/2013

15th April 2013

Salter's Lode, Norfolk (David Beasley)
Ring Ouzel in my garden from about 6:30 am to 8:00 am.
[Click here](#) for photo.

15th April 2013

Ventnor Isle of Wight (Perry Farrow)
Male Ring Ouzel feeding edge of copse on Stenbury Down, Wroxall near Ventnor Isle of Wight 6,30 this evening.

14th April 2013

Clevedon, north Somerset (Helen Lewis)
Single female spotted on edge of Clevedon, north Somerset.

14th April 2013

Bourton on the Water, Gloucestershire (Peter Harding)

In the last 2 weeks we have a ring ouzel visiting our garden or the meadow in front, male. This is in Bourton on the Water, Gloucestershire

13th April 2013

South Walney (John Mccurrie)

A male and female at South Walney at about 13.00 on 13/04/2013

12th April 2013

Bodmin Moor Cornwall (Jeff Horsey)

I have seen a pair of Ring Ouzels this afternoon at BOWITHICK, an area of moorland close to Brown Willy//Roughtor on Bodmin Moor Cornwall. The crescent white mark was very obvious and the call was vaguely mistle thrush like.

10th April 2013

St David's Head (Paul Grennard)

St David's Head. 1 female seen in Porrh Melgan Valley this am

10th April 2013

Ceredigion, West Wales (Mike Waller)

1 male feeding in a sheep field beside the coast path at Llangranog, Ceredigion, West Wales.

10th April 2013

Lowther Hills (Chris Rollie)

Ouzels now in Lowther Hills and I've seen my first wheatears. Hundreds of song thrushes seemingly held up by the cold - been here since the snow of a few weeks back.

9th April 2013

Weybourne in North Norfolk (Steve Wharton)

Near large hedge on open camping field. Weybourne in North Norfolk

7th April 2013

North Yorkshire (Peter Curran)

Lots of Wheatears and Golden Plover at Scar House, North Yorkshire.

Also pair of Ouzels on Sunday the 7th April

7th April 2013

Ceredigion West Wales (Mike Waller)

2 males on coastal grassland at Mwnt in Ceredigion (West Wales).

7th April 2013

Brecon Beacons (Neil Thomas)

3 ring ouzels spotted this morning on Moel Penderyn, south of Pen y Fan Brecon Beacons. First time I have seen them in this location .

7th April 2013

Barton on Sea, Hampshire (Joanne Campbell)

Seen at 8.00am on 7th April 2013 in Fawcetts Fields, Barton on Sea, Hampshire BH25 6QF.

7th April 2013

Callington in Cornwall (Pat Russo)

Two Ring Ouzels sighted at our home (in our field), Possibly a pair. They have been here for 3 days. Is this unusual? Our location is Callington in Cornwall.

7th April 2013

Macclesfield, Cheshire (Bill Tait)

Today, early 9.30am dull weather, usual frosty start. Tegg's Nose Country Park, Nr Macclesfield, Cheshire

6th April 2013

Tavy Cleave, Dartmoor (John Lyons)

At approx 3.0pm - A pair of male and female seen in Tavy Cleave, Dartmoor, high up on East side above the prominent waterfall - female then flew overhead to West side - male stayed on grass amongst rocks - grid reference SX556832

6th April 2013

Kirkcudbrighshire (Scott Cunningham)

Gatehouse Of Fleet, Kirkcudbrighshire. 6/4/13 at 5pm. OS Grid Reference: NX605560. Spotted a ring ouzel in the back garden of one of the lodge houses at the entrance of the drive to Cally palace hotel.

5th April 2013

Stanton St Bernard, Wilts (Eddie Smith)

Milk Hill, Stanton St Bernard, Wilts. Friday 5 April 2013

5th April 2013

Stanage Edge (Bill Gordon)

First heard and then seen Ring Ouzel on Stanage today. Nest sites still covered by snow; asked 7 trick cyclists to leave the property, after they had spent some time playing in prime RZ territory. Finally got the last of the estate sheep down from the moorland, due to lamb next week, it's been a hell of a fortnight and I was just beginning to think the worse when an Ouzel lightened my spirits.

4th April 2013

Beaconsfield Chilterns (David Burch)

On 4 and 5 April 2013 (pm) in the farmland (arable fields) adjoining Sandelswood, nr Knotty Green, Beaconsfield (edge of the Chilterns) - 2 sightings of a ring ouzel.

On 7 April 2013 at approx 18:30 hours in the rear garden of my home in Mynchen Close , Knotty Green, Beaconsfield HP9 2AU - one ring ouzel

4th April 2013

Durham (John Strowger)

Ring Ouzel in Durham now, the first on 4th April, but in small numbers. Hopefully the main influx still has to arrive.

4th April 2013

North Devon coast (Julie Cannon)

Sighted single male, 4th April 2013, Speekes Mill, near Hartland Quay, north Devon coast. Approx 3 degrees temp. Sunny intervals easterly wind.

4th April 2013

(Barbara Hayman)

I have seen my first Ring Ouzel ever. He is in my front garden feeding with Blackbirds. Striking little thing.

4th April 2013

Dartmoor National Park (Brian Knibbs)

One Male Ring Ouzel seen today 4th Apr 13 at 11.10 hrs. The lone Male was perched on a granite rock adjacent to the Okehampton Army camp on the northern extremities of Dartmoor National Park.

4th April 2013

Bucknell Shropshire (Evie Bridgland)

Bucknell Shropshire borders in our field two days ago saw one which we thought was an odd coloured blackbird but now we have two very distinctly marked ouzels lovely.

2nd April 2013

St.Agnes Cornwall (Gordon McWalter)

Pair ring ouzels spent all day feeding today, April 2,2013 in unimproved pasture field on St.Agnes Beacon, St.Agnes, Cornwall, map ref. SW712505.

2nd April 2013

Abergavenny, Monmouthshire (Neil Hopkins)

There is a male Ring Ouzel in the field next to my garden. This is at Coldbrook, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire. It has been here for a few days. I don't know the grid reference but the post code, if it helps, is NP7 9SU.

1st April 2013

Wroxall, Isle of Wight (Perry Farrow)

Ring Ouzel Female. Feeding in scrub at rear of span copse, Stenbury Down, Wroxall, Isle of Wight. Sighting time 15:30 Today April 1st

1st April 2013

Fordingbridge Hants (A Hall)

Saw 2 ring ouzels, 1st April 2013 in a field by our house, near Fordingbridge, on edge of New Forest. Never seen one before, can't get close enough to tell if male/female, but they are definitely ring ouzels.

31st March 2013

Cross Somerset (Robert Beale)

Crooks Peak National Trust, Cross Somerset. At least 5 males 1 female

31st March 2013

Win Green Hill, Dorset (Jeremy Limb)

Male ring ouzel sighted amongst a huge flock of fieldfares, on Win Green Hill, Dorset, 4:30pm, March 31st. Unmistakable!

31st March 2013

ST2185,16474 (Jim Hill)

A Ring Ouzel is currently feeding amongst our cattle who have just been turned out from winter housing. Location ST2185,16474. Date 31 March 2013, time 7.30 am. Weather hard frost, Altitude,890 ft.ABSL.

First seen on our farm, we have been here 40 yrs.

30th March 2013

Down Tor, Dartmoor (Tim Keates)

Saw a pair of Ring Ouzels on Down Tor, Dartmoor 30th March 2013 at approx 5pm [SX581694]

30th March 2013

Newton Abbot, Devon (Ruth Leonard)

30/3/13 Newton Abbot, Devon. One lone male feeding with a couple of thrushes on the green in front of my house. This is a first for me.

30th March 2013

Gloucester (Virginia Newton)

A single ouzel first seen in Gloucester GL2 OPJ 30 March 2013. Stayed in garden feeding on apples till Friday 12 April. Only one seen.

29th March 2013

Rosedale (Ken Hutchinson)

The first Ring Ouzel appeared in Rosedale last **Friday, 29th March**, a week later than last year.

29th March 2013

Edmondsham Dorset (Mrs Janet Stride)

Date first seen 29 3 2013 also 1 3 2013. Female. Edmondsham Dorset BH21 5RD. Feeding on rose hips and pecking in the grass. Time now 7.30 pm

29th March 2013

Vaud, Switzerland (Sven Larsen)

March 29th, 1867 Glutieres, Vaud, Switzerland (alt. 700m.) 30 plus migrating Ring Ouzels in garden and field below chalet, feeding hard.

29th March 2013

Postbridge car-park along the Dart, Devon (Paul Manning)

Friday 29th March 2013 - Spotted a Ring Ouzel three times whilst doing a circular walk from Postbridge car-park along the Dart. The first sighting was on the hillside on the west of the Dart going north out of Postbridge (approx 300m south of the stone "beehive hut". This was not a great view and brief and we could not confirm whether it was a male or female. The second sighting was a couple hundred yards west of the "Beehive" hut, on the slope north of the river, a calling male. The third sighting was approx 100m south of the "falls", again a male.

26th March 2013

Glenridding Pier, Ullswater (Christian Grammer)

It was foraging on the ground under a Whitebeam tree (with a thrush) on the lake shore. Never seen one this low down before. Glenridding Pier, Ullswater, Penrith, Cumbria. CA11 0US

26th March 2013

Stevenage Herts (Lesley Allen)

Sighted in tree Stevenage Old Town

25th March 2013

Morte Point, Devon (Derek Stacey)

One sighted at Morte Point, Devon SS4445 on Monday morning 25th March 2013

25th March 2013

Uplyme E Devon (Graham Douglas)

DT7 3RS Uplyme E Devon.1100hrs 25/3/13 Cold, dry weather.

One male walking around a small patch of grass hunting in a similar way to a blackbird. In the front garden. V clear view from upstairs window- 10 metres. First thought albino blackbird, but too big. Perfect white bib, greyish wings. Joined quickly by female. Garden is v rural, 1 km from sea. Stayed for 10 minutes then both departed. Looked healthy. Quite a surprise, striking couple. 100% certainty on recognition.

25th March 2013

Broadhembury Devon (Nick Howgill)

Spotted 25.03.2013 on the lawn in Broadhembury Devon

24th March 2013

Pembrokeshire (Jane Davies)

We live in Pembrokeshire in a wooded valley and have a large assortment of woodland birds visiting our garden, and in winter, lots of blackbirds. Today we saw something that we have never seen before in our apple tree. It is blackbird shape and size but with a large white bib and white edges on its wings. When we looked it up we found that it must be a ring Ouzel. I rushed to get the camera but I think the attention disturbed it and it flew away. My husband saw some other birds fly from the hedge at the same time but was not able to identify them.

24th March 2013

Kiveton Park, Sheffield (Susan Parker)

It was in my garden about an hour ago. I had just put some cold potato and bread out on the steps leading down to garden. There were several blackbirds when I noticed this bird which I had never seen before. I took a couple of photos but they aren't brilliant. I just rang my neighbour, who to my delight had seen it as well.

On my previous notification I forgot to put the location of my sighting. It was in my garden at Osborne Road, Kiveton Park, Sheffield, S26 6PR

23rd March 2013

Poole, Dorset (Anona Stuart)

This is our first ever sighting of a Ring Ouzel which we verified from our bird book and your web site photo. It was a female seen in Hamworthy Park, Poole, Dorset on Sat 23.3.2013.

22nd March 2013

Heacham, Norfolk (Sue Dakin)

Fantastic a single R O in back garden for 10 minutes. My first sighting. Heacham, Norfolk.

19th March 2013

HR1 3RB (A R Nenadich)

HR1 3RB Bird table Tuesday 19th March at 13.25pm. Never seen one before.

4th March 2013

Bowland (Jude Lane)

Thought you might be interested – had our first Ring Ouzel sighting in Bowland yesterday. 4th March.

1st March 2013

Scar House Reservoir (Sue Harrison)

At Scar House Reservoir around 450 m contour. Two brown birds interacting seen high on fell side amongst quarried rock. One seen closely through bins showing pale edges to wing feathers and fitting description of first winter female. Swooping flight across quarry debris. Alighting on rocks.

1st March 2013

Lagos. Portugal (Julie Kimber)

I have seen 2 female & 1 male ring ouzel this week at Black Rock cliffs in Praia da Luz. Lagos. Portugal, Don't know if this is of any interest not being in U.K.

23rd February 2013

West Cumbria (John Lightfoot)

Saw a single female Ring Ouzel in West Cumbria. The first I've seen so I am not certain about the gender. It was feeding on the edge of a flooded kettle hole near the coast. It was a good sighting with a field scope in Beckermat.

I didn't manage to take a photograph. The bird was visible for only half an hour and I don't have a suitable camera. I do have a decent field scope (Nikon 82 mm) which I use from an upstairs window. I looked at the leucistic blackbirds online and I am convinced it was not one. It would have to have been an extraordinary facsimile. It was grey/brown in overall colour with an off white bib. The fish scale pattern on the side had a white outline and was most attractive. There was white outlining on the wing feathers. It was not the marked black and white colour of some pictures of males I have seen online hence my uncertainty over the gender. It was alone and did not mix with the many blackbirds in my garden about 100 m away. I checked it against my field guide.