

2014 - 15 Sightings

Winter sightings (2014/2015)

4th February 2015 (Jean King)

Haywards Heath, West Sussex

I first saw it on the 4th February, when it was feeding on the ground. I had put out dried mealworms and suet pellets.

It was alone and I have not seen it in the company of any others. It has appeared in my garden every day since then at various times, but it seems to stay in the vicinity.

I saw it again earlier today (11th Feb) so it has been in the area for at least a week. It has not seemed particularly nervous of other birds, but is obviously wary.

I did think that for a migrant it has arrived extremely early, but I didn't think it might have overwintered somewhere.

View four photos [HERE](#). Photo credits Peter King.

31st January 2015 (Gareth Jones)

Nant Ffrancon nr Bethesda, N Wales

1 Male present at Dinorwig quarry North Wales, also 2 at Nant Ffrancon nr Bethesda

19th January 2015 (Julian Hughes - Reserve Manager)

Ogwen Valley, Snowdonia

Four ring ouzels in the Ogwen Valley, Snowdonia (a breeding site). Have been seen by a number of birders in the last week, one of whom is sending me some pics,

because he says that they are behaving as a family group: male, female and 2 juvenile-types. I'll let you know what I get.

19th January 2015 (William Smith)

Bethesda N. Wales

1 adult female. 1st winter on moorland beside river Ogwen. Sighted on Western side of the A5 between Llyn Idwal and Bethesda.

19th January 2015 (Iolo)

Nant Ffrancon, Snowdonia

Got a text from Iolo to say that there are currently four male ouzels wintering in Nant Ffrancon, Snowdonia.

They appear to be hanging around with fieldfares and redwings much of the time.

12th January 2015 (Terry Jeffery)

Buckfastleigh Devon

26 12 2014 for about 4days. Returned today 13 01 2015. My garden eating berries at Oaklands park Buckfastleigh Devon TQ11. 0BW

Our location is Oaklands Park Buckfastleigh Devon TQ110BW. We first saw it on Boxing Day and he was here for about five days eating berries from sorbus sargentiana tree.

He returned briefly on the thirteenth of January and again for longer on the twenty first finding berries in

the border and eating cotoneaster.

View two photos [HERE](#). Photo credits Terry Jeffries.

12th January 2015 (Rosy McLaren)

Belstone Tor, Dartmoor

Seen flying from rock to rock on Belstone Tor, Dartmoor on Tuesday 6th January 2015 at approx. 2pm.

4th January 2015 (Patricia Myers)

Buckfastleigh, Devon

Male ring ouzel in our garden this am in Buckfastleigh, Devon, eating berries.

25th December 2014 (David Arnold)

Bodmin Moor Cornwall

Just to let you know that there are still ring ouzel at the Chessewring Minons Bodmin Moor Cornwall.

I saw them Christmas Day. 2 males and 1 female. Do you think they will hang around all winter? Hope this is of interest by for now happy new year

23rd December 2014 (Ted Stead)

Walpole St. Peter, West Norfolk

Spotted along a pathway in Walpole St. Peter, West Norfolk. Male bird, managed to grab a photo before he flew away. Looked in good condition. My first!!

Follow up from the Ring Ouzel Study Group::

We have consulted a few colleagues and we are all convinced that your bird is a leucistic blackbird, although probably THE most ouzel-like such leucistic blackbird we've seen, if that's any consolation. Our reasoning is as follows:

The white gorget goes too high up the throat

The overall jizz (shape) of the bird is more-blackbird-like, ie chunkier, though ouzels can look chunky when fluffed in winter!

The bird appears too uniform and deep black for an ouzel.

A very interesting bird, though, and would love to see a clearer picture of it. Thanks again for your report. Cheers,

20th December 2014 (Michael Emmett)

Trewoon, St Austell

I saw a ring ouzel 11am this morning 20-12-2014 in Cornwall, between Carne Hill and Gover Valley, Trewoon, St Austell.

10th December 2014 (Dave Wilks)

Watlington, Oxfordshire

In bushes in NW corner of Watlington sports field. Heard distinctive alarm call, then saw it several times with binoc's. Looked like a male. Grid ref: SU 69010 95024

Autumn Migration

23rd November 2014 (David Arnold)

Bodmin Moor near Minons Cornwall

On 23.11.14 around midday I saw 4 ring ouzels at the Cheesewring quarry on Bodmin Moor near Minons Cornwall, this is the first time I have ever seen them in Cornwall in 46 years of birdwatching and it was fantastic ! 3 females 1 male. I hope to go back tomorrow for some photos as they seemed to be quite settled and a good lot of berries. Hope this report is of interest

31st October 2014 (Katharine Chant)

Newquay, Cornwall

In coastal gully immediately east of Lusty Glaze, Newquay, Cornwall at 8.15am Oct 31st 2014. One bird on cliff face. SW823627.

28th October 2014 (Scott Upton)

Kinder Scout, Peak District

Grid Ref: SK 087 879 (Headwaters of the River Kinder, Kinder Scout, Peak district). 1 male and 1 female flushed from rocks by side of stream. Flew away to NW.

28th October 2014 (Kathy Carruthers)

Tavy Cleave, Dartmoor

Saw my first ever Ring Ouzel yesterday 28th October 2014. It was close to the Tavy Cleave on Dartmoor bordering farm land. It was misty but looked black and white

23rd October 2014 (Sharon Stephens)

St Leonards on Sea

Back garden in St Leonards on Sea TN38 9RA

22nd October 2014 (David Pakes)

South Brent, Devon

Between Wed 22/10/14 up to the present date 28/10/14 a group of up to 14 Ring Ouzels have been regularly sighted by myself and other local birders below the Avon Dam, South Brent, Devon. They are feeding regularly on bushes such as a hawthorn with ripe berries as well as grubbing around on the open moor. Very shy and hide away in a nearby well bushed quarry if disturbed. They have been photographed by myself and a friend Steve Hopper on a number of occasions. The group comprises both males and females. We suspect some may be juveniles. As far as we can see none of the birds is rung.

22nd October 2014 (Janet Wilkes)

Various south eastern coastal areas

Ouzeling started down South on Tuesday 14th October "through the afternoon large flocks came and went across the Dungeness Bird Observatory recording area where at total count in excess of 500+ recorded.

I understand Ouzels have been recorded most days last week around access paths at RSPB Dungeness.

Beachy Head Area, East Sussex

15th Oct 16

17th Oct 25, also a flock of 40 observed flying west of Belle Tout

18th Oct 30

20th Oct 21, I personally observed at least 7 maybe more, some refueling on berries.

Fairlight, Hastings Country Park.

Small numbers observed for most of the past week and a group of 10 feeding up at Fairlight on 20th Oct.

South Downs behind Brighton.

17th Oct 14 at Trueleigh Hill

18th Oct 15 at Trueleigh Hill

18th Oct 12 at Keymer/Ditchling

20th Oct 8 at Woolstonbury Hill

20th Oct 5 at Beeding Hill

West Sussex

19th Oct 15 at Blackdown. Other smaller numbers observed at the usual locations

It would seem that this year is another good year for migration, Although it was perhaps a little late in starting up.

22nd October 2014 (Mark Bingham)

Cheddar Gorge, Somerset

A pair of Ring Ouzel's at Cheddar gorge spotted this morning at 7.45am at the weir behind the disused hotel, they were about for about 45 minutes.

20th October 2014 (DAVID PYATT)

Grays, Essex

One ring ouzel, probably female, in my back garden, observed for 10 minutes or so.

15.00 20.10.14

606785 RM17 5EF

I have a reasonable photo if you can supply an email address to send it to.

18th October 2014 (Edward John Creed)

Newhaven East Sussex

I live at Newhaven East Sussex and a pair of ring ouzel landed in our garden at 9 15 this morning.

this is the first time I have ever seen this bird.we get plenty of winter visitors at this time including field fare and redwings feeding on the fallen apples.

15th October 2014 (Sheilagh Short)

Bracebridge,Lincoln

Dead male Ring Ouzel found this morning 15/10/14 at 8am in field above our house at

Bracebridge,Lincoln LN5 8QX. When I first saw it I was struck with the eye colour which was Bright Blue (like the background to your page). We photographed it where it was found and later in more detail at home. At the moment the condition is v.good. We identified the bird from our Bird book but have never seen one before. Would appreciate your comments before we bury it.

14th October 2014 (Phil Porter)

Lincoln

1 found dead today 14/10 by a member of the public at Lincoln SK 97405 68152. Adult male. Picture available.

14th October 2014 (Mark Dixon)

Bridlington, East Yorkshire

Coastal location, approx 2 miles from sea after strong NNE winds previous night.

14th October 2014 (Jean Bexon)

Shepshed, Leics

99% sure. Seen in brambles. Shepshed, Leics

10th October 2014 (Stephen Smith)

Poole Dorset

Sighted a juv/female ring ouzel in a hazel tree at the bottom of the garden this morning at approx 10:00hrs sitting on a branch on the edge of the tree in full sun. A brown scalloped bird about blackbird size lighter undersides, flank and throat. with a slight blueish hint to the upper sides. there was a distinctive crescent on the breast of a lighter shade of brown and a pale throat, with lighter wing edge. Garden backs onto wooded area with mixed deciduous trees and thick undergrowth. Sever gales in the area yesterday.

Location SZ 04517 94011/BH12 4JQ. Birding for many years 1st ring ouzel though, Seen many odd looking blackbirds.

2nd October 2014 (Anne Smith)

Dartmoor

Seen very clearly 2nd October 2014 on Dartmoor (about 1km north of Challacombe cottages) feeding with thrushes in a hawthorn thicket

28th September 2014 (Janet Wilkes)

East Sussex, Pett Level, Carters Flood.

Early a.m. sighting. Female Ring Ouzel flew out from a Tree alongside Royal Military Canal. Observed by my birding friend Roy Gardiner.

27th September 2014 (Fred Drake)

Slippery Ford, West Yorkshire

Seen birds at slippery ford west yorkshire over the last week 11 birds. Not known if they were the same birds .

27th September 2014 (Will Best)

Dorset

I have just seen a ring ouzel in our garden in Dorset, presumably having a break on its flight to Morocco. I have never seen one before. I thought at first that it was a mutant blackbird but clearly it isn't. It seems to be on its own .Being close to the south coast we do often see birds on the farm passing through, like whinchats and wheatears. Sept 27th.

26th September 2014 (Mark Rudd)

Alwoodley, Leeds

A solitary ring ouzel spent about 20 minutes in our back garden (Alwoodley, Leeds, LS17 8DZ) at midday today, 26th September 2014.

We live in a residential area about half a mile from the northern edge of Leeds and have very mature gardens rich in wildlife.

We do get quite a variety of garden visitors but I have never seen a ring ouzel before. It spent quite a while picking up worms and darting back into a rowan tree. It also attacked both male and female blackbirds but ignored all the finches, tits and robins.

23rd September 2014 (Lucy Shaw)

Askham and Lowther

One male seen between Askham and Lowther on 23rd sept.

21st September 2014 (Sean McLernon)

Castlerigg, Keswick

Male bird seen in a beck near Sykes Farm which is below Skelthwaite crag to the west of Castlerigg, Keswick on Sunday 21 September 2014

17th September 2014 (C. Iggulden)

The Rock, Telford

At first sighting this evening I was confused between the bird being either a blackbird or a thrush as it looked a cross between the two. Fortunately I was able to identify it clearly from a bird book and internet pictures, better still when it returned it was accompanied by three others two of which were juveniles.

13th September 2014 (Janet Wilkes)

Teesdale, Baldersdale

Saturday 13th September 2014. During an early a.m. walk I flushed a chacking ouzel from a berry laden tree on the Pennine Way at the junction of the path from Blackton Grange. Flew more than 1/2 mile west down the valley.

Spring/Summer Breeding**30th August 2014 (Joe Dale)**

Ninebanks in Northumberland

One sighted on the banks of Mohope Burn near Ninebanks in Northumberland, Landranger 87 OS ref NZ775 516

27th August 2014 (Hadden William Turner)

Stanage Edge

Juvenile/1st winter seen near the rock faces of Stanage edge 27th August.

24th August 2014 (Katy Lawrence)

Inverlael, Ullapool

Beinn Dearg nr Inverlael, Ullapool. Male sighted on the upper slopes near lochan as approaching the col.
24 Aug 2014.

19th August 2014 (Paddy Grant)

Glen Clova, Angus, Scotland

19th August 2014, 12.30hrs: Glen Clova, Angus, Scotland - male ring ouzel seen flying back & fore from E face of "The Snub" high (720m) above Loch Brandy at appx NO 336 756

17th July 2014 (Rhion Pritchard)

Pen Llithrig y Wrach, Snowdonia

Male and two juveniles on the lower slopes of Pen Llithrig y Wrach above Llyn Cowlyd (SH718618) on 17th July 2014. The species appears to have had a good breeding season this year in Snowdonia.

13th July 2014 (Simon Toomer)

Snowdon summit

Close to Snowdon summit, 1,030m on south side. Juvenile or female ring ouzel

11th July 2014 (Neil Cooper)

Stanage Edge, Peak District

Male and Female plus 3 juveniles all on the slope below Stanage edge, just north of Overstones Farm on 11/7/14

8th July 2014 (John Carberry)

Ben Ghlas, Killin, Scotland

Spotted on the western slopes of Ben Ghlas near the village of Killin in Scotland

7th July 2014 (Katherine Sambrooks)

Stanage Edge, Peak District

I saw 1 Male and 1 Female, about 800 meters apart.

The female was scavenging around for food and the male was sat on the top of the crag.

It was on Stanage edge in the Peak District moorlands.

30th June 2014 (John Bould)

High Street, Lake District

Monday 30 June 2014. On a hill walk descending from the summit of High Street in the Lake District, in a northerly direction. One pair, never seen when we have been walking in the Lake District before so thought it worth investigating.

29th June 2014 (Adrian Ledsham)

Boltshope Park, North Co Durham

Male sighted in isolated garden. Surrounding area is fell/rough grazing @ 435m.

Able to clearly distinguish from Blackbird as there was a family nearby.

28th June 2014 (Ann Shadrake)

Yorkshire Dales

Whilst participating in a challenge walk in the Dales yesterday I observed an adult Ring Ouzel spooked and fly well off a nest which had 3-4 eggs and one very recently hatched chick in it. The nest was in a

hole in a derelict wall, quite visible, a few feet off a public right of way. Probably around 100 people passed it that day.

Hopefully the disturbance at a critical nesting time will not have permanently disturbed her from returning to the nest. Grid ref available to the Study Group on request.

27th June 2014 (Tony Farren)

Goat Fell, Keswick

Cumbria, near Keswick, on slopes below southern end of Goat Crag (Wainwright Central Fells, Bleaberry Fell).

Adult female viewed for a couple of minutes, flew up with alarm call, perched on rock some distance above us.

22nd June 2014 (Steve)

Cluther rocks, Kinder, Derbyshire Peak District

Sunday 22nd June. Female, Cluther rocks area Kinder.

21st June 2014 (Paul Manning)

Black Tor, Dartmoor

Some great views of a male Ring Ouzel amongst the rocks on the slope immediately west and below Black Tor (South of Meldon Reservoir on Dartmoor).

19th June 2014 (Peter Atkins)

Bakewell, Derbyshire Peak District

One bird at the edge of the river running through Bakewell in the Peak District. Just up from the cricket ground. Did not know what it was. Described it to a man with field glasses who was a bird watcher. Told it was likely to be a ring ouzel which I had never heard of. Checked on Google to confirm.

18th June 2014 (Gill Reid)

Blakey Ridge North York Moors

Blakey Ridge north York moors at least 4 ring ouzels seen near to car park just south of the Lion Pub on down slope from the old railway track looking down to rose dale SE684990

16th June 2014 (Nicola Arnold)

Bempton Cliffs, Bridlington, East Yorkshire

Bempton cliffs near bridlington, east yorkshire. Took picture 16 june 2014 and just identified what it was!

15th June 2014 (Dr. Johann G. Schiffer)

Cadair Idris, Wales

5.06.2014 around noon time close to the summit of Craig Cwm Amarch (791 m) (Cadair Idris) / Wales. Male bird, quite nervous, probably nesting nearby. Picture taken. Undoubted identification.

15th June 2014 (Robin Hartle)

Wooler, Northumberland

Late evening (8pm) in Carey Burn valley near Wooler, Northumberland ref. 964255. Rocky, deep-sided valley, very rough ground.

14th June 2014 (Judith Copeland)

Konigsee, Bavaria, Germany

Brownish coloured, sighted ground feeding near mountain peak, Jenner, near Konigsee, Bavaria, Germany on 14th June 2014 c. 3pm

8th June 2014 (Geoff Poole)

Hope Valley, Derbyshire

Male and female spotted at Hope Valley in Derbyshire just outside Sheffield .. Along the cliff faces

6th June 2014 (Alan Deacon)

Fernworthy, Dartmoor

Spotted on Dartmoor, a male Ring Ouzel on June 6th at 634825 the Vitifer Mine leat above Fernworthy, haven't seen one for quite a while.

An update from Fiona Freshney: A very useful record you forwarded to us a few days ago. On the back of it we have found another pair of ring ouzel with fledged young in very suitable habitat and in an area we have always thought looked very suitable. To our knowledge there has been no breeding there since 1979. The female is also a second year bird we ringed in 2012 who failed to produce anything last year so we have a little story for her emerging. In fact I found the birds on the river a good 1.5km away from his grid reference. I did check the area he had referenced which had some moderately suitable habitat but it would be useful to know whether it was a rough grid reference or very accurate. Had the male of the pair I found been where he suggested on the 6th I wonder what he was doing when his female was sitting on young chicks 1.5km away ? Just be good to clarify to decide whether it is worth another look near the Vitifer mine leat or not.

6th June 2014 (Susan Brown)

Burbage Edge near Sheffield

Around 6:30am this morning (06/06/2014) saw a parent Ring Ouzel with a large chick/fledgling on South Burbage Edge near Sheffield, both looked very healthy, parent was calling to chick while they were stood on the cliff top. Never seen one before so I was overjoyed :)

3rd June 2014 (Bryan Pearson)

Kettlewell, Yorkshire Dales

Seen on 3/6/14. I was driving from Kettlewell to Wensley in Yorkshire Dales on minor road through Coverdale. Ring Ouzel flew along road in front of me for approx.100 metres and then veered onto moorland. GR985755. Clear view and white neck bib very noticeable.

31st May 2014 (David Blanden)

Great Gable Cumbria

One bird on col between the Napes and Great Gable summit. about 7-30pm on 31 May 2014. The grid ref was GR NY 209100

28th May 2014

Pateley Bridge North Yorkshire (Julia Tetley)

Greenhow, near Pateley Bridge. Really pleased - second sighting of ring ouzels, this time a pair! 28.5.14. Spotted at the rear of our house on the banking above the stream. Watched them for several minutes as

they rooted about before they flew downstream. Female appeared to go into a little 'cave' by some rock on the banking

27th May 2014

Craig y Llyn Glamorgan (Colin Richards)

Agitated female Ring Ouzel at Craig y Llyn (highest point in Glamorgan) on 27th May. Ring Ouzel ceased breeding in the county some years ago so it was good to see a potential breeding bird back at one of its former strongholds.

27th May 2014

Upper Nidderdale, North Yorkshire (Keith Allen)

Female seen at the top end of Angram reservoir, Upper Nidderdale, North Yorkshire today 27th May. Bird possibly nesting very close to the permissive footpath at top end of the reservoir.

26th May 2014 (Jonathan Jordan)

Abbey Brook Clough, South Yorkshire

I saw a male and female together in Abbey Brook Clough, South Yorkshire, SK198924, on Monday 26 May. Photo of the male at <http://www.grinah.org.uk/26mave3.jpg> taken from the other side of the clough

26th May 2014 (John Turner)

Rannerdale Notts, Crummock Ware

Photographed whilst walking up towards summit. (Have picture if interested)

Didn't know what it was until looked up on return

25th May 2014

Loch Hope, Highlands of Scotland (Gill Cameron)

We saw a female ring ouzel by Loch Hope (above Braemore Junction - Wester Ross, Highland of Scotland), 25th May 2014 - grid ref: NH 20590 79239. She was foraging, worms/insects, and not disturbed by our presence, although we had been sitting still for a while, so she may have been unaware of us eating our own lunch!

25th May 2014

Harthope Valley, Northumberland (Lorna Pedersen)

Male sighted in the Harthope Valley, Northumberland 23/05/2014 Grid NT959226 in grazed upland area with new bracken shoots.

Male (likely same bird) also sighted in trees at NT956226 flew from north side of valley.

21st May 2014

Stanage Edge Derbyshire (Tony Dale)

Male sighted below Stanage Edge on 21/05/2014 late morning. Grid ref approx 223860.

Possible sighting of a female shortly afterwards slightly further north.

21st May 2014

Tal y Llyn Ogwen and Clogwyn Mawr (Jeremy Nicholls)

Wednesday 21 May 2014 at 12.30 approx. Grid reference SH 667615 approx. On path running to west of Afon Lloer, between Tal y Llyn Ogwen and Clogwyn Mawr. Two birds, one clearly male, the other

unclear, due to distance. One bird went under a holly bush whilst the other appeared to be trying to divert us away with strident calls from its perch on a rock 25m away.

21st May 2014

Keswick Cumbria (Kay Paul)

Between the top of Causey Pike and Scar Crag near Keswick Cumbria 9am 21st May 2 Ring Ouzels
Grid ref NY215207

20th May 2014 (Carol Wrigglesworth)

Gargrave Yorkshire

Spotted in Gargrave Yorkshire by the river on the 20/05/14 at lunch time.

18th May 2014

Wasdale Cumbria (Lucy Agnew)

I saw one in Wasdale Cumbria on Sunday 18th May.

17th May 2014

Rannerdale Knotts in NW Cumbria (Roger Hiley)

Sighted a pair of Ring Ouzels on Rannerdale Knotts in NW Cumbria. (map ref NY 165 182) 1pm
Saturday, 17th May 2014

Two photos - [click here](#)

17th May 2014

Thornham. Norfolk (Shirley Lenney)

Female Ring Ouzel sighted on Ship Lane, Thornham. Norfolk around 8 am on Saturday 17th. May 2014.
We were simply having a cuppa in the lovely early sunshine when we saw the ring ouzel about 12ft
away. We looked it up in our bird book but waited till we had internet access just to make sure. We feel
so privileged to have seen such a rare bird and hope this information helps.

17th May 2014

Stanage planation (Fiona Jones)

17 may 2014 male ouzel near stanage planation (near counts butress)

16th May 2014

Stanage Pole (David Harris)

Friday 16 May 2 different sightings 1 on near Stanage Pole at 11 am and another 1 mile away near
Cowper Stone at 11.30 am.

16th May 2014

South Downs Way between Washington and Amberley (Justin Norman)

I'm pretty sure I flushed one from the scrub while riding on the South Downs Way between Washington
and Amberley today. I spun round to try and find it again as I've only seen them in the Lakes before but
couldn't find it.

16th May 2014

Rannerdale Knott, Buttermere (Carol Priestley)

Saw a ring ouzel on crags 100mts below and to the west of the summit of Rannerdale Knott, Buttermere, adjacent to the footpath.

15th May 2014

Blencathra and Causey Pike (Anthony Bywood)

Walking in Lake District this week I have seen 2 males. One on Blencathra, the other on Causey Pike. Both very distinctive and beautiful.

11th May 2014

Inchnadamph bone caves near Ullapool (Catherine Glennie)

By the Inchnadamph bone caves near Ullapool. 3 clear sightings about 4 pm 5pm on the 11th may. Conditions favourable approx 18 degrees Celsius.

11th May 2014

Greenhow, near Pateley Bridge (Julia Tetley)

Spotted a male ring ouzel this morning, 11.5.14, gathering nest material from field at the rear of our property. We live at Greenhow, near Pateley Bridge, so are very high and adjacent to huge expanses of open moorland and fields.

10th May 2014

Stanage Edge Derbyshire (Gavin Delaney)

Pair below Stanage Edge today in Derbyshire Peak District (10 May 2014). Grid ref 253 830. Also excellent male showing well in car park at 260 830 off Ringinglow Road.

7th May 2014

Llangollen N. Wales (Esther Fortun)

Female in Llangollen N. Wales on 7th May 2014

5th May 2014

Hathersage near Hope, Peak District (Stuart Donald)

Saw a ring ouzel on a tor above Hathersage yesterday morning (May 5th 2014). You can view a short video of the bird calling [HERE](#).

5th May 2014

Burbage Bridge, Peak District (Craig Bell)

Spotted a female ring ouzel 100 metres from visitor car park, Burbage Bridge, Peak District (between Sheffield and Hathersage)

2nd May 2014

Yorkshire Dales National Park (Ron Richardson)

SD 880967 Buttertubs. Yorkshire Dales National Park, (Richmondshire District Council). Female

Early arrivals

28th April 2014

Northumberland (Sarah Pape)

A single male Ring Ouzel was in my rural garden in inland Northumberland this morning, hopping around the lawn searching for insects. I have lived here for 19 years, am a regular bird watcher and have never seen one before.

27th April 2014

Harrison Ghyll in Langdale (Andrew Smith)

One bird spotted today on the north decent from Harrison ghyll in langdale

27th April 2014

RSPB Fairburn Ings West Yorkshire (Alex Scott)

Female in horse paddock @ rspb fairburn ings west yorkshire 1130 am still showing @ teatime!

25th April 2014

Coalport, Shropshire (Colin Wright)

25th April 14, 09:00 High St, Coalport, Shropshire, in the trees near the Brewery Inn. Two females in an altercation with a pair of magpies. Loud "ticking" alarm calls - clear white band visible on both individuals. After less than half a minute they both flew up upstream along the Severn Gorge towards Ironbridge.

25th April 2014

Knapton in Norfolk (Colin Johnson)

I have what I think is a dead Ring Ouzel. It flew into a friend's window in Knapton in Norfolk yesterday. I have taken photographs.

22nd April 2014

Cromarty (Gordon Haynes)

I live in Cromarty specifically at N57° 40' W004° 01', on top of the hill surrounded by farmland. The sighting was in my garden, in an apple tree at about 7.00 this morning. [Click here](#) for photos.

22nd April 2014

Little Waldingfield, Sudbury (Claire Smith)

Seen at 11.15am on 22/04/14 in CO10 0TF - Male

21st April 2014

Carlyle Walk Lincoln (George I Jones)

Easter Monday, 21 April 2014, in Chestnut tree at rear of Carlyle Walk Lincoln.

Think it was female the she was wearing a pale gray necklace.

21st April 2014

Magdalen, Kings Lynn, Norfolk (Dr Clive Girdler)

PE343BD, Magdalen, Kings lynn Norfolk. Pair feeding - arrived 21 April and here feeding again today.

Click [HERE](#) for photo.

20th April 2014

Frettenham, North of Norwich (Roger Bannock)

Male bird seen for 2 consecutive days on 20/21st April 2014 at Valley farm Frettenham, North of Norwich

19th April 2014

Kentmere (Sarah Johnson)

Grid Ref: NY 445 075. The ring ouzel was seen from the path leading up to Kentmere reservoir, not far from the old quarry.

19th April 2014

Cairngorm Mountain (David Carnegie)

In the scrub approaching the visitor car park at Cairngorm Mountain.

12th & 18th April 2014

Peak District (Tim Melling)

Three stunning photos of Ring Ouzels in the Peak District, courtesy of Tim Melling.

[Photo 1](#) [Photo 2](#) [Photo 3](#)

11th April 2014 (Paddy Grant)

Forest of Birse, near Banchory Aberdeenshire

While doing "early" BTO BBS survey on 11th April 2014 I spotted a male Ring Ouzel by the Burn of Aulmad, west of Birse Castle. I did the "late" survey on 2nd June - & noted both male & female RO on the same site. While watching across the burn valley a Merlin flew across - prompting the male RO to fly out in an exaggerated display - after a brief encounter the Merlin landed higher up the valley & the RO flew off.

On my return journey to the car I was surprised to find a second male RO about 1km lower down the track from the first pair - initially on an old stone wall - it then flew round the old dykes on an abandoned settlement & disappeared

18th April 2014

Cwmystwyth, Ceredigion (Steve Neville)

Male ring ouzel, spotted at approximately 7.30 a.m. on Friday, 18th April, 2014 at end of our garden. Address: Pant yr Odyn, Cwmystwyth, Ceredigion. Bird appeared healthy.

17th April 2014

Runham, Norfolk (Sharon Jordan)

Spotted a Ring Ouzel in my garden yesterday evening and this morning. [Click here](#) for photo. NR29 3EL Church Lane, Runham, Norfolk.

16th April 2014

Hazelbury Bryan, Dorset (Jim Kirby)

(Droop, DT10 2ED) Church Cottage and churchyard. Confirmed sighting of a male who has been in the area of our garden/churchyard for at least a week. Possible female sighted today (April 16th). Call driving my wife mad!

15th April 2014

Chinley, North Derbyshire (Tony Lee)

On Tuesday 15th April I saw 4 birds, 2M 2F in the grass just below a high wall line at Cracken Edge near Chinley in North Derbyshire. I was lucky enough at one point to have a pair in view at the same time as an M/F pair of Blackbird. I had not seen Ring Ouzel before (despite looking for them for years) and I was surprised at how light the marks on the wings were and how straight they stalked in the grass.

15th April 2014

Kinder Scout near Edale (Jolyon Medlock)

We saw one in Crowden clough on the south side of Kinder Scout near Edale at 1400 on 15 April 2014. It was just beyond a grazing fence, as the clough gets steep (GR098868). It was calling from the top of a tree (birch). I have climbed a lot of British mountains and this is only the 4th time I have seen one. Previously at Scarth Gap (Haystacks, Lake District), Sgurr a'Mhaoraich (Loch Quoich), Llyn Arenig Fawr (Bala, North Wales), all 10-15 years ago. I can provide GRefs if this helps.

15th April 2014

Mungrisdale, Cumbria (Jonathan Dunham)

Single bird near the River Glendermackin, Mungrisdale, Cumbria GR345285 on the 15 April 2014.

15th April 2014

Blackridge, West Lothian (John Davidson)

Male near Blackridge, West Lothian, Grid Ref NS 908 683 on 15 April.

This is the first Ring Ouzel I have ever seen in 50 years of looking!

14th April 2014

Dunsop Valley, Lancashire (Derek Hargreaves)

One male, Monday 14th April, Dunsop valley Lancashire

14th April 2014

Grimsby (Andrew Dyer)

Single male seen in my back garden in Grimsby (14/04/14). Didn't stay long. Thought it was a blackbird at first, but too many light patches and checking pictures in a book confirmed sighting.

13th April 2014

Cairngorms (Bunty Macdonald)

The bird appeared a couple of days ago in my garden and has been visiting a couple of times a day. [Click here](#) for the photos I managed to take. It wasn't until I showed them to a friend that she was able to say what kind of bird it was. We are a small village and the Cairngorm Mountains are about 15 miles away from us.

12th April 2014

Moel Siabod, North Wales (Tim Hanby)

A male Ring Ouzel scolded me at llyn y foel on the south side of Moel Siabod North Wales on 12th April 2014 grid ref SH 715548.

11th April 2014 (Paddy Grant)

Banchory, Aberdeenshire

Forest of Birse, near Banchory, Aberdeenshire - on N bank of Burn of Aulmad at NO 505899. I first saw a male ring ouzel here on 11th April 2014 while I was doing an early BTO BBS survey saw it again on my late BBS survey on 2 June. That day, i.e. 2nd June I saw a second male ring ouzel about a kilometer down the valley at NO 516903. I returned on 6th June and was able to photograph the "505899" bird before it flew off to S bank of burn. I didn't see a bird at the second site again.

11th April 2014

Hampshire (Rick Smith)

I spotted a ring ouzel in Hampshire today, 11th April 2014, in a newly mown grass area feeding alongside blackbirds, location was a privately owned fishery.

10th April 2014

Halesowen (John Green)

Seen in Halesowen, road rear of cricket club

10th April 2014

Cornwall (Gillian Nott)

Seen today about 1.00 pm. Have never seen one before down here in Cornwall. [Click here](#) for photos, though not brilliant, as I only have a diddy compact camera.

Grid reference SW 863601

9th April 2014

Kidlington, Oxfordshire (Trevor Knibbs)

Wednesday 9th April. Female ring ouzel seen on freshly planted spring barley field that borders the Begbroke Science Park (OX5 1PF) and the canal at Kidlington, Oxfordshire.

8th April 2014

Llanmadoc Hill in The Gower (Jan and David Sambell)

Male ring ouzel seen yesterday morning (08.04.14) on western end of Llanmadoc Hill in The Gower, South Wales. No doubt about it - had several good views. Very excited - it's the first one we've ever seen!

5th April 2014

North Wirral peninsula (Gill Lewis)

Seen on our shed roof this afternoon 05/04/2014.

We live in CH45 5HZ. An urban area on the North of the Wirral peninsula. Click [HERE](#) for photos.

4th April 2014

Pride Park Sanctuary, Derby (Antony Pooles)

Male Ring Ouzel showing well whilst feeding on the side of the grass mound late afternoon (4.30 - 5pm)

4th April 2014

Tidal Thames at Crossness (Michael F Robinson)

I first saw the bird on Friday 4 April 2014 (early afternoon) on the foreshore beside the tidal Thames at Crossness (close to the Outfall of the Crossness Sewage Treatment Works)

3rd April 2014

Ashtead, Surrey (Paul Hicks)

Noon on Wednesday 3 April a male on a bird bath in my garden in Ashtead, Surrey, KT21 1RW. Stayed a couple of minutes and then flew off.

3rd April 2014 (Val Edgcombe)

Eccles-on-sea, Norwich

Seen at NR12 0SL on 3/4/2014

1st April 2014

Stoke Abbott, W. Dorset (Caroline Carless)

An intelligent elderly friend of ours here in Stoke Abbott in W. Dorset today brought in a drawing she had made of a bird she saw in her garden on 1st or 2nd April. She'd never seen one like it before. The white crescent on its breast was very clear. She said it 'walked like a woodpecker', & that its beak looked longer than the pictures we showed her, but otherwise the marking & the size looked right.

1st April 2014

Coniston, Cumbria (Sue Hazelwood)

4 male ring ouzels seen on broken ground & screes east of Goats Water, Coniston, Cumbria GR: SD267980 5pm.

Very vocal, alarm calls & territorial flights. Weather conditions clear, sunshine, warm, light winds after low mist in afternoon.

28th/29th/31st March 2014

Derbyshire Bridge, Derbyshire and Dane Bower, Cheshire (Sandra Douglas)

At Dane Bower, Cheshire, near chimney and also at disused quarry, OS Ref. SJ997699- seen on the 28th/29th /31st. March 2014- pair

At Derbyshire Bridge, Derbyshire, near Rangers' Station, OS Ref. SK017717- seen on 31/03/2014- male

31st March 2014

Mennock Pass, Dumfries & Galloway (Robert Hannam)

Greetings from Dumfries & Galloway.

Heard then saw a male Ring Ouzel today 31/3/14 from the Mennock Pass road B797, NS842101 approx. This is the earliest I have ever seen one in these parts. (Usually mid-April at least.)

31st March 2014

Herts/Beds border (Steve Austin)

Male on Herts/Beds border at the edge of Pegsdon Hills NR

30th March 2014

Tavy Cleave (Charlie)

I managed my first visit of the year to Tavy Cleave today and was amazed to find a pair of ring ouzels already happily in situ around the leat head area. Still only March! The handsome and confiding male was chacking away in low trees among the boulders above the leat head building, and closely guarding a female. They were following each other around. He was unringed. She was harder to see, and when she did sit in a tree her legs were a bit obscured by branches, however just before she flew further away I

thought I spotted a white ring around her right leg. I could be wrong. This was only through binoculars at distance and I'm only sorry I couldn't see more than that tantalising glimpse - v frustrating! But, vague ring possibilities aside, great to know they're back.

30th March 2014

Hollinsclough Staffordshire (Tim Hanby)

Seen pair near Hollinsclough Staffordshire, between Longnor/Flash 30/03/14

30th March 2014

Branston Water Park, Staffs (John Lloyd)

Was walking around Branston Water Park Staffs about 2 hours ago 17.00 Sunday 30th March 2014, we saw a brown blackbird sized bird with dark orange beak and white crescent mark on chest. After comparing various birds including leucistic blackbirds in both books and internet, we are convinced this was a Ringed Ouzel. We watched it for a couple of minutes fascinated as neither of us has seen one before. I'd appreciate any feedback as to whether they have been seen here before.

29th March 2014

Aber Falls, Gwynedd (John Rowlands)

Mature adult male ring ouzel showing very well on rocky hillside beside Afon Goch stream just above Aber Falls, Gwynedd, North Wales yesterday 29th March 2014 at 4pm.

26th March 2014

Clwydian Hills, North Wales (Glenn Morris)

Two adults at Moel Arthur in the Clwydian Hills, North Wales, on March 26th. Early date for this site. Sent to BTO Birdtrack and photographed.

OS X (Eastings) 315460

OS Y (Northings) 365795

LR SJ154657

26th March 2014

Wainstalls Halifax (Anthony Robertshaw)

I saw a ring ouzel this afternoon 26.03.14 Hunters Hill area off Withens Road Wainstalls Halifax in gully leading down to golf course [53°46'5.25"N 1°55'29.95"W,] I was at the bottom end near the golf course, it flew from a bush up the valley, and sat on an outcrop, I had a good view through binocs. I left it in the valley, around 4.45 pm

26th March 2014

Weardale Co. Durham (James Anderson)

Just to keep up the momentum of notifications there was a single male in Weardale today, in the company of several Wheatears, near to a known breeding site.

24th March 2014

Enford, Wiltshire (Frank Horsford)

6.30 am 24/03/14. Saw what I first thought was a blackbird on river bank. Viewed through binoculars and saw large white "bib " below throat.

22nd March 2014

Bollihope, Co Durham (John Strowger)

First RZ back at Bollihope, Co Durham on 22 March, two males. Wheatears also.

22nd March 2014

Hatfield Forest, Essex (Geoff Vowles)

Male at Hatfield Forest, Essex. central plain 11.00am 21st March- seen for 15 minutes

21st March 2014

Rosedale (Ken Hutchinson)

Male RZ seen in Rosedale last Friday morning - 21st.

Previous earliest date was also the 21st in 2012.

17th March 2014

Stanage Edge (Bill & Flo)

Just to let you know that we had a walk through our RZ territories this morning on Stanage and found a singing male in 2 territories, possibly the same male, unringed and looking in great condition.

17th March 2014

Snowdonia (David Smith)

First bird I'm aware of here in southern Snowdonia, was a male singing on Cadair Idris on 16th March.

Fresh snow on the tops here last week or so, which might have slowed things up a bit. First Wheatear of the year on the Berwyn Mountains yesterday.

Very cold again today, so think Spring is on hold again for the mo.....!

5th March 2014

Maesteg, Glamorgan (Colin Richards)

Adult male seen today 5/3/2014 on the heather and bilberry covered western slopes of Mynydd Bach above Maesteg, Glamorgan - an early bird for this area.

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.