

RING OUZEL SIGHTINGS - 2012

Early arrivals

4th March 2012 (Rita Pretorius)

Harpenden, Hertfordshire

This is just a note to say that 7 ring ouzels were outside my house early this morning in Harpenden, Hertfordshire. Unfortunately I can not report how many male or female as I have never seen them here before and it was a bit of a surprise. They were then disturbed by a lovely colourful pheasant. A lovely and unusual way to start the day.

11th March 2012 (Adam Ritchie)

Inverchoran, Stathconnon, E. Ross

Ring Ouzel singing (not observed) at Inverchoran, Stathconnon, E. Ross approx NH 263496 at 10.45hrs on 11.03.12

14th March 2012 (Alistair Crowle)

Teesdale

One in North Pennines (Teesdale) a couple of days ago.

15th March 2012 (Peter Gordon)

Glen Clunie

My brother saw two last Thursday (15th) at Glen Clunie.

19th March 2012 (Perry Farrow)

St Lawrence, near Ventnor Isle of Wight

Male Ring Ouzel St Lawrence near Ventnor Isle of Wight 2pm on cliff top March 19 2012 flew north west.

21st March 2012 (Vic Fairbrother)

Rosedale, North York Moors

First of the year back in Rosedale, North York Moors today 21st March.

Our birds are not usually in the first vanguard of returns but this is still 2 days earlier than last year which was then our earliest.

22nd March 2012 (Tim Melling)

Stanage Edge Derbyshire

Bill Gordon just phoned to say that the first two Ring Ouzels (male and female) are back on Stanage this morning.

24th March 2012 (Barrie Simpson)

Langden Valley, Bowland Lancashire

Sighting 24 March 2012, Langden Valley, near Langden Castle (old Barn). Male singing from a tree close to footpath that leads down to Langden Castle

24th March 2012 (Jude Lane)

Langden Valley, Bowland Lancashire

Just to add to this, a pair was seen in same vicinity on same date and a male was singing in Brown berry clough.

25th March 2012 (Peter Curran)

Scar House reservoir

Yesterday the 25th of March I saw 7 Ouzels at Scar House reservoir. Fingers crossed a good year coming.

25th March 2012 (Peter Dawes)

Whitgreave Staffordshire

Watched one on my house roof looking for insects for about 30 mins then flew off

25th March 2012 (Dave Smith)

Coniston and Langdales

Singing and calling birds at five crag/quarry sites on Coniston and Langdales on 25th and 26th, in the Lakes.

They do seem to be getting their act together early on in this superb weather!

26th March 2012 (Bill Underwood)

Arnfield Reservoir, Derbyshire

Colour Ringed Ring Ouzel report from Bill.

Male

Grid Reference SK0298

Right Leg ring colours: BTO over yellow

Left Leg ring colours: green over white

Mike Nicoll has identified the bird as follows.

It was a pullus male, ring number LB49276, age 10 days (scored as a 'black' = male) ringed from a brood of 4 on 14/6/2009 at NO4478 in Glen Effock.

Mike hasn't seen the bird back in Glen Effock since he ringed it, so where is it breeding? Might be worth asking Bill Underwood to check if this bird might be breeding close to where he saw it?

29th March 2012 (John Roberts)

Moel y Parc Bodfari Flintshire

3 Ring Ouzels seen (2 males & female) seen at Moel y Parc Bodfari Flintshire. 29-03-12

30th March 2012 (Perry Farrow)

Stenbury Down, IoW

Male ring ouzel on Stenbury Down @ 1015 on March 30 2012

30th March 2012 (Richard Evans)

Torfaen, South Wales

Spotted a male and female Ring Ouzel on the Blorenge mountain in Torfaen, South Wales.

31st March 2012 (Tim Knibbs)

Bexhill, East Sussex

Just seen a ring ouzel in the garden - Bexhill, East Sussex 31/03/2012

31st March and 28th April 2012 (Janet Wilkes)

Bollihope, County Durham

On 31st March at Bollihope, County Durham a Male and female Ring Ouzel.

On 28th April at the same site again I saw both Male and Female Ring Ouzel but on this occasion the male was

feeding on the opposite side of the road and flew across with food in beak, hence evidence of nesting. Using the car as a hide superb views of the birds were obtained. Typical Ring Ouzel habitat quiet location, edge of sheep grazed heather moorland, disused slate quarries, rocky ravines. I intend to monitor this location and will give you further updates.²

1st April 2012 (Angie Rogers)

Widdop Reservoir, Calderdale

One Ring Ouzel on Sunday 1st April. It was clearly a male, flew across to a small tree by the reservoir and then appeared to be chased off by an angry meadow pipit. We have never seen one before.

2nd April 2012 (Robert Downham)

Brentwood, Essex

Sighted, perched in a garden tree, also recognised call. Middleton Rd, Brentwood, Essex. Date: 02/04/2012 1105hrs.

3rd April 2012 (Andrea Rampley)

St Ives, Cornwall

Spotted Ring Ouzel flying round Rosewall Hill (NT) which is just to the west of St Ives, Cornwall above the B3306, this afternoon - 03.04.12

4th April 2012 (Pearl Taylor)

Caister on Sea, Great Yarmouth

At first I thought it was a female blackbird, but then saw the large white crescent on its chest going up to the top of its shoulders. It flew into a large hawthorn bush in my garden, then onto the ground. It was acting like a blackbird looking around plants for anything it could find. I went to get my camera but of course it had gone before I returned! The time was about 8.30 am this morning, April 4th 2012. I live in Caister on sea near great yarmouth, and about 500 meters from the sea. I keep looking out but haven't seen it anymore. I will keep watching and let you know if I see it again. I am almost 100% sure it was a ring ouzel, and of course would love to see it again.

4th April 2012 (David John Quinn)

Bridgend South Wales

Had a pair on my site at Bridgend South Wales during the cold weather last year & identified another last week Wednesday 4th April

4th April 2012 (David Richard Witty)

Babraham Research Campus, Cambridge

On lawn in front of main house at 5:50 pm 4/4/2012

5th April 2012 (Claire Richardson)

Newquay, Cornwall

Sighted in field between Truro and Newquay in Cornwall on 5/4/12. One male bird occasionally pecking at the ground.

5th April 2012 (Guy Pocock)

Coniston Old Man, Lake District

I spotted a ring ouzel today (5th April) whilst climbing Coniston Old Man in the Lake District. I'm not a bird

watcher, but was so stuck by its colour and song that I looked it up when I arrived home!
I walk a lot in the lakes, but have never spotted one before.

5th April 2012 (D. Swithenbank)

Three Shires Head, Staffordshire Moorlands

Two plus pairs on Staffordshire - Cheshire border at Three Shires Head, Staffordshire Moorlands 5th April 2012 c.1pm. Good views of chattering and tuneless flighty birds in very sunny conditions, feeding, chasing and posturing with broken snow on ground after northerly winds and snowfall of yesterday 4th April.

7th April 2012 (Gary Sanderson)

Norton Green, Stevenage

Male seen for the last week on Norton Green in Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

See a photo of this bird <[here](#)>

7th April 2012 (Colin Ashcroft)

Bray Clough, Moorfield Glossop, Derbyshire

A very distant view of a possible pair at Bray Clough, Moorfield Glossop Derbyshire. A certain male and second Ouzel probable female. Reported to BTO birdtrack 7/4/12 16:00

Photographs on Flickr at:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/vitalsparks/6908275528/in/photostream>

Click Newer to see likely female. Or Older for the original picture with the two birds in - I only saw the male at the time I took my photos; found the possible female when I got home.

Bray Clough has been a successful site in the past so I'm sure you know of it.

Also click <[here](#)> to see one of the photos taken by Colin.

8th April 2012 (Toby Neilson)

Clitheroe, Lancs

I am 90% sure I saw a Ring Ouzel in Clitheroe, Lancs. Was by a river bend in a farm field, very fleeting sighting, head popped up and back down again

8th April 2012 (Ian Ellis)

Frith Manor Farm, London N12

A splendid male this evening just up the road from home, at Frith Manor Farm, London N12. Probably 1-2 pass through each spring but this is my first locally for 6 years, and what a cracker he is.

8th April 2012 (Pauline Collinson)

Bolton Abbey, North Yorks

While during a tour of the Yorkshire Dales on Sunday 8th April we saw a ring ouzel in a field with sheep in Bolton Abbey.

11th April 2012 (Gareth Gaunt)

Carlshead Farms, Sicklinghall

3 ring Ouzels seen at Carlshead Farms, Paddock House Lane, Sicklinghall 11/4/12

13th April 2012 (John Wyatt)

Lubenham, Leicestershire

Two of these birds feeding with our regular visitors the Fieldfare. Didn't recognise at first but the distinctive markings were, upon research, no doubt that of the Ring Ouzel. Observed Lubenham Leicestershire, 13/04/12.

13th April 2012 (Ben Andrew)

Chandlers Ford, Hampshire

In back garden for last week in Chandlers Ford, Hampshire. Reported to me at the RSPB.

13th April 2012 (Ray Holland)

Skeyton, Nr Norwich

Three sighted in field next to my boundary feeding on earth worms and then going back into a nearby Hawthorn Tree. Location Skeyton, Nr Norwich, Norfolk. Pictures taken by Les Rance, Secretary.

14th April 2012 (Elizabeth Willson)

North Walsham, Norfolk

Male Ring Ouzel spotted in a field in Felmingham, North Walsham, Norfolk

14th April 2012 (Ricky Hooper)

Walton Hill, Clent

4 sighted on the side of Walton Hill Clent.

14th April 2012 (Hazel Dewar)

Skegness

My garden in Skegness on Saturday 14th April at 10.30am.

14th April 2012 (Arne D. Swithenbank)

Staffordshire Moorlands

After previous visit to upper reaches of the R Dane on 5th April as previously submitted I returned to find a busily ground feeding party of 7 definite individuals on hill sides close to Three Shires Farm in the Staffordshire Moorlands. Of these I considered 5 to be males. As the party was flitting about somewhat I felt there were probably more birds in total, perhaps 10 or even 12.

Returned next day Sunday 15th April and saw a definite 6 at one time but again there were evidently more in total. Also it seemed 'birders' had become aware of them as by mid afternoon they were equalling or outnumbering the Ring Ouzels and sadly I thought their presence potentially disturbing.

14th April 2012 (Mr Tye Jennis)

Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk

A pair of ring ouzels feeding on a grassy field, location Ormesby, Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk, date 14th April 2012.

15th April 2012 (Jean Ashcroft)

Old Glossop, Derbyshire

I saw a pair of Ring Ouzels at map ref SK060 946. From public footpath at start of Doctors Gate Footpath, Mossy Lea, Old Glossop Derbyshire. Where Yellowslacks Brook meets Shelf Brook. Close view of female who alarmed and sat on top of a wall as I went back. Male close by but high up further from footpath. Female Wheatear was in between the pair.

15th April 2012 (Peter Ellse)

Brigg, North Lincolnshire

Sighted at 08:30 am in back garden, 15/4/2012. Broughton, Brigg, North Lincolnshire.

15th April 2012 (Stewart Pritchard)

Stuc a Chroin, Perth & Kinross

2 birds (pair?) seen on Sun 15/4/12 around foot of crags on E face of Stuc a Chroin, Perth & Kinross. NN618177.

One flew round calling when disturbed.

15th April 2012 (Ian Forrest)

Park Nab, Kildale, North Yorkshire

Grid Reference - NZ609085

Right Leg ring colours - possibly grey or pale green or pale blue or maybe just the metal BTO type ring. Not clearly visible

Left Leg ring colours - yellow over orange.

Other comments - Bird was seen/photographed by a Teesmouth Bird Club member Simon Elliott. Photo is available. I have reported the sighting on his behalf with his knowledge as he was uncertain how to do so.

If one of yours I'd appreciate its history for information of the County Recorder. The bird was alive and well with at least one other Ring Ouzel.

15th April 2012 (Ian Henry Ferguson)

Carsington Reservoir, Derbyshire

Harborough Rocks, N of Carsington Reservoir, White Peak District, ~10-30am 15-04-2012.

Watching skylark and meadow pipits (?) ~50m S of the trig point. Wife with binoculars looking W claims to have seen something dark with white chest, somewhat like a dipper. Didn't strike me as the habitat for a dipper !

Checked on whereabouts of our two year old, and had a look. Unmistakeable male Ring Ouzel at 150-200m.

Several showings. My first UK R/O, although I've seen one in Lofoten and looked them up as I'm a climber. Chuffed !

16th April 2012 (Julia Denny)

Willowmead Alpacas, Ipswich

We have a male ring ouzel here at Willowmead Alpacas - just north of Ipswich. He has been around all day.

16th April 2012 (David Wilson)

Corndon Hill, Powys

Four Ring Ouzels seen together below Corndon Hill, Powys at SO 301965 on the 16th April 2012.

16th April 2012 (Gus Vickery)

Winkfield nr Ascot

We had a visit from a male Ring Ouzel on 16.04.2012. It flew into a mixed hawthorn bush where we could observe it for quite some time.

Very nice as we have never ever seen one before. The location is Winkfield nr Ascot.

20th April 2012 (Jackie Becker)

Geneva

I have lived in the Alps for much of the past fifteen years and have noted birds which have appeared in my garden.

In April 2012 a flock of 10-12 ring ouzels arrived and stayed for just a couple of days I think. I have never seen

these birds here before, but I note that they would have been migrating north from Spain to Scandinavia at this time. I am just east of Geneva at 900m, and I photographed the ouzels on 20 April.

22nd April 2012 (Emily Holmes)

Maud and Strichen, Aberdeenshire

Seen on the Formartine and Buchan way, between Maud and Strichen in Aberdeenshire.

22nd April 2012 (Janet Crowhurst)

South Creake, Norfolk

Sighted on 22nd April on the caravan site at Compton Hall South Creake Norfolk NR21 9JD. We watched a male hunting around the caravan for about half an hour. We didn't notice any coloured ring on it.

23rd April 2012 (Christopher Wilcock)

Settle, North Yorkshire

One lone bird seen Dry Rigg quarry, Helwith Bridge nr Settle North Yorkshire. 1400 hrs 23rd April 2012.

24th April 2012 (Andrew Schofield)

Meltham nr Huddersfield, Yorks

I saw 3 ring ouzels today 24.4.12 at Wessenden reservoir Meltham nr Huddersfield

24th April 2012 (Debbie England)

Dovercourt, Essex

1 male ring ouzel and what we assume was a female / young adult seen in our garden in Dovercourt, Essex on afternoon of 24/04/2012. Male feeding on earthworms which he was pulling from lawn. Male returned later in afternoon, ate more worms, and then spent about 3/4 hour "sitting /resting" on lawn, prior to standing and then flying away.

24th April 2012 (Nicola Chester)

Inkpen, Hungerford, Berks

Combe Gibbet (Gallows Down) near Inkpen, Hungerford, Berks. A pair on the downs for 12 days 12th-24th April.

24th April 2012 (Wendy Beman)

Oldbury, West Midlands

First saw female ring ouzel on 24/4/12 in my garden in Oldbury West Midlands. A few days later I saw another bird this I think was a male bird. I was able to get my camera and filmed it for some time while it sat in a tree. I have seen the female bird every day since .

28th April 2012 (M. Johnson)

Smalley, Derbyshire

Saw a pair of Ring Ouzels several times throughout the day in a field which was heavily grazed by cattle behind my house in Smalley, Derbyshire. They were feeding on worms. The male was seen far more frequently than the female.

29th April 2012 (Kevin Hutchby)

Pride Park, Derby

Male present April 29th/30th. The Sanctuary Nature Reserve, Pride Park, Derby

29th April 2012 (J.BELLAMY)

Stuartfield, Aberdeenshire

Sighted 2 Ring Ouzals on the 29th of April in a field between Old Deer and Stuartfield in Aberdeenshire.

1st May 2012 (Chas Ryder)

Mynydd Eglwysilan, South Wales

Single male sighted Mynydd Eglwysilan, South Wales. Sat on wall and then moved to fence post, being mobbed by three Meadow Pipits and a couple of Pied Wagtails.

3rd May 2012 (Paul Grady)

St Annes, Lancashire

Sighted in my garden on 3rd May, 2012. Location Lytham St Annes, Lancashire, about 500m from shoreline. Hadn't seen this type of bird before.

Initial sighting was at 0830 and several other visits to feed during the day. Only a single bird seen.

Photos at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/pcgrady/sets/72157629956478685/>

3rd May 2012 (Alex Graham)

Bexhill-On-Sea, East Sussex

In my back garden. TN40 2SH.

5th May 2012 (Andy Tharratt)

The Buttertubs, North Yorkshire

Single ring ouzel flushed from pothole by road, and clearly observed on the hillside above for 10-15 minutes.

5th May 2012 (Arne D. Swithenbank)

Three Shires Farm, Staffordshire-Derbyshire border

After previous reports 5th and 14th April returned to Three Shires Farm location on Staffordshire-Derbyshire border

5th May 2012 and delighted to find a definite 12 separate individuals feeding together in same field as previously.

Several Fieldfares also present. Weather cool, overcast and wind generally northerly.

6th May 2012 (Geoff Carss)

Cotswold Water Park. Wiltshire

Cotswold Water Park. Wiltshire/ Gloucestershire border. Sunday 6th May. see my blog -

<http://sherstonwildlife.wordpress.com/>

7th May 2012 (Sue Daly)

Sark, Channel Islands

Seen on the west coast of Sark, one of the Channel Islands, today and two days earlier.

7th May 2012 (Steve Austin)

Knocking Hoe NNR, Bedfordshire

Single female sharing Knocking Hoe NNR in Bedfordshire with 3-4 Wheatear

Spring/Summer Breeding

5th May 2012 (Kirsty Swinburn)

Bamford Edge, Derbyshire

On Saturday (May 5th) I watched a breeding pair of Ring Ouzels on Bamford Edge, Derbyshire. Both male and female were seen taking good quantities of food to the nest and chicks were heard calling.

11th and 20th May 2012 (Simon Wotton)

Snowdonia

A male ring ouzel, colour ringed as a chick in Glen Clunie in Aberdeenshire in 2008, has been seen breeding in Snowdonia in 2012 during the national survey PER Simon Wotton.

The left leg combination was orange plastic ring over BTO metal ring, WHICH IDENTIFIES IT AS A CLUNIE BIRD.

This is a significant dispersal

The male was recorded on both survey visits (11th May and 20th June), in tetrad SH6458 – on the northern slopes of Glyder Fach.

16th May 2012 (Mike Johnson)

Langdale, Lake District

Near the top of Pike'o'Blisco today 16/5/12. Just off main path out of Langdale Lake District just starting to snow!! sitting on a rock 5 metres away for a while great view no camera very pleased with sighting

16th May 2012 (Tim Goffe)

Newlands Valley, Cumbria

A single bird on the eastern spur of Wanhope in the Newlands valley, Cumbria at around 6pm on Wednesday 16th May 2012.

17th May 2012 (Glyn Taylor)

Hepburn Moor, Northumberland

Sighted male as I walked to the summit of Ross castle hill on Hepburn Moor in Northumberland. He was on the short grass area on the very summit, to its very nature it immediately flew away as I walked over the brow of heather banks, its distinctive cluck cluck alarm call gave it away. A pleasure to see, a real joy!

20th May 2012 (Paul Barry)

Rowen, Conwy Valley

Spotted a Ring Ouzel climbing up to Tal-y-Fan summit today near the village of Rowen in the Conwy Valley

20th May 2012 (Alberto Di Dio)

Rhinogydd mountains, Gwynedd, Wales

2 ring ouzels on the Rhinogydd (Snowdonia National Park, N of Dolgellau).

i) male in flight over open grass near the Y Llethr summit (1300h);

ii) female browsing on the ground in heather near Diffwys top towards the SE cliffs (1400-1430h).

20th May 2012 (Stewart Pritchard)

Creag Meagaidh

2 ring ouzels together amongst the screes below The Window of Creag Meagaidh (national nature reserve) NN428884. Short distance below the snow line.

20th May 2012 (Walter Ramage)

South side of Loch Etive

Whilst hill walking down Glen Etive on Saturday 20th May we spotted a Ring Ouzel.
It flew off too quickly to identify gender.
It was on the East ridge of Beinn Trilleachan on the South side of Loch Etive.

22nd May 2012 (Nathan Roche)

Abergwyngregyn waterfalls, Llanfairfechan

About 4.30 pm today (22 May 2012) on the footpath between the two Abergwyngregyn waterfalls (this is North Wales, just W of Llanfairfechan). It flew off but I had a clear view through my binoculars (I was primarily looking for Redstarts which are seen around here). White throat patch was large and very obvious in the sunshine. Had yellow bill and plumage not quite as black as a male blackbird (kind of starling-like), Just like your photos. Never seen them in this area before,

22nd May 2012 (Bill Underwood)

Arnfield Reservoir, Derbyshire

Male seen at Arnfield Reservoir, Derbyshire, Grid Ref SK085989. Right Leg BTO over Yellow, Left Leg Dark Green over White.

Ringed as a pullus LB49276 from a brood of 4 on 14/06/2009 at NO4478 in Glen Effock ,Angus,Scotland.

24th May 2012 (Richard Chadwick)

Rosendale, North York Moors

Adult male seen taking food to nest and 4 young found off road between Hutton-Le-hole and Rosendale, North York Moors. 24th May. Record will be submitted to BTO via Nest Record card

25th May 2012 (Elizabeth Baum)

Park Head Station, Weardale

I saw a ring ouzel today in Weardale on the track near Park Head Station. It was brownish and had a white bib. Too far to tell if it was ringed. I was very excited as haven't seen one since many years ago on the moors above Rothbury. Northumberland.

29th May 2012 (Robert Watt Frew)

Pentland Hills near Edinburgh

Single bird sighted on Sunday 29th May in Pentland Hills near Edinburgh approx 1 mile from Red Moss reserve.

31st May 2012 (Andrew Marshall)

Stockton-on-Tees

I saw a female today 31/05 in Durham Road Cemetery in Stockton-on-Tees. It seemed to be more brown than black which makes me think it was a female.

10th June 2012 (Sheila Walker)

Coverdale, North Yorks

For the last 3 years I have watched ring ouzels in the hills in Coverdale North Yorks. I have been lucky enough to observe a fledgling pecking its way along. This was Sunday 10th June. There seem to be at least two families in this area. Lots of whistling and chattering.

10th June 2012 (Mick Jackson)

Snape Heights, near Withnell, Lancashire

One male perched on top of a hawthorn bush in open farmland, near a farm, near Snape Heights, near Withnell, Lancashire. Spotted briefly at 11.50am on 10 June 2012.

19th June 2012 (Edward McLynn)

Stafford

Seen at lunchtime on the 19th June 2012 at the Meadow Road playpark Stafford

24th June 2012 (Colin Ashcroft)

Longdendale Derbyshire

A pair of Ring Ouzel spotted below Deer Knowl in Longdendale Derbyshire this afternoon 24 June. They look like successful breeders. Female bird clearly carrying food. Managed a quick snap of the

Male. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/vitalsparks/7433632918/>

24th June 2012 (Derek White)

Snowdon, Wales

On the PYG track on Snowdon 24th June 2012 about half way

7th July 2012 (Christine Davies)

Aberffraw, Anglesey

Walking on the common at Aberffraw (Anglesey) my dog was 'dive bombed' by a male ring ouzel. It was clearly trying to chase us away from that particular area so we turned and went back. The bird followed us briefly then turned back and landed near a rabbit warren and disappeared down a rabbit hole - suggesting it has eggs/fledglings in the rabbit hole - many of which are disused now. Fascinating. Wasn't sure what it was but checked it out online and it was definitely a Ring Ouzel. A real thrill for me, if not for my dog - or the bird!

8th July 2012 (John Hill)

Ilkley Moor

Ilkley Moor in the bushes around the entrance pathway

15th July 2012 (Janet Wilkes)

Bollihope, Co Durham

Update as promised reference previous Ring Ouzel sightings at Bollihope, Co Durham. Follow up visits to this site on 10th June, 1st July and 15th July have failed to produce any sightings and evidence of Ring Ouzel nesting. I can only conclude that due to the Wet, Windy weather conditions that the nest in the ravine at the end of April failed. I have spent several hours at this site checking disused slate quarries, rocks, trees and crevices but no success. I feel this information is relevant and hope it helps with your study group, Have other people experienced the same?

28th July 2012 (Peter Gordon)

Cairngorm

I thought this [photo](#) of a Ring Ouzel taken at Cairngorm car park on Saturday illustrates the post-breeding moult rather well.

26th August 2012 (Willie Jeffrey)

A'Chailleach, Glencoe

Male spotted on A'Chailleach Pass, Glencoe. Grid ref nn 187571 at 581 mtrs. 26th Aug 2012. Very friendly; it flew to us and hopped in front of us as we ascended hillside. No ring on leg.

August 2012 (Arne D. Swithenbank)

Staffordshire Moorlands

Since my last report (5th May 2012) from the northern tip of the Staffordshire Moorlands close to Three Shires Head when 12 individuals were seen feeding together I have made occasional return visits. Just a week later on 12th and 13th May in a clough to the north of Three Shires Farm the activity was of just one pair in very suitable nest habitat at an altitude between 400m and 450m. Failed to find them again until 4th June at the same place when they were busily distracted in the rather distressing task (obviously for them and somewhat for me) of mobbing a stoat which was conducting hunting forays up on to the moor. Twice I watched the stoat carry with great vigour some large chick or other, Grouse or possibly Curlew, over surprising distance bounding through rushes and over a stream. How the Ring Ouzels would fare seemed open to some doubt and I didn't find them again.

Autumn Migration

13th October 2012 (Lynette Clifford)

Coventry

Saw ring ouzel on the fence in my back garden at 15:00 hrs on the 13/10/2012. Location Coventry cv6 5hj. It stayed for 5 mins then went on it's way. Never seen one here before. Could not see any rings on its legs

13th October 2012 (Jim Norris)

Dunfermline

In back garden at my home in Dunfermline. Date of sighting 13 October 2012.

17th October 2012 (Tony Buckle)

St.Leonards-on-Sea, E.Sussex. TN389JG

Have seen a Ring Ouzel at my home in St.Leonards-on-Sea ,E.Sussex. TN389JG, for the last 3 days. I have never seen one before.

17th October 2012 (Nicola Taylor)

Newton-by-the-sea, Alnwick. NU23594 25466

Mature female seen for two consecutive days feeding on lawn and sitting on stone wall.

17th October 2012 (Len Roddis)

Bexhill, Kent. TN39 3QH TQ 7306 0792

10am 17 Oct 2012. Grey beak, white gorget, grey fleck in wings otherwise black, underside possibly mottled but 'photos taken through wet glass so unclear.

Blackbird size, listening for worms but more patiently than blackbird. [Photos here](#)

19th October 2012 (Michael Seeley)

Hastings

Ring Ouzel seen in our back garden in Hastings on 19th October at our bird bath and feasting on berries

20th October 2012 (Margaret Cheal)

Welling, Kent

Ring ouzel seen in back garden eating berries.

22nd October 2012 (Pearl Taylor)

Caister on sea, Great Yarmouth

I reported a ring ouzel sighting on 4th April this year, and can now report another. I have had two ring ouzels make several visits to my garden today, 22nd October 2012. Was it two making several visits or several making one visit? This I will never know! I was actually watching three red wings on a hawthorn tree in my garden. They were all happily eating the large red berries as if there was no tomorrow, then along came the ring ouzels and joined in! I couldn't believe they were all visiting at the same time, and feel quite honoured that they all picked my tree! I live in Caister on sea near Great Yarmouth, about 500 metres from the sea, and first saw the birds about 11am, then on and off throughout the day. The weather has been quite mild today, but very overcast with thick fog by late afternoon when there were very few birds of any sort to be seen.

25th-26th October 2012 (Giancarlo Dinghile)

Farley Hill area of Luton

First sighting was yesterday in my back garden. 25th of October. Farley Hill area of Luton. Rotheram Avenue. The Bird sat in the hawthorne Tree for 5 minutes or so and then disappeared as the light faded. (Seen in the first [picture](#)) On this morning 26th of October the Bird has been bouncing around the same tree and all along the borderline of the garden. (seen second [picture](#)) A lot of the time by itself but also with 2 female Blackbirds. They went on to the neighbours lawn but were hurried away by a squirrel. The ouzel returned to the trees and has been feeding all day. I have watched it up until the last hour. It has currently disappeared.

25th October 2012 (David Rigden)

Alcaig, Black Isle

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/davidrigden>

Close up image

26th October 2012 (Mrs Chris Percival)

Cambridge

At the junction of Histon Road and Gilbert Road in Cambridge at 9.15 am this morning. It flew from left to right across Gilbert Road as I turned into it.

26th October 2012 (P Williamson)

Friary Hills, Blakeney, Norfolk

27th October 2012 (Guy Collins)

Lulworth, Dorset

Sighted Ring Ouzel on bitterly cold, sunny morning on short grassland above Durdle Door, Lulworth, Dorset.

27th October 2012 (Perry Farrow)

Ventnor, Isle of Wight

Male & female ring ouzels feeding on hawthorn berries yesterday 27 Oct. 2012. Rew Down Ventnor Isle of Wight. Two birds in total

28th October 2012 (James Pipe)

Cadair Idris

Cadair Idris Fox Path walk above Gwernan Lake Hotel. Some 6 or so.

13th November 2012 (Debbie Droy)

Hatfield Aerodrome

Hatfield aerodrome (disused) four ring ouzel; two showing white crescent at the end of runway near small gravel heaps on the left, perched briefly on top of small trees

19th November 2012 (Carol Rowney)

Crawfordsburn Co Down. N Ireland

In Crawfordsburn Co Down in a tree close to the beach.

23rd November 2012 (Sally Allen)

Stone Cross, near Polgate

Saw ring ouzel on my garden fence at about 15.45. It flew off in direction of fields (sheep grazed) soon after.

Grid reference: TQ 60904 04229

26th November 2012 (Neil)

Nr Salisbury Wilts

Spotted 26/11/2012 in the back garden at 11am

N51:05:03 (51.084081)

W1:10:29 (-1.174842)

Winter sightings

Some of the following sightings may be leucistic blackbirds

December 2012 and January 2013 (Louise Bartle)

1 individual female at Rowans Hospice, Waterlooville, Hampshire, 8th Dec 2012

1 Individual female in Hatfield, Herts, 1st Jan 2013

13th December 2012 (Angela Rose)

Somerset

Ring Ouzel in our back garden this morning

6th January 2013 (Mike Wombwell)

Ringmer, East Sussex

On 6th January at Moor lane, Ringmer, East Sussex (road behind the Glyndebourne opera house). Grid ref: 464114. Alerted by the distinctive song

10th January 2013 (Janet Stokes)

Sandy, Beds

Seen sitting on garden fence overlooking field in Sandy Beds SG19 3EW at 1530 hours on 10/01/2013

18th January 2013 (Mark Kalra)

Mansfield

A great [photo](#) of a leucistic blackbird taken by Mark Kalra in the 18th Jan 2013, late afternoon, in Mansfield NG21 0QY.

ORKNEY BIRD RECORDS - 19th JANUARY 2013

Included in this report was an astonishing record of a Ring Ouzel on North Ronaldsay on the amazingly early date of 19th; this migrant thrush, that winters in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco, would not normally be seen here until the end of March!

25th Janury 2013 (Richard Chadwick)

Bedford

Spotted in our back garden, Kimbolton Road, Bedford first on a pyracantha bush then down on the ground, late morning Friday 25 January. A freezing cold day, temperature about 0 deg, snow on the ground.