

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

December 2018

31 December 2018, Isle of Dogs: a Black-headed Gull with a white ring marked "TXVM" on the Thames foreshore at Saunders Ness. It was ringed at Przykona, Poland in May 2018, and has recently been seen in Kelsey Park, Beckenham (Tom Speller).



Ring on Black-headed Gull (Tom Speller)

27 December 2018, Victoria Park: 1 Kingfisher (Harry Harrison).

26 December 2018, Kenilworth Road E3: a male Sparrowhawk in a garden, 8 Goldfinches, 1 Chaffinch (Richard Drew).

21 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: 16 Shelducks (14 of which flew off by 8am), 2 Little Grebes, 1 Mute Swan, plenty of Teal (Richard Saville).

21 December 2018, Bow Creek: 4 Egyptian Geese, 1 Mute Swan (Richard Saville).

20 December 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: 2 Black-headed Gulls with metal rings, one of which included the part-words "dansk" & "oland", suggesting it was ringed in Poland (Tom Speller).

20 December 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper, 1 Blackbird singing (Tom Speller).



Blackbird singing by Bow Creek (Tom Speller)

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20 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 drake Gadwall, 1 Mute Swan, 1 Little Grebe, 2 ringed Cormorants on the jetty, one of which was probably [the Estonian-ringed "Blue EBY"](#) (Tom Speller).

20 December 2018, Victoria Park: 4+ Shovelers, 3 Pochards, 25+ Tufted Ducks and 1 Great Crested Grebe all on West Lake, 2 Collared Doves flew west over West Park (John Archer).

18 December 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: 1 Little Grebe (Tom Speller).

18 December 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Little Egrets, 2 Shelducks, about 10 Redshanks (Tom Speller).

18 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: the [Estonian-ringed Cormorant "Blue EBY"](#) again on the jetty, 8 Redwings flew high over north, 53 Teal, 2 Little Grebes, 1 Mute Swan (Tom Speller).

17 December 2018, Wapping Wood: 1 Goldcrest singing, 5 plants of Black Spleenwort, a scarce fern in London, growing on a wall by the northern entrance to the park (John Archer).



Black Spleenwort at Wapping Wood (John Archer)[/caption]

17 December 2018, Wapping Canal: 2 Egyptian Geese, a pair of Mute Swans, 38 Mallards, 8 Coots, 4 Moorhens (John Archer).

17 December 2018, Hermitage Basin: a pair of Mute Swans with one juvenile, 4 Canada Geese, 2 Mallards, 1 Coot (John Archer).

17 December 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Common Sandpipers, 12 Redshanks, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing (Richard Saville).

14 December 2018, Antill Road E3: a male Blackcap in a garden, also a female House Sparrow, the first here since August (Harry Harrison).

13 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: 70 Teal, 7 Shelducks, 2 Little Grebes, 1 Mute Swan (Tom Speller).

13 December 2018, Bow Creek: 9 Grey Herons together, 1 Shelduck (Tom Speller).

10 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Wetland Birds Survey count recorded 1 Gadwall, 4 Shelducks, 2 Little Grebes, 1 Little Egret, 2 Mute Swans, 101 Teal, 12 Mallards, 6

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Moorhens, 1 Coot, 66 Black-headed Gulls, 1 Common Gull, 2 Herring Gulls, and 1 Lesser Black-backed Gull (John Archer).

6 December 2018, Saunders Ness: a Black-headed Gull with a yellow colour ring code 2LDH was previously recorded here on 16 August 2016, having been ringed at Pitsea Landfill. Also 10 Gadwall, 2 Egyptian Geese, 37 Mallards, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Grey Wagtail, 3 Ring-necked Parakeets, 1 first winter Great Black-backed Gull (Tom Speller).

5 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Grebes, 1 Little Egret, 4 Shelducks, 2 Greenfinches, 1 Grey Heron, lots of Teal (Richard Saville).

5 December 2018, Bow Creek: 16 Redshanks in the High Tide Roost, 1 Grey Wagtail (Richard Saville).

4 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: the [Estonian colour-ringed Cormorant "Blue EBY"](#) again on the jetty, the first sighting of it here since 12 February and the sixth winter it has been seen here, 3 Little Grebes, 1 adult Mute Swan, 1 Shelduck, 107 Teal (John Archer).



Cormorant "Blue EBY" at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)[/caption]

3 December 2018, Bow Creek: 12 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 2 adult Mute Swans, 1 Little Egret (Tom Speller & John Archer).

3 December 2018, East India Dock Basin: 3 Little Grebes, 2 Shelducks, 112 Teal, 1 Little Egret, 1 Mute Swan (Tom Speller).

November 2018

30 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Pied Wagtail, 1 drake Gadwall, 2 Little Grebes, 139 Teal (John Archer).

30 November 2018, Bow Creek: 12 Redshanks, 1 Shelduck, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler (Tom Speller).

29 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Pied Wagtails, 162 Teal, 1 drake Gadwall, 1 Little Egret (John Archer).

28 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Common Seal on the southern foreshore of the Thames in front of the O2, 1 drake Gadwall, 2 Egyptian Geese, 1 Little Grebe, 7 Shelducks, 77 Teal, 4 Canada Geese, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Tom Speller, Richard Saville & John Archer).

28 November 2018, Bow Creek: 4 Egyptian Geese, 1 Little Egret (Tom Speller).

26 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 6 Egyptian Geese, 7 Shelducks 2 Little Grebes, 1 drake Gadwall, 1 Little Egret, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, 126 Teal (Richard Saville & John Archer).

26 November 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper (Richard Saville).

23 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Song Thrush in the Copse, 6 Egyptian Geese, 1 drake Gadwall, 2 Little Grebes, 9 Shelducks, (Richard Saville).

22 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Common Seal on the southern foreshore of the Thames in front of the O2, 2 Little Grebes, 4 Shelducks, 1 Little Egret, 107 Teal (Richard Saville & John Archer).

19 November 2018, Isle of Dogs: a 3rd-winter Yellow-legged Gull on the Thames foreshore at Saunders Ness (Sean Huggins).

19 November 2018, Mulberry Place: a Sparrowhawk circling over the Town Hall at lunchtime (John Archer).

19 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Grebes, 1 Grey Heron, 25 Teal, water level very low (Richard Saville).

19 November 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Shelduck, 2 Egyptian Geese, 6 Grey Herons (Richard Saville).

15 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kingfisher, 1 Little Grebe, 1 Little Egret, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, lots of Teal (Richard Saville).

14 November 2018, Victoria Park: a male Blackcap in holly trees south of the Boating Lake, 12 drake & 1 female Red-crested Pochards, 9 Tufted ducks, 7 Pochards and 2 Great Crested Grebes all on West Lake (Richard Drew).

14 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Goldcrest in the north-west scrub, 8 Egyptian Geese on the floating pontoon in the Thames, 1 drake Gadwall, 1 female Tufted Duck, 2 Little Grebes, 1 Shelduck, 114 Teal, 2 Canada Geese, 1 Grey Wagtail (Tom Speller, Richard Saville & John Archer).

13 November 2018, Brownfield Estate: a clump of Mistletoe high up in a maple in the children's playground on the corner of Brownfield Street and Lodore Street (Bob Gilbert).



Mistletoe on the Brownfield Estate (John Archer)

13 November 2018, Victoria Park (West Park): 10 Red-crested Pochards (9 drakes and a female), 3 Pochards, 6 Tufted Ducks, 2 Great Crested grebes, 25 Cormorants, 3 Goldcrests (Jan Dobbie).

12 November 2018, Victoria Park: 1 Kingfisher, 22 Cormorants, 2 Mistle Thrushes (Harry Harrison).

12 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Grebes, 2 Shelducks, 2 Grey Wagtails, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, lots of Teal (Richard Saville).

11 November 2018, Isle of Dogs: 2 Rock Pipits on the Thames foreshore at Saunders Ness (Sean Huggins).

9 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Chiffchaff in the Copse, 1 Little Egret, 1 Little Grebe, 1 drake Gadwall, 1 Cetti's Warbler, about 100 Teal (Tom Speller).

9 November 2018, Victoria Park (West Lake): 8 Red-crested Pochards, 3 Pochards, 9 Tufted Ducks, 14 Greylag Geese, a pair of Mute Swans with 5 juveniles, 1 juvenile Great Crested Grebe (John Archer).

9 November 2018, Bow Creek: 3 Redshanks in the high tide roost (Richard Saville).

8 November 2018, Lea Navigation: a Cetti's Warbler singing in the reeds between Twelvetreves Crescent and the railway bridge (Bob Gilbert).

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8 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Grebes, 1 drake Gadwall, 102 Teal, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Tom Speller & Richard Saville).



female Teal at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller)

6 November 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Little Egret, 3 Egyptian Geese, 1 Redshank, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing (Richard Saville).

6 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Grebe, 1 drake Gadwall, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, lots of Teal (Richard Saville).

5 November 2018, Mudchute: 1 Little Egret flew over, 1 Goldcrest, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker (John Archer).

5 November 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Little Egret, 1 Common Sandpiper, 3 Redshanks (Richard Saville).



Redshank with a large shrimp at Bow Creek (Richard Saville)

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4 November 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Sparrowhawk, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker (Harry Harrison).

3 November 2018, Victoria Park: the Bird Barmy Army walk recorded 40 species of birds, including 1 Kingfisher, 2 Shovelers, 3 Pochards, 15 Red-crested Pochards, 7 Tufted Ducks, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 1 Little Grebe, 2 Egyptian Geese, 12 Greylag Geese, 15 Canada Geese, 51 Mallards, 16 Moorhens, 7 Mute Swans, 105 Coots, 27 Cormorants, 1 Great Black-backed Gull, 1 Coal Tit, 3 Goldcrests, 2 Mistle Thrushes, 8 Ring-necked Parakeets, 1 Song Thrush, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers, 1 Jay, 1 Grey Wagtail (David Darrell-Lambert & 12 members of the Bird Barmy Army).



Kingfisher at Victoria Park (David Darrell-Lambert) [click to enlarge](#)

2 November 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Kingfisher, 9 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 1 Common Sandpiper, about 200 Starlings flew over, 1 Grey Wagtail (Richard Saville).



Kingfisher at Bow Creek (Richard Saville)

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2 November 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kingfisher, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, 1 Cormorant fishing, lots of Teal (Richard Saville).



Cormorant at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

1 November 2018, Aberfeldy Millennium Green: 6 Egyptian Geese grazing on the short grass (John Archer).



Egyptian Geese at Aberfeldy Millennium Green (John Archer)

1 November 2018, Limehouse Cut: a pair of Mute Swans at the eastern end, 2 Egyptian Geese near Bartlett Park (John Archer).

October 2018

31 October 2018, Bow Creek: 6 Redshanks on the mud under the concrete roost site, 2 Grey Herons and 4 Cormorants fishing together on the bend (Richard Saville).



Redshank at Bow Creek (Richard Saville)

31 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Grebe (the first here this year), 1 drake Gadwall, 188 Teal, 1 Grey Heron, about 15 Long-tailed Tits, 4 Greenfinches on a peanut feed in a nearby garden, 1 Chaffinch, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing (Richard Saville, Tom Speller & John Archer).



drake Teal at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

30 October 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Redshank, 4 Grey Herons (Richard Saville).

30 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Redshank 1 Shelduck, 6 Egyptian Geese, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, 2 Grey Herons, lots of Teal (Richard Saville).

29 October 2018, Victoria Park: 6 Red-crested Pochards and 2 Great Crested Grebes on West Lake, 5 Mistle Thrushes, 4 Egyptian Geese, 1 Goldcrest, 2 Jays collecting acorns, 4 Pied Wagtails (Jan Dobbie).

29 October 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Fieldfare feeding with Blackbirds on Holly berries in Horse Chestnut Glade (John Archer).

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29 October 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Common Sandpipers, 4-5 Redshanks, 1 Grey Wagtail (Tom Speller & Richard Saville).



Common Sandpiper at Bow Creek (Richard Saville)

29 October 2018, East India: 9 Fieldfares flew from trees and bushes on the east side and departed north, 1 Water Rail, 1 drake Gadwall, 1 Kingfisher, 152 Teal, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 1 Grey Wagtail, 5+ Blackbirds which might well be migrants (Tom Speller & Paul Hyland).

29 October 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: 2 Egyptian Geese, plenty of House Sparrows (Tom Speller).



House Sparrow at Poplar Dock (Tom Speller)

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25 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kingfisher, 6 Egyptian Geese, 1 hybrid Canada x Greylag Goose with 7 Canada Geese, lots of Teal, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, 1 Grey Wagtail (Richard Saville).

24 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kingfisher, 1 drake Gadwall, 1 Little Egret, 4 Canada Geese, 106 Teal, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Red Admiral (Richard Saville & John Archer).

23 October 2018, Bow Creek: 7 Redshanks in the high tide roost (John Archer).

23 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Rock Pipit on the Basin at 12.45pm was the first here since 2013, a Common Seal on the south side of the Thames on the beach in front of the O2, 1 Buzzard over at lunchtime mobbed by crows, 4 Egyptian Geese early morning then flew off, 1 drake Gadwall, plenty of Teal, 1 Grey Wagtail (Adrian Roach & Richard Saville).



Gadwall (left) and Rock Pipit at East India Dock Basin (Adrian Roach) [click to enlarge](#)

22 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 drake Gadwall, 4 Redshanks, 1 Little Egret, 84 Teal, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Migrant Hawker dragonfly (Richard Saville & John Archer).



Migrant Hawker at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

19 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Red Kite and a Common Buzzard circled together, mobbed by gulls and crows, before drifting off east at 12.55pm. Also a female Blackcap with a tit flock in the Copse, 1 Jay, 1 Little Egret, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler and 76 Teal (John Archer).

18 October 2018, Victoria Park: a harp-trapping survey, carried out under licence from Natural England, captured 2 Nathusius's Pipistrelles, a male and a female (Huma Pearce).



male Nathusius's Pipistrelle at Victoria Park (Huma Pearce)

18 October 2018, Mile End Park: 1 male Ruddy Darter dragonfly, 1 female Common Darter and 2 Speckled Wood butterflies in the Ecology Park (John Archer).

16 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: a count for the Wetland Bird Survey recorded 1 drake Gadwall, 90 Teal, 8 Mallards, 6 Moorhens and 1 Black-headed Gull (John Archer).



Gadwall at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

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15 October 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Little Egrets (Frank Nugent).

15 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Gadwall, 90 Teal, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Frank Nugent).

14 October 2018, Parnham Street E14: 2 Egyptian Geese grazing on grass in the Locksley Estate (Christine).

12 October 2018, James Middleton House: a large clump of White Bryony on the fence along Pundersons Gardens near the junction with Middleton Road E14 (John Archer).

12 October 2018, Bethnal Green Nature Reserve: 1 Red Admiral, lots of Cyclamen in flower (John Archer & Michael Smythe).



Cyclamen at Bethnal Green Nature Reserve (John Archer)

8 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 82 Teal (John Archer).

8 October 2018, Bow Locks: a female Sparrowhawk circling overhead (John Archer).

5 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Chiffchaff, 2 Little Egrets, 77 Teal, a pair of Mute Swans on the Thames, 2 Chaffinches, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler (Tom Speller & John Archer).

5 October 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Kingfisher, 1 Redshank in the high tide roost, 2 Grey Wagtails, 1 Jay, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler (John Archer).

2 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Common Seal on the south side of the Thames in front of the O2, 1 Little Egret, a flock of 16 Long-tailed Tits, 66 Teal (John Archer).

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1 October 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Common Seal on the south side of the Thames on the beach in front of the O2, viewable from the Tower Hamlets side, though the photo below was taken from the south bank (Richard Saville).



Common Seal on mud opposite East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

September 2018

28 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 1 juvenile Pied Wagtail, about 30 Teal (John Archer).

27 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Sparrowhawk, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 38 Teal (John Archer).

23 September 2018, Isle of Dogs: 2 Sandwich Terns (an adult and a juvenile) on the Thames foreshore opposite the *Cutty Sark*, then flew to the far side of the river at 2.55pm and lost to view (Sean Huggins).

22 September 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 1 Little Egret (Frank Nugent).

22 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Egrets, 1 Reed Bunting, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 1 Grey Wagtail, 48 Teal (Frank Nugent).

21 September 2018, Tower Bridge: a flock of about 20 terns, possibly Arctics, flew upriver over the bridge at about 1:30pm (Peter Massini).

18 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Common Seal on the south shore of the Thames in front of the O₂, 1 Little Egret, 32 Teal (John Archer).

19 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 34 Teal (John Archer).

17 September 2018, Victoria Park: at least 8 Willow Emeralds around East Lake (Marcin Kempa).

17 September 2018, West India Docks: a pair of Great Crested Grebes with a well-grown chick on North Dock beside West India Quay station (John Archer).

14 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2+ Chiffchaffs (the first of the autumn here), 1 Mute Swan, 31 Teal, 10+ Migrant Hawker dragonflies, 6+ Common Darters (John Archer).



Common Darters at East India Dock Basin – male (left) and female (John Archer) [Click to enlarge](#)

13 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Common Seal on the south shore of the Thames in front of the O₂, 1 Little Egret (John Archer).

12 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 28 Teal (John Archer).

11 September 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a fine display of Cyclamen (John Archer).



Cyclamen at Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park (John Archer)

10 September 2018, Victoria Park: 2 Willow Emerald damselflies by East Lake, the first Tower Hamlets record of this species, which has colonised Britain from the Continent since 2009 and is becoming increasingly widespread in London. Also several Migrant Hawkers, Common Darters, Common Blue Damselflies and Blue-tailed Damselflies (Marcin Kempa).



Willow Emerald at Victoria Park (Marcin Kempa) [click to enlarge](#)

10 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: a count for the Wetland Birds Survey recorded 1 Little Egret, 34 Teal, 34 Mallards, 1 Canada Goose, 4 Moorhens, 1 Coot and 93 Black-headed Gulls (John Archer).

8 September 2018, Isle of Dogs: 1 escaped Black Swan (John Booth).

8 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Cetti's Warbler, 22 Teal (Frank Nugent).

8 September 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper, 2 Little Egrets roosting in trees at high tide (Frank Nugent).

7 September 2018, Victoria Park: a Kingfisher on East Lake (John Archer & Adam Armstrong).

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6 September 2018, Mudchute: 2 Lesser Whitethroats, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Blackcap, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker (Sean Huggins).

5 September 2018, Mile End Park: 1 Meadow Pipit in the Kirks Place meadow, 1 Chiffchaff in the Ecology Park (John Archer).

3 September 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Common Seal on the southern shore of the Thames beside the O₂, 22 Teal on the basin (John Archer).

1 September 2018, Victoria Park: highlights of the Bird Barmy Army walk were 5 Great Crested Grebes (including 3 juveniles) on West Lake, 8 Swallows over, 1 Chiffchaff and 1 Willow Warbler, as well as loads of common birds such as the juvenile Moorhen below (David Darrell-Lambert and the Bird Barmy Army).



juvenile Moorhen at Victoria Park (David Darrell-Lambert)

August 2018

31 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Sparrowhawk, 8 Teal (John Archer).

31 August 2018, Limehouse: 2+ Yellow Wagtails flew south calling at 9pm (Paul Hyland).

30 August 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Small Heath butterfly, the first here for many years (Terry Lyle).

29 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Sparrowhawk, 3 Teal (John Archer).

27 August 2018, Isle of Dogs: 2 Grey Wagtails on Thames shore at Saunders Ness (Sean Huggins).

21 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, a family group of recently-fledged Reed Warblers in the north-west corner (John Archer).



Little Egret (with Black-headed Gull right) at East India Dock Basin (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

17 August 2018, Victoria Park: five well-grown Great Crested Grebe chicks fishing independently on West Lake (John Archer).



Four of the five Great Crested Grebe chicks in Victoria Park (John Archer)

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17 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: a *Volucella zonaria* hornet-mimic hoverfly on a buddleia by the copse (Tom Speller).

16 August 2018, Victoria Park: a Sparrowhawk hunting around Crown Gate in the late afternoon (John Archer).

16 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Teal, 2 Egyptian Geese, 71 Mallards (Tom Speller).

12 August 2018, Victoria Park: lots of Bladderwort in East Lake. This is the first ever record of this aquatic carnivorous plant in Tower Hamlets and inner London (John Swindells).



Bladderwort in Victoria Park (John Archer)

11 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Common Buzzard drifted north, 2 Oystercatchers flew over the basin then east along the Thames, 2 Jersey Tiger moths (Frank Nugent).

10 August 2018, Limehouse: 10 Common Sandpipers flew west at 7.45am (Paul Hyland).

9 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 1 Grey Wagtail (Tom Speller).

8 August 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a female Silver-washed Fritillary laying eggs in crevices on a Sycamore trunk about 2 metres above ground. Eggs are laid in such situations near violets, and the caterpillars will begin feeding on the violets next spring. This is the first time that egg-laying has been recorded in Cemetery park (Terry Lyle).

4 August 2018, Hesperus Crescent E14: a Silver Y caterpillar feeding on parsley (Peter Minvalla).



Silver Y caterpillar (Peter Minvalla)

3 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: a family group of Reed Warblers including at least 2 juveniles in the north-west corner, 4 Common Blues around the Copse (Tom Speller).



Reed Warbler (left) and Common Blue at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

2 August 2018, East India Dock Basin: lots of fish visible in the clear, shallow water: 150+ Rudd (including at least one ornamental “golden” individual, suggesting that their origin might be nearby Saffron Avenue Pond) and 60+ Thin-lipped Grey Mullet (John Archer).

1 August 2018, Victoria Park: the pair of Great Crested Grebes on West Lake have 5 chicks, not 4 as previously reported. Also at least 12 Small Red-eyed Damselflies on East Lake (the first record for Victoria Park) along with 2 Emperor Dragonflies and 2 Blue-tailed Damselflies (Richard Drew).

1 August 2018, Mile End Park (Ecology Lake): 3+ Brown Hawkers, 3 Emperor Dragonflies, about 6 Blue-tailed Damselflies and about 6 Common Blue Damselflies (Richard Drew).

July 2018

30 July 2018, Victoria Park: at least one recently-fledged juvenile Sparrowhawk in West Park, 6 Pochards on West Lake, a mixed flock of at least 20 House Martins and 10 Swifts feeding low over East Park (John Archer).

29 July 2018, Spindrift Avenue E14: 1 Jersey Tiger moth (Peter Minvalla).

29 July 2018, Victoria Park (West Park): the pair of Great Crested Grebes still with 4 young, 4 Pochards, 2 female Red-crested Pochards, the pair of Mute Swans still with 5 cygnets, 1 Sparrowhawk, 4 Swifts (Jan Dobbie).

27 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: a 15-minute count for the [Big Butterfly Count](#) recorded 1 Painted Lady, 1 Holly Blue, 3 Gatekeepers, 2 Green-veined Whites, 3 Large Whites, 18 Small Whites and a Jersey Tiger moth (John Archer).



Painted Lady at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

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26 July 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: a female Tufted Duck with 4 ducklings, a pair of Mute Swans with 3 well-grown cygnets (Tom Speller).



Tufted Duck family at Poplar Dock (Tom Speller)

26 July 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper, a flock of 200+ Starlings (Tom Speller).

26 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 63 Mallards including broods of 2 and 1 ducklings, 130+ Black-headed Gulls, 1 Large Skipper butterfly (Tom Speller).



Large Skipper at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller)

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25 July 2018, Mudchute: 1 Painted Lady butterfly near the bee hives (Peter Minvalla).

24 July 2018, Millwall Docks: a Common Sandpiper flying around Millwall Outer Dock at 9.10am (Sean Huggins).

23 July 2018, Victoria Park (West Lake): a pair of Great Crested Grebes with 4 chicks, 3 Pochards, 3 Tufted Ducks, 3 Egyptian Geese (Jan Dobbie).

23 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Song Thrush (the first record here this year), the partially-leucistic adult Black-headed Gull with white flight feathers present again, broods of 2 and 1 Mallard ducklings still, 1+ Sand Martins (John Archer).



partly-leucistic Black-headed Gull (John Archer)

22 July 2018, Mudchute: 3 Great spotted Woodpeckers, 2 singing Blackcaps, 10 House Sparrows (Harry Harrison).

22 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 3 Sand Martins, 1 Oystercatcher flew over towards Bow Creek, 1 Jersey Tiger moth (Frank Nugent).

21 July 2018, Isle of Dogs: 3 Yellow-legged Gulls (juvenile, 3rd calendar year and adult) on the Thames shore at Saunders Ness (Sean Huggins).

18 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 12 Tufted Ducks, 2 broods of 2 and 1 Mallard ducklings (John Archer & Tom Speller).

17 July 2018, Bow Creek: a pair of Egyptian Geese with 5 chicks, 1 Common Sandpiper (Charlie Farrell).

15 July 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Common Sandpipers, 1 Oystercatcher (Frank Nugent).

14 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 3 Sand Martins, 1 Common Gull (unusual here in summer), 1 Cetti's Warbler (Frank Nugent).

13 July 2018, Kingsbridge Estate: at least 8 occupied House Martin nests on Montrose and Montcalm Houses (John Archer).

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13 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kestrel and 3+ Swifts overhead (John Archer).

13 July 2018, Millwall Docks (Graving Dock): a pair of Great Crested Grebes with 3 nearly full-grown juveniles, a brood of 5 Mallard ducklings, 2 Egyptian Geese (John Archer).

10 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Mediterranean Gulls (an adult and a first summer), 1 Little Ringed Plover, 200+ Black-headed Gulls including a leucistic bird with all-white primaries (the bird lying down in the photo below) (John Archer).



Mediterranean Gulls (rear two birds) with Black-headed Gulls (John Archer)

10 July 2018, Victoria Park: 1 Kingfisher (Harry Harrison).

9 July 2018, Cephas Street E1: 3 Swifts screaming at rooftop level and flying up under the eaves of Redclyf House, suggesting they might be breeding there (Andrew Lewis).

9 July 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 adult Mediterranean Gulls on the island, about 200 Black-headed Gulls including several juveniles, 6 Tufted Ducks, 1 Cetti's Warbler (John Archer).



2 adult Mediterranean Gulls (centre left) and juvenile Black-headed Gull (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

8 July 2018, 2018: Stepney Green: a healthy-looking adult Hedgehog reported by a dog walker (via London Wildlife Trust's "[Urban Urchins](#)" project).

7 July 2018, Bethnal Green Nature Reserve: a moth trapping session produced 3 Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpets, 2 Dun Bars, 1 Garden Grass Veneer, 1 Ruddy Streak, 1 Rose-flounced Tabby, 1 Little Grey, 1 Plain Wave and 1 Uncertain (Merlyn Driver).



Garden Grass Veneer (Alby Oakshott)

7 July 2018, Victoria Park: the Bird Barmy Army walk recorded 34 species of birds, including a Cetti's Warbler by East Lake (the first record for the park), 11 Swifts, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers, a Jay feeding a fledged juvenile, 2 Red-crested Pochards, 1 Pochard, 5 Tufted Ducks including a female with one duckling, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 1 Egyptian Goose, 2 Greylag Geese and 35 Canada Geese. Also at least 1 Large Skipper butterfly and lots of dragonflies and damselflies including 4+ Four-spotted Chasers, 1 Ruddy Darter, 40 Black-tailed Skimmers, 20 Emperor Dragonflies, 1 Brown Hawker, 2+ Red-eyed Damselflies, 20 Blue-tailed Damselflies and 1+ Common Blue Damselflies (David Darrell-Lambert & the Bird Barmy Army).



Four-spotted Chaser at Victoria Park (David Darrell-Lambert)

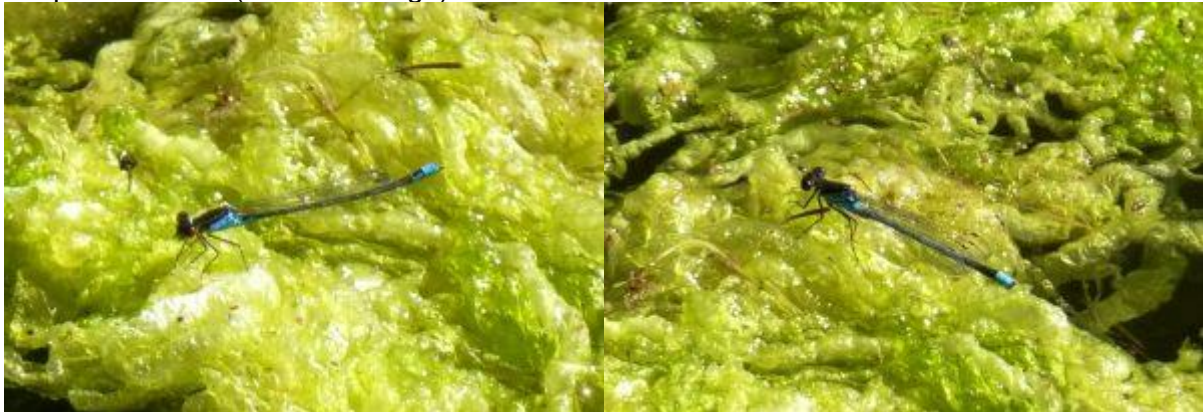
4 July 2018, Cephass Street E1: 2 or 3 Swifts screaming at rooftop level (Andrew Lewis).

June 2018

29 June 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Hedgehog filmed by a camera trap set as part of a Hedgehog survey (Dan Hall).

28 June 2018, Plymouth Wharf E14: a Silver-washed Fritillary - only the second Tower Hamlets record away from Cemetery Park, after one at Mudchute last week (Paul Baker).

27 June 2018, Wapping Canal: a few Small Red-eyed, Red-eyed and Common Blue Damselflies (John Archer). Note the difference in the pattern of blue at the end of the tail in the photos below (click to enlarge)



male Small Red-eyed Damselfly (left) and male Red-eyed Damselfly (John Archer)

26 June 2018, Regent's Canal, Mile End: 5 Red-crested Pochards (Jon Agar).

26 June 2018, Millwall Docks: a female Tufted Duck with 2 small ducklings on Inner Dock, a pair of Mute Swans with 2 cygnets and a Pair of Canada Geese with 3 goslings on Outer Dock, at least 4 pairs of Coots with chicks or on nests (John Archer).

25 June 2018, Victoria Park: 2 Pochards, 4 Red-crested Pochards, 5 Tufted Ducks, 5 Egyptian Geese, a pair of Mute Swans with 5 cygnets, a pair Great Crested Grebes at a nest, 3 Blackcaps, 9 Swifts, 23 Pied Wagtails, 12 House Sparrows, 1 Painted Lady, 1 Small Skipper, several Emperor, Four-spotted Chaser and Black-tailed Skimmer dragonflies and Common, Red-eyed and Blue-tailed Damselflies (Jan Dobbie & Harry Harrison).

25 June 2018, Olga St E3: 15 House Sparrows (Harry Harrison).

25 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 2 Sand Martins flew south, 1 Oystercatcher flew over towards Bow Creek, 5+ Reed Warblers, a Blackcap singing the north-west corner, 29 Mallards, 1 Comma butterfly (Tom Speller).



Comma (left) and Reed Warbler at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

22 June 2018, Mudchute: a Silver-washed Fritillary in the front garden of the Nursery at 12.20pm, the first site record and first record in Tower Hamlets away from Cemetery Park (Peter Minvalla).

22 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 3 adult Little Ringed Plovers on the island, a family party of about 10 Long-tailed tits in the Copse (Tom Speller).



juvenile Long-tailed Tit at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller)

21 June 2018, St Leonard's Priory: 1 Large Skipper butterfly (John Archer & Melanie Sirinathsingh).



Large Skipper at St Leonard's Priory (John Archer)

20 June 2018, Ackroyd Drive Greenlink: a mating pair of Six-belted Clearwing moths in Cowslip Meadow (Ken Greenway).



Six-belted Clearwings at Ackroyd Drive Greenlink (Ken Greenway)

20 June 2018, Mudchute: a Marbled White butterfly, the first site record (Peter Minvalla).



Marbled White at Mudchute (Peter Minvalla)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

18 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: a count for the Wetland Bird Survey recorded 12 Tufted Ducks, 4 Shelducks, 48 Mallards, 6 Coots, 3 Moorhens and 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Also present 4 House Martins (the first record here this year), 2 Sand Martins and a Pied Wagtail (John Archer).

16 June 2018, Victoria Park (West Park): 1 Grey Wagtail, 5 Pochards, 4 drake Red-crested Pochards, 11+ Tufted Ducks, 2 Swifts, 4 Egyptian Geese, 1 Mistle Thrush, 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, a pair of Mute Swans with 5 cygnets, a pair Great Crested Grebes (Jan Dobbie).

15 June 2018, Bow Creek: a shoal of 30+ Thick-lipped Grey Mullet feeding in the edge of the creek, 1 Little Egret, 2 Oystercatchers, a Reed Warbler singing in the reed bed below the pylon, 1 Large Skipper butterfly beside Silvocea Way, about 500 plants of Jersey Cudweed along Silvocea Way (John Archer).



surface-feeding Thick-lipped Grey Mullet (John Archer)

11 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 drake Teal (extremely unusual in summer), 1 adult Little Egret showing the pink lores and red feet of extreme courtship plumage, 3 Sand Martins, 1 Common Tern, 1 Pied Wagtail, the Moorhens on the raft have at least one very small chick, 2 Burnet Companion moths, several Black-tailed Skimmers (Tom Speller & John Archer).



Clockwise from top left: Little Egret, Burnet Companion, Black-tailed Skimmers (male, female) (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

11 June 2018, Poplar Dock Marina & Blackwall Basin: 1 Egyptian Goose, Canada Geese with 2 goslings, at least 2 broods of Coot chicks and another pair nesting on a tyre (Tom Speller).

8 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 1 Sand Martin, 1 female Emperor Dragonfly, 2 Black-tailed Skimmers (John Archer).

7 June 2018, Meath Gardens: 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker, 1 Mistle Thrush (John Archer).

7 June 2018, Weavers Fields: a family group of recently-fledged Blackcaps in the Woodland Walk, 1 Kestrel (John Archer).

6 June 2018, Mile End Park (Arts Lake): 1 Black-tailed Skimmer, 1 Emperor Dragonfly, lots of Azure and Blue-tailed Damselflies, a fine display of Flowering Rush, at least 2 pairs of Moorhens and 1 pair of Coots with chicks, a pair of Mute Swans (John Archer).



Clockwise from top left: Black-tailed Skimmer, Blue-tailed Damselfly, Flowering Rush, Azure Damselflies (John Archer) [Click to enlarge](#)

6 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Peregrine, 1 Kestrel, a pair of Little Ringed Plovers, 1 Pied Wagtail, 1 Common Tern, 1 male Emperor Dragonfly, breeding birds as yesterday (John Archer).

5 June 2018, Isle of Dogs: a third-calendar-year Yellow-legged Gull on the Thames shore opposite the *Cutty Sark* (Sean Huggins).

5 June 2018, Mudchute: a Reed Warbler singing (Sean Huggins).

5 June 2018, Victoria Park: the pair of Great Crested Grebes on West Lake have one young chick, also 11 Tufted Ducks, 3 drake Pochards and 4 Egyptian Geese on West Lake, Red-eyed and Common Blue Damselflies on East Lake, 3 Mistle Thrushes, Holly Blue and Speckled Wood butterflies (Jan Dobbie).

5 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 or 2 Sand Martins (the first sightings this year of what used to be a regular breeding bird here), 1 Pied Wagtail, 3 Tufted Ducks, 4 Shelducks, 2 singing Reed Warblers, a female Mallard still with 3 ducklings, the Lesser Black-backs, Coots and Moorhens still on nests (John Archer).

4 June 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a pair of Poplar Hawk-moths mating in Poplar Wood (Dan Hall).



Poplar Hawk-moths mating at Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park (Dan Hall)

4 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 14+ Swifts drifted slowly south-west at 1.10pm, 1 Pied Wagtail, 2 Common Terns, 1 Egyptian Goose, 1 Oystercatcher flew over towards the Thames, 4 Shelducks, 1 singing Reed Warbler, a female Mallard still with 3 small ducklings, the Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Moorhens still at nests on separate rafts, a pair of Coots nesting on the same raft as the Lesser Black-backs (a recipe for disaster as both species are potential egg-predators!) and another pair of Coots nesting on the island (also a recipe for disaster as it floods on high spring tides!) (John Archer).

2 June 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a female Brown Argus butterfly laying eggs on Cut-Leaved Cranesbill in Scrapyard Meadow (Terry Lyle)

1 June 2018, Saffron Avenue Pond: a pair of Moorhens with 5 chicks, a pair of Coots with 2 chicks, lots of Red-eyed and Common Blue Damselflies (John Archer).



Red-eyed (left) and Common Blue Damselflies (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

1 June 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Common Tern, 5 Shelducks, 2 Tufted Ducks, a Cetti's Warbler singing in the Copse, 1 singing Blackcap, the Lesser Black-backed Gulls and Moorhens still nesting on rafts, 2 Emperor Dragonflies (John Archer).

May 2018

31 May 2018, Isle of Dogs: 10 House Martins around regular nesting sites in the Mariners Mews area by the Thames path (Sean Huggins).

31 May 2018, Mudchute: a Reed Warbler singing (Sean Huggins).

31 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Tufted Ducks, 6 Shelducks, 1 Pied Wagtail, 2 male Blackcaps holding territories, about 3 Reed Warbler territories, 1 Cetti's Warbler holding territory, the pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls now definitely nesting on a raft, a pair of Moorhens nesting on another raft, a female Mallard with 2 small ducklings, family parties of fledged Long-tailed and Blue Tits, 13 Canada Geese flew down the Thames (John Archer).

28 May 2018, Stepney E1: the Hedgehog again visiting the garden and house – [read the full story here](#) (Liz Swinburne).

28 May 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a male Small Blue butterfly around the Lodge Graves, the third record of this nationally-rare butterfly here following sightings in [2017](#) and [2011](#) (Terry Lyle). Click photo to enlarge



Small Blue in Cemetery Park (Ken Greenway)

27 May 2018, Stepney E1: a Hedgehog again in the same garden and then inside the house (Liz Swinburne).



Hedgehog in Stepney (Josh Vernon) click to enlarge

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

26 May 2018, Stepney E1: a Hedgehog in a back garden, the first confirmed Tower Hamlets record for five years (Liz Swinburne).



Hedgehog in Stepney (Josh Vernon)

24 May 2018, Wapping Canal: a pair of Coots with an exceptionally large brood of 9 chicks on the new rafts at the southern end, and a pair of Moorhens with 3 chicks on rafts at Tobacco Dock (John Archer).

24 May 2018, Victoria Park: good numbers of Large Red, Blue-tailed and Azure Damselflies on East Lake, where there is a fine display of Yellow Iris. Also a brood of 4 well-grown Mallard ducklings on the Model Boating Pond (Richard Drew).



Yellow Irises around East Lake (Richard Drew)

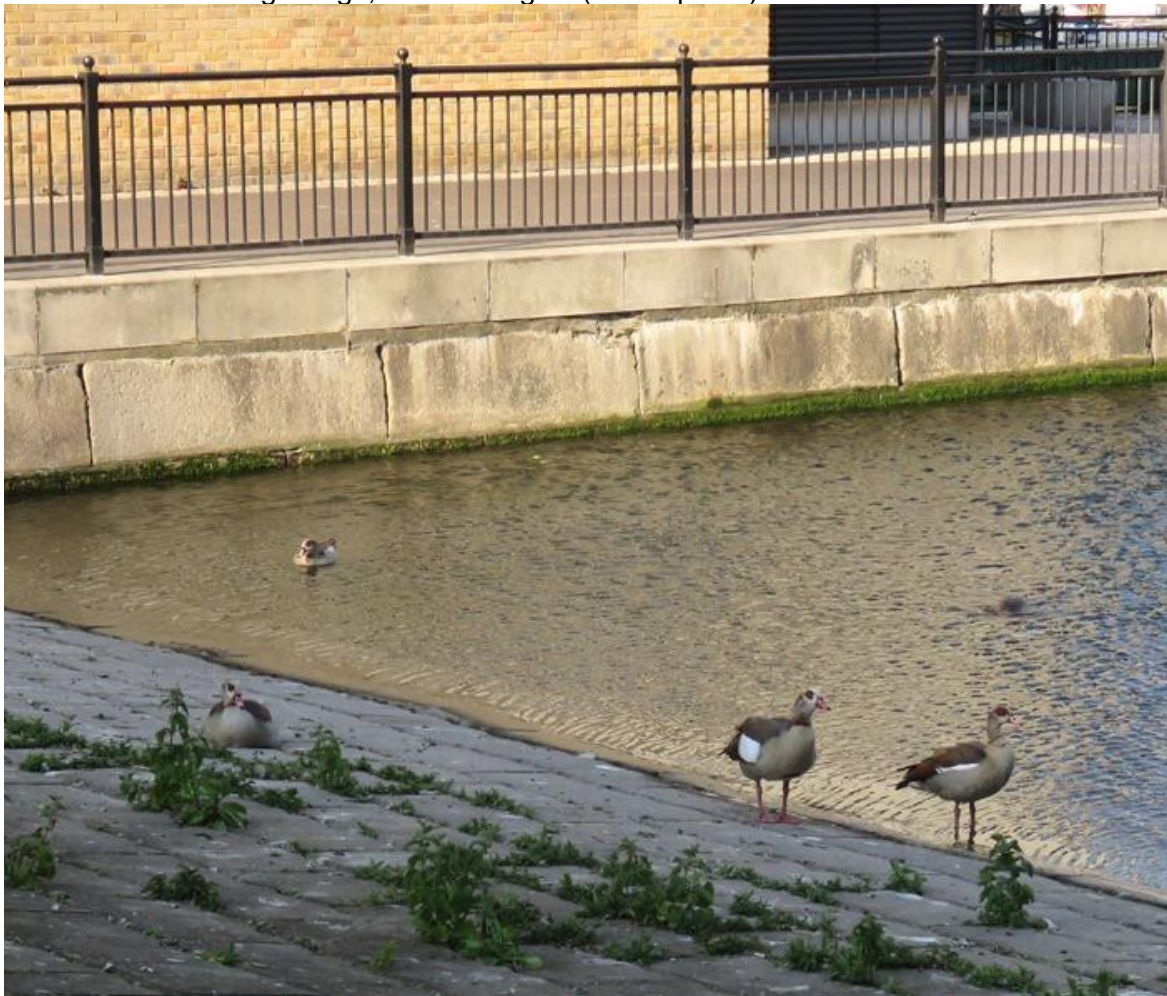
Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

23 May 2018, Limehouse Basin: an unidentified green damselfly (Richard Drew). If anyone can identify this, please [e-mail the Biodiversity Officer](#). Click photos to enlarge



Unidentified damselfly at Limehouse Basin (Richard Drew)

22 May 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: 4 Egyptian Geese, 2 Greylag Geese, a pair of Canada Geese with 2 small goslings, 1 Pied Wagtail (Tom Speller).



Egyptian Geese at Poplar Dock (Tom Speller)

22 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Common Sandpiper, 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 6 Shelducks, 4 Tufted Ducks, 1 singing Blackcap, 1 Reed Warbler, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Pied Wagtail, a pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls possibly settling down to nest on a raft (Tom Speller & Charlie Farrell).



Shelducks, Common Sandpiper (mid left) & Lesser Black-backed Gull (mid right) (Tom Speller)

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22 May 2018, Antill Road E3: a Common Buzzard and 2 Swifts flew over (Harry Harrison).

21 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: a morning count for the Wetland Bird Survey recorded 1 Little Ringed Plover, 5 Shelducks, 12 Mallards, 5 Coots, 3 Moorhens, 3 Canada Geese, 2 Grey Herons and 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Also an Oystercatcher flew over towards Bow Creek, 1 Angle Shades moth (John Archer).



Angle Shades at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

20 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Collared Dove, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 3 Reed Warblers, 3 Common Terns, 1 Blackcap, 1 Little Ringed Plover, 3 Shelducks, (Paul Hyland).

19 May 2018, Antill Road E3: a Peregrine over the garden being mobbed by Carrion Crows (Harry Harrison).

18 May 2018, Limehouse E14: 6+ House Martins back at a regular local nest site (Paul Hyland).

18 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Common Sandpiper (surprisingly scarce here though regular in winter on Bow Creek), 1 Common Tern, 2 singing Blackcaps, 3 singing Reed Warblers, 4 Shelducks (John Archer).

18 May 2018, Saffron Avenue Pond: a pair of Moorhens and a pair of Coots each with 3 small chicks (John Archer).

17 May 2018, Victoria Park: 3 Swifts briefly high over West Lake, 2 Pochards, 7 Tufted Ducks and the pair of Great Crested Grebes still on a nest on West Lake; a female Great Spotted Woodpecker on dead trees in East Lake, 1 Red Admiral (Jan Dobbie).

17 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: a pair of Pochards (seen less than annually here), 3 Shelducks including a pair that appear to have tried to excavate a burrow on a raft, 1 Pied Wagtail, singing Blackcap, Reed Warbler and Cetti's Warbler, the Coots now with 2 chicks on a raft, 4 adult Canada Geese but no sign of any goslings (John Archer).



Pochards (left) and Shelduck at East India Dock Basin (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

17 May 2018, Saffron Avenue Pond: 1 Common Tern fishing (John Archer).

14 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Common Tern, 2 Egyptian Geese, 1 singing Chiffchaff, 4 Shelducks, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, a female Mallard with a brood of 10 small ducklings, the Canada Geese still with 2 goslings, the Coots have hatched 4+ chicks on a raft (John Archer).

11 May 2018, Mile End Park: 1 Sparrowhawk, 5 Mistle Thrushes, 1 Chiffchaff, 5 Blackcaps (Charlie Farrell).

11 May 2018, Millwall Docks: a Red Kite flew north at 12.10pm (Sean Huggins).

11 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Sparrowhawk hunting around the basin, the Canada Geese now with just 2 goslings, 2 Shelducks, 1 singing Reed Warbler, and a good range of common wild flowers in bloom, including those in the photos below (John Archer).



Clockwise from top left: Germander Speedwell, Cow Parsley, Herb Robert, Warty Cabbage (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

10 May 2018, Mulberry Place: an escaped hybrid falcon looking a bit like a Lanner Falcon over the Town Hall at lunchtime, the first time this bird has been seen in the area for around two years (John Archer).

10 May 2018, Mudchute: a Common Buzzard circling over the paddocks at 8.50am (Sean Huggins).

9 May 2018, Victoria Park: 2 Swifts and 3+ Sand Martins feeding over the model boating lake (John Archer).

9 May 2018, Millwall Park: a female Wheatear near the bowling club at 8am (Sean Huggins).

8 May 2018, Hesperus Crescent E14: a male Muslin Moth (Peter Minvalla)



Muslin Moth at Hesperus Crescent (Peter Minvalla)

8 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Chiffchaff and a Blackcap singing in the Copse, a Cetti's Warbler and 2 Reed Warblers singing along the northern edge, the Canada Geese have hatched 4 goslings on a raft, 1 Shelduck, 1 Mute Swan (John Archer).

6 May 2018, Mudchute: 1 female Whinchat (Sean Huggins).

6 May 2018, Victoria Park: the Bird Barmy Army walk recorded 38 species of birds, including 1 Red-crested Pochard, 3 Pochards, 15 Tufted Ducks, 2 Pochard x Tufted Duck hybrids, a pair of Great Crested Grebes at a nest, 2 pairs of Egyptian Geese (one pair with 4 goslings), 5 Greylag Geese, a pair of Mute Swans at a nest, 3 Swifts, 3 Sand Martins, 2 Blackcaps, 2 Goldcrests, 3 pairs of Jays displaying, 2 Sparrowhawks, 4 pairs of Mistle Thrushes including one pair with fledged young, a Long-tailed Tit nest. Also a Holly Blue butterfly. (David Darrell-Lambert & Bird Barmy Army participants). Click photos to enlarge



Great Crested Grebe (top two), Long-tailed Tit nestling (left) and Holly Blue (David Darrell-Lambert)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

4 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Common Terns flew over, 1 Little Ringed Plover, 2 Tufted Ducks, 2 Shelducks, 2 Mute Swans, 1 female Blackcap, 2 singing Reed Warblers, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Jay, the Coots and Canada Geese still on nests on rafts (John Archer).

4 May 2018, Mulberry Place: a Sparrowhawk flew over the Town Hall (John Archer).

2 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 8 Tufted Ducks, 2 Shelducks, 1 singing Reed Warbler, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 immature Mute Swan, the Coots and Canada Geese still nesting on rafts (John Archer).

1 May 2018, Millwall Docks: a pair of Common Terns displaying over Outer Dock, 1 Chiffchaff by Inner Dock, 7 Tufted Ducks, 3 Coots on nests (John Archer).

1 May 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Whitethroat, 1 singing Blackcap, 1 singing Reed Warbler, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 2 Egyptian Geese, 2 Tufted Ducks, 6 Shelducks, 1 immature Mute Swan, 2 Canada Geese, 1 male Brimstone butterfly (John Archer).

April 2018

29 April 2018, Victoria Park: 4 drake Red-crested Pochards, 4 Pochards, an Egyptian Goose with 4 goslings, 8+ Tufted Ducks and a pair of Great Crested Grebes on a nest on West Lake, 2 Mistle Thrush nests in West Park (Jan Dobbie).

27 April 2018, St Paul's Way School: 6 Linnets in birch trees beside Bow Common Lane (Neal Hunt).

27 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 female Whitethroat (the first of the year), 1 singing Reed Warbler, 1 singing Blackcap, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Jay, 1 Little Ringed Plover, 4 Shelducks, a pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls eating a dead Eel, 2 Canada Geese, Coots still on their nest on a raft (John Archer).

27 April 2018, East India Dock Business Estate: a pair of Mistle Thrushes building a nest, a Grey Wagtail holding territory around Mulberry Place (John Archer).

26 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 singing Reed Warbler (the first this year), 1 male Kestrel, 1 Pied Wagtail, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Shelduck, the Coots and Canada Geese still on nests (John Archer).

25 April 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: a Great Crested Grebe with 2 well-grown young (Tom Speller).

25 April 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler (Tom Speller).

25 April 2018, Hertford Union Canal: a male Orange Tip butterfly by Parnell Road bridge (Richard Drew).

25 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Common Tern (the first of the year here) flew in briefly, 1 Kestrel hovering high overhead, 2 Pied Wagtails, 8 Tufted Ducks flew into the north-west corner where they were chased around by a male Shelduck for several minutes, 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 4 Shelducks, 1 adult Mute Swan, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, a pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls again on the eastern raft, the Canada Geese back on their nest (Tom Speller & John Archer).



Shelduck chasing Tufted Duck (left) and Little Ringed Plover (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

25 April 2018, Mulberry Place: 2 Egyptian Geese flew past the Town Hall at 8.35am (John Archer).

24 April 2018, Mudchute: 1 Sedge Warbler, 1 Whitethroat, 1 Lesser Whitethroat, 2 Willow Warblers, 2 Chiffchaffs, 5 Blackcaps, 1 Mistle Thrush (Sean Huggins).

24 April 2018, Swedenborg Gardens: a Blackcap singing (John Archer).

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

24 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 singing Blackcap, 2 Little Ringed Plovers, an Oystercatcher flew towards Bow Creek, 1 Jay, 4 Shelducks, 2 Mute Swans, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, the Coots still at a nest on a raft, the pair of Canada Geese still present but appear to have abandoned their nest, 2 Green-veined White butterflies (John Archer).

24 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Whitethroat singing in Scrapyard Meadow (Neal Hunt).

23 April 2018, Saffron Avenue Pond: 3 pairs of Coots at nests (John Archer).

23 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 2 Oystercatchers, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 3 Shelducks, 2 Mute Swans, the Coots and Canada Geese still on nests on rafts (John Archer & Paul Hyland).

23 April 2018, Mudchute: 1 House Martin, 2 Lesser Whitethroats, 1 Willow Warbler, 6 Blackcaps, 1 singing Song Thrush, 2 Mistle Thrushes (Sean Huggins).

20 April 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Oystercatchers, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Alex Massey).

20 April 2018, Blackwall Basin: 2 Egyptian Geese (Tom Speller).

20 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: a male Blackcap singing in the Copse, 2 Oystercatchers flew towards the Thames, 2 Egyptian Geese, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 2 Mute Swans (adult and immature), 1 Little Ringed Plover, 8 Shelducks, 2 Teal, the Canada Geese and Coots still on nests on rafts (Tom Speller & Charlie Farrell).

19 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Goldcrests singing, 5+ male Blackcaps (Bob Watts).

18 April 2018, Mudchute: 1 Lesser Whitethroat, 1 Chiffchaff, 4 Blackcaps, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker (Sean Huggins).

17 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 2 Blackcaps, 3 Shelducks, 2 Teal (Paul Hyland).

17 April 2018, Mudchute: 1 Swallow, 1 Jackdaw, 2 Chiffchaffs, 2 Blackcaps, 1 Ring-necked Parakeet (Richard Harrison).

17 April 2018, Victoria Park (West Lake): 1 Great Crested Grebe, Red-crested Pochard, 15+ House Martins (Harry Harrison).

16 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 3 male Blackcaps (Bob Watts).

14 April 2018, Shadwell Basin: 2 Jays (Roman Werpachowski).

14 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Willow Warbler singing near The Dell, 2 singing Blackcaps (Paul Barham & Bob Watts).

13 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Common Snipe flying low north at 12.40pm was probably the first site record, 2 singing Goldcrests (Bob Watts).

12 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Blackcap singing (Neal Hunt).

12 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 1 singing Chiffchaff, 1 Egyptian Goose, 1 Mute Swan, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, the Canada Geese and Coots still on nests on rafts and the pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls still on the island (Tom Speller).

9 April 2018, Antill Rd E3: a male Blackcap in a garden (Harry Harrison).

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

7 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Blackcap singing, 1 Chiffchaff singing (Rhys Evans).

7 April 2018, Victoria Park: 3 Gadwall and a pair of Egyptian Geese on East Lake, 1 Willow Warbler, a pair of Blackcaps and 2 Chiffchaffs on the island in East Lake, 3 Mistle Thrushes in East Park (Richard Drew).

6 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Linnet flew west at 7.40am, 1 singing Goldcrest, 1 singing Blackcap, 1 singing Chiffchaff (Bob Watts).

6 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers, a pair of Gadwall, 2 Oystercatchers flew towards the Thames, 1 Mute Swan, a pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls on the eastern raft and the island, 13 Shelducks, 20 Teal, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Tom Speller & Charlie Farrell). Click photos to enlarge



Gadwall (left) and Little Ringed Plover at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller) click to enlarge

5 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 singing Blackcap, 1 singing Chiffchaff, 4 Brimstone butterflies (Bob Watts).

5 April 2018, Victoria Park: 2 singing Willow Warblers, 4 Chiffchaffs (2 singing), 2 male Blackcaps, 1 drake Red-crested Pochard, 3 Gadwall, 25+ Tufted Ducks, 1 Great Crested Grebe, a pair of Egyptian Geese with 5 goslings, 5 Mistle Thrushes (including 2 pairs nesting near Crown Gate), 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker, 1 Goldcrest (Jan Dobbie).

4 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 singing Goldcrests, 1 Chiffchaff (Bob Watts).

4 April 2018, East India Dock Basin: a pair of Gadwall, 1 immature Mute Swan, a pair of Herring Gulls on a raft, a pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls on the island (Tom Speller).

4 April 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper (Tom Speller).

3 April 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Blackcap singing near the main entrance in the morning, 1 Goldcrest singing in Sanctuary Wood in the afternoon (Bob Watts).

1 April 2018, Isle of Dogs: a third-calendar-year Yellow-legged Gull on the Thames shore at Saunders Ness (Sean Huggins).

1 April 2018, Antill Rd E3: a female Sparrowhawk caught a Starling in a back garden (Harry Harrison).

March 2018

31 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 18 Teal, 8 Shelducks, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Frank Nugent).

30 March 2018, Isle of Dogs: 11 Egyptian Geese on the Thames foreshore opposite the *Cutty Sark* (Sean Huggins).

29 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Ringed Plover, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 6 Shelducks, 41 Teal, a pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls on the eastern raft (Tom Speller & John Archer).

29 March 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Oystercatchers, 1 Common Sandpiper, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 34 Teal, 4 Canada Geese including an aggressive territorial pair, 1 immature Mute Swan (Tom Speller & John Archer).



Oystercatchers at Bow Creek (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

27 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 6 Shelducks but little else with the water level very low (Tom Speller).

27 March 2018, Victoria Park: a male Blackcap, 5 Chiffchaffs and 4 Tufted Ducks on or around East Lake; 3 Gadwall on the Boating Lake; a pair of Egyptian Geese with 5 goslings, 13 Shovelers, 13 Pochards, 38 Tufted Ducks, 2 Great Crested Grebes and a Mute Swan on West Lake, 4 Redwings, 1 Great Spotted woodpecker, 2 Goldcrests and 2 Mistle Thrushes around the park (Richard Drew).

26 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Red Kite flew west at 12.30pm, a Buzzard flew north at 12.45pm, 2 Oystercatchers flew towards Bow Creek, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 2 Shelducks, 43 Teal (John Archer).

26 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Blackcap singing around Lodge Graves, 1 Goldcrest (Bob Watts).

25 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Little Ringed Plover flew in at 15:50 and fed on the island, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 41 Teal, 6 Shelducks, 2 Oystercatchers flew over then east along the Thames (Frank Nugent).

24 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Firecrests still at Horse Chestnut Glade (Frank Nugent).

23 March 2018, Millwall Docks: the Shag still on the pontoon by the sailing club (per Rare Bird Alert).

23 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: no sign of the Avocets at lunchtime, so they have presumably moved on (John Archer).

23 March 2018, Mudchute: 2 singing Chiffchaffs, 2 Monk Parakeets, about 45 clumps of frog spawn in the ponds (John Archer, John Swindells & Tom Davis).

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

23 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Firecrests still in Horse Chestnut Glade, 2 Redwings flew north at 7.45am (Bob Watts).

23 March 2018, Bethnal Green, Bishops Way E2: 1 Sparrowhawk feeding in a garden near Victoria Park at 8.15am (Di Jones).

22 March 2018, Millwall Docks: the first-winter Shag still on the pontoon by the sailing club at 9.15am (Sean Huggins).

22 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: the 3 Avocets still present, 17 Shelducks (Tom Speller).

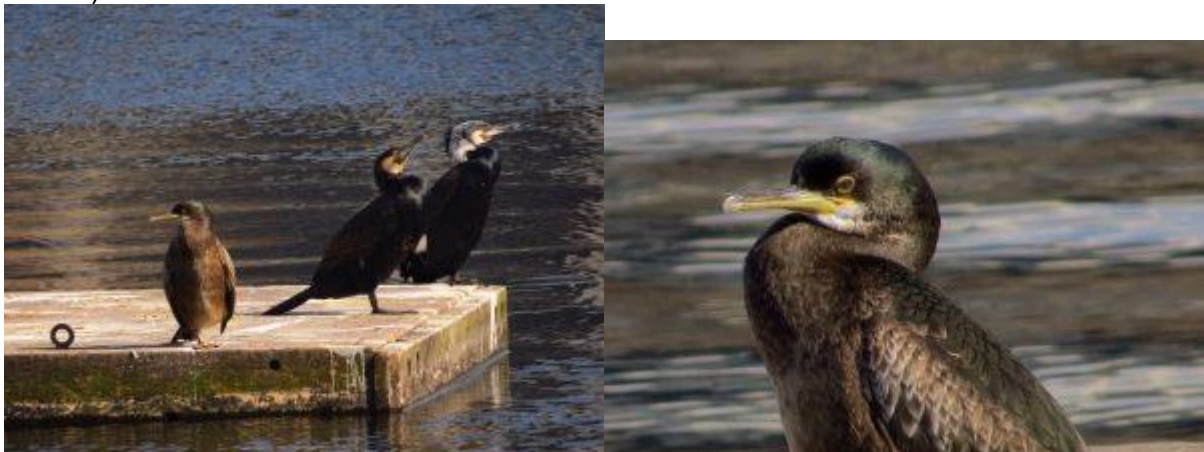


Avocets at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

22 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Firecrests and 1 Goldcrest in Horse Chestnut Glade (Bob Watts).

21 March 2018, Victoria Park: 8 Gadwall on the boating lake, 1 Green Woodpecker and 1 Mistle Thrush in East Park. On West Lake 10 Shovelers, 1 Red-crested Pochard, 14 Pochards, 25 Tufted Ducks, 2 Great Crested Grebes and a Mute Swan (Richard Drew).

21 March 2018, Millwall Docks: the first-winter Shag still on the pontoons by the sailing club at 1.10pm (Tom Speller). A pair of Great Crested Grebes on a nest in Graving Dock (John Archer).



Shag at Millwall Docks (left with 2 Cormorants) (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

21 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 3 Avocets still present and feeding actively around the basin, 3 Linnets, 1 immature Mute Swan, 1 Tufted Duck, 17 Shelducks, 35 Teal, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler).



Avocets at East India Dock Basin (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

21 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Firecrests (a male and a probable female) in Horse Chestnut Glade (Bob Watts).

20 March 2013, Millwall Docks: the first-winter Shag still on the pontoons by the sailing club at 9.10am (Sean Huggins).

20 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 3 Avocets still on the island, about 12 Shelducks, about 40 Teal (Richard Drew & Bob Gilbert).

20 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a male Firecrest still in Horse Chestnut Glade (Bob Watts), about 12 Redwings (Richard Drew).

20 March 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper, 3 Redshanks, a few Teal (Richard Drew).

19 March 2018, All Saints Churchyard, Poplar: 1 Fieldfare, 1 Redwing (Bob Gilbert).

19 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Wetland Bird Survey count began with the unexpected sight of 3 Avocets on the island, the first site record and quite possibly the first ever in Tower Hamlets. The survey also recorded 11 Shelducks, 48 Teal, 1 Tufted Duck, 9 Mallards, 2 Canada Geese, 4 Coots, 4 Moorhens, 1 Great Black-backed Gull, 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls, 4 Herring Gulls, 2 Common Gulls and 58 Black-headed Gulls. Also a female Sparrowhawk flew through (John Archer).



Avocets at East India Dock Basin (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

19 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a male Firecrest in Sanctuary Wood 7.45am, very vocal (Bob Watts).

18 March 2018, All Saints Churchyard, Poplar: 5 Fieldfares (Bob Gilbert).

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

18 March 2018, Millwall Docks: the first-winter Shag still on the pontoon by the sailing club until 3pm when it flew towards Canary Wharf, an adult Mediterranean Gull in summer plumage briefly at 8.30am (Sean Huggins).

17 March 2018, Isle of Dogs: 8 Egyptian Geese on the Thames foreshore near Island Gardens, a second-winter Yellow-legged Gull at Masthouse Terrace Pier (Sean Huggins).

17 March 2018, Millwall Docks: the first-winter Shag still present, fishing halfway along Millwall Outer Dock at 8.30am, and on the pontoons by the sailing club at 3.15pm (Sean Huggins & Richard Bonser).



Shag at Millwall Docks (Richard Bonser)

16 March 2018, Millwall Docks: a first-winter Shag on the jetty in front of the sailing club at 9.30am. This is the first in London this year, and possibly the first in Tower Hamlets since 2000 (Sean Huggins).

16 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Brimstone butterfly, 2 male Firecrests, 2 Goldcrests and a Coal Tit all in Horse Chestnut Glade (Bob Watts).

16 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Peregrine hunting overhead, 33 Teal, 3 Shelducks, 1 Cetti's Warbler singing (John Archer).

15 March 2018, Wapping Canal: a Flounder in the section between Vaughan Way and the steps on Spirit Quay (John Archer).

14 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 15 Siskins feeding in alders on Orchard Wharf boundary then flew east, 2 Egyptian Geese, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 3 Shelducks (Paul Hyland).

14 March 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Oystercatchers, 5 Redshanks, 1 Common Sandpiper (Bob Gilbert & Paul Hyland).

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13 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 3 Firecrests (2 males and a female) in Horse Chestnut Glade, loads of bulbs and other spring flowers providing a spectacular display (John Archer).



Assorted daffodils in Cemetery Park (John Archer)

13 March 2018, Jubilee Street E1: a Great Spotted Woodpecker on a feeder in a garden at the north end of the street (Tony Valsamidis).

10 March 2018, Victoria Park: the Bird Barmy Army walk recorded 40 species of birds, including 1 Nuthatch, 65 Redwings, 2 Gadwall, 16 Shovelers, 8 Pochards, 31 Tufted Ducks, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 45 Cormorants, 61 Coots, 10 Moorhens, 33 Mallards, 2 Mute Swans, 4 Greylag Geese, 2 Sparrowhawks, 2 Grey Wagtails, 5 Goldcrests, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers, 3 Green Woodpeckers, 5 Jays, 9 Stock Doves, 1 Mistle Thrush (David Darrell-Lambert & the Bird Barmy Army).

10 March 2018, Limehouse: 4 House Sparrows on a tree next to the Regent's Canal near Commercial Road bridge (Roman Werpachowski).

9 March 2018, Isle of Dogs: a third-winter Yellow-legged Gull on the foreshore at Saunders Ness (Sean Huggins).

9 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 9 Tufted Ducks, 8 Shelducks, 13 Teal (John Archer).

9 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: the male Firecrest still in Horse Chestnut Glade, 1 Coal Tit, 6 Redwings, 6+ Goldcrests (Bob Watts).

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6 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Peregrine overhead attacking and chasing off a much larger escaped hybrid falcon, 4 Tufted Ducks, 12 Shelducks, 15 Teal, 2 Canada Geese, lots of common birds singing (John Archer).

5 March 2018, Victoria Park: 2 drake Teal on East Lake (very rare here), 50+ Redwings by the playground in East Park (Richard Drew).

5 March 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: the male Firecrest still in Horse Chestnut Glade, 2 Coal Tits, 5+ Goldcrests, 12 Goldfinches (Bob Watts).

5 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Cetti's Warbler, 11 Shelducks (Paul Hyland).

4 March 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Common Sandpipers and 39 Redshanks in the high tide roost (Dante Shepherd).

4 March 2018, Isle of Dogs: a first-winter Yellow-legged Gull on the foreshore by Masthouse Terrace Pier (Sean Huggins).

4 March 2018, Mudchute: 2 Fieldfares, 34 Redwings, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers (1 of them drumming), 1 singing Goldcrest (Sean Huggins).

3 March 2018, Bow Creek: 2 Common Sandpipers and 30 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 1 Peregrine, 1 Kestrel, about 30 Teal (Frank Nugent).

3 March 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Fieldfares and 2 Redwings in the Copse, 1 Little Egret, 9 Redshanks, 15 Shelducks, 13 Teal, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 3 House Sparrows (Frank Nugent).

3 March 2018, Isle of Dogs (River Thames between Ferry Road and Millennium Drive): 1 Shelduck, 1 Teal, 7 Great Crested Grebes, 135 Fieldfares flew north, 1 Meadow Pipit, 3 Redwings (Sean Huggins).

3 March 2018, East Ferry Road E14: 1 Goldcrest singing (Sean Huggins).

3 March 2018, Mudchute: 7 Fieldfares, 25 Redwings, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker (Sean Huggins).

2 March 2018, Millwall Docks: 1 Pochard, 55 Tufted Ducks (Sean Huggins).

February 2018

28 February 2018, Allen Gardens: 8 Fieldfares flew south-west at 4.15pm, 1 Mistle Thrush, 2+ House Sparrows (John Archer).

28 February 2018, Limehouse: about 100 Cormorants on the River Thames (Paul Hyland).

28 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Fieldfares, 2 Redwings, 2 Coal Tits, 1 Goldcrest all in Sanctuary Wood (Bob Watts).

28 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: a female Stonechat briefly in the Copse appears to be the first site record, also 40 Lapwings, 17 Fieldfares and 10 Redwings flew south or west in 15 minutes between 12.50pm and 1.05pm, just 1 Teal on the basin (John Archer).

28 February 2018, Mulberry Place: Fox footprints in the snow outside the Town Hall this morning (Jo Dowle). 1 Lapwing flew low south-west at 1.15pm (John Archer).

28 February 2018, Poplar DLR station: 3 Lapwings flew low west in a blizzard at 11.30am (John Archer).

27 February 2018, Victoria Park: 2 Shovelers, 4 Gadwall, 1 Red-crested Pochard, 6 Pochards, 1 Great Crested Grebe, 9 Tufted Ducks, 9 Redwings, 1 Mistle Thrush, 1 Green woodpecker, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker (Jan Dobbie).

26 February 2018, Mulberry Place: a Mistle Thrush in trees in front of the Town Hall (John Archer).

24 February 2018, King Edward Memorial Park: 1 Chiffchaff, 1 Long-tailed Tit, 1 Grey Wagtail on a nearby jetty (Roman Werpachowski).

24 February 2018, Whitechapel: a female Peregrine flew south over the Royal London Hospital 11am (D. Fletcher).

23 February 2018, Goldman Close E2: a male Blackcap singing in gardens (Nick Lessof).

22 February 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Oystercatcher, 2 Shelducks (John Archer).

22 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 4 Great Black-backed Gulls (2 adults and 2 first-winters) feeding on a large dead Eel (John Archer).

21 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a male Firecrest in Lodge Wood, just behind the war memorial (Bob Watts).

20 February 2018, Blackwall Reach: an escaped hybrid falcon (a large, pale bird resembling a Gyrfalcon) circling and displaying over the area (John Archer).

20 February 2018, Mile End Park: a Great Spotted Woodpecker drumming on one of the floodlights at Mile End Stadium (Terry Patterson).

19 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: a count for the Wetland Birds Survey recorded 15 Shelducks, 9 Tufted Ducks, 44 Teal, 16 Mallards, 3 Coots, 3 Moorhens, 2 Canada Geese, 2 Grey Herons, 1 Common Gull and 42 Black-headed Gulls (John Archer).

18 February 2018, Isle of Dogs: a Little Egret flew south over Chapel House Street (Sean Huggins).

18 February 2018, Wapping Canal: 1 female Kingfisher (Roman Werpachowski) – [see photos on the Love Wapping blog](#).

17 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: Firecrest roughly by point 2 on the Millennium Trail, 1 Coal Tit, 2+ Goldcrest, 1 Mistle Thrush, 1 female Sparrowhawk, 1 singing Stock Dove (Roman Werpachowski & D. Fletcher).

17 February 2018, Mile End Park: 2+ Redwings near Gunmakers Arms bridge (D. Fletcher).

17 February 2018, Mudchute: 1 Small Tortoiseshell (Peter Minvalla).



Small Tortoiseshell at Mudchute (Peter Minvalla)

16 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Firecrests in Horse Chestnut Glade, 3 Goldcrests, a pair of Stock Doves displaying, 1 Red Admiral (Bob Watts).

16 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Reed Buntings, 4 Tufted Ducks, 13 Shelducks, 22 Teal (John Archer).



Reed Bunting at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

15 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: the Firecrest still in Sanctuary Wood, a pair of Sparrowhawks displaying, 3 Great Spotted Woodpeckers (Bob Watts).

15 February 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper and 20 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 1 Kingfisher, 38 Teal (John Archer).

14 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: the male Firecrest still in Sanctuary Wood, keeping on its own rather than joining a tit flock (Bob Watts).

14 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Reed Buntings, 1 Chaffinch, 1 Mute Swan on the Thames, 2 Teal, 2 Canada Geese, 1 House Sparrow (John Archer).



Reed Bunting at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

13 February 2018, Wapping Canal: 2 Egyptian Geese, 4 Tufted Ducks, a pair of Mute Swans, 7 Moorhens including 2 pairs in a territorial dispute, 4 Coots, 35 Mallards (John Archer).

13 February 2018, Hermitage Basin: 4 Tufted Ducks, a pair of Mute Swans, 1 Coot, 4 Canada Geese (John Archer).

13 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 3 Reed Buntings, 1 Kingfisher, 1 Shelduck, a few Teal (John Archer).

13 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Coal Tit, 1 Goldcrest (Bob Watts).

12 February 2018, Bow Creek: 6 Redshanks, 1 Shelduck, 60 Teal (Dan Fletcher).

12 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: the Estonian-ringed Cormorant "Blue EBY", [first seen here in September 2013](#) and most recently on 1 March 2017, was again on the jetty. Also 2 Reed Buntings, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Kingfisher, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Shelduck, 12 Teal, 2 Jays (John Archer & Dan Fletcher).



Cormorant "Blue EBY" at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

11 February 2018, Wapping Canal: 1 Kingfisher (Roman Werpachowski).

9 February 2018, Whitechapel: an adult Peregrine flew in and perched on Royal London Hospital at 3.30pm (D. Fletcher).

9 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Sparrowhawk, 1 Kingfisher, 1 Grey Wagtail, 5 Shelducks, 36 Teal (Paul Hyland).

8 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: the male Firecrest still in Sanctuary Wood, 2 Goldcrests (Paul Hyland).

8 February 2018, Victoria Park: 6 Red-crested Pochards, 6 Gadwall, 8 Shovelers, 5 Pochards, 22 Tufted Ducks, 3 Great Crested Grebes, 1 Little Grebe, 4 Egyptian Geese, 1 Sparrowhawk, 16 Redwings, 3 Mistle Thrushes, 2 Goldcrests, 1 Green Woodpecker (Jan Dobbie).

6 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: the male Firecrest still in Sanctuary Wood, also 3 Goldcrests (Bob Watts).

6 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kingfisher, 16 Shelducks, 13 Teal (John Archer).

2 February 2018, Victoria Park (West Lake): 1 Red-crested Pochard, 14 Shovelers, 12 Pochards, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 1 Little Grebe (J.W. Davies).

2 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Firecrest still in Sanctuary Wood (Richard Hack).

2 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Egyptian Geese, 3 Tufted Ducks, 12 Shelducks, 22 Teal, 2 Canada Geese (John Archer).

2 February 2018, Mile End Park: 25+ Redwings (Bob Watts).

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

1 February 2018, Whitechapel: a female Sparrowhawk flew east over the Royal London Hospital at 11am, mobbed by a Crow (D. Fletcher).

1 February 2018, East India Dock Basin: 17 Shelducks, 73 Teal, 2 Canada Geese, lots of Snowdrops in flower (John Archer).



Snowdrops (left) and Egyptian Goose at East India Dock Basin (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

1 February 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Redwings, 2 Goldcrests (Bob Watts).

1 February 2018, Meath Gardens: 1 Mistle Thrush, 2+ Ring-necked Parakeets (John Archer).

January 2017

31 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 2 Coal Tits, 2 Redwings, 3 Goldcrests (Bob Watts).

31 January 2018, Regent's Canal: 2 Egyptian Geese at Salmon Lane Lock, hundreds of plants of Jersey Cudweed on the west side of the canal just north of Ben Johnson Road (John Archer).



Egyptian Geese at Salmon Lane Lock (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

31 January 2018, Limehouse Basin: 8 House Sparrows (John Archer).

30 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 5 Goldcrests (Bob Watts).

30 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper and 18 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 1 Pied Wagtail singing from Tower Hamlets Transport Depot (John Archer).

30 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 6 Tufted Ducks, 5 Shelducks, 68 Teal (John Archer).

30 January 2018, Island Gardens: 16+ Redwings (Tom Speller).

30 January 2018, Mudchute: 25+ Redwings, 2 singing Greenfinches (Tom Speller).

30 January 2018, Saunders Ness: 6 Gadwall (Tom Speller).

29 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 3 Egyptian Geese, 3 Tufted Ducks, 125 Teal, 2 Canada Geese (John Archer).

29 January 2018, Bow Creek: 21 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 1 Grey Wagtail, 2 singing Cetti's Warblers (John Archer).

27 January 2018, Mudchute: 27 Redwings (Sean Huggins).

26 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Firecrest in Monument Glade at lunchtime, also 1 or 2 Chiffchaffs, 4 Redwings, 3 Goldcrests (Bob Watts).

26 January 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: the adult Black-headed Gull with a Lithuanian ring P562 was back in the same spot where it was previously seen here on 31 January 2017 (Tom Speller).



Lithuanian-ringed Black-headed Gull "P562" at Poplar Dock Marina (Tom Speller)

26 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper and 20 Redshanks in the high tide roost, at least 1 singing Cetti's Warbler (Tom Speller).



Roosting Redshanks at Bow Creek (Tom Speller)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

26 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 2 Shelducks, 38 Teal (Tom Speller).

25 January 2018, Bow Creek: a Speckled Wood butterfly was an extremely unusual January sighting, as butterflies seen at this time of year are usually species which hibernate as adults, whereas the Speckled Wood usually overwinters as a caterpillar or chrysalis. Also 1 female Sparrowhawk, 1 Kestrel and 1 Egyptian Goose (John Archer).

25 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 12 Shelducks, 2 Tufted Ducks, 58 Teal, 2 Canada Geese, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 2 House Sparrows (John Archer).

22 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Red Admiral by the Soanes Centre, 1 Coal Tit (Bob Watts).

22 January 2018, Victoria Park (West Lake): 1 drake Red-crested Pochard, 7 Shovelers, 11 Pochards, 34 Tufted Ducks, 3 Great Crested Grebes, 2 Mute Swans, 3 Greylag Geese (John Archer).

22 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: a count for the Wetland Bird Survey recorded 1 hybrid Canada x Greylag Goose, 5 Canada Geese, 4 Shelducks, 9 Teal, 4 Moorhens, 1 Cormorant, 40 Black-headed Gulls, 1 Common Gull and 4 Herring Gulls (John Archer).



Canada x Greylag Goose hybrid at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

19 January 2018, Senrab Street E1: a Red Admiral sunning itself on a balcony - the first report of a butterfly in the borough this year (Keir Mottram).

19 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Kestrel, 2 Cetti's Warblers, 19 Redshanks, 48 Teal (Charlie Farrell & Tom Speller).

19 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Egyptian Goose, 1 hybrid Canada x Greylag Goose with 3 Canada Geese, 14 Shelducks, 40 Teal (Tom Speller & Charlie Farrell).

19 January 2018, Blackwall Basin: 1 Little Grebe (Tom Speller).



Little Grebe at Blackwall Basin (Tom Speller)

18 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 female Kestrel, 25 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 30 Teal, 3 Canada Geese flew towards East India Dock Basin (John Archer).

18 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 16 Shelducks, 2 Tufted Ducks, 84 Teal, 3 Canada Geese (John Archer).

17 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Coal Tit, 3 Goldcrests but no sign of the Firecrest (Bob Watts).

17 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper and 30 Redshanks in the high tide roost (Paul Hyland).

17 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 13 Shelducks, 57 Teal, 2 House Sparrows, 1 Grey Wagtail, Hazel and Snowdrops in flower (John Archer).

16 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 4 Redwings (Bob Watts).

16 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Pied Wagtail, 7 Redshanks, 32 Teal (John Archer).

16 January 2018, Saunders Ness: 8 Gadwall, 77 Mallards (Tom Speller).

16 January 2018, Millwall Park: 4 Monk Parakeets flew to the nearby nest site, 2 Ring-necked Parakeets flew towards Mudchute (Tom Speller).

15 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 85 Teal, 1 Shelduck, 2+ House Sparrows (John Archer).

13 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Kestrel, 8 Redshanks, 100 Teal (Jon Agar).

12 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a male Firecrest and a Redwing in holly opposite the Soanes Centre (Bob Watts).

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2018

12 January 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: a pair of Mute Swans still with last year's brood of 5 first-winters, 20+ House Sparrows (Tom Speller).

12 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: a Water Rail on the north edge, 13 Shelducks on the basin early morning then flew to the Thames at 8am, 26 Teal (John Archer & Tom Speller).

11 January 2018, Millwall Docks: 5 Egyptian Geese (Sean Huggins).

10 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: 1 Coal Tit in a mixed flock (Bob Watts).

10 January 2018, Mulberry Place: a Mistle Thrush again in the garden behind the Town Hall (John Archer).

10 January 2018, St Paul's Churchyard, Shadwell: 1 Mistle Thrush (John Archer).

10 January 2018, Bow Creek: 35 Redshanks in the high tide roost (Tom Speller).

10 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Redshank, 1 Kingfisher, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 12 Shelducks, 3 Tufted Ducks, 71 Teal, 34 Mallards, 2+ Grey Wagtails (Tom Speller & John Archer).



Cetti's Warbler at East India Dock Basin (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

9 January 2018, Beaumont Square E1: a pair of Ring-necked Parakeets prospecting nest holes (Bob Watts).

8 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: the male Firecrest still in Sanctuary Wood (Bob Watts).

8 January 2018, Mulberry Place: a Mistle Thrush in the garden behind the Town Hall (John Archer).

7 January 2018, Limehouse Basin: 1 Kingfisher (per London Bird Club wiki).

7 January 2018, Shandy Park: 10 Redwings, 6 House Sparrows (Harry Harrison).

7 January 2018, York Square E14: 16 House Sparrows (Harry Harrison).

6 January 2018, Victoria Park: the Bird Barmy Army walk recorded 38 species including 1 Coal Tit, 7 Redwings, 1 Sparrowhawk, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Pied Wagtail, 2 Collared Doves, 3 Stock Doves, 2 Great Spotted Woodpeckers, 1 Song Thrush, 5 Mistle Thrushes, 11 Long-tailed Tits, 2 Goldcrests, 2 Shovelers, 5 Gadwall, 1 Red-crested Pochard, 11 Pochards, 28 Tufted Ducks, 3 Great Crested Grebes, 2 Mute Swans, 6 Greylag Geese and 27 Canada Geese (David Darrell-Lambert and participants on the Bird Barmy Army walk).



Great Spotted Woodpecker & Sparrowhawk in Victoria Park (David Darrell-Lambert) [click to enlarge](#)



Gadwall (male left, female right) in Victoria Park (David Darrell-Lambert) [click to enlarge](#)

5 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kestrel, 9 Shelducks, 5 Tufted Ducks, 3 Canada Geese, 20 Teal, 1 Grey Wagtail, 5 Greenfinches (Tom Speller & John Archer).

5 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Cetti's Warbler singing, 1 Great Black-backed Gull (Tom Speller).

4 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 11 Shelducks, 7 Tufted Ducks (6 drakes and a female), 15 Teal, 2 Jays (John Archer).

3 January 2018, Bow Creek: 41 Redshanks in the high tide roost, 48 Teal (John Archer).

3 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 9 Shelducks, 1 Tufted Duck, 8 Teal, 4 Canada Geese, 2 House Sparrows, 1 Grey Wagtail (John Archer).

2 January 2018, Poplar Dock Marina: 1 Little Grebe (Tom Speller).

2 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Egyptian Goose flew over, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 5 Redshanks, 1 Great Black-backed Gull (Tom Speller).

2 January 2018, East India Dock Basin: 1 Canada x Greylag Goose hybrid with 17 Canada Geese, 1 Tufted Duck, 4 Shelducks, 18 Teal (Tom Speller).

2 January 2018, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Grey Heron fishing in High Glade pond (Bob Watts).

1 January 2018, Bow Creek: 1 Kestrel, 5 Common Sandpipers, 43 Redshanks, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Frank Nugent).