

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2022

December 2022

29 December 2022, Victoria Park: on West Lake: 4 Red-crested Pochards, 7 Shovelers, 7 Pochards, 23 Tufted Ducks, 1 Egyptian Goose; on East Lake: 13 Gadwall, 6 Tufted Ducks, 2 Egyptian Geese; on the Boating Lake: 1 Shoveler, 4 Tufted Ducks; in the rest of the Park: 35 Redwings, 3 Mistle Thrushes (Richard Drew).

26 December 2022, Isle of Dogs: a Black Redstart on the Thames river wall a few hundred metres downstream of Newcastle Draw Dock (Sean Huggins).

15 December 2022, Victoria Park: a Woodcock flew east from near Bonner Gate towards the Sunken Garden, 1 Teal on West Lake (both very unusual records in the park), 22 Redwings (Adam Winstanley).

13 December 2022, East India Dock Basin: 3 Shovelers, the first record here since 2019 (Richard Saville).



immature male Shoveler at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

13 December 2022, Isle of Dogs: 2 female or immature Common Scoters on the River Thames at Saunders Ness late morning (Sean Huggins).

7 December 2022, Victoria Park: on West Lake: 12 Tufted Ducks, 1 Pochard, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 7 Shovelers, 2 Egyptian Geese, 1 Grey Heron; on the Boating Lake: 6 Tufted Ducks, 2 Gadwall, 2 Egyptian Geese, 1 Little Grebe (Richard Drew).

7 December 2022, Prospect Park: 1 Pied Wagtail (John Archer).

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2 December 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 17 Teal, 2 Mute Swans, 2 Canada Geese, 42 Mallards (John Archer).



Little Egret at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

November 2022

30 November 2022, Mile End Park: a Kingfisher on the ponds in the Ecology Park (John Archer, Helen Monger, John White, Mohammed Raja & Peter Sibley).

22 November 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kingfisher, 1 Reed Bunting, 3 House Sparrows, 1 Grey Wagtail, 4 Shelduck, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Egyptian Goose, 1 Cetti's Warbler (Richard Saville).



Egyptian Goose at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

19 November 2022, East India Dock Basin: a Black Redstart by the Virginia Quay Memorial, 36 Teal, 1 Egyptian Goose, 4 Long-tailed Tits (George Kalli).

18 November 2022, Victoria Park: a female Bullfinch near the Bowls Club then flew to the row of trees between the People's Park Tavern and Royal Inn on the Park – the first record in the park for many years. Also 1 Nuthatch and 1 Grey Wagtail (Adam Winstanley).

17 November 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Kingfisher (Richard Saville).

16 November 2022, East India Dock Basin/Bow Creek: 3 Little Egrets, 63 Teal, 2 Redshanks (Gary James).

14 November 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 1 Little Egret, 6 Egyptian Geese, 1 Canada Goose, 2 Mute Swans, 78 Teal, 28 Mallards, 8 Moorhens, 1 Coot and 2 Black-headed Gulls. Also 1 Grey Wagtail (John Archer & Richard Saville).

10 November 2022, East India Dock Basin: a male Black Redstart still present (Conrad Ellam).

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9 November 2022, East India Dock Basin: a pair of Black Redstarts by the Thames on the Meridian line (the first here since 2015, it used to be a regular site), 2 Gadwall (Paul Hyland).

5 November 2022 Upper North Street E14: a Kestrel mobbed by a Carrion Crow (Romana, Hussain and Yunis Gill).

4 November 2022, Bartlett Park: a Sparrowhawk chasing a flock of pigeons (Romana, Hussain & Yunis Gill).

3 November 2022, Austin Street E2: a Sparrowhawk perched on a building overlooking Shoreditch churchyard (Harry Harrison).

October 2022

31 October 2022, Jubilee Park: 2 Grey Wagtails (Richard Saville).



Grey Wagtail in Jubilee Park (Richard Saville)

31 October 2022, Bow Creek: 2 Common Sandpipers (Richard Saville).

29 October 2022, Victoria Park: at least 1 Firecrest between the Sunken Garden & West Lake (Adam Winstanley).

23 October 2022, Victoria Park: a Little Owl being mobbed by birds including a Great Spotted Woodpecker, a Nuthatch and a flock of tits at 1.15pm, in East Park between the tennis courts and the cricket nets near Queen's Gate, then flew to trees between the Bowling Club and the Old English Garden. This is the first record in the park for many years, and possibly the first ever (Adam Winstanley).

19 October 2022, Brabazon Street E14: 1 Sparrowhawk (Romana, Hussain and Yunis Gill).

18 October 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 male Blackcap, 2 Chiffchaffs, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Little Egret, 35 Teal, 2 Mute Swans, 1 Canada Goose, 1 Migrant Hawker dragonfly (John Archer).

11 October 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: 2 Great Crested Grebes, 57 Black-headed Gulls, 13 Tufted Ducks, 1 Grey Wagtail (Richard Saville).

11 October 2022, East India Dock Basin: 86 Teal, 1 Tufted Duck, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 1 Greenfinch, 1 Grey Wagtail (Richard Saville).

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11 October 2022, Mudchute: 2 Monk Parakeets, 1 Grey Wagtail, 3 Small White butterflies, 1 Speckled Wood (Richard Saville).



Small White (left) and Grey Wagtail at Mudchute (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

11 October 2022, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper, 2 Little Egrets (Richard Saville).

7 October 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 3 Little Egrets, 5 Egyptian Geese, 16 Canada Geese (an unusually high count), 2 Mute Swans, 46 Teal, 28 Mallards, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Coot, 9 Moorhens, 1 Herring Gull and 23 Black-headed Gulls. Also 3 Chiffchaffs, 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, 1 Grey Wagtail and 1 Migrant Hawker dragonfly (John Archer).



Canada Geese at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

September 2022

29 September 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Stonechat, probably only the second ever site record (Richard Saville).



Stonechat at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

29 September 2022, Ion Square Gardens: 1 Jay, several Ring-necked Parakeets flying in to roost in the evening, lots of House Sparrows (John Archer).

21 September 2022, Thomas Road E14: a Sparrowhawk mobbed by Ring-necked Parakeets (Romana, Hussain and Yunis Gill).

12 September 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 32 Teal, 46 Mallards, 5 Egyptian Geese (a pair with 2 goslings and an additional adult), 7 Canada Geese, 2 Mute Swans, 6 Moorhens, 1 Grey Heron, 116 Black-headed Gulls and 3 Herring Gulls. Also 2 Pied Wagtails, a singing Cetti's Warbler and 3 Migrant Hawker dragonflies (John Archer).



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

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6 September 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 24 Teal, an adult Egyptian Goose with 3 well-grown goslings, a pair of Mute Swans, 2 Pied Wagtails (John Archer).

5 September 2022, Mudchute: 17 House Martins, 4 Ring-necked Parakeets, 3 Robins, 4 Long-tailed Tits, 1 Southern Hawker dragonfly, 4 Common Darters, 1 Common Blue butterfly, 6 Speckled Woods (Richard Saville).



Southern Hawker at Mudchute (Richard Saville)

August 2022

31 August 2022, East India Dock Basin: an Egyptian Goose with 3 goslings, 12 Teal, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 2 Reed Warblers (Richard Saville).



Egyptian Goose goslings at East Indian Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

31 August 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: 2 Reed Warblers in the northern scrub (Richard Saville).



Reed Warbler at Poplar Dock Marina (Richard Saville)

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23 August 2022, Anthill Road E3: a Sparrowhawk in the garden (Harry Harrison).

22 August 2022, Stepney Green: a Sparrowhawk flew south at 1.50pm mobbed by 3 Magpies (John Archer).

23 August 2022, Antill Road E3: 56 House Sparrows in the garden (Harry Harrison).

16 August 2022, Jubilee Park, Canary Wharf: 1 Red Admiral, 1 House Mouse (Richard Saville).

16 August 2022, Blackwall Basin: 1 Great Crested Grebe, 2 large Carp (Richard Saville).



Great Crested Grebe (left) and Carp at Blackwall Basin (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

15 August 2022, Cable Street Community Garden: 12 Swifts flew south at 2.20pm, 1 Comma butterfly, 1 Red Admiral, lots of Large and Small Whites (John Archer & Jane Sill).

15 August 2022, Welsh House Garden: 1 Holly Blue, 1 Small White (John Archer & Phyllis Keeley).

14 August 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 1 Teal, an Egyptian Goose with 3 small goslings, 2 Canada Geese, 2 Mute Swans, 30 Mallards, 5 Moorhens, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Lesser Black-backed Gull and 120 Black-headed Gulls. Also 1 Grey Wagtail, 2 family groups of Reed Warblers, 1 Red Admiral, 1 Large White, 2 Small Whites and 2 large Carp (John Archer).



Egyptian Goose family at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2022

13 August 2022, Victoria Park: a guided bird walk recorded 38 species of birds, including a Pied Flycatcher by the Chinese Pagoda, 1 Kestrel, 1 Sparrowhawk, 1 Gadwall, 2 Pochards, 4 Little Grebes (with young on both East and West Lakes), a pair of Great Crested Grebes with 1 large young on West Lake, 3 Tufted Ducks, 1 hybrid Bar-headed x White-fronted Goose (not Bar-headed x Greylag as previously reported), 30 Greylag Geese, 22 Canada Geese, 1 Coal Tit, 1 Nuthatch, 3 Blackcaps, 1 Goldcrest, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker, 1 Grey Wagtail and 2 Stock Doves. Also 3 Willow Emerald damselflies by East Lake (David Darrell-Lambert and the Bird Barmy Army).



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

12 August 2022, Tower of London: 1 Red Admiral and 1 Common Blue butterfly among the Superbloom display (John Archer).

12 August 2022, Cranbrook Community Food Garden: 1 Willow Emerald damselfly (Lizzy Mace).

8 August 2022, Jubilee Park, Canary Wharf: 1 Willow Emerald damselfly (a recent colonist of Britain from the Continent), 2 Common Darter dragonflies (Richard Saville).



Willow Emerald at Jubilee Park (Richard Saville)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2022

8 August 2022, East India Dock Basin: 3 Grey Wagtails, 4 Reed Warblers, 1 Chiffchaff, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 1 Grey Heron, 5 Cormorants, a pair of Egyptian Geese with 3 goslings, 80 Black-headed Gulls (Richard Saville).



Reed Warbler (left) and Chiffchaff at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

3 August 2022, Mudchute: 6 Ring-necked Parakeets feeding on crab apples by the main compound, lots of birds and butterflies feeding and drinking around a nearly-dry pond in the Lower Field, including 7 Blackbirds, 2 Grey Wagtails, 1 Chiffchaff, 1 Song Thrush, 3 Blue Tits, 2 Great Tits, 4 Wrens and 5 Red Admirals (Richard Saville).



Ring-necked Parakeet (left) and Song Thrush at Mudchute (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

July 2022

27 July 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Egret, 1 Grey Wagtail (Richard Saville).



Little Egret at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

27 July 2022, Mudchute: 8 House Martins, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Jersey Tiger moth, 1 Red Admiral, lots of Large Whites, 2 Common Blues, 1 Comma, 1 Holly Blue, 1 Common Darter dragonfly (Richard Saville).



Common Darter (left) and Common Blue at Mudchute (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

27 July 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: 2 Grey Wagtails, 2 Egyptian Geese (Richard Saville).

27 July 2022, Bow Creek: 2 Oystercatchers (Richard Saville).

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21 July 2022, Da Gama Place E14: a Small Tortoiseshell butterfly in a front garden (Harvey Smith).



Small Tortoiseshell at Da Gama Place (Harvey Smith)

13 July 2022, West India Docks: a male Black Redstart singing around West India Quay in the morning, a female Tufted Duck with 2 ducklings and a female Mallard with 2 ducklings on North Dock near the Crossrail building (Tom Speller).



Black Redstart at West India Quay (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

13 July 2022, Dundee Wharf E14: 16 active House Martin nests on buildings by the footbridge over Limekiln Dock (Tom Speller).



young House Martins in nests at Dundee Wharf (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

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12 July 2022, Shadwell Basin: a pair of Mute Swans with 2 well-grown cygnets and a pair of Coots with 2 young chicks (Tom Speller).

9 July 2022, Victoria Park: a guided bird walk recorded 31 species including 2 Little Grebes, 3 Great Crested Grebes, 2 Pochards, 3 Tufted Ducks, 5 Egyptian Geese, 2 Greylag Geese, 4 Canada Geese, 2 Mute Swans, 2 Stock Doves, 14 Swifts, 2 Blackcaps, 1 Goldcrest, 1 Mistle Thrush (David Darrell-Lambert and the Bird Barmy Army).

6 July 2022, Hesperus Crescent E14: a Gypsy Moth caterpillar in a garden (Melanie Minvalla).



Gypsy Moth caterpillar at Hesperus Crescent (Peter Minvalla)

5 July 2022, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers, 1 Egyptian Goose, 10 Tufted Ducks, 2 Mute Swans, 1 singing Reed Warbler, 1 Red Admiral (John Archer & Richard Saville).



Little Ringed Plovers at East India Dock Basin (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

5 July 2022, Mudchute: 5 Ring-necked Parakeets, 1 recently-fledged Song Thrush, 3 Greenfinches, 7 Goldfinches, 1 Jay, 4 Blackcaps, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Chiffchaff, 3 Long-tailed Tits, 4 Large White butterflies, 6 Speckled Woods, 1 Large Skipper, 2 Meadow Browns (Richard Saville).



Song Thrush (top left), Large Skipper (top right) and Goldfinch at Mudchute (Richard Saville)
click small photos to enlarge

2 July 2022, Cranbrook Community Food Garden: 1 Brown Hawker dragonfly (Lizzy Mace).

June 2022

29 June 2022, East India Dock Basin: 2 Little Ringed Plovers (Gerald Moore).

28 June 2022, Millwall Slipway: a Vapourer Moth caterpillar in brambles by the river entrance (Peter Minvalla).



Vapourer Moth caterpillar (Peter Minvalla) [click to enlarge](#)

28 June 2022, Bartlett Park: 4 Small Skipper butterflies in meadow areas (John Archer).

27 June 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Little Ringed Plover (the first record this year), 1 Common Tern, 2 Mute Swans, 2 Shelducks, 1 Egyptian Goose, 12 Tufted Ducks, 20 Mallards, 40 Black-headed Gulls, 1 Grey Heron, 4 Reed Warblers, 1 Blackcap, 8 Long-tailed Tits, House Sparrows gathering nesting material, 4 Pied Wagtails on the adjacent roundabout (Richard Saville & Gerald Moore).



Little Ringed Plover (left) & House Sparrow at East India Dock Basin (Gerald Moore) [click to enlarge](#)



Grey Heron (left) & Reed Warbler at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

21 June 2022, Mile End Park: a Reed Warbler singing by the Ecology Lake, a male Emperor Dragonfly in the Ecology Park, single Large Skippers in the Ecology Park and at Kirk's Place Meadow, and 2 Meadow Browns at Kirk's Place Meadow (John Archer).

21 June 2022, Meath Gardens: 1 Ringlet butterfly, 1 male Emperor dragonfly (John Archer).

21 June 2022, Regent's Canal: 20+ baby Perch just north of Mile End Lock (John Archer).

21 June 2022, Stepney City Farm: at least 1 Smooth Newt, 1 Black-tailed Skimmer and several Azure Damselflies in and around the [new pond](#), and the [wildflower meadow planted in 2020](#) looks really spectacular with a particularly fine display of Viper's Bugloss in flower (John Archer & Clare Hawkins).



Azure Damselfly (left) & the wildflower meadow at Stepney City Farm (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

20 June 2022, A13 verge, Poplar: 7 spikes of Pyramidal Orchid in full flower (John Archer).



Pyramidal Orchids on A13 verge (John Archer)

20 June 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 18 Tufted Ducks, 2 Shelducks, 2 Mute Swans, 27 Mallards, 2 Moorhens and a Coot. Also 1 Common Tern over the River Thames, at least 3 Reed Warbler territories and a singing Blackcap (John Archer).

20 June 2022, Bow Creek: 1 singing Chiffchaff (John Archer).

16 June, Hesperus Crescent E14: 2 Small Dusty Wave moths in a garden gazebo (Peter Minvalla).

15 June 2022, Canary Wharf: a Black Redstart singing near Harbour Exchange Square ([London Birders Wiki](#)).

14 June 2022, Mudchute Allotments: a Straw Dot moth (Peter Minvalla).

9 June 2022, Limehouse Cut: at least one pair of Sand Martins nesting near the Teviot Estate (Peter Massini).

9 June 2022, A13 verge, Poplar: several Pyramidal Orchids just starting to flower (Peter Massini).



Pyramidal Orchids on the A13 verge (Peter Massini)

8 June 2022, Elf Green: 1 Large Skipper butterfly, 2 Burnet Companion moths and 1 Common Carder Bee in the meadow (John Archer).

7 June 2022, Mudchute: 6 Azure Damselflies, 2 Large Red Damselflies, 3 Smooth Newts, 1 Red Admiral, 1 Small Tortoiseshell, 2 Brimstones, 4 Speckled Woods, 2 Holly Blues, 4 Small Whites, 4 Greenfinches, 2 Monk Parakeets, 5 Ring-necked Parakeets, 1 Grey Wagtail (Richard Saville). Click photos to enlarge



Small Tortoiseshell (left) and Grey Wagtail at Mudchute (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

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6 June 2022, A13 verge, Poplar: 4 Pyramidal Orchids in bud (Bob Gilbert).

6 June 2022, A12 verge, Poplar: Narrow-leaved Pepperwort growing at the base of the hoardings at the back of Balfron Tower, as well as on the cobbled area there that extends north from the subway (Bob Gilbert).

5 June 2022, Da Gama Close E14: 1 Flower Crab Spider (*Misumena vatia*) (Harvey Smith).



Flower Crab Spider at Da Gama Close (Harvey Smith)

2 June 2022, Da Gama Close E14: a mating pair of Eyed Hawkmoths in a garden (Harvey Smith).



Eyed Hawkmoths mating at Da Gama Close (Harvey Smith)

1 June 2022, Bethnal Green Nature Reserve: 12+ Smooth Newts in the restored pond, 1 Blackcap, 2+ House Sparrows (John Archer & Michael Smythe).

May 2022

31 May 2022, Mudchute: a Grey Wagtail by the wildlife ponds (Peter Minvalla).

29 May 2022, Victoria Park: 2 Nuthatches near East Lake, 5 House Martins (Marcin Kempa).

26 May 2022, East India Dock Basin: 3 Shelducks, 3 Goldfinches, 4 Long-tailed Tits, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Cormorant, 1 Black-headed Gull, 2 Reed Warblers (Richard Saville).



Goldfinch at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville)

26 May 2022, Bow Creek: 1 singing Whitethroat (Richard Saville).

26 May 2022, Stepney Green Road: a Kestrel at 6.30pm (Romana, Hussain & Yunis Gill).

26 May 2022, Tower Pier: an adult Great Black-backed Gull on the Thames foreshore early morning (Bill Haines).

25 May 2022, East India Dock Basin: a report of a female Nightjar, which would be a remarkable record (via Rare Bird Alert and Birdguides).

25 May 2022, West India Middle Dock: a flock of 14 Mute Swans by West India Quay station (John Archer).

25 May 2022, Regent's Canal at Ben Johnson Lock: a pair of Coots with 8 chicks (a very large brood), a pair of Canada Geese with 1 gosling, a pair of Egyptian Geese with 1 gosling (Elaine Crush, Dave Bedford & John Archer).

18 May 2022, King Edward Memorial Park: 1 Burnet Companion moth and 1 Common Blue butterfly in the meadow, where a good range of wildflowers are in flower, including Sainfoin, Yellow Rattle, Common Vetch, Cut-leaved Cranesbill, and Common Mouse-ear, and a Blackcap singing from the adjacent scrub; several plants of Jersey Cudweed in a planter on the terrace (John Archer).

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18 May 2022, Weavers Fields: a Phoenix Fly (*Dorycera graminum*), a nationally scarce picture-winged fly (Gino Brignoli). See [this News post](#) for more details of this exciting record.



Phoenix Fly at Weavers Fields (Gino Brignoli)

16 May 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 1 Egyptian Goose, 5 Shelducks, 17 Tufted Ducks, 30 Mallards, 2 Mute Swans, 2 Canada Geese, 1 Coot, 2 Moorhens, 2 Grey Herons and 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls. Also 3 singing Reed Warblers, 1 singing Blackcap, 1 male Brimstone butterfly and 1 Green-veined White (John Archer).



Shelduck at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

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10 May 2022, Wapping Canal (Tobacco Dock section): 3 pairs of Coots (2 with 3 chicks each, the third nest-building), 3 pairs of Moorhens, 5 Mallards, Yellow Iris in flower (John Archer).



Coot chicks at Tobacco Dock (John Archer)

10 May 2022, Wapping Wood: a Blackcap singing (John Archer).

10 May 2022, Shadwell Basin: 2 pairs of Coots nesting (one pair on one of the new bird rafts), a pair of Mute Swans nesting, 4 Tufted Ducks, 2 Egyptian Geese, 2 Cormorants (John Archer).



Coots nesting on a raft (John Archer)

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9 May 2022, Mudchute: a Robin collecting nest bedding, 2 Long-tailed Tits with 3 fledglings, 1 Brimstone butterfly, 7 Speckled Woods, 3 Small Whites, 2 Holly Blues, 1 Nursery Web Spider (*Pisaura mirabilis*) (Richard Saville).



Robin (left) and Nursery Web Spider at Mudchute (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)



Long-tailed Tit at Mudchute (Richard Saville)

1 May 2022, Victoria Park: a Nuthatch on East Lake island (Marcin Kempa).

April 2022

27 April 2022, Bow Creek: 2 Oystercatchers, 1 Reed Warbler near the blue bridge, 4 Shelducks, 1 Cetti's warbler singing, 2 Goldfinches (Richard Saville).

27 April 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: a Reed Warbler in the north-east scrub, 1 Blackcap, 3 Goldfinches and a Magpie nest under construction (Richard Saville).

26 April 2022, Cayley Primary School: a pair of Large Red Damselflies over the school pond (John Archer).

25 April 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Grey Heron, 2 Shelducks, 1 Greenfinch (Richard Saville).



Shelduck (left) and Grey Heron at East India Dock Basin (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

25 April 2022, Mudchute: a Common Whitethroat singing in the Lower Field (Richard Saville).



Whitethroat at Mudchute (Richard Saville)

22 April 2022, Saffron Avenue Pond: 2 Egyptian Geese, a pair of Coots with 5 chicks (John Archer).

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22 April 2022, East India Dock Basin: at least one Reed Warbler singing, 2 Blackcaps singing, a pair of Canada Geese at a nest, 21 Tufted Ducks, 6 Shelducks, 2 Mute Swans (John Archer).

22 April 2022, Mulberry Place: a Mistle Thrush just outside the Town Hall (John Archer).

20 April 2022, Mudchute: lots of butterflies including 4 Brimstones, 8 Speckled Woods, 3 Commas and 3 Holly Blues. Birds included 2 Swallows flying over, 1 Willow Warbler, 1 Sparrowhawk, 7 Blackcaps, 3 Monk Parakeets, 4 Ringed-necked Parakeets, 4 Blackbirds, 4 Cormorants flying over, 3 Greenfinches, 5 Chiffchaffs and 7 Wrens (Richard Saville). Click photos to enlarge



Speckled Wood (left) and Comma at Mudchute (Richard Saville)

20 April 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: 2 Sedge Warblers singing in the north-east scrub (Richard Saville).

19 April 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 21 Tufted Ducks, 4 Shelducks, 2 Mute Swans, 2 Canada Geese, 33 Mallards, 2 Coots, 5 Moorhens, 2 Lesser Black-backed Gulls and 3 Herring Gulls. Also a Blackcap singing and Cowslips in flower (John Archer).



Cowslip at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

16 April 2022, Victoria Park: a Red Kite flew over at 16.35pm (Adam Winstanley).

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12 April 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: 3 Blackcaps, 1 Ring-necked Parakeet, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 7 Tufted Ducks, 2 Egyptian Geese, 4 Canada Geese, 1 Cormorant, 2 Grey Wagtails, 20+ House Sparrows, 3 Dunnocks, 4 Blackbirds, 2 Robins, 3 Wrens, 6 Goldfinches, 3 Starlings, 4 Magpies, 1 Small White butterfly (Richard Saville).



Great Crested Grebes (left) and Blackcap at Poplar Dock Marina (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)

11 April 2022, Mile End Park: a Buzzard flew low south over the south end of the park at 11.40am towards the Isle of Dogs, mobbed by crows and gulls (John Archer).

11 April 2022, Victoria Park: 1 Chiffchaff and several Blackcaps singing in West Park, 1 Pochard, c30 Tufted Ducks, 2 Egyptian Geese and 1 Bar-headed x Greylag Goose on West Lake (John Archer).

8 April 2022, Mudchute: 1 Garden Warbler, 1 Willow Warbler (Richard Saville).

6 April 2022, Bow Creek: 2 Chiffchaffs, 4 Greenfinches, 5 Wrens, 1 Song Thrush, 1 Dunnock, 1 Cetti's Warbler, 2 Herring Gulls, 3 Goldfinches, 1 Cormorant (Richard Saville).

6 April 2022, East India Dock Basin: 1 Blackcap, 2 Dunnocks, 6 Shelducks, 2 Mute Swans, 2 Wrens, 1 Teal, 1 Magpie, 2 Blackbirds (Richard Saville).

6 April 2022, Mudchute: 3 Monk Parakeets, 2 Ring-necked Parakeets, 5 Blackcaps, 1 Great Spotted Woodpecker, 5 Robins, 2 Dunnocks, 2 Greenfinches, 2 Blackbirds, 6 Wrens (Richard Saville).



Ring-necked Parakeet (left) and Dunnock at Mudchute (Richard Saville) [click to enlarge](#)



Robin at Mudchute (Richard Saville)

2 April 2022, Thomas Road E14: 1 Sparrowhawk (Romana, Hussain and Yunis Gill).

March 2022

22 March 2022, Mudchute: 3 Greenfinches, 4 Grey Wagtails, 1 Blackcap, 13 Wrens, 4 Ring-necked Parakeets, 3 Dunnocks, 5 Blackbirds, lots of House Sparrows (Richard Saville).

22 March 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: House Sparrows nest-building in the hedges (Richard Saville).



House Sparrow at Poplar Dock Marina (Richard Saville)

19 March 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 8 Shelducks, 37 Teal, 1 Common Gull, 1 Lesser Black-backed Gull, 2 Black-headed Gulls, 2 Mute Swans, 15 Mallards and 4 Moorhens. Also at least 4 Greenfinches singing (John Archer).



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

19 March 2022, Bow Creek: 1 singing Chiffchaff, 2 Egyptian Geese, 22 Teal (John Archer).

18 March 2022, Approach Gardens: lots of Common Frogs spawning in the ponds (Sam van Rood).



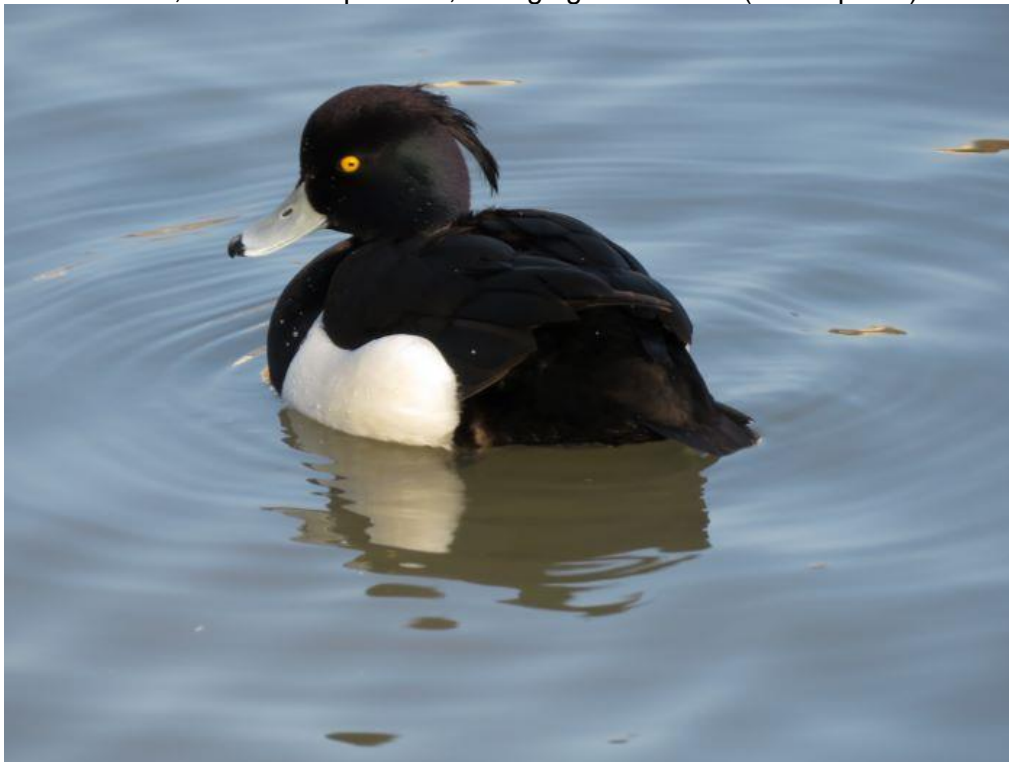
Common Frogs spawning at Approach Gardens (Sam van Rood) [click to enlarge](#)

17 March 2022, Victoria Park: 1 hybrid Bar-headed x Greylag Goose, 20 Tufted Ducks, 1 Pochard, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 12 Shovelers and 10 Egyptian Geese on West Lake; 2 Egyptian Geese on East Lake; 1 Little Grebe on the Boating Lake; a pair of Nuthatches prospecting potential nest sites just inside Pooles Playground (Richard Drew).

16 March 2022, Regent's Canal, Limehouse: 2 Egyptian Geese on Stonebridge Wharf, 2 Grey Wagtails, a pair of Coots at a nest (John Archer).

16 March 2022, Shandy Park: a pair of Mistle Thrushes, lots of spring flowers including Primrose, Sweet Violet, Winter Aconite and numerous varieties of crocuses and daffodils (John Archer & Terry Lyle).

8 March 2022, East India Dock Basin: 9 Shelducks, 1 drake Tufted Duck, c30 Teal, 2 Oystercatchers flew low towards Bow Creek, 80 Black-headed Gulls, 2 adult Lesser-black backed Gulls, 3+ House Sparrows, 1 singing Greenfinch (Tom Speller).



Tufted Duck at East India Dock Basin (Tom Speller)

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8 March 2022, Bow Creek: 1-2 Common Sandpipers, 1 Redshank, 1 Shelduck flew over south, 1 Egyptian Goose, c50 Teal, 2 singing Cetti's Warblers, 2 Song Thrushes, 1 singing Greenfinch (Tom Speller). Click photos to enlarge



Egyptian Goose (left), Redshank (rear right) & Common Sandpiper (front right) at Bow Creek (Tom Speller)

1 March 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: 2 Egyptian Geese (Tom Speller).



Egyptian Geese at Poplar Dock (Tom Speller) click to enlarge

February 2022

19 February 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 3 Shelducks, 22 Teal, 1 Canada Goose, 2 Mute Swans, 28 Mallards, 6 Moorhens, 1 Grey Heron, 1 Common Gull, 3 Lesser Black-backed Gulls and 76 Black-headed Gulls. Also 3+ singing Greenfinches and 10+ House Sparrows – the latter species has become much commoner here over the last couple of years (John Archer).

19 February 2022, Bow Creek: 1 singing Cetti's Warbler, about 20 Teal (John Archer).

16 February 2022, Mile End Park: 1 Kingfisher (James Palmer).

16 February 2022, Poplar Dock Marina: 14 Coots, 2 Moorhens, 23 Mallards, 10 Tufted Ducks, a pair of Mute Swans with 4 of last year's young, 1 Canada x Greylag Goose hybrid, 7 Canada Geese, 2 Great Crested Grebes, 4 Great Tits, 1 Wren, 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Pied Wagtail (Tom Speller).



Clockwise from top left: Canada x Greylag Goose hybrid, Mute Swans, Tufted Duck, Pied Wagtail, Grey Wagtail and Wren at Poplar Dock (Tom Speller) [click to enlarge](#)

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2022

11 February 2022, Bethnal Green Nature Reserve: 1 Jay, lots of early spring flowers including Sweet Violets, Wild Daffodils, Snowdrops and Winter Aconites (John Archer).



Winter Aconite (left) and Snowdrops at Bethnal Green NR (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)

10 February 2022, Victoria Park (West Lake): 25 Shovelers, 7 Pochards, c30 Tufted Ducks, 1 hybrid Bar-headed x Greylag Goose, 5+ adult Egyptian Geese including a pair with 10 small goslings, 8+ Greylag Geese, 10+ Canada Geese, a pair of Mute Swans with 4 young from last year, a pair of Great Crested Grebes (John Archer & Lizzie Buckingham).



Bar-headed x Greylag Goose hybrid (left) and Greylag Goose (John Archer) [click to enlarge](#)



Egyptian Goose on one of the West Lake sculptures (John Archer)

9 February 2022, West India Docks: a group of 13 Mute Swans including 6 first-winter birds (Tom Speller).

9 February 2022, Jubilee Place, Canary Wharf: 1 Grey Wagtail (Tom Speller).

Tower Hamlets wildlife reports 2022

9 February 2022, Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: a Barn Owl on the eastern side of the park – photo and more information on [Twitter](#). This is a very unusual sighting, as Barn Owls are not normally seen in inner London. It may possibly be an escaped captive bird (Bernie per Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park).



Barn Owl in Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park (Bernie)

7 February 2022, Victoria Park: 33 Shovelers on West Lake, a Nuthatch calling and a Great Spotted Woodpecker drumming near the Old English Garden, 40+ Redwings (JW Davies).

3 February 2022, Shadwell Basin: 2 Egyptian Geese, a pair of Mute Swans, 4+ Cormorants (John Archer).

January 2022

22 January 2022, Bow Creek: 1 Redshank, 52 Teal, 2 Grey Wagtails, 1 singing Song Thrush (John Archer).

22 January 2022, East India Dock Basin: a count for the [Wetland Bird Survey](#) recorded 16 Shelducks, 1 Tufted Duck, 18 Teal, 15 Mallards, 2 Mute Swans, 2 Grey Herons, 8 Moorhens, 1 Cormorant, 4 Common Gulls, 2 Herring Gulls and 43 Black-headed Gulls. Also 1 Grey Wagtail, 1 Jay, 4+ Greenfinches (John Archer).



Grey Heron at East India Dock Basin (John Archer)

18 January 2022, Bow Creek: 1 Common Sandpiper, 3 Chiffchaffs, 4 Shelducks, 17 Teal (Tom Ensom).

17 January 2022, Victoria Park: a Great Spotted Woodpecker drumming (Alan Revel via Twitter).

14 January 2022, Bow Creek: 4 Shelducks, c90 Teal, 1 Little Grebe, 2 Redshanks, 1 Common Sandpiper (Nick Tanner).

12 January 2022, Bow Creek: 2 Common Sandpipers, 5 Redshanks, 2 Grey Wagtails, c60 Teal (Charlie Farrell).