

SPOTTING AND JOTTING GUIDE

OUR BRITISH BIRDS



MATT SEWELL

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Acknowledgements
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About the Book

There is nothing better than spotting a bird you have never seen before, so here is a handy way of keeping all your jottings in check. In Matt Sewell's much-loved pop art style, and small enough to pop in your pocket, *Our Garden Birds: Spotting and Jotting* is the perfect accessory for bird-seekers and nature-lovers alike. Replicated in stunning watercolours and true-to-life, discover wild and wonderful birds from Greenfinches to Goldcrests, Blackcaps and Collared doves. So, grab your binoculars and start spotting and jotting your favourite feathered friends.

About the Author

Artist and illustrator Matt Sewell has been described as the Banksy of the bird world. Matt works in a variety of media including T-shirts, posters, interiors, sculptures and walls. He has illustrated for the *Guardian* and *Barbour*, amongst many others; painted underpasses for the RSPB; and exhibited in London, Manchester, New York, Tokyo and Paris, as well as being an avid ornithologist and regular contributor to the Caught by The River website (he also designed their logo). He lives in Shrewsbury with his partner and two children.



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EBURY
PRESS



To my Goldfinches – Jess, Romy and Mae



‘Everyone likes birds. What wild creature is more accessible to our eyes and ears, as close to us and everyone in the world, as universal as a bird?’

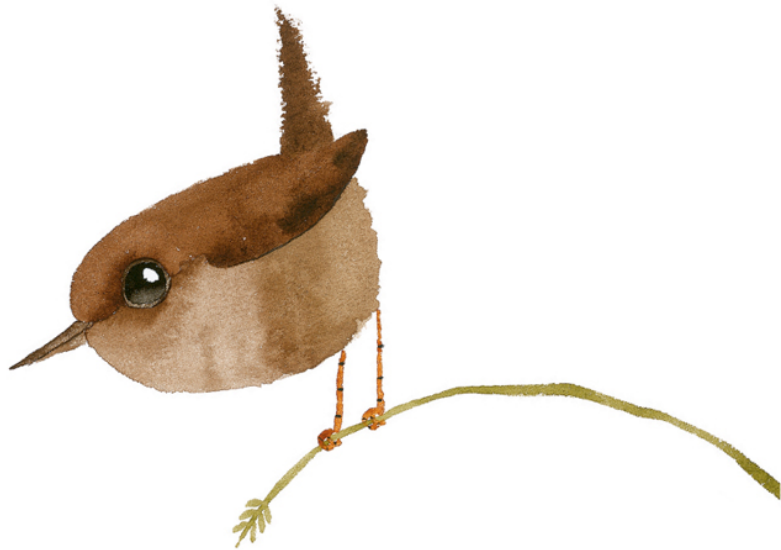
David Attenborough

INTRODUCTION

It's easy to go bird spotting, you don't even need to leave your house or to have finished your breakfast to do it, as those few metres outside your window hold just as many spotting and jotting opportunities as there are up in the wood or down in the estuary. Even walking to work/school/the pub can be a golden chance for getting that triumphant first spot and elusive tick. All you need to do is be aware and look at every bird that passes by. Yes, every bird! That Pigeon could easily be a Sparrow Hawk, that Sea Gull a Buzzard or that Blue Tit a Firecrest (although I am always happy to see a Blue Tit!). So go on, get outside, get spotting and jotting and see how many ticks you can get. And remember to always look up!

BIRDS





□ Goldfinch
Carduelis carduelis

There's nothing more delightful than a charm of Goldfinches, chiming
from thistle to branch.



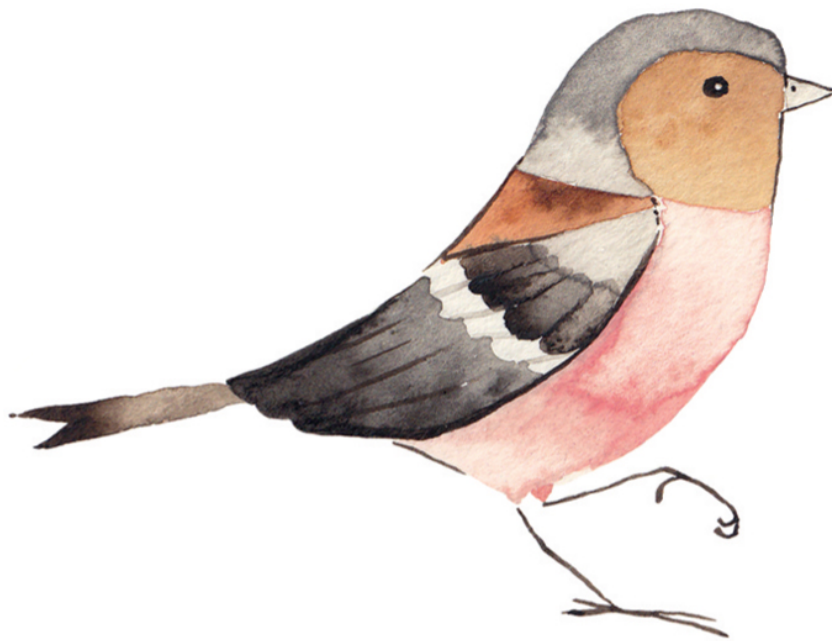
□ Greenfinch
Carduelis chloris

Not as green or pretty as you would imagine, but a lovely bird nonetheless.



□ Chaffinch
Fringilla coelebs

Very pretty but common as muck: they loiter at beauty spots scrounging for crisp crumbs.



□ Bullfinch
Pyrrhula pyrrhula

An enchanting bird: playful yet shy, petite and possessing a pink and black coat of graphic perfection.

