

# SPOTTING AND JOTTING GUIDE

OUR BRITISH BIRDS



MATT SEWELL



# CONTENTS

Cover

About the Book

About the Author

Title Page

Dedication

Epigraph

Introduction

Birds

Goldfinch

Greenfinch

Chaffinch

Bullfinch

House Sparrow

The Nuthatch and the Treecreeper

Blue Tit

Great Tit

Long-tailed Tit

Firecrest and Goldcrest

Bearded Tit

Wheatear

Linnet

Yellowhammer

Cirl Bunting

Song Thrush

Redwing

Blackbird

Ring Ouzel

Robin

Nightingale

Redstart  
Garden Warbler  
Wood Warbler  
Dartford Warbler  
Blackcap  
Wren  
Dipper  
Waxwing  
Ring-necked Parakeet  
Crow  
Rook  
Jackdaw  
Magpie  
Jay  
Raven  
Chough  
Starling  
Great Grey Shrike  
Pied Wagtail  
Skylark  
Kingfisher  
Green Woodpecker  
Great Spotted Woodpecker  
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker  
Wryneck  
Swallow  
House Martin  
Swift  
Nightjar  
Barn Owl  
Tawny Owl  
Long-eared Owl  
Short-eared Owl  
Little Owl  
Cuckoo  
Wood Pigeon

Collared Dove  
Turtle Dove  
Great Black-backed Gull  
Herring Gull  
Guillemot  
Puffin  
Gannet  
Cormorant  
Mallard  
Smew  
Lapwing  
Avocet  
Oystercatcher  
Bittern  
Coot  
Moorhen  
Canada Goose  
Woodcock  
Pheasant  
Red Kite  
Buzzard  
Sparrowhawk  
Golden Eagle  
Osprey  
Kestrel  
Hobby  
Peregrine Falcon

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.



# OUR BRITISH BIRDS

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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

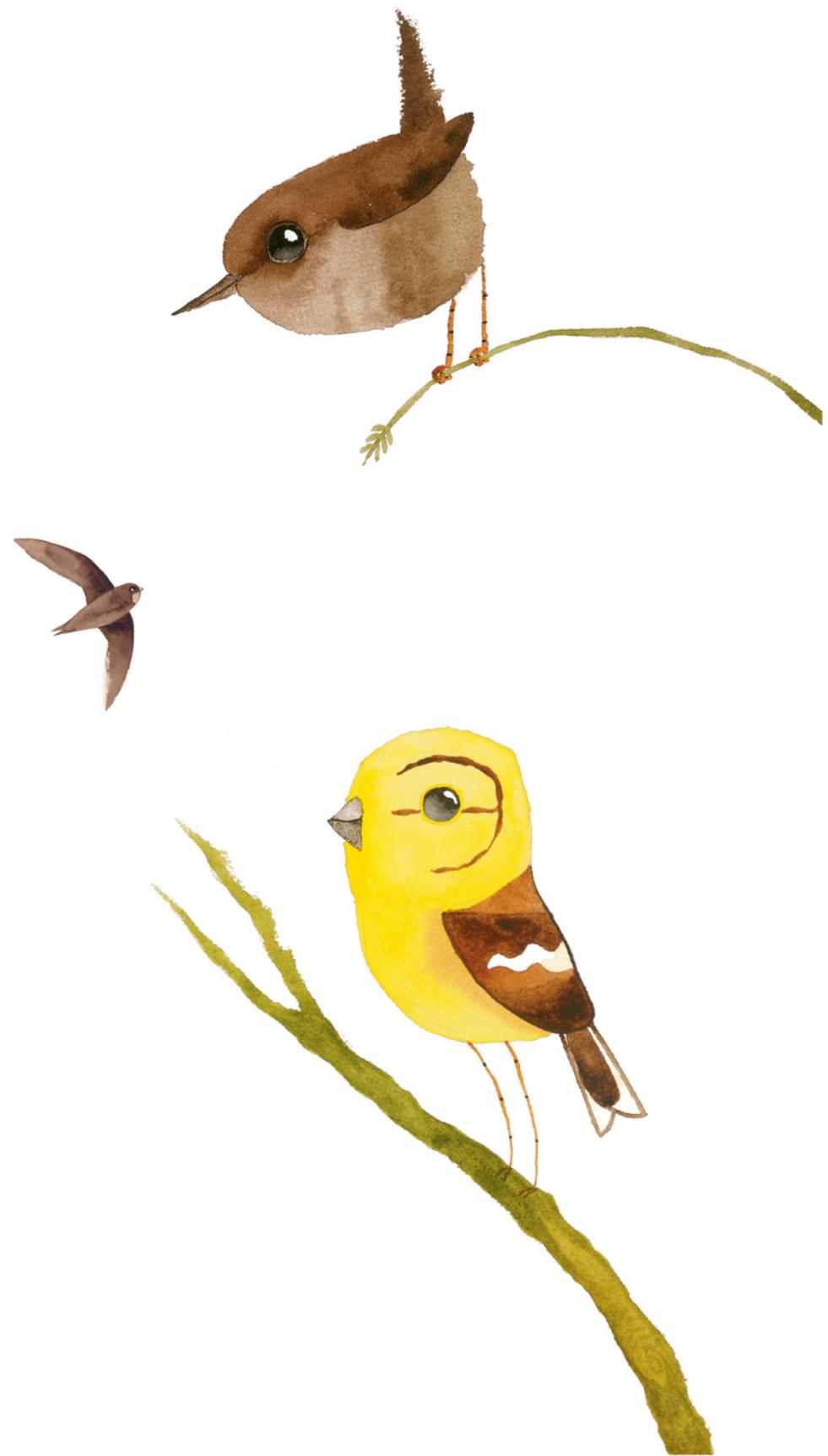
## INTRODUCTION

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*

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





□ Greenfinch  
*Carduelis chloris*

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

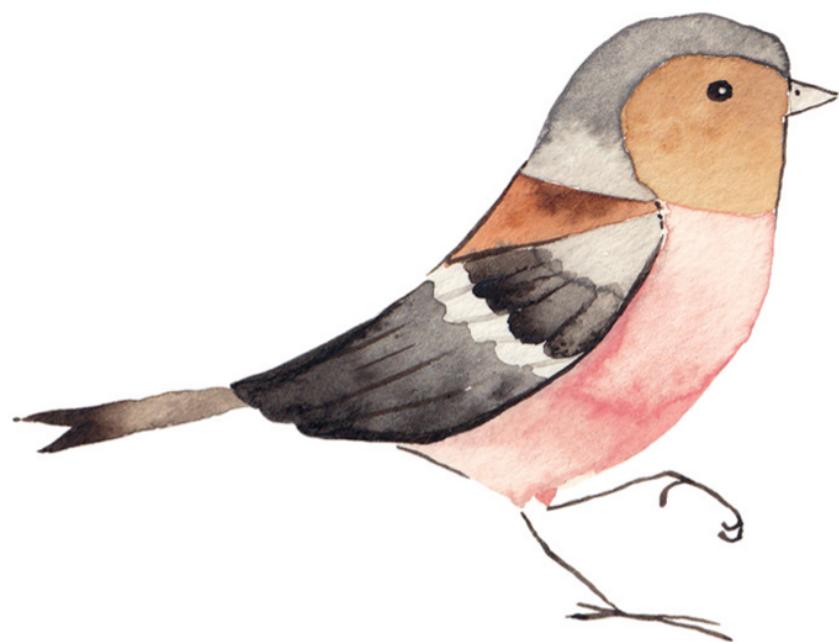




□ Chaffinch  
*Fringilla coelebs*

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





□ Bullfinch  
*Pyrrhula pyrrhula*

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

