

## Ornithological Surveys

We encourage members to participate in local and national surveys so that their interest and enthusiasm contributes to the understanding of bird populations and their conservation. Most surveys are organised by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) at either the national or local level.

There are surveys to suit all levels of experience and knowledge and the BTO runs training sessions for many of their surveys. Here is a selection of the projects run by the BTO, but you can find more on their website: <https://www.bto.org/>

### Garden Birdwatch

A great place to start. Record the birds that visit your garden and add them to the data being collected by thousands of others around the country. See [Garden BirdWatch | BTO - British Trust for Ornithology](#)

### Avon Winter Bird Survey

Choose a 1km grid square near your home (or a favourite birding spot) and record all the birds you see on two visits during the winter months. As long as you can identify most of the common bird species you are likely to see, the recording is easy. Find out more from: [dave.stoddard@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dave.stoddard@tiscali.co.uk)

### Avon Breeding Bird Survey

The same as the Avon Winter Bird Survey, but during the breeding season (April – June). This is a good way to practise and improve your bird song recognition as this is the best way to find most breeding birds. Find out more from: [dave.stoddard@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dave.stoddard@tiscali.co.uk)

### Breeding Bird Survey

The BTO randomly selects 1km squares for this survey, so you will need to contact our local organiser, Dave Stoddard ([dave.stoddard@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dave.stoddard@tiscali.co.uk)), to find out if there is a vacant square in your area. The methods are more precise than the Avon survey, but it also involves 2 counts in the breeding season (April – June). See [Breeding Bird Survey | BTO - British Trust for Ornithology](#)

### Nesting Neighbours

Monitor the nests in your garden each spring and help the BTO measure each year's breeding success around the country. See [Nesting Neighbours | BTO - British Trust for Ornithology](#)

### BirdTrack

Use the BTO's software to record the birds you see when you are out and about. They can then use your data to keep track of bird populations throughout the country. See [BirdTrack | BTO - British Trust for Ornithology](#)