

BRITISH BIRDSOUNDS ON CD

The definitive audio guide to birds in Britain



**Recordings from the
British Library Sound Archive**

**Compiled and edited by Ron Kettle
and Richard Ranft**

Text Ron Kettle

**Assisted by Theresa Lynch
and Paul Duck**

Consultant Patrick Sellar

Announcements Peter Copeland

Digital mastering Nigel Bewley

A total of 175 species are heard on these two discs, ranging from the familiar tawny owl to the very rare call of the bittern. This is an authoritative guide to all British birds likely to be encountered by the average birdwatcher and the ideal download for anyone wishing to learn the sounds of the great variety of birds that can be seen and heard throughout the seasons.

Total duration 151 minutes

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For further information about the Sound Archive:

British Library Sound Archive
The British Library
96 Euston Road
London
NW1 2DB

T +44 (0)20 7412 7676
F +44 (0)20 7412 7441
sound-archive@bl.uk
www.bl.uk/soundarchive

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DISC ONE

1 BLACK-THROATED DIVER

Gavia arctica

58" Wails and soft croaks.

BACKGROUND Carrion Crow, Pied Wagtail and Red-throated Diver croaks.
Inverness-shire, April 1979, Richard Margoschis.

2 RED-THROATED DIVER

Gavia stellata

24" a) Wails and cries of a breeding pair.

Sutherland, June 1987, Chris Watson for RSPB.

19" b) Croaks in flight.

North Uist, May 1983, Heather Myers.

3 LITTLE GREBE

Tachybaptus ruficollis

29" The 'tittering' duet of a pair of birds.

BACKGROUND Skylark and Coot.
Warwickshire, February 1972, Richard Margoschis.

4 GREAT CRESTED GREBE

Podiceps cristatus

46" The 'chacking' and 'growling' calls between a pair of birds in early spring.

BACKGROUND Gull and Wigeon.
Staffordshire, March 1971, Richard Margoschis.

5 FULMAR

Fulmarus glacialis

40" Calls of pairs on nesting cliffs.

Sutherland, May 1984, Richard Margoschis.

6 MANX SHEARWATER

Puffinus puffinus

32" Calls from burrows in a cavern.

St. Kilda, June 1977, Ian Baker.

7 STORM PETREL

Hydrobates pelagicus

44" Calls of a pair in a burrow.

St. Kilda, June 1977, Ian Baker.

8 GANNET

Sula bassana

34" Calls at a nesting colony.

Bass Rock, June 1974, John Gordon.

9 BITTERN

Botaurus stellaris

41" Two separate sequences of booming.

BACKGROUND Woodpigeon, Coot, Moorhen and Mallard.
Lancashire, February 1975, John Gordon.

10 GREY HERON

Ardea cinerea

20" a) Flight calls of two birds

near a heronry.

Hampshire, March 1967, Reg Genever.

26" b) The vocal clattering of young in the nest.

Dyfed, July 1971, Philip Radford.

11 BEWICK'S SWAN

Cygnus columbianus

39" Flight calls of an incoming flock.

BACKGROUND Other waterfowl.

Gloucestershire, January 1970,

Philip Radford.

12 WHOOPER SWAN

Cygnus cygnus

27" Flight calls of a departing flock.

BACKGROUND Coot.

Eire, April 1979, Richard Ridgway.

13 BEAN GOOSE

Anser fabalis

44" Flight calls of parties.

Sweden, October 1979, Patrick Sellar.

14 PINK-FOOTED GOOSE

Anser brachyrhynchus

32" Flight calls of a party.

Norfolk, December 1985,

Chris Watson for RSPB.

15 WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

Anser albifrons

36" Flight calls of a party.

Norfolk, December 1987,

Richard Margoschis.

16 GREYLAG GOOSE

Anser anser

35" Flight calls of a party.

BACKGROUND Fulmar.

Kirkcudbrightshire, December 1973,

John Gordon.

17 CANADA GOOSE

Branta canadensis

41" Calls of a party.

BACKGROUND Carrion Crow and Heron.

London, January 1987, Tony Baylis.

18 BARNACLE GOOSE

Branta leucopsis

47" Calls of a feeding flock.

Dumfriesshire, February 1987,

Simon Elliott.

19 BRENT GOOSE

Branta bernicla

44" Calls of a bathing flock.

Sussex, December 1979, John B. Fisher.

20 SHELDUCK

Tadorna tadorna

33" Courtship display calls between three

males and two females on the water.

Dorset, March 1974, Richard Savage.

21 TEAL

Anas crecca

35" Piping of drakes and quiet quacking

of females in a party feeding together at the waterside.

Staffordshire, March 1975,

Richard Margoschis.

22 WIGEON

Anas penelope

43" Whistles of males and soft grunts

of females displaying on the water.

Dorset, December 1975, Richard Savage.

23 GADWALL

Anas strepera

37" Thin pipes and rasps of males

and quiet quacking of females in

communal display.

Essex, February 1982, Malcolm Clark.

24 MALLARD

Anas platyrhynchos

23" a) Persistent quacking of female.

BACKGROUND Woodpigeon.

Northamptonshire, March 1976,

William Pedley.

18" b) 'Laughing' quacks of female

and quiet calls of males.

Norfolk, October 1985,

Chris Watson for RSPB.

25 PINTAIL

Anas acuta

28" 'Prip' calls of males and 'chuckles'

of females in communal display.

Kirkcudbrightshire, December 1973,

John Gordon.

26 SHOVELER

Anas clypeata

34" Courtship calls of male.

BACKGROUND Chaffinch.

Dorset, March 1980, Richard Savage.

27 TUFTED DUCK

Aythya fuligula

30" a) Courtship calls of males.

Finland, April 1989, Jan-Erik Bruun.

23" b) Female calls in a group displaying.

BACKGROUND Wren, Robin and

Willow Warbler.

Warwickshire, May 1980,

Richard Margoschis.

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28 EIDER

Somateria mollissima
40" Calls of males and females in a group displaying.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
Sutherland, May 1984, Richard Margoschis.

29 LONG-TAILED DUCK

Clangula hyemalis
40" 'Yodelling' of males.
BACKGROUND Oystercatcher.
Sutherland, April 1988, Richard Margoschis.

30 OSPREY

Pandion haliaetus
46" Call.
Highland, August 1971, Bill Sinclair.

31 BUZZARD

Buteo buteo
29" Call.
BACKGROUND Skylark and Blackbird.
Dyfed, July 1979, Phil Hollom.

32 SPARROWHAWK

Accipiter nisus
39" The rapid shrill calls of a bird near its nest.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
Wiltshire, June 1973, Douglas Bower.

33 KESTREL

Falco tinnunculus
47" The querulous calls of a female at the nest with one or two calls from the male.
BACKGROUND Blackbird.
Surrey, May 1975, Phil Hollom.

34 HOBBY

Falco subbuteo
43" Calls of a pair – male perched and female flying.
Surrey, June 1968, Victor Lewis.

35 PEREGRINE

Falco peregrinus
42" Calls of a pair – both male and female in flight.
Ayrshire, July 1971, Reg Genever

36 RED GROUSE

Lagopus lagopus
55" Territorial calls of more than one bird.
Yorkshire, March 1975, John B. Fisher.

37 BLACK GROUSE

Tetrao tetrix
38" Calls of males at a lek.
BACKGROUND Great Tit.
Inverness-shire, April 1984, Richard Margoschis.

38 CAPERCAILLIE

Tetrao urogallus
46" Display sounds of male.
BACKGROUND Song Thrush.
Perthshire, April 1991, Roger Boughton.

39 RED-LEGGED PARTRIDGE

Alectoris rufa
38" Calls.
BACKGROUND Blackbird, Song Thrush, Pheasant and Grey Partridge.
Sussex, April 1984, Douglas Bower.

40 GREY PARTRIDGE

Perdix perdix
38" Calls – two types.
BACKGROUND Cuckoo.
Sussex, May 1960, and Herefordshire, June 1978, Victor Lewis.

41 QUAIL

Coturnix coturnix
42" Calls of male with another in distance.
Hertfordshire, June 1972, Victor Lewis.

42 PHEASANT

Phasianus colchicus
15" a) 'Crowing' of male.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
Herefordshire, April 1974, Victor Lewis.
35" b) Roosting calls and whirring of wings.
Sussex, December 1979, Rodney Jervis.

43 WATER RAIL

Rallus aquaticus
40" a) Advertising song of male.
BACKGROUND Great Crested Grebe.
Surrey, April 1987, Dave Williams.
13" b) Courtship song of female.
BACKGROUND Black-headed Gull and Curlew.
Inverness-shire, June 1991, Gillian Gilbert.
10" c) 'Sharming'.
Cambridgeshire, November 1985, Chris Watson for RSPB.

44 CORNCRAKE

Crex crex
40" Persistent rasping song.
Sutherland, June 1977, John B. Fisher.

45 MOORHEN

Gallinula chloropus
4" a) The characteristic 'prrt' alarm call.
Northamptonshire, April 1971, William Pedley.
26" b) Threat calls of two birds meeting at their territorial boundaries.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
North Humberside, May 1983, Malcolm Clark.

46 COOT

Fulica atra
30" a) Some typical calls from a single bird.
Aberdeenshire, May 1973, Douglas Bower.
29" b) Two birds squabbling.
Gloucestershire, September 1973, Ray Goodwin.
15" c) Explosive 'sput'.
Avon, April 1975, Philip Radford.

47 OYSTERCATCHER

Haematopus ostralegus
54" A 'piping' party of about five birds.
Two sequences with various calls.
Norfolk, December 1973, Phil Hollom.

48 AVOCET

Recurvirostra avosetta
30" Alarm call of a bird chasing a gull off nesting area.
BACKGROUND Black-headed Gulls.
Suffolk, June 1987, Richard Ranft.

49 STONE CURLEW

Burhinus oedicnemus
30" Display calls.
BACKGROUND Pheasant.
Norfolk, April 1984, Richard Margoschis.

50 LITTLE RINGED PLOVER

Charadrius dubius
33" a) Song in display flight.
18" b) Calls after song flight.
Gloucestershire, May 1978, Victor Lewis.

51 RINGED PLOVER

Charadrius hiaticula
14" a) Typical calls at a breeding site.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch and Redshank.
21" b) Alarm calls.
BACKGROUND Black-headed Gulls.
Lancashire, May 1975, Doug Ireland.

52 GOLDEN PLOVER

Pluvialis apricaria
44" Calls and song on breeding grounds.
Yorkshire, June 1991, Richard Margoschis.

53 GREY PLOVER

Pluvialis squatarola
31" Calls of two birds.
BACKGROUND Curlew and Redshank.
Norfolk, August 1968, Richard Margoschis.

54 LAPWING

Vanellus vanellus
48" a) Courtship display calls and wing-beats.
Herefordshire, March 1974, Victor Lewis.
29" b) The plaintive anxiety calls in flight of a pair with young.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
Warwickshire, June 1969, Richard Margoschis.

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55 DUNLIN

Calidris alpina
37" a) Song in display.
Cardiganshire, April 1981, Victor Lewis.
23" b) Feeding calls and flight call.
Cumbria, September 1974, Doug Ireland.

56 SNIPE

Gallinago gallinago
41" a) Drumming and 'chipper' song
in display flight.
BACKGROUND Robin, Dunnock
and Lapwing.
Cambridgeshire, April 1986,
Richard Margoschis.
14" b) Flight alarm of a bird
accidentally flushed.
BACKGROUND Canada Goose and Coot.
Cambridgeshire, March 1983,
Richard Margoschis.

57 WOODCOCK

Scolopax rusticola
23" The croaks and squeaks of a
'roding' bird.
Northumberland, June 1971,
Reg Genever.

58 WHIMBREL

Numenius phaeopus
14" Flight call, frequently heard from
birds on passage.
Shetland, May 1975, Phil Hollom.

59 CURLEW

Numenius arquata
29" a) The bubbling trill flight calls.
BACKGROUND Crow and sheep.
Berwickshire, Summer 1965,
Reg Genever.
30" b) Calls on ground and in flight.
Nairnshire, May 1972, Douglas Bower.

60 SPOTTED REDSHANK

Tringa erythropus
24" Flight call.
Cumbria, September 1974, Doug Ireland.

61 REDSHANK

Tringa totanus
34" a) Calls from two birds feeding
and song from another.
BACKGROUND Lapwing.
Shetland, May 1975, Phil Hollom.
25" b) Alarm calls of two birds in flight.
BACKGROUND Rooks.
Buckinghamshire, June 1971,
William Pedley.

62 GREENSHANK

Tringa nebularia
43" Flight calls, display song and 'chip'
calls of two birds at a breeding site.
BACKGROUND Wren.
Sutherland, May 1976,
Richard Margoschis.

63 GREEN SANDPIPER

Tringa ochropus
27" Flight calls.
Netherlands, August 1981,
C. J. Hazevoet.

64 COMMON SANDPIPER

Actitis hypoleucos
35" a) Song in display flight.
Morayshire, May 1972, Douglas Bower.
21" b) Calls 'hee-dee-dee-dee'.
BACKGROUND Oystercatcher.
Wester Ross, July 1978, Philip Radford.
24" c) Contact or anxiety call 'seee'
and 'tee-see'.
Cumbria, June 1987, Dorothy Thelwall.

65 TURNSTONE

Arenaria interpres
47" Chattering and 'teuk' calls
of a group (two sequences).
Norfolk, December 1985,
Chris Watson for RSPB.

66 ARCTIC SKUA

Stercorarius parasiticus
36" Calls of a group in flight.
BACKGROUND Skylark.
Sutherland, June 1987,
Chris Watson for RSPB.

67 BLACK-HEADED GULL

Larus ridibundus
15" a) Calls from birds in flight.
Buckinghamshire, October 1977,
William Pedley.
28" b) Calls at a breeding colony.
Cumbria, May 1982, Philip Radford.

68 COMMON GULL

Larus canus
17" a) The 'song' of an individual bird
at the start of the breeding season.
BACKGROUND Arctic Tern.
Shetland, May 1975, Phil Hollom.
23" b) Calls at a nesting colony.
Morayshire, June 1978, Victor Lewis.

69 HERRING GULL

Larus argentatus
11" a) The 'long call' of an individual bird.
Devon, August 1974, Keith Betton.
34" b) Calls at a nesting colony late in the
breeding season.
Argyllshire, July 1974, Philip Radford.

70 LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL

Larus fuscus
20" a) Mew, 'kow' and long calls at a
nesting colony.
Pembrokeshire, June 1986,
Chris Watson for RSPB.
23" b) 'Caow' and 'kau-kau-kau-kau'
alarm calls at nesting colony.
Pembrokeshire, May 1986,
Richard Ranft.

71 GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL

Larus marinus
14" a) Long call (repeated).
Shetland, September 1979, Patrick Sellar.
34" b) Deep 'caow' and 'kau-kau-kau-
kau' calls from three birds in flight.
BACKGROUND Curlew.
Orkney, May 1985, Chris Watson.

72 KITTIWAKE

Rissa tridactyla
52" Flight calls with young calling
from nests in a colony.
BACKGROUND Shag.
Shetland, August 1970, Patrick Sellar.

73 SANDWICH TERN

Sterna sandvicensis
43" 'Ki-errik' calls in flight.
BACKGROUND Black-headed Gulls.
Norfolk, August 1974, Alex Meldrum.

74 COMMON TERN

Sterna hirundo
28" Calls at a nesting colony.
Lancashire, June 1975, Doug Ireland.

75 ARCTIC TERN

Sterna paradisaea
22" a) Contact, greeting etc. calls of a
group prior to nesting.
18" b) 'Ki-err' and 'kip' alarm calls.
BACKGROUND Skylark.
Shetland, May 1975, Phil Hollom.

76 LITTLE TERN

Sterna albifrons
37" Calls during display at a nesting colony.
BACKGROUND Gulls and Common Terns.
Dorset, June 1977, Doug Ireland.

77 GUILLEMOT

Uria aalge
39" Calls from a small group prior
to breeding.
BACKGROUND Fulmar.
Yorkshire, February 1981, Simon Elliott.

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78 RAZORBILL

Alca torda
38" Calls from a colony.
BACKGROUND Gull.
Pembrokeshire, May 1965,
Lawrence Shove.

79 BLACK GUILLEMOT

Cepphus grylle
42" Whistles at a breeding colony.
BACKGROUND Gulls.
Shetland, August 1970, Patrick Sellar.

80 PUFFIN

Fratercula arctica
38" Calls of adult and chick in burrow.
Pembrokeshire, July 1986,
Chris Watson for RSPB.

81 STOCK DOVE

Columba oenas
54" Typical 'oo-roo-oo' song.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch, Blackbird,
Woodpigeon and Willow Warbler.
Shropshire, June 1979, Charles Myers.

82 WOODPIGEON

Columba palumbus
48" Song of two birds and wing-clapping.
Buckinghamshire, August 1977,
William Pedley.

83 COLLARED DOVE

Streptopelia decaocto
48" Song 'u-oo-kuk' and alighting
'whine' call after wing-beats.
BACKGROUND Cuckoo, Rooks,
Woodpigeon and Chiffchaff.
Dorset, May 1982, Richard Margoschis.

84 TURTLE DOVE

Streptopelia turtur
58" The 'purring' song.
BACKGROUND Wren, Willow Warbler, etc.
Northamptonshire, May 1990,
Philip Rudkin.

85 CUCKOO

Cuculus canorus
16" a) Two males singing and 'gowking',
and the 'bubbling' of a female.
Hampshire, May 1985, Rex Ashby.
35" b) Female 'bubbling' followed by
two males singing and 'gowking'.
BACKGROUND Blackbird, Wren, Willow
Warbler and Whitethroat.
Norfolk, June 1986, Richard Margoschis.

86 BARN OWL

Tyto alba
12" a) Scream.
Cardiganshire, August 1988,
Victor Lewis.
25" b) 'Snoring' and hissing of young.
Cornwall, July 1978, Phil Hollom.

87 LITTLE OWL

Athene noctua
50" a) Hoots and yelps of a presumed
male answered by calls of its mate.
Wiltshire, June 1973, Douglas Bower.
23" b) The 'chittering' alarm call.
Kent, June 1973, Patrick Sellar.

88 TAWNY OWL

Strix aluco
55" a) Full hoots and 'hoos'.
11" b) 'Kee-wick' calls. (Raindrops
on leaves in background).
Gloucestershire, October 1979,
Richard Margoschis.

89 LONG-EARED OWL

Asio otus
26" a) Hoot of male.
Inverness-shire, April 1988,
Derek McGinn.
16" b) Calls of fledgeling.
Wiltshire, June 1973, Douglas Bower.

90 SHORT-EARED OWL

Asio flammeus
45" Display calls of male in presence
of female.
BACKGROUND Redwing.
Norway, June 1985, John Corbett.

91 NIGHTJAR

Caprimulgus europaeus
41" Churring song, call and wing-claps.
Hampshire, June 1974, Douglas Bower.

92 SWIFT *Apus apus*

39" Screaming of birds flying
round houses.
Gloucestershire, July 1971,
Ray Goodwin.

93 KINGFISHER

Alcedo atthis
11" a) Greeting and flight calls near
nest-hole.
8" b) Flight call.
Northamptonshire, March and April
1970, William Pedley.

94 GREEN WOODPECKER

Picus viridis
30" a) Song – 'yaffle'.
Worcestershire, May 1969,
Ray Goodwin.
6" b) Alarm call.
Dorset, August 1978,
Richard Margoschis.

95 GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER

Dendrocopos major
30" a) Drumming of one close and one
distant bird. Compare the longer, level
drum of Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in
the background, where also Chaffinch
and Song Thrush.
Gloucestershire, May 1971,
Philip Radford.
34" b) 'Chik' and rattle calls and tapping.
BACKGROUND Robin, Stock Dove
and Nuthatch.
Surrey, July 1977, A. J. Williams

96 LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER

Dendrocopos minor
45" a) Drumming. Level, but here
increasing in length from quite short
(refer to previous species).
BACKGROUND Robin.
Northamptonshire, April 1970,
William Pedley.
33" b) 'Pee-pee-pee' call.
BACKGROUND Blackbird, Jackdaw,
and Chaffinch.
Hampshire, June 1963, Reg Genever.

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DISC TWO

- 1 **WOODLARK** *Lullula arborea*
58" The beautiful liquid song, here given from a perch but often heard in display flight.
Dorset, May 1973, Richard Savage.
- 2 **SKYLARK** *Alauda arvensis*
57" a) Song as the bird ascends the sky – amazingly continuous and varied.
BACKGROUND Mistle Thrush.
Surrey, April 1978, Keith Betton.
26" b) Calls.
Wales, July 1986, Richard Margoschis.
- 3 **SWALLOW** *Hirundo rustica*
49" a) Song from perch – a delightful musical twittering.
Somerset, July 1975, Richard Savage.
18" b) Calls.
Gloucestershire, May 1972, Ray Goodwin.
- 4 **SAND MARTIN** *Riparia riparia*
35" Calls of birds flying around nesting site.
BACKGROUND Yellowhammer.
Norfolk, June 1984, Richard Margoschis.
- 5 **HOUSE MARTIN** *Delichon urbica*
33" a) Song – usually heard only at or near the nest.
Cardiganshire, June 1973, Victor Lewis.
29" b) Calls and snatches of song. 'Grittier' than Sand Martin.
Norfolk, August 1973, Richard Margoschis.
- 6 **TREE PIPIT** *Anthus trivialis*
40" Song in display flights between two trees.
More elaborate than Meadow Pipit.
Somerset, June 1975, Richard Savage.
- 7 **MEADOW PIPIT** *Anthus pratensis*
59" a) Two songs, starting from a fence post, continuing in display flight.
Somerset, May 1969, Richard Savage.
11" b) Flight call.
Hampshire, April 1962, Victor Lewis.
- 8 **ROCK PIPIT** *Anthus spinoletta*
68" a) Song. More metallic than Meadow Pipit.
Somerset, June 1973, Richard Savage.
13" b) Call.
BACKGROUND Fulmar.
Fair Isle, June 1974, Patrick Sellar.
- 9 **YELLOW WAGTAIL** *Motacilla flava*
35" a) Song and calls.
BACKGROUND Redwing and Song Thrush.
Northern Scandinavia, May 1980, Ray Goodwin.
23" b) Calls of two birds.
Northern Scandinavia, July 1976, John Gordon.
- 10 **GREY WAGTAIL** *Motacilla cinerea*
46" a) Song.
BACKGROUND Coal Tit.
Northumberland, April 1987, Simon Elliott.
21" b) Call.
BACKGROUND Robin.
Shropshire, June 1977, Victor Lewis.
- 11 **PIED WAGTAIL** *Motacilla alba*
43" Song and calls.
Galloway, May 1970, Richard Margoschis.
- 12 **DIPPER** *Cinclus cinclus*
25" a) Song.
16" b) Flight call.
Herefordshire, November and December 1971, Victor Lewis.
- 13 **WREN** *Troglodytes troglodytes*
48" a) Song from two birds. Loud, long, elaborate and vigorous.
Gloucestershire, April 1980, Ray Goodwin.
21" b) Alarm call (there are other variants).
BACKGROUND Willow Warbler and Coal Tit.
Inverness-shire, June 1976, Patrick Sellar.
- 14 **DUNNOCK** *Prunella modularis*
37" a) Song. Fast, short and sweet.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch, Woodpigeon and Carrion Crow.
Leicestershire, March 1978, Richard Margoschis.
19" b) Calls of several birds. A commonly uttered sound, particularly in autumn.
Hampshire, June 1983, Richard Margoschis.
- 15 **ROBIN** *Erithacus rubecula*
51" a) Song.
BACKGROUND Woodpigeon, Song Thrush, and Blackbird.
Cambridgeshire, April 1986, Chris Watson for RSPB.
20" b) 'Ticks' and 'seeps' in alarm at a cat.
BACKGROUND House Sparrows.
Warwickshire, July 1972, Richard Margoschis.
- 16 **NIGHTINGALE** *Luscinia megarhynchos*
54" a) Song, of extraordinary rich virtuosity.
Hampshire, June 1973, Douglas Bower.
20" b) Calls - 'croaks' and 'wheets'.
Gloucestershire, June 1970, Philip Radford.
- 17 **BLACK REDSTART** *Phoenicurus ochruros*
52" Song.
London, May 1981, Patrick Sellar.
- 18 **REDSTART** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*
46" a) Song. Attractive jingle cut disappointingly short
BACKGROUND Blackbird.
Gloucestershire, May 1971, Ray Goodwin.
18" b) Alarm call. Compare with the similar sounds of the following three species.
Somerset, June 1988, Philip Radford.
- 19 **WHINCHAT** *Saxicola rubetra*
38" a) Song.
Somerset, May 1973, Richard Savage.
18" b) Alarm calls, with hard 'chat' sounds.
BACKGROUND Robin and Willow Warbler.
Somerset, May 1983, Philip Radford.
- 20 **STONECHAT** *Saxicola torquata*
47" a) Song.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
Hampshire, June 1982, Richard Savage.
12" b) Alarm call, the 'wee tsak' stone 'chat'.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
Dorset, May 1976, Richard Savage.
- 21 **WHEATEAR** *Oenanthe oenanthe*
43" a) Song.
BACKGROUND Cuckoo.
Devon, June 1980, Richard Savage.
17" b) Alarm call. Hard 'chak' and 'weet'.
St. Kilda, June 1977, Ian Baker.
- 22 **BLACKBIRD** *Turdus merula*
53" a) Song. The musical flutings of perhaps our finest singer.
BACKGROUND Tawny Owl.
Powys, March 1991, Eric and May Nobles.
20" b) Alarm call. The familiar 'rattle', often heard at dusk, as here.
BACKGROUND Robin, Blackbird, etc.
Worcestershire, April 1966, Anthony Field.
15" c) 'Chink' calls.
Worcestershire, March 1966, Anthony Field.

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- 23 MISTLE THRUSH** *Turdus viscivorus*
38" a) Song. A wonderfully wild and ringing sound of early spring. Closer in tone to Blackbird than Song Thrush. *Wiltshire, February 1974, Richard Savage.*
20" b) Rattle alarm call. *Surrey, May 1974, Patrick Sellar.*
- 24 SONG THRUSH** *Turdus philomelos*
49" a) Song. Vigorous, with distinctive repetition of short phrases. *Norfolk, April 1978, Keith Betton.*
24" b) Alarm call. Sharper and cleaner than Blackbird's rattle.
BACKGROUND House Sparrows, Blackbirds, etc.
Kent, January 1977, David Sutton.
- 25 RING OUZEL** *Turdus torquatus*
46" a) Song. Rather Song Thrush-like pattern but without the variety. *Derbyshire, April 1991, Simon Elliott.*
18" b) Alarm calls of two adults.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch.
Clwyd, June 1973, Richard Margoschis.
- 26 FIELDFARE** *Turdus pilaris*
32" Contact calls.
BACKGROUND Woodland bird chorus. *Warwickshire, April 1967, Richard Margoschis.*
- 27 REDWING** *Turdus iliacus*
42" a) Song.
BACKGROUND Robin, Blackbird etc. *Sutherland, May 1977, John B. Fisher.*
21" b) Contact calls. 'See' and 'gak'. *Staffordshire, October 1972, Richard Margoschis.*
- 28 CETTI'S WARBLER** *Cettia cetti*
68" Typical spaced explosive songs.
BACKGROUND Woodpigeon, Song Thrush and Blackcap.
Surrey, June 1978, Brian Newport.
- 29 GRASSHOPPER WARBLER**
Locustella naevia
54" The 'reeling' song.
Norfolk, July 1979, Richard Margoschis.
- 30 SEDGE WARBLER**
Acrocephalus schoenobaenus
47" a) Song. Similar to Reed Warbler but very varied and with characteristic stuttering runs.
BACKGROUND Cuckoo and Pheasant. *Norfolk, May 1982, Terry White.*
15" b) Alarm calls of a pair – loud stuttering 'taks'.
Inverness-shire, July 1972, Philip Radford.
- 31 MARSH WARBLER**
Acrocephalus palustris
50" a) Song, mostly mimicry. Louder and more musical than Reed or Sedge. Very varied with accelerations, trills and nasal 'zee-chay'.
BACKGROUND Blackbird. *Worcestershire, June 1978, Richard Margoschis.*
19" b) Call.
BACKGROUND Yellowhammer. *Worcestershire, June 1975, Victor Lewis.*
- 32 REED WARBLER**
Acrocephalus scirpaceus
50" a) The 'regular rhythm' chattering song.
BACKGROUND Turtle Dove, Moorhen, etc. *Suffolk, June 1980, Douglas Bower.*
19" b) Anxiety calls of a pair, with some snatches of song.
BACKGROUND Black-headed Gull and Willow Warbler. *Avon, June 1976, Philip Radford.*
- 33 DARTFORD WARBLER** *Sylvia undata*
38" a) Song, rather like Whitethroat but more metallic.
BACKGROUND Carrion Crow, Woodpigeon, Chaffinch and Pheasant. *Dorset, April 1975, Richard Savage.*
18" b) Scolding 'churr'.
BACKGROUND Willow Warbler. *Dorset, May 1976, Victor Lewis.*
- 34 LESSER WHITTETHROAT**
Sylvia curruca
39" a) Song – a distinctive rattle introduced by some quiet chattery notes.
BACKGROUND Chaffinch and Blackbird. *Gloucestershire, May 1971, Ray Goodwin.*
15" b) Alarm calls of a pair. *Somerset, June 1961, Victor Lewis.*
- 35 WHITETHROAT** *Sylvia communis*
42" a) Hurried, scratchy song, from the top of a bush at first and then in brief display flight. *Surrey, June 1975, Patrick Sellar.*
18" b) 'Churr' alarm calls of a pair. *Herefordshire, June 1964, Victor Lewis.*
- 36 GARDEN WARBLER** *Sylvia borin*
42" a) The rich, bubbling, breathless song (longer than Blackcap's normal song). *Gloucestershire, May 1972, Ray Goodwin.*
16" b) Alarm calls, similar to Blackcap but less hard.
BACKGROUND Blackbird and Willow Warbler. *Northamptonshire, May 1971, William Pedley.*
- 37 BLACKCAP** *Sylvia atricapilla*
46" a) Song, with cleanly articulated clear flute-like notes in all too short a tune of exquisite beauty. *Worcestershire, May 1970, Ray Goodwin.*
15" b) Alarm call – hard 'taks'.
BACKGROUND Collard Dove, Song Thrush, Blackbird etc. *Hampshire, April 1964, Victor Lewis.*
- 38 WOOD WARBLER**
Phylloscopus sibilatrix
61" a) Song – shivering trills and clear 'pu pu pu' notes.
BACKGROUND Garden Warbler. *Dyfed, May 1978, Phil Hollom.*
18" b) Alarm call. *Shropshire, July 1982, Graham Moss.*
- 39 CHIFFCHAFF** *Phylloscopus collybita*
44" a) Song, with intervening 'gratings'.
BACKGROUND Blackbird, Wren and Woodpigeon. *Gloucestershire, June 1976, Richard Margoschis.*
18" b) Anxiety call – more of a single note than Willow Warbler's.
BACKGROUND Blackbird. *Gloucestershire, June 1971, Ray Goodwin.*
- 40 WILLOW WARBLER**
Phylloscopus trochilus
44" a) Song – a sweet cadence, lisping down the scale. *Gloucestershire, May 1971, Ray Goodwin.*
18" b) Contact or alarm call – a slurred double note (compare Chiffchaff).
BACKGROUND Wren and Blackbird. *Surrey, July 1969, Victor Lewis.*
- 41 GOLDCREST** *Regulus regulus*
36" a) Song – high-pitched and rhythmic with a flourishing trill at the end.
BACKGROUND Blackbird. *Wiltshire, April 1975, Richard Savage.*
21" b) Calls of three birds feeding – squeaky staccato notes. *Wiltshire, October 1975, Richard Savage.*
- 42 FIRECREST** *Regulus ignicapillus*
37" Song. An accelerating crescendo of thin, high-pitched notes. Plain than Goldcrest.
BACKGROUND Carrion Crow. *Hampshire, June 1979, Richard Savage.*

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43 SPOTTED FLYCATCHER

Muscicapa striata

31" a) Song.

North Yorkshire, May 1990,
Dorothy Thelwall.

18" b) Contact call.

BACKGROUND Song Thrush
and Chaffinch.

Warwickshire, June 1963, Anthony Field.

19" c) Alarm call.

Devon, July 1969, Reg Tassell.

44 PIED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hypoleuca*

42" a) Song.

BACKGROUND Chaffinch, Jackdaw,
and Song Thrush.

Somerset, June 1976, Richard Savage.

14" b) Alarm call.

BACKGROUND Chaffinch and Blue Tit.

Gloucestershire, June 1970,

Philip Radford.

45 BEARDED TIT *Panurus biarmicus*

36" Calls of a pair – 'pings'.

Norfolk, April 1983, Richard Margoschis.

46 LONG-TAILED TIT

Aegithalos caudatus

39" Various calls made by a foraging party.

Wiltshire, October 1975, Richard Savage.

47 WILLOW TIT *Parus montanus*

38" Song and characteristic 'tchay' calls.

BACKGROUND Song Thrush, Woodpigeon,
and Robin.

Wiltshire, April 1975, Richard Savage.

48 MARSH TIT *Parus palustris*

39" a) Song.

BACKGROUND Wren, Chaffinch
and Pheasant.

Norfolk, April 1978, Keith Betton.

27" b) A few of the calls.

BACKGROUND Rook.

Gloucestershire, May 1971,

Ray Goodwin.

49 COAL TIT *Parus ater*

41" a) Two types of song from one bird.

There are other variants. Sweeter and
thinner than Great Tit.

BACKGROUND Pheasant.

Norfolk, April 1984, Richard Margoschis.

18" b) Calls.

BACKGROUND Chaffinch.

Inverness-shire, April 1988,

Richard Margoschis.

50 GREAT TIT *Parus major*

50" a) Two types of song from one
individual. There are many variations
of the two-note chiming song.

Lincolnshire, March 1987, Philip Rudkin.

22" b) A few of the many different calls.

BACKGROUND Carrion Crow,
Woodpigeon,

Song Thrush and Pheasant.

Gloucestershire, June 1979,

Richard Margoschis.

51 BLUE TIT *Parus caeruleus*

30" a) Song. Perhaps the best of
the various tunes of this species.

BACKGROUND Blackbird, Chaffinch,
and House Sparrow.

Gloucestershire, May 1971,

Ray Goodwin.

24" b) Scolding 'churrs'.

BACKGROUND Redstart.

Shropshire, June 1975,

Richard Margoschis.

52 NUTHATCH *Sitta europaea*

19" a) Trilling song.

BACKGROUND Woodpigeon
and Pheasant.

Warwickshire, April 1971,

Richard Margoschis.

18" b) Drawn-out whistles.

Warwickshire, April 1971,

Richard Margoschis.

17" c) 'Tweit' calls.

BACKGROUND Chaffinch, Tawny Owl,
and Coal Tit.

Cumbria, April 1987, Charles Myers.

18" d) Staccato 'wit-wit' alarm call.

Bedfordshire, February 1972,

Malcolm Clark.

53 TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*

37" a) Song, like a thin, fast Chaffinch.

BACKGROUND Blackbird.

Powys, May 1979, Richard Margoschis.

25" b) Call.

BACKGROUND Chaffinch and Robin.

Somerset, April 1980, Richard

Margoschis.

54 JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

37" Typical harsh calls.

BACKGROUND Heron.

Worcestershire, October 1970,

Ray Goodwin.

55 MAGPIE *Pica pica*

32" Typical chattering calls.

BACKGROUND Chaffinch.

Hampshire, June 1971, Reg Genever.

56 CHOUGH *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

38" Calls.

Cardiganshire, May 1978, Victor Lewis.

57 JACKDAW *Corvus monedula*

38" Calls of a party in the early morning.
Powys, August 1987, Eric and May Nobles.

58 ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

41" Early morning sounds from a rookery.
Somerset, April 1982, Philip Radford.

59 CARRION CROW *Corvus corone*

40" a) The assertive territorial 'caws'.
Harsher than Rook.

BACKGROUND Starling.

Surrey, March 1971, John Fisher.

37" b) Calls with throat rattle.

Buckinghamshire, September 1976,

Charles Meachem.

60 RAVEN *Corvus corax*

46" Calls of four birds displaying over trees.
Devon, October 1971, Reg Tassell.

61 STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

53" Song, including mimicry of a farmer
whistling his dog, chicken and Swallow,
but with characteristic clicks, whistles and
rattles also.

Powys, May 1976, Douglas Bower.

62 HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

33" 'Cheeps' and spluttering 'chirrup'.

BACKGROUND Young Starlings.

Northumberland, June 1991,

Richard Margoschis.

63 TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

26" Calls – harder and sharper than
House Sparrow.

BACKGROUND Song Thrush.

Buckinghamshire, April 1975,

William Pedley.

64 CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

36" a) Song (crescendo and accelerando)
delivered with cheerful gusto.

Somerset, May 1970, Richard Savage.

19" b) Anxiety call – whistle and

'pink pink'.

Gloucestershire, June 1972,

Ray Goodwin.

65 BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla*

25" Song, only occasionally heard
in Britain.

BACKGROUND Willow Warbler, Fieldfare
and Chaffinch.

Sweden, June 1987, Bill Sinclair.

66 GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis*

37" a) The sweet, twittery song.

Gloucestershire, June 1972,

Ray Goodwin.

17" b) Contact calls of a feeding group.

Anglesey, September 1985,

Charles Myers.

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- 67 GREENFINCH** *Carduelis chloris*
40" a) Song with 'zwees', trills and musical notes.
Warwickshire, July 1979, Richard Margoschis.
18" b) Contact calls, often given in flight.
BACKGROUND House Sparrows.
Shropshire, April 1986, Heather Myers.
- 68 SISKIN** *Carduelis spinus*
36" a) Song.
20" b) Calls of a feeding party.
BACKGROUND Crossbills.
Northumberland, March and January 1991, Simon Elliott.
- 69 REDPOLL** *Carduelis flammea*
13" a) Song in display flight – 'chitters' and 'whirrs'.
Norfolk, July 1975, William Pedley.
22" b) Calls of a party, with anxiety notes.
BACKGROUND Cuckoo, Blackbird and Woodpigeon.
Northamptonshire, June 1972, William Pedley.
- 70 LINNET** *Carduelis cannabina*
41" a) Song, a medley of sweet and metallic notes.
BACKGROUND House Sparrows.
Suffolk, June 1980, Douglas Bower.
15" b) Flight call.
BACKGROUND Whitethroat and Willow Warbler.
Berkshire, May 1965, Victor Lewis.
- 71 TWITE** *Acanthis flavirostris*
28" a) Song.
BACKGROUND Fulmar.
Fair Isle, May 1974, Patrick Sellar.
18" b) Calls.
Ross and Cromarty, April 1976, Charles Myers.
- 72 CROSSBILL** *Loxia curvirostra*
36" a) Song.
Northumberland, January 1991, Simon Elliott.
18" b) Calls of a feeding flock.
Norfolk, May 1991, Richard Margoschis.
- 73 BULLFINCH** *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*
41" a) Song, with its 'creaky' notes. Not very often heard.
BACKGROUND Woodpigeon and Chaffinch.
Wiltshire, April 1976, Richard Savage.
15" b) Contact call. A continually used, commonly heard sound.
Worcestershire, August 1966, Anthony Field.
- 74 HAWFINCH** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*
28" Calls.
Berkshire, March 1980, Phil Hollom.
- 75 SNOW BUNTING** *Plectrophenax nivalis*
34" a) Song.
BACKGROUND Golden Plover.
Iceland, June 1968, Patrick Sellar.
18" b) Calls.
Greenland, August 1979, Patrick Sellar.
- 76 YELLOWHAMMER** *Emberiza citrinella*
43" a) Song.
Wiltshire, August 1970, Richard Savage.
15" b) Call.
Warwickshire, May 1967, Richard Margoschis.
- 77 CIRL BUNTING** *Emberiza cirulus*
42" Two types of song.
BACKGROUND Song Thrush and Carrion Crow.
Worcestershire, May and June 1977, Victor Lewis.
- 78 REED BUNTING** *Emberiza schoeniclus*
38" a) Song. A typically feeble tune, but they vary greatly.
BACKGROUND Snipe and Woodpigeon.
Somerset, May 1969, Richard Savage.
16" b) Call.
Buckinghamshire, November 1978, William Pedley.
- 79 CORN BUNTING** *Miliaria calandra*
43" a) Song – a monotonous accelerating jangle.
Gloucestershire, June 1970, Ray Goodwin.
18" b) Calls – 'ticking' and rasping sounds.
Outer Hebrides, July 1974, John Gordon.