

Aims

- The aim is not how to take photographs as you are probably aware my experience in taking pictures is limited, with your capabilities far more than mine.
- How ever I do enjoy wild life photography.
- Taking pictures of wild animals is a challenge on its own, as they do not stand still or pose.
- Finding locations is yet another challenge, this I can shed some light on using my experience and local knowledge.

Some of my typical shots



Can you see me?



Same bird different angle



I call this one “Littlewoods”



Locations

- I am going to concentrate on local locations no more than 20 mile radius from South Ruislip.
- I will list the major sites, however there are numerous more local site that could be productive. There are many open space sites through out the London borough of Hillingdon. Such as the Hogs back, Ruislip woods, Park woods, Copsewood, Madbess woods, Bayhurst woods,
- By using the Hillingdon web site you can gain far more with addresses, use www.hillingdon.gov.uk/greenspaces.
- Just a few to get you started , Gravel pits, Copse woods HA6 2NH, Bayhurst woods HA4 7TP, Ruislip woods HA4 7JZ.

Hogs Back Northwood



Wildfowl & Wetland Trust Barnes

- The address is:- London Wetland Centre, Queen Elizabeth Walk, Barnes, SW13 9WT
- I am a member on an annual basis paid by direct debit at a cost of adult with gift aid £52
- A day ticket would cost adult with gift aid £14 seniors £11.90
- The trust is mainly there for conservation and as such there is a large number of duck, geese and other bird types on display in large enclosures. There are hides scattered all around the site.
- There is also a enclosure with otters in a natural setting.

Mandarin Duck (male)



Ring Necked Parakeet



Otters at Barnes



There is a pair



Jay summer 2018



Ruislip Lido

- The address for both the Lido and the Common is:- Reservoir Road, Ruislip. HA4 7TY
- The Lido is close to most in Hillingdon with both winter and summer migrant birds.
- Along with the Lido there is Ruislip common which can be accessed via the Lido car park.
- At certain times of the year Spring to Autumn there is a herd of cattle roaming free on the common.
- The down side is the number of people especially in the summer.

Cattle on Ruislip Common



Heads up Ruislip common



Pied Wagtail Ruislip Lido



All sorts of wildlife if you look and
listen



Bushy Park

- The address is :- TW12 2EJ
- Bushy Park is one of the royal parks close to Hampton Court.
- It has the usual birds for the area, with a mix of water ways, gardens and grassland.
- They also have a good head of both Red and Fallow deer.
- Care must be taken when photographing the deer especially in the “Rut” September to October.
- With the Red deer being the largest mammal in Britain and could cause considerable damage to a person.

You cant see me but I'm here waiting



Fallow buck



The call of the wild



Date taken 29-9-2018 7:20am



The lake in Bushy park



Richmond Park

- Richmond park is similar to Bushy park only more spread out, therefore I would recommend Bushy Park.
- The address is:- TW10 5HS there are several entrances the address is one that I used.

Red deer stag Fallow Hinds



Green Woodpecker



Red deer with hinds



The Aquadrome Rickmansworth

- The address is:- Frogmoor Lane WD3 1NB
- The Aquadrome is a favourite place, the nature reserve can be entered by foot at any time if you know how. You simply park and walk in the pedestrian gates which are by the main car park entrance, or along the canal to the lock where you go to the side of the cottages. Lastly there is an entrance straight into the reserve at the bottom of the lake, I suggest you do not use this as the entrance is down a very narrow lane “Springwell Lane”. It is OK early morning say 06:00.

Aquadrome continued

- My recommendation is to get the most out of what is available by going early morning, this way you miss the crowds that inevitably gather especially in the summer.
- Don't forget to check the weather forecast the day before going. Once checked I aim to get there shortly after dawn when the light is beautiful and the birds are waking with song, its magical.

Robin winter 2015



Mistle thrush summer 2017



Great spotted woodpecker



Tree sparrow getting less in the wild



Rickmansworth

- Just a 10 minute steady walk from the Aquadrome down the Grand Union canal tow path you reach Rickmansworth.
- There is plenty of different places of interest
- From the tow path carry on under the road bridge and you come to the lock complex, where there is a cafe with out door seating only, an information centre and not forgetting the locks them selves.
- If you go up onto the road and turn right across the crossing and straight into the town centre there is the church, about 5 minute steady walk from the lock complex.
- Water skiing at the Aquadrome (Batchworth Lake) is only on certain days I was lucky on a Saturday.

Cafe at the Lock



Information centre



Water skiing



Last location “Home”

- A location that is often over looked is your own home.
- I do not have a large garden a little under 100 feet.
- It is mostly laid to patio, decking or “plastic grass”
- I still have managed some remarkable pictures thanks to bird feeders, in the sky or neighbourhood.

Blue tits



Fieldfare next door neighbours tree winter 2017



Gold finch autumn 2017



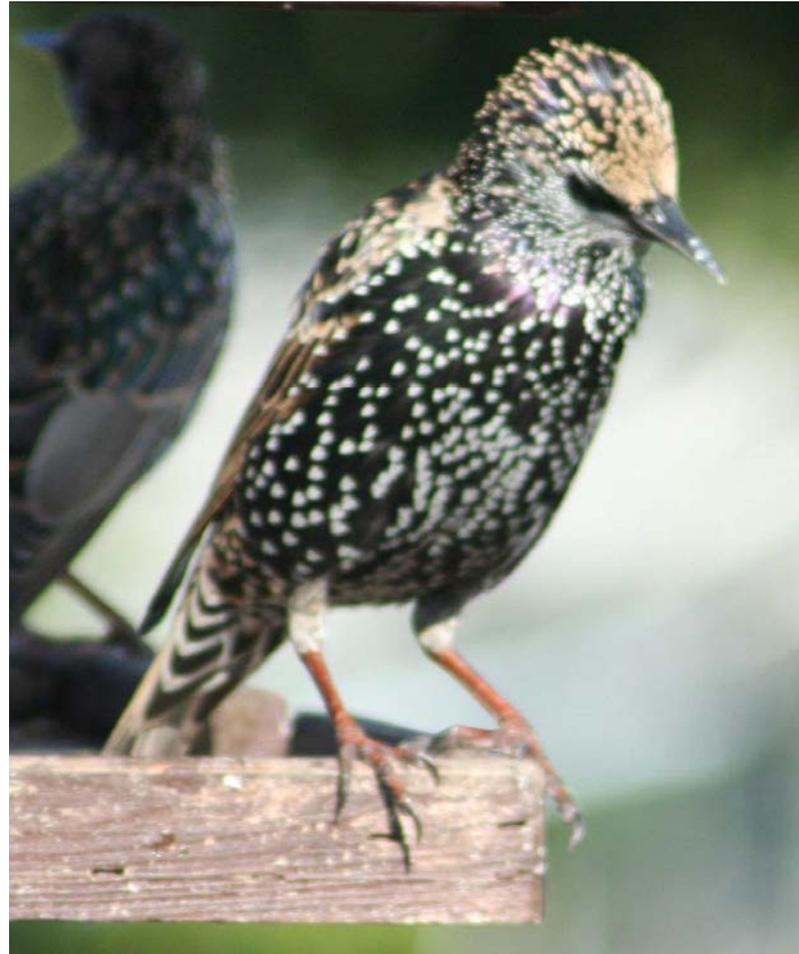
Great tit



Sparrow hawk on the roof of a house on the other side of the road



The common Starling



Starling Murmuration

