

## LIST and STATUS of BIRDS at and around GLEN MOSS

- Little Grebe**      *Resident and breeds.*  
Up to a maximum of 4 birds present throughout the year, 1-2 pairs remain in summer, no nests found but young seen in 1984 and 1985. Heard calling every year. Pair reared three young in 2000.
- Grey Heron**      *Common visitor.*  
Common visitor throughout the year with between 1-3 individuals present. Pair has bred irregularly in tall conifer wood at N.W. corner. 3 pairs nested successfully at that site in 2000.
- Grey Lag Goose**      Feral birds often heard and seen flying around the area throughout the year. Has attempted to breed at the Moss. A few pairs regularly breed at Lawfield Dam.
- Mute Swan**      *Resident and breeds.*  
Pair attempts to breed each spring, successful in 1984 and 1985 when 8 and 5 young reared respectfully (Phillip Newman). No success until 1989. Bred regularly since then until 1997 when adults walked the cygnets to Lawfield Dam causing fights with the resident pair at Lawfield Dam. Has not bred at the Moss since.
- Mallard**      *Resident and breeds.*  
Numbers increase in winter with a maximum of 150 recorded in 1984 (P. Newman). 2-3 pairs remain in summer and broods seen in most years.
- Teal**      *Winter visitor.*  
During the winter flocks of up to 20 present and often seen fighting around the Moss. None remain to breed during the summer.
- Wigeon**      *Scarce winter visitor*  
2 present 10th March 1983 (P. Newman).
- Tufted Duck**      *Resident and breeds.*  
Numbers increase in winter with 15-20 present. Broods seen in most years.
- Goosander**      *Winter visitor*  
No records until recently. Since 1997, varying numbers of both male and female birds are now regularly to be seen wintering at the Moss..

- Sparrowhawk** *Occasional visitor*  
Occasionally seen hunting in the area or flying over. Does not nest at the Moss. However, has nested in conifer trees in Whinnyhill Wood and at Lawfield Dam.
- Buzzard** *Regular visitor.*  
Breeds regularly in the surrounding area (Ronnie Bunting). Usually seen flying over the site. Free-flying young have sometimes been seen sitting on trees.
- Kestrel** *Scarce visitor.*  
Occasionally seen hovering over the golf course flanking the Moss. Nests in the surrounding area (R. Bunting).
- Pheasant** *Resident in the area*  
May visit the woodlands in the northern area. Male heard crowing and wing-flapping almost every year on the north side.
- Water Rail** *Resident and breeds.*  
Very difficult to be accurate about numbers of Water Rails, but birds heard calling most springs and summers. Survey in 1984 revealed 5 pairs (P. Newman) Nests and young found in 1984 and 1985.(P. Newman). Calling bird in N. E. corner recorded on tape June 1993. Last heard calling early July 2000.
- Moorhen** *Resident and breeds.*  
1-2 pairs present throughout the year. Often heard but seldom seen. Adult with young seen most years including 2000.
- Coot** *Resident and breeds.*  
3-4 pairs present throughout the year. Later nests more successful than earlier ones. Commonest breeding waterbird.
- Woodcock** *Occasional visitor.*  
Sometimes flushed from woodlands and wet areas during winter and spring. Roding only once heard in May 1983 and was over gardens around the Moss (P. Newman).
- Snipe** *Resident and possibly breeds.*  
Numbers increase in spring with up to 12 - 15 birds (P. Newman). Drumming sometimes heard but no other sign of nesting.
- Black-headed Gull** *Summer visitor and breeds.*  
Since 1983 variable numbers of B. H. Gulls attempted to breed. Between 2 and up to 10 pairs. Success very low ( ? predation ) but young seen in 1983, 1984 and 1985 (P. Newman). Small number of

nesting birds present until 1994. No nesting since then but a few adults seen feeding irregularly each year.

- Wood Pigeon** *Resident and breeds.*  
Nests commonly in trees and bushes surrounding the Moss.
- Collared Dove** *Occasional visitor.*  
Recorded in gardens around the Moss and on the Golf Course (R. Bunting).
- Cuckoo** *Summer visitor and may breed.*  
Present during springtime and frequently heard calling in the eastern part of the study area over heathlands where Pipits nest, but no definite nesting established. None heard in 1991 and 1992. Heard and seen in 1993 and most years since. Three males calling in the area in May 2000 and female heard also but still no evidence of breeding.
- Tawny Owl** *Resident and probably breeds.*  
Heard and occasionally seen in woodlands surrounding the Moss including the north side. Heard frequently in Torridon and believed to nest (R. Smyllie).
- Swift** *Summer visitor*  
Occasionally seen flying over the Moss on good sunny days. Probably breeds somewhere in Kilmacolm.
- Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Summer and winter visitor*  
Birds often seen passing through the woodlands surrounding the Moss. A dead birch tree on the north side with two woodpecker holes suggest they may have bred recently.
- Skylark** *Resident and breeds.*  
A few pairs recorded over the heathland just east of the main loch (P. Newman). None seen or heard around the Moss or on the Golf Course for many years ( R. Bunting). Nearest current breeding area is on Knapps Moor.
- Swallow** *Summer visitor*  
Often seen feeding and drinking over the open water areas. Breeds in some of the golf course out-houses (R. Bunting).
- House Martin** *Summer visitor*  
Again, frequently seen flying and feeding over the Moss. Probably breeds in Kilmacolm.

<b>Tree Pipit</b>	<i>Resident and may breed.</i> Male heard singing throughout breeding seasons 1987-89. Heard most years up to and including 2000.
<b>Meadow Pipit</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Common nesting bird on the Moss itself and surrounding heath.
<b>Grey Wagtail</b>	<i>Very scarce visitor.</i> Pair seen at sluice in May 1987 is the only record (P. Newman).
<b>Pied Wagtail</b>	<i>Occasional visitor.</i> Irregularly seen on the golf course or in the surrounding fields (R. Bunting).
<b>Wren</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Common nesting bird in woodlands and birch scrub.
<b>Dunnock</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Pairs nest throughout woodlands and nests frequently found.
<b>Grasshopper Warbler</b>	<i>Scarce summer visitor, occasionally nests</i> 1-2 birds heard singing most springs but generally leave area, only once remained to nest in 1985 when pair reared young (P. Newman). None seen or heard in recent years.
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	<i>Summer visitor and breeds.</i> Local stronghold for species, between 3-4 pairs hold territory in summer. Nests have been located and adults occasionally seen feeding young.
<b>Garden Warbler</b>	<i>Very scarce summer visitor</i> One record only 27th May 1985 (P. Newman).
<b>Blackcap Warbler</b>	<i>Scarce summer visitor.</i> Pair recorded in 1983 and 1984 in woodland near sluice and may have bred (P. Newman). Snatches of song sometimes heard during spring migration.
<b>Whitethroat</b>	<i>Scarce summer visitor.</i> Heard occasionally in scrub or heath around the Moss during spring migration but no sign of remaining to nest.
<b>Willow Warbler</b>	<i>Summer visitor and breeds.</i> Very common and breeds successfully throughout the area.

<b>Chiffchaff</b>	<i>Summer visitor and may breed.</i> Each summer a Chiffchaff takes up territory in Torridon woods near the Moss and song is heard most summers. No evidence of breeding.
<b>Goldcrest</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Common in coniferous woodlands. Nest with eggs found in 1983 plus birds frequently seen carrying food in summer (P. Newman).
<b>Spotted Flycatcher</b>	<i>Summer visitor and may occasionally breed.</i> Seen feeding young in 1984 and 1985 (P. Newman). None seen in recent years.
<b>Stonechat</b>	<i>Passage migrant</i> Not at Moss but seen most years around the golf course. (R. Bunting).
<b>Wheatear</b>	<i>Passage migrant</i> Not recorded from the reserve but seen in springtime on the golf course. (R. Bunting).
<b>Redstart</b>	<i>Scarce summer visitor, may breed.</i> Young seen in 1984 and 1986 only in woodlands surrounding heath to the east (P. Newman). None seen or heard in recent years.
<b>Robin</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Common nesting bird throughout the area, no nests found but young seen in most years.
<b>Fieldfare</b>	<i>Occasional winter visitor.</i> Flocks of 15-20 birds sometimes seen feeding around the Moss particularly near sluice (P. Newman). None seen in recent winters.
<b>Blackbird</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Common nesting bird in scrub and woodlands surrounding the Moss.
<b>Redwing</b>	<i>Winter visitor.</i> Small feeding parties seen during most winters.
<b>Song Thrush</b>	<i>Resident and breeds - common nesting songbird.</i>
<b>Mistle Thrush</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Most commonly recorded in gardens near the Moss where often heard singing and may nest.
<b>Long-tailed Tit</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> 2-3 pairs nest annually. Pair photographed in 1987 which reared 9 young (P. Newman). Winter flocks include up to 12 individuals.

<b>Coal Tit</b>	<i>Resident and probably breeds.</i> Probably most common Tit after Blue and Great. Several pairs noted most summers but no proved nesting.
<b>Blue Tit</b>	<i>Resident and breeds</i> - common nesting Tit.
<b>Great Tit</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> - common nesting Tit.
<b>Treecreeper</b>	<i>Mainly winter visitor.</i> May nest in gardens where mature trees satisfy their habitat needs. Often seen amongst wintering flocks of titmice and finches.
<b>Yellow Bunting</b>	<i>Occasional visitor.</i> Often seen in the area, sometimes during summer (R. Bunting).
<b>Reed Bunting</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Local stronghold. Approximately 2-3 pairs nest at Moss. Adults occasionally seen carrying food.
<b>Chaffinch</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> Along with the Willow Warbler, this bird is the most common nesting bird.
<b>Greenfinch</b>	<i>Status uncertain</i> - recorded in the area but no nesting records.
<b>Linnet</b>	<i>Regular visitor.</i> Small flocks noted in winter and individuals seen in summer (R. Bunting). No proof of nesting.
<b>Redpoll</b>	<i>Residents and breeds.</i> Nests occasionally around the Moss and in woodlands surrounding the area.
<b>Bullfinch</b>	<i>Resident and breeds.</i> 4 - 5 pairs present throughout year in woodlands. Nest with four eggs found in July 1986 (P. Newman). Seen and heard regularly throughout the year.
<b>Starling</b>	<i>Resident and may breed.</i> Common throughout year, but no known hole-nesting sites within the reserve.
<b>Magpie</b>	<i>Regular visitor, previously very scarce.</i> Increasing numbers seen in recent years, but no sign of nesting.

- Jackdaw**                    *Regular visitor*  
Does not appear to nest on the reserve but often seen and heard.  
Probably breeds in Kilmacolm.
- Rook**                        *Regular visitor*  
Does not breed on the reserve but usually present, particularly on spring evenings when large numbers of corvids come to roost on trees at Glen Moss (N. Tait).
- Carrion Crow**            *Resident and breeds*  
Nests regularly within the reserve.
- Raven**                      *Occasional visitor*  
Sometimes seen and heard passing over the site. A pair nests regularly at Dumbuck quarry on the other side of the Clyde estuary only a short distance away "as the crow flies."

Compiled by T. Norman Tait in 2005 from personal observations and records from local birdwatchers.