

Garden Bird Survey – Bulletin 3

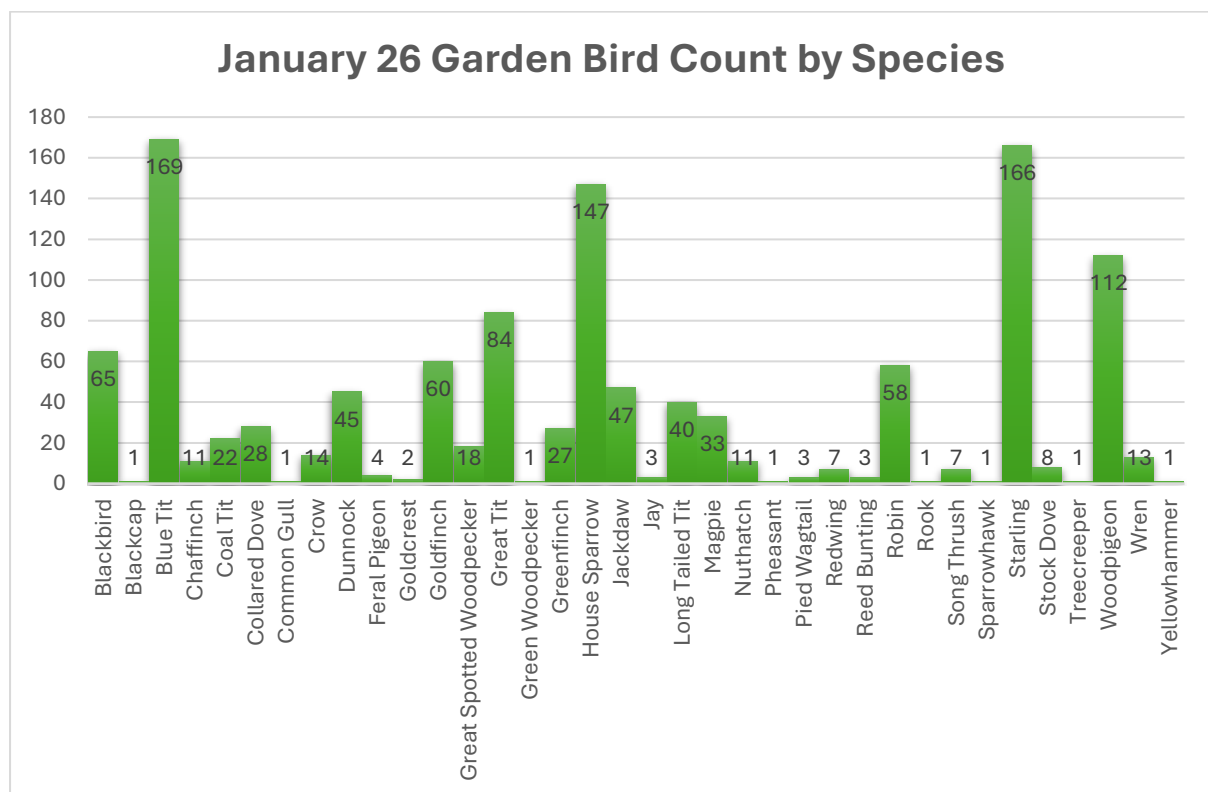
A big “thank you” to all of you for counting your birds and letting us know about them. We’ve got a fair bit of data to work through and map. In the meantime, we thought you might find some early facts and figures interesting.

Forty-Six people entered their data into the online form, covering an amazing 37 different post code areas. This means that we’ve got at least some data about 11 different 1km squares. The BTO records data by grid reference, so this is a useful range. One or two squares are outside the parish boundary, so we’ll report that data to the BTO, but eventually exclude it from our reports.

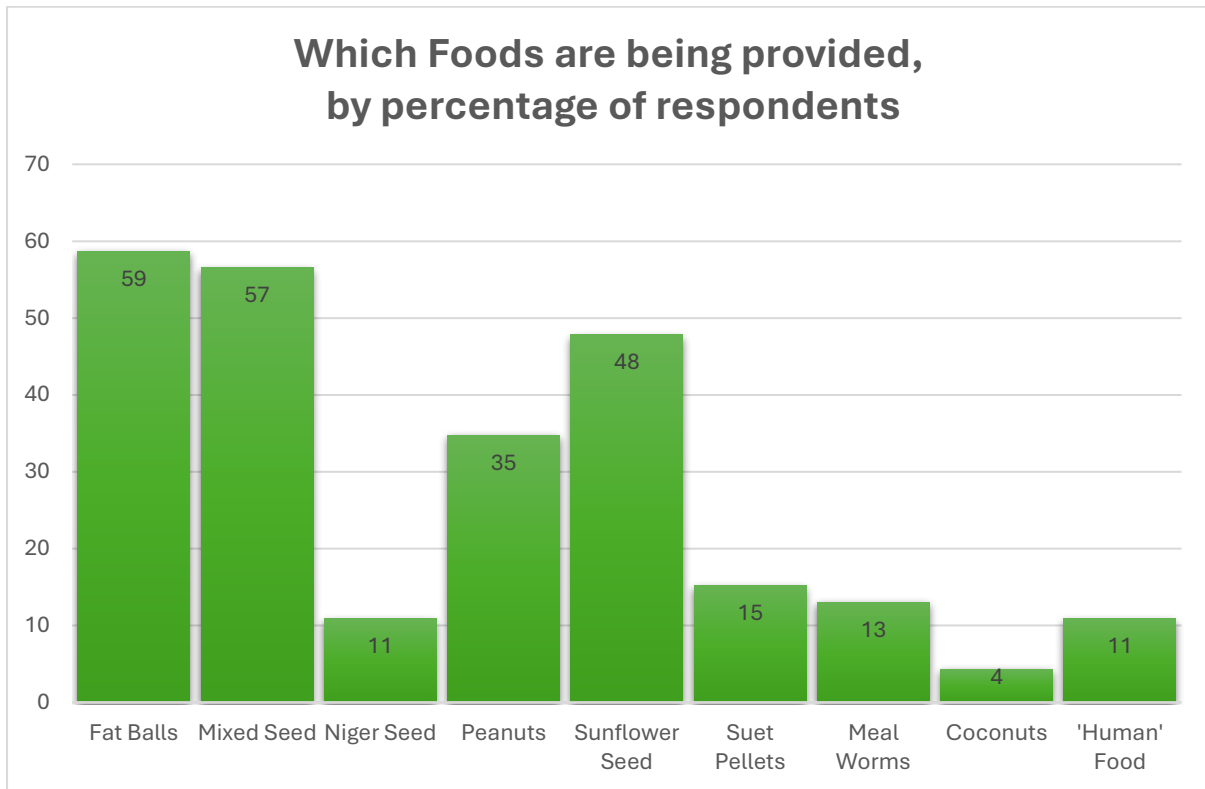
So, what do we know? Only 1 person didn’t see any birds, which is sad for them, but good in terms of the overall parish picture. The highest number seen in one garden was 81, which included 32 House Sparrows! The same person topped the table for number of different species with 24. Over half of the respondents saw 10 or more different species.

The most numerous were Blue Tits with a total of 169 sightings reported. Even these weren’t universal though, as 3 people didn’t see any.

This graph shows the initial bird count. It will be amended when we sift out the 2 or 3 out of parish returns, but it’s still interesting.

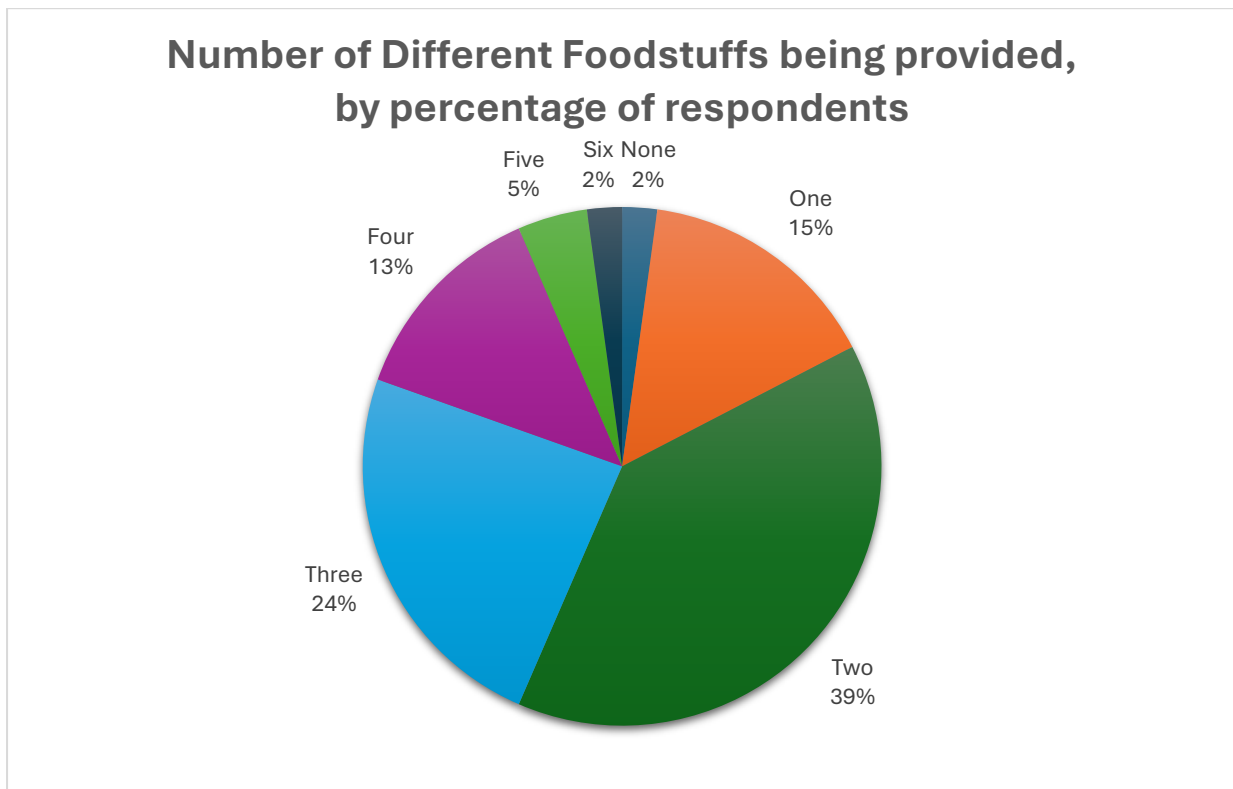


We also found out that only 2% (ie one respondent) doesn't feed the birds. Another only feeds when the weather is really cold. The rest of us are shelling out for a wide variety of food.



('Human' food includes kitchen scraps, apples, sultanas and bread)

And most of us are providing multiple types of food to suit the different species.



That's it for this bulletin, we'll get another one out in a few weeks time with some more information, comparisons to other surveys and some maps showing the hot spots for different species.

Don't forget to put 24th to 26th of April in your diary as that's when we'll be collecting the next set of data and asking about signs of nesting birds.

PS, apologies for putting Great Tits on the form twice, I've only included one entry for everyone.