

Garden Bird Sightings

18 Greenwood Close
Moffat

2009 – 2013 inclusive

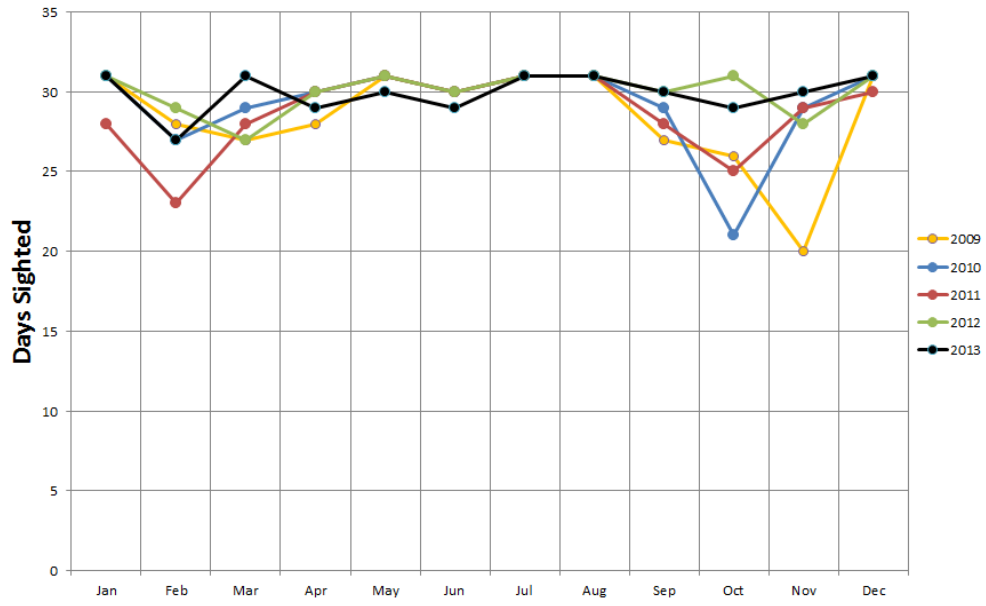
The graphs show the number of days per month that each listed bird was seen throughout the four year period of 2009-2012. It does NOT indicate the actual number of birds seen in total. Some are extremely erratic while others are very consistent. Visits by 'non-garden' birds, such as crows, have not been recorded.

Following the main month-by-month graphs is another set showing the year-by-year totals.

Bear in mind the extreme variations in weather experienced over this period. This seems to have had significant effect on some birds but not on others. Interestingly, for the commonest birds, the actual number of birds seen appears to be higher during 2012 than in the previous years despite the extremely wet summer and autumn. The better weather of 2013 showed another increase in bird numbers, especially Tits, Blackbird and Thrushes, but a decrease in others such as Long-tailed Tit. The usual winter visitors, such as Brambling, have been conspicuously absent in 2013.

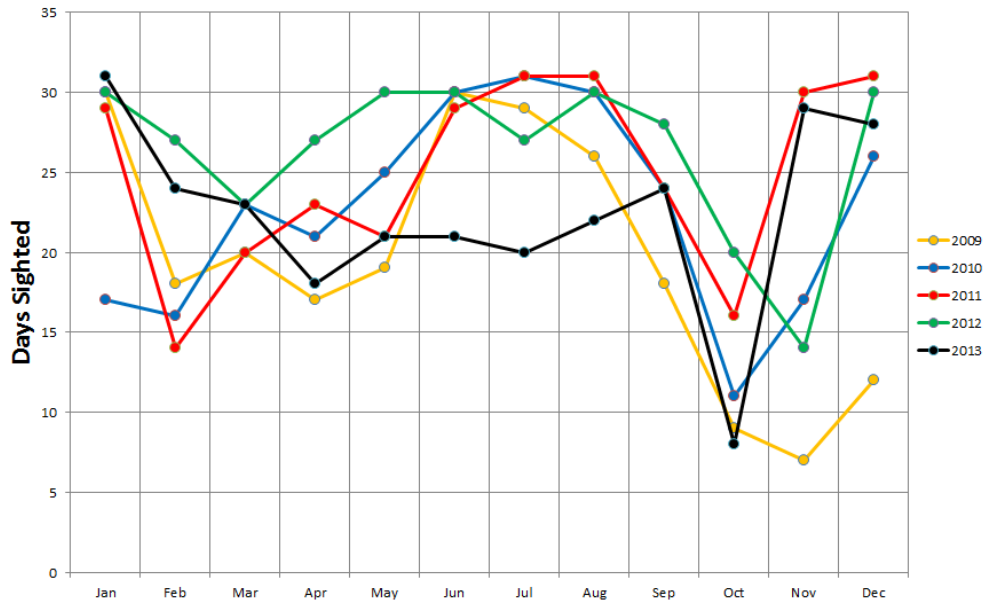
There has been no change made to the feeding pattern over these five years. The only difference is in garden plants growing as they mature - and the height of a neighbouring Cypress hedge!

Blue Tit



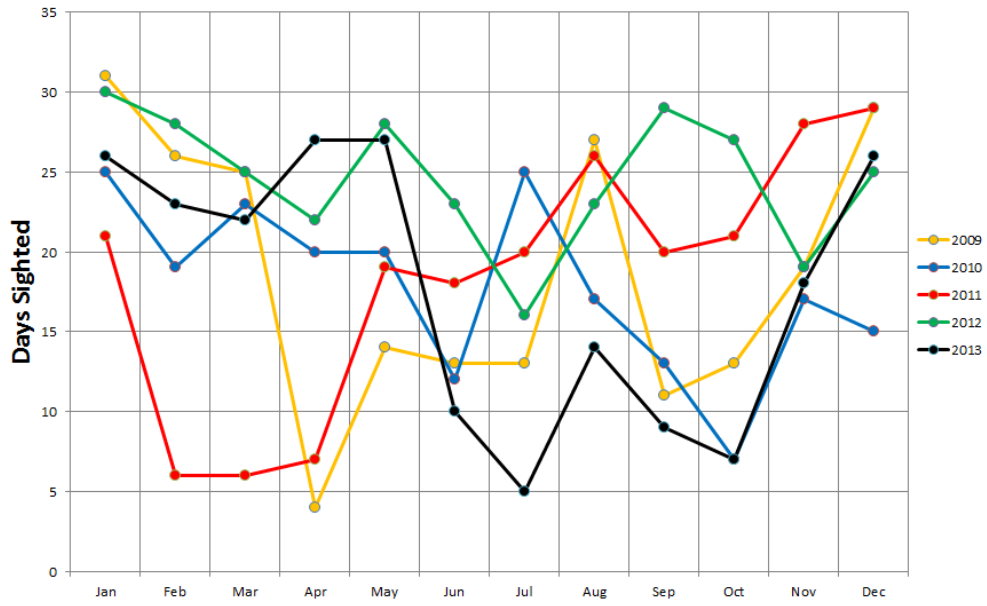
The actual Blue Tit numbers have increased during 2013

Great Tit



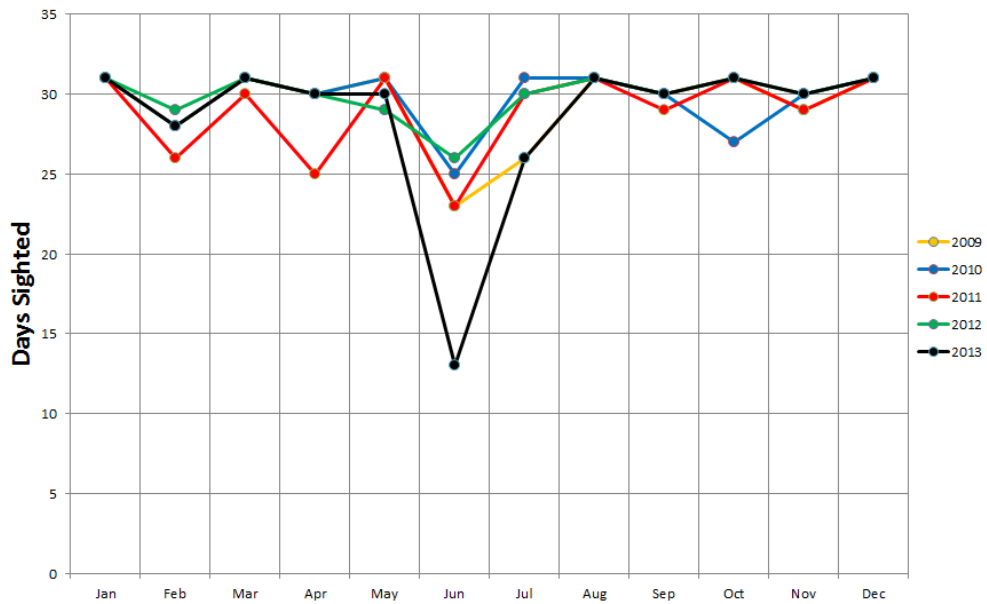
Great Tit numbers have also increased during 2013

Coal Tit



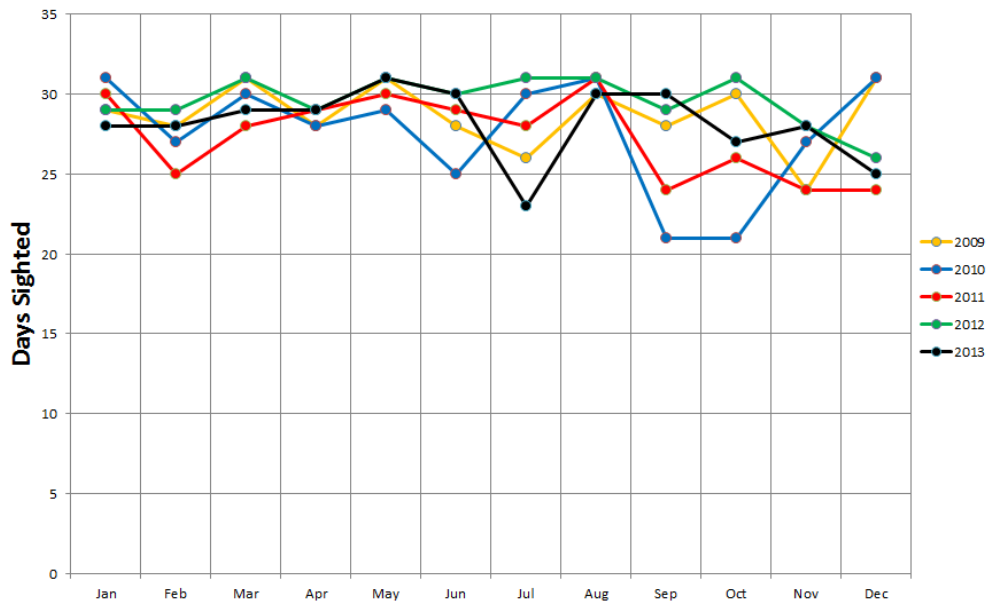
Coal Tit numbers have increased during 2013 despite being seen less often

Chaffinch



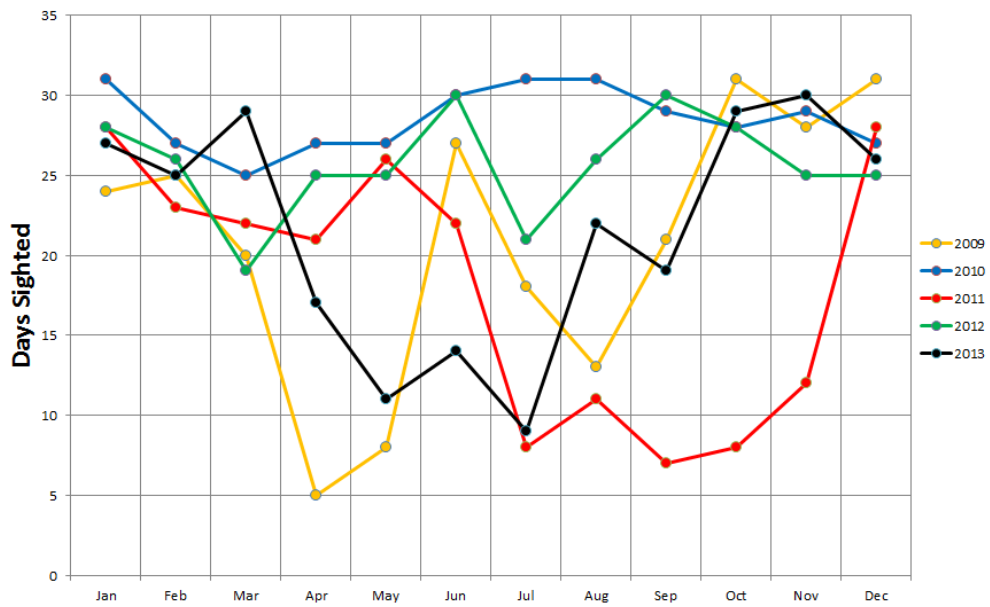
Chaffinch numbers are fairly steady – they are quite a lot of them! Curious dip during June of 2013.

Robin



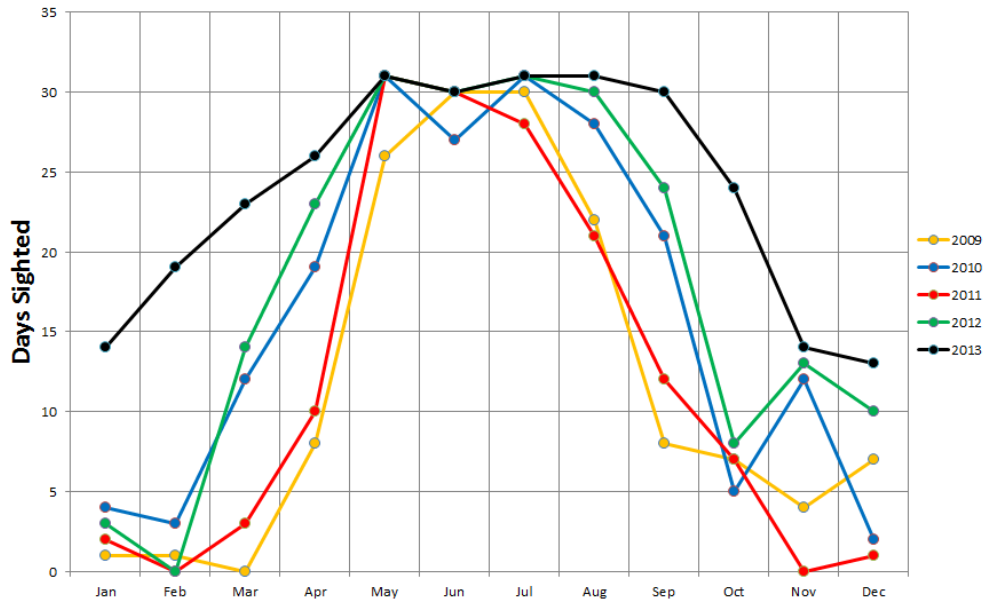
Robins are remarkably steady all year round

Dunnock



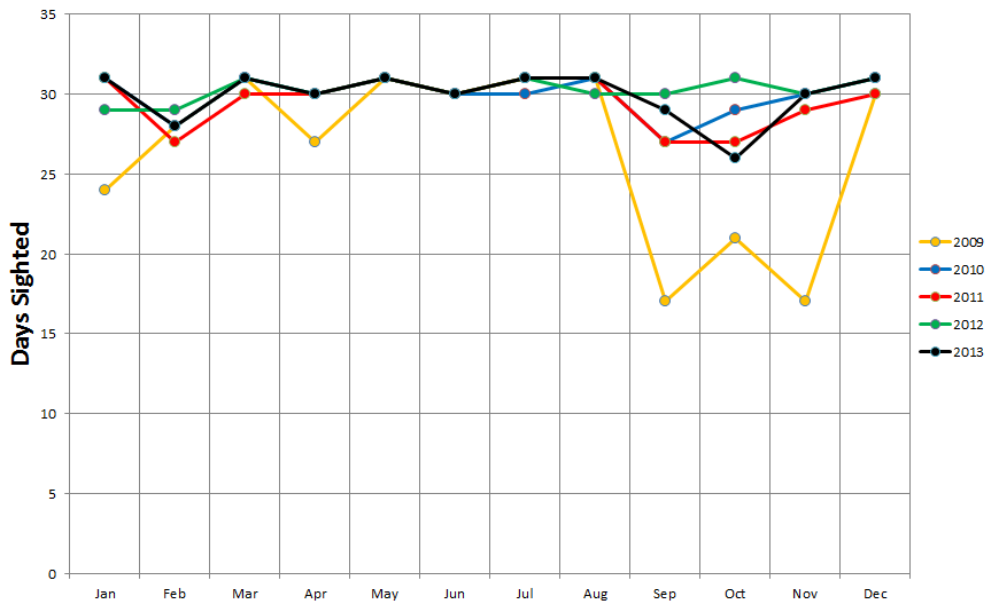
One of our 'odd' birds, sometimes to be seen, sometimes not. The numbers do seem to have increased during 2013.

House Sparrow



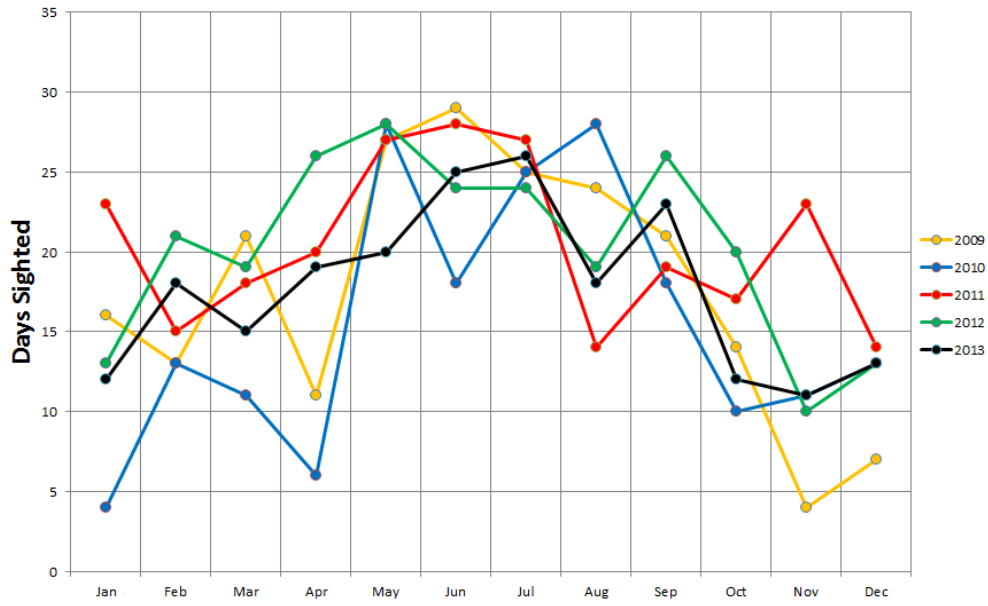
Clearly a very seasonal bird! Prior to 2013 they nested some distance away but brought the youngsters here during the summer. However, in 2013 they nested in the immediate vicinity so seen more often.

Blackbird



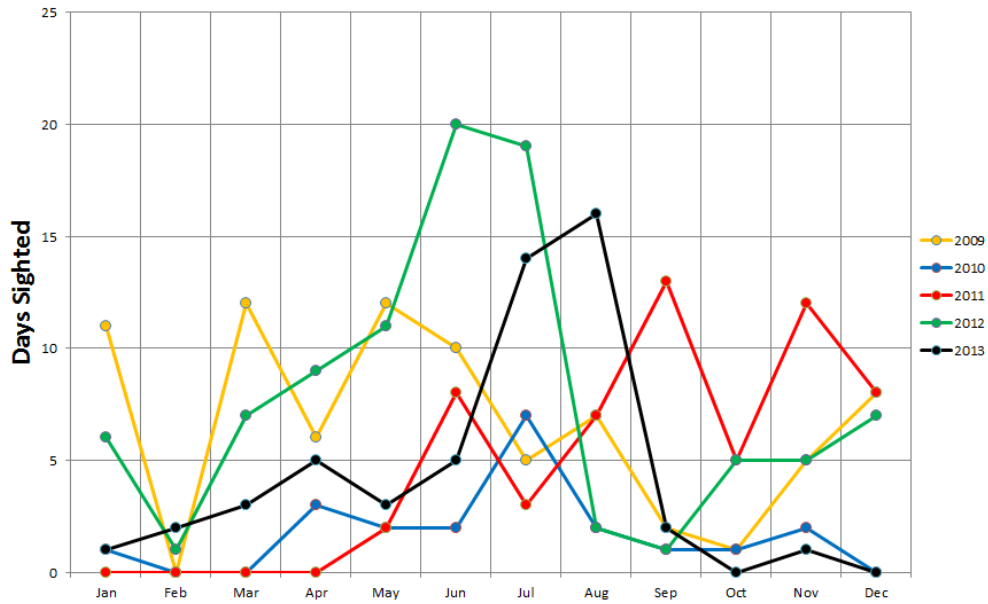
Always in good numbers and seen most days

Nuthatch



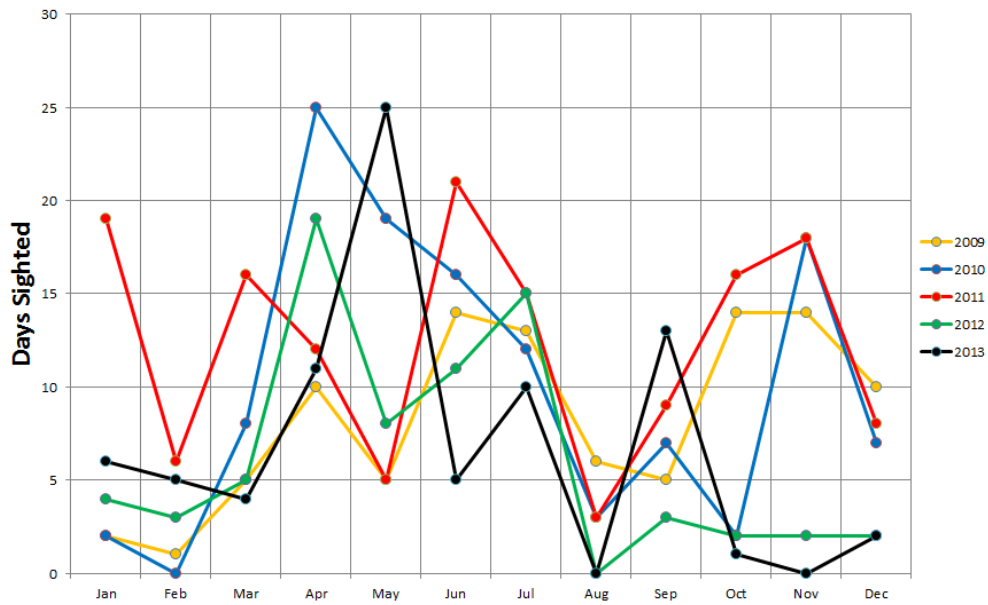
Always erratic, actual numbers seemed lower in 2013

Greenfinch



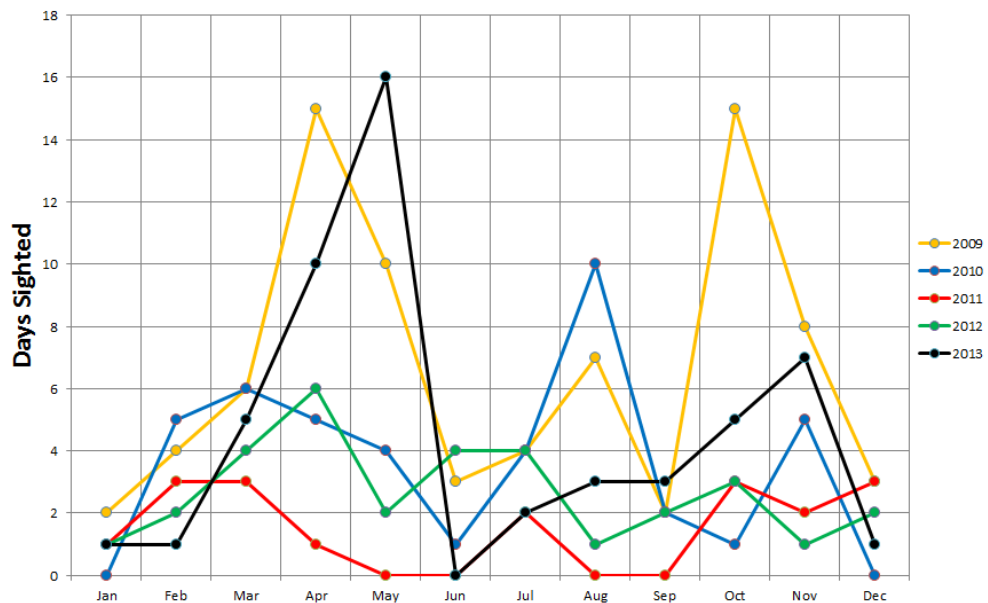
Erratic. Numbers are well down after the 'finch disease' and have not recovered

Goldfinch



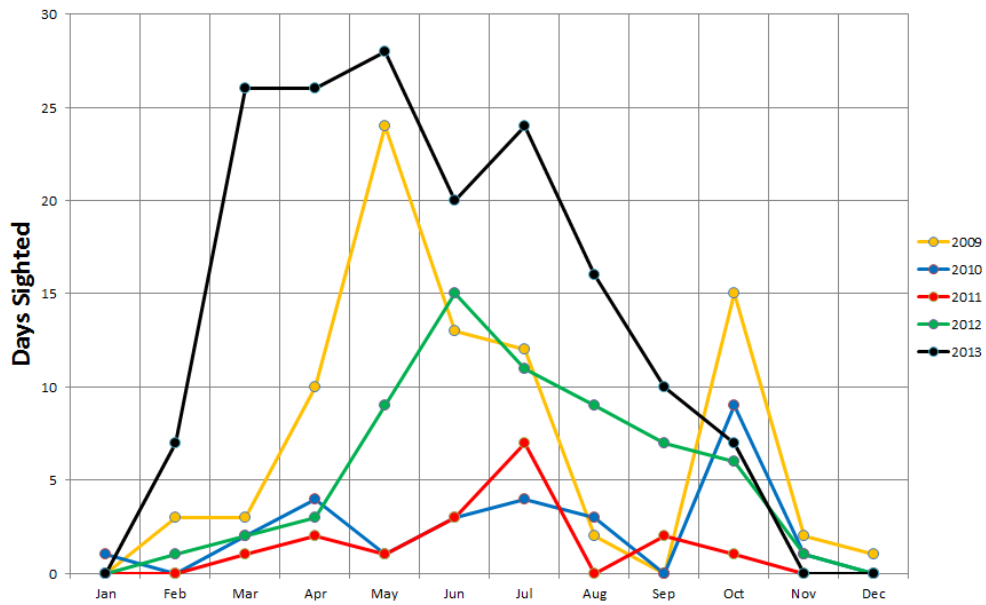
Also erratic, numbers seen have been low since 2011

Wren



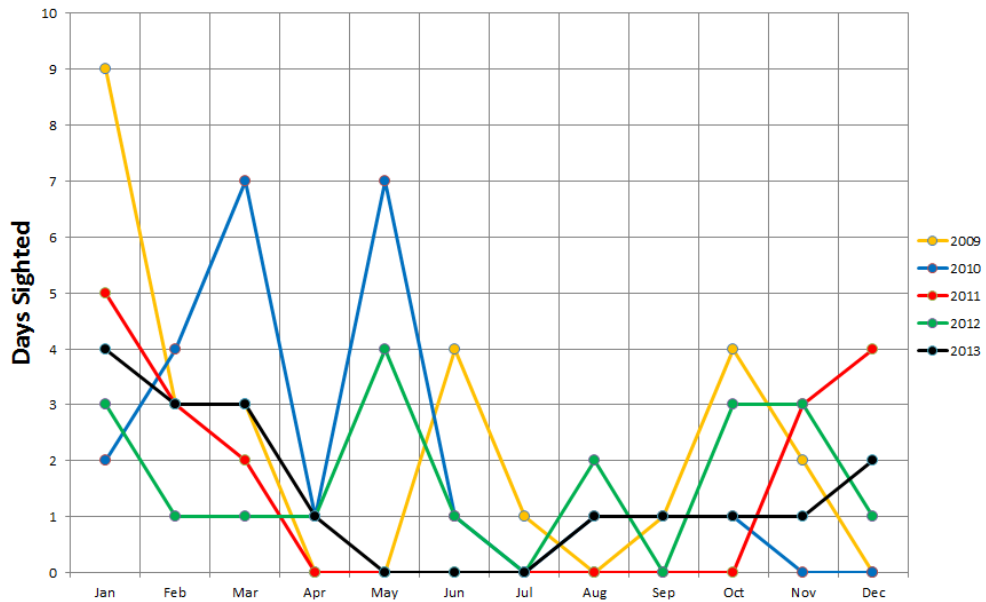
Possibly our most enigmatic bird. Known to be around in reasonable numbers but, although often heard, actual sightings can be very sporadic!

Song Thrush



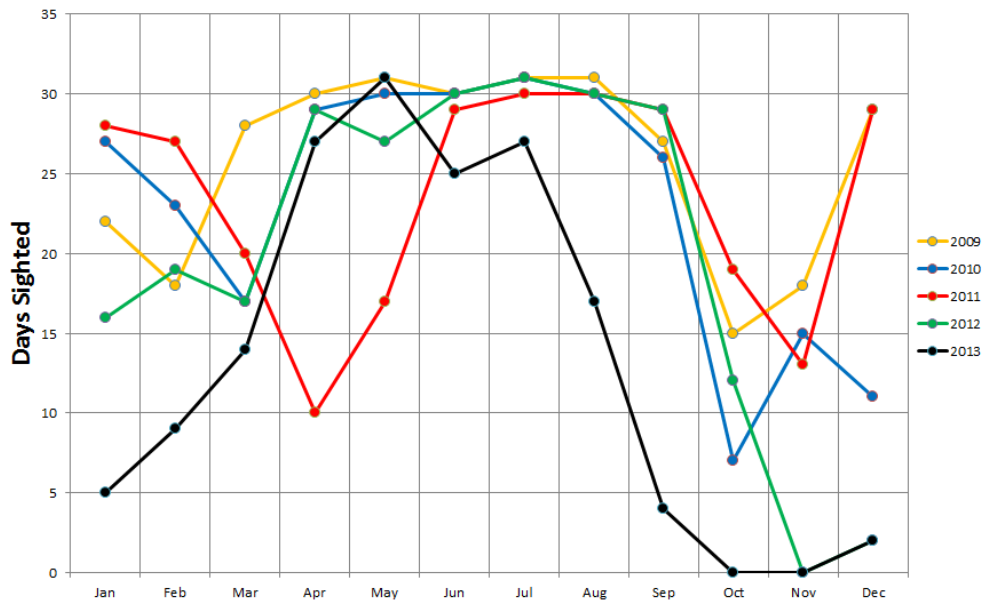
Numbers dropped considerably during 2010 and 2011 from a peak in 2009. However, 2012 showed a distinct recovery while things improved greatly during 2013.

Treecreeper



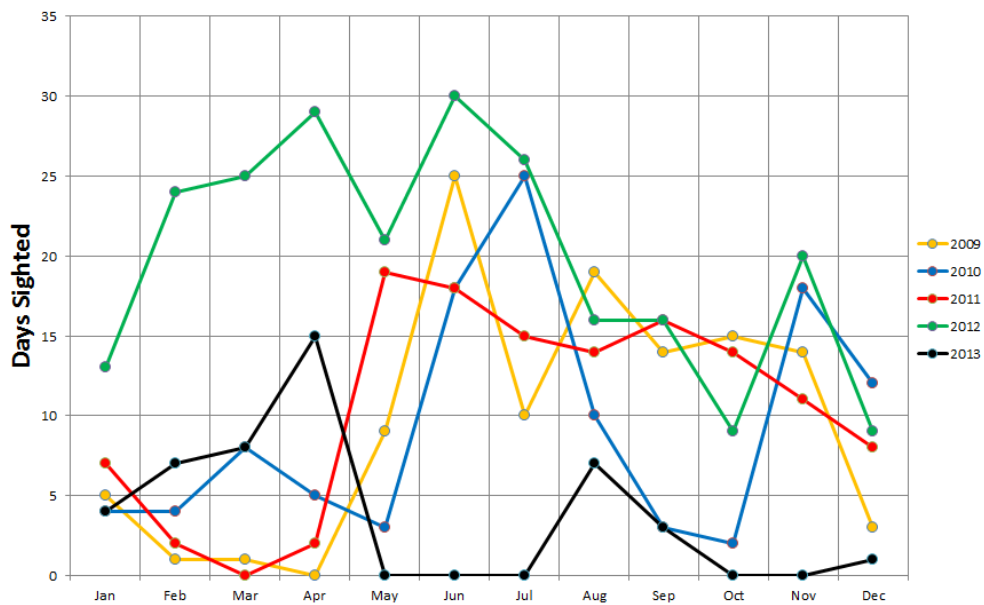
Occasional visitors only, sightings in 2013 dwindled considerably

Siskin



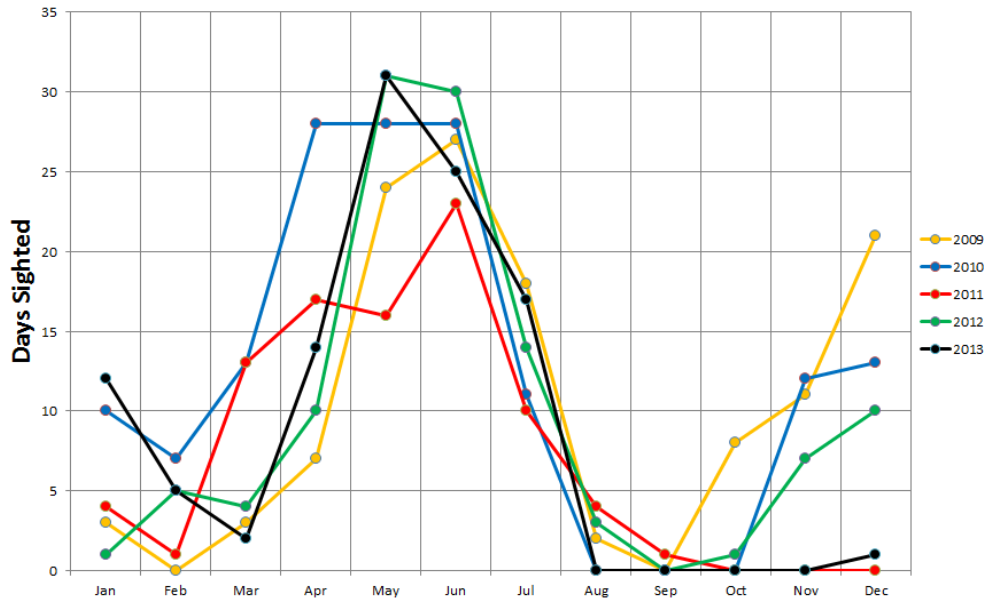
Always a seasonal bird but sightings dropped to very low values during the winter of 2011/12, recovered during early summer of 2013 then dropped right off.

Great Spotted Woodpecker



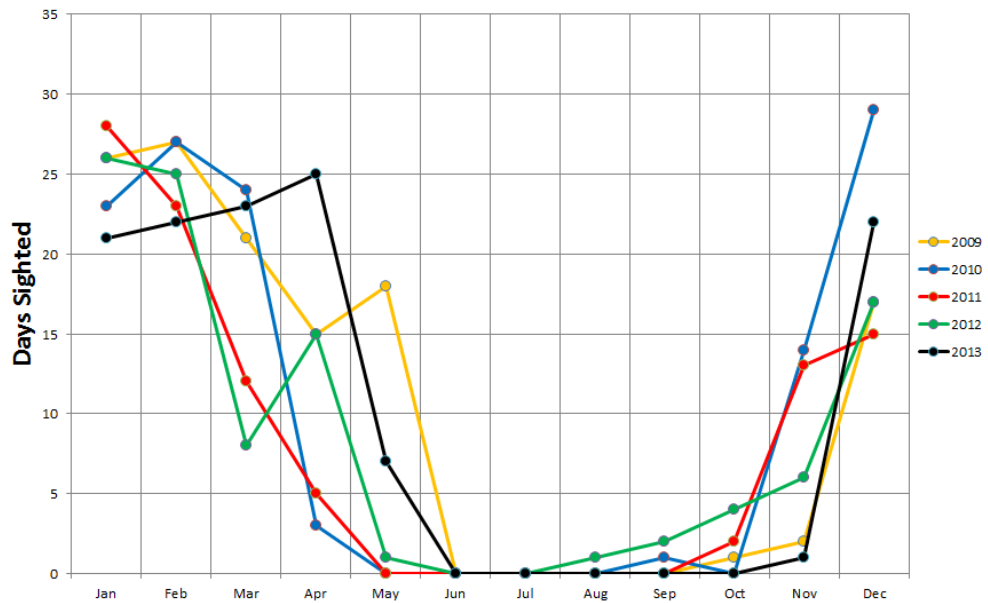
Very variable but 2013 had very few sightings

Starling



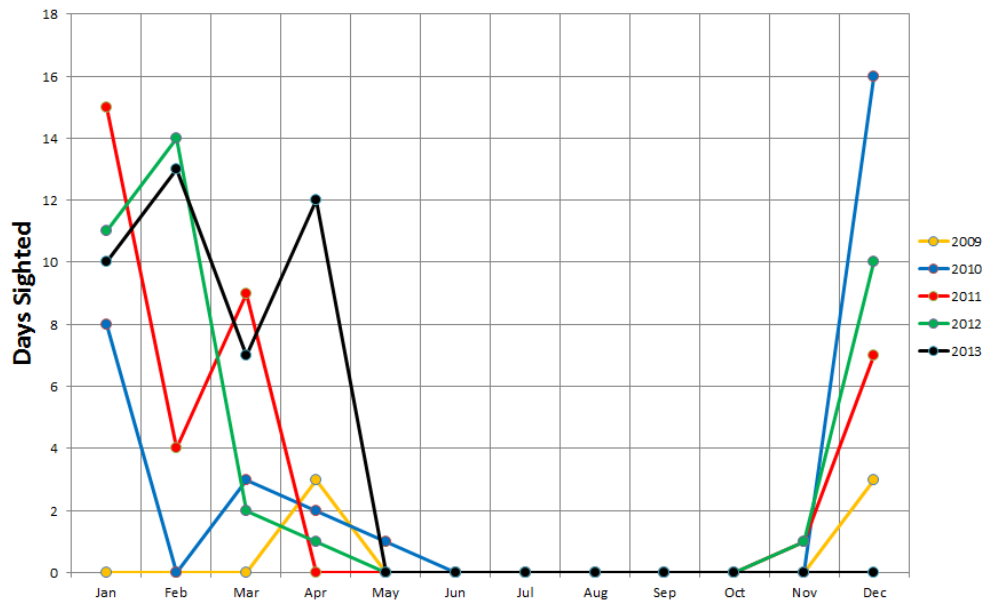
Another seasonal bird. Like 2011, the end of 2013 showed sightings drop to very low values.

Long-tailed Tit



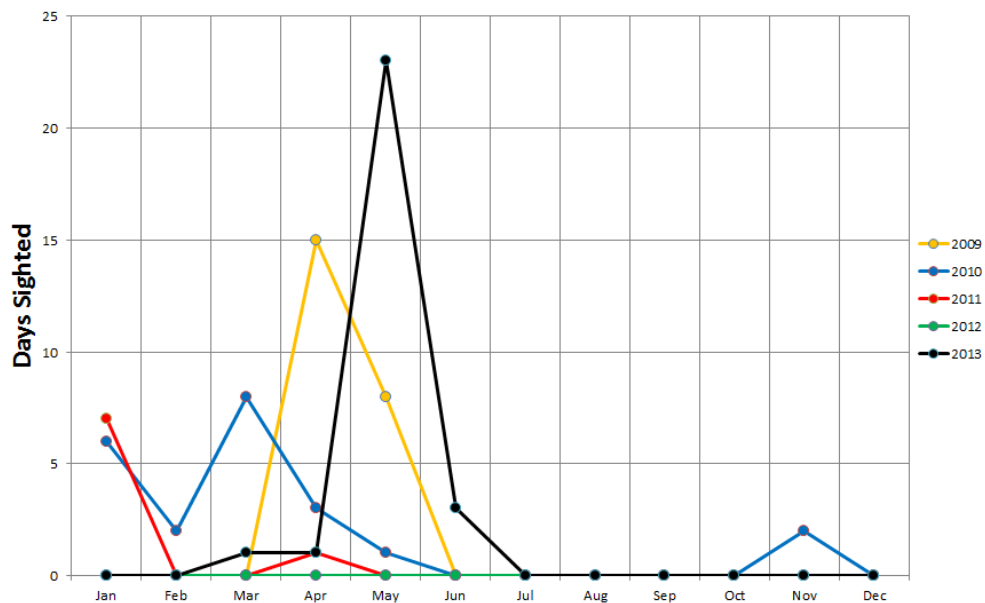
Also seasonal. The number of days seen was up in 2013 compared to previous years but the actual number of birds seen was much decreased.

Brambling



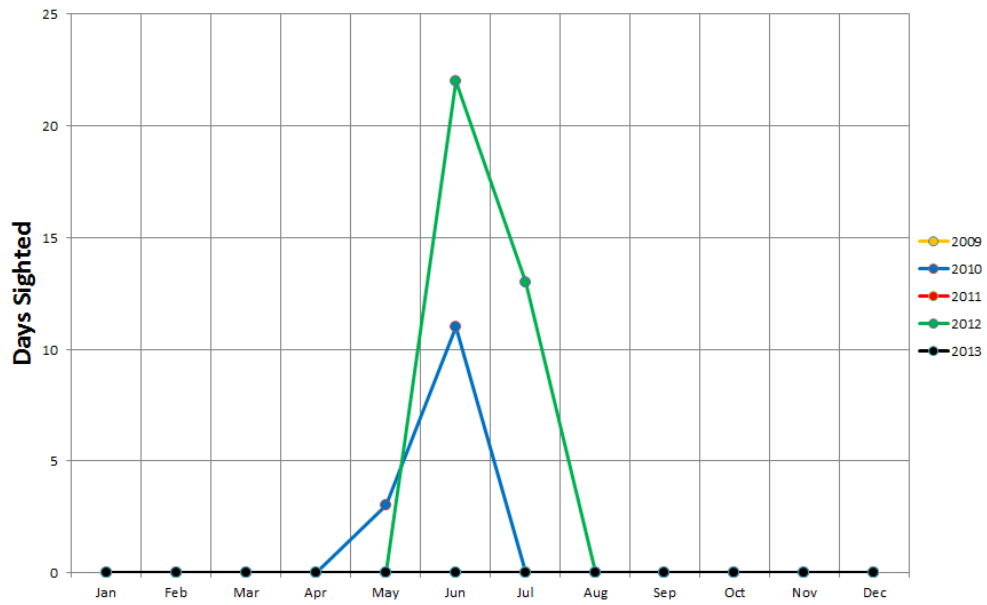
Always seasonal but their normal appearance in November/December failed to materialise during 2013.

Lesser Redpoll



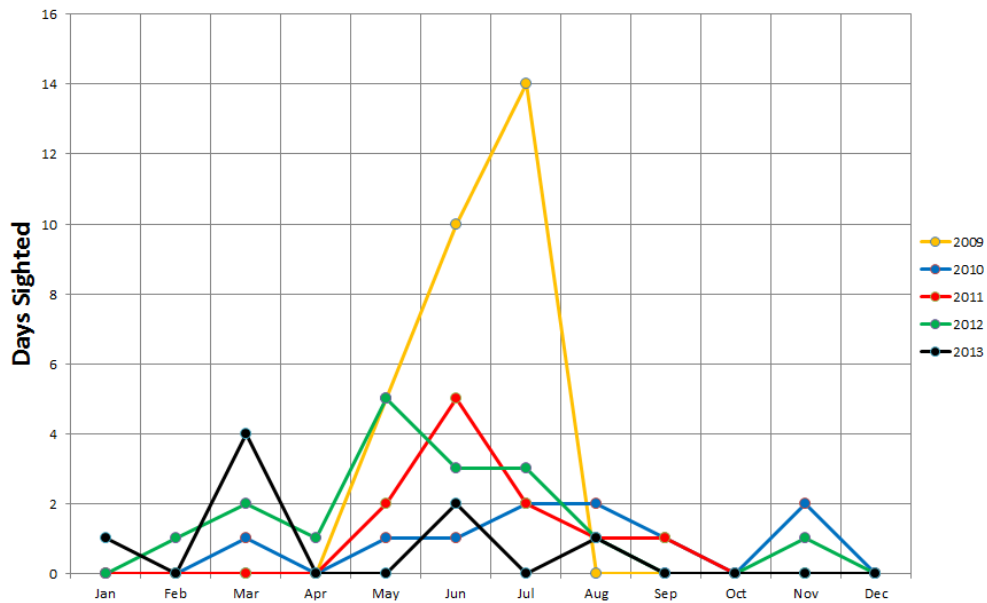
An odd pattern. They have tended to appear mostly in April/May in small numbers. In 2009 they were only seen at that time. Not seen at all during 2012. In 2013, apart from single sightings in March & April, they had a very strong peak during May

Spotted Flycatcher



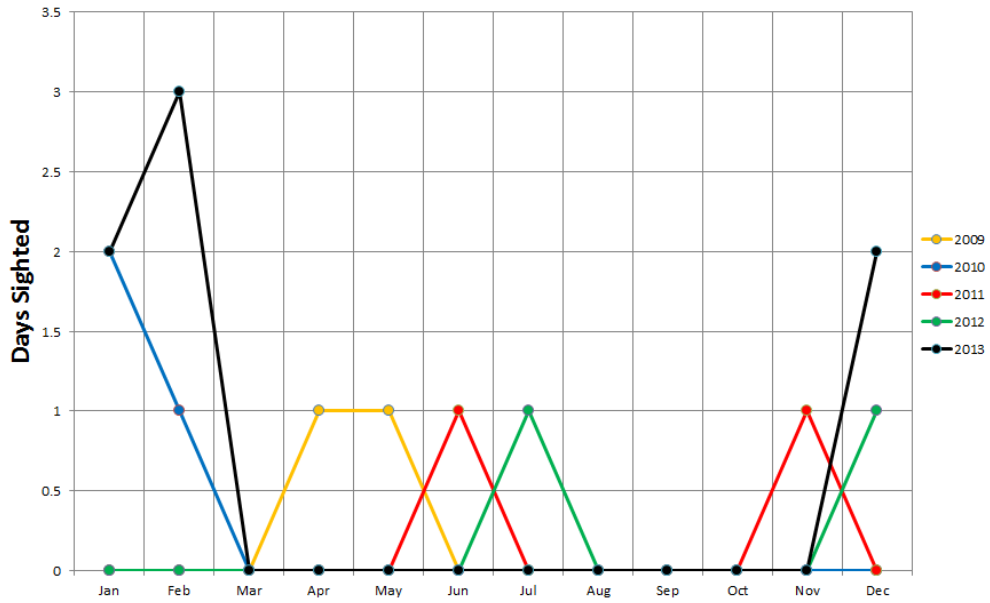
Seen only in 2010 and 2012 when used a local nestbox!

Collared Dove



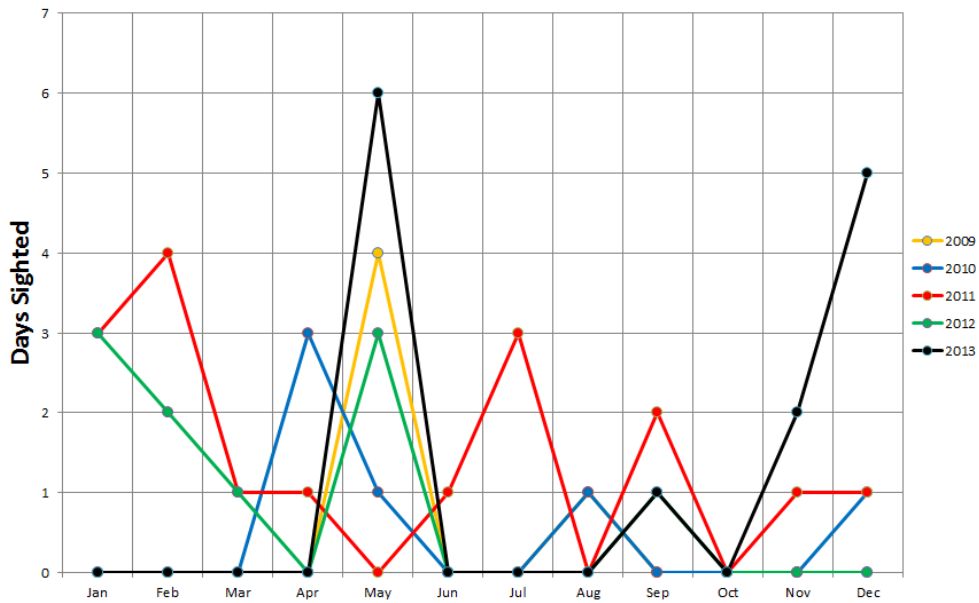
Not a frequent visitor to the garden although there are quite a few in the vicinity

Bullfinch



Not a common visitor but seen occasionally

Sparrowhawk



Seeing more visits during May and December 2013 than usual. By behaviour of other birds, may be a more common visitor than records show. Visits are so brief that unless you are looking out at just that moment then they can easily be missed.

Other notable sightings (not charted)

Jay (1 in 2010)

Willow Tit (1 in 2012)

Mistle Thrush (5 in 2013, 6 in 2010, 4 in 2009)

Merlin (7 in 2011, 2 in 2010)

Hawfinch (1 in 2013)

Goldcrest (5 in 2013, 1 in 2010, 1 in 2009)

Redwing (14 in 2009, 3 in 2013)

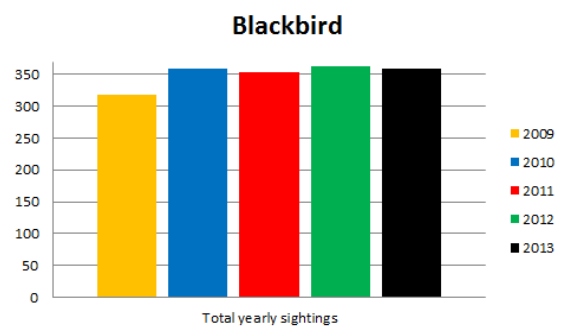
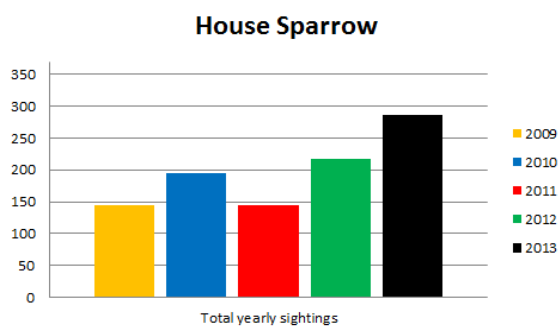
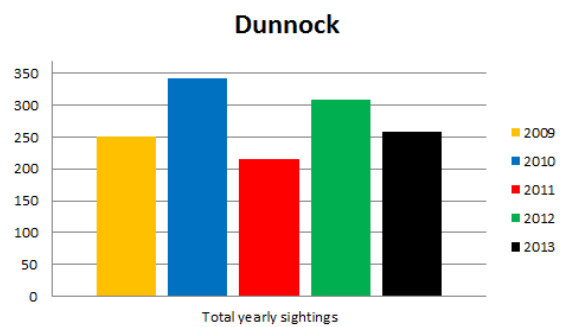
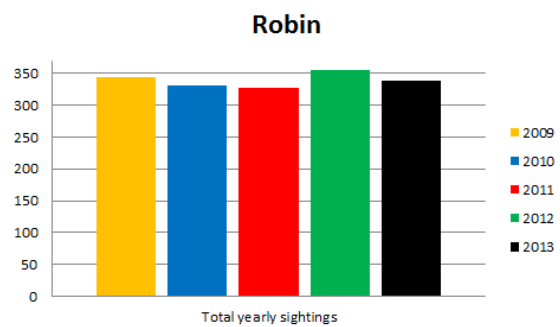
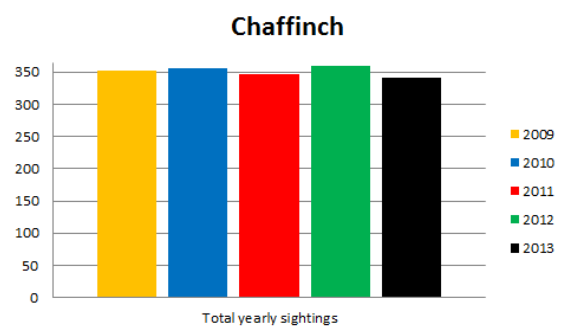
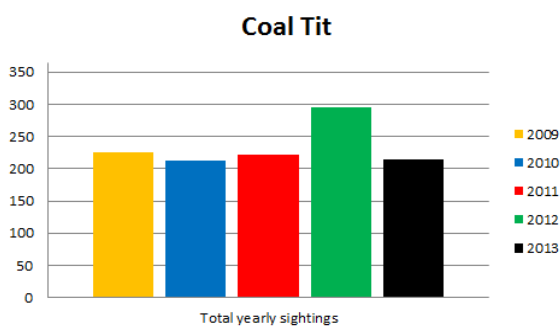
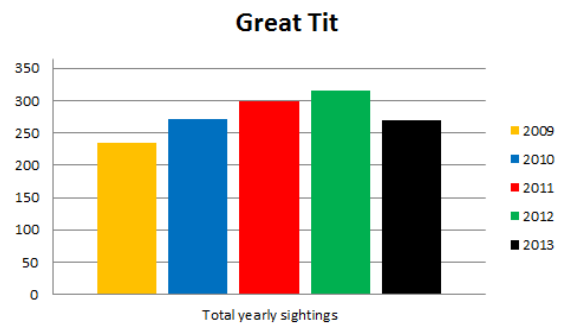
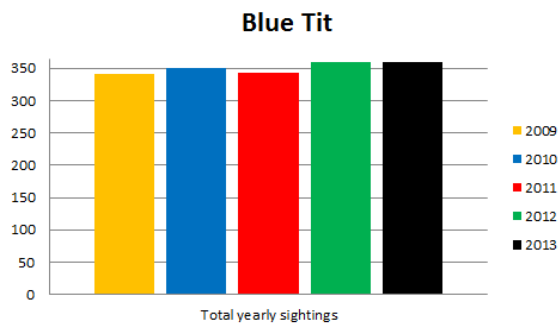
Stock Dove (1 in 2010, 2 in 2011)

Magpie (2 in 2009, 1 in 2012)

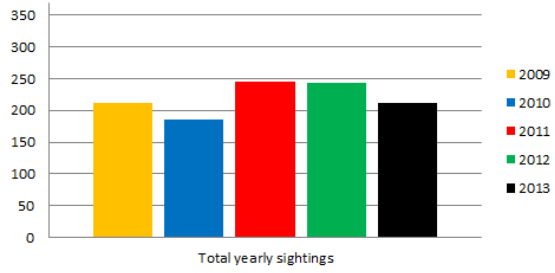
Fieldfare (4 in 2009, 1 in 2012)

Heron (3 in 2009 during period of heavy frost)

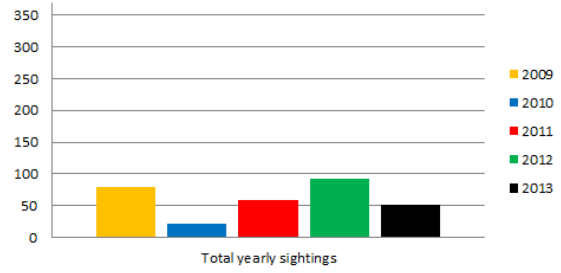
These graphs indicate the total number of sightings within each year 2009-2013 inclusive. It shows general trends throughout the period. It clearly indicates that our commonest birds are Blue Tit, Chaffinch, Robin and Blackbird.



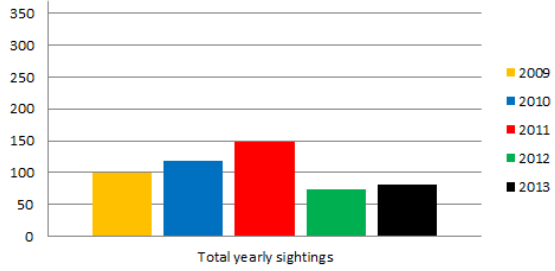
Nuthatch



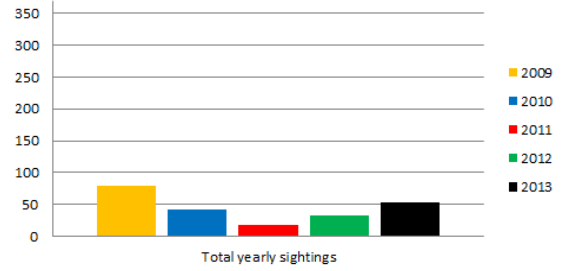
Greenfinch



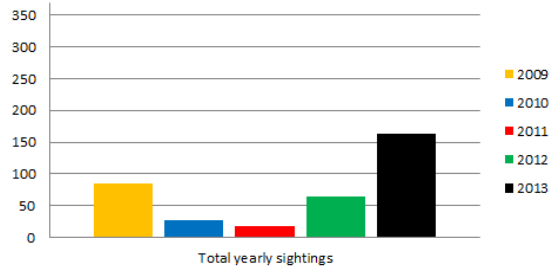
Goldfinch



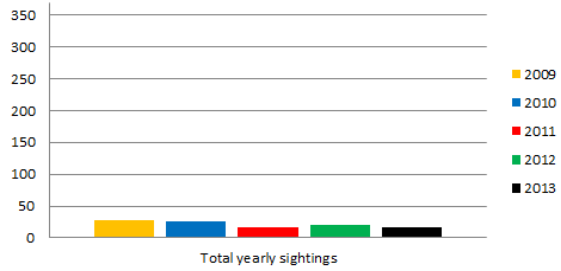
Wren



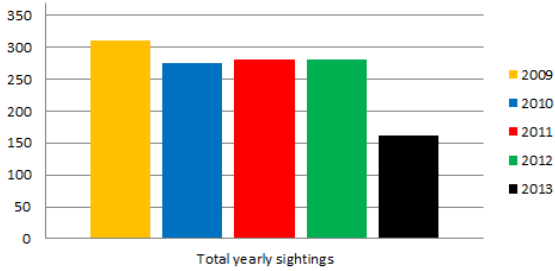
Song Thrush



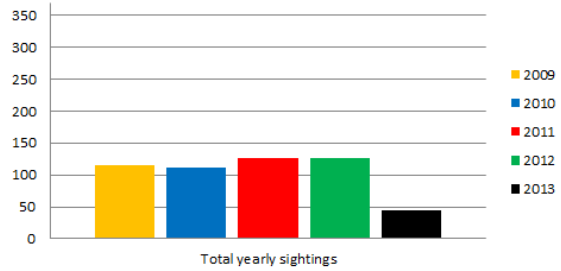
Treecreeper



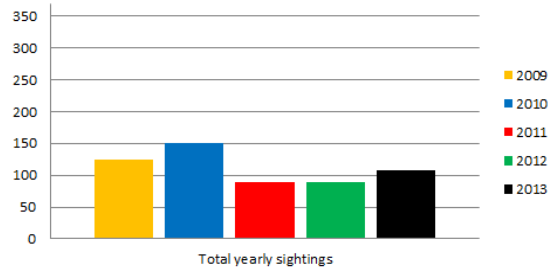
Siskin



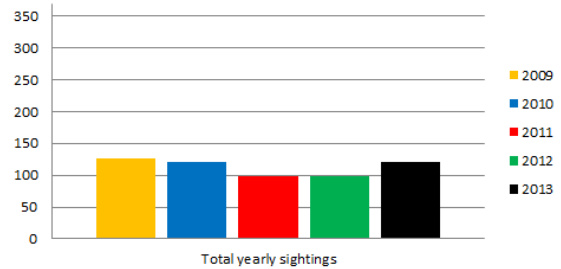
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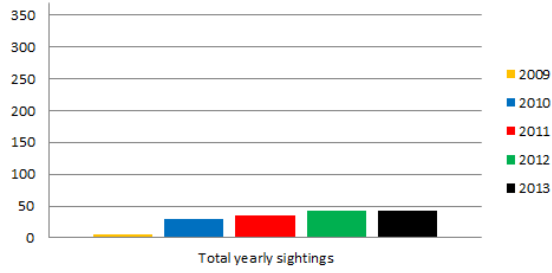
Starling



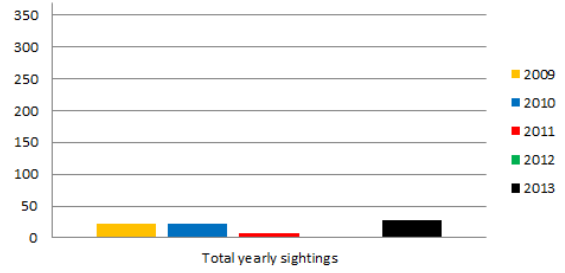
Long-tailed Tit



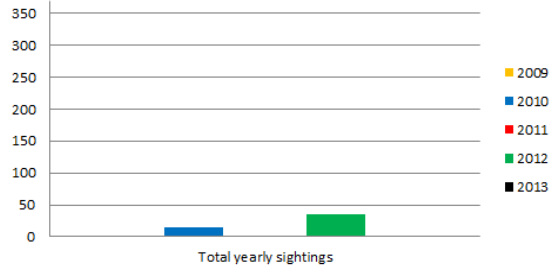
Brambling



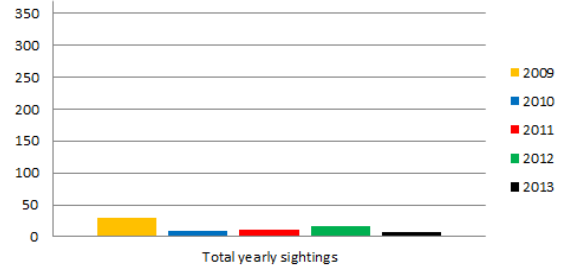
Lesser Redpoll



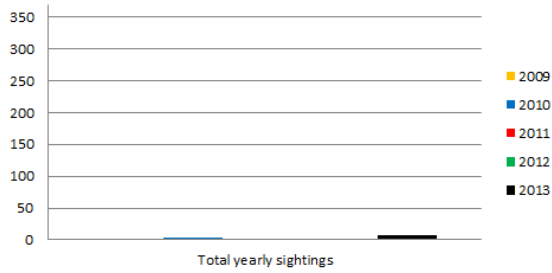
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Collared Dove



Bullfinch



Sparrowhawk

