

BS8 Green Spaces and Wildlife



Foreword

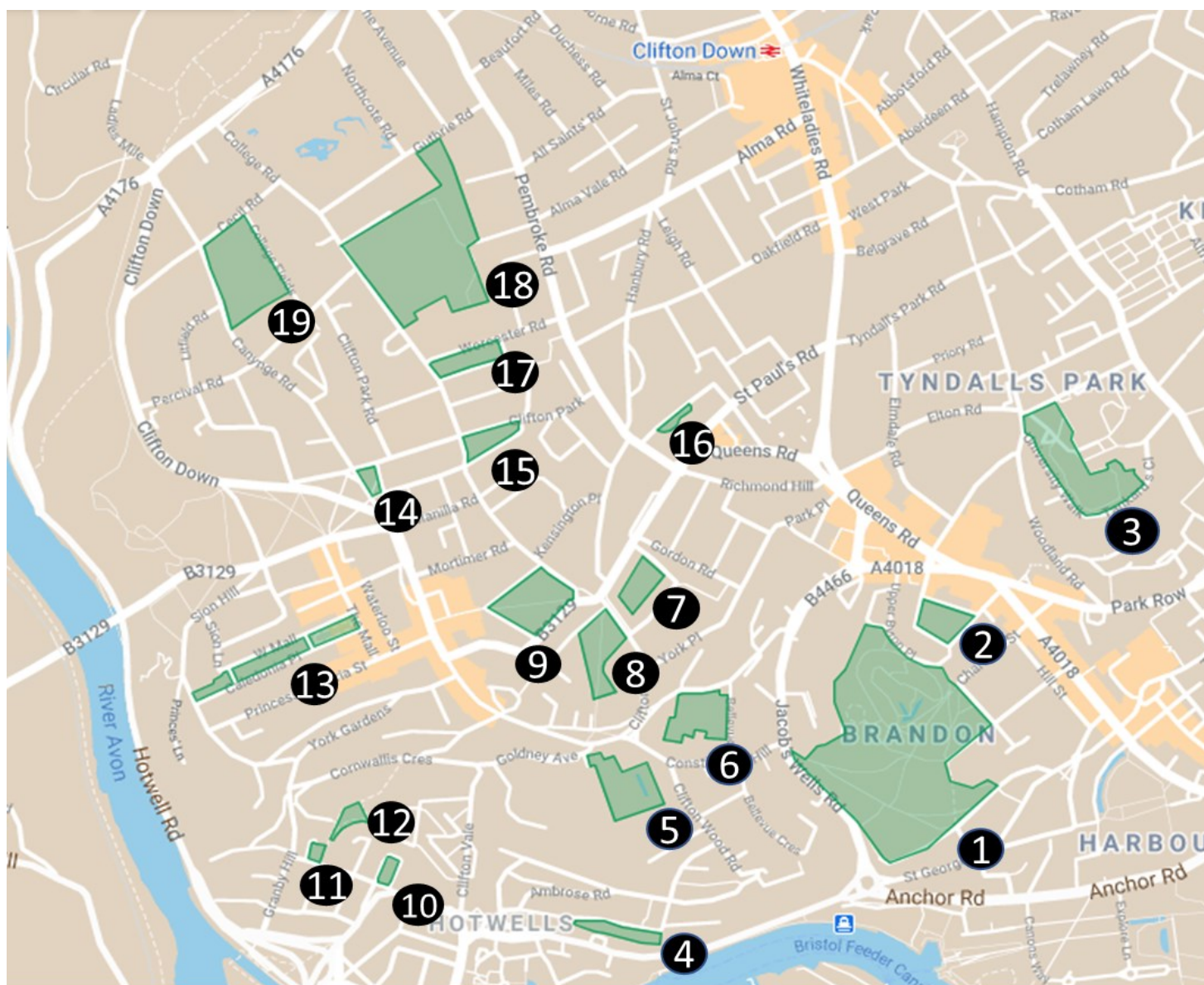
This audit aims to document the green spaces and how they support the wildlife around them in the post code district of BS8. Custodians for each individual green space were contacted and information gathered about what is done to promote wildlife on site and any future plans. Only public green spaces were contacted and domestic gardens, although very important for wildlife, were not taken into consideration for this audit.

This report forms part of a wider, community led project documenting all green spaces across Bristol. The general aims of the project are to make local people more aware of the wildlife around them; to help make Bristol more hospitable to a wide range of wild creatures and native plants and to collaborate with other agencies and groups in order to further the first two aims.

This initial audit was co-ordinated by Lina Kuhfuss as a project within UWE's Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Science degree program. It will be the task of others to complete and up-date the report in future years and, more importantly, strive to make this part of the city more wildlife friendly. It is hoped that an active and effective BS8 Wildlife Group will emerge to promote 'wilding' and collaborate with similar groups across the city.

For more information about the city-wide project, contact mywildbedminster@virginmedia.com.



Ben Barker (Secretary BS3 Wildlife Group and Convenor Bristol-wide Wildlife Groups). 14.04.2021



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|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 – Brandon Hill | 4 – Cliftonwood Terrace | 7 – Richmond Terrace | 10 – Dowry Square | 13 – The Mall Garden | 16 – Arlington Garden | 19 – Canynge Square |
| 2 – Berkeley Square | 5 – Goldney Hall | 8 – The Cemetery | 11 – Hope Square | 14 – Christchurch Green | 17 – Worcester Terrace | |
| 3 – Royal Fort Gardens | 6 – Bellevue Gardens | 9 – Victoria Square | 12 – Polygon Garden | 15 – Vyvyan Terrace/Clifton Park Gardens | 18 – Clifton College | |

Royal Fort Gardens:

Recorded species (2020)	8/5	26/5
Blackbird	5	10
Blackcap	4	2
Blue tit	5	8
Carrion crow	2	2
Chiffchaff		
Duncock	4	2
Feral pigeon	8	
Goldcrest	2	1
Goldfinch	2	5
Great tit	4	2
Greenfinch		
Herring gull	3	1
Jackdaw		1
Lesser black-backed gull	9	5
Long-tailed tit		
Magpie	3	2
Mallard		
Mistle thrush	1	1
Raven		
Robin	4	9
Song thrush		
Swift		
Wood pigeon	13	5
Wren	3	4

 Red listed species
 Amber listed species

Goldney Hall Garden:

Recorded species (2020)	8/5	20/5
Blackbird	2	6
Blackcap	2	2
Blue tit	5	6
Carrion crow	1	1
Chiffchaff		
Coal tit		
Collared dove		
Duncock	2	
Feral pigeon	1	
Goldcrest	1	
Goldfinch	1	
Great spotted woodpecker		2
Great tit	1	2
Greenfinch		
Herring gull	3	1
House sparrow	3	3
Jackdaw	1	3
Lesser black-backed gull	1	1
Long-tailed tit		
Magpie	2	
Mistle Thrush		
Nuthatch		
Robin	4	4
Song thrush		1
Sparrowhawk	1	
Swift		3
Wood pigeon	8	11
Wren	6	6

Royal Fort Garden and Goldney Hall Garden

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Managed by the University of Bristol which have been awarded a bronze award for the conservation of hedgehogs. For over 20 years, bird boxes have been maintained across the sites. The installation of swift boxes will be undertaken. Observed bats include Pipistrelle and Daubenton's bat.

Bug hotels were introduced by students and staff within the Royal Fort Grounds. Annual meadow borders have been designated many areas and within Goldney Garden and a recently established perennial meadow covers approximately 1.2 acres.

Regular surveys have been conducted by University of Bristol students in conjunction with Gardens and Bristol Naturalist Society—bioblitzes. For the last seven years, biodiversity levels for key indicator species have been monitored by Wessex Ecological Consultancy on an annual basis. This was submitted to the Environmental Records Centre for the West of England.

Cliftonwood Terrace – Secret Garden

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The Secret Garden is located below Cliftonwood Terrace and was leased by the council. In return, the custodians are committed to develop a space for wildlife and the community which has been created for the past 12 years in which several wildlife surveys have been carried out. The aim is to increase biodiversity by working towards a higher insect abundance and richness. In addition to this, trees such as birch, rowan, hazel and spindle will be planted.



Ivy broomrape in the Secret Garden of Cliftonwood Terrace

Observed species include:

Birds:

Song thrush
Long tailed tits
Great tits
Green finches
Robins
Black birds
Pigeons
Magpies
Sparrows

Mammals:

Badgers
Hedgehogs
Bats

Plants:

Ivy broomrape (top right)
Bristol onion

Trees/Shrubs:

Self seeded elder	Hazel
Buddleia	Spindle
Sycamore	Field maple
Ash	Crab apple
Birch	
Rowan	

Cliftonwood Hedgehogs project

bs8hedgehogproject@gmail.com

The BS8 hedgehog project was recently established by a small group in Cliftonwood. So far, three wild spots have been created feeding stations for hedgehogs have been set up (right). The feeders will be sited locally and the group is working on developing more opportunities to attract hedgehogs, badgers (below) and other species.



Badger caught on camera trap



Hedgehog feeding station

Species observed in 2020 included:

Bellevue Gardens

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A number of trees and undergrowth present here have a positive impact on wildlife and biodiversity. The overgrown and enclosed back garden acts as habitat for species such as hedgehogs.

Future plans include the installation of solitary bee nests and planting wild and bee friendly flowers in parts of the garden.

Birds	Mammals	Insects and spiders
Eurasian Jay	Bats (unidentified)	Butterflies, various red (unidentified)
Blue Tit	Urban fox	Butterflies, various white (unidentified)
Long Tailed Tit	Grey squirrel	Honey bees (unidentified)
Coal Tit		Bumble bees (unidentified)
Wren		Spiders, various (unidentified)
Male nuthatch		Other insects
Robin		
Chaffinch		
Crow		
Magpie		
Urban Pigeon		
Wood Pigeon		
Blackbird		
Seagull		
Owl (unidentified)		
Great spotted woodpecker (female)		

Richmond Terrace Pleasure Ground and Shrubbery

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After the site was surveyed in 2000, a full report advised on planting and management at a time when the garden was derelict with little biodiversity. The dereliction was cleared and the planting of an oak, two silver birches and a woodland cherry followed in 2002 and have since flourished. Nowadays, the garden consists of a mix of diverse trees including fruit trees, shrubs, vegetables and other plants.

After the dereliction was cleared gradually, a mix of planting was introduced (see species list). Areas of stinging nettles were kept and a pile of logs was introduced. An area of ivy is used by toads for winter hibernation. A pond attracts frogs, newts, dragon flies and other species and a compost bin is habitat to slow worms. The increase in biodiversity encouraged more insect and bird species. The bird and plant species recorded are as follows:

Bird species:

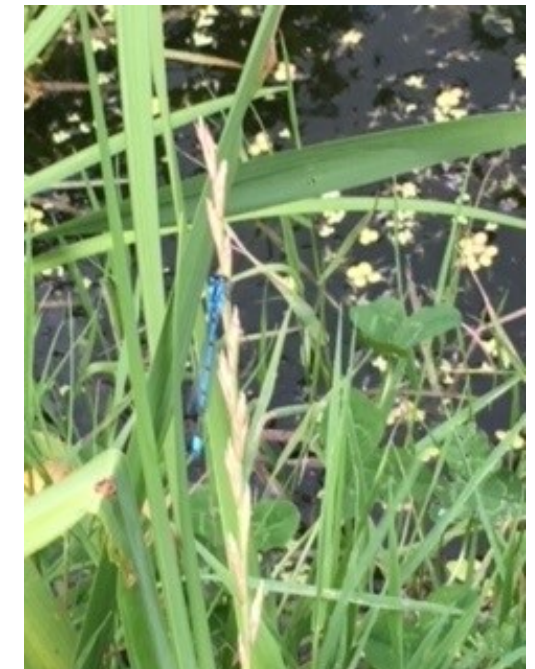
Greenfinch, Goldfinch , Eurasian Jay, Blue tit, Robin (right), Blackbird, Wren, Herring Gull, Wood Pigeon, Blackcap and Dunnock (2020).

Great Tit, Collared Dove, Long-Tailed Tit, Chaffinch and Magpies (2019).

At other times, woodpeckers and gold-crests



Robin



Dragonfly visiting pond

Richmond Terrace plant species:

Hawthorn hedge, Golden Marjoram, *Hoheria Angustifolia*, *Fraxinus Ornus*, White beam, *Prunus amanogawa*, Climbing Rose 'Compassion', Climbing rose - Ginger Syllabub, *Clematis montana* var. *Wilsonii*, *Clematis Bourbon*, *Lonicera nitida* and 'Maygreen' (hedge), *Lonicera frangrantissima*, *Paeonia Lactiflora* 'Sarah Bernhardt', Hybrid yellow tea rose 'Gracious Queen', Hybrid white tea rose Sir Frederick Ashton', *Parrotia persica*, Tree peony, *Buddleia x Weyeriana* 'Sungold', Climbing rose Pink Perpetue, Hybrid musk rose 'Prosperity', *Cornus alba* 'Sibirica' *Malus* 'Scarlett', Assorted hybrid tea roses, Hybrid tea rose Scent-sation, Red roses with, *Paeonia officinalis* 'Rubra Plena', *Abelia x Grandiflora*, *Lonicera Tartarica* 'Hack's Red', *Choisya* 'White Dazzler', *Escallonia* 'Rubra Macrantha', *Magnolia stellata*, *Amelanchier Lamarkii*, *Cotinus Coggygia*, Rose 'Gertrude Jekyll', Climbing Rose: Filipes Kiftsgate, Climbing rose 'Madame Alfred Carriere', Climbing rose 'Morning Jewel' Apples Rev. Wilkes and Bramley, Quince,..Hazel, Holly, Ivy covered walls, Climbing Rose New Dawn, Family Apple Tree James Grieve/Cox/Sunset, Conference Pear, *Cnimonanthus Praecox*, *Rosa Mundi*, *Rosa Officinalis*, *Rosa Alba*, *Hydrangea quercifolia*, Herbaceous Border Communal Soft Fruit plot, *Quercus robur*, *Betula pendula*, *Crataegus Prunuspersimilis Prunifolia*, *Cercidiphyllum japonicum*, *Escallonia* 'Apple Blossom', *Prunus avium*, *Fatsia japonica*, *Aralia*, *Hydrangea mac.* 'White Wave', *Berberis stenophylla*, *Arbutus unedo*, *Berberis juliannae*, *Jasmine Stephanense*, *Buddleja Harlequin*, *Holboellia Fargesii*, *Berberis Darwinii*, Climbing rose Crown Princess Margareta, *Lonicera Pericyclimen* 'Serotina'



Bumble bee on thistle



Pond at Richmond Terrace

Victoria Square

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Open garden managed by the Bristol City Council. Local residents have taken initiative to contribute to keeping the garden tidy, for example Norman Shufflebotham, who regularly sweeps the central path and tidies up litter around the waste-bins.

The annual party organised by the residents has traditionally included a bat walk led by the University of Bristol bat expert to the site of St. Andrew's church. The spaces near Victoria Square hotel has been kept wild, which is promoted by the residents.

Christchurch Green

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Three swathes of wildflower meadow have been agreed by the Downs committee and are funded by the Clifton Garden Society. The seed type has been chosen so as not to endanger the specific sensitivity of the nearby Gorge.

The Polygon gardens

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Over the past six years, the residents developed various habitats to attract wildlife and increase biodiversity in their garden.

A compost heap full of worms was installed which attracts blackbirds in particular. A woodpile encourages and shelters insects and pollinators and hedges and shrubberies provide shelter for birds and other small animals. Bird boxes, feeders and water stations have been installed. A swift box was installed which is awaiting occupancy. Areas of lawn are often left unmown to support growth for further shelter.

Careful thought has been given to establishing different perennials that will flower across the seasons. Early blooming plants with a long flowering season were selected to provide a food source for pollinators throughout the year. Late blooming perennials include Verbena bonariensis, sedum, salvia and Japanese anemone. Plants such as sedum, salvia and ivy offer pollen and nectar in autumn and winter. Nettles and honesties encourage butterflies.

Other seed producing plants attractive to birds include teasel, knapweed and sunflowers which particularly attract gold finches.

A pond has also been installed recently.

Dowry Square

Email: admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk

Custodians are planning to make improvements in the garden to benefit wildlife such as nesting boxes, water and feeding stations, wood piles and an insect hotel.

Observed species include:

Birds

Robins
Magpies
Crows
Wrens
Jays
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker
Dunnocks
Thrushes
Blue Tits
Cormorants
Coal tits
Buzzards
Pegarine
Falcons
Sea Gulls
Owls

Insects/Worms:

Moths
Butterflies
Worms
Wasps
Ladybirds
Mason bees
Bumble bees

Mammals:

Squirrels
Fox
Pipistrelle bats

The following species are present/will be planted:

Trees

Fagus Sylvatica
Ilex Variegata
Sorbus
Laurus nobilis
Nothofagus
Magnolia
Cupressus sempervirens
Robinia pseudoacacia
Prunus Cerasifera
Crataegus prunifolia
Taxus Baccata
Prunus cerasifera
Morus nigra
Betula pendula 'Dalecarlica'
Karpatisorbus bristoliensis
Juglans regia

Shrubs

Aucuba Japonica
Bambusoideae
Buddleja
Camellia Japonica
Carex pendula
Ceanothus
Choisya Ternata
Eleagnus Pungens Mac-
ulata
Euonymus Japonicus
Fagus Sylvatica
Fatsia Japonica
Fuchsia
Garrya elliptica
Helleborus lividus
Hypericum
Ilex aquifolium

Juglans
Laurus nobilis
Mahonia Japonica
Mallow arborea
Photinia
Pittosporum Tenuifolium
Pittosporum Tenuifolium
Prunus Cerasifera
Prunus Domestica
Prunus Laurocerasus
Pyracantha
Spiraea japonica
Syringa vulgaris
Viburnum tinus

Arlington Garden

<https://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonGarden.org.uk/>

- Ensured hedge-cutting and tree work has not adversely affected wildlife.
- Replaced trees with low natural benefit and non-native with native species that provide food for birds and insects.
- Planted hedgerows from the RSPB to encourage nesting birds
- Made hedgehog shelters
- Made log piles for insects and hedgehogs
- Put out nesting houses for small birds
- Allowed parts of the garden to stay untidy and natural to help insects
- Planning on purchasing a hive for mason bees.

No information provided/no custodians identified

The Cemetery

Brandon Hill

Berkeley Square

Hope Square

Canynge Square

Clifton College

The Mall Garden

Worcester Terrace

Vyvyan Terrace/Clifton Park Garden