Highbury Bird survey/walk, 28 March 2011

Paul had this to say about the walk:

About 15 people turned up.
The walk lasted about 2 hours.

No summer migrants but a few winter species still present… several redwings were seen.
Counted 35 in a flock last Sunday. Some of the 'resident' blackbirds, robins, chaffinches and starlings are probably continental birds and will be gone soon.
Several thrush species were singing and two pairs of mistle thrushes are holding breeding territories.
Saw 2 woodpecker species; greater spotted woodpecker and lesser spotted woodpecker, both on the same tree.
This is unusual as greater spot predate lesser spot chicks.
Looked for green woodpecker but no joy.
Bot then saw one the following Sunday.

No birds of prey. Expected to see both sparrowhawk and common buzzard and possibly kestrel.
Two of the three bred at Highbury last year and sure buzzard bred locally too.
Adult ring necked parakeets were displaying; 5 were seen.

Birds seen:

grey heron (overhead)
lesser black backed gull (overhead)
black headed gull (overhead)
blue tit
bullfinch
carrion crow
chaffinch
coal tit
collared dove… several were calling
coot
goldcrest… 3 were seen together.
This was encouraging as they were one of the species, like wrens, that were hardest hit by the harsh winter weather.
goldfinch
great tit
greenfinch
jackdaw
jay
long tailed tit… several small mobile flocks
magpie
mallard
moorhen
nuthatch… at least 8 calling
pied wagtail
Robins, blackbirds and song thrushes were singing.

starling
stock dove
wood pigeon
wren... several establishing breeding territories, especially in the conservation area. Likewise, dunnocks.