

Ring-necked Parakeets successfully breed in Scotland for the first time

In April 2016, three adult Ring-necked Parakeets *Psittacula krameri* were observed prospecting a tree nest hole in Victoria Park, Glasgow (Clyde), the first time that the species had been reported attempting to nest in Scotland (McInerny 2016). However, young were not seen subsequently at the site in 2016, so it was suspected that breeding had not been successful. In April 2017, the three birds reappeared in Victoria Park. They were closely monitored by Susan Harris who, through daily observations, noted mating, nestlings in the tree hole on 22 May and a fledgling with an adult on 3 June (Plate 253). Subsequently, Jimmy Maxwell observed a minimum of six individuals on 10 June, with myself seeing similar numbers on 12 June of which three were young birds.

This observation represents the first confirmed breeding record of the species in Scotland.

Reference

McInerny, C.J. 2016. Ring-necked Parakeets potentially nesting in Scotland for the first time. *Scottish Birds* 36: 211–212.

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Postscript

Chris McInerny recorded 13 Ring-necked Parakeets at the breeding site in Glasgow on 15 October 2017. There were groups of nine and four birds. It is believed that this is probably the highest Scottish count of this species to date.



Plate 253. Adult male Ring-necked Parakeet with a recently fledged juvenile, Victoria Park, Glasgow, Clyde, 3 June 2017. © Susan Harris