

London Tree Sparrow Partnership

WANTED

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BIRD?



Photo by Peter Alfrey

THIS IS A TREE SPARROW

NOT TO BE
CONFUSED
WITH THE
HOUSE
SPARROW



Images courtesy of RSPB-Images.com

Tree sparrows are cousins of the larger house, or cockney, sparrow but are far less common. They are recognisable by their chestnut caps and a black spot on each cheek.

Tree Sparrows are a threatened species and show one of the largest declines of any bird in this country yet not far from here, at Beddington Farmlands, there is the largest single colony of tree sparrows in the whole of the south east of England.

THIS YEAR'S YOUNG BIRDS HAVE AN ADDITIONAL IDENTIFYING FEATURE A BRIGHT **RED** LEG RING.

More than five hundred tree sparrow chicks have been ringed this year, but we don't know where they are going, or where they are now. We want to find out!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Simply look out for brown-capped tree sparrows with their black spotted cheeks. Their bright **red** leg rings should make them easier to spot and help set them apart from other sparrows or small brown birds. If possible, take a picture. Send details of your sighting (where and when) to LTS@rspb.org.uk

Other ways to help your local tree sparrows: Put out red millet seed for them to eat or install nest boxes with 28mm entrance holes. They needn't be above head height so are easily fixed to fences or walls.

