

# Old British Bird Names



These days birds have the same names wherever you happen to see them in the UK. But it was not always that way. In the days before people had field guides, bird lists and the internet, a bird's name depended on where you were in the country and who you were talking to about it. Here are some old bird names for you. Find out the common name we now use for each one...

Tom Tit

Solan Goose

Thistle Bird

Reeler

Butcher Bird

Bonxie

Oxeye Tit

Yaffle

Green Linnet

Dishwasher

Frank

Window Swallow

Jackie

Peewit

Dovekie

Dabchick

Bottle Tit

Pipit Lark

Stormcock

Fern Owl (or Goatsucker!)

Sea Pie

Sea Parrot

Frenchman

Loon

Watchdog (of the marshes)

Firetail

Reed Sparrow

Ruddock

Bank Martin

Reedling

Snowflake

Throstle

Thick-knee

Mother Carey's Chicken

Devil Bird

Tree Mouse

Erne

Jenny

Willow Wren

Snake Bird

Scribbling Lark

Tystie

...and that's just a few!

Maybe you or your family members (the older the better!) know more. Please tell us about them and we'll add them to the list!