MINI GUIDE
Some birds in the Garden

BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula*
Male black with yellow beak, female and juvenile brown. Seen throughout the Garden. Distinctive harsh alarm call at dusk or when a cat has been spotted!

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*
The smallest British bird, 9cm beak to tail. Male has orange crown and greenish upperparts, female yellowcrown, juvenile no crown. Found throughout the Garden

MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*
The moorhen has a distinctive yellow-tipped red bill and a white line along its side. It swims with a jerky movement and flicking tail. A pair of moorhen has made its home at Loch Machar (four chicks in June 2007) and they can be seen moving between there and the other pond in the Garden.

SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*
Males in the breeding season have yellow and green plumage with a black bib. The winter and female plumage is more subdued. Found especially in the Native Plants Area.
Some birds in the Garden (cont’d)

**GREY HERON** *Ardea cinerea*
Distinctive yellow bill and black crest. Can be seen in the Native Plants Area. It likes to fish in the far pond in early morning.

**CARRION CROW** *Corvus corone corone*
All black shiny plumage and stout bill. Found throughout the Garden.

**BLUE TIT** *Parus caeruleus*
A familiar garden bird and visitor to bird feeders, Blue Tits can be seen throughout the Garden.

**STARLING** *Sturnus vulgaris*
In summer, the starling’s plumage is iridescent (shiny and many-coloured); in winter it has numerous white spots. Flocks outside the breeding season. Seen mainly in Area A, north and west of Loch Machar.