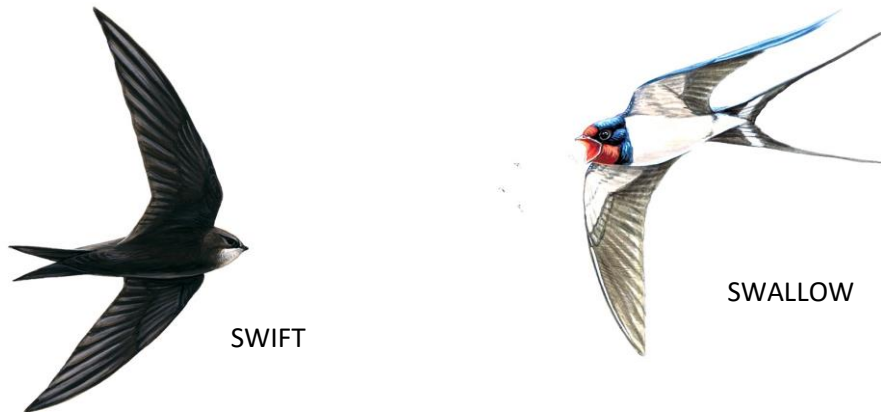


HELP US FIND SWIFTS IN THREE RIVERS

While staying local this spring, turn your eyes to the skies and help with our swift survey. In 2019 we saw screaming gangs of swifts flying around rooftops and nestboxes, in the Capell Road area of Chorleywood in particular. There are sightings in 2020, there and in other roads, but swifts were much more common in our town in years gone by. In Rickmansworth too we have discovered a few nesting sites.



Sadly swifts are on a steep decline. They fly to us from Africa to breed here in May, June and July, and bring spectacular action to our urban skies. But in the last 20 years their numbers have halved.

They fly low in screaming gangs at high speeds, in their search for nesting sites in our roofs, gables and walls. ***And that is the problem - we have blocked up all their nesting holes! They only nest on our buildings and we are refusing to let them in.***

A group of local residents has come together to find out how we can help.

If you have screaming bands of low flying swifts in your street this summer, or if you think they are nesting, **please let us know.**

Please send your sightings of *low flying* swifts, or nesting sites, this spring to:

3riversswifts@gmail.com and include the date, road name and approximate number of swifts seen. The Chorleywood representative of this group is Michael Hyde, who will gladly answer your questions- mrhyde1@hotmail.co.uk

Artwork: Mike Langman, rspb-images.com