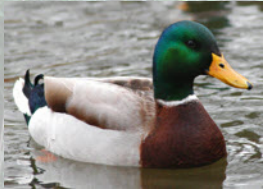
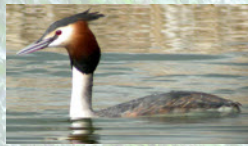


## What you might see at the Crannog



There will be many other species of birds to be seen at the Crannog. Can you identify those pictured above? To help you, we can recommend some books. The first is the **RSPB Handbook of British Birds** by Peter Holden and Tim Cleeves published by Helm 2006. The second is **Bird Guide** by K Mullarney published by Collins 2009. For further information log onto [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk) or contact the RSPB at The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL. Tel: 01767-693690

## Some useful information

**Equipment.** No special equipment is necessary to watch for wildlife, however if you wish to have a record of your sightings then a camera would obviously be useful.

As many of the birds are shy, a telescope or binoculars can be useful tools to have with you. They are available from just a few pounds to many hundreds of pounds depending on your needs. Patience though, is something you **will** need!

Keep your ears alert as many of the birds will be heard before they are seen.

It is worth bringing a notebook with you to record what and where you have seen the various different species.

Studying a bird identification book before your visit may make the day more enjoyable with the thrill of seeing a bird for real that has previously only been an image in a book. There are several web sites if you have Internet access that may also be of interest.

[www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)

This site will be a great help for identifying birds and the RSPB publish many leaflets on different aspects of bird life.

[www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk)

A local organisation with lots of information about the wildlife sites in Shropshire.

[www.bats.org.uk](http://www.bats.org.uk)

If you pay a visit at dusk to the Crannog you may well see bats feeding low over the water.

**Your Local library** will also be a useful source of information.

The **Town Park Rangers** are also usually available to answer questions.

Telephone 01952-382340.

[www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org](http://www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org)

**Please enjoy your visit and the leave the site clean and tidy. Thank you.**

# The Crannog

Grange Pool, Stirchley,  
Telford Town Park



Telford & Wrekin  
COUNCIL







# The Crannog

The Crannog is a Celtic word meaning 'man made island'. This Crannog is exactly that, a man made island. This particular one was commissioned in the 90's by the Countryside Service in order to study the wildlife in and around Grange Pool. There was a project in 2004 undertaken by The Greenwood Trust funded by the Lottery Fund to make a willow tunnel through the site. This has now been replaced, and updated with a new bridge and pathway by the Friends of Telford Town Park with help from 'Awards for All' part of the Big Lottery fund. Access to the site is via the wooden bridge crossing over a shallow stream that feeds Grange Pool. You may see several different species of pond life here which have been identified by the Telford & Wrekin Biodiversity Action Plan. Once on the island, the path leads you towards 3 wooden seats where you may wish to ponder awhile and listen to the numerous birds that live here, including Reed Warblers, Tree Creepers and Blackcaps, as well as more commonly seen birds, such as the delightful Robin. If you now continue to the end of the path you will reach a point where you can look out over Grange Pool whilst partially hidden from the wild life so as not to scare it away. Many different water birds may be seen here such as Mallard, Grebe, Coots and Moorhens.

On the right is a picture of a Crested Grebe which has been seen here and is also known to frequent some of the other pools in Telford Town Park.

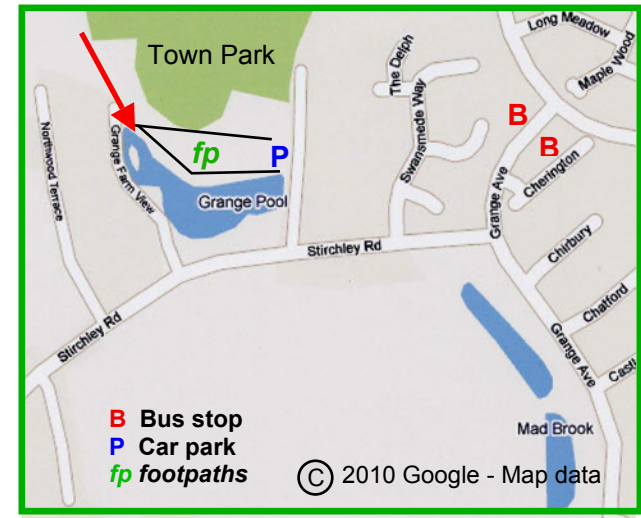


Binoculars are useful to bring with you to the Crannog and also a camera and tripod as there will be lots of wonderful photo opportunities. Enjoy your visit and please leave the site as you would wish to find it.

# The Friends



If you are a recognised group and would like some assistance with your visit, it **may** be possible, by arrangement, for some of the Friends of Telford Town Park to be on site at the same time. Telephone the Park Visitor Centre on **01952-382340** and leave your contact details. You can also volunteer to join the Friends and help with some of the varied projects and events that are undertaken throughout the year. There are no membership fees and attendance at meetings is not essential. One of the aims of the Friends is to promote and conserve the Park and this is done by attendance at various events in and around Telford and also working on a variety of projects in the park. We also have a web site through which you may also contact us or just browse on it to see what else the 170 hectares (420 acres) of parkland have to offer. Overleaf are just some of the birds you may find at the Crannog if you are patient and quiet enough. Please enjoy your visit and respect the Countryside Code.



# HOW TO GET THERE

**By Bus:** ARRIVA Route 12 from Telford Town Centre or Brookside to Grange Avenue/Randlay Avenue junction.

Then walk downhill to Stirchley Road. Take the second turning right, go past the pool on your left and walk into the car park on your left and follow either footpath to the Crannog at far end.

**By Car:** From the Holiday Inn roundabout follow the signs for Randlay along Stirchley Avenue. At the mini roundabout turn right into Randlay Avenue, continue until next mini roundabout (approximately 1/2 a mile) then turn right into Grange Avenue, then turn 1st right into Stirchley Road. Take the 2nd turn right and enter FREE car park on the left just after the pool. Follow either footpath to the Crannog at the far end. Please do **NOT** park in Grange Farm View.

**NOTE:** Car park only open from 8.0am till 7.30pm or dusk whichever is earlier.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Grange Pool is part of a designated Nature Reserve and all the large fish have been removed to encourage more wildlife. Please call the park reception on Telford 382340 for information on fishing lakes in Telford Town Park. Please keep the area clean and tidy and take your litter home. Thank you, the FOTTP.

[www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org](http://www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org)