

# Cuckoo. *Cuculus canorus*

*Cuculus* = Echoic of Male bird's mating cry.

Greek *kukkux*,

M.E. *Cokkou*

*Conorus*, = Latin, *canor* = tune/melody.



The Cuckoo is said to appear between St. Tiburtis Day to St. John's Day.

St. Tiburtis Day is 11th or 14th April.

St. John's Day is 24th June.

One of the most widespread breeding birds in Europe...only absent in Iceland. The earliest arrival was recorded on 20 Feb 1953.

It is traditional to write to The Times when you hear the first Cuckoo.

Cuckoo Spit has nothing to do with a Cuckoo.

Cuckoo's favourite food is a Hairy Caterpillar.

Each season, a few will lay 12 to 22 eggs, all in different hosts.

They parasitize over 120 different species.

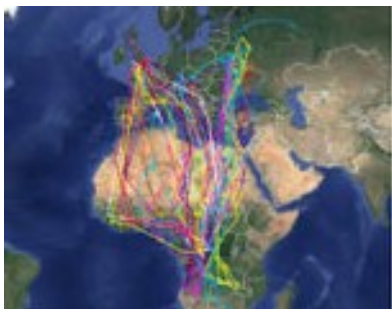
Each Cuckoo will follow it's parents back to Africa a few weeks after them.

They spend 9 months in tropical Africa where it has never been heard to sing.

*"Cuckoo bring your song here.*

*Warrant. Act and summons please*

*for spring to pass along here".* Rudyard Kipling.



B T O Cuckoo Tracking Project.

Delibe's  
"On hearing the  
first Cuckoo  
of Spring".

