# Six baby robins rescued after nesting in car grille on London to Brighton journey



## Unexpected Refuge: Baby Robins Found in Car Grille During Journey

A recent incident has shed light on the surprising adaptability of wildlife and the often-overlooked dangers posed to them by human activities. Six baby robins were discovered nestled within the grille of a car after a journey from London to Brighton. It was not until the driver arrived at their destination that the unmistakable chirping of the chicks caught their attention, prompting a closer investigation.

Upon discovering the nest, the Brighton and Hove Wildlife and Rescue Service (WARS) was swiftly called to the scene. Wildlife rescuer Shaza Hawthorn recounted the extraction process, noting the complexities involved in freeing the birds. “We managed to get each and every one of them out,” she said, reflecting on the delicate operation required to safely remove the chicks from their unusual temporary home. The robins are now undergoing rehabilitation and are expected to be ready for release back into the wild within a few months.

This incident is not isolated, as there have been several similar events highlighting the challenges wildlife face when nesting in human vehicles. Just a year prior, another pair of robins and their chicks were discovered under the bonnet of a car in Somerset after travelling over 250 miles. The car owner, conscious of their feathered passengers, suspended use of the vehicle until the chicks had fledged, underscoring the necessity of conducting pre-journey checks for nests.

These occurrences bring to light a significant issue: birds often choose the concealed spaces of cars and transportation vehicles as nesting sites, leading to perilous journeys. In another striking example, a pigeon was rescued after being trapped behind a car grille for a staggering 60 miles during a family's trip. Key to the salvation of such animals is the vigilance of drivers; routine checks can prevent potential distress for both the birds and their human counterparts.

Further illustrating this phenomenon, a case emerged from Guernsey where a robin nested on a motorbike belonging to architect Olly Brock, who implemented a webcam to monitor the nesting process. This engagement with wildlife captivated viewers worldwide and served as both an educational tool and a source of entertainment. To avoid disturbing the nest, Brock opted to use alternative transport, showcasing a commendable commitment to wildlife conservation.

As urbanisation continues to encroach upon natural habitats, such incidents emphasise the intersection of human activity and wildlife. Each encounter serves as a reminder of the challenges faced by nature in adapting to our rapidly changing world. Ensuring that vehicles are free of nests before setting off can prevent unintended harm and foster a more harmonious coexistence with the wildlife that shares our spaces.

In light of these events, wildlife rescue organisations stress the importance of community awareness and proactive measures to safeguard nature amid everyday activities. The rescued robins from the Brighton incident and their counterparts in similar situations remind us of the resilience of wildlife and the unexpected places they call home.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25147498.six-baby-robins-found-grille-london-brighton-journey/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25147498.six-baby-robins-found-grille-london-brighton-journey/?ref=rss), [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-32826291)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-32826291), [[3]](https://www.itv.com/news/meridian/2023-08-08/pigeon-travels-60-miles-trapped-behind-grill-of-car-before-being-rescued)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ce7762j40l3o)
* Paragraph 5 – [[5]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/czrgle4dy93o), [[6]](https://thenantwichnews.co.uk/2021/07/09/rspca-stapeley-care-for-baby-robins-found-in-car-after-200-mile-journey/)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25147498.six-baby-robins-found-grille-london-brighton-journey/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-somerset-32826291> - A pair of robins and their chicks were discovered nesting under the bonnet of a car in Somerset. The nesting female and six chicks are believed to have traveled over 250 miles before being found. The car owner, Dave Marchant, ceased using the vehicle until the chicks fledged. This incident highlights the challenges of birds nesting in vehicles and the importance of checking for nests before driving.
3. <https://www.itv.com/news/meridian/2023-08-08/pigeon-travels-60-miles-trapped-behind-grill-of-car-before-being-rescued> - A pigeon was rescued after being trapped behind the front grill of a car for 60 miles. The family from Hassocks, Sussex, was unaware of the bird's presence during their journey to Hampshire. It was only upon returning home that they discovered the pigeon. East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service successfully extracted the bird, which was assessed and found to be in a stable condition.
4. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/ce7762j40l3o> - A robin nested in a motorbike in Guernsey, leading to five chicks hatching. Architect Olly Brock set up a webcam to monitor the nest, which attracted viewers worldwide. To avoid disturbing the nest, Brock opted to walk or take the bus instead of using his motorbike. The livestream provided a unique glimpse into the robin's nesting process, with the chicks eventually leaving the nest.
5. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/czrgle4dy93o> - A pigeon was rescued after traveling 80 miles trapped behind a car grille. The family from Hampshire to West Sussex was unaware of the bird's presence during their journey. It was only upon returning home that they discovered the pigeon. East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service successfully extracted the bird, which was assessed and found to be in a stable condition.
6. <https://thenantwichnews.co.uk/2021/07/09/rspca-stapeley-care-for-baby-robins-found-in-car-after-200-mile-journey/> - Five baby robins were found in a nest within a car's chassis after a 200-mile journey from Scotland to Cheshire. The driver heard chirping upon arrival and discovered the nest. The RSPCA took the birds into care, providing hydration and special formula feeding. Once old enough, the robins were released back into the wild. This incident underscores the importance of checking vehicles for nests before driving.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-somerset-36486849> - Three robin chicks survived a 192-mile road trip from Liverpool to Glastonbury on the chassis of a trailer. The chicks were found in their nest during a safety check by driver Barry Dalton. The surviving chicks were named Paul, George, and Ringo after The Beatles and were released into the wild. This event highlights the resilience of wildlife and the unexpected places they may inhabit.