



There are a number of ways of broadcasting the calls. We liken these to the different medals awarded to athletes – they are all winners, but some do a bit better than others!

Bronze Medal system

Calls can be played from an open window nearest to the nest box through a CD or

MP3 player with integral speakers. CDs or MP3s of Swift calls can be obtained from the Swift Conservation website: <http://www.swift-conservation.org/Shopping!.htm>

Silver Medal system

Basically the same as above, but with the speaker(s) positioned and secured as close to the nest box as possible. The speakers can either be wired in or operated wirelessly via a Bluetooth system.

Gold Medal system

This is based on purchasing the individual items to make up your own customised Swift Caller - or an 'All-in-One Caller' from a single supplier.

At present, Swift Callers similar to the one illustrated here consist of a 12v mini-amplifier (located indoors), connected to the mains via a 240v > 12v transformer unit and an in-line timer. An SD card or USB stick with pre-loaded Swift calls is inserted into the amp and the sounds are relayed outside via a variable length of wire to one (or two) small speakers or tweeters. Ideally the tweeter(s) should be attached to the underside of the nearest nest box, before installation takes place and the trailing wire secured safely to the wall.

Estimated costs for a call system like this are £35 - £45, depending on the length of speaker wire required.

At present (April 2020) we are aware of only one call system produced by Peak Boxes that is being offered as a complete package. This is relatively new to the market and has not been extensively tested yet here in Suffolk, but the firm appears to be reputable.

<https://peakboxes.co.uk/imported-products/complete-sound-system-for-swift-calls>

Should you wish to source the individual components and make up a call system yourself, look at the more detailed [information given here](#).

Another (cheaper) system currently undergoing testing is known as a Micro Caller.

This is described in the 4 January 2020 post on the Action for Swifts website:

<http://actionforswifts.blogspot.com/>