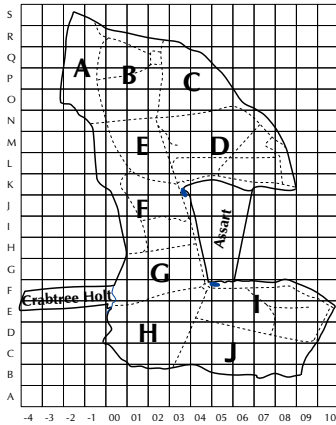


TWITTER



Treswell Wood - Information To Tell Every Recorder

May 2015 Treswell Wood IPM Group
(Integrated Population Monitoring)

Project leaders:

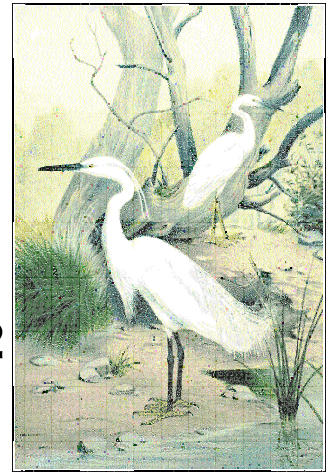
CBC Pat Quinn-Catling

Nest Records Chris du Feu

Ringling John Clark

2015/2

Number102



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The second ten-week period of this year has continued the pattern over the last few years of greater numbers of birds caught in the standard site nets than in the earlier decades of the constant effort operation. That is, on the face of it, good news. cursory examination of the 10-year average captures, though, shows that our captures in the third, fourth and fifth intervals of the year have been lower than in the earlier decades. We will need to look at the data in much more detail to be sure (any volunteers?) but it suggests that our breeding population remains high but that breeding success is lower than in former years. Judging by recent weather we can look forward to another year of low numbers in the third interval. The spring has been cold and late in arriving. Clutches have been rather smaller than typical. Even when the birds did start to nest, weather was not very favourable. The cold, wind and rain of late May and early June arrived at the critically wrong time for many nesting birds and there has been some weather-related mortality. It also appears that the small rodent populations are low and this has led to weasels turning their attention elsewhere for food - nestboxes being good places to look into. Several nests have been emptied at both egg and chick stages. Only in a few cases has there been evidence left in the nest - disembodied legs and feathers. In most cases the eggs and chicks have been removed completely. Whereas it is not certain that weasels are to blame, it is unlikely that mice or voles are the culprits. Normally rodents leave fragments of egg shell in the predated nest. No other mammal is small enough to enter tit boxes, so the finger does point fairly firmly towards the weasels.

Evidence for the absence of small mammals is indirect, but reasonably convincing. No mouse nests have been found in any boxes this year. Tawny Owls have failed to breed and the one fresh pellet found in the nestbox where a Tawny Owl was roosting contained no mammal fur or bone - just remains of invertebrates. Barn Owls at Forwood Farm adjacent to the wood had not nested by mid-May. Again this is a sign of poor condition likely to result from low prey populations. Other people working in the East Midlands and elsewhere have reported similar stories - few owl nests in traditionally well-used sites and broods or clutches of tits disappearing from nests. Unusually no mouse nests found in the RSPB Langford Lowfields boxes this year either. It would be very useful if we were able to establish some systematic, direct monitoring of the small mammal populations in the wood rather than having to rely on indirect evidence. Any ideas or volunteers?

Enough of the doom and gloom. This spring has brought some very interesting captures. On March 22nd we enjoyed the largest ever catch of birds on an 'ordinary' day of netting - 140 captures. These consisted of 40 captures at the standard site (and that, alone, is a very good catch for a standard site at this time of year) with the rest at the main feeding station and on the north edge of the wood. There have been only five occasions when more birds have been caught in a single day. Two of these were in late 1975 when flocks of sparrows and finches were feeding on an exceptional crop of weed seeds at Stanhope Farm adjacent to the south of the wood. The other three were in the drought of 1976 when birds were coming in vast numbers, apparently from a bean crop in the adjacent field, to drink at the pond.

The agreed protocol for blocking dormouse boxes over the winter and reopening them only when it seems that tits will not start any new nests, seems to be working well. Plugs fell out of five boxes over the winter and birds nested in three of these boxes (one Blue Tit and two Wrens). Once we had seen a week with no new tit nests being started in bird boxes, the dormouse team opened the dormouse boxes. By the time of the next official monthly dormouse box inspection, some three weeks later, a dormouse was found in one box. Happily only one Blue Tit had nested late and used a newly-opened dormouse box and, of course, another Wren had selected a dormouse box too. This compares very well with 2014 when some 30 dormouse boxes were used by birds - effectively denying use of one sixth of the dormouse boxes by the intended species and causing a great deal of extra work for all parties. We are very happy with the system now - the only additional feature we could wish for is a Wren re-education programme.

And the Little Egret picture? In addition to recording breeding birds in the CBC, birds captured in nets and ringed in the nest, we also record (not quite as systematically) birds seen in the wood (and other, non-avian, species too).

Treswell Wood CBC - Numbers of territories - 2014 Results

Species	5-year averages							Mean	
	76...80	81...85	86...90	91...95	96...00	01...05	06...10	11/13	2014
Canada Goose	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p
Mallard	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	p
Sparrowhawk	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.8	1
Buzzard	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	1.0	1
Kestrel	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.8	p
Grey Partridge	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0
Pheasant	8.2	4.7	8.0	6.4	6.0	8.6	8.0	8.0	8
Moorhen	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0
Woodcock	2.0	1.8	0.8	0.2	0.2	1.0	1.1	0.3	0
Lapwing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0
Stock Dove	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	7.0	3.1	5.3	7
Woodpigeon	0.0	1.0	0.3	0.0	nc	nc	nc	nc	25
Collared Dove	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	1
Turtle Dove	7.6	1.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0
Cuckoo	5.0	2.4	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.3	0
Barn Owl	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	p
Tawny Owl	1.4	2.6	1.8	1.2	1.4	3.0	1.4	1.3	1
Green Woodpecker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.6	2.2	1.7	2
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1.6	3.6	2.4	2.4	2.4	5.6	6.8	3.7	5
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Skylark	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	2.0	3.3	5
Swallow	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	p
Meadow Pipit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p
Pied Wagtail	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	p
Wren	59.4	55.8	69.0	71.8	81.8	76.4	72.8	61.0	80
Dunnock	27.2	23.8	22.2	13.4	12.6	8.4	10.6	5.3	7
Robin	58.4	60.4	46.6	48.0	54.0	81.4	73.2	37.3	30
Wheatear	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0
Blackbird	35.0	29.0	28.4	20.2	25.2	27.0	33.6	23.0	16
Song Thrush	29.6	23.6	16.8	7.2	5.6	6.8	10.2	5.0	11
Fieldfare	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	0
Mistle Thrush	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.6	1.0	2.8	3.8	1.2	1
Lesser Whitethroat	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Whitethroat	5.6	1.6	1.8	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0
Garden Warbler	15.0	15.4	9.4	4.4	7.2	6.8	3.0	1.2	p
Blackcap	15.4	12.4	20.4	20.6	25.4	27.2	25.8	22.3	25
Chiffchaff	14.8	8.2	8.6	15.8	19.0	18.6	21.2	23.3	27
Willow Warbler	27.6	44.0	31.4	18.2	6.8	5.0	4.3	3.3	0
Goldcrest	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.3	0
Spotted Flycatcher	1.6	3.0	1.8	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0
Long-tailed Tit	3.4	3.0	3.6	4.8	5.0	8.2	6.2	2.7	3
Marsh Tit	1.6	0.5	1.0	2.2	4.2	2.1	1.1	3.3	3
Willow Tit	3.0	1.8	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.5	0.6	0.7	0
Coal Tit	2.0	2.6	2.0	6.2	7.4	6.4	4.4	4.7	5
Blue Tit	32.8	60.2	67.2	59.2	70.0	50.6	44.2	42.3	38
Great Tit	13.4	26.8	36.8	31.8	35.2	46.8	34.8	37.3	33
Nuthatch	0.0	0.4	0.4	1.0	1.2	1.2	3.0	7.7	3
Treecreeper	2.0	1.8	4.0	3.4	3.6	3.1	2.4	4.0	6
Jay	3.2	3.6	2.4	1.4	1.0	1.9	1.7	1.7	2
Magpie	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.3	0
Rook	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	1
Carriion Crow	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.7	1.2	1.0	4
Starling	5.2	4.8	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0
House Sparrow	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Tree Sparrow	21.0	10.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2	0
Chaffinch	33.4	38.4	39.0	39.0	40.6	48.8	45.0	41.0	36
Greenfinch	1.4	0.8	0.2	0.2	1.8	0.7	0.5	0.0	0
Goldfinch	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.5	1.0	p
Linnet	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Redpoll	3.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Bullfinch	5.4	3.2	3.0	1.4	0.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	4
Yellowhammer	1.8	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0	p
Reed Bunting	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
Total territories	457.4	457.0	437.6	386.2	426.8	464.8	427.6	368.0	391

Notes: p - present but too few observations to determine any territory. nc - not counted

May brought a new species record for the wood with a sighting of a Little Egret flying low over the assart. It is not likely to be the herald of a breeding colony but the new ponds in the assart are large enough to provide, eventually, feeding places for passing birds.

Common Birds Census 2014

Thanks to the team of observers, compilers and John Marchant at the BTO for the work done in completing this 42nd year of the survey in the wood.

John McMeeking comments on the CBC figures: the first thing needed is to minimise the distortion caused by the changed treatment of Woodpigeon territories. In some early years Woodpigeon territories were recorded but the maximum number was 4 in 1985. It is hard, now, to believe that there were so few territories in those early years but our mental picture is severely distorted by the massive abundance of the species we see nowadays. From the 1990s, the species was 'not counted'. The reasons for it not being counted in the wood are not clear - certainly it featured in the national CBC records. The national trend has risen by a factor of nearly four since the mid-1970s, and there is now no shooting in the wood, so a figure of only four territories in 1985 compared to 25 in 2014 seems believable. So, although there is considerable uncertainty about the exact status of the species in the past, there is no doubt about its present abundance.

Removing the estimated 25 territories from 2014, leaves a total of 366 territories in the Wood, almost exactly the same as in 2011 - 13. This compares with around 457 territories estimated in 1974 - 85, a drop of 20%, which seems alarming.

Looking in more detail, we can see that 13 species seem to have disappeared from Treswell Wood - (Woodcock, Turtle Dove, Cuckoo, Whitethroat, Lesser Whitethroat, Garden Warbler, Willow Warbler, Willow Tit, Starling, House Sparrow, Tree Sparrow, Redpoll, and Yellowhammer.) These are all familiar names from other lists of threatened species, and we should add Nightingale, which was only recorded by ringers before the CBC was extended to the southern part of the wood.

There are also seven still common species which have fallen in numbers in Treswell, or have fluctuated alarmingly (Dunnock - which has crashed since Treswell was christened Dunnock City by visitors from other sites, and Robin, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Long-tailed Tit, and even Blue and Great Tits which are fluctuating at well below their peak levels).

On the positive side, we can see increases in 10 species (Stock Dove, Green and Great Spotted Woodpeckers, Wren, Blackcap, Chiffchaff, Nuthatch, Treecreeper, Carrion Crow and Goldfinch), while another five seem to be maintaining their (fluctuating) numbers (Mistle Thrush, Marsh and Coal Tits, Chaffinch and Bullfinch).

It seems appropriate to ask what changes we might expect in the near future, with the addition of Buzzard to the proved breeding list one obvious candidate, and Hobby another (tempted by the Dragonflies). Will we see the return of the Willow Warbler, which is still common in other Nottinghamshire habitats, or any of the other warblers? And, most importantly, can we see any possible changes in management which might tempt other species to come back to us again?

Breeding, Sexing Method and Moulting Codes

Last year we managed to record moulting codes for almost all the birds we handled from almost the start of the moulting season. For studies of timing of moulting it is important to know the proportion of birds in moulting at any time. For this, a record of birds not moulting is as important as a record of birds in moulting. Although most birds will not start moulting for some weeks, tits which have finished nesting early (often after a failed brood) may begin to moult at any time. So, from June onwards we must try to record a moulting code for every bird we process. To start with, most adults will be awarded code O, for old plumage and juveniles J for juvenile plumage.

With this exhortation to record moulting codes, must come thanks for recording sexing method and breeding activity codes so thoroughly this season. The single-brooded tits are now beginning to lose signs of active breeding but for multiple-brooded species we will continue to be able to sex them on brood patch or cloaca for some weeks to come. Keep up the good work.

Treecreeper nestboxes

Charming though it may be, the Treecreeper on our logo has its very annoying side. It is well known that the often-quoted wedge nestbox design for Treecreepers is as useful as a chocolate teapot. The challenge is to find a design that is suitable. Dave Francis proposed such a design two years ago and he had enjoyed some success with it in his patch in Northamptonshire. We have tried his design for two years with no success. In our last conversation with Dave, he said that his Treecreepers were no longer using his boxes and he wondered if the species did not use the same nesting site in a subsequent year. You can imagine how pleased we were, after our lack of success, to be told this by Lorna Griffiths of the dormouse team:

Thought this might be of interest to you. Over at Chambers Farm Wood (near Wragby, Lincolnshire) we are doing a bat project where we are testing a number of different bat box designs. One such design, a 'tree tin', made from corrugated bitumen sheets and wrapped round the trees to simulate loose bark, appears to be a favourite of the Treecreepers. We had five Treecreepers nesting behind them at the weekend.

Before we rush out to manufacture and install these wonders of environmental technology, we need to work out how to modify them so that they can be inspected easily. But a more important point, perhaps, is that Lorna also said they they were in a coniferous part of the wood. It is interesting that the useless wedge design also originated in a conifer plantation. In that site, in Scotland, natural nest sites for the species were so few that some Treecreepers had already nested in conventional tit boxes and the wedge design was found to be 'preferable to tit boxes'. It may be that lack of suitable natural nest sites is more important than the exact design of artificial nest site for the species. Never mind, we must test a few of this new design in Treswell Wood next year.

The Assart - Establishment of permanent transects

Notes from Michael Gilman, of the University of Lincoln:

The cessation of arable agriculture a few years ago in the Assart offers a unique opportunity to monitor long-term changes in vegetation and associated animal life adjacent to an ancient woodland. The process of secondary succession, in which different groups of plants and animals colonise a previously cleared area, underpins much of conservation management. Practitioners are usually either intent on holding back succession to maintain, for example, a grassland or heathland community or accelerating it to a scrub or woodland. The establishment of permanent transects in the assart will allow us to monitor the rate and direction of successional change. Each transect will comprise a set of permanent 2m x 2m quadrats, spaced 10m apart, from the edge of the woodland to the new hedgerow on the east of the site adjacent to an agricultural area. By running transects out from the edge of the woodland we will be able to determine change away from the seed pool of the woodland and any effects from the adjacent agriculture. This is a long-term project which will be of benefit to ecologists, conservation managers and field educators. The vegetation data from the 2m x 2m quadrats will be consistent with grassland National Vegetation Classification studies and will provide baseline data for complementary animal studies such as insect monitoring. The vegetation data will be complemented by soil and hydrological surveys. As the project, and succession, progresses we may need to scale up the quadrats - but there will be plenty of time to make those decisions.

The transects will be established with initial monitoring in the summer of 2015. The project will be jointly run by the University of Lincoln (School of Life Sciences) and the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust

Noteworthy Encounters

Species	Age/sex	Ring	Date	Grid
Stock Dove	1	EL0199419/4/		
2015	F04			

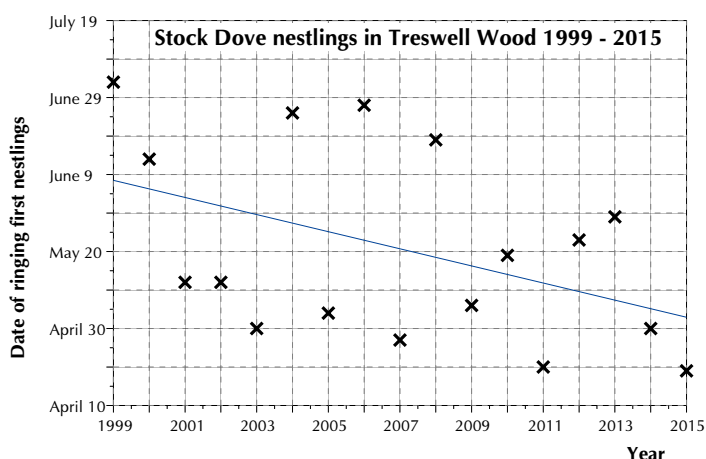
Our first nestling of any species to be ringed in the wood this year, and the earliest Stock Dove ever ringed in the wood (by one day). The chart shows the dates of first ringing of this species in the wood since they became regular breeders in the wood. There is a clear trend to earlier nesting over the last 15 years. Using the first ringing date as a measure of timing of breeding is probably more reliable than trying to estimate first egg dates for this species, as we visit boxes less frequently than the weekly visits to tit boxes.

As with the tits in the wood (and many species nationally) this is more evidence for the advancement

of nesting times. Even with this small sample we have a statistically (and probably ecologically) significant shift of some two days per year. This rapid change is likely to be, in part, through climatic change but may also be related to the increase in abundance of this formerly not-so-common species.

Stock Dove	4	EL87470	26/4/2015	D03
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Although we have ringed 113 Stock Doves as nestlings, we have only ever had subsequent reports of three of them. Since 1982 it has been a protected species but is still frequently shot, probably mistaken for Woodpigeons in mixed feeding flocks. Because of this continued shooting, it is remarkable that we have had so little news of our nestling-ringed birds. Adult captures in mist nets are almost unheard of; this is only the second in the wood. It was ringed as



a nestling and also provided us with our first ever adult capture of a Stock Dove in a mist net in August 2014. Today it has also given us the second such capture. Perhaps we may see it again in 2016? Both its recaptures have been near its current nesting site, all of 200m from its natal box. This is not a large natal dispersal movement - the BTO Migration Atlas notes it is a sedentary species with both adult and juvenile dispersal movement small but there seems to be no information available about typical natal dispersal distances. Her first brood of 2015 has now fledged and she is incubating her second clutch.

Great Spotted Woodpecker 4M CT84206 23/5/2015 Q02

This is our oldest Great Spotted Woodpecker, now 9 years 4 months since being ringed and certainly hatched in 2005 or earlier. He still has a little way to go to reach the national age record of 10 yr 11 m. On the same day we trapped another old woodpecker (CT84287, below) and this one had, like the other, very dirty plumage. Two very old woodpeckers on one day - could things be better? Well, yes. Look down to details of the Spotted Flycatcher.

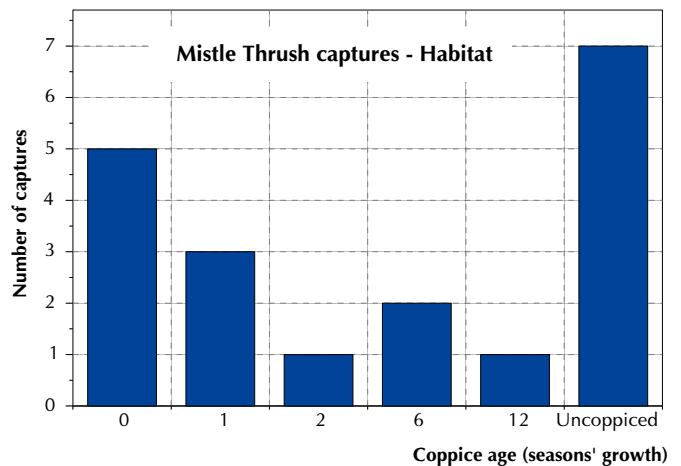
Great Spotted Woodpecker 4M CT84287 17/5/2015 H03

At the time of catching this was our second oldest Great Spotted Woodpecker, 8 years and 4 months after ringing. It was a very scruffy bird with much brown staining on the plumage - presumably from repeated entrance and exit through a hole in a tree with rain water running down the trunk in a greater than expected quantity. Curiously it was retrapped a week later, this time in the far north of the wood. These woodpeckers are normally highly sedentary - even predation by them of tits in nestboxes is usually confined to a radius of under 100 m from their nest site. A move from the south to the north of the wood, in the breeding season, is unusual. Under normal circumstances, our third Great Spotted Woodpecker of the day, at 5 years since ringing, would have been worth a heading of its own. Sorry, CT95970, not today.

Mistle Thrush 5M LE35210 10/5/2015 D09

This is the 28th Mistle Thrush we have ringed. Of these 3 have been nestlings, 3 juveniles and the remaining 22 were adults, always in the first half of the year. The table shows the age of coppice (years since last being coppiced) in which all the adult captures have taken place. Given that, even now, a quarter of the wood is uncoppiced (old) and the remaining area ranges in coppice age from 0 to 30 years since coppicing, there is a clear preference for young coppiced areas within the wood.

Mistle Thrush did not appear in our paper about the relationship between coppice age and bird abundance because it has been caught in so small numbers that it does not lend itself to statistical analysis. Even so, this very superficial analysis does give a clear picture of its habitat preferences.



Blackcap 4F D309402 23/5/2015 R-1

Blackcaps are very site-faithful. In spite of (we assume) travelling as far as Iberia or north Africa, this bird returned to breed in the same place as last year. She was ringed a year ago, captured in a net under 50 metres from this year's capture position.

Blackcap arrival this year has been later than typical for recent years, only 2013 being later in the last decade, with the first bird arriving in mid-April, three weeks after our earliest ever record (25/3/2012)

Chiffchaff 4 EYD222 22/3/2015 Q01

The first summer visitor of the year and a welcome recapture from last summer - ringed as an adult in August in the same part of the wood. As often, the first capture of a summer visitor happens on the same day as a capture of a wintering bird which has not left us - in this case Goldcrest EYD374. In contrast to the Blackcaps, our Chiffchaffs have been earlier than average, with 2015 being the second earliest in the last decade.

Goldcrest 5F EYD374 5/4/2015 L01

Two weeks after the first Chiffchaff arrival, this Goldcrest had still not departed, although at a weight of 6.3 g (20% more than typical) it was putting on fuel ready for the northward journey.

Goldfinch 4M Y502794 12/4/2015 Q05

Of the 124 Goldfinches we have captured, seven have also been captured elsewhere. Five of these have been

too local to count as traditional controls (one at Headon and four at Hillcrest Farm in Treswell village). Our previous 'reportable' control was a bird ringed by Peter Cobb in Darlton in 2002. This bird was ringed by Dave Fogg at Cottam Power Station in October 2012, about 6 km from the wood. This species does often exhibit much larger movements, including cold-weather movements to the continent, so these movements are really to be regarded as fairly local.

Marsh Tit 4F L731200 28/4/2015 E05 Nesting

One of two females found nesting in our nestboxes this year. She was ringed as a juvenile in 2011 so is already of a respectable age for a small bird. As typical with this very sedentary species, all her captures have been in the same part of the wood - never anywhere but in the southern compartments H, I and J.

Marsh Tit 6F X649251 4/5/2015 O06

Marsh Tits often seem to live much longer than Blue Tits - possibly this may be related to their larger territories and lower numbers. This bird was ringed in 2009 as a juvenile and retrapped frequently until early 2012. We would have been quite justified in thinking a small bird had died after not seeing it for over three years - but not so. After being trapped so often, where has it been for the second half of its long life? It is our third oldest recorded Marsh Tit at 5 years 8 months since ringing; our record being 7 years 2 months. The national record is 10 years 2 months so this bird still has some time to go. Interestingly, the national record for Blue Tits is only 9 years 9 months. It quite surprising for a bird ringed in such large numbers that its age record is lower than that for the far-less-frequently-ringed Marsh Tit.

Coal Tit 6F L731693 8/5/2015 K00 Nesting

Another fairly long-lived small tit. This bird was ringed as a juvenile in 2012. She has been retrapped several times in this part of the wood and at feeding stations. In 2013 - her first breeding season - she nested in a box adjacent to this year's box, as she did in 2014. In her three successive breeding seasons she has reared 15 nestlings of which we have, so far, recaptured three. We look forward to seeing her again in 2016.

Great Tit 6F TJ49843 27/5/2015 M03 Nesting

Another golden oldie with a history. This bird, now just over 6 years old was ringed as a nestling in 2009 in a box in the centre of the wood. Since then it has been found nesting in 2010, 2013 and this year, always in the central part of the wood. In addition she has been found roosting during three winters, again always in the centre of the wood. Female Great Tits generally disperse more widely than do males. This individual has obviously not read the instructions.

Nuthatch 4M TT49489 22/5/2015 Q02

Numbers of this charismatic little bird seem to be increasing again after a couple of poor years. Recent CBC territory numbers have also been low in the last two years. So far, this year, we have caught 11 of this species. Two of these, caught on different days, had been ringed elsewhere (but we do not yet know where or when they were ringed). This bird was ringed as a juvenile in August 2014, and is thus likely to be one of the products of the low breeding population of 2014.

Spotted Flycatcher 4M X649081 23/5/2015 R00

Under normal circumstances a ten-year old woodpecker would have been a bird of the day - but today that was eclipsed by this bird. Spotted Flycatchers are very rarely caught in the wood nowadays. To retrap one is even more special, but this one was a retrap almost exactly 6 years after ringing and recaptured within 50 metres of the previous capture position. The national age record is just 8 years - the chances of this bird surviving and being caught again in the wood in two years' time are not very high.

Spotted Flycatcher recaptures are particularly rare because of the species' high degree of manoeuvrability coupled with good eyesight. Both these features, which are vital in locating and capturing insects on the wing, are also very useful for detecting a mist net and taking rapid, effective evasive action to avoid it. The table shows the numbers of birds we have ringed over the years together with details of the 11 birds recaptured. The two same-day recaptures are likely to have been birds captured very near a nest when feeding young; the two nestling ringed birds, retrapped together, had no prior experience of being caught in a mist net so, for them, it would appear to be a first capture. The other individuals have an interesting pattern of times between ringing and recapture with only two being retrapped within the same year.

Spotted Flycatchers ringed and retrapped

Ringed		Recaptures		Same year	Next year	2 years	3 years	6 years
		Nestling-ringed	Adult-ringed					
Adult	Juvenile	Same year	Same day	Same year	Next year	2 years	3 years	6 years
121	36	2	2	2	0	2	2	1

Tree Sparrow 4 D309727 22/3/2015 Q04

Another welcome capture of a Tree Sparrow. Still no sign of them nesting in the wood, but at least we are occasionally capturing them again after a complete gap of many years.

House Sparrow 4F TT49167 12/4/2015 Q05

Like the Tree Sparrow, another capture of the woodland rarity on the north edge of the wood. We caught one in 2014 after an absence of the species from the wood of 30 years. This bird is the fifth caught this year, all of them on the north edge of the wood. They have bred in our open fronted nestboxes in the wood but only in 1979 and 1980.

10-Week Summary: 2015 Interval 2, Captures in Standard Sites

	New Birds			Recaptures			Total
		Adult			5	3	
Stock Dove	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Wren	1	6	.	6	8	.	21
Dunnock	.	5	.	4	2	.	11
Robin	1	8	.	5	6	.	20
Blackbird	3	2	.	5	6	.	16
Mistle Thrush	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Blackcap	3	8	.	2	.	.	13
Chiffchaff	9	1	.	4	.	.	14
Goldcrest	.	1	.	.	2	.	3
Long-tailed Tit	1	.	.	1	.	.	2
Marsh Tit	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Coal Tit	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Blue Tit	.	.	.	1	3	.	4
Great Tit	.	.	.	1	3	.	4
Nuthatch	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Treecreeper	1	1	.	1	3	.	6
Chaffinch	.	3	.	.	.	.	3
Bullfinch	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Totals	19	38	.	33	33	.	123

Treswell Wood Standard Site Totals in 10-week periods - Summary table

Summary Data since standard site netting began in 1978:

Maximum	128	145	288	253	177	864
Minimum	57	33	89	66	59	364
Mean	90	109	159	130	124	607

10-year Averages since standard site netting began in 1978:

1978 - 1987	90	113	182	140	130	655
1988 - 1997	86	107	170	149	127	637
1998 - 2007	95	100	134	120	125	574
(2008 - 2014)	88	118	139	98	110	550

Recent years

Year	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2008	125	130	151	86	100	592
2009	57	130	156	85	80	508
2010	94	100	144	119	143	600
2011	96	112	120	105	101	534
2012	69	125	132	66	72	464
2013	76	90	89	100	157	512
2014	83	132	181	123	120	639
2015	105	123				