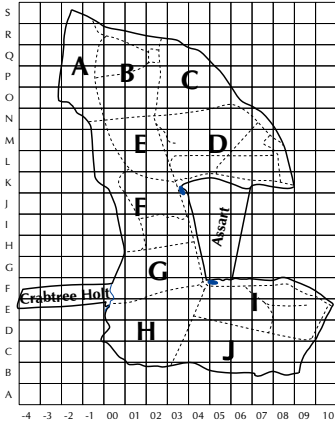


# TWITTER



Treswell Wood - Information To Tell Every Recorder

**December 2017 Treswell Wood IPM Group**  
(Integrated Population Monitoring)

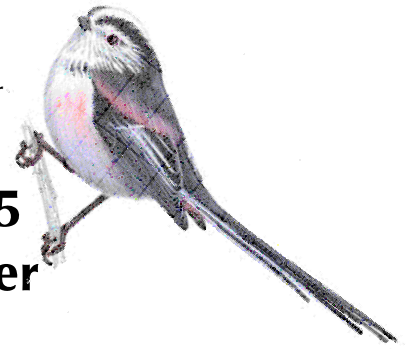
**Project leaders:**

**CBC** Pat Quinn-Catling

**Nest Records** Chris du Feu

**Ringing** John Clark

**2017/5**  
**Number**  
**115**



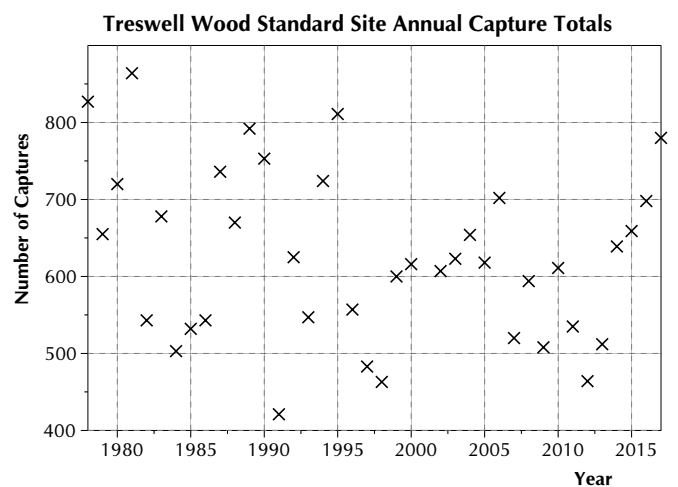
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What a fine end to the 45<sup>th</sup> year of the Treswell Wood operation. Our last visit of the year was on December 17<sup>th</sup>, the exact anniversary of John McMeeking's first visit. We had also visited the previous day to complete the last standard site visit of the year. This proved wise because the weather forecast was quite right and we terminated our brief ringing session on the anniversary day itself just before the forecast rain arrived. After that, it was cutting the anniversary cake in the shelter at 'Tonyvik'. Thanks to all those who attended to mark the occasion.

We had felt that our capture numbers were rather higher than had been typical in recent years - and this feeling has been borne out by the data. By chance the total number of encounters in 2017 was exactly the same as in 2016 - which was, itself, a good year. It is very interesting to look at what differences there are within the year's 2880 encounters. There are some changes which would have had a big impact on the total had they not been balanced by equally big changes in the opposite direction. Numbers of encounters of Long-tailed Tits dropped from 89 to 43, Robins 288 to 241, Blackcaps 105 to 75 and Chaffinches from 148 to 62. Of little significance to the total numbers, but possibly of significance to the species, was the drop in Great Spotted Woodpecker encounters from 29 to 13. We find the fall in Robin numbers intriguing because in recent weeks they have seemed to be very numerous in our catches. These losses have been compensated for by increases in encounters of Marsh Tits 78 to 148, Blue Tits 718 to 774 and Great Tits 501 to 592. The Great Tit numbers are surprising as we had felt we were catching rather fewer than typical, particularly juveniles at the feeding station and roosting birds in boxes. Just as well we have data to correct our unfounded gut feelings.

These numbers on their own do not necessarily tell us much about bird populations. Examination of the CBC numbers for 2016 and 2017 shows some different patterns - for example, Robin territories have increased from 41 to 51. Why the difference? In fact, ringing totals and CBC are measuring different things. CBC operates only in the breeding season according to a standardised protocol. Our ringing effort is throughout the year and depends, in part, on effort rather than just on the bird numbers. A better idea of bird abundance than overall encounter totals is given by examination of the numbers of birds encountered in the standard site netting - the same amount of effort made every year. The graph shows our standard site annual totals from 1978 when we began this operation (only 2001 is missing because of missed visits during the Foot & Mouth outbreak). Here comparisons with 2017 CBC are much closer with big increases in Marsh, Blue and Coal Tits and decreases in Robins, Blackcaps and Chaffinches. Comparisons are still not exact because the Standard Sites total includes birds throughout the year. A good breeding season can raise a smaller than average adult total to a much larger than average grand total. These decades' worth of data have much in them to be explored further.

And, has it been a good year for Treswell's birds? The standard site totals suggest so - the fifth highest ever and highest since 1995. Our impressions were well founded.



In the next issue of Twitter, John McMeeking hopes to look back at highlights in the 45 years and possibilities for the future.

## Annual Summary - All ringing records 2017

	Ctrl.	New Birds			Retraps		Sight	Recvs.	Othr.	Total
		Adult	Juvnl	Pulli	Rt	SDR				
Sparrowhawk	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	
Stock Dove	.	.	.	6	.	.	.	1	7	
Woodpigeon	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	
Tawny Owl	.	1	.	3	2	.	.	.	6	
Great Spotted Woodpecker	.	.	3	.	10	.	.	.	13	
Wren	.	46	64	22	61	28	.	1	222	
Dunnock	.	23	15	.	40	5	.	.	83	
Robin	.	40	79	4	87	31	.	.	241	
Blackbird	.	42	29	17	45	7	.	.	140	
Song Thrush	.	16	5	.	5	2	.	.	28	
Redwing	.	3	1	.	1	.	.	.	5	
Lesser Whitethroat	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	
Whitethroat	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	
Blackcap	.	38	10	.	17	10	.	.	75	
Chiffchaff	.	34	9	.	14	6	.	.	63	
Willow Warbler	.	2	1	.	.	1	.	.	4	
Goldcrest	1	24	35	.	22	14	.	.	96	
Spotted Flycatcher	.	1	2	.	1	.	.	.	4	
Long-tailed Tit	.	15	.	.	26	2	.	.	43	
Marsh Tit	.	.	10	24	100	14	.	.	148	
Willow Tit	.	.	.	.	5	1	.	.	6	
Coal Tit	.	.	8	11	35	3	.	.	57	
Blue Tit	3	33	72	227	383	31	.	25	774	
Great Tit	.	33	45	98	323	88	.	5	592	
Nuthatch	.	7	5	6	21	3	.	.	42	
Treecreeper	.	9	21	.	29	6	.	.	65	
Jay	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	3	
House Sparrow	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	
Chaffinch	.	22	15	.	24	1	.	.	62	
Greenfinch	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	
Goldfinch	.	12	.	.	.	.	.	.	12	
Bullfinch	.	34	17	.	27	1	.	.	79	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>1279</b>	<b>254</b>	.	<b>1</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2880</b>
<b>Totals in recent years:</b>										
<b>2016</b>	15	542	470	329	1286	198	.	6	34	2880
<b>2015</b>	15	443	425	286	1143	224	.	5	46	2587
<b>2014</b>	12	328	470	328	934	135	.	3	36	2246
<b>2013</b>	11	352	439	316	1203	222	.	1	11	2555
<b>2012</b>	27	408	326	221	1149	182	0	7	35	2355
<b>2011</b>	12	462	357	331	1097	160	1	8	38	2466
<b>2010</b>	14	437	499	544	1655	243	1	6	13	3412

### Key:

**Ctrl** - Birds ringed elsewhere and caught in Treswell Wood including all birds from Hillcrest Farm. **Juvnl** - juveniles. **Pulli** - birds ringed as nestlings. **Rt** - ordinary recaptures. **SDR** - same day recaptures. **Sight** - observations of ringed birds. **Recvs.** - recoveries, i.e. our own ringed birds found dead in Treswell Wood. **Othr.** - all in this table are pulli which were ringed but died before fledging; they are not included in the Pulli column.

## Lesser Spotted Woodpecker - appeal for information

Ken Smith, the man behind the frass operation, is studying woodpecker breeding. He now has optical equipment which he uses to examine woodpecker nests. Most of his work is with Great Spotted Woodpeckers. However, he is very keen to gain information about Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers. If anyone does find a Lesser Spotted Woodpecker nest - not just in Treswell Wood, but **anywhere in the UK** - Ken would like to know. Depending on the circumstances he might be able to visit the nest himself or else loan equipment to the finder. Full details are on Ken's woodpecker network web site, [www.woodpecker-network.org.uk](http://www.woodpecker-network.org.uk)

## Common Bird Census 2017

We have managed the analysis for 2017 rather more quickly than the last two years. The territory maps are now with Steve Wain who is turning them into GIS format as usual. They will be added to the historic series and be available shortly. We are most grateful to John Marchant, now retired from the BTO, who has worked on this year's data and trained Ellen in the territory determination techniques. We hope that in the future we will do the whole job 'in-house' with Pat continuing to compile the species observation maps from the observers' visit records and it is from these species maps that the territories can be determined.

The numbers of territories of the different species is given in the table together with comparisons from previous years. The results are remarkably similar to those of 2016 but with, overall, a slightly higher total. This higher total is in spite of it not being possible to assess Woodpigeon territories this year, reducing the potential annual total recorded. Of the other common species, only Wren has shown any drop large enough to affect the total although the number of territories is still well above average. The species which have made major contributions to the increased total are Chiffchaff (highest total ever), Blue Tit (highest number since 2010) and Robin (highest since 2010). Sadly there were no records of Cuckoo (last recorded by CBC in 2015), or Garden Warbler (this is the first year that we have no record of them). These changes - for better or worse - are much in line with the ringing data. The incorporation of the assart into the CBC survey is increasing the number of species recorded as 'present but breeding territory not confirmed'.

The 45 year sequence of territories produced by the CBC team may be of interest but what we really need is to know that it is of value. We have already noted that it was the key to the analysis of the impact of coppicing on bird numbers (*Significant effects of season and bird age on use of coppice woodland by songbirds*, 2014, doi 10.1111/ibi.12152, MacColl et al.) A major part of its value is that it provides a systematically recorded long-term record. CBC observers will be delighted to know that various authors of the forthcoming Nottinghamshire Avifauna (now in the late stages of writing by Nottinghamshire Birdwatchers) have made extensive use of the systematic Treswell Wood CBC results in order to support the more casual observations of the birdwatchers in the county.

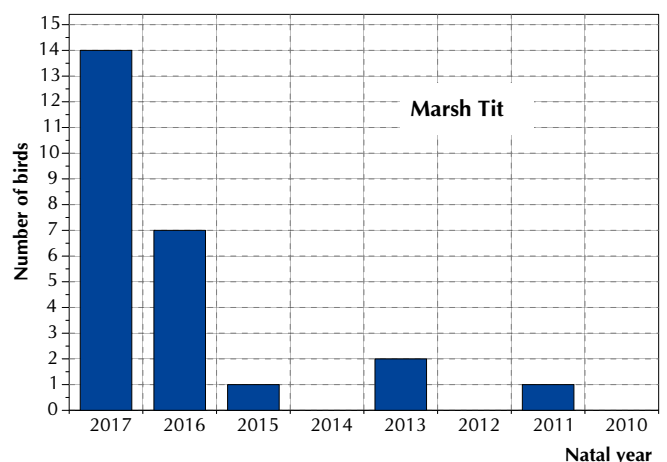
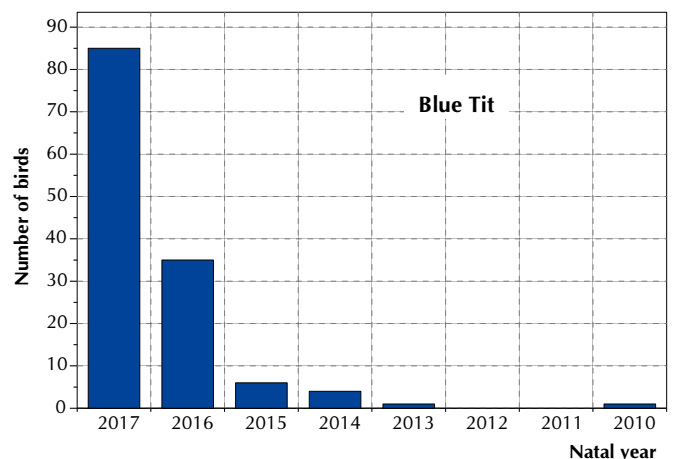
Spring 2018 is approaching soon. Could all CBC observers please let Pat Quinn-Catling know that they are able and willing to undertake the survey of their patch in this forthcoming season.

### 2017 - The year of the Marsh Tit?

It has been, undoubtedly, a good year for Marsh Tits in the wood. CBC recorded 4 territories - that has only been exceeded in 1995 and 1996 (which were both exceptional years for several species). The number of nests in boxes was equal to the previous highs of those two years and the number of nestlings fledged from boxes the second highest ever. As for ringing, whether or not nestlings are included, the number of individuals caught was the highest ever, just beating 1995. Marsh Tits are highly sedentary and dispersal movements to or from the wood most unlikely to happen before birds have begun post-juvenile moult. However, of the seven individuals mist-netted which had not even begun post-juvenile moult, three were unringed and therefore not products of the nestboxes. It seems that both nestbox data and CBC may have underestimated the high population this year. Can we look forward to even more in 2018?

With behaviour more sedentary than that of Blue Tits and with much smaller populations, Marsh Tits seem able to exploit their familiar area more effectively than can Blue Tits which rove so much more widely. This sedentary behaviour can confer advantages provided there is no catastrophic event (such as we saw in the winter of 1978/79 when the Marsh Tit population in the wood was exterminated). The age structure graphs show that, although as we would expect, the bulk of individuals are in their first year of life, that some Marsh Tits can live much longer. Our oldest bird this year was L731190, retrapped on 16<sup>th</sup> December six and a half years after

Age structure of Blue and Marsh Tits, 2017



## Treswell Wood CBC - Numbers of territories - 2017

Species	5-year averages								2016	2017
	76...80	81...85	86...90	91...95	96...00	01...05	06...10	11...15		
Canada Goose*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0	p
Mallard	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.3	2	p
Sparrowhawk	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	1	p
Buzzard	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	1.0	1	1
Hen Harrier	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p	0
Kestrel	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.8	1	0
Pheasant	8.2	4.7	8.0	6.4	6.0	8.6	8.0	7.2	3	4
Woodcock	2.0	1.8	0.8	0.2	0.2	1.0	1.1	0.3	p	p
Lapwing*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0	p
Black-headed Gull	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p	0
Stock Dove	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	7.0	3.1	5.8	5	4
Woodpigeon	0.0	1.0	0.3	0.0	nc	nc	nc	19.0	14	nc
Collared Dove	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	p	0
Cuckoo	5.0	2.4	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0	0
Barn Owl	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	p	0
Tawny Owl	1.4	2.6	1.8	1.2	1.4	3.0	1.4	1.0	3	2
Green Woodpecker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.6	2.2	1.8	3	2
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1.6	3.6	2.4	2.4	2.4	5.6	6.8	4.8	3	3
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p	0
Skylark*	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	2.0	3.8	3	1
Swallow*	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	p	p
Meadow Pipit	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0	0
Pied Wagtail	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0	0
Wren	59.4	55.8	69.0	71.8	81.8	76.4	72.8	68.4	88	79
Duncock	27.2	23.8	22.2	13.4	12.6	8.4	10.6	6.0	7	10
Robin	58.4	60.4	46.6	48.0	54.0	81.4	73.2	37.4	41	51
Blackbird	35.0	29.0	28.4	20.2	25.2	27.0	33.6	21.0	21	25
Song Thrush	29.6	23.6	16.8	7.2	5.6	6.8	10.2	6.8	12	11
Redwing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p	0
Fieldfare	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	p	p
Mistle Thrush	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.6	1.0	2.8	3.8	1.1	1	p
Lesser Whitethroat	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p	0
Whitethroat	5.6	1.6	1.8	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.2	0	0
Garden Warbler	15.0	15.4	9.4	4.4	7.2	6.8	3.0	0.9	p	0
Blackcap	15.4	12.4	20.4	20.6	25.4	27.2	25.8	22.6	20	24
Chiffchaff	14.8	8.2	8.6	15.8	19.0	18.6	21.2	25.0	29	42
Willow Warbler	27.6	44.0	31.4	18.2	6.8	5.0	4.3	2.1	1	3
Goldcrest	0.2	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.3	2	5
Spotted Flycatcher	1.6	3.0	1.8	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.2	0	0
Long-tailed Tit	3.4	3.0	3.6	4.8	5.0	8.2	6.2	2.8	2	2
Marsh Tit	1.6	0.5	1.0	2.2	4.2	2.1	1.1	3.0	3	4
Willow Tit	3.0	1.8	2.4	2.8	2.6	2.5	0.6	0.6	0	1
Coal Tit	2.0	2.6	2.0	6.2	7.4	6.4	4.4	4.4	3	2
Blue Tit	32.8	60.2	67.2	59.2	70.0	50.6	44.2	41.2	38	51
Great Tit	13.4	26.8	36.8	31.8	35.2	46.8	34.8	42.4	25	28
Nuthatch	0.0	0.4	0.4	1.0	1.2	1.2	3.0	6.0	4	6
Treecreeper	2.0	1.8	4.0	3.4	3.6	3.1	2.4	3.8	4	2
Jay	3.2	3.6	2.4	1.4	1.0	1.9	1.7	1.8	2	2
Magpie	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.2	0	p
Jackdaw	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	3	1
Rook	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	p	p
Carrion Crow	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.7	1.2	1.8	3	3
Raven	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	p	0
Tree Sparrow	21.0	10.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.1	0	0
Chaffinch	33.4	38.4	39.0	39.0	40.6	48.8	45.0	40.0	37	39
Greenfinch	1.4	0.8	0.2	0.2	1.8	0.7	0.5	0.1	0	p
Goldfinch	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.5	1.2	p	1
Linnet	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0	0
Bullfinch	5.4	3.2	3.0	1.4	0.6	1.8	2.0	2.7	2	4
Yellowhammer	1.8	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	p	1
<b>Total territories</b>	<b>457.4</b>	<b>457.0</b>	<b>437.6</b>	<b>386.2</b>	<b>426.8</b>	<b>464.8</b>	<b>427.6</b>	<b>381.0</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>414</b>

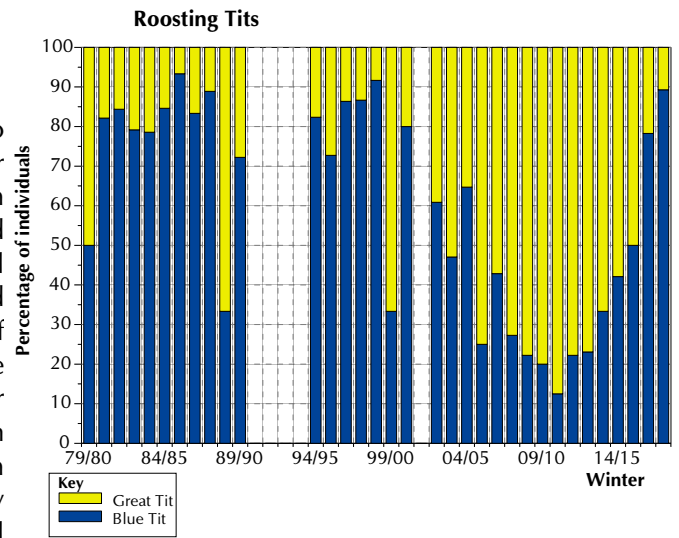
**Notes:** p - present but too few observations to determine any territory. nc - not counted, \* territorial behaviour recorded but extremely unlikely that nesting takes place in the wood itself.

ringing as a juvenile in 2011. This was just 10 months short of our internal age record but still more than five years short of the national record.

Still with Marsh Tits, it is interesting to look at the year's encounter totals. We have ringed 34 new individuals of which 24 were nestlings and 10 juveniles reared either in the wood or elsewhere in natural sites. All our numerous captures of adult birds have been recaptures. This means that all our Marsh Tits are birds of known age and either some adults are unringed but very good at avoiding capture or else we have the entire breeding population comprising ringed birds.

## Roosting birds

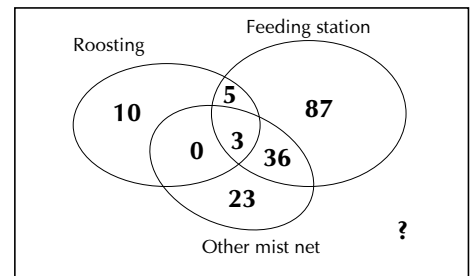
Monthly winter night-time visits to nestboxes continue to raise more questions than answers. We now make four monthly visits each winter - November to February. In earlier years the visits were not as systematically organised and in some years circumstances prevented any visits at all - hence the gaps in the graph. Occasionally we find roosting Wrens but have never found a mass roost of several dozen. In the early years we often found Tree Sparrows roosting, sometimes in pairs. All our other captures have been of Blue and Great Tits. Apart from Wrens and Tree Sparrows we have never found more than a single bird roosting in a box. It is intriguing, particularly this autumn when Marsh Tits have been more plentiful than ever before, that we have never found tits other than the most common two species.



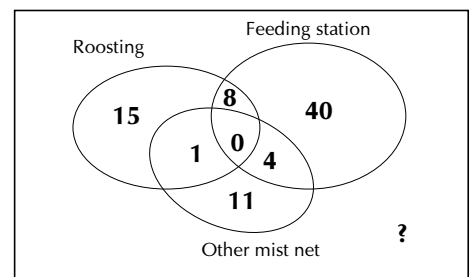
The balance between these two tit species is remarkable - swinging from almost completely one species to almost completely the other. Over the past seven winters we have seen the Great Tit dropping from 90% of the roosting birds back to only about 10% after their equally rapid rise during the previous years. These fluctuations are in line with CBC territories recorded, with nests in boxes and with mist-net captures but far more extreme. As usual, explanations would be welcome.

Another most intriguing feature is that the birds found roosting, although almost always retraps, seem to overlap very little with birds found at feeding stations or in ordinary mist net captures. Some of the roosting birds are nestling-ringed and have never been caught in a mist net, some birds were ringed at a nestbox on eggs and, again, have never been mist-netted. Other, older birds, have been mist-netted but not recently. That leaves a few birds which have been mist-netted at a feeding station or elsewhere. We had noted this pattern a year ago and produced the diagram to the right. The problem was how to do any statistical analysis which would demonstrate whether the apparent lack of overlap was real or happened by chance. In order to be sure we would need to know the number of tits in the wood catchment population but, of course, that we do not know (and it will vary from day to day anyway). However, by making some approximations it is very clear that the numbers shown in the graph are most unlikely to occur by chance if the Blue Tits caught at feeders, at other mist nets and roosting in boxes are all acting in the same way. In other words it seems the roosting birds form a different sub-population from the others in the wood. The two diagrams show the numbers found so far this winter (November/December) and those found last winter (November/February). It is striking how similar they are.

Blue Tits captured winter 2016/17



Blue Tits captured winter 2017 - November & December



Ideally we would carry out some analysis on these but, given the unknowns it seems that some different statistical approach is needed. Is anyone good with Bayesian methods or else with other resampling techniques?

The age structure of roosting birds is rather different from that of all birds caught in mist nets. So far this winter, 65% of the birds found roosting have been adults whereas only 42% of the mist-netted birds have been adults. Little light is thrown on the winter roosting behaviour in *British Tits* (New Naturalist) or in *Birds of the Western Palearctic*. Birds which have bred tend to roost in or near their breeding territory. This could explain why we find relatively more adults roosting than juveniles. Even so, if roosting in boxes is beneficial to the tits, it does not explain why more juveniles do not use the many empty boxes.

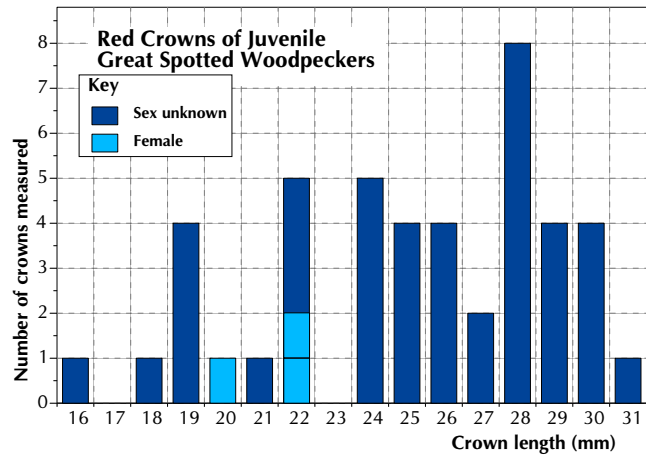
These preliminary comments are based on the data just from the first half of this winter. There is, surely, much more that could be deduced from the previous 35 years' records.



## Great Spotted Woodpecker - can juveniles be sexed?

In general we are most sceptical about using biometrics to sex individual birds - experience of retraps is a wonderful teacher. However, we did notice that the lengths of red crowns on juvenile Great Spotted Woodpeckers do vary considerably. Full of hope, we began measuring the length of the crown of all juveniles we caught. We then hoped to retrap them after their first autumn moult by which time the sex would be clear from the red, or lack of it, on the nape. So far we have measured the crowns on 45 juveniles. On 5<sup>th</sup> November we retrapped the third individual from this cohort, LE35295 ringed in July 2016 and not seen since. Now we were able to relate the sex to its juvenile crown length of 22mm. What happens to most of the juveniles seems a mystery: for a bird which can live several years, it seems odd that we have retrapped so few. Results are given in the diagram - all three of the retrapped birds have been female. In spite of this very low recapture rate the results are showing some promise. The graph suggests a strong bi-modality in the crown length and this is what we would expect with sex-related differences. Whether there is so little overlap between the sexes, and whether measuring the crown length can be done so reliably that we can confidently assign sex values to juveniles, we have yet to determine.

The problem may be similar to that of sexing Goldfinches. According to the books, males have red on the forehead reaching behind the eye whereas on females the red does not reach that far. With birds in the hand the situation is not always so clear cut. We wonder whether we may be able to sex juvenile woodpeckers at least as reliably as Goldfinches. A tentative suggestion is that the red crown extending beyond the rear of the eye will be male, otherwise female.



## Paul Snow - Thank-you

Paul Snow began his ringing career 40 years ago and spent some of his formative ringing times in Treswell Wood. Most of his ringing since qualifying has been around Owston Ferry and has included a good deal of nest finding and nestling ringing. Sadly, his eyesight is deteriorating and he is unable to continue ringing. He is donating his ringing equipment to the group as a mark of thanks for what it did for him in his early ringing years. We do offer Paul our sympathy for his condition and also wish to say how much we appreciate his gesture to the group.

## Noteworthy Encounters

Species	Age/sex	Ring	Date	Grid
<b>Wren</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>AXD411</b>	<b>5/11/2017</b>	<b>M00</b>

This nestling-ringed Wren would have displayed typical sedentary behaviour of the species. It was ringed in 2015 in the south of the wood and in August of that year, still as a juvenile, it was retrapped on the west edge of the central part of the wood - a move of perhaps 400 metres. After that no sign of it until April 2017 when it was retrapped in the same net as its first retrap. Two further captures in June were in adjacent nets as was this capture. It has clearly settled in this part of the wood. The puzzle is where was it during 2016? Had it been in that area we would surely have captured it during the 8 mist netting visits to the site between its 2014 and 2017 captures.

<b>Redwing</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>RT55955</b>	<b>16/12/2017</b>	<b>H04</b>
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We ringed this bird three weeks earlier, nearby in the southern part of the wood. Redwing captures are not common - this is only the 46<sup>th</sup> but it is the first time we have ever retrapped a Redwing. We think that most of the birds we see in the wood are fairly transient, moving on as soon as food is becoming hard to find. To find one still in the wood is unexpected. The only other Redwing we know more about was one found dead in the wood in 1976 some weeks after it had been ringed.

<b>Goldcrest</b>	<b>2M</b>	<b>4Y5213</b>	<b>12/11/2017</b>	<b>E07</b>
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This is the fourth Goldcrest we have controlled. It had been ringed at Harlow Carr near Harrogate two weeks earlier. We know little of the origin of these birds except that they were all ringed further north than Treswell Wood and all ringed in November. Three were controlled within a month of ringing and the fourth the following spring. Two were ringed on the East coast - Spurn Point and North Somercoates, the other two inland (Harlow Carr and Finningley). It is likely the East coast birds were from across the North Sea; the two others could be from anywhere, gradually moving southwards as the autumn progressed.

**Goldcrest 2M EYD950 29/10/2017 R-2**

One of 11 Goldcrests caught on the one day. Two, including this one, were retraps, both from 2016. The other, EYD666, was a juvenile in 2016 whereas this bird is at least a year older. Surviving two winters is unusual for Goldcrests - being retrapped after two winters even more unusual. A second bird with an over-wintering capture history was EYD681 ringed in November 2016, retrapped in the following January (possibly returning northwards) then with us again on 5<sup>th</sup> November.

**Goldcrest 3F JTE239 12/11/2017 D10**

Most of our Goldcrests seem to be winter visitors - but not all. We ringed this bird in July still in its juvenile plumage and presumed it had been reared in, or very near, the wood. The CBC resulted in an unprecedented five breeding territories so it does seem likely that, in 2017 at least, they had a firm breeding foothold in the wood. The previous highest number of territories recorded was only two (in 1984, 1999, and 2016). Is this the beginning of a permanent breeding population or just a most exceptional year?

**Coal Tit 3 Z782921 29/10/2017 Q01**

The second Coal Tit we have found infected with pox. The lump was small, above the base of the bill. Like the previous infected Coal Tit this is a bird in its first autumn.

**Blue Tit 4 D904475 17/12/2017 Q03**

This bird was ringed by John Clark at Hillcrest Farm in November 2016 and had not been retrapped there since then. Today it appeared in the wood and, surprisingly, two days later was retrapped again back at the farm in the village.

**Blue Tit 4 X649812 5/11/2017 L04**

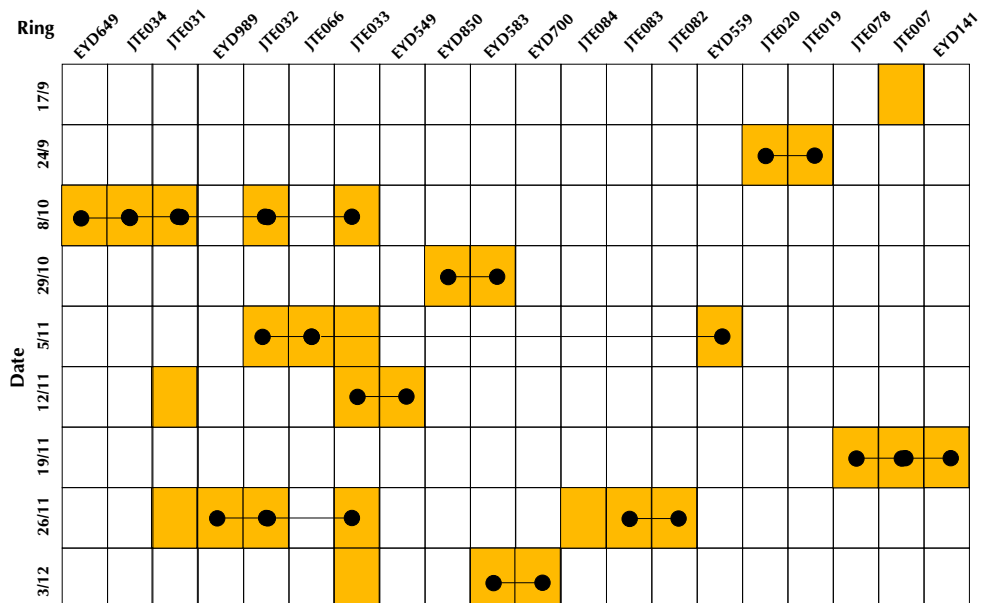
This bird, at seven years and one month since ringing is our third oldest Blue Tit on record. The other two (7yr 10mo & 7yr 5mo) were both recorded in 2004. Happily a family party of humans was walking past during the morning and we were able to show them a Blue Tit in the hand and tell the fascinated five-year old girl that this tiny bird was older than she was.

**Blue Tit 3 ANA7067 30/10/2017 Darlton**

Another example of the nature of post-natal dispersal. We ringed this bird in the wood on 15<sup>th</sup> October and within two weeks it had wandered as far as Darlton, some 6km southwards.

**Long-tailed Tit 2 EYD559 5/11/2017 M00**

A retrap in a very small party of only three birds and the first time we have seen this bird since the reappearance of the species in September (see Twitter 114). The species is reputed to move in groups which often contain related individuals. However, this autumn's captures have not demonstrated such behaviour convincingly. Parties have been small and individuals not always attached to the same other individuals. The diagram shows all our autumn captures. Capture events, which are shaded, are linked by lines with dots if the captures took place at the same time (not just on the same day). (For example, on 26<sup>th</sup> November two parties of three and two birds were caught at different times, and in addition two other birds caught separately at other times.



This is only the information from the last four months of this particularly unusual year for the species. Perhaps it is unrepresentative but there is 45 years' worth of data to examine for patterns of flock coherence. Plenty to look at for someone.

**Nuthatch 2 TV35679 3/12/2017 Q03**

This year we recorded only our second Nuthatch nest ever. Six young, all ringed, fledged. This is the first recapture of any of them. During the late summer we caught five unringed juveniles and, from their very fresh plumage they seemed likely to be of Treswell Wood origin so it seems more nested in natural holes. The CBC maps suggest there were six territories - it would be pleasing if more nested in our boxes. Conventional wisdom is that they prefer to nest at least a couple of metres above ground but the higher boxes which we put up some years ago met with absolute failure with the species.

**Jay 3 DK98436 5/11/2017 K00**

We had seen and heard Jays fairly often in recent weeks so it was no surprise (but a great pleasure) to catch one. It was followed a month later by a second new individual, DK98437, this one clearly an adult .

**10-Week Summary: 2017 Interval 5, Captures in Standard Sites**

	New Birds			Recaptures			Total
	Adult	5	3	Adult	5	3	
Wren	1	.	4	3	.	3	11
Dunnock	.	.	.	2	.	.	2
Robin	2	.	6	11	.	5	24
Blackbird	3	.	11	6	.	.	20
Song Thrush	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Redwing	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Goldcrest	4	.	8	5	.	5	22
Long-tailed Tit	4	.	.	17	.	.	21
Marsh Tit	.	.	.	3	.	5	8
Coal Tit	.	.	.	1	.	1	2
Blue Tit	.	.	3	6	.	6	15
Great Tit	1	.	1	8	.	5	15
Treecreeper	.	.	4	4	.	.	8
Jay	.	.	1	.	.	.	1
Chaffinch	.	.	1	.	.	.	1
Bullfinch	1	.	5	4	.	1	11
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	.	<b>44</b>	<b>71</b>	.	<b>32</b>	<b>163</b>

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

**Summary Data** since standard site netting began in 1978:

Interval	1	2	3	4	5	Total
<b>Maximum</b>	128	185	288	253	177	864
<b>Minimum</b>	57	33	89	66	59	364
<b>Mean</b>	90	113	159	130	124	609

**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 - 2016)	91	126	149	104	115	561

**Totals from 2007 onwards**

Year	1	2	3	4	5	Total
2007	107	110	138	73	92	520
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	136	137	158	659
2016	102	185	193	109	109	698