

## **Blithfield ringing report 2014**

Ringing activities were undertaken at various sites around Blithfield reservoir throughout the year. Roost netting occurred during the winter and autumn periods at Duckley plantation. Nest boxes were monitored at Stansley Wood Court and Broompits. Mist netting occurred at Blythe Bay during late summer. The feeding station at the Dell was visited during the winter and autumn periods. With the exception of the Dell all ringing was undertaken alone. At the Dell a fellow ringer assisted. All records are submitted to the British Trust for Ornithology for inclusion in their national database.

### **Duckley Plantation [Appendix 1]**

Ringing has traditionally been undertaken in the stands of Rhododendron in which birds roost during winter and autumn periods. No visits were made in the first winter period but 10 were made in the autumn.

A total of 298 birds of 13 species were ringed with a further 44 retraps handled. The main target species, Chaffinch, were slightly up on 2013 with a total of 98. The major difference in the last 2 years has been the number of Goldcrest ringed, with 68 compared with only 25 in 2013.

One of only 2 Blackcap ringed in the wood this year was subsequently recaptured in southern Portugal. The report received considerable coverage not only in the birding social media but also the national press.

### **Nest boxes [Appendix 2 and Appendix 3]**

Four nest boxes in Stansley Wood Court saw 2 Blue Tit broods and 1 Great Tit brood successful. In the latter 9 young were ringed.

The 6 boxes in Broompits saw 4 Great Tit broods, three of which were ringed. No birds of the year were subsequently recaptured, however a bird from 2013 was again retrapped.

### **Blithe Bay [Appendix 4]**

As in 2013 one net site was used. In 6 visits 137 birds of 17 species were ringed [compared with 78 of 13 species in 5 visits during 2013]. As it would be expected from the habitat warblers were again well represented. Chiffchaff in particular was the most numerous bird ringed.

### **The Dell [Appendix 2]**

4 visits were made to the feeding station in 2014. Two in each of the winter and autumn periods. Although this was the same number as in 2013, disappointingly only half the number of birds were ringed. 64 compared with 129 in 2013.

In particular, the dramatic decrease in Coal Tits ringed is worthy of note – 9 compared with 37 in 2013.

## Appendix 1

### Place Totals Summary- Duckley Plantation

	Full grown	Pulli	Retraps/ Recoveries	Total
<b>2014</b>				
Wren	16	0	6	22
Dunnoek	4	0	0	4
Robin	6	0	6	12
Blackbird	13	0	0	13
Blackcap	2	0	0	2
Goldcrest	68	0	18	86
Long-tailed Tit	32	0	9	41
Coal Tit	12	0	1	13
Blue Tit	33	0	2	35
Great Tit	10	0	1	11
Treecreeper	3	0	1	4
Chaffinch	98	0	0	98
Bullfinch	1	0	0	1
<b>Total for: Duckley Plantation</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>342</b>

## Appendix 2

### Place Totals Summary – Stansley Court Wood and The Dell

	Full grown	Pulli	Retraps/ Recoveries	Total
<b>2014</b>				
Great Spotted Woodpecker	2	0	1	3
Robin	2	0	3	5
Coal Tit	9	0	6	15
Blue Tit	34	0	2	36
Great Tit	12	9	2	23
Nuthatch	0	0	1	1
Chaffinch	3	0	0	3
Goldfinch	2	0	0	2
<b>Total for: Stansley Court Wood and The Dell</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>88</b>

## Appendix 3

### Place Totals Summary - Broompits

	Full grown	Pulli	Retraps/ Recoveries	Total
<b>2014</b>				
<b>Great Tit</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Total for: Broompits</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>

## Appendix 4

### Place Totals Summary – Blithe Bay

	Full grown	Pulli	Retraps/ Recoveries	Total
<b>2014</b>				
Wren	8	0	0	8
Duncock	1	0	0	1
Robin	9	0	0	9
Blackbird	2	0	0	2
Lesser Whitethroat	2	0	0	2
Garden Warbler	4	0	0	4
Blackcap	12	0	0	12
Chiffchaff	31	0	0	31
Willow Warbler	8	0	0	8
Long-tailed Tit	12	0	0	12
Blue Tit	25	0	0	25
Great Tit	13	0	1	14
Treecreeper	2	0	0	2
Chaffinch	2	0	0	2
Goldfinch	1	0	0	1
Bullfinch	2	0	0	2
Reed Bunting	3	0	0	3
<b>Total for: Blithe Bay</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>Annual Total:</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>138</b>