

**Small mammal trapping in Cambourne as part of the CamBOURNE to be WILD Music Festival from 05 July 2019 to 07 July 2019 – Peter Pilbeam, Jo Chesham, Fi and Richard Draper, Joy Dingley, Vicky Fowler and Sharon Erzinclioglu.**

Forty (40) Longworth traps were set up with bedding (hay) and bait (fruit and nut muesli, diced apple and casters) in two groups of twenty (20) - one away from the festival site in scrub and alongside a footpath and one round the margins of a mown area just outside the site - between 7pm and 8.30pm on 05 July 2019. They were checked from 7.30am on 06 July 2019. Catches of one (1) wood mouse, two (2) bank voles and one (1) common shrew were kept in small tanks with hay, food and water until about noon and then released where caught. All the traps were immediately reset and rebaited and then reopened from about 1pm that day – 19 (of 20 - see 'To note' below) traps were then removed and the remaining traps closed. Catches of two (2) bank voles were kept in tanks as above until about 5pm and then released where caught.

The remaining 20 traps were then rebaited and set to catch. They were checked from 7.30am on 07 July 2019. Catches of one (1) bank vole, one (1) wood mouse and one (1) common shrew were kept in tanks as above until about noon and then released where caught. The traps were immediately reset and rebaited and then reopened from about 1pm that day - the traps were then removed. Catches of two (2) bank voles were kept in tanks as above until about 5pm and then released where caught.

Overnight on both nights the weather was dry, mild and cloudy. The weather during the first morning session was mild and largely cloud-free with some sunshine and a little rain in the afternoon. The weather during the second day was warm and dry with sunny periods.

**Results:**

Trap No.	Location	06/07 am	06/07 pm	07/07 am	07/07 pm
54	Scrub	WMmr20g	o	or	o
56	Scrub	or	o	WMmr20g	o
52	Scrub	BVmr19g	o	BVmr23g	o
55	Scrub	WMfr29g	o	BVmr50g	BVm42g
58	Scrub	WMmr15g	o	or	o
57	Scrub	BVfr32g	BVm45g	BVfr32g	o
59	Scrub	or	o	CSfr9g	o
60	Scrub	CSfr8g	o	CSfr8g	BVm42g
62	Edge of footpath on right	CSfr8g	o	-	-
61	Edge of footpath on right	or	o	-	-
63	Edge of footpath on right	BVfr12g	BVm10g	-	-
51	Edge of footpath on right	WMfr26g	BVf32g	-	-
66	Edge of footpath on right	or	o	-	-
65	Edge of footpath on right	or	o	-	-
50	Edge of footpath on left	or	o	-	-
68	Edge of footpath on left	or	o	-	-
70	Edge of footpath on left	or	BVm21g	-	-
72	Edge of footpath on left	BVmr25g	o	-	-
69	Edge of footpath on left	CSfr9g	CSf10g	-	-
71	Edge of footpath on left	CSfr8g	*	-	CS?8gm
16	Edge of mown area	or	o	-	-
14	Edge of mown area	or	BVm20g	-	-
11	Edge of mown area	or	CSm9g	-	-
8	Edge of mown area	or	o	-	-
10	Edge of mown area	or	BVm19g	-	-
5	Edge of mown area	or	o	-	-
4	Edge of mown area	BVmr20g	BVm21g	-	-
2	Edge of mown area	BVmr16g	o	-	-
18	Edge of mown area	BVmr17g	BVf26g	or	BVf16g
6	Edge of mown area	or	o	or	o
17	Edge of mown area	or	o	or	o

7	Edge of mown area	or	o	or	o
9	Edge of mown area	BVfr27g	o	BVf27g	o
15	Edge of mown area	BVmr28g	BVf27g	BVf24g	o
20	Edge of mown area	or	o	or	o
3	Edge of mown area	or	o	or	BVm29g
1	Edge of mown area	BVmr29g	o	BVfr24g	o
19	Edge of mown area	CSmr8g	CS?9g	CSf8g	o
13	Edge of mown area	BVmr22g	BVm20g	BVm21g	BVm19g
21	Edge of mown area	or	o	or	o

### Key:

WM -- Wood Mouse  
 BV -- Bank Vole  
 CS -- Common Shrew  
 m -- male  
 f -- female  
 o -- open (not tripped)  
 r -- reset  
 g -- grams

11 of the 12 traps (i.e. the 12 except for trap 71 - see 'To note' below) on the edges of the footpath and 8 of those on the edges of the mown area were removed after the trap-opening round from 1pm on 06 July and not reset. That left the 8 traps in the scrub and 12 on the edges of the mown area.

### To note:

Several of the bank voles and one wood mouse were lactating females or pregnant - they were released immediately and not kept on display.

One of the very large (42g) male bank voles died without obvious cause while on display - it had been supplied with food and water and shade and was quite lively when caught.

\* -- trap 71 was somehow not checked nor removed during the trap-opening round from 1pm on 06 July. Its absence from the collected traps was not noticed until after the site was vacated on the evening of 07 July. It was found at about 8pm that evening - the common shrew it had caught was dead (having been in the trap for at least 30 hours). The relevant form (GL01-Annex) was sent to English Nature as required for shrew deaths while trapping. The death was a direct result of incomplete checking and record-keeping. For future reference - greater care must be taken when recording the opening and removal of traps so that none are missed on each and every round.

### Conclusions:

Over the 60 trap nights and the 60 morning trap sessions a total of 50 captures were made – 5 Wood Mouse, 33 Bank Vole and 12 Common Shrew. The catch rate (c42%) was good and rather unexpected - possibly inconsistent with the surrounding areas (light industry, housing, school and offices) though reasonably consistent with the season, the weather and the immediate habitats chosen.

Peter Pilbeam  
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