

**Small mammal trapping in Jesus College grounds overnight on 23 September 2021
Peter Pilbeam, Joy Dingley and Sharon Erzinclioglu with several members of Jesus College.**

Twenty (20) Longworth traps were set to catch with bedding (hay) and bait (muesli, casters and diced apple) at various locations (a range of habitats) in Jesus College, Cambridge grounds from around 5pm on 23 September 2021 and checked from around 8am on 24 September 2021. All trapped animals were identified, weighed and sexed before being released immediately - the traps were then removed.

Trap No.	Location	24/09/2021 – c8am
51	Under yew tree past tennis courts	WM - f - 13gm
53	By pond over fence	o
52	In log pile on RHS	BV - f - 12.5gm
54	On edge of Jesus ditch	o
56	Alongside large compost bin	o
55	By corner of tennis courts	o
57	Under large log pile	o
59	Under dead tree adj pavilion	o - trap moved 2m
60	Side of rear steps into pavilion	o
70	In log pile by hedge	o
69	In log pile near ditch	pot - on its side
68	Under ivy-covered tree	pot - on its side
62	In log pile under holly bush	o
58	In log pile near bench	o
61	By LHS post of main gates	o
40	Under forsythia	WM - m - 10gm
63	In lavender bush in brick planter	o
66	By Master's garden fence	o
39	In bamboo thicket	WM - lf - 22gm
65	Under fragrant bush by lawn	o

WM -- Wood Mouse

BV -- Bank Vole

m -- male

f -- female

o -- open (not tripped)

pot -- pot -- partly open and tripped

lf -- lactating female

In summary, out of 20 traps there were 3 Wood Mouse and 1 Bank Vole catches. This represents (of 20 trap sessions) an overall catch rate of 20%. Given the numbers of small mammals observed in the area this was disappointing - the large fox population on a small site might have a bearing.

Traps 69 and 68 were both on their sides and partly open but with small tunnels in the bedding - this tends to imply they were disturbed (by a fox?) while small mammals were present and were perhaps predated.

The weather overnight and when the traps were checked at 8am was cloudy, mild and dry.

Peter Pilbeam
4 October 2021