

Small mammal trapping at Wandlebury overnight on 27 May 2022
Peter Pilbeam, Alex Jamieson and several attendees as part of Wandlebury's part of
the 2022 Cambridge Nature Festival.

Twenty (20) Longworth traps were set to catch with bedding (hay) and bait (muesli, casters and diced apple) at various locations (a small range of habitats) in a vaguely circular route around the southern side of the 'Picnic Meadow' from around 7pm on 27 May 2022 and checked from around 8am on 28 May 2022. All trapped animals were identified, weighed and sexed before being released immediately (except for one wood mouse and one bank vole which were kept in small tanks on display for a couple of hours - with hay, food and water). The traps were then removed. The displayed animals were released where caught.

Trap No.	Location	28/05 – c8am
63	RHS of first tree on right at start of circuit	o
65	RHS of trail c50m on	o
52	By brick BBQ	o
53	Behind old coppiced tree on LHS	o
69	Centre of knoll in centre of path jn	o
56	LHS of gatepost into meadow	o
55	By tall thistle by fence on RHS of meadow	o
64	By cattle crush in meadow	WM - m - 22.5gm
67	In meadow	o
59	In meadow	o
70	In meadow	o
57	In meadow	o
67	LHS of gatepost at field exit	o
51	LHS of path c 20m on	o
54	RHS of path in log pile	o
60	RHS of path behind ivy-covered stump	WM - f - 25gm
66	LHS of path by laid hedge	o
58	LHS of path behind mossy stump	o
61	RHS of path under ivy	BV - f - 19gm
68	RHS of path under ?box bush	o

WM -- Wood Mouse

BV -- Bank Vole

m -- male

f -- female

o -- open (not tripped)

In summary, out of 20 traps there were 2 wood mouse and 1 bank vole catches. This represents an overall catch rate of 15%.

The area was in general was very dry underfoot – the conditions overnight and when the traps were checked at 8am were slightly overcast, cool and dry.

Peter Pilbeam
 29 May 2022