

## Ringing on Holt Island 7 – 8 August 2018

With the end of the very hot spell in sight we ringed on the Island on the last day of very hot weather as the winds were low and they were supposed to be dry. Great care had to be taken to visit the nest very regularly so birds did not hang in the sun for long.

The catch was the largest we have ever had on the Island but the number of species was not high.

The catch was notable for the number of new Blue Tits caught, 30 new juveniles and 15 re-trapped. This along with the numbers already caught this year makes it an outstanding year for Blue Tits and slightly less so for Great Tits. Why there are so many on the Island, we can only guess at, presumably a combination of the dry hot weather, building works nearby and the food readily available on the Island. Many of them were heavier than average and had red stained feet where they had been feeding on ripening fruit such as Blackberries and Elderberries

It was nice to catch a reasonable number of Reed Warblers and Blackcaps, most of which were juveniles. Robins also seem to have had a good breeding year.

In addition to the birds we also saw a Muntjac, Many damselflies and dragonflies including the Banded Demoiselle, small Blue Damselfly, and Butterflies: Small White, Large White, Green veined White, red Admiral, Meadow Brown and Speckled Wood. There were also a lot of small wasps and several Hornets

Species	New Adults	New Juveniles	Re-trap Adults	Re-trap Juveniles	Total
Wren		3	1	1	5
Dunnock	1	2	5	5	13
Reed Warbler	1	5	1	1	8
Blackcap		3		1	4
Robin		5		2	7
Blackbird		2	2		4
Song Thrush		1			1
Long tailed Tit			1		1
Blue Tit	1	30	6	15	52
Great Tit		7	1	10	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>113</b>



Water Chickweed

Julian & Sue Limentani