George Candelin & Andy Gosler

21st December 2016

Stansfeld Field Centre 2016 Ringing Report

Stansfeld Field Centre Ringing Report – Autumn 2016

Stansfeld Field Centre is located in the former Headington Quarry, which was the source of limestone for many of the buildings in Oxford. It was acquired by the Oxford Trust who will continue to use it as a Field Centre but with the intention of replacing or refurbishing the existing buildings as a science park, retaining the 15 acres of woodland as an outdoor classroom.

# The woodland consists mainly of mature ash Fraxinus excelsior with hazel Corylus avellana, yew Taxus baccata and crab apple Malus sylvestris growing on calcarious soil. The surface is irregular, unsurprising for an abandoned quarry, having areas of open water and other areas of marsh within the woodland; there are also dryer banks where mature hawthorn Crataegus monogyna and bramble scrub Rubus fruticosa agg abound. The grassland is notable as unimproved calcareous sward overlaying limestone.

# Mammals are common on the site, September was our first sighting of a domestic (or feral) cat Felis catus which is a predatory hunting species; several different individuals have been identified by colour.There are also muntjac deer Muntiacus sp and grey squirrel Sciurus carolinensis present.

Ringing commenced on 17th September 2016 when Dr Andrew Gosler and Mr George Candelin visited the site in order to make an initial assessment. Nets were placed along the central ride and in the ride that crosses the wooden bridge. Only three birds were captured but the site did show potential for further investigation.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Weighing Date/Time**  | **Place** | **Sub-Site** |
| LH83034 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | M | A | 136 | 100.1 | AGG | 17/09/2016 09:45 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| TV26625 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | F | A | 73 | 18.0 | AGG | 17/09/2016 09:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| Z024646 |  | Metal | Robin | 4 | F | A | 73 | 18.3 | GWC | 17/09/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |

A second visit in September was far more productive with 24 birds caught, including a jay and a moorhen. One of the great tits that we ringed today was recaptured in a different part of the site about 90 minutes later.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Weighing Date/Time**  | **Place** | **Sub-Site** |
| DE92704 |  | Metal | Jay | 3 | F | A | 175 | 160.0 | GWC | 24/09/2016 08:40 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024647 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F | A | 63 | 9.9 | AGG | 24/09/2016 08:45 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26626 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F | A | 74 | 16.8 | AGG | 24/09/2016 08:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024648 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M | A | 66 | 11.2 | GWC | 24/09/2016 08:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26627 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M | A | 76 | 19.0 | GWC | 24/09/2016 08:55 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024649 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M | A | 65 | 11.6 | AGG | 24/09/2016 08:55 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26628 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 3 |  |  | 70 | 23.2 | GWC | 24/09/2016 09:20 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M | A | 77 | 19.2 | GWC | 24/09/2016 09:20 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 2 |
| HJX208 |  | Metal | Wren | 4 | (M) |  | 53 | 11.8 | GWC | 24/09/2016 09:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024650 | Green | Metal | Robin | 3 | (F) |  | 73 | 17.9 | AGG | 24/09/2016 09:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 2 |
| Z024651 |  | Metal | Chaffinch | 4 | F | A | 81 | 18.0 | AGG | 24/09/2016 09:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26630 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M | A | 78 | 19.9 | GWC | 24/09/2016 09:55 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024652 |  | Metal | Chaffinch | 4 | F | A | 81 | 19.5 | GWC | 24/09/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26631 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M | A | 76.5 | 19.8 | AGG | 24/09/2016 10:10 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26632 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | F | A | 75 | 18.0 | AGG | 24/09/2016 10:10 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| FH85641 |  | Metal | Moorhen | 4 | M |  | 178 | 290.0 | GWC | 24/09/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| TV26633 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 4 |  |  | 74 | 18.5 | AGG | 24/09/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M | A | 77 | 19.2 | GWC | 24/09/2016 10:55 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| LH83035 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | F |  | 122 | 99.2 | AGG | 24/09/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 2 |
| TV26634 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F | A | 74 | 18.5 | AGG | 24/09/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024653 |  | Metal | Bullfinch | 5 | F | A | 82 | 22.6 | AGG | 24/09/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| LH83036 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 3J | F |  | 129 | 105.1 | GWC | 24/09/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024654 | Green | Metal | Robin | 3 |  | A | 76 | 19.1 | GWC | 24/09/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024655 | Orange | Metal | Robin | 3J |  | A | 73 | 19.9 | AGG | 24/09/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |

Spurred on by our recent successful visit we took advantage of the OCV vegetation clearance to put nets in new areas for the October visits, and as a result of this we caught 18 birds on the 2nd October; the most unusual of these was a mallard, this was caught in one of the woodland rides so was presumably transiting back to the pond from elsewhere. A great tit that we had ringed in September was also re-captured.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Weighing Date/Time**  | **Place** | **Sub-Site** |
| Z024656 | Metal | White | Robin | 3 |  |  | 74 | 18.0 | CJH | 02/10/2016 08:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024657 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F | A | 64 | 10.7 | AGG | 02/10/2016 09:20 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| LH83037 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | M |  | 134 | 103.4 | GWC | 02/10/2016 09:45 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024658 | Sky blue | Metal | Robin | 3 | (F) |  | 72 | 19.3 | AGG | 02/10/2016 10:35 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| HJX209 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  | A | 53 | 10.9 | GWC | 02/10/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024659 | Metal | Orange | Robin | 3 | (F) |  | 70 | 17.4 | GWC | 02/10/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| GR93772 |  | Metal | Mallard | 4 | F |  | 270 | 780.0 | AGG | 02/10/2016 11:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024660 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F |  | 63 | 10.2 | GWC | 02/10/2016 12:05 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26626 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F | A | 74 | 17.4 | GWC | 02/10/2016 12:10 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024661 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F | A | 64 | 10.4 | GWC | 02/10/2016 12:10 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26635 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | F | A | 71 | 17.8 | AGG | 02/10/2016 12:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| HJX210 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  | A | 61 | 7.8 | AGG | 02/10/2016 12:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| HJX211 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  | A | 62 | 7.5 | GWC | 02/10/2016 12:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024662 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M | A | 61 | 9.6 | GWC | 02/10/2016 12:40 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26636 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 4 |  |  | 70 | 22.5 | GWC | 02/10/2016 12:45 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024663 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M | A | 64 | 10.6 | AGG | 02/10/2016 12:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| LH83038 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 3J | F |  | 125 | 104.1 | AGG | 02/10/2016 13:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| LH83039 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 3J | F |  | 124 | 104.2 | AGG | 02/10/2016 13:35 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |

A subsequent visit on 8thOctober produced 14 birds including a lesser whitethroat; this is a late date for this migrant, which had already commenced its winter moult. Birds in blue type are those which we had previously ringed here, so are probably resident on the site.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Date / Time** | **Place** | **Sub-site** |
| Z024664 | Pink | Metal | Robin | 3 |  | A | 73 | 18.5 | MJC | 08/10/2016 08:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024665 | Metal | Pink | Robin | 4 |  | A | 75 | 18.8 | GP | 08/10/2016 08:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024654 | Yellow | Metal | Robin | 3 |  | A | 75 | 20.0 | GWC | 08/10/2016 09:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26637 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | M | A | 74 | 18.9 | MPR | 08/10/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024666 | Metal | Blue | Robin | 3 |  | A | 77 | 20.5 | GP | 08/10/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| HJX209 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  |  | 50 | 10.7 | GP | 08/10/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024649 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M | A | 65 | 12.3 | MPR | 08/10/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024667 |  | Metal | Lesser Whitethroat | 4 |  | M | 65 | 13.7 | AGG | 08/10/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26638 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 3 |  |  | 69 | 18.7 | MPR | 08/10/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| Z024668 | Metal |  | Blue Tit | 4 | M | A | 65 |  - | GP | 08/10/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| HJX212 | Metal |  | Wren | 3 |  |  | 47 | 9.2 | GP | 08/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024669 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 3 | F | A | 63 | 10.0 | MPR | 08/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024666 | Metal | Blue | Robin | 3 |  | A | 77 | 20.8 | CJH | 08/10/2016 12:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| Z024670 | Metal |  | Coal Tit | 3 | F | A | 58 | 8.4 | GP | 08/10/2016 12:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |

This was followed on the 15thby another quiet session of 7 birds caught although we did catch another moorhen and three birds that we had ringed during an earlier session which is always valuable data to record.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Date / Time** | **Place** | **Sub-site** |
| FH85642 |  | Metal | Moorhen | 3 |  |  | 194 | 410.0 | ARB | 15/10/2016 09:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 7 |
| HJX213 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  |  | 51 | 9.9 | MPR | 15/10/2016 09:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| HJX214 |  | Metal | Goldcrest | 3 | F |  | 53 | 5.5 | MPR | 15/10/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024671 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 |  |  | 64 | 11.1 | ARB | 15/10/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024650 | Green | Metal | Robin | 4 | F |  | 73 | 20.1 | GWC | 15/10/2016 10:35 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| LH83034 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | M |  | 136 | 94.5 | MPR | 15/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024659 | Metal | Orange | Robin | 3 | F |  | 70 | 17.4 | ARB | 15/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |

The final October session produced 16 birds of a good spread of species, including our first song thrush for the site. This site benefits from a diversity of species although numbers of birds present are not noteworthy. It may be attributable to poor food resources or pressure from predation. We noted during our early visits that birds were in poor condition and had little muscle tone, very few carried fat and weights were generally lighter than would be expected on a site where bramble, hawthorn and crab apple abound. Mammalian predators, mainly in the form of domestic cats, have been sighted in all parts of the woodland and these may be the problem.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Date / Time** | **Place** | **Sub-site** |
| Z024672 | Metal | Sky blue | Robin | 4 | (F) |  | 72 | 19.9 | JKB | 22/10/2016 08:10 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 10 |
| HJX215 | Metal |  | Wren | 3 |  |  | 48 | 9.5 | GP | 22/10/2016 08:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 7 |
| TV26626 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F | A | 74 | 16.9 | CJH | 22/10/2016 08:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M | A | 77 | 19.0 | SHC | 22/10/2016 08:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| DE92705 |  | Metal | Jay | 3 | M |  | 189 | 179.0 | SHC | 22/10/2016 09:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| LH83040 | Metal |  | Blackbird | 4 | M |  | 134 | 94.3 | GP | 22/10/2016 09:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| LH83041 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | M |  | 136 | 101.2 | MPR | 22/10/2016 09:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024673 | Metal |  | Blue Tit | 3 | M | A | 63 | 11.0 | GP | 22/10/2016 09:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| RL66008 | Metal |  | Song Thrush | 4 |  |  | 118 | 78.8 | GP | 22/10/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| HJX213 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  |  | 51 | 9.8 | MPR | 22/10/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| TV26633 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 4 | M |  | 74 | 22.1 | GWC | 22/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26639 | Metal |  | Great Tit | 3 | F | A | 76 | ESCAPE | GP | 22/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| TV26640 | Metal |  | Dunnock | 3 |  |  | 71 | 21.1 | GP | 22/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26641 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 3 |  |  | 72 | 20.3 | MPR | 22/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26642 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | F |  | 71.5 | 16.4 | MPR | 22/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| Z024674 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F |  | 63 | 10.2 | ARB | 22/10/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 10 |

We did not ring at Stansfeld on 29th October due to other commitments but returned again on the 5th November. A new short net ride was tested and found to be very successful, catching more birds than all the other nets combined.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Date / Time** | **Place** | **Sub-site** |
| LH83045 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 3 | F |  | 128 | 90.5 | MPR | 05/11/2016 08:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024675 | Violet | Metal | Robin | 3 | (M) |  | 77 | 20.5 | SHC | 05/11/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |
| HJX223 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  |  | 61 | 7.8 | MPR | 05/11/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |
| Z024676 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 3 |  - |  | 64 | 10.9 | MPR | 05/11/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |

Most of November was blighted by rain and high winds making it unsuitable for ringing; however, we did attempt a second session for the month on 26thand caught mostly blackbirds.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Date / Time** | **Place** | **Sub-site** |
| TV26643 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F |  | 77 | 19.6 | AGG | 26/11/2016 08:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| HJX224 |  | Metal | Goldcrest | 3 | M |  | 54 | 4.8 | GWC | 26/11/2016 09:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| LH83046 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | M |  | 133 | 100.8 | AGG | 26/11/2016 09:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| LH83047 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | F |  | 132 | 106.7 | GWC | 26/11/2016 09:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 1 |
| LH83048 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | M |  | 128 | 97.9 | AGG | 26/11/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| LH83049 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 3 | F |  | 124 | 97.4 | GWC | 26/11/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| HJX215 | Metal |  | Wren | 3 |  |  | 49 | 9.9 | AGG | 26/11/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |

A final session for the year was planned for 17th December with 31st as a back-up should it be necessary due to weather; as it transpired, fog prevented ringing on the 17th but cleared before 19th. We therefore made the visit on 19th as the long-range weather forecast over Xmas was not encouraging. This was our highest daily catch so far with 42 birds captured. One of the long-tailed tits was a recapture of a bird originally ringed as an adult in 2014 at a nearby location so this tiny bird must now be over 4 years old. An adult Great Tit was also caught which had travelled from the Vicarage path at Headington Church where it was ringed in 2015.

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| **Ring Nr** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **Species** | **Age** | **Sex** | **Activity** | **Wing** | **Weight** | **Ringer** | **Date / Time** | **Place** | **Sub-site** |
| TV26633 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 4 |  |  | 74 | 23.5 | AGG | 19/12/2016 08:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| Z024677 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F |  | 62 | 10.7 | GWC | 19/12/2016 08:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| HJX225 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  |  | 60 | 6.5 | AGG | 19/12/2016 09:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| HJX226 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  |  | 61 | 7.2 | AGG | 19/12/2016 09:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| HJX227 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  |  | 62 | 7.9 | AGG | 19/12/2016 09:50 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| 2W8738 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  |  | 64 | 7.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| HJX213 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  |  | 51 | 9.8 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 3 |
| HJX223 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  |  | 62 | 7.5 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| HJX228 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  |  | 61 | 7.5 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| Z024678 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M |  | 67 | 11.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| Z024679 |   | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | (F) |  | 65 | 11.2 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| HJX209 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  |  | 52 | 10.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| HJX229 |  | Metal | Goldcrest | 3 | F |  | 53 | 4.9 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| TV26630 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M |  | 78.5 | 20.3 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26644 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F |  | 75 | 17.5 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024680 |  | Metal | Chaffinch | 4 | M |  | 93 | 23.5 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024681 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F |  | 63 | 11.1 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| DE92705 |  | Metal | Jay | 4 | M |  | 190 | 174.5 | CJH | 19/12/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |
| HJX230 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  |  | 48 | 9.2 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M |  | 77 | 19.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024657 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F |  | 64 | 10.9 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024673 | Metal |  | Blue Tit | 3 | M |  | 63 | 10.8 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024682 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 3 | F |  | 62 | 10.3 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024683 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M |  | 65 | 10.7 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |
| HJX231 |  | Metal | Goldcrest | 3 | F |  | 51 | 4.8 | CJH | 19/12/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| TV26645 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | M |  | 75 | 17.8 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| HJX232 |  | Metal | Goldcrest | 3 | M |  | 55 | 5.2 | GWC | 19/12/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| TV26631 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | M |  | 77 | 19.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| TV26646 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | F |  | 75 | 19.1 | GWC | 19/12/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |
| TV26647 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 3 | F |  | 73 | 17.6 | GWC | 19/12/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024650 | Green | Metal | Robin | 4 |  |  | 73 | 23.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 4 |
| Z024684 |  | Metal | Chaffinch | 4 | F |  | 81 | 22.5 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:15 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| DE92706 |  | Metal | Jay | 4 | M |  | 182 | 186.8 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| LH83050 |  | Metal | Great-spotted Woodpecker | 4 | M |  | 132 | 75.8 | CJH | 19/12/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| TV26605 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F |  | 73 | 17.2 | GWC | 19/12/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| TV26648 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | F |  | 73 | 17.8 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 9 |
| Z024659 | Metal | Orange | Robin | 3 | (F) |  | 69 |  | GWC | 19/12/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 5 |
| Z024685 |  | Metal | Coal Tit | 4 | F |  | 60 | 9.1 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:30 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| LH83051 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 3 | F |  | 129 | 119.9 | AGG | 19/12/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 6 |
| Z024683 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | M |  | 65 | 10.8 | AGG | 19/12/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |
| Z024686 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F |  | 62 | 10.5 | AGG | 19/12/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |
| Z024687 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | F |  | 63 | 11.1 | AGG | 19/12/2016 12:00 | Stansfeld Field Centre | NET 12 |

Using the data gathered so far we are able to draw some conclusions. It should be noted however that not all net rides have been activated yet whilst others have been opened and subsequently discounted as being dangerous for the birds or unproductive during the current season.

Net ride 1, an 18 metre Ecotone net across the wooden bridge, was our first busy net ride and provided 38 captures of 10 species; it also found popularity with grey squirrels that destroyed the feeders and with a local cat that needed constant chasing away from the net. We reluctantly decided to close it down for the safety of the birds.

Net rides 2, 3 & 4 were joined as a single run of nets; each is 18 metres long. This line of nets has caught 28 birds of 11 species, including some of the more interesting species. However, Net2 caught only 3 of these birds, so this net was removed from the line and deployed elsewhere.

Net ride 5 is a short 9 metre Ecotone net but it has caught 14 birds of 5 species and is the most likely to produce Long-tailed Tit and Goldcrest due to the proximity of yew and holly.

Stretching from the hide along the bank of the pond is Net 6, this is another 18 metre Ecotone net. During the past 3 months 34 birds have been taken from this net, including the lesser whitethroat. It is definitely in a good place for bird movement monitoring.

Net 7 was a 9 metre Ecotone across the causeway between the two ponds, it only caught 2 birds. These were a Wren and a Moorhen. After repeated blank sessions it was decided to stop using this position until spring when the aquatic vegetation should attract summer migrants.

Net 8 was a 40 foot Super-fine erected along the gap from the greenhouse to the pond, it did not catch any birds so was discontinued after 3 attempts.

Nets 9 & 10 are a pair of 18 metre Ecotone nets along the footpath leading to the Badger Hide; they have been in use for only 3 occasions but have already caught 10 birds. We hope they will be better in the New Year due to our positioning a feeder nearby.

Net 11 is planned to be an 18 metre on the eastern bank of the large pond; it will become important later in the year as the reed-mace grows and summer migrants arrive. Not used so far

Net 12 is a short 6 metre net erected between the cypresses and the small crab-apple; in the past 3 weeks it has caught 9 birds, including a Jay, 3 different species of tits and a robin.

Resident birds at Stansfeld Field Centre

These are defined as birds that either breed on site or regularly use the site for feeding or roosting. We have identified them by a simple capture / re-capture method. The list only gives details of those known so far and does not make allowance for the many birds that have not been captured or re-captured.

Those birds with brackets around the sex determination are species where the plumage is monomorphic but size gives a guide; this is not a definitive method of sexing. These individuals may be confirmed later during the breeding season, if the bird is captured at that time, by checking for the presence of a brood patch.

Statistical analysis at this stage with so little data would be weak but when a decent data bank is collected we should be able to make estimates. Over the coming 12 months we will be able to be more precise about the resident birds as we gather more data.

In the table, the first encounter is in black font with all subsequent encounters in blue.

The heading ‘Site’ refers to the individual net ride as shown on the map at Annex 1.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **RING** | **Left Leg** | **Right Leg** | **SPECIES** | **AGE** | **SEX** | **WING** | **WT** | **INIT** | **Wt Date/Time** | **Site** |
| LH83034 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | Male | 136 | 100.1 | AGG | 17/09/2016 09:45 | NET 3 |
| LH83034 |  | Metal | Blackbird | 4 | Male | 136 | 94.5 | MPR | 15/10/2016 12:00 | NET 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024649 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | Male | 65 | 11.6 | AGG | 24/09/2016 08:55 | NET 1 |
| Z024649 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | Male | 65 | 12.3 | MPR | 08/10/2016 11:00 | NET 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024657 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | Female | 64 | 10.7 | AGG | 02/10/2016 09:20 | NET 3 |
| Z024657 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | Female | 64 | 10.9 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:30 | NET 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024673 | Metal |  | Blue Tit | 3 | Male | 63 | 11.0 | GP | 22/10/2016 09:30 | NET 6 |
| Z024673 | Metal |  | Blue Tit | 3 | Male | 63 | 10.8 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:30 | NET 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024683 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | Male | 65 | 10.7 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:30 | NET 12 |
| Z024683 |  | Metal | Blue Tit | 4 | Male | 65 | 10.8 | AGG | 19/12/2016 12:00 | NET 12 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TV26633 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 4 | Male | 74 | 18.5 | AGG | 24/09/2016 10:30 | NET 3 |
| TV26633 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 4 | Male | 74 | 22.1 | GWC | 22/10/2016 12:00 | NET 6 |
| TV26633 |  | Metal | Dunnock | 4 | Male | 74 | 23.5 | AGG | 19/12/2016 08:50 | NET 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TV26626 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Female | 74 | 16.8 | AGG | 24/09/2016 08:50 | NET 1 |
| TV26626 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Female | 74 | 17.4 | GWC | 02/10/2016 12:10 | NET 1 |
| TV26626 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Female | 74 | 16.9 | CJH | 22/10/2016 08:30 | NET 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 77 | 19.2 | GWC | 24/09/2016 09:20 | NET 2 |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 77 | 19.2 | GWC | 24/09/2016 10:55 | NET 1 |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 77 | 19.0 | SHC | 22/10/2016 08:30 | NET 6 |
| TV26629 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 77 | 19.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:30 | NET 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TV26630 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 78 | 19.9 | GWC | 24/09/2016 09:55 | NET 4 |
| TV26630 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 78 | 20.3 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:15 | NET 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TV26631 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 76.5 | 19.8 | AGG | 24/09/2016 10:10 | NET 1 |
| TV26631 |  | Metal | Great Tit | 4 | Male | 77 | 19.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:15 | NET 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DE92705 |  | Metal | Jay | 3 | Male | 189 | 179.0 | SHC | 22/10/2016 09:00 | NET 1 |
| DE92705 |  | Metal | Jay | 3 | Male | 190 | 174.5 | CJH | 19/12/2016 10:30 | NET 12 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HJX223 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  | 61 | 7.8 | MPR | 05/11/2016 11:00 | NET 12 |
| HJX223 |  | Metal | Long-tailed Tit | 2 |  | 62 | 7.5 | GWC | 19/12/2016 10:00 | NET 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024650 | Green | Metal | Robin | 3 | (Female) | 73 | 17.9 | AGG | 24/09/2016 09:30 | NET 2 |
| Z024650 | Green | Metal | Robin | 4 | Female | 73 | 20.1 | GWC | 15/10/2016 10:35 | NET 4 |
| Z024650 | Green | Metal | Robin | 4 | Female | 73 | 23.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 11:15 | NET 4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024654 | Green | Metal | Robin | 3 |  | 76 | 19.1 | GWC | 24/09/2016 11:15 | NET 1 |
| Z024654 | Yellow | Metal | Robin | 3 |  | 76 | 20.0 | GWC | 08/10/2016 09:30 | NET 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024659 | Metal | Orange | Robin | 3 | (Female) | 70 | 17.4 | GWC | 02/10/2016 11:15 | NET 6 |
| Z024659 | Metal | Orange | Robin | 3 | (Female) | 70 | 17.4 | ARB | 15/10/2016 12:00 | NET 6 |
| Z024659 | Metal | Orange | Robin | 3 | (Female) | 70 | 17.4 | GWC | 19/12/2016 11:30 | NET 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Z024666 | Metal | Blue | Robin | 3 | (Male) | 77 | 20.5 | GP | 08/10/2016 10:00 | NET 1 |
| Z024666 | Metal | Blue | Robin | 3 | (Male) | 77 | 20.8 | CJH | 08/10/2016 12:50 | NET 1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HJX209 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  | 53 | 10.9 | GWC | 02/10/2016 11:15 | NET 1 |
| HJX209 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  | 53 | 10.7 | GP | 08/10/2016 11:00 | NET 6 |
| HJX209 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  | 52 | 10.4 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:15 | NET 6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HJX213 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  | 51 | 9.9 | MPR | 15/10/2016 09:50 | NET 4 |
| HJX213 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  | 51 | 9.8 | MPR | 22/10/2016 11:00 | NET 4 |
| HJX213 |  | Metal | Wren | 3 |  | 51 | 9.8 | AGG | 19/12/2016 10:00 | NET 3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HJX215 | Metal |  | Wren | 3 |  | 48 | 9.5 | GP | 22/10/2016 08:30 | NET 7 |
| HJX215 | Metal |  | Wren | 3 |  | 49 | 9.9 | AGG | 26/11/2016 11:00 | NET 6 |

We are also keeping records of those birds sighted but not captured, both on the site and overhead, in order to build up a better baseline, this total so far stands at 45 species.

There have been a total of nine visits to the site. Species seen are listed below in alphabetical order but are colour coded using the ‘traffic light’ system of conservation concern. Green is of least concern; amber is of medium concern and red is threatened / vulnerable.

‘Visits recorded’ refers to the number of occasions, out of a total of nine visits, on which the species was seen and recorded. Some species are migratory and the scope of this report only covers the 3 month period from late autumn into the first half of winter; the population and species composition can therefore be expected to fluctuate throughout the year.

| Species | Visits Recorded |
| --- | --- |
| Black-headed Gull | 2 |
| Blackbird | 9 |
| Blue Tit | 9 |
| Bullfinch | 8 |
| Buzzard | 7 |
| Carrion Crow | 6 |
| Chaffinch | 8 |
| Chiffchaff | 1 |
| Coal Tit | 2 |
| Collared Dove | 2 |
| Dunnock | 7 |
| Fieldfare | 4 |
| Goldcrest | 8 |
| Goldfinch | 3 |
| Great Spotted Woodpecker | 7 |
| Great Tit | 9 |
| Green Woodpecker | 7 |
| Greenfinch | 1 |
| Grey Heron | 4 |
| Grey Wagtail | 7 |
| Herring Gull | 1 |
| Jay | 7 |
| Lesser Black-backed Gull | 1 |
| Lesser Whitethroat | 1 |
| Long-tailed Tit | 3 |
| Magpie | 7 |
| Mallard | 8 |
| Meadow Pipit | 1 |
| Moorhen | 7 |
| Pied/White Wagtail | 2 |
| Raven | 2 |
| Red Kite | 9 |
| Redwing | 2 |
| Robin | 8 |
| (Feral Pigeon) | 3 |
| Siskin | 1 |
| Skylark | 2 |
| Snipe | 1 |
| Song Thrush | 1 |
| Sparrowhawk | 3 |
| Starling | 5 |
| Stock Dove | 4 |
| Tawny Owl | 2 |
| Woodpigeon | 8 |
| Wren | 9 |
|  |  |

Fieldfare and Redwing are winter visitors from Scandinavia but are also rare breeding birds in the UK and are consequently evaluated by their UK status.

Herring Gulls and Starlings are red listed because, although still numerous, the total UK population has crashed by over 50% in the last 25 years. A similar fate has caused Skylark, Mallard and Song Thrush to be similarly listed.

Dunnock, Stock Dove and Red Kite are recovering populations. The re-introduction of Red Kites has been spectacularly successful; Stock Doves are benefitting from the number of Barn Owl boxes that are appearing in the countryside, providing nesting opportunities; whilst Dunnock are still limited by the amount of scrub available for breeding.

|  |
| --- |
| **Colour rings for Robins** |

We have also instigated a project of fitting colour rings to robins; these should allow children (and adults) to record and report any of these specially marked birds that they might see in their gardens in or around the Stansfeld Field Centre site. A table of those marked so far is below. SFC is the code for Stansfeld; HTHQ is for elsewhere in Headington Quarry area.

Robins should be easy for anyone to recognise and we hope that most people and children know left from right so will have no difficulty recording the data. We need to know which colour and on which leg, where it was seen and when. If we get enough response it will allow us to build up a map of what these birds are doing.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Metal Ring on Left Leg of bird** |   | **Metal ring on Right Leg of bird** |
|  |  |  |
| **BTO Ring Nr** | **Left leg** | **Right leg** |  | **Left leg** | **Right leg** | **BTO Ring Nr** |
|   | M | Yellow  |   | Yellow  | M | SFC Z024654 |
|   | M | Lime |   | Lime | M | HTHQ L315672 |
|   | M | Green |   | Green | M | SFC Z024650 |
| SFC Z024672 | M | Pale Blue |   | Pale Blue | M | SFC Z024658 |
| SFC Z024666 | M | Blue |   | Blue | M |   |
| SFC Z024659 | M | Orange |   | Orange | M | SFC Z024655 |
|   | M | Violet |   | Violet | M | SFC Z024675 |
| SFC Z024665 | M | Light Pink |   | Light Pink | M | SFC Z024664 |
| SFC Z024656 | M | White |   | White | M |   |
|   | M | Umber |   | Umber | M |   |



Z024650 Robin with green ring on left leg

Annex 1

Map of net rides at Stansfeld Field Centre

Nets are shown in green, positions are approximate



Annex 2

Ringing

Ringing in the UK is administered by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) on behalf of JNCC and the relevant Country Agencies for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland plus Eire. During ringing operations, ringers are covered by Public Liability Insurance held by the BTO. All ringers must be trained and licensed in order to handle wild birds; this is a long and detailed training which includes both theory and practical application of knowledge. The safety of birds is paramount so applicants are closely supervised until they are considered safe.

Ringers in the UK are licensed at various levels. A ‘T Permit’ must be obtained in order to train as a ringer. Holders of ‘T Permits’ are not allowed to work unsupervised or alone. When a trainee is considered safe and competent following a year or two of training, they can apply to be assessed for advancement to a ‘C Permit’. This permit allows them to work alone or as part of a ringing group, without close supervision but still answerable to a trainer. Following two or three years of holding a ‘C Permit’ it is possible to be assessed for an ‘A Permit’. This is when a ringer becomes independent and is permitted to supervise trainees. The final step is to become a ‘Trainer’ (instructor), which is done through peer review and individual assessment

In the UK ringing began in 1909 with the intent of studying migration routes and destinations. It has since developed into an important tool for monitoring the population levels, longevity and productivity of birds by enabling individuals to be tracked and monitored. At a scientific level, bird behaviour, flock hierarchy, dominance, health and survival can be monitored or observed in a way that would not be possible if the birds were unmarked.

All ringing encounters, fitting the ring, re-capturing a bird or finding a corpse, are reported to the BTO and entered into the EURING Databank. This is an International data source which can be accessed by researchers. The BTO also feed data to JNCC who use it to inform Natural England, the policy advisors to the UK Government.

The ringing team Instructors in 2016 were Dr Andrew Gosler & Mr George Candelin

Team members: Dr Jeremy Blakey, Dr Caroline Jackson-Houlson, Mrs Alison Bunning,

Miss Sophie Carr, Mr Martyn Roper & Mrs Grace Pam.