

# Lyvennet Red Squirrels

Winter 2021-22



**A snowy scene in Flass Wood – Photo: Trail camera**

The main news being:

- Now back in the woods around Flass following the end of the pheasant season - Greys are/were very prominent and active in those woods.
- Still plenty of REDS and are now starting to go back to gardens in Crosby Ravensworth.
- Approaching/upon the time of year when new litters are born
- Reports of sightings are still very low

## General

**X1 Grey Dispatched                      Year Total = 1**

**No reports of S/Pox cases.**



**Road Deaths – two                      Year Total = 2**

**31<sup>st</sup> Jan – see Maulds Meaburn ‘Flass’.**

**Other Deaths – none                      Year Total = 0**

Greys dispatched this year in locality = 1

Reds with S/pox dispatched this year in locality = 0

## Report

This report being the first of the year, is always most likely to focus on what was found in the woods that were out of bounds to us during the pheasant season, that season finishing on the 1<sup>st</sup> February - it was as expected and wasn't great.

At the end of August when we vacated those woods (Orchard Wood, Three Cornered Wood, Longhill Wood and Ewe Close) greys were in all but the latter and there was no reason to expect that come Feb' 1<sup>st</sup> the



position would have altered, it was just a case of how many greys would there be? Orchard Wood and Three Cornered Wood seem to be taking the brunt and as usual any greys are being awkward to dispatch – progress to the end of Feb' was slow, but a couple on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March as certainly improved things.

And come the 6<sup>th</sup> March the position is looking better with fewer sightings of greys – but at this time of year it is as likely that any females are now entering the final stages of pregnancy and preparing to give birth and will 'go out of sight' for a while.

Orchard Wood had at least x3 greys and x2 reds

Three Cornered Wood had x2 greys and at least one red .

Longhill Wood is a work in progress with only one of each being seen, but at the end of the period the grey, which had been regular visitor to the feeder, had not been seen for a few days.

The initial plan was just to concentrate on Orchard Wood and Three Cornered Wood at first as greys had been venturing all around Flass during the winter. They had been on all of the feeders around Flass, including up at The Folly, but had not been seen at Lyvennet Bank.

It pained me not to go up to Longhill Wood and Ewe Close as they are my favourites, but temptation finally got the better of me.

In all of the woods it is amazing that after five (and a bit) months that virtually as soon as you put food in the feeders squirrels soon turn up.



Photo: Well Head. Crosby Ravensworth -- Andrew Wallis

Elsewhere, the feeders at Hopper Hill were being visited almost daily, but then suddenly stopped and this remains the case into March.

A number of people at Crosby Ravensworth had told me that sightings of reds had dried up over the winter, but come the end of the period ... they've started to return.

Reports of sightings have been few, but fortunately that also applies to sightings of greys and indeed I'm not aware of any such sightings aside from those of my own.

At times over the winter visits to some of the feeders that I monitor decreased noticeably, but there was always a small core that just kept going.

The feeder at Flass tunnel as been moved, detailed further below.

Over the Spring it will be very important to ensure that any sightings of greys are reported immediately – as I touched on above, new litters are imminent....

Finally, just my usual plea to keep sightings coming in and to send me any photographs – any of reds that are not sat on feeders are especially welcomed.

Keep up the good work.



[www.penrithredsquirrels.org.uk/](http://www.penrithredsquirrels.org.uk/)

[www.facebook.com/PDRSG01](https://www.facebook.com/PDRSG01)

Below is a chronology of **sightings of greys** over these last three months:

Also refer to the relevant section within the report for more details

**8<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – Maulds Meaburn - on the feeder at the tunnel of Flass

**18<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – Maulds Meaburn – Flass  
walking towards me from the direction of the house

**20<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – Maulds Meaburn – Flass  
Caught on camera on the feeder in the garden  
Gary informed and hoping to pop out tomorrow

**22<sup>nd</sup> Jan'** – Flass, it's still there.

**28<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – Flass, it's still there – but is bizarre. Just one photo, it didn't hang around, but now up at the Folly! Which isn't good.

**4<sup>st</sup> Feb'** – most probably more than one grey kicking about Flass and Orchard Wood.

Have spoken with Gary and whilst the forecast is poor for tomorrow, he will be coming out on the 6<sup>th</sup> or early next week.

**14<sup>th</sup> Feb'** – **\*\*\*GREY DISPATCHED\*\*\*** by Gary in Orchard Wood

**10<sup>th</sup> Feb'** – Confirm that still x2 greys in Orchard Wood and x1 in Three Cornered Wood.  
Position in Longhill Wood and Ewe Pasture is NYK

**24<sup>th</sup> Feb'** – it really is a poor situation at present – now confirmed that GREYS are in every wood in and around Flass.

**End of period** – greys remain in each of Three Cornered Wood, Orchard Wood and Longhill Wood and may(?) have moved into Ewe Close

## Maulds Meaburn



Flass Wood, Maulds Meaburn Photo: Darren Rogers

## Lyvennet Bank

X1 feeder looking out over the green

X1 feeder on a tree in the main garden next to the river.

Feed goes constantly from both of the feeders – fairly good chance of spotting a red feeding.

At the start of the period all was well with daily visits from reds

**13<sup>th</sup> Jan** – and so it continues, feed always gone

**31<sup>st</sup> Jan** – whilst the feed is still going daily from the main feeder by the river, no feed has been taken from the feeder that overlooks the green for some days now.



**1<sup>st</sup> Feb** – 0845h and 30 mins after I had topped the feeder up, a red.

**7<sup>th</sup> Feb** – it must have been close to 2weeks since I've had to top up the feeder that looks out over the green, today it was empty.  
Red on the garden feeder this afternoon

**16<sup>th</sup> Feb** – something a bit different today ... **an otter**

About 4.30 p.m. as I went through the gate, looked to the river, which after the heavy rain was in spate, and saw something merge out of the centre of the river and dive back in.

All very fleeting, and one of those occasions when you say to yourself ... *'that was an otter; wasn't it.'*

And then five minutes later having topped up the feeders and now on the Flass side of the bridge, in one movement it leapt out of the water onto the bank and dived back into the river.

Magical and the first time that I have seen one in the wild ... whilst feeding squirrels!

At the end of the period the position remains the same, the main feeder is visited daily, the one over-looking the green is more intermittent.



# Flass



Feed goes constantly from the three feeders, the one by the tunnel (now the Pump House) is very popular.

I permanently kept a camera on the tunnel feeder due to it being the first feeder out of Orchard Wood and the most likely place where we will first see the greys coming out from those woods.

At the start of the period all was well with daily visits from reds and no greys had been seen on the tunnel feeder since 18<sup>th</sup> November.

**Garden** - on a yew tree to the left of the swimming pool – not viewable to public.

**Pump House** – (was previously the ‘Tunnel Feeder’) - see entry for 22<sup>nd</sup> January on a tree, just on the high ground immediately next to it

**Folly** – up at the folly and not viewable to the public

\*\* 5<sup>th</sup> January – finally worked out where the drey is for the feeder up at the folly ... half way up the tree immediately next to it!!!!

## DECEMBER

28<sup>th</sup> – no change – daily visits from reds to all of the feeders

## JANUARY

4<sup>th</sup> – feed hadn't been taken from the tunnel feeder, which is odd, but I put it down to them 'staying home' in the cold weather as one or two more feeders also still had food in, but then I looked at the photos and saw that reds had visited the feeder and it's either:

- a.) a new red who couldn't work out how to get in ...or more likely
- b.) The lid is frozen shut and they can't prise it open



5<sup>th</sup> – feeders empty – has either become unfrozen or the 'new red' has worked out how to get in!

8<sup>th</sup> – hasn't been a grey for ages then one turned up today from 1043-1103h



13<sup>th</sup> – although reds have been feeding well and on occasion x2 seen together.

No more greys

18<sup>th</sup> – **GREY** – 0845hrs - I was walking across the top of the tunnel towards the house and it was walking towards me from the direction of the house.

Upon seeing it me it turned and ran off – cameras checked and it hasn't been on any of the feeders yesterday or today -- informed Gary.

20<sup>th</sup> – no greys on the cameras – good, but quite odd



Pause for thought!

On checking the camera on the 21<sup>st</sup>, the grey is back!

Just briefly (only x2 photos at 1242 and 1324 Hrs) and worse still, onto another feeder, the one in the garden



Gary hopefully popping out tomorrow (22<sup>nd</sup>).

But up to 1545 hrs it hadn't been at any of the feeders on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

**22<sup>nd</sup>** – as Gary pulled up in the morning, round the rear of the farm near the sawmill, he saw the grey running away along a wall and did not see it again.

++ the feeder at the tunnel as been removed -- self imposed health and safety!

Whilst it has been perfect for people getting sightings of reds as they walk along the footpath, the problem now is that with a grey visiting it, it's not very well placed for dispatching them.

A slight shame because the reds love it and they hammer the feed put out for them and in quick time.

But the footpath is just too close and too well used to have someone trying to dispatch greys from off the feeder.

It is now on a tree just above the old pump house – go through the tunnel and look to your right and you should see the derelict pump house and it is to the right.

I just can't get a camera on this feeder at present though

**23<sup>rd</sup>** –only reds on the yew tree in the garden.

And all the feed from the, now '**Pump House**' feeder had gone – they do find these feeders very quickly.

Up at the **Folly**, because I think the drey is in the tree aside the feeder (and the reds always enter and exit '*Stage right*' when they approach the feeder, and as I don't need a camera elsewhere until the 1<sup>st</sup> (access to the woods after the pheasant season), I've put a camera up to monitor the tree with the drey.

It could be one way to get a few photo's in which there isn't a feeder.

**28<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – Flass, it's still there, the GREY – but it is bizarre.

Just one photo, it didn't hang around, but now up at the Folly!

Not good.

Having the second camera alongside the main one at the folly ... did not work!

But on the plus side the GREY hasn't been seen on any of the other cameras and today for the first time, I actually saw a red on the Yew Tree feeder.

Camera moved from the Yew Tree to the pump house, where the feed is going.

30<sup>th</sup> Jan' – annoying now!

Grey back on the 'folly feeder', just a little longer this time.

It's definitely nesting somewhere nearby -- Reds still visiting though



Whilst at the 'Pump House Feeder' the grey hasn't visited, just reds (x2)



And always approaches from above.

**31<sup>st</sup> – \*ROAD DEATH\*** – not a good time at Flass at present.

And it wasn't even on a road!

Found this afternoon on the track that goes over the top of the tunnel – truly gone splat!

X2 reds on the 'Folly Feeder' this afternoon

## **FEBRUARY**

**1<sup>st</sup>** – as of 0830h no greys on any of the feeders (inc' the 31<sup>st</sup>)

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – flaming grey is back ... on the Folly Feeder

20 minutes in the morning and briefly in the afternoon.

Could be a different one to last time.

Now, bizarrely and considering greys are in Orchard Wood, they still haven't been on the Pump House Feeder.



And even though one red was recently over, there are two

**7<sup>th</sup>** – as of 0845h no visits by greys to any of the feeders

Red on the Folly Feeder this morning.

Camera moved from the Pump House to Three Cornered Wood

**14<sup>th</sup>** – I deliberately hadn't put any feed out the last few days so as not to tempt any greys away from Orchard Wood, but all the feeders were empty, apart from corn and up at the Folly only reds on the camera.

Camera now removed.



**15<sup>th</sup>** – at 0735h as I was walking through, took a quick look and a red was just making its way to the Pump House Feeder – topped up late afternoon.

End of the period – all seems well.

Whilst I have no cameras on any of the three feeders here, I have no reason to believe that greys are visiting at present – they are now getting fed in the others woods after all!

**GREEN ENDS + THWAITES COTTAGES**

4<sup>th</sup> Dec – visitor this morning at Thwaites





## Three Cornered Wood

**31<sup>st</sup> January**

At the end of August when we vacated the wood due to the start of the pheasant season, there was:

x2 greys in the wood, but also x2 reds.

What did we find when we got back in?

**Visited this afternoon to disinfect the feeder – the wood does look somewhat barren at this time of year.**

**FEBRUARY**

**7<sup>th</sup> – feed now in-situ and camera to monitor**

**8<sup>th</sup> – they soon find it and at the moment only red(s), but I could have seen a GREY**



At 0830h today I walked to the boundary fence and about 2 mins later saw something grey jump from the ground onto a tree.

Then about 2 mins later saw a red in the canopy, made its way to the feeder, takes a nut and scurries off.

**9<sup>th</sup> – I can't say that I am surprised, but the only squirrel to visit the feeder today was a GREY. No red at all**

I think female and it looks pregnant – but I've only seen the one.

There 08-1000h and then again 15-1515h, shortly after I arrived



**11<sup>th</sup>** – after work I attended for about 20 mins (1610-1630h) and saw nothing

The camera shows that on the 10<sup>th</sup> with a full feeder the GREY (I think it is just the one) was there from 0800 hrs and spent the entire morning there, into the early afternoon and again for a hour at tee-time.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> it arrived a little earlier and still spent one hour with a couple of further visits in the morning.

**\*\*Not a single RED over these last few days\*\***

**13<sup>th</sup>** – have been defeated by the weather yesterday and today

**14<sup>th</sup>** – days like today can be quite annoying.

Having just missed a grey on the feeder in Orchard Wood by 5 minutes, Gary then missed the grey here by 13 minutes – and then it didn't return for the rest of the day!

I pulled the card from the camera this p.m. and the grey is still very active – turns up about 0730 ish and hangs about until just after 9 and then pop back about 4ish for a hour.

I was there just before 4 this afternoon for 30mins and it didn't show.

Some better news is that there was one photo today of a red on the tree, it didn't go on the feeder.

GREY had 30 mins after 1700h

**15<sup>th</sup>** – arrived at 0810h, there was a grey on the feeder which ran then ran off and didn't return in the 30 mins, nor again up to 1600h.

However, whilst I was sat down (outside the wood) saw a grey in the bottom right corner high in the trees. It came down, ran across the field to the fence line, ran one way, then another, then back to the wood and as it did so I think I saw another grey jump up onto a tree.

**21<sup>st</sup>** – having been away for a few days pulled the card from the camera this morning.

There is no change – still at least x1 GREY prominent and visiting twice daily. Sunrise for a hour or so and always after 17h for 30-40 minutes

**24<sup>th</sup>** – due to work I hadn't been able to get down for a few days - pulled the card from the camera this afternoon.

No change – apart from the fact that a red as made a few visits.

Still at least x1 GREY prominent and visiting twice daily.

Sunrise for a hour or so and always after 17h for 30-60 minutes.

**25<sup>th</sup>** – grey for a couple of hours from 0715h and even a red for a little while.

Topped up about 3 p.m. returned at 17h, but nothing moving.

**26<sup>th</sup>** – arrived at 0855h and had 15 minutes watching – nothing turned up, but the food from yesterday had gone.

Pulled the card from the camera this afternoon – transpires the grey was there 07-08h and then from 10-12h today!

**27<sup>th</sup>** – just a GREY and virtually for the whole morning.

Arrived at 0724 hrs and with just the odd break was there to 1214 hrs

This grey is dominant in this wood

**28<sup>th</sup>** – grey again all morning from 0650 Hrs

The greys have really been dominant here and the red that is also in the wood is rarely seen.

1<sup>st</sup> March – Gary dispatched x1 grey female (to be added onto Spring's returns) and then on the 2<sup>nd</sup> there was another grey on the feeder – confirms my thoughts from the 15<sup>th</sup>

## Orchard Wood

**31<sup>st</sup> January**

At the end of August when we vacated the wood due to the start of the pheasant season, there was:

At least x1 red and a grey knocking about (possibly coming in from Three Cornered Wood).

What did we find when we got back in?

**Visited this afternoon to disinfect the feeder**

**1<sup>st</sup> Feb** – 0840h – set a camera up and filled the feeder with corn and just a few monkey nuts.

As I walking back along the avenue a red jumped off the ground and went up a tree – a positive start

and it didn't take long for a squirrel to re-discover the feeder, 1hr and 8 minutes, not bad.

One slight concern in the afternoon was that a rather large bird of prey visited. It was on the tree with the feeder, but at the back of it, therefore unable to see what it had/was doing.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Feb'** – fairly certain saw a grey on the avenue as I walking down to the feeder,  
But no visits from anything this morning

**And as feared, greys are about! Spot the red**



And it has spent some time on the feeder ... each day.

And whilst the grey was there ... the red wasn't.

Gary is aware.

**7<sup>th</sup> Feb** – as of 0845h today, all apart from one photo on the 4<sup>th</sup> only reds have visited the feeder.

New feeder erected – on the top side of the wood nearest to Longhill Wood

**\*\*\* GREY DISPATCHED \*\*\***

**By Gary this morning – up high from a tree – a large female**

**He also saw x2 reds, one with a blonde tail and one with a black tail.**

To this day I have never seen two reds at the same time in this wood

**8<sup>th</sup> Feb** – still a GREY about though, from the camera was there from 08h

Gary spent a.m. here and close by and no greys seen – it then spent most of the afternoon on the feeder!

**9<sup>th</sup> Feb** – It's not good – a GREY on the feeder for a large period today and there is x1 photo with two greys

**11<sup>th</sup>** – after work I attended for about 20 mins after 1600h and saw nothing  
The camera shows that on the 10<sup>th</sup> we definitely have two GREYS.

Basically the two GREYS are running the show – there from just before sunrise and stay for the rest of the morning.

**\*\*Fleeting visits from a RED but the food has gone by that time\*\***



**13<sup>th</sup>** – have been defeated by the weather yesterday and today

**14<sup>th</sup>** - days like today can be quite annoying.

Gary was here this morning and missed a grey on the feeder by 5 minutes.  
I pulled the card from the camera this p.m. and the greys are still very active  
Now turning up about 0730 ish and has been hanging about for the majority of the morning.

I was there just before 3 this afternoon, for 30mins and it didn't show.  
However, the camera shows that for a few hours earlier in the afternoon a red spent a few hours on the feeder.

**15<sup>th</sup>** – there is a story to tell, but maybe left for another day!

GREY arrived on the feeder at 0750h, it didn't hang around and that is the only time a GREY has been on the feeder today.

Otherwise a RED spent quite some time on the feeder this afternoon.

About 0830h as I was walking back from Three Cornered Wood belatedly saw a GREY under a pheasant feeder (which still contains corn) which then scarpered up a tree.

No feed is going from the new feeder

**21<sup>st</sup>** – having been away for a few days pulled the card from the camera this a.m. There is no change – but whilst a grey(s) is visiting regularly and more throughout the day inc' evenings, a red(s) is still visiting on a regular basis.

**24<sup>th</sup>** – due to work I hadn't been able to get down for a few days - pulled the card from the camera this afternoon.

No real change – the red is still visiting regularly but still at least x1 GREY prominent, their visits are a little more sporadic and now could be at any time of the day.

The new second feeder still hasn't been touched

**25<sup>th</sup>** – GREYS remain dominant. Arrived late at 0842h but stayed most of the morning, seeing off a red at 1005h and then came back early afternoon and stayed a good while then.

I topped up at 1445h and removed the camera to Ewe Close



26<sup>th</sup> – arrived about 0910h and had 20 minutes just watching ... No greys seen.  
After only 3-4 minutes up turned a ... RED – it made a few visits, always taking a nut and then scampering off before returning - at one point I saw it go at least 100 yards from the feeder before returning.

With no camera here for the last few days of the month, I can only say that the feed is still going daily.

At the end of the month the new second feeder was now being visited on a daily basis ... by what I don't know, but no corn is going.

1<sup>st</sup> March – Gary dispatched x1 grey male (to be added onto Spring's returns)

That leaves x1 grey



# Longhill Wood

**3<sup>rd</sup> February**

At the end of August when we vacated the wood due to the start of the pheasant season, there was: x2 greys in the wood, but also x3 reds. What did we find when we got back in?



Well, as previously mentioned, I didn't rush up here as I wanted to

concentrate on Orchard Wood and Three Cornered Wood, but Gary put some feed out on the 7<sup>th</sup> and on the 9<sup>th</sup> I visited and put a camera up.

**14<sup>th</sup>** – well all the feed apart from the corn had gone.

However, the camera as malfunctioned, so I don't know what did visit the feeder.

Camera from Flass Folly now here.

**15<sup>th</sup>** – will have to wait a little longer – no visits at all in the last 24hrs

**24<sup>th</sup>** – due to work and having been away I hadn't been able to get down for a few days - pulled the card from the camera this afternoon.

All the feed had gone apart from a little corn and a most of this had been chewed. Therefore, no real surprise – GREYS.

They (it?) are visiting at sunrise and hanging about a while, obviously the visits became rare once the food had gone.



However, it isn't all bad as there have been some visits by a red.

**25<sup>th</sup>** – grey from 0644 to 09h and then a red, but all the food had gone.

Topped up about 3 p.m. returned at 1620h, but nothing moving.

**26<sup>th</sup>** – arrived just before 08h and had 50 minutes just watching.

Just sat up in the adjacent field about 20 yards from the feeder – no greys seen at all, but about 0810h a RED just appeared and spent the next 20 minutes on the feeder.

Whilst I say 'on the feeder', more often than not it took a monkey nuts and went away with it before coming back.

It always went in a different direction though – and on one occasion I came right ip to the boundary fence where I was sat, went through the fence, up the field, back into the wood and back to the feeder – either I didn't see me or wasn't bothered!

Pulled the card from the camera this afternoon – only just missed the grey this morning, there from 0640-0756h.

This grey is an early riser.

The red hung about a little while after I had left.

**27<sup>th</sup>** – in previous years the greys in this wood were not early to rise, but this one sure is, 0636 hrs and before sunrise at that – in other woods they at least wait for the sun rise.

And of course it stayed a while today, through to 0940 hrs

For a while it and a red were taking alternative visits, but the grey featured more today.

And then on the 28<sup>th</sup> there was no grey and come the 6<sup>th</sup> March still no grey had been to the feeder!

Strange indeed

Intend to put one extra feeder up in the wood – same side of the beck but about another 200 yards further in.

## Edge Close - Wood above Flass Pasture NY 632 146



### **3<sup>rd</sup> February**

At the end of August when we vacated the wood due to the start of the pheasant season there were no greys in the wood, but there was a pair of reds (I believe a mum and x1 young).

What did we find when we got back in?

Well, as previously mentioned, I didn't rush up here as I wanted to concentrate on Orchard Wood and Three Cornered Wood -- I visited and put feed out, but at present my x4 cameras are elsewhere.

**14<sup>th</sup>** – well all the feed apart from the corn had gone.

However, with one of my cameras having malfunctioned it will have to wait a while before I get one up here.

**15<sup>th</sup>** – some, but not all, of the feed had gone.

**24<sup>th</sup>** – maybe half a chance that there aren't any greys here. The feed had gone but the corn was still there and not chewed.

**25<sup>th</sup>** – most, but not all of the good food had gone – camera positioned here

**26<sup>th</sup>** – I tried a new camera angle, but it's not overly worked as there were only a few photos. However, have only seen a red.



**27<sup>th</sup>** – only reds so far – moved the camera to a different tree

And that didn't really work either.

Jays are a nuisance in most woods, but in particular this one and I only seemed to get photos of them.

Into March and on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> all the food including the corn had gone, which concerns me – will have to get a camera back here

## Other sightings from the village:

**December** -- None reported

**January**

24<sup>th</sup> – Rowans - No sightings of reds at the Rowans for three months or more.

**February** None reported

## Brackenslack Wood

Does have pheasants in and in partially out of bounds, save for the footpath.

I have not visited during the winter, obviously have to get back in here.

## Brackenslack Lane

The feeder here remains un-visited

## Trainlands Wood

I still top up every 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> day and the food is always gone

## Morland Bank Wood

I get the occasional report of sightings of reds at various spots within the wood, usually on the first set of bends as you exit the main part of the wood.

## **Caravan Wood**

Not had any updates from Jerry

## Crosby Ravensworth



Nest Making (towards Oddendale) -- Photo by David Thompson

### Well Head + Anna Well

**7<sup>th</sup> Dec** – Having not seen any squirrels for over 10 weeks, we have had two at the feeder at Well Head since Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> December -- Andrew

**17<sup>th</sup> Dec** - Just to let you know that I see the same (?) red squirrel regularly behind our house – saw him today.

Sadly, the greater number seem to have disappeared.

Will keep you informed of any sightings and any progress in numbers.

**5<sup>th</sup> Jan** - Thought you should know that I have seen two red squirrels in the last week – one (four days ago) skipping along the field wall on the opposite side of our lane and, two days ago, one on our side raiding Andrew's feeder (Well Head). This second beauty went along the front wall to the feeder and then back 12 yards or so along the wall top and then dropped out of sight and then repeated this sequence some 7 times whilst I was watching – two walkers along the lane stopped to watch it, so someone else's day was made brighter by its antics! Dorothy

**18<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Just to let you know that I saw a red squirrel yesterday.

It was sitting on a branch about 2 feet above Andrew's feeder.

Sadly haven't seen any others in the last month or so. Dorothy

**26<sup>th</sup> Feb** - Two more sightings of red squirrels – yesterday and day before – suspect it's the same one – lightish body, darkish tail – very playful! Dorothy

## **Crosby Ravensworth South – Gilt**

**16<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – feeder checked, first time in a while and was empty

**20<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – the food was still there

And I have to be honest, I've not been back since

## **The Bank Coppice (by River)**

**During December checked occasionally and more often than not it was empty**

**14<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – empty and filled

**20<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – curiously there was still some food left

**31<sup>st</sup> Jan'** – some feed taken, but by no means all.

## **Summer House**

**During December checked occasionally and more often than not it was empty**

**14<sup>th</sup> Jan** – empty and filled

**20<sup>th</sup> Jan** – curiously there was still some food left

**20<sup>th</sup> Jan** – no feed as been taken, all still there

## **Other Sightings:-**

### **December -- No Reports**

### **January**

**12<sup>th</sup> – Harberwain** - Saw a very healthy Red on Haberwain this a.m.  
Made my day – Mark

**23<sup>rd</sup> – Dale Foot** – just the occasional red to the garden

## February

13<sup>th</sup> – a red at Glebe/Weston House -- Neil

27<sup>th</sup> – this cute little thing was seen just past Fell Foot going up the dale.

How close can you get?

That in its mouth is sheep's wool – time to be making a nest.

A good spot by Dave and out with the mobile phone asap





## Hopper Hill / Wood

**X2 feeders here – both are on the opposite side of the river to the footpath along the river, but quite visible.**

- 1.) Feeder 1 is just in the copse further along from the bend in the river. Look for the white bag on the fence**
- 2.) Feeder on a lone tree standing just outside the copse on the bend of the river**

At the start of the period all was well with regular, although not daily, visits from reds

**10<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – 0945h as walking across the field from the Folly at Flass towards Hopper Hill, saw a red in the field above the copse that is on the bend of the river.

When it saw me it jumped back into the copse and went up a tree

**18<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – red on the feeder No.2 – the food put out yesterday was still there

**20<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – red on feeder number 2 again this morning (0830h) when I attended and feed from both feeders gone.

**21<sup>st</sup> Jan'** – all the feed from both feeders has gone again.

**29<sup>th</sup> Jan'** – had checked on the 27<sup>th</sup> and again today and no feed has gone!

**31<sup>st</sup> Jan'** – a.m. and still no feed has gone.

**9<sup>th</sup> Feb'** – I've checked a few times this last week and still no feed has gone.

**24<sup>th</sup> Feb'** – a little strange. Still none of the feed as gone from No.2, but at least the majority has from No.1

At so it remained the case ... Strange!

And even as late as the 6<sup>th</sup> March the feed hadn't been touched.

I'm putting it down to a pair of reds travelling out to these feeders from elsewhere and that they are now nest making and 'staying at home'.

## Oddendale

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dec** - I was lucky to get to Oddendale about 3-ish this afternoon because I saw five searching the feeders as I arrived!! Very active - and one or two hovering in view waiting for them to get filled! Liz

## Morland

### **6<sup>th</sup> Jan – Crown Inn Fields**

We haven't seen any reds for several months but one has been a regular visitor on each of the last 6 days.

Although the squirrel feeder is out and well stocked, he spends some of his time feasting on the bird seed which has in it a good supply of sunflower hearts !!!



See attached photos ... not brilliant as it was sleeting when I took them.  
Nevertheless it is real joy to have the squirrels back and to take still pictures  
and videos of them.

John.



## Reagill

**30<sup>th</sup> Jan' – Beech Tree Farm**

Just thought you should know ....

They are enjoying sunflower seeds ... Yesterday ... 1

Today ... 3 red squirrels.

Will let you know if there are any more.

Jane

**Kings Meaburn / Littlebeck + Sleagill + Newby**

**NO REPORTS**

## And Finally

A little selection of some ad-hoc photos that I have captured



Flass Tunnel



Ewe Close

Darren Rogers 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022