

Red Squirrel Sightings – July 2019



Wellhead Red – photo by Andrew Wallis

General

Squirrel Pox outbreak was observed in Maulds Meaburn on the 13th
Ranger attended 14th and shot x1 red at Thwaites Cottages
Second infected squirrel seen on Brackenslack Road

E-mail circulated and most people appeared to have removed their feeding boxes

Update as of 20th – no more S/Pox cases or sightings of greys reported
Feeding boxes to remain down for one more week

Come the 27th no more S/Pox cases had been notified and/or Greys seen, therefore e-mail circulated that feeders could be replaced.

As of the end of the month there were no more reported cases.

Road Deaths – x2 – Crosby Ravensworth

First was about 150yds up from the school towards MM
Second on 4th just over bridge from school Nr. Low Row

Cat Attacks x2 (Maulds Meaburn + Morland) – see relevant village sections

Maulds Meaburn

General

Green Ends (inc' cottages down to Grey Walls)

2/3 regularly seen in the gardens, virtually daily – uncertain as to whether it is just one group of reds or not.

Look healthy and dig numerous holes in the lawn, searching/burying nuts.

Usually one squirrel seen at a time but two have seen chasing each other up the pine tree (Green Ends – a favourite tree).

6th two small squirrels seen zooming around the trunk of a blue cedar tree early this a.m. – possibly a drey?

Have also been seen following the S/Pox outbreak (at least one of the three)

20th Having had a week of no sightings here, red with white'ish tail one was in Green Ends garden this morning and looking healthy too



Green Ends – photo's by Pennie Bennet



Green Ends

MM – Cont

Riverside – visit bird table, seen once a week

Howebeck – semi regular sole visitor, occasionally daily basis

Brackenslack/Greyber – no reds seen recently by one occupant and no greys

Long Rigg Lane (turning down to Trainlands/MM)

used to be seen fairly regularly, but not recently

Rowans (next to Heron View) – possible drey in garden with 2-3 reds believed to reside

Thwaites Cottages – semi regular visitor, usually seen arriving from direction of the Green



30th – Thwaites Cottages – photo by Pete Button

Other Sightings

2nd – S/Feeder in gardens Howebeck – again 7th

3rd – 0930z - running down bank (road side) to river and crossing the bridge at Bridge End

11th – 0900z seen running down road from Green Ends towards Thwaites Cottages

18th – p.m. – seen going across green into Thwaites cottages

One seen crossing the road from Maranatha towards the green
Person who saw it said it was the lightest coloured one he had ever seen

21st – a.m. – seen in Thwaites Cottages – first for a week.

Unable to tell if healthy but ran straight across lawn to where the feeder used to be prior to S/Pox case.

Described as 'pale looking' – possibly the same one as at Green Ends

1800z - male adult seen in rear garden of No.1 Howebeck – healthy.

23rd – 0730z – **CAT ATTACK** - small (ish) and healthy seen in No.2 Howebeck

Attacked by next doors cat in tree, intervention of householder saw the cat let go, but had hold of squirrel for a period of time.

30th – afternoon – seen in garden of Thwaites Cottages – appears healthy with a Very pale coloured tail

Hopper Hill / Wood

Keith has x3 feeders placed in Hopper Wood – food taken from each which is presently being taken at an increased rate.

At least 2 reds and seen regularly

16th – 0845z – on gate opposite side of road to the houses – appeared healthy

Crosby Ravensworth



Well Head – photo's by Andrew Wallis

General

SCHOOL - visit the S/Feeder on a regular basis – from the churchyard?

Stonegarths - several regularly seen behind Stonegarth in trees near to river

St Lawrence Churchyard under and up Yew trees on the left of main path two squirrels caught on mobile video, feeding regularly for minutes – possibly live in the yews? Seem unfazed by people standing watching them from the path.

Castlehowe Scar (front garden) – two live in the beech trees and live off the nuts. They also visit the window bird feeder at Scar Cottage and crouch into the small base of the bottom feeder and gorge the sunflower seeds, every day. One of the two has an extraordinarily pale tail, which flashes as it runs up and down the Beech tree and along the wall.

Well Head

6.7.19. – 0945z - on bird feeder for 10 minutes and appears very healthy.
12.7.19. – back again this a.m. – and becoming more regular

Becoming bolder - as here is another photo, taken in the evening on 11th just after the squirrel had been into the house whilst the occupant was sitting on the sofa!



Dale Banks - mornings daily for 30 mins on feeders - ranges from 2-4 squirrels



DaleBanks Trio – photo by Andrea Davis

Sightings of Other Squirrels

3rd – teatime – crossing road at Monks Bridge

14th at 19:25 Hrs - Low Dalebanks

One seen running along the top of a garden wall.

Looked plump and healthy with a nice bushy tail.

Harberwain

During week commencing 1st seen on separate days at different locations on the hill

Reagill

General

Reagill Grange Plantation – top side (Dunkirk)

Has a healthy population which has declined from double figures but stabilised at around 5/6 per day

Beech Tree Farm and adjacent woods – has several and a steady population

8th - 1000z - A red mum with **four/five healthy kits** in the woods upon the entrance to Reagill from the south end - (Pithills plantation).

Was sat in the trees looking at reporter as he walked his dog.

Morland

General

VICARAGE - one in the garden.

Not sure if it lives there or is just a regular visitor.

Previously was two, but one is believed to have been killed on the road - the remaining one seems to like my S/feeder.

Church Lane - have had two reds in one of the gardens within the last two weeks, one much darker and smaller than the other.

Reports a problem of there being a large black cat who one day grabbed the smaller one.

Reporter managed to throw a shoe at it and it dropped the Squirrel which dashed off – the squirrel has been seen since.