

Unusual behaviour of a Carrion Crow

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On more than one occasion I have seen a Carrion Crow using its bill in an attempt to break stems from small trees, presumably for nest material, sometimes with success. The use of such natural material in the foundation layer of the nest is, of course, normal.

On 4th April 2017 I observed an aberrant choice of material when a Crow alighted on the distal end of a television antenna boom. Gripping the boom with one foot it pivoted round until hanging upside down, when, with much wing flapping, it tried to break off one of the directors. Unsuccessful, after some ten seconds it left.

At 1600 hrs on 16th May 2017 a Crow spent several minutes exploring the whole antenna, once, with spread wings, briefly hanging from the reflector assembly by its bill.