

WICKEN FEN GROUP

WICKEN FEN GROUP RECORDS 2019

Nest Box Report 2019

Wicken Fen big box report 2019. Neil Larner.

Barn Owls: 6 nests, 5 successful, 19 chicks

Jackdaws: 4 nests, 2 successful, 9 chicks

Stock Doves: 1 nest, 2 chicks

Common Terns: 1 nest, 2 chicks.

Wicken Fen small nest box report 2019.

Blue Tit	Boxes occupied	Successful fledging	Failed @ egg stage	Failed @ chick stage	% success rate	F/E*
2009	18	7	10	1	38.9	45.3
2010	18	13	4	1	72.2	70.5
2011	20	13	4	3	65.0	69.6
2012	26	8	14	4	30.8	29.4
2013	25	10	12	3	40.0	50.0
2014	29	27	2		93.1	87.6
2015	23	6	15	2	26.1	28.8
2016	33	28	2	3	84.8	74.1
2017	31	18	6	3	58.1	60.4
2018	22	13	9		59.1	
2019	26	23			88.5	

Great Tit	Boxes occupied	Successful fledging	Failed @ egg stage	Failed @ chick stage	% success rate	F/E*
2009	21	10	11	0	47.6	68.8

2010	23	12	9	2	52.2	48.4
2011	21	11	8	2	52.3	41.8
2012	23	5	14	4	21.7	22.5
2013	18	5	11	2	27.8	31.8
2014	18	18			100.0	78.0
2015	26	5	17	4	19.2	20.4
2016	14	10	2	2	71.4	64.9
2017	12	10	1	1	83.3	66.0
2018	14	1	12	1	7.1	
2019	18	8		1	44.4	

OBSERVATIONS

JANUARY TO APRIL

Whooper Swan: in February 2 on the 6th and one on the 11th, Wicken Fen one on March 19th,

Greylag Goose: 51 on Burwell Fen on March 12th.

Egyptian Goose: one on Wicken Fen on the 19th.

Shelduck: Burwell Fen 16 on February 12th, in March a maximum of 23 on the 23rd, Wicken Fen 2 on the 19th.

Wigeon: Wicken Fen maxima – January c420 on the 15th, February c380 on the 26th, March 194 on the 19th,

Gadwall: Wicken Fen maxima – January 63 on the 15th, February 36 on the 15th, 44 on the 19th, Burwell Fen maxima – January 27 on the 8th, February 41 on the 21st.

Teal: Wicken Fen maxima – January 52 on the 15th, February 288 on the 26th, March 66 on the 29th, Burwell Fen February 220 on the 21st, March 149 on the 12th,

Mallard: Wicken Fen maxima – January 51 on the 15th, February 155 on the 3rd, March 38 on the 19th, Burwell Fen - February 123 on the 12th, March 50 on the 12th,

Garganey First of the year on Burwell Fen on March 20th.

Pintail: Burwell Fen 2 -3 in January, February 1-2, March 2 on the 18th, Wicken Fen February 2 on the 3rd, March 2 on the 18th.

Shoveler: Wicken Fen maxima – January 75 on the 15th, February 171 on the 26th, March 107 on the 19th, Burwell Fen - January maxima 215 on the 1st, February 109 on the 21st, March 100+ on the 26th.

Cormorant: Burwell Fen February maximum 9,

Great White Egret: Wicken Fen on March 1st.

Red Kite: Wicken Fen one on March 11th,

Marsh Harrier: Wicken Fen maxima – January 12+ into roost, March 5 on the 19th.

Hen Harrier: Wicken Fen January maximum 2 - a male and a ringtail, February roost maximum 4 - 2 males and 2 ringtails, March maximum 5 2 males and 3 ringtails.

Common Crane: Wicken Fen and Burwell Fen 2 -4 birds seen irregularly throughout this period.

Avocet: Burwell Fen 2 on February 16th and on March 28th.

Curlew: Burwell Fen 2 on March 24th.

Ruff: Burwell fen 6 on March 28th and one on the 29th

Woodcock: Wicken Fen 2 -3 in January, February one on the 1st, 4 on March 9th. A survey of roding males failed to record a single bird for the second year running.

Black-headed Gull: Burwell Fen maxima – January c200 on the 30th,

Common Gull: Burwell Fen a remarkable count of 400 on March 23rd.

Herring Gull: Burwell Fen 8 on February 21st, 20 on March 12th.

Great black-backed Gull on January 6th 15 during the day and a remarkable roost of 100.

Tawny Owl: Wicken Fen in March.

Short-eared Owl: Burwell Fen January maximum 3, February maximum 4, March maximum 2 and 2 reported from Wicken Fen.

Merlin: Burwell Fen on the 10th,

Peregrine: Burwell Fen on the February 6th and 2 on February 16th,

Marsh Tit: Wicken Fen 1-2 dates in January – something of a rarity.

Starling: Wicken Fen January maximum c150 on the 8th, Burwell Fen January maximum c300 on the 6th.

Stonechat: Wicken Fen January maximum 3, in February a pair noted, Burwell Fen one in January and 5 on February 6th.

Wheatear: Tubney Fen on March 29th.

Goldfinch: Burwell Fen in January 200 on the 12th,

Common (Mealy) Redpoll: one caught and ringed on March 18th.

MAY TO JULY

Gadwall: 5 on June 20th and 22 on Burwell Fen same day.

Mallard: 76 on June 20th.

Teal: one on June 20th.

Pochard: one on May 10th, 9 on June the 20th.

Little Grebe: 7 on June 20th and 4 on Burwell Fen same day.

Great-crested Grebe: on June 20th and on Burwell Fen same day.

Bittern: reported regularly.

Little Egret: on June 20th and 3 on Burwell Fen same day.

Cormorant: on June the 20th and 6 on Burwell Fen same day.

Marsh Harrier: reported regularly maxima June (4), 3 juveniles seen on July the 6th, July (5).

Red Kite: on May 24th and 27th, June 5th, 9th.

Buzzard: in May (4), June (2).

Osprey: a flyover on May the 11th.

Coot: 21 on the 20th and 60 on Burwell Fen,.

Common Crane: several independent sightings of 1-2 birds, a pair raised a single chick which fledged but was unfortunately predated post-fledging.

Lapwing: 105 on June 20th.

Green Sandpiper: on July 28th.

Greenshank: 3 on May 6th.

Common Tern: reported regularly.

Barn Owl: reported regularly both at Wicken and Burwell Fens throughout the period; at least 5 nest box broods.

Little Owl: on June 5th, July 17th.

Short-eared Owl: on May 5th (Tubney Fen), May 8th .

Cuckoo: thought to be a minimum of 3 males and a female.

Hobby: 6 on May 1st, 2 on May 6th, July 22nd.

Peregrine Falcon: 2 on May 1st.

Bearded Tit: 3 on July 21st.

JULY TO OCTOBER

Garganey: up to three reported in August but none since.

Bittern: reported regularly throughout the period, also on Burwell Fen.

Great White Egret: one on October 11th.

Kite: single birds reported regularly.

Osprey: one over Burwell Fen on August 31st.

Marsh Harrier: reported regularly – maximum 3.

Hen Harrier: one on October 11th – first of the winter.

Common Crane: the pair that bred in the area near the reedbed successfully hatched their chick and things progressed promisingly until the chick was predated (probably by a fox). Unfortunately some reports of the bird having fledged were misleading.

Lapwing: 275 on August 17th and 480 on October 15th.

Little Ringed Plover: 2 on August 13th and one from August 25th – 29th.

Ringed Plover: one on September 4th.

Ruff: 2-9 from August 11th – 31st.

Dunlin: 1-2 from August 11th – 25th.

Snipe: reported in all three months maxima 5 in August, 2 in September and 3 in October.

Common Sandpiper: 1-2 from August 7th - 31st.

Green Sandpiper: present throughout August maximum 13, and 3 in September.

Wood Sandpiper: one present from August 25th -31st.

Spotted Redshank: a juvenile from August 11th -12th.

Greenshank: 2 on August 26th.

Tawny Owl: reported from both St Edmund's Fen and the Reedbed area.

Little Owl: reported regularly in the area of Harrison's Drove/Priory Farm.

Short-eared Owl: one at Burwell Fen on August 12th -13th – surprisingly none after.

Peregrine Falcon: one on Burwell Fen on August the 21st, and on Wicken Fen on the 25th.

Sedge Warbler: - latest September 17th.

Grasshopper Warbler: latest September 21st.

Pied Flycatcher: one on August 28th and September 1st.

Whinchat: 1-4 from August 25th – 30th, 12 on September 1st and one on the 8th.

Stonechat: 1-5 from August 25th – 30th, one on September 8th and a pair on October 15th.

Wheatear: one on August 21st and one on Tubney Fen on September 1st.

Tree Sparrow: 4 on October 11th.

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER

White-fronted Goose two on November the 16th (this follows a widespread 'arrival' in the country) and 3 on the 15th and 17th.

Whooper Swan a group of up to 50 individuals fed on fields on Priory Farm throughout November and were frequently seen overflying the Fen, sometimes dropping into the Fen. 40 on Burwell Fen on December the 18th.

Shelduck one on November the 27th, four on Burwell Fen on December 31st,

Gadwall maxima 67 in November; on Burwell Fen 81 in December.

Wigeon maxima: November c750, December 700. On Burwell Fen 170 on December the 18th, and 700 on December the 10th.

Shoveler up to and around 100 all throughout this period, fewer on Burwell Fen .

Teal maxima: November 225, then c100 in December; on Burwell Fen 204 on December the 18th.

Red Kite single birds reported occasionally.

Marsh Harrier reported regularly, roosting – maximum ten in December

Hen Harrier reported regularly over the period, mainly by roost watchers. From single ringtails in early November the roost contained up to five birds in December (3 males and 2 ringtails).

Common Crane reported throughout the period mostly 1 -2, often heard rather than seen.

Golden Plover c20 on Burwell Fen on December the 16th.

Lapwing Burwell Fen 450+ on December the 18th.

Woodcock singles on November the 25th, December the 31st,

Snipe up to 6 in November and c100 on Burwell Fen, otherwise almost no reports.

Common Sandpiper one reported on December the 18th.

Tawny Owl reported calling from both St Edmund's Fen (maximum 2 calling) and the Reedbed area (2).

Little Owl 1 - 2 reported regularly in the area of Harrison's Drove/Priory Farm.

Short-eared Owl 1 -2 on Burwell Fen on several dates.

Merlin a male on November the 2nd, a female on the 10th, a single on the 23rd, on Burwell Fen a single on November the 4th and a female on December the 18th.

Peregrine Falcon one on November the 2nd.

Bearded Tit 3 on November the 1st, probably under-recorded.

Reed Warbler Burwell Fen one reported on November the 10th was a surprisingly late date.

Stonechat 1-2 (a pair) regularly on Wicken Fen and up to 4 on Burwell Fen.
