

RINGING ON HOLT ISLAND 16th MARCH 2020

The morning was somewhat damp and overcast but still. The session was a short one from dawn till 11 o'clock with six nets. The catch was a small one but with some interest with the bird of the day being a young male Sparrow hawk in its full breeding plumage. The Sparrow hawk had just caught a Great Tit which it left in the net, it was a ringed one from the end of last year.

Other interesting catches were a Chiffchaff and four Reed Buntings. There were very few Blue Tits and Great Tits both caught and around. They are at present taking up territories and there is a scarcity of food until the willow buds are all open.

Other than the Chiffchaff there were no other warblers around. However the ground is still very soft and waterlogged, one of the Blackbirds caught appeared to be a continental bird still here, due to its larger size.

| Species | New Adults | New First years | Re-trap Adults | Re-trap First Years | Total |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Sparrow hawk | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Wren | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Chiffchaff | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Blackbird | 1 | | 1 | | 2 |
| Long tailed Tit | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Blue Tit | | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| Great Tit | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Reed Bunting | 1 | 3 | | | 4 |
| Total | 2 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 13 |



Male Sparrow hawk

Julian & Sue Limentani