

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

News for January 2007

There were 19 ringing sessions at the Fen in January, on 17 different days. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area was used for 8 of these sessions, Area B on 6 and the Reedbed on 5. The month's ringing total was 224, other birds retrapped numbered 306, so a total of 530 different birds were handled during the month. In the list below, the first figure is the number ringed, the second the number of different birds retrapped.

Sparrowhawk	3, 0	Goldcrest	5, 1
Kingfisher	1, 0	Long-tailed Tit	8, 10
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 2	Blue Tit	41, 108
Meadow Pipit	2, 0	Great Tit	14, 90
Wren	6, 10	Tree Creeper	0, 3
Dunnock	3, 6	Jay	1, 0
Robin	8, 14	Chaffinch	21, 13
Blackbird	38, 2	Greenfinch	28, 17
Song Thrush	4, 4	Goldfinch	6, 0
Redwing	22, 0	Bullfinch	2, 5
Blackcap	1, 2	Reed Bunting	10, 19

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Some elderly birds were retrapped during the month:

Long-tailed Tit OM4185 had been ringed on 22.8.2000, retrapped on 28.1.2007

Blue Tit P093810 had been ringed on 30.6.2002, retrapped on 4.1.2007

Bullfinch N590489 had been ringed on 18.7.2000, retrapped on 13.1.2007

Reed Bunting P214091 had been ringed on 11.12.2001, retrapped on 31.1.2007

A Blue Tit (T940490) that had been ringed at the Reedbed at 08.20am on January 28th, had flown up to near the Visitor Centre by 10.05am the same day.

A Blackcap (N590854) that we ringed on November 4th was retrapped on January 28th. Blackcaps, mainly from Germany and other North European countries, have only recently started to spend their winters in Britain. N590854 was probably such a bird.

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Observations of birds in December have shown up some interesting records:

Whooper Swan	5 flew over on January 28 th .
Barnacle Goose	one on January 20 th .
Bittern	one on January 3 rd .
Pintail	12 on January 28 th .
Hen Harrier	one on January 24 th .
Marsh Harrier	5 on January 12 th and 28 th .
Buzzard	recorded on January 20 th , 21 st and 29 th .
Jack Snipe	one on January 29 th .
Woodcock	recorded on 6 days in the month.
Black-tailed Godwit	3 on January 29 th .
Stonechat	2 on January 21 st .

