

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for April 2007

There were 29 ringing sessions at the Fen in April, on 23 different days (on some days there were ringing parties simultaneously at different sites on the Fen). The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area/Milner White's Fen (comps 19, 30 & 31) was used for 13 of these sessions, Area B (comps 20, 21 & 23) on 8 and the Reedbed (comps 51, 52 & 53) on 7. There was also one ringing sortie to Burwell Fen. The month's ringing total was 243; other birds retrapped numbered 213, so a total of 456 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.

Mallard	1, 0	Lesser Whitethroat	1, 0
Moorhen	2, 0	Whitethroat	5, 1
Snipe	2, 1	Garden Warbler	1, 0
Tawny Owl	1, 0	Blackcap	51, 4
Green Woodpecker	1, 0	Chiffchaff	24, 12
Great spotted Woodpecker	2, 1	Willow Warbler	19, 8
Wren	16, 15	Long-tailed Tit	1, 15
Duncock	10, 9	Blue Tit	3, 37
Robin	8, 12	Great Tit	4, 28
Redstart	1, 0	Tree Creeper	0, 4
Blackbird	12, 12	Jay	2, 0
Song Thrush	24, 0	Magpie	1, 0
Redwing	4, 0	Chaffinch	10, 9
Cetti's Warbler	1, 0	Greenfinch	7, 3
Grasshopper Warbler	1, 0	Goldfinch	19, 4
Sedge Warbler	5, 1	Bullfinch	12, 21
Reed Warbler	3, 1	Reed Bunting	10, 13

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We have just heard that the Sedge Warbler N241565, controlled at the Reedbed on 23.7.2006, had been ringed in Oveida, Spain, 1069km to the SSW on 31.7.2005.

The oldest of several elderly retraps caught in the month have been Bullfinch N590444 at 6y 10m, Long-tailed Tit 4Z4200 at 5y 5m, Reed Bunting P2140091 at 5y 4m, Robin P214307 at 4y 10m, Blackbird XB92053 at 4y 8m and Blue Tit R428095 at 3y 3m.

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Some interesting bird sightings in April were:

Spoonbill	On the 28 th and 29 th .	Water Pipit	On the 29 th .
Bittern	Booming till the 15 th .	Ring Ousel	On the 21 st .
Black Kite	On the 26 th .	Redstart	On the 25 th .
Montagu's Harrier	On the 2 nd .	Whinchat	On the 25 th .
Jack Snipe	On the 1 st .	Little Gull	On the 7 th .
Sanderling	On the 29 th .		
Bar-tailed Godwit	190 over on the 29 th .		
Turnstone	On the 29 th .		

