

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for July 2008

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 13 different days in July. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 8 days and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 6. In addition, there were a few visits devoted to nest-finding and nestling ringing. The month's ringing total was 267; a further 78 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 345. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Stock Dove	4, 0	Garden Warbler	5, 2
Cuckoo	1, 0	Blackcap	9, 2
Kingfisher	2, 0	Chiffchaff	24, 4
Great spotted Woodpecker	1, 0	Willow Warbler	9, 2
Swallow	9, 0	Goldcrest	1, 0
Wren	22, 4	Long-tailed Tit	12, 2
Duncock	7, 3	Blue Tit	18, 3
Robin	9, 2	Great Tit	16, 11
Blackbird	5, 3	Jay	1, 0
Song Thrush	3, 1	Chaffinch	7, 2
Cetti's Warbler	4, 4	Greenfinch	3, 0
Sedge Warbler	11, 7	Goldfinch	4, 2
Reed Warbler	65, 9	Bullfinch	10, 12
Lesser Whitethroat	1, 0	Reed Bunting	4, 1
Whitethroat	0, 1		

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We received news of Sparrowhawk DA12860 which had been ringed on the Fen on 2 November 1997. The ring, without any part of a bird attached, was found by the user of a metal detector near Wicken village, on 27 May 2008.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month were

Little Egret	9 on the 12 th .
Buzzard	2 on the 19 th .
Whimbrel	2 on the 12 th .
Ruff	On the 19 th
Greenshank	On the 22 nd and 26 th
Green Sandpiper	7 on the 22 nd
Grey Wagtail	One on the 1 st
Stonechat	One on the 12 th

