

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for October 2008

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 14 different days in October. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 8 days, the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 6 and the Priors Farm area (Compartment 104) on one. The month's ringing total was 264; a further 114 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 378. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 1	Goldcrest	30, 1
Meadow Pipit	6, 0	Long-tailed Tit	14, 8
Wren	24, 13	Blue Tit	25, 26
Dunnock	5, 3	Great Tit	31, 32
Robin	7, 10	Tree Creeper	2, 4
Stonechat	1, 0	Chaffinch	9, 2
Blackbird	2, 1	Greenfinch	11, 3
Song Thrush	5, 1	Goldfinch	10, 0
Redwing	12, 0	Lesser Redpoll	1, 0
Cetti's Warbler	6, 4	Bullfinch	6, 3
Blackcap	5, 0	Reed Bunting	48, 2
Chiffchaff	4, 0		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Robin P974896 at 5 years 2 months, Blue Tit R969024 at 3 years 10 months and Cetti's Warbler R969792 at 3 years 2 months (a Wicken Fen record).

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month were

Pinkfooted Goose	10 over on 16 th .
Greylag	190 on 3 rd .
Snow Goose	On 3 rd .
Scaup	On 18 th .
Spoonbill	On 14 th and 16 th .
Buzzard	2 on 12 th .
Osprey	On 14 th .
Merlin	On 14 th .
Green Sandpiper	On 16 th .
Wood Pigeon	2000 on 23 rd .
Short-eared Owl	On 12 th .
Swallow	Last on 7 th .
Water Pipit	On 13 th .
Grey Wagtail	On 18 th .
Stonechat	Maximum 3 in the month.
Whinchat	On 14 th .
Reed Warbler	Last on 7 th .
Bearded Tit	Up to 3 in the month.
Tree Sparrow	On 21 st and 25 th .
Crossbill	On 21 st .

