

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for June 2009

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 13 different days in June. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 10 days, Gallops (Compartment 21) on 2 and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 3. In addition, some nestling birds were ringed at Priory Farm and Burwell Fen. The month's ringing total was 471; a further 106 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 577. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Stock Dove	2, 0	Garden Warbler	10, 5
Barn Owl	1, 0	Blackcap	17, 6
Great spotted Woodpecker	4, 1	Chiffchaff	48, 3
Swallow	16, 0	Willow Warbler	6, 4
Pied Wagtail	5, 0	Long-tailed Tit	11, 2
Wren	17, 7	Blue Tit	46, 6
Dunnock	27, 8	Great Tit	36, 18
Robin	35, 6	Tree Creeper	5, 0
Blackbird	15, 11	Jackdaw	5, 0
Song Thrush	6, 1	House Sparrow	12, 1
Cetti's Warbler	11, 2	Chaffinch	15, 7
Grasshopper Warbler	4, 0	Greenfinch	3, 1
Sedge Warbler	22, 5	Goldfinch	7, 0
Reed Warbler	57, 4	Bullfinch	5, 6
Lesser Whitethroat	3, 1	Reed Bunting	3, 0
Whitethroat	17, 1		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Blackbird RH40170 at 5 years 3 months, Dunnock R428897 at 5 years 2 months, Chaffinch R969443 at 3 years 9 months and Willow Warbler ALE364 at 3 years 2 months.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of June were:

Garganey	Male on 18 th .
Bittern	Still in evidence.
Little Egret	Maximum 10+ on 24 th .
Squacco Heron	Present till 14 th .
Buzzard	On 23 rd .
Hobby	Maximum 4 on 11 th .
Oystercatcher	Present all month.
Avocet	Maximum 5 on 7 th .
Ringed Plover	Maximum 6 on 6 th .
Little ringed Plover	One on 25 th .
Woodcock	On 21 st .
Black-tailed Godwit	One on 11 th .
Spotted Redshank	One on 13 th and 18 th .
Green Sandpiper	4 on 25 th .
Wood Sandpiper	One on 7 th .
Stonechat	Bred on the Fen this year, for the first time since the 1930s.

