

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for January 2010

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 14 different days in December. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 11 days, Gallops (Compartment 21) on 1, the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 2 and the Priory Farm area (Compartment 104) on 2. The month's ringing total was 159; a further 262 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 421. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Kestrel	1, 0	Long-tailed Tit	3, 5
Great spotted Woodpecker	1, 3	Blue Tit	26, 93
Wren	4, 4	Great Tit	17, 68
Dunnock	3, 15	Tree Creeper	0, 3
Robin	2, 18	House Sparrow	5, 11
Blackbird	16, 9	Chaffinch	18, 11
Fieldfare	3, 0	Greenfinch	1, 0
Song Thrush	1, 2	Goldfinch	21, 1
Redwing	3, 0	Bullfinch	6, 3
Cetti's Warbler	0, 1	Reed Bunting	28, 15

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Great Tit P093922 at 7 years 5 months, a Wicken Fen record, Blue Tit R428095 at 6 years 0 months, Reed Bunting R428418 at 5 years 9 months, Long-tailed Tit ALE190 at 4 years 6 months, Blackbird XB92347 at 4 years 5 months, Robin J593901 at 3 years 6 months and Song Thrush RV93880 at 3 years 4 months.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of January 2010 were:

Brent Goose	On 30 th .
Pintail	4 on 30 th .
Bittern	2 on 2 nd , 3 rd and 15 th . Single on many other dates.
Little Egret	On 29 th .
Hen Harrier	Maximum one male and 3 ringtails.
Marsh Harrier	2 on 3 rd .
Buzzard	On 3 rd and 4 th .
Peregrine	On 2 nd
Woodcock	On several dates.
Barn Owl	On 1 st , 17 th and 18 th .
Short-eared Owl	On 15 th .
Stonechat	On 4 th and 27 th .
Cetti's Warbler	3+ on 20 th and 27 th .
Bearded Tit	On 20 th and 31 st .
Redpoll	3 on 29 th .

