

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for January 2011

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 17 different days in January. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 9 days, Gallops (Compartment 21) on 4, the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 5, the Priory Farm area (Compartment 104) on 3 and Tubney Fen on 2. The month's ringing total was 171; a further 225 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 396. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Sparrowhawk	1, 0	Goldcrest	0, 2
Moorhen	0, 1	Long-tailed Tit	4, 22
Kingfisher	0, 1	Blue Tit	22, 74
Green Woodpecker	1, 0	Great Tit	6, 46
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 5	Tree Creeper	0, 3
Pied Wagtail	1, 0	House Sparrow	0, 8
Wren	2, 3	Chaffinch	9, 10
Dunnock	3, 9	Greenfinch	2, 0
Robin	1, 17	Goldfinch	4, 4
Blackbird	18, 4	Lesser Redpoll	0, 1
Fieldfare	68, 0	Bullfinch	1, 2
Song Thrush	2, 4	Yellowhammer	4, 0
Redwing	13, 1	Reed Bunting	9, 8

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Great Tit R490772 at 6 years 3 months, Long-tailed Tit ALE040 at 5 years 3 months, Blackbird XB92465 at 5 years 1 month, Chaffinch N590892 at 4 years 2 months, Reed Bunting T940770 at 3 years 11 months and Robin T941380 and Blue Tit T941472 both at 3 years 8 months.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of January 2011 were:

Greylag	129 on 18 th .
Ross' Goose	Still present on 29 th .
Wigeon	808 on 18 th .
Pintail	2 on several dates.
Red-crested Pochard	One reported on 20 th .
Goosander	On 3 rd .
Cormorant	38 on 11 th .
Bittern	Single on several dates.
Little Egret	2 on 11 th and 18 th .
Hen Harrier	Maximum 3 in month.
Marsh Harrier	Maximum 4 in month.
Buzzard	On 29 th .
Merlin	On 18 th and 20 th .
Peregrine	On 5 th , 8 th and 13 th .
Short-eared Owl	2 on several dates.
Mealy Redpoll	One with Lessers on 9 th .
Corn Bunting	Up to 30+ present during the month.

