

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for August 2011

There was ringing activity at the Fen on 23 different days in August. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used for netting on 5 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 & 21) on 5 and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 18. The month's ringing total was 1323, a further 145 birds were retrapped, so the overall total of birds handled in the month was 1468. The first figure below is the ringing total; the second is the retraps. Individual species totals were:

Sparrowhawk	1, 0	Whitethroat	59, 1
Woodpigeon	1, 0	Garden Warbler	10, 2
Kingfisher	4, 0	Blackcap	225, 7
Green Woodpecker	3, 0	Chiffchaff	64, 7
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 2	Willow Warbler	16, 0
Sand Martin	77, 1	Spotted Flycatcher	1, 0
Swallow	291, 4	Bearded Tit	2, 0
Wren	46, 9	Long-tailed Tit	9, 2
Duncock	7, 7	Blue Tit	32, 25
Robin	20, 17	Great Tit	25, 15
Blackbird	17, 2	Tree Creeper	1, 5
Song Thrush	1, 0	Jay	1, 0
Cetti's Warbler	4, 3	Chaffinch	11, 0
Grasshopper Warbler	4, 0	Goldfinch	5, 1
Sedge Warbler	85, 2	Greenfinch	3, 0
Reed Warbler	278, 29	Bullfinch	8, 4
Lesser Whitethroat	9, 0	Reed Bunting	3, 0

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Not many old birds were retrapped during the month; the few were Tree Creeper 766593 at 4 years 10 months, Garden Warbler V835129 at 3 years 3 months, Reed Warbler V834279 at 3 years 1 month and Robin V834631 and Bullfinch V834693 both at 3 years 0 months.

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

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

Little Egret	On 12 th .
Garganey	2 at Tubney on 8 th .
Buzzard	On several dates.
Hobby	Till at least 19 th .
Golden Plover	An early returner on 12 th .
Greenshank	On 8 th and 18 th .
Green Sandpiper	Up to 2 on several dates.
Short-eared Owl	On 12 th .
Swift	Very noticeable on 28 th .
Whinchat	A family party reported on 6 th .
Spotted Flycatcher	On 13 th and 21 st .

