

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for September 2011

There was ringing activity at the Fen on 20 different days in September. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used for netting on 8 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 & 21) on 3 and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 8. In addition, there were 4 visits to Burwell Fen and one to Priory Farm in the month. September's ringing total was 842, and a further 129 birds were retrapped, so the overall total of birds handled in the month was 971. The first figure below is the ringing total; the second is retraps. Individual species totals were:

Water Rail	1, 0	Garden Warbler	2, 0
Stock Dove	1, 0	Blackcap	178, 9
Barn Owl	1, 0	Chiffchaff	42, 2
Tawny Owl	1, 0	Willow Warbler	3, 0
Great spotted Woodpecker	1, 0	Goldcrest	15, 0
Sand Martin	14, 0	Bearded Tit	2, 0
Swallow	180, 2	Long-tailed Tit	11, 9
Meadow Pipit	19, 0	Blue Tit	42, 22
Wren	12, 9	Great Tit	30, 35
Dunnock	12, 8	Tree Creeper	1, 0
Robin	16, 11	House Sparrow	16, 0
Redstart	1, 0	Tree Sparrow	1, 0
Blackbird	9, 2	Chaffinch	23, 11
Song Thrush	4, 0	Greenfinch	15, 0
Cetti's Warbler	5, 2	Goldfinch	15, 2
Grasshopper Warbler	2, 0	Linnet	1, 0
Sedge Warbler	13, 0	Bullfinch	3, 1
Reed Warbler	101, 4	Yellowhammer	1, 0
Whitethroat	11, 0	Reed Bunting	37, 0

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Not many old birds were retrapped during the month; the few were Robin T941908 at 4 years 2 months and Long-tailed Tit BCR356 at 3 years 2 months.

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

Bittern	One reported on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	Wheatear	3 on 11 <sup>th</sup> .
Little Egret	On 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	Redstart	On 11 <sup>th</sup> .
Snow Goose	On 18 <sup>th</sup> .	Grasshopper Warbler	Last on 17 <sup>th</sup> .
Kite	On 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Spotted Flycatcher	On 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
Osprey	On 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	Bearded Tit	"Flock" on 24 <sup>th</sup> .
Buzzard	2 on 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	Tree Sparrow	On 28 <sup>th</sup> .
Marsh Harrier	3 on 16 <sup>th</sup> .	Redpoll	On 20 <sup>th</sup> .
Peregrine	On 24 <sup>th</sup> .		
Hobby	Last (?) on 26 <sup>th</sup> .		
Green Sandpiper	2 on 4 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> .		
Whinchat	5 on 3 <sup>rd</sup> .		

