

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for October 2011

There was ringing activity at the Fen on 14 different days in October. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used for netting on 6 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 & 21) on 5 and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 5. In addition, there were 5 visits to Burwell Fen in the month. October's ringing total was 445, and a further 139 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total of birds handled in the month was 584. The first figure below is the ringing total; the second is retraps. Individual species totals were:

Sparrowhawk	1, 0	Goldcrest	25, 2
Kingfisher	1, 0	Long-tailed Tit	23, 19
Green Woodpecker	1, 0	Blue Tit	47, 25
Meadow Pipit	23, 0	Great Tit	23, 49
Wren	18, 16	Tree Creeper	0, 1
Dunnock	3, 2	House Sparrow	12, 0
Robin	9, 8	Tree Sparrow	4, 0
Blackbird	21, 4	Chaffinch	15, 3
Fieldfare	5, 0	Greenfinch	5, 0
Song Thrush	13, 1	Goldfinch	36, 5
Redwing	29, 0	Lesser Redpoll	8, 0
Cetti's Warbler	4, 1	Bullfinch	5, 1
Reed Warbler	2, 0	Reed Bunting	57, 2
Blackcap	40, 0		
Chiffchaff	15, 0		

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Not many old birds were retrapped during the month; the few were Long-tailed Tit ALE278 at 5 years 4 months, Tree Creeper BCR471 at 3 years 10 months and Wren BRD212 at 3 years 3 months.

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

Little Egret	3 over on 20 <sup>th</sup> .	Swallow	Last on 8 <sup>th</sup> .
Whooper Swan	7 on 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Ring Ousel	On 15 <sup>th</sup> .
Snow Goose	On 11 <sup>th</sup> .	Redwing	First on 8 <sup>th</sup> .
Scaup	On 23 <sup>rd</sup> .	Fieldfare	First on 9 <sup>th</sup> .
Hen Harrier	First on 21 <sup>st</sup> .	Reed Warbler	Last on 5 <sup>th</sup> .
Peregrine	Mobbing Buzzard on 25 <sup>th</sup> .	Blackcap	Last on 23 <sup>rd</sup> .
Black-tailed Godwit	c40 over on 23 <sup>rd</sup> .	Chiffchaff	Last on 9 <sup>th</sup> .
Short-eared Owl	9 on 31 <sup>st</sup> .	Tree Sparrow	4 ringed.
Lesser spotted Woodpecker	First for a long time, on 18th.	Siskin	On 17 <sup>th</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> .

