

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for November 2011

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 19 different days in November. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 8 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 & 21) on 6, the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 7 and Tubney Fen on 2. The month's ringing total was 403; a further xxx different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was xxx. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|----|-----------------|----|
| Sparrowhawk | 2 | Firecrest | 1 |
| Great spotted Woodpecker | 4 | Long-tailed Tit | 12 |
| Green Woodpecker | 1 | Blue Tit | 27 |
| Pied Wagtail | 49 | Great Tit | 4 |
| Wren | 7 | Tree Creeper | 1 |
| Dunnock | 5 | Starling | 2 |
| Robin | 5 | Tree Sparrow | 1 |
| Blackbird | 47 | House Sparrow | 21 |
| Fieldfare | 6 | Chaffinch | 19 |
| Song Thrush | 7 | Greenfinch | 5 |
| Redwing | 27 | Goldfinch | 64 |
| Cetti's Warbler | 0 | Lesser Redpoll | 2 |
| Blackcap | 8 | Bullfinch | 16 |
| Goldcrest | 13 | Reed Bunting | 47 |

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Great Tit R969325 at 6 years 4 months, Great spotted Woodpecker XB92463 at 6 years 0 months, Tree Creeper 766593 at 5 years 1 month, Bullfinch T941022 at 4 years 8 months, Blue Tit T 941757 at 4 years 4 months and Chaffinch V834891 at 3 years 9 months.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of November were:

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| Whooper Swan | 8 on Tubney 25 th . |
| Ross' Goose | On 6 th . |
| Little Egret | On 7 th . |
| Marsh Harrier | Maximum 3 on 13 th . |
| Hen Harrier | Maximum 3 on 9 th . |
| Buzzard | On 13 th . |
| Peregrine | On several dates. |
| Merlin | On several dates. |
| Golden Plover | c3000 on 24 th . |
| Ruff | On 19 th . |
| Short-eared Owl | Up to 13 on Burwell Fen. |
| Waxwing | "Small flock" on 11 th . |
| Stonechat | 4 on 21 st . |
| Wheatear | At Tubney on 7 th . |
| Raven | At Swaffham Prior (having probably passed over Wicken) on 25 th . |
| Tree Sparrow | On 2 nd . |
| Siskin | On 3 rd and 9 th . |
| Corn Bunting | c15 on 4 th . |

