

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for September 2012

There was ringing activity at the Fen on 16 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 one and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 7. The month's ringing total was 343, a further 85 birds were retrapped, so the overall total of birds handled in the month was 428. The first figure below is the ringing total; the second is the retraps. Individual species totals were:

Stock Dove	4, 0	Blackcap	100, 4
Tawny Owl	1, 0	Chiffchaff	27, 4
Kingfisher	1, 0	Willow Warbler	4, 0
Great spotted Woodpecker	3, 0	Goldcrest	9, 0
Swallow	2, 0	Bearded Tit	1, 0
Wren	8, 6	Long-tailed Tit	16, 3
Dunnock	4, 1	Coal Tit	1, 0
Robin	10, 5	Blue Tit	43, 23
Blackbird	5, 1	Great Tit	18, 21
Song Thrush	3, 0	Tree Creeper	0, 3
Cetti's Warbler	1, 1	Chaffinch	8, 5
Grasshopper Warbler	1, 0	Greenfinch	7, 0
Sedge Warbler	4, 0	Goldfinch	3, 1
Reed Warbler	41, 6	Bullfinch	3, 0
Whitethroat	4, 0	Reed Bunting	6, 1
Garden Warbler	5, 0		

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A very old bird was retrapped during the month: Chaffinch P214978 at 9 years 9 months after ringing, a Wicken Fen record. The only other oldie was Blackcap X079443 at 3 years 1 month.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of September 2012 were:

Wigeon	First arrival on 1 <sup>st</sup> .	Grasshopper Warbler	Last on 4 <sup>th</sup> .
Little Egret	11 on 17 <sup>th</sup> .	Sedge Warbler	Last on 4 <sup>th</sup> .
Hobby	4 on 2 <sup>nd</sup> ; last on 27 <sup>th</sup> .	Whitethroat	Last on 11 <sup>th</sup> .
Buzzard	On 7 <sup>th</sup> .	Garden Warbler	Last on 11 <sup>th</sup> .
Peregrine	On 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> .	Willow Warbler	Last on 19 <sup>th</sup> .
Black-tailed Godwit	From 1 <sup>st</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> , max 3 on 1 <sup>st</sup> .	Goldcrest	First on 13 <sup>th</sup> .
Whimbrel	One on 13 <sup>th</sup> .	Coal Tit	On 13 <sup>th</sup> .
Snipe	74 on 6 <sup>th</sup> .	Siskin	On 30 <sup>th</sup> .
Ruff	From 1 <sup>st</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> ; max 3 on 1 <sup>st</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> .		
Dunlin	From 1 <sup>st</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> ; max 3 on 1 <sup>st</sup> .		
Pectoral Sandpiper	One from 6 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> .		
Green Sandpiper	From 4 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> ; max 4 on 9 <sup>th</sup> .		
Short-eared Owl	On 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup> .		
Yellow Wagtail	On 1 <sup>st</sup> .		
Wheatear	On 22 <sup>nd</sup> .		

