

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for December 2012

There were netting sessions at the Fen on only 7 different days in December. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 6 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 and 21) on 3 and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 2. The month's ringing total was 206; a further 147 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 353. Individual species totals were:

Sparrowhawk	2, 0	Coal Tit	1, 1
Great spotted Woodpecker	1, 2	Blue Tit	13, 43
Wren	1, 8	Great Tit	1, 27
Dunnock	0, 4	Tree Creeper	0, 3
Robin	5, 7	Jay	0, 2
Blackbird	32, 8	House Sparrow	2, 2
Fieldfare	4, 0	Chaffinch	4, 2
Song Thrush	1, 1	Greenfinch	2, 0
Redwing	91, 0	Goldfinch	3, 0
Cetti's Warbler	1, 0	Siskin	1, 0
Chiffchaff	1, 0	Lesser Redpoll	16, 0
Goldcrest	9, 8	Bullfinch	3, 8
Firecrest	1, 0	Reed Bunting	1, 2
Long-tailed Tit	10, 19		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Long-tailed Tit ALE268 at 6 years, 6 months, Jay DA25406 at 6 years 4 months, Robin V835323 at 4 years 6 months, Blue Tit V834408 at 4 years 5 months and Great Tit V834348 at 4 years 2 months.

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

Whooper Swan	14 on 21 st .	Chiffchaff	On 8 th and 21 st .
Wigeon	900 on 21 st .	Firecrest	On 21 st .
Gadwall	218 on 17 th .	Bearded Tit	2 on 21 st .
Teal	390 on 17 th .	Starling	5000 on 23 rd .
Shoveler	155 on 17 th .	Corn Bunting	5 on 12 th .
Cormorant	54 on 10 th .		
Bittern	On 2 nd , 11 th and 21 st .		
Little Egret	9 on 17 th .		
Marsh Harrier	Maximum 5 or 6.		
Hen Harrier	Maximum 6 or 7.		
Buzzard	2 on 16 th .		
Merlin	On 30 th .		
Peregrine	On 3 rd and 11 th .		
Woodcock	11 flushed at St. Edmunds on 30 th .		
Green Sandpiper	2 on 22 nd .		
Waxwing	20 on 3 rd .		
Stonechat	2 on 2 nd and 16 th .		

