

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for July 2013

There was mist-net ringing activity at the Fen on 14 different days in July. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used for netting on 5 days, the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 8, and Westmere on 2. Additionally there were 9 days on which nestling birds were ringed. The month's ringing total was 472, a further 106 birds were retrapped, so the overall total of birds handled in the month was 578. The first figure below is the ringing total; the second is the retraps. Individual species totals were:

Water Rail	1, 0	Grasshopper Warbler	0, 1
Common Tern	3, 0	Sedge Warbler	72, 12
Woodpigeon	1, 0	Reed Warbler	109, 24
Cuckoo	1, 0	Whitethroat	11, 3
Barn Owl	5, 0	Lesser Whitethroat	1, 0
Kingfisher	1, 0	Garden Warbler	2, 0
Green Woodpecker	1, 0	Blackcap	32, 9
Great spotted Woodpecker	2, 0	Chiffchaff	21, 3
Swallow	44, 0	Willow Warbler	4, 3
House Martin	1, 0	Bearded Tit	26, 9
Pied Wagtail	2, 0	Long-tailed Tit	5, 1
Yellow Wagtail	1, 0	Blue Tit	11, 3
Wren	24, 5	Great Tit	10, 4
Dunnock	9, 3	Tree Creeper	5, 0
Robin	19, 3	House Sparrow	1, 0
Blackbird	4, 8	Chaffinch	0, 1
Song Thrush	0, 2	Bullfinch	4, 6
Cetti's Warbler	5, 3	Reed Bunting	34, 4

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Old birds retrapped during the month were: Reed Warbler X079211 at 5 years, 11 months, Blackbird XB92670 and Bullfinch V834189 both at 5 years 8 months. Two French-ringed Reed Warblers were caught at the Fen in the month.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of July 2013 were:

Little Egret	19 on 4 <sup>th</sup> , numbers rising to 82 on 15 <sup>th</sup> , then falling to 26 on 28 <sup>th</sup> .		
Great white Heron	One present throughout the month.		
Bittern	On 20 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> and 27 <sup>th</sup> .		
Ferruginous Duck	On 22 <sup>nd</sup> .		
Buzzard	On 23 <sup>rd</sup> .	Curlew	On 5 <sup>th</sup> .
Kite	On 28 <sup>th</sup> .	Wood Sandpiper	On 22 <sup>nd</sup> .
Peregrine	On 12 <sup>th</sup> .	Black-tailed Godwit	Maximum 15 on 9 <sup>th</sup> .
Oystercatcher	4 on 11 <sup>th</sup> .	Greenshank	9 on 12 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> .
Avocet	6 on 22 <sup>nd</sup> .	Spotted Redshank	On 28 <sup>th</sup> .
Grey Plover	2 on 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Green Sandpiper	3 on 22 <sup>nd</sup> and 28 <sup>th</sup> .
Pacific golden Plover	On 24 <sup>th</sup> .	Common Sandpiper	2 on 25 <sup>th</sup> .
Little ringed Plover	4 on 28 <sup>th</sup> .	Yellow-legged Gull	On 28 <sup>th</sup> .
Ruff	2 on 11 <sup>th</sup> and 14 <sup>th</sup> .	Little Owl	2 on 4 <sup>th</sup> .

