

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for January 2014

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 17 different days in January. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 9 days, the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 6, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 & 21) on 3 and the Brickpits/Roger Clarke Hide area (Compartment 24) on 3. The month's ringing total was 145; a further 230 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 375. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 2	Long-tailed Tit	7, 29
Pied Wagtail	6, 0	Blue Tit	28, 70
Wren	6, 3	Great Tit	13, 39
Dunnock	3, 9	Tree Creeper	0, 3
Robin	1, 28	House Sparrow	0, 1
Blackbird	18, 6	Chaffinch	5, 1
Fieldfare	1, 0	Greenfinch	23, 1
Song Thrush	2, 0	Goldfinch	9, 2
Redwing	1, 0	Lesser Redpoll	1, 3
Cetti's Warbler	0, 4	Bullfinch	2, 11
Goldcrest	2, 2	Reed Bunting	17, 15

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Chaffinch T941084 at 6 years 8 months, Long-tailed Tit 766906 at 6 years 7 months, Blackbird XB92670 at 6 years 2 months, Cetti's Warbler X078680 at 4 years 6 months, Robin X077999 at 4 years 5 months, Great Tit TK77682 at 3 years 8 months and Dunnock X875700 at 3 years 7 months.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of January 2014 were:

Whooper Swan	9 over on 11 th ; 10 on 31 st .	Merlin	on 19 th and 29 th .
Whitefronted Goose	2 on 31 st .	Kestrel	3 on 11 th .
Greylag	c550 on 31 st .	Black-tailed Godwit	on 10 th .
Ross's Goose	on 5 dates in month.	Caspian Gull	on 12 th .
Wigeon	max c2400 on 10 th .	Short-eared Owl	on 4 dates.
Mallard	max 246 on 19 th .	Barn Owl	2 on 11 th .
Gadwall	max c310 on 19 th .	Snipe	14 on 31 st .
Teal	max 751 on 29 th .	Cetti's Warbler	7+ on 19 th .
Shoveler	max 205 on 29 th .	Coal Tit	on 11 th .
Pochard	3 on 10 th .	Tree Sparrow	on 11 th .
Pintail	5 on 10 th and 19 th .	Corn Bunting	8 on 24 th .
Tufted Duck	13 on 19 th .		
Bittern	on 5 th , 25 th and 29 th .		
Little Egret	2 on 29 th .		
Water Rail	4+ on 24 th .		
Hen Harrier	4 in month		
Marsh Harrier	influx mid-month, to 9 by month-end.		
Buzzard	4 on 14 th .		
Peregrine	2 on 2 nd ; one on several later dates.		

