

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for April 2014

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 15 different days in April. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 6 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 & 21) on 5, and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 and 53) on 7. The month's ringing total was 163; a further 117 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 280. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Cuckoo	4, 0	Chiffchaff	13, 5
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 3	Willow Warbler	3, 0
Pied Wagtail	4, 0	Bearded Tit	1, 0
Wren	6, 6	Long-tailed Tit	1, 12
Dunnock	1, 10	Blue Tit	1, 11
Robin	2, 4	Great Tit	1, 19
Whinchat	1, 0	Tree Creeper	0, 4
Blackbird	4, 3	House Sparrow	1, 0
Song Thrush	1, 0	Chaffinch	14, 9
Cetti's Warbler	1, 7	Greenfinch	45, 4
Grasshopper Warbler	3, 0	Goldfinch	11, 1
Sedge Warbler	5, 2	Lesser Redpoll	3, 2
Reed Warbler	3, 0	Bullfinch	2, 1
Lesser Whitethroat	2, 0	Reed Bunting	7, 4
Blackcap	23, 9		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Long-tailed Tit 766906 at 6 years 10 months, Chaffinch X079312 at 4 years 8 months, Chiffchaff CHX121 at 4 years 0 months, Dunnock X875700 at 3 years 10 months and Blackbird LB03579 at 3 years 8 months.

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

Greylag	40 on 20 th .	Dunlin	2 on 23 rd .
Ross' Goose	on 20 th .	Black Tern	2 on 16 th .
Shelduck	on 10 th and 21 st .	Cuckoo	first on 19 th .
Wigeon	last (?) on 20 th .	Short-eared Owl	2 on 5 th .
Garganey	8 on 23 rd .	Swallow	first on 12 th .
Spotted Crake	on 9 th and 10 th .	House Martin	first on 13 th .
Bittern	2 from mid-month	Yellow Wagtail	30+ on 17 th .
Montagu's Harrier	on 1 st .	Wheatear	3 on 23 rd .
Kite	on 15 th and 16 th .	Whinchat	on 29 th .
Buzzard	2 on 17 th .	Nightingale	first on 12 th .
Hobby	first on 13 th ; 3 on 23 rd .	Fieldfare	last on 10 th .
Crane	2 on 26 th .	Ring Ousel	on 10 th to 12 th .
Oystercatcher	on 10 th .	Grasshopper Warbler	first on 11 th .
Avocet	4 on 23 rd .	Reed Warbler	first on 10 th .
Woodcock	4 on 23 rd .	Whitethroat	first on 21 st .
Redshank	7 on 20 th .	Lesser Whitethroat	first on 22 nd
Greenshank	on 3 rd and 23 rd .	Willow Warbler	first on 3 rd .

