

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for May 2014

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 12 different days in May. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 8 days and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on 6. On several other days, nestling birds were ringed without the use of the nets (many of the Blue and Great Tits were nestlings ringed in the nestboxes). The month's ringing total was 512, a further 143 birds were retrapped, so the overall total of birds handled in the month was 655. The first figure below is the ringing total, the second is the retraps. Individual species totals were:

Water Rail	1, 0	Reed Warbler	27, 19
Stock Dove	2, 0	Whitethroat	3, 0
Woodpigeon	1, 0	Blackcap	15, 8
Cuckoo	1, 0	Chiffchaff	22, 11
Barn Owl	11, 0	Bearded Tit	8, 2
Kingfisher	3, 1	Long-tailed Tit	11, 5
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 1	Blue Tit	207, 12
Yellow Wagtail	1, 0	Great Tit	109, 13
Pied Wagtail	1, 0	Tree Creeper	0, 4
Wren	15, 15	Jay	0, 2
Dunnock	5, 7	Jackdaw	7, 0
Robin	16, 5	Chaffinch	0, 6
Nightingale	1, 0	Goldfinch	1, 0
Blackbird	9, 4	Linnet	4, 0
Song Thrush	3, 2	Bullfinch	1, 5
Cetti's Warbler	0, 10	Reed Bunting	13, 2
Sedge Warbler	14, 9		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Jay DA12893 at 7 years, 6 months, Cetti's Warbler T941212 at 7 years 1 month, Chaffinch X077047 at 5 years 8 months, Reed Warbler X078584 and Great Tit X077956 both at 4 years 10 months.

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

Pinkfoot	on 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sanderling	2 on 19 <sup>th</sup>
Shelduck	20 on 19 <sup>th</sup> .	Bar-tailed Godwit	on 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Wigeon	on 19 <sup>th</sup> .	Whimbrel	on several dates
Garganey	all month.	Green Sandpiper	on 1 <sup>st</sup>
Ruddy Duck	on 1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Greenshank	3 on 5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>
Bittern	all month	Whimbrel	3 on 15 <sup>th</sup> and 16 <sup>th</sup> .
Little Egret	23 on 19 <sup>th</sup>	Wood Sandpiper	on 5 <sup>th</sup>
Spoonbill	2 on 4 <sup>th</sup>	Turnstone	on 7 <sup>th</sup> .
Crane	2 till 16 <sup>th</sup>	Wood Sandpiper	on 8 <sup>th</sup> .
Kite	on 5 <sup>th</sup>	Black Tern	3 on 5 <sup>th</sup>
Hen Harrier	on 7 <sup>th</sup>	Little Tern	on 19 <sup>th</sup>
Hobby	9 on 14 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	Long-eared Owl	on 15 <sup>th</sup> .
Black-winged Stilt	3 on 17 <sup>th</sup>	Stonechat	on 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Ringed Plover	8 on 5 <sup>th</sup>	Redstart	on 8 <sup>th</sup>
Grey Plover	on 7 <sup>th</sup>		

