

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for December 2014

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 14 different days in December. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area was used on 10 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen on 3 and the Reedbed on 3. The month's ringing total was 238; a further 324 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 562. Individual species totals (first figure ringed, second retrapped) were:

Kingfisher	0, 1	Great Tit	14, 79
Great spotted Woodpecker	1, 4	Jay	1, 1
Pied Wagtail	17, 0	Starling	3, 0
Wren	4, 8	House Sparrow	16, 14
Dunnock	1, 7	Tree Sparrow	1, 0
Robin	5, 15	Chaffinch	12, 5
Blackbird	20, 8	Greenfinch	19, 0
Fieldfare	13, 0	Goldfinch	20, 2
Redwing	17, 0	Linnet	5, 0
Cetti's Warbler	2, 2	Bullfinch	14, 8
Goldcrest	6, 3	Reed Bunting	29, 19
Long-tailed Tit	1, 22	Corn Bunting	1, 0
Blue Tit	16, 126		

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Old birds retrapped during the month were Jay DA09496 at 7y 7m (a WFG record), Great Tit V834348 at 6y 2m, Long-tailed Tit BRD702 at 5y 7m, Robin X077999 and Chaffinch X079464 both at 5y 4m, Reed Bunting X876125 at 4y 10m, Blue Tit L504190 at 4y 0m and Bullfinch L505624 at 3y 5m.

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

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

Whooper Swan	25-30 from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> ; 52 on 28 <sup>th</sup> .	
Greylag	255 on 8 <sup>th</sup> .	
Wigeon	414 on 8 <sup>th</sup> .	Tree Sparrow One ringed on 13 <sup>th</sup> .
Gadwall	4 on 8 <sup>th</sup> .	Corn Bunting One ringed on 17 <sup>th</sup> .
Shoveler	101 on 8 <sup>th</sup> .	
Pochard	On 8 <sup>th</sup> .	
Pintail	2 on 6 <sup>th</sup> .	
Grey Partridge	10 Tubney on 15 <sup>th</sup> .	
Cormorant	5 on 8 <sup>th</sup> .	
Great white Heron	On 6 <sup>th</sup> .	
Bittern	On 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	
Marsh Harrier	3 (?4) on 2 <sup>nd</sup> .	
Hen Harrier	3 males and up to 7 ringtails late in month.	
Merlin	On 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> .	
Crane	2 over on 21 <sup>st</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> .	
Snipe	37 on 1 <sup>st</sup> .	
Short-eared Owl	4 on 6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> .	
Great Grey Shrike	At Tubney on 12 <sup>th</sup> .	
Stonechat	On 7 <sup>th</sup> .	

