

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for January 2015

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 11 different days in January. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area (Compartments 30 & 31) was used on 10 days, Gallops/Sedge Fen (Compartments 15 & 21) on 3 and the Reedbed (Compartments 51, 52 & 53) on one. The month's ringing total was 137; a further 250 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 387. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

|                          |        |                |        |
|--------------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Sparrowhawk              | 1, 0   | Great Tit      | 10, 60 |
| Kingfisher               | 1, 1   | Treecreeper    | 1, 1   |
| Great spotted Woodpecker | 0, 2   | Starling       | 1, 0   |
| Wren                     | 3, 4   | House Sparrow  | 2, 2   |
| Dunnock                  | 2, 7   | Tree Sparrow   | 1, 0   |
| Robin                    | 0, 18  | Greenfinch     | 3, 0   |
| Blackbird                | 7, 10  | Chaffinch      | 7, 2   |
| Song Thrush              | 0, 1   | Goldfinch      | 9, 3   |
| Redwing                  | 9, 0   | Lesser Redpoll | 1, 6   |
| Goldcrest                | 2, 3   | Bullfinch      | 2, 5   |
| Long-tailed Tit          | 9, 13  | Reed Bunting   | 31, 22 |
| Blue Tit                 | 35, 90 |                |        |

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Robin X077999 at 5 years 5 months, Blue Tit X876175 at 4 years 11 months, Great Tit L094182 at 4 years 7 months, Dunnock Y113352 at 3 years 3 months and Goldfinch Y114759 at 3 years 0 months.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of January 2015 were:

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Bewick's Swan   | 3 on Tubney on 2 <sup>nd</sup> .  |
| Pintail         | Male on 20 <sup>th</sup> .  |
| Buzzard         | 7 over on 18 <sup>th</sup> .  |
| Marsh Harrier   | between 2 and 5 seen regularly; but 10+ on 11 <sup>th</sup> and 7 on 25 <sup>th</sup> . |
| Hen Harrier     | 4 different males; up to 7 ringtails; but never all seen at once.                       |
| Merlin          | One regularly; 2 on 6 <sup>th</sup> .   |
| Bittern         | One regularly, 2 on 23 <sup>rd</sup> .  |
| Barn Owl        | 5 on 25 <sup>th</sup> .   |
| Short-eared Owl | 7+ on 23 <sup>rd</sup> .  |
| Tawny Owl       | On 13 <sup>th</sup> .   |
| Stonechat       | 3 on 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup> .                           |

