

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for May 2015

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 11 different days in May. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area was used on 6 days, the Reedbed on 5 and Gallops on 3. On several other days, nestling birds were ringed without the use of the nets, in open nests or in the large and small nestboxes. The month's ringing total was 245, a further 143 birds were retrapped, so the overall total of birds handled in the month was 388. The first figure below is the ringing total, the second is the retraps. Individual species totals were:

Kestrel	1, 0	Garden Warbler	3, 2
Hobby	1, 0	Blackcap	28, 11
Cuckoo	1, 0	Chiffchaff	34, 8
Barn Owl	1, 0	Willow Warbler	4, 1
Kingfisher	2, 2	Bearded Tit	2, 0
Swallow	1, 0	Long-tailed Tit	0, 6
Wren	11, 10	Blue Tit	32, 20
Dunnock	3, 7	Great Tit	10, 16
Robin	8, 4	Tree Creeper	0, 5
Blackbird	6, 13	Jay	0, 1
Song Thrush	7, 2	Jackdaw	17, 0
Cetti's Warbler	5, 6	Chaffinch	3, 4
Grasshopper Warbler	6, 0	Greenfinch	1, 2
Sedge Warbler	15, 4	Goldfinch	2, 1
Reed Warbler	28, 10	Bullfinch	4, 5
Lesser Whitethroat	2, 0	Reed Bunting	5, 3
Whitethroat	2, 0		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Blackbird XB92634 at 6 years 1 month, Great Tit TH47238 at 6 years 0 months, Garden Warbler X875672 at 5 years 0 months, Blue Tit X876576 and Cetti's Warbler L093219 both at 4 years 10 months, Dunnock L094679 at 4 years 2 months and Blackcap L093706 at 4 years 1 month.

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

Shelduck	15 on 18 th .	Nightingale	2 claimed
Buzzard	2 on 22 nd .	Spotted Flycatcher	on 5 th
Bittern	all month	Crossbill	over on 26 th .
Little Egret	13 on 8 th		
Crane	on 2 nd and 14 th .		
Oystercatcher	2 on 18 th .		
Black-tailed Godwit	on 1 st .		
Green Sandpiper	2 on 18 th .		
Woodcock	at least 3 roding.		
Turtle Dove	on 7 th and 13 th ,		
Hobby	10+ on 9 th .		
Peregrine	on 15 th .		
Stonechat	"family" noted on 15 th .		
Whinchat	2 on 7 th .		
Wheatear	4 on 5 th .		

