

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for December 2015

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 16 different days in December. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area was used on 10 days, Gallops on 5 and the Reedbed on 2. The month's ringing total was 184; a further 192 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 376. Individual species totals (first figure ringed, second retrapped) were:

Sparrowhawk	0, 2	Blue Tit	23, 68
Green Woodpecker	1, 0	Great Tit	2, 33
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 4	Coal Tit	0, 4
Pied Wagtail	19, 0	Tree Creeper	0, 3
Wren	0, 5	Starling	7, 0
Dunnock	1, 7	House Sparrow	9, 2
Robin	0, 7	Chaffinch	6, 5
Blackbird	14, 4	Goldfinch	6, 2
Song Thrush	2, 0	Greenfinch	5, 0
Fieldfare	3, 0	Siskin	2, 0
Redwing	39, 0	Lesser Redpoll	10, 1
Cetti's Warbler	1, 2	Mealy Redpoll	1, 0
Chiffchaff	1, 0	Bullfinch	5, 5
Goldcrest	3, 4	Reed Bunting	10, 7
Long-tailed Tit	14, 17		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Great Tit TH47238 at 6 years 8 months, Chaffinch X079664 at 6 years 3 months, Blue Tit X876576 and Robin X876549 both at 5 years 5 months and Dunnock L504728 at 4 years 9 months.

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

Shelduck	2 on 9 th , 4 on 31 st .
Pintail	On 20 th .
Goosander	On 9 th .
Cormorant	39 on 2 nd .
Great white Heron	On 23 rd .
Little Egret	2 on 9 th .
Kite	On 19 th and 31 st .
Marsh Harrier	Maxima 4-5 On 2 nd ; 5 on 12 th .
Hen Harrier	Maxima 5 males, 2 ringtails (on 5 th).
Merlin	Female on 2 nd ; male on 9 th .
Crane	3 on 4 th ; 16 over on 16 th .
Ruff	c20 on 9 th .
Black-tailed Godwit	On 9 th .
Jack Snipe	On 2 nd .
Short-eared Owl	On 25 th .

