

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for December 2016

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 15 different days in December. 6 of the sessions were at St. Edmunds, 7 at Gallops and 5 at the Reedbed, The month's ringing total was 319, a further 299 birds were retraps, so the overall November "catch" was 618 birds (ringed birds are shown first, followed by retraps, below).

Kingfisher	1, 0	Fieldfare	4, 0
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 1	Redwing	103, 0
Cetti's Warbler	2, 3	Song Thrush	8, 0
Goldcrest	3, 10	Robin	2, 20
Blue Tit	10, 90	Dunnock	4, 8
Great Tit	6, 54	House Sparrow	30, 9
Bearded Tit	12, 10	Chaffinch	7, 10
Long-tailed Tit	3, 26	Greenfinch	1, 1
Chiffchaff	4, 0	Goldfinch	8, 5
Tree Creeper	0, 3	Lesser Redpoll	2, 0
Wren	9, 13	Bullfinch	8, 5
Blackbird	46, 15	Reed Bunting	46, 16

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Old birds retrapped during the month included Chaffinch V834220 at 8y 6m, House Sparrow TH47876 at 7y 11m (a WFG record), Great Tit X077956 at 7y 6m, Blue Tit X876406 at 6y 7m, Long-tailed Tit DDA101 at 5y 9m, Dunnock Y114372 at 4y 9m, Robin Y113943 at 4y 7m, Reed Bunting Y855916 at 3y 3m, Wren EAN604 at 3y 2m and Bearded Tit Y857609 at 3y 0m.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings during the month of December 2016 were:

Whooper Swan	between 5 and 16 birds regularly
Shelduck	on 18 th .
Little Egret	6 on 20 th .
Bittern	on 30 th .
Buzzard	2 on 20 th .
Crane	9 on 11 th .
Snipe	11 on 1 st .
Barn Owl	3+ on 26 th .
Short-eared Owl	several regularly, maximum 15 on 26 th .
Merlin	on 11 th , 12 th (2 birds) and 30 th .
Peregrine	on 4 th , 11 th , 17 th and 18 th .
Kestrel	12 on 26 th , 5 on 28 th .
Great grey Shrike	on 2 nd , 20 th , 27 th , 29 th and 30 th .
Chiffchaff	birds ringed on 2 nd , 9 th and 16 th .
Water Pipit	on 18 th .
Stonechat	2, or sometimes 3, birds on 2 nd , 4 th , 7 th , 12 th , 22 nd and 27 th .