

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for February 2017

There were netting sessions at the Fen on only 8 different days in February, and the catching remained poor. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area was used on 4 days, as were both the Reedbed and Gallops. The month's ringing total was only 66, but a further 185 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 251. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Green Woodpecker	1, 1	Song Thrush	1, 0
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 1	Redwing	1, 0
Goldcrest	1, 4	Robin	2, 10
Blue Tit	7, 64	Dunnock	4, 6
Great Tit	9, 38	House Sparrow	1, 2
Bearded Tit	3, 1	Chaffinch	7, 4
Cetti's Warbler	1, 2	Goldfinch	6, 0
Long-tailed Tit	2, 28	Siskin	1, 0
Tree Creeper	1, 4	Bullfinch	1, 1
Wren	6, 9	Reed Bunting	5, 5
Blackbird	6, 5		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Great Tit TH47238 at 7y 9m, Long-tailed Tit DDA 101 at 6y 11m, Blue Tit X876576 at 6y 7m, Robin Y113943 at 4y 9m, and Reed Bunting Y409530 at 4y 0m, Cetti's Warbler Y855616 at 3y 6m and Chaffinch Y856870 at 3y 5m.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings (B-Burwell Fen; W-Wicken Fen) during the month of February 2017 were:

Whooper Swan	(W) 31 on 4 th , 40 on 7 th , 7 on 24 th .	
Bewick's Swan	(W) 2 on 4 th .	
Whitefronted Goose	(all B) 15 on 4 th , 12 on 5 th , 37 on 6 th , 31 on 12 th , 18 on 20 th .	
Egyptian Goose	on 6 th .	
Shelduck	(B) 9 on 6 th , 7 th , (B) 3 on 16 th .	
Gadwall	142 on 8 th .	
Pintail	(B) male on 6 th .	
Marsh Harrier	(W) 8 on 4 th .	
Buzzard	(W) 3 on 24 th .	
Crane	3 on 4 th and 6 th ; 8 on 18 th .	
Golden Plover	(B) 12 on 14 th .	
Black-tailed Godwit	on 7 th .	Siskin (W) one ringed on 17 th .
Green Sandpiper	(W) 4 th .	
Woodcock	(W) 26 th .	
Mediterranean Gull	on 17 th .	
Short-eared Owl	maximum (W+B) 9+ on 7 th .	
Kestrel	(W) 5 on 6 th .	
Peregrine	(W) 4 th , (W) 2 17 th , (B) 24 th .	
Great grey Shrike	(W) throughout month.	
Stonechat	(W) 4 on 4 th .	
Water Pipit	(W) 4 th .	
Redpoll on 21 st .		