

## WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

### Brief news for March 2017

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 14 different days in March, with reasonable catching.. The St. Edmund's Fen/Education area was used on 9 days, the Reedbed on 6 and Gallops on 3. The month's ringing total was 155; a further 166 different birds were retrapped. Individual species totals (ringed, followed by retraps) were:

Jay	2, 0	Blackbird	4, 1
Goldcrest	1, 0	Redwing	4, 0
Blue Tit	10, 25	Song Thrush	2, 1
Great Tit	11, 33	Robin	5, 7
Bearded Tit	1, 4	Dunnock	8, 6
Cetti's Warbler	2, 4	House Sparrow	14, 17
Sedge Warbler	0, 1	Chaffinch	7, 3
Long-tailed Tit	13, 22	Greenfinch	1, 1
Chiffchaff	16, 8	Siskin	2, 0
Blackcap	1, 0	Goldfinch	16, 1
Tree Creeper	1, 2	Bullfinch	2, 9
Wren	9, 9	Reed Bunting	22, 12
Starling	1, 0		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Long-tailed Tit DDA 101 and Dunnock L504728 both at 6y 0m, Blue Tit Y408052 at 4y 9m, Chaffinch Y409249 at 4y 4m, Reed Bunting Y855416 at 3y 8m and Cetti's Warbler Y855616 at 3y 7m.

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

Egyptian Goose	(B) on 29 <sup>th</sup> .		
Shelduck	(B) 5 on 1st rising to 22 on 16 <sup>th</sup> .		
Garganey	(B) 3 on 13 <sup>th</sup> .		
Pintail	(B) 2 on 12 <sup>th</sup> , (B) 8 on 13 <sup>th</sup> .		
Bittern	on 10 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , (probably two birds on) 24 <sup>th</sup> , 29 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup> .		
Little Egret	5 on 16 <sup>th</sup> .		
Heron	5 active nests on 16 <sup>th</sup> .		
Kite	on 10 <sup>th</sup> ; 2 on 30 <sup>th</sup> .	Sedge Warbler	first on 31 <sup>st</sup>
Marsh Harrier	5 on 13 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> .	Stonechat	(B) 5 on 1 <sup>st</sup> .
Buzzard	5 on 15 <sup>th</sup> .	White Wagtail	(B) on 25 <sup>th</sup> .
Crane	(B) 3 on 1 <sup>st</sup> .	Siskin	Several on 16 <sup>th</sup> /17 <sup>th</sup> .
Oystercatcher	(B) 4 on 6 <sup>th</sup> .	Great grey Shrike	recorded all month
Avocet	4 on 11 <sup>th</sup> .	Chiffchaff	Several from 14 <sup>th</sup> .
Bar-tailed Godwit	(B) on 6 <sup>th</sup> .		
Redshank	6 pairs on 15 <sup>th</sup> .		
Short-eared Owl	(B) 4 on 6 <sup>th</sup> .		
Tawny Owl	a "gathering" of some 15 birds reported on the 20 <sup>th</sup> .		
Merlin	on 7 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> .		
Peregrine	(B) on 6 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> .		