

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for April 2018

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 9 different days in March – but, with the exception of a single, brief, “Wiffwaff challenge”, all were at the St. Edmund’s Fen sites. The month’s ringing total was 82; a further 87 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 169. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 1	Blackbird	2, 4
Cetti’s Warbler	0, 1	Redwing	1, 0
Blue Tit	2, 13	Robin	1, 5
Great Tit	1, 21	Dunnock	1, 4
Long-tailed Tit	2, 4	House Sparrow	6, 3
Chiffchaff	7, 4	Chaffinch	1, 2
Willow Warbler	1, 0	Bullfinch	2, 2
Blackcap	15, 3	Goldfinch	14, 1
Lesser Whitethroat	1, 0	Siskin	1, 0
Reed Warbler	0, 1	Lesser Redpoll	3, 2
Tree Creeper	0, 1	Greenfinch	2, 1
Wren	4, 2	Reed Bunting	12, 12
Starling	3, 0		

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Old birds retrapped during the month were Reed Warbler Y856584 at 4y 8m, House Sparrow TS30327 at 3y 5m and Reed Bunting D927303 at 3y 3m.

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Some of the more interesting bird sightings (B-Burwell Fen; W-Wicken Fen) during the month of April 2018 were:

Snow Goose	On 1 st ; 2 on 17 th .	Little Gull	(B) 8 on 14 th , 12 on 15 th .
Egyptian Goose	3 on 10 th and 19 th .	Caspian Gull	On 15 th , 16 th and 19 th .
Shelduck	(B) 2 on 1 st and 20 th .	Swift	First on 23 rd .
Pintail	2 on 1 st .	Cuckoo	First on 16 th .
Pochard	Pair on 29 th .	Little Owl	On 10 th and 22 nd .
Garganey	First on the 3 rd	Hobby	First on 22 nd .
Bittern	Two and later 3 birds.	House Martin	First on 17 th .
Purple Heron	(B) on 11 th , 12 th and 13 th .	Lesser Whitethroat	First on 19 th .
Hen Harrier	Last on 2 nd .	Willow Warbler	First on the 4 th .
Kite	On 10 th and 22 nd .	Reed Warbler	First on 19 th .
Buzzard	3 on 1 st , 2 later.	Sedge Warbler	First on 8 th .
Crane	2 regularly, later 5, then 6.	Grasshopper Warbler	First on 8 th .
Oystercatcher	(B) 2 on 1 st ; 3 on 10 th .	Ring Ousel	(B) male on 6 th .
Avocet	(B) 2 on 14 th , 17 th and 18 th .	Redstart	Male on 14 th .
Curlew	On 21 st .	Nightingale	First on 14 th .
Whimbrel	(B) on 18 th , 19 th ; 2 on 27 th .	Stonechat	On 1 st and 16 th .
Greenshank	(B) on 18 th .	Wheatear	(B) on 5 th ; 3 on 27 th .
Green Sandpiper	On 15 th ; 5 on 17 th .	Yellow Wagtail	First on 5 th .
Woodcock	On 14 th .	Brambling	2 on 8 th .
Common Tern	First on 14 th .		
Arctic Tern	9 on 29 th .		