

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP Brief news for May 2018

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 9 different days in May – with additional nestbox sessions. Area B (Gallops) 2, Area F (Reedbed) 4, Area H (St Edmund's Fen) 3. The month's ringing total was 301; a further 116 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 417. Individual species totals (the first figure new birds, the second retraps) were:

Cuckoo	1	Sedge Warbler	6, 1
Barn Owl	2	Reed Warbler	24, 6
Tawny Owl	1	Treecreeper	0, 5
Jackdaw	9		
Blue Tit	115, 12,	Wren	10, 11
Great Tit	36, 10		
Bearded Tit	1	Blackbird	2, 11
Long-tailed Tit	6, 6	Song Thrush	3
Cetti's Warbler	4, 5	Robin	5,8
Chiffchaff	16, 2	Dunnock	7, 10
Willow Warbler	4,	House Sparrow	0, 2
Blackcap	25, 11	Chaffinch	3, 3
Garden Warbler	7	Goldfinch	1
Lesser Whitethroat	1, 0	Linnet	2
Whitethroat	1	Bullfinch	5, 9
Grasshopper Warbler	1	Reed Bunting	3, 4

Some of the more interesting bird sightings:

Greylag Goose max 44 on 18th, on Burwell Fen (BF) 43 on the 14th

Egyptian Goose BF 2 regularly.

Shelduck BF maximum 13 on the 1st

Gadwall BF maximum 58 on the 1st.

Garganey regular at both sites.

Pochard BF 4 on the 26th.

Cormorant BF max 5.

Bittern regular at both sites ? max 3 at WF.

Great White Egret BF on 21st - 22nd.

Little Ringed Plover BF 2 on the 21st.

Ringed Plover BF on the 24th.

Greenshank BF on the 24th.

Black Tern BF 4 on the 21st.

Common Tern BF max 3

Cuckoo at both sites max 3 males and a female on WF

Hobby at both sites, max WF 7 on the 14th & 18th

Peregrine a pair on the 5th.

Grasshopper Warbler max 5.

Wheatear BF 2 on the 2nd WF 6 on the 4th.