

# 2018 St. Edmunds CES, Wicken Fen

This was the 5<sup>th</sup> year of CES at St. Edmunds. All twelve sessions were satisfactorily completed. Very many thanks to all those who participated through the summer: Andy, Ann, ChrisQ, ChrisT, Diana, Gabriel, Gareth, Hannah, HannahW, James, JoB, JoJ, Neil, Patrick, Peter, Sophie and Tony, and in particular to the subset of the above who supervised sessions as RICs, and/or provided essential support with net-erection and ride-management.

We used 172 metres of net from dawn to 11:00 on 12 occasions, totalling 74 hours net time.

This year we caught 404 individual birds in 466 captures (148 adult, 254 juvenile, 2 unaged), 307 of which were new birds, the remainder were subsequent encounters of birds previously ringed on the fen (no controls were caught in this year's CES).

This is the highest St. Edmunds CES total so far, beating the previous high of 390 in 2014 (the lowest total was 294 in 2017).

148 is the highest total of adults (144 in 2016), but 254 is below the highest total of juveniles (289 in 2014) although it is our second highest.

26 species were caught, with only ten being caught in double-figures (table 1). Table 2 is a count of all CES birds (not including same CES-year retraps).

Only one new species was added to the St. Eds CES list, Jackdaw – it was also the first ever non-nestling Jackdaw to be ringed by the group.

Other notable catches, but not St. Eds CES firsts, were two Spotted flycatchers, and 3 Green woodpeckers.

Of the commonly caught species, Blue tit totalled more than in any previous year, while Great tit numbers improved on the previous 3 years but were still behind their 2014 total. Long-tailed tits were almost completely absent (only 8, compared to previous counts of 30, 14, 25 and 16), while Chiffchaffs dropped 18 from last year, but still beat the previous 3 years to that. Garden warblers more than doubled their previous highest total, Dunnock, Blackbird, Reed warbler, Blackcap and Bullfinch hit new high scores and Wren also scored well, equalling 2014's high. Robin and Cetti's warbler also bounced back after last year's low.

30 birds were caught which had been caught in previous St. Edmunds CES' including:

Robin D681172, which has now appeared in the CES in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2018

Reed warbler D681248 (2014, 2015, 2018)

Blackbird LB03588 (2015, 2016, 2018) - Originally ringed in 2010

Robin Y113943 (2015, 2016, 2018) – Originally ringed in 2012, and has been caught at least twice every year since then.

The only Chaffinch caught this year was a retrap (L504062) which was also caught in 2017's CES and originally ringed in 2010.

	Adults					Juvs					Unaged				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>BLUTI</b>	4	4	6	4	<b>7</b>	27	8	4	19	<b>36</b>					
<b>GRETI</b>	4	2	3	3	<b>6</b>	26	9	5	11	<b>17</b>					
<b>CHIFF</b>	12	14	14	12	<b>7</b>	22	21	25	50	<b>37</b>	1	1	1		
<b>BLACA</b>	10	26	20	22	<b>30</b>	52	34	9	15	<b>35</b>	2			2	<b>1</b>
<b>REEWA</b>	8	5	9	10	<b>11</b>	21	21	22	18	<b>26</b>			1		
<b>WREN</b>	9	12	13	8	<b>13</b>	35	24	17	12	<b>32</b>	1				
<b>BLABI</b>	7	11	5	6	<b>14</b>	11	2	9	5	<b>5</b>					
<b>ROBIN</b>	3	9	15	7	<b>13</b>	40	27	25	15	<b>21</b>					
<b>DUNNO</b>	5	5	6	5	<b>10</b>	6	7	8	9	<b>6</b>					
<b>BULLF</b>	4	5	4	6	<b>6</b>		6	1	1	<b>9</b>					

(table 1)

	Adult					Juvenile					Unaged					Total				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
SPARR									2										2	
CUCKO			1															1		
KINGF								1										1		
GREWO					3	1									1					3
GRSWO	1					3		2		2					4			2		2
MAGPI			1															1		
JAY	1	2					2								1	4				
JACKD										1										1
WREN	9	12	13	8	13	35	24	17	12	32	1				45	36	30	20	45	
DUNNO	5	5	6	5	10	6	7	8	9	6					11	12	14	14	16	
HOUSP				3	5													3	5	
SPOFL					1			1		1								1	2	
ROBIN	3	9	15	7	13	40	27	25	15	21					43	36	40	22	34	
BLABI	7	11	5	6	14	11	2	9	5	5					18	13	14	11	19	
SONTH	3	7	7	2	3	4		2	3	2					7	7	9	5	5	
CETWA	5	4	7	1	4	2	2	3		5					7	6	10	1	9	
GRAWA			1					1	1									2	1	
SEDWA	3	3	6	3	1	1	3	4	2	1					4	6	10	5	2	
REEWA	8	5	9	10	11	21	21	22	18	26			1		29	26	32	28	37	
LESWH				1	1		3			1						3		1	2	
WHITE		1					2			1						3			1	
GARWA	1		1	1	3	2	2	2	1	5					3	2	3	2	8	
BLACA	10	26	20	22	30	52	34	9	15	35	2			2	1	64	60	29	39	66
CHIFF	12	14	14	12	7	22	21	25	50	37	1	1	1			35	36	40	62	44
WILWA		4	3	1	1	10	2		7	6			1	1		10	6	4	9	7
GOLDC									1										1	
LOTTI	9	1	17	7	5	22	10	8	8	2	2	3		1	1	33	14	25	16	8
BLUTI	4	4	6	4	7	27	8	4	19	36						31	12	10	23	43
GRETI	4	2	3	3	6	26	9	5	11	17						30	11	8	14	23
MARTI								1										1		
TREC	2	3	2	1	2	4	2	4	3	3				1		6	5	6	5	5
CHAFF	4	1	1	3	1		1									4	2	1	3	1
GOLDF		1															1			
BULLF	4	5	4	6	6		6	1	1	9						4	11	5	7	15
REEBU			2		1													2		1
<b>TOTALS</b>	95	120	144	106	148	289	188	154	183	254	6	4	3	5	2	390	312	301	294	404

(table 2)