



Cambridgeshire Bird Club

E-Bulletin 30 December 2015

(The records in this bulletin are unchecked and may be revised at a later date)

HEADLINES



Iceland Gull at Cambridge Research Park: photo by Jon Heath

GREEN-WINGED TEAL* Grafham Water from 20th - end of the month.

LONG-TAILED DUCK* Fen Drayton Lakes a female/immature from 4th - 19th.

AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER* Pymoor on 21st - 22nd.

DOTTEREL Ouse Fen a single bird among a flock of several thousand Golden Plover on 1st.

ICELAND GULL Cambridge Research Park a 1 c.y. from 3rd - 8th, Grafham Water on 6th, Trumpington Clay Farm on 7th, Fen Drayton Lakes a 1 c.y. from 11th.

GLAUCOUS GULL Fen Drayton Lakes on 5th, 19th, and a 1 c.y. on 31st, Grafham Water an adult on 28th.

LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER Buckden-Brampton on 31st.

SWIFT Barleycroft GP and Earith on 16th - *the latest in a series of exceptional records of summer visitors out of season, remember last year's Whitethroat and Turtle Dove and Dotterel and Ring Ouzel in this bulletin .*

Other records

All records below refer to the month at the head of the E-bulletin and where no numbers are given the record relates to single birds.

Where there is an asterisk after the name of the species this indicates that it is necessary to send a description to the County Recorder before the record will be accepted.

Note: this month, thanks to the stirring work of Louise Bacon and Howard Slatter, I have been able to incorporate a number of 'extra' records derived from the Club's database.

Weather-wise an extraordinary month with almost constant wind and rain and unseasonal temperatures - daffodils out in December!

Wildfowl

Mute Swan counts 50 (+): Fen Drayton Lakes 50 on 2nd, Ouse Fen 115 on 20th, Ouse Washes 295 on 14th.

Bewick's Swan Whittlesey 3 on 6th, Ouse Washes 8+ on 6th, 20 (Pymoor) on 20th, Grafham Water 3 on 13th - 23rd, Littleport 20 on 28th, Nene Washes 20 on 28th.

Whooper Swan Ouse Washes 150-300 on several dates, dawn roost count 4,086 on 15th, Wardy Hill 200+ on 6th, Nene Washes 50 on 28th, Knarr Fen 45 on 28th, Helpston 4 on 29th, Manea 1,121 on 31st.

Bean Goose* Fen Drayton Lakes a single of the 'tundra' subspecies on 20th and another, or the same, at Godmanchester GP on 26th - 28th.

Greylag Goose counts 150+: Kingfishers Bridge 438 on 4th, Fen Drayton Lakes 150 on 5th, Wimpole Park 150 on 5th, Ouse Washes 270 on 14th, Whittlesford GP 247 on 7th, Wicken Fen 350 on 27th.

Canada Goose Trumpington Clay Farm 28 on 7th, Ouse Washes 582 on 14th, Cam Washes Upware 23 on 22nd.

Barnacle Goose Granta Park 15 on 14th, Ferry Meadows CP on 23rd, Wicken Fen 4 on 26th.

Brent Goose Ouse Washes on 28th.

Egyptian Goose Fen Drayton Lakes 1-4 on several dates, Cambridge 2 on 1st, Eaton Socon 4 on 4th, Grafham Water 2 on 6th, Whittlesford GP 2 on 7th, Ouse Fen 9 on 9th, Houghton Meadows 2 on 13th, Ferry Meadows CP 3 on 17th, Chatteris 3 on 18th.

Shelduck Burwell Fen 2-7 on several dates, Houghton Meadows a flyover on 13th, Ouse Washes 3 on 13th, Grafham Water on 23rd, Peterborough 4 on 28th.

Mandarin Grafham Water on 13th, Paxton Pits presumed the same bird on 18th, Hauxton a male on 28th.

Wigeon maxima: Fen Drayton Lakes 400 on 2nd, Ouse Washes 25,213 on 14th, Wicken Fen 375 on 22nd, Cam Washes Upware 355 on 22nd, Godmanchester GP 200 on 26th, Barleycraft GP 440 on 28th, Burwell Fen 325 on 29th.

Gadwall maxima: Grafham Water 300 on 6th, Milton CP 48+ on 6th, Ouse Washes 92 on 14th, Fen Drayton Lakes 282 on 19th, Kingfishers Bridge 68 on 23rd, Burwell Fen 25 on 29th.

Teal maxima: Fowlmere NR 23 on 7th, Ouse Washes 7,816 on 14th, Wicken Fen 155 on 22nd, Burwell Fen 269 on 28th, Ferry Meadows CP 99 on 29th, Grafham Water 154 on 31st.

Mallard maxima: Trumpington Clay Farm 11 on 7th, Whittlesford GP 28 on 7th, Ouse Washes 3,223 on 14th, Granta Park 160 on 19th, Wicken Fen 220 on 30th, Burwell Fen 26 on 29th.

Pintail Paxton Pits 2 males on 13th and a female on 15th, a pair on 29th, Ouse Washes 644 on 14th, Wicken Fen on 20th, Fen Drayton Lakes 8 on 29th.

Shoveler Wicken Fen 32 on 22nd, Ouse Washes 668 on 14th, Burwell Fen 100 on 19th and 79 on 29th.

Red-crested Pochard Fen Drayton Lakes 2-5 from 6th to 26th, Paxton Pits 2 males on 15th.

Pochard maxima: Whittlesford GP 36 on 7th, Ouse Fen 27 on 9th, Ouse Washes 536 on 14th, Bradley Fen 58 on 15th.

Tufted Duck maxima: Roswell Pits 58 on 5th, Fen Drayton Lakes 500+ on 6th, Grafham Water 500+ on 6th, Trumpington Clay Farm 7 on 7th, Whittlesford GP 41 on 7th, Ouse Fen 70 on 9th, Ferry Meadows 60 on 12th, Ouse Washes 410 on 14th, Wicken Fen 9 on 22nd.

A Tufted Duck with a nasal saddle seen on the Ouse Washes had been marked in Sao Jacinto Nature reserve in Portugal on December 20th 2013. It was seen again at Taipal freshwater marsh a few days later and again in early January 2014 and then at Hornsea Mere (Yorks) in September and October of this year. Where it went in the summers we do not know.



Pochard at Fen Drayton Lakes: photo by Colin Brown

Goldeneye *maxima*: Ouse Washes 4 on 14th, Fen Drayton Lakes 20+ on several dates, Grafham Water 20+ on several dates, Godmanchester GP on 26th.

Smew Fen Drayton Lakes 2-8 'redheads' from 6th to 26th, Needingworth GP a male on 26th, 6 on 28th, Paxton Pits 4 on 29th.

Red-breasted Merganser Fowlmere NR a redhead on 2nd.

Goosander Grafham Water 2-13 on several dates, Burwell Fen on 9th, Maxey Pits 8 on 12th, Ouse Washes 2 on 14th.

Ruddy Duck a female at an undisclosed site on 31st.

Gamebirds

Red-legged Partridge *counts 10+*: Linton c20 on 2nd, Foxton 14 on 8th.

Grey Partridge Nine Well 35 on 1st, Burwell Fen 18 on 2nd, Barton Lark Rise Farm 5 on 11th, Foxton 12 on 11th, Comberton 12 on 19th.

Pheasant Little Shelford 30 males feeding in a field on 7th.

Cormorant egrets and herons

Cormorant Wicken Fen roost count of 39 on 2nd, 29 on 14th and 10 during the day on 22nd, Burwell Fen 5 on 4th, Whittlesford GP 8 on 7th, Fen Drayton Lakes 82 on 9th, Ouse Washes 42 on 14th, Roswell Pits 23 on 15th, Earith sluice 26 on 15th, Ferry Meadows CP 34 on 25th.

Shag Earith sluice on 30th and another or the same at Fen Drayton Lakes on the same day.

Bittern *reported from:* Fen Drayton Lakes, Ouse Fen, Paxton Pits and Wicken Fen.

Little Egret *reported from:* Burwell Fen (6), Chittering, Haddenham/Aldreth Fens, Hinchbrook CP, Holme Fen, Milton, Ouse Fen (3), Ouse Washes(3), Paxton Pits (3), Trumpington Clay Farm, and Wicken Fen.

Great White Egret Ouse Washes on 22nd, Paxton Pits on 29th - 30th, St Ives on 29th.

Grey Heron *counts 10+:* Ouse Washes 25 on 14th.

Grebes

Little Grebe Trumpington Clay Farm maximum 6 on 7th, River Cam Bait's Bite to Clayhithe c24 on 14th, Cam Washes Upware 2 on 22nd, Ouse Washes maximum 11 on 28th.

Great Crested Grebe Drysides BP 14 on 1st, Fen Drayton Lakes maximum 30 on 2nd, Ouse Washes maximum 10 on 11th, Grafham Water 19 on 24th, Hinchbrook CP 10 on 24th,

Slavonian Grebe Fen Drayton Lakes 21st - 26th.

Raptors

Red Kite Little Shelford on 1st, Great Fen 9 on 6th and 4 on 7th, Holme Fen 9+ on 6th, Wicken Fen on 19th, Stilton 53 on 20th, Castor 10 on 27th, a large roost at Belsize Wood of 50-80 birds at the end of the month maximum 110 on 28th - *this is a massive increase on the previous record of 44 in December 2013.*

Marsh Harrier *reported from:* Burwell Fen, Ely BF, Fen Drayton Lakes, Great Fen, Nene Washes (4), Newmarket racecourse, Ouse Fen (6), Ouse Washes (13), Wicken Fen (4-5) and Woodwalton Fen (2).

Hen Harrier Wicken Fen maximum at roost 4 males and 2 female/ringtails on 12th, Cam Washes 2 males on 6th, Ely 2 males on 6th, Great Fen 1- 2 males on several dates from the 6th, Nene Washes Eldernell on 9th, a ringtail on 26th, Burwell Fen on 25th, Waterbeach Fen on 26th, Farcet Fen on 30th.

Almost certainly two/three populations centred on roost sites at Wicken Fen and the Great Fen and possibly the Nene Washes with individuals wandering nearby. The total seems to be about 10 birds.

Buzzard reported from: Comberton (3), Folksworth (2), Fowlmere (2), Great Fen (5), Little Wilbraham Fen (4), Lords Bridge (4), Madingley Wood, Nene Washes (5), Ouse Fen (2), Ouse Washes, Tick Fen (2), Wicken Fen (2) and Wimpole (2).

Rough-legged Buzzard Haddenham a 'possible' on 20th.

Rails and crane

Water Rail reported from: Chippenham Fen, Fen Drayton Lakes, Ferry Meadows CP (4), Godmanchester GP, Grafham Water, Kings Dyke NR (2), Little Wilbraham Fen, Maxey GP, Sutton Gault, and Wicken Fen.

Moorhen counts of 20+: Hinxton 27 on 3rd, River Cam Baits Bite to Clayhithe c68 on 13th, Ouse Washes 23 on 14th, Ferry Meadows CP 23 on 16th.

Coot counts of 50+: Bradley Fen maximum 135 on 1st, Fen Drayton Lakes 250 on 2nd, 29 on 4th, Ouse Washes 1087 on 14th.

Common Crane Ouse Washes 14 on 1st, Wicken/Burwell/Tubney Fens 3 on several dates with 16 flying over on 16th which may have included the three 'resident' birds, Nene Washes 2-6 on several dates maximum 18 on 17th, Ouse Fen on 4th.

Norman Sills writes:

Today (Thursday 17 December, 11.00 to 12.00) I saw 14 cranes at Cranmoor Lots (2 miles NE of Manea and opposite Eldertree Farm). The flock was on the ground - in variously young wheat, maize & potato residue -and consisted of 12 ads plus 2 juveniles. These included the pr B + juvenile from RSPB Lakenheath Fen, the "mystery" fourth pair + juvenile from an unknown nesting site, Beatrice + mate, and six others all with dark or black bustles.

Waders

Golden Plover large counts: Burwell Fen 200-300 on several dates with 1,500 between Burwell Fen and Upware on 31st, Ouse Washes several thousand on several dates WeBS count of 7,435 on 14th, Ouse Fen 300-500 on several dates maximum 1,100 on 20th, Trumpington/Hauxton 250 on 30th.



Golden Plover at Burwell Fen: photo by Neil Bramwell

Lapwing *large counts:* Burwell Fen 200-300 on several dates maximum 1,000 on 19th, Ouse Washes maximum 14,161 on WeBS count on 14th, Ouse Fen c500 on 9th, maximum 1,200 on 20th, Paxton Pits c300 on 15th, Nene Washes c500 on 25th.

Dunlin Ouse Washes maximum 161 on WeBS count on 14th, Ouse Fen 16 on 20th.

Green Sandpiper Paxton Pits on 13th, Peterborough 2 on 20th, River Cam Baits Bite to Clayhithe on 20th, Grafham Water on 31st.

Redshank Grafham Water 11 on 4th, 5 on 21st and 11 on 31st, Cam Washes on 6th, Ouse Fen 2 on 9th, Ouse Washes 29 on 14th, Burwell Fen on 31st.

Jack Snipe Kings Dyke NR on 4th and 7th, Stanground on 7th, Fowlmere NR on 9th, Isleham Water Meadows on 22nd.

Woodcock Great Fen on 6th, Houghton 2 on 7th, Eversden Wood 2 on 11th, Castor Hanglands 5 on 20th, Grafham Water on 21st, Fowlmere NR on 24th, Hauxton on 24th, Ferry Meadows CP on 29th, Hayley Wood on 29th.

Snipe Burwell Fen 19 on 1st, Ouse Fen 5 on 9th, Paxton Pits on 13th, Ouse Washes 90 on 14th.

Gulls

Black-headed Gull *counts 100+*: Kingfishers Bridge 325 on 4th, Fowlmere 230 loafing in a field near the NR on 7th, Trumpington Clay Farm 148 on 7th, Ouse Washes 1,000 on 12th, Bradley Fen 600 on 15th, Peterborough 500 on 20th.

Mediterranean Gull Fen Drayton Lakes on 6th and 2 on 31st, Grafham Water a 1 c.y. on 6th, Ferry Meadows CP an adult on 26th.

Common Gull Fowlmere 20 loafing in a field near the NR, Grafham Water 6,000+ into roost on 19th.

Lesser Black-backed Gull Trumpington Clay Farm 145 on 7th.

Herring Gull Burwell Fen 5 on 4th and 6 on 19th, Trumpington Clay Farm 10 on 7th, Drysides BP 200 on 28th.

Yellow-legged Gull *reported from*: Cambridge Research Park (5), Cambridge Science Park(3), Fen Drayton Lakes (13), Grafham Water (5), Milton Tip (5) and Paxton Pits (3).

Caspian Gull *reported from*: Cambridge Research Park (3), Cambridge Science Park (3), Fen Drayton Lakes (7), Grafham Water (5), Paxton Pits and Waterbeach (10).

Great Black-backed Gull Burwell Fen 2 on 4th and a single on 19th, Lordsbridge 2 on 10th.

Doves, owls and kingfisher

Stock Dove Comberton 6 on 19th, Fen Drayton Lakes 12 on 20th, Ouse Fen 22 on 20th.

Woodpigeon *counts 200+*: Nene Washes 300 on 11th, Wicken Fen c200 on 14th, Waterbeach Fen c200 on 28th.

Collared Dove Waterbeach Fen 47 on 28th.

Barn Owl *reported from*: Balsham, Burwell Fen, Cam Washes Upware, Fen Drayton Lakes, Grafham Water, Great Fen, Landbeach, Paxton Pits and Wicken Fen.

Little Owl *reported from*: Landbeach.

Tawny Owl *reported from*: Castor Hanglands, Hayley Wood (5) and Little Shelford.

Short-eared Owl *reported from*: Burwell Fen (4), Cambridge (King's Hedges and another site), Fen Drayton Lakes (3), Great Eversden (2), Great Fen (16), Nene Washes Eldernell (5), Ouse Washes RSPB, Soham and Stanground (7).



Short-eared Owl at Burwell Fen: photo by Neil Bramwell

Kingfisher *reported from* Barton Lark Rise Farm, Fen Drayton Lakes, Fowlmere NR, Grafham Water, Houghton Meadows (2), Maxey Cut, Ouse Washes (5) and Trumpington Clay Farm.

Falcons and parrots

Merlin Burwell Fen/Wicken Fen a female on 2nd and a male on 9th and 18th, Great Fen on several dates from 6th, Fen Drayton Lakes a male on 6th, Ouse Washes a female on 7th, Woodwalton Fen on 9th, Ouse Fen on 9th.

Peregrine Barrington on 1st, Fen Drayton Lakes on 1st and 9th, Ouse Washes on 3rd and 16th, Wicken Fen on 3rd, Cambridge on 9th, Chatteris on 9th, Burwell Fen on 11th, Barton Lark Rise Farm on 11th, Great Fen on 12th, Paxton Pits an adult male on 13th, on 29th, Ouse Fen on 19th and 20th, Grafham Water 2 on 23rd,

Corvids

Magpie Chatteris 12 on 9th, Godmanchester GP 18 on 28th, Kings Dyke NR 30 on 28th.

Jay Woodwalton Fen 8 on 18th.

Jackdaw *counts 100+*: Fen Drayton Lakes 100 going to roost on 10th, c250 on 29th, Wicken Fen 150 on 14th, Ouse Washes 500 into roost on 31st.

Rook *counts 100+*: Wicken Fen c500 on 14th, Ouse Washes 100 into roost on 31st.

Carrion Crow *counts 30+*: Fen Drayton Lakes 40 on 2nd, Nene Washes 30+ on 4th, Chatteris 30 on 9th, Ouse Washes 43 on 14th, Wicken Fen 100+ on 16th, c70 on 18th, Cambridge (Parkers Piece) 56 on 31st.

Raven Woodhurst a pair on 6th, Fen Drayton Lakes a flyover on 8th.

Crests, tits and larks

Firecrest Madingley on 12th, Buckden/Brampton Mill on 31st.

Marsh Tit *reported from*: Cambridge, Chippenham Fen, Gamlingay Wood (4), Hayley Wood (3) and Madingley Wood.

Skylark *counts 50+*: Nine Wells c50 on 1st, Comberton Westfield Farm 58 on 18th.

Warblers and Long-tailed Tit.

Cetti's Warbler *reported from*: Fen Drayton Lakes (c4), Maxey GP, Ouse Washes (2), Sutton Gault, Wicken Fen (4) and Woodwalton Fen (2).

Long-tailed Tit Soham 25 on 6th, Fen Drayton Lakes up to 50 seen on 10th, Godmanchester GP 17+ on 28th.

Chiffchaff Barton Lark Rise Farm on 12th, Ely Pocket Park 3 on 13th, Godmanchester GP on 26th.

Blackcap Lordsbridge a female on 11th, Ramsey a male on 28th.

Waxwing, nuthatch and thrushes

Waxwing Ely a flyover on 2nd.

Nuthatch *reported from*: Chippenham Fen, Ferry Meadows CP, Gamlingay Wood (2), Hayley Wood and Madingley Wood (2).

Starling Ouse Washes 2,000 on 12th, Burwell Fen 20,000 on 19th, Steeple Morden c2,000 on 20th, Godmanchester GP 1,000 on 26th, Waterbeach Fen c1,300 on 28th.

Ring Ouzel Lode a female on 1st then the same or another on 12th, 19th and 23rd - *the latest records for the County but unlikely to involve late passage, more likely a bird intending to winter in the area.*

Fieldfare counts 100+: Christchurch c100 on 5th, Fowlmere c120 in hedgerow feeding on haws on 7th, Wicken Fen 127 on 16th, Peterborough 100 on 20th, Coates 123 on 25th, Foxton 100+ on 31st.

Song Thrush Chatteris 15 on 9th.

Redwing counts 100+: Castor Hanglands 210 on 20th.

Starts and chats

Black Redstart Cheveley on 3rd.

Stonechat Ouse Washes 2 on 6th and 14th, a female on 31st, Stanground 6 on 7th, Ouse Fen 2 on 9th, Grafham Water a pair on 13th, Great Fen 2 on 26th, Haddenham/Aldreth Fens 3 pairs on 23rd, Burwell Fen 2 on 25th, Ferry Meadows on 29th, Tubney Fen a pair on 31st.

Sparrows, wagtails and pipits

House Sparrow counts 25+: Chatteris 25 on 9th, Ouse Washes 30 on 23rd.

Tree Sparrow Ouse Washes reported regularly, maximum 8 on 31st.

Grey Wagtail reported from: Cambridge Lovell Road (regular flyovers of up to 3), Cambridge Peterhouse College (regularly seen), St. Catherines College (2), Fen Drayton Lakes, Houghton and Wyton (7-8), Maxey Cut, Toft, Witcham (up to 3) and Whittlesford.

Pied Wagtail roosts: Cambourne 101 on 13th, St Neots 148 on 25th.

Meadow Pipit counts 40+: Foxton 47 on 17th.

Water Pipit Isleham Wash on 22nd, Ouse Washes (Earith) 4 on 22nd, Ouse Washes (Four Balls Farm) 5 on 31st.

Finches and buntings

Chaffinch counts 20+: Chatteris 20 on 9th, Peterborough 20 on 28th.

Brambling Farcet Fen 2 on 2nd and 4 on 3rd, Ouse Washes on 18th and 21st and 2 on 31st, Gamlingay 2 on 30th.

Greenfinch *counts of 30+* Cambridge Botanic Gardens c60 on 9th and 16th, Fen Drayton Lakes 30 going to roost on 10th.

Goldfinch *counts of 50+*: Burwell Fen c150 on 2nd and 100+ on 31st, Wicken Fen 50 on 14th, Ouse Washes 60 on 18th.

Siskin *counts of 10+*: Fen Drayton Lakes 10 on 11th, Houghton Meadows 10+ on 13th, Cambridge (Regional College) 15 on 22nd, Milton CP 13 on 29th.

Linnet *counts of 30+*: Comberton Westfield Farm 35 peak count on 18th.

Lesser Redpoll *counts of 20+*: Ferry Meadows CP c20 on 1st, Holme Fen (Long Drove) 40 on 7th.



Lesser Redpoll at Fen Drayton Lakes: photo by Colin Brown

Crossbill Fen Drayton Lakes a flyover on 7th.

Yellowhammer *counts of 20+*: Barton Lark Rise Farm peak count 72 on 20th, Comberton Westfield Farm peak count 35 on 18th, Foxton c70 on 31st.

Corn Bunting *counts of 10+*: Great Fen 16 on 6th, Foxton 19 on 11th, Heydon 25 on 29th.

Exotica

Ross's Goose still around the Wicken/Upware area with the Greylag flock.

Reeve's Pheasant Toft, a male on 20th.

Contributors:

Colin Addington, Richard Allison, Richard Astle, David Avis, Toby Austin, Louise Bacon, Peter Beesley, Guy Belcher, Peter Bircham, Chris Brown, Roger Buisson, Mike Burdekin, Howard Butler, Cliff Carson, Ade Cooper, Ali Cooper, Steve Cooper, Carole Davies, Martin Davis, Ian Dawson, Ian Delgado, Brendan Doe, Steve Dudley, Mark Eaton, Mike Everett, Mike Foley, Steve Gann, Don Gardener, David Green, David Griffiths, Kevin Hand, James Hanlon, Andy Hannaford, Steve Hartley, Mark Hawkes, David Heath, Jon Heath, Michael Holdsworth, David Hopkins, Neil Howard, Bob Humphrey, Sue Jarrett, Richard Johnson, Richard Jones, Charlie Kitchin, Marcus Kohler, Colin Kirtland, Vincent Lea, John Le Gassick, Keith Lievesley, Jeremy Lindsell, Colin Lee, Bob Mansfield, Owen and Monica Marks, Bruce Martin, Paul Mason, David McKee, Duncan McNiven, Matt Mellor, Andy Merryweather, Andy Neilson, Martin O'Leary, Richard Palmer, Neil Parkin, Gavin Paterson, Richard Patient, Mark Peck, Rob Pople, Duncan Poyser, Doug Radford, Gareth Rees, Tony Roberts, Mathew Rogers, Norman Sills, Clive Sinclair, Bob Smith, Kevin Taylor, Paul Taylor, Richard Thomas, Chris Thorne and the Wicken Fen Group, Calum Urquhart, Hugh Venables, Luke Wake, Mark Ward, Matt Webb, Mike Weedon, David Wege, Jamie Wells, John Wells, Peter Wells, Kevin Wilson, Kevan Wolstencroft, Hugh Wright, Barbara York and Christoph Zöckler

WICKEN FEN (BIRD RINGING) GROUP

Brief news for December 2015

There were netting sessions at the Fen on 16 different days in December. The month's ringing total was 184; a further 192 different birds were retrapped, so the overall total for the month was 376. Individual species totals (first figure ringed, second retrapped) were:

Sparrowhawk	0, 2	Blue Tit	23, 68
Green Woodpecker	1, 0	Great Tit	2, 33
Great spotted Woodpecker	0, 4	Coal Tit	0, 4
Pied Wagtail	19, 0	Treecreeper	0, 3
Wren	0, 5	Starling	7, 0
Dunnock	1, 7	House Sparrow	9, 2
Robin	0, 7	Chaffinch	6, 5
Blackbird	14, 4	Goldfinch	6, 2
Song Thrush	2, 0	Greenfinch	5, 0
Fieldfare	3, 0	Siskin	2, 0
Redwing	39, 0	Lesser Redpoll	10, 1
Cetti's Warbler	1, 2	Mealy Redpoll	1, 0
Chiffchaff	1, 0	Bullfinch	5, 5
Goldcrest	3, 4	Reed Bunting	10, 7
Long-tailed Tit	14, 17		

Old birds retrapped during the month were Great Tit TH47238 at 6 years 8 months, Chaffinch X079664 at 6 years 3 months, Blue Tit X876576 and Robin X876549 both at 5 years 5 months and Dunnock L504728 at 4 years 9 months.

Next indoor meetings:

Friday 12th February, St Johns Hall, Cambridge

Birds' Interactions with the Landscape: BTO research at global and local scales by Andy Clements

Monitoring UK's birds relies on the observations of thousands of volunteer birders and BTO's analysis and interpretation of that data. In addition, our research on the distribution, abundance and migration of birds enables us to tell captivating stories that deepens the public's understanding of wildlife and conservation.

Andy Clements has been Director of the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) since summer 2007.

Friday 11th March, St Johns Hall, Cambridge

Annual General Meeting followed by Bird conservation in Nepal by Carol Inskipp

Carol's talk will briefly introduce us to the high diversity of Nepal's birds (878 species) and their main habitats; conservation measures including protected areas, community forests, initiatives to improve livelihoods of local people living near protected areas; the Nepal national bird Red Data Book and Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas of Nepal, and the contribution that visitors can make to conservation of Nepal's birds. She will also talk about the impact of the 2015 earthquakes on Nepal's people and environment.

Carol Inskipp has visited Nepal many times and has written several books on Nepal's birds and bird conservation. She is currently co-authoring the *Nepal Bird Red Data Book* and *Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas of Nepal*.

At this meeting you will be invited to make a donation to a small charity that Carol is supporting: 'Go School Initiative' which is funding materials for temporary schools in one of the areas the worst hit by the 2015 earthquakes.

Club notices

Records Reminder....

Please send your 2015 records to the recorder no later than January 31st or update your BirdTrack records before the 31st - if you do not you risk their non-inclusion in the 2015 Annual Report.

Annual Report Update

The 2014 Annual Report is in the final phase of production. We would like to speed up the process of producing the report, to give us a better chance of having reports within a year. To assist with this aim, please submit your bird records for 2015 by the end of January 2016. We are always pleased to have assistance on the production team, and if you can offer help in any way please

contact Vince Lea on chairman@cambridgebirdclub.org.uk We are particularly looking for an articles editor.

Photo of the Year competition

Entries have now been selected and will be published on the Club website imminently. Please do take the time to admire and vote on the great work by our photographers!

Etiquette!

Just a gentle reminder about the way we conduct ourselves. Three rules:

- Do not disturb the birds.
- Do not disturb the birdwatchers.
- Do not annoy the landowner.

If you stick to these three rules you can't really go wrong!

The Kathleen Johnson Diaries

Many of the members of the Club will have missed the opportunity to enjoy the delights of the Sewage Farm. In fact the number of those who saw it in its prime must be diminishing fast. In the days before universal car ownership the joy of the Sewage Farm was its proximity to Cambridge. Doubtless many observers made their way on bicycle. So how good was it?

Kathleen Johnson was clearly a regular visitor to the Sewage Farm, not, it seems, in any way a rarity hunter she catalogued the birds she saw at the site. I have extracted her entries for 1955, summarised by species and in parenthesis the maximum counts where she noted them. These were from 17 visits made between March and the end of October.

Wildfowl

Mute Swan, Shelduck (8), Mallard (8), Teal (6), Shoveler (2), Tufted Duck (7), Pochard (22).

Game birds

Red-legged Partridge (5).

Raptors

Kestrel.

Waterbirds

Grey Heron, Great-crested Grebe (7), Little Grebe (14), Moorhen, Coot, Black-headed Gull.

Waders

Ringed Plover (9), Little Ringed Plover, Lapwing, Ruff (18), Dunlin (12-15), Little Stint (2), Temminck's Stint, Redshank, Greenshank (5), Common Sandpiper (2), Green Sandpiper, Snipe (60 - 70).

Near Passerines

Turtle Dove, Cuckoo, Kingfisher, Green Woodpecker.

Passerines

Carrion Crow (2), Magpie (2), Sand Martin (20), House Martin, Swallow, Long-tailed Tit, Goldcrest, Chiffchaff, Willow Warbler, Sedge Warbler, Pied Wagtail, Yellow Wagtail(12), Grey Wagtail, 'pipits', Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Linnet (2) and Reed Bunting.

Next E-bulletin publication date is February 14th, any contributions to reach me by the 10th at the latest please.

PMMB.