

This is a pilot for a new style of extra bulletin. In the electronic age it is possible to provide much more than before, including short articles and colour illustrations both photographs and paintings, giving our photographers and artists a new 'shop window'; this format also allows for greater space and hopefully ease of reading.

The idea is to place what will be known as the E bulletin MONTHLY on the website; the information will be drawn largely from the records submitted to the website together with any sent to the recorder in the first few days of the new month. The intention is to post the bulletin on the website within at least ten days after the end of the month. This will not replace the paper bulletin which will be issued much as before although with some stylistic changes.

Peter Bircham – Bulletin Editor.



Cambridgeshire Bird Club

E-Bulletin 1 July 2013

HEADLINES

GREAT WHITE EGRET Burwell Fen/Wicken Fen/Cam Washes all month; Fen Drayton Lakes (27th – 31st).

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER Burwell Fen (adult in summer plumage 24th).

BLACK KITE RAF Wittering (a possible circling and drifting west 16th).

HONEY BUZZARD Ouse Fen (one over 6th), Yaxley (a probable over north 25th).

SPOTTED CRAKE Ouse Washes (on last pool before railway 21st).

Other records

Single birds unless otherwise indicated and these reports remain unconfirmed.

Wildfowl

Whooper Swan Ouse Washes RSPB (18th).

Egyptian Goose Fen Drayton Lakes (12 over on 17th and 11 on 23rd), Paxton Pits (single on 5th and 2 on 25th).

Mandarin Grafham Water (2 on 27th).

Garganey Ouse Washes RSPB (maximum 10 on 14th and 18th), Cam Washes (2 on 21st).

Gamebirds

Quail calling birds - Gunner's Hall, Balsham (near Roman Road 7th), Farcet Fen (8th – 9th), Abbotsley (Crane Hill) (several dates in late July maximum 2).

Grey Partridge Comberton (15th), Paxton Pits (2 on 27th – 28th).

Egrets and herons

Bittern Wicken Fen (20th, 22nd and 27th).

Little Egret Berry Fen (77+ on 7th), Wicken Fen (Adventurers' Fen) (37 on 9th), Ouse Washes RSPB (maximum 45 on 14th), Fen Drayton Lakes (27 into roost), Fowlmere NR (4 on 10th), Grafham Water (8+ on 24th), Burwell Fen (maximum 82 on 18th).

Raptors

Red Kite Wicken Fen (28th).

Marsh Harrier Wicken Fen (Adventurers' Fen) (5 on 9th), Ely Beet Pits (4 on 14th), Maxey Pits (23rd).

Buzzard reported from – Barton, Comberton, Sawston by-pass.

Kestrel reported from – Barton, Comberton.

Hobby reported from – Burwell Fen, Fen Drayton Lakes, Grafham Water, Ouse Washes RSPB, Paxton Pits, Wicken Fen.

Peregrine Burwell Fen (12th), Fen Drayton Lakes (31st).

Crane and rails

Common Crane Haddenham (2 over on 21st).

Water Rail reported from - Burwell Fen (14th), Ely Beet Pits (14th).

Waders

Oystercatcher Wicken Fen (4 on 11th).

Avocet Wicken Fen (Adventurers' Fen) (3 on 9th), Ouse Washes RSPB (maximum 28 on 14th), Burwell Fen (6 on 22nd).

Little Ringed Plover Ouse Washes RSPB (maximum 12 on 14th), Fen Drayton Lakes (17th), Burwell Fen (18th), Ouse Washes RSPB (9 on 18th), Maxey Pits (2 on 24th), Paxton Pits (2 on 25th), Wicken Fen (4 on 28th).

Golden Plover Burwell Fen (2 with Pacific Golden Plover see above 24th).

Grey Plover Wicken Fen (2 on 15th), Burwell Fen (18th).

Knot Fen Drayton Lakes (14th and 17th), Ouse Washes (21st).

Little Stint Paxton Pits (20th).

Ruff Burwell Fen (2 on 11th and 14th), Ouse Washes RSPB (maximum 63 on 28th).

Black tailed Godwit Wicken Fen (Adventurers' Fen) (15 on 9th), Burwell Fen (maximum 14 on 12th), Grafham Water (2 on 24th), Fen Drayton Lakes (maximum 5 on 2nd), Paxton Pits (maximum 23 on 3rd), Ouse Washes RSPB (maximum 41 on 9th), Maxey Pits (28th).

Whimbrel mostly flyovers – Fen Drayton Lakes (14th), Yelling (9 on 25th), Paxton Pits (2 on 22nd and 13 passed through on 28th), Ouse Washes RSPB (28th).

Curlew Ouse Washes RSPB (9th), Paxton Pits (14th), Fen Drayton Lakes (flew over 21st), Grafham Water (22nd), Wicken Fen (5th).

Common Sandpiper Fen Drayton Lakes (17th, 21st), Grafham Water (maximum 3 on 24th), Paxton Pits (14th, 21st, 22nd and 2 on 25th), Ouse Washes (21st), Maxey Pits (2 on 28th), Burwell Fen (maximum 2 on 25th).

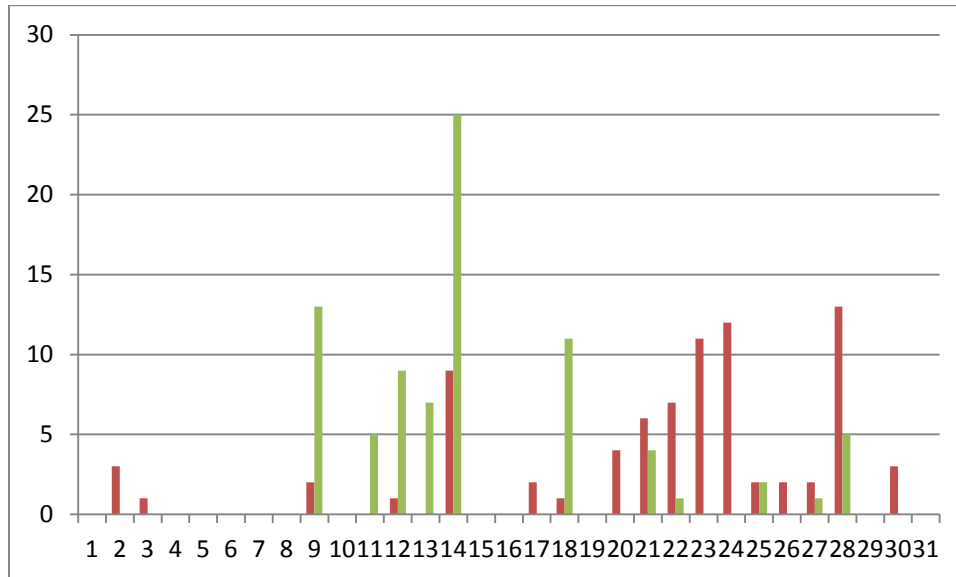
Green Sandpiper Cam Washes (2 on 9th), Ferry Meadows (12th), Ouse Washes RSPB (maximum 4 on 20th – 28th), Paxton Pits (maximum 2 on 21st), Cambridge Research Park (21st), Fen Drayton Lakes (maximum 5 on 23rd), Grafham Water (maximum 8 on 24th), Maxey Pits (maximum 6 on 23rd and 28th), Burwell Fen (maximum 3 on 22nd and 28th).



Green Sandpiper photo by Geoff Harries

Spotted Redshank Fen Drayton Lakes (14th), Ouse Washes RSPB (9th and 14th), Burwell Fen (28th).

Greenshank Wicken Fen (Adventurers' Fen) (5 on 9th), Maxey Pits (14th), Fen Drayton Lakes (21st), Burwell Fen (maximum 9 on 12th and 14th), Paxton Pits (22nd, 25th, 27th), Ouse Washes (maximum 14 on 14th).



Passage of Greenshank (green) and Green Sandpiper (red) based on the above reports..

Wood Sandpiper Ouse Washes RSPB (18th, 20th and 21st), Burwell Fen (22nd), Maxey Pits (maximum 2 on 28th).

Turnstone Paxton Pits (21st).

Gulls and terns

Mediterranean Gull Cambridge (over Lovell Rd adult on 5th), Fen Drayton Lakes (31st), Orton Mere (31st).

Yellow-legged Gull Paxton Pits (ca15 on 14th), Grafham Water (maximum 8 on 14th), Wicken Fen (28th).

Black Tern Paxton Pits (2 on 13th, 4 on 21st), Grafham Water (adult 27th – 29th).

Sandwich Tern Cam Washes (6th).

Near-passerines and passerines

Turtle Dove reported from: Fen Drayton Lakes (2nd), Eye Green (6th), Fulbourn Fen NR (7th), Berry Fen (7th), Fleam Dyke (15th), Fowlmere NR, Lode (pair 20th), Grafham Water (2 on 22nd), Murrow, Paxton Pits, Cambridge Research Park (3+ on 21st), Maxey Pits (28th).

Cuckoo reported from - Ely Beet Pits, Grafham Water, Wicken Fen.

Barn Owl reported from - Comberton, Fowlmere NR, Maxey Pits.

Little Owl Burwell Fen (2 on 4th and one on 26th).

Kingfisher reported from - Fowlmere NR (10th), Paxton Pits (21st).



Kingfisher, photo by Geoff Harries

Raven One at Abbotsley (Crane Hill) (29th).

Bearded Tit Chippenham Fen family parties (5th), Fen Drayton Lakes (2 on 6th), Wicken Fen 35 different birds (adults and juveniles) trapped in July.

Cetti's Warbler reported from - Grafham Water, Paxton Pits, Wicken Fen.

Grasshopper Warbler reported from - Chippenham Fen (up to 4 on 5th), Fen Drayton Lakes (2nd), Wicken Fen.

Sedge Warbler Wicken Fen (72 ringed in July).

Reed Warbler WickenFen - 109 ringed in July, 2 French ringed birds were also caught and an old bird at 5yrs 11 months retrapped.

Spotted Flycatcher reported from - Chippenham Fen (5th), Lode feeding young (11th).

Crossbill almost all flyovers - Cottenham (13th), Fowlmere (2 juveniles 19th), Cambridge (3 over Lovell Road), Cottenham (8), Little Shelford (2), Murrow (juvenile), Swaffham Prior, (all on 20th), Colne (22nd), Haddenham (on 2 on 23rd), Landbeach (male over plus 2 juveniles on 24th) , Swaffham Prior (6 on 25th).

Summary: A very active migration of waders throughout the month was reported from all the main wetland sites. The continued development of Burwell Fen has yielded some interesting records. At Wicken Fen there is some evidence of breeding by Bitterns. Bearded Tit have also been very successful there this year, and there is evidence of probable first breeding at Chippenham Fen. Little Egret numbers continue to astound – 77 on

Berry Fen being the maximum (as recently as 2010 the highest count all year was 20). A Crossbill passage seems to have been concentrated around the 20th. Two scarce species recorded were Sandwich Tern and Raven.

Bird Records, sightings and news

We want to speed up and increase the flow of news and records to enhance future bulletins and the content of the Club database. If you have seen a scarce or local bird please submit the news to the '[What's about](#)' page on the Club website via [Pete and Paul](#) who maintain an up-to-date selection of recent highlights. You can also report interesting sightings on the [Cambirds](#) email group (not run by the Club, but we access the records). Any major rarities can be phoned in to Birdline East Anglia on 07941 333970.

Full lists of your records should continue to be submitted to the County Recorder, preferably using the [spreadsheet](#) available on the Records section of the website. To ease the workload and increase the relevance of news in future bulletins, please send your records MONTHLY to Louise Bacon by the 5th of the month after.

Contributors (thanks to you all)

Richard Astle, Marie Barton, Richard Bashford, Howard Butler, Ellie Burke, David Chambers, Ade Cooper, Ali Cooper, Steve Cooper, Martin Davis, Tim Dee, Steve Dudley, Mark Eaton, Ian Ellis, Mike Everett, Dennis Halls, Andy Hannaford, Steve Hartley, Mark Hawkes, David Heath, Jon Heath, Michael Holdsworth, Malcolm Holley, Carl Howard, Sarah Howlett, Richard Johnson, Ade Long, Paul Mason, Donal McCarthy, David McCarthy, Dick Newell, Dave Palmer, Richard Palmer, Gavin Paterson, Doug Radford, Tony Roberts, Tony Rowe, Richard Thomas, Chris Thorne and the Wicken Fen Group, Hugh Venables, Mike Weedon, Jamie Wells, Peter Wells, KevWolstencroft, and Barbara York.

Next indoor meetings

Friday 13th September, Cottenham Village College

Birds in a Cage: the POW birdwatchers by Derek Niemann - Details to follow...

Facebook

Cambridgeshire Bird Club now has a [Facebook page](#). Please take a look.

Do we have your email address?

The club bulletin is now available in an electronic format (pdf) that allows us to save paper and also includes enhanced content (such as colour images)

If you would like to receive your bulletin in this format instead of the paper copy please contact cbcbulletin@cambridgebirdclub.org.uk

The Wicken Fen complex.....

Since the flooding of Burwell Fen by the National Trust that site has yielded a handsome collection of records and is likely to continue so to do. For that reason, although theoretically it is part of the greater Wicken Fen Vision lands, please continue to state Burwell Fen – likewise Baker’s Fen, another part of the Wicken complex. Please use Adventurers’ Fen for the area surrounding the Mere and the Reedbed and Wicken Sedge Fen for the main area on the Upware side of Wicken Lode (see map).



The August E-bulletin should be on the website by 15th of September (later than usual because of my holiday! Ed.).

