

RINGING ON HOLT ISLAND 7th – 8th March 2023

The weather was cold and during the morning of the 8th it sleeted gently much of the morning.

The catch was two thirds re-traps with a number of birds ringed many years ago, with a Blue Tit ringed in January 2015 and another ringed in May 2016. There was also a Long-tailed Tit ringed in July 2019 and another in October 2019. Finally, a Robin that was ringed in August 2015, all of which suggest that living on the Island is conducive to long life.

It is noticeable that more adults were re-trapped than first years which is a reversal from previous months. Many birds are singing and holding territories in spite of the weather. This may have resulted in the first year birds being pushed out and the adults from previous years moving back to their old territories.

Chaffinches have been more in evidence than for some time with four having been caught, but one had lesions on its legs due to mites and could not be ringed, the first for over a year. There was a small flock of Goldfinches feeding by the Holt of which four were caught.

Species	New Adults	New First Years	Re-trap Adults	Re-trap First Years	Total
Wren				2	2
Dunnock		1	3	4	8
Goldcrest				1	1
Robin			1		1
Blackbird	1		3		4
Redwing	1				1
Long tailed Tit	2		8		10
Blue Tit		2	4	3	9
Great Tit		2	2	1	5
Chaffinch	1	1	1		3
Goldfinch	2	2			4
Total	7	8	22	11	48



Long tailed Tit



Goldcrest