

## RINGING ON HOLT ISLAND 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October

The weather was warm for the time of year and still.

The highlight of the session was a new species, a juvenile male Merlin, a beautiful small raptor on the red list. These birds are dispersing at present and looking for new places to set up a territory. Let us hope it stays. It was also nice to catch a Magpie, again a juvenile.

The Cetti's Warbler was one of those bred on the Island. The Chiffchaffs mostly remain on the Island but one was very heavy at 11.2 gm, about a 50% increase on the normal weight so is likely to be about to undertake a long flight.

There were a lot of new Blue Tits and Great Tits, but one of the re-trapped Great Tits was reared in Box 10. A couple of the Blue Tits were ringed in 2018.

As well as those caught we heard Goldcrests, a Kingfisher and a Heron.

A water vole was seen swimming across the Backwater.

Species	New Adults	New Juveniles	Re-trap Adults	Re-trap Juveniles	Total
Merlin		1			1
Wren		1		1	2
Dunnock				2	2
Cetti's Warbler				1	1
Chiffchaff		3		1	4
Robin		2	3	1	6
Blackbird		1	3	1	5
Long tailed Tit	1				1
Blue Tit	1	16	3	13	33
Great Tit		10	1	5	16
Tree creeper			1		1
Magpie		1			1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>73</b>



Juvenile male Merlin



Close up of head



Magpie