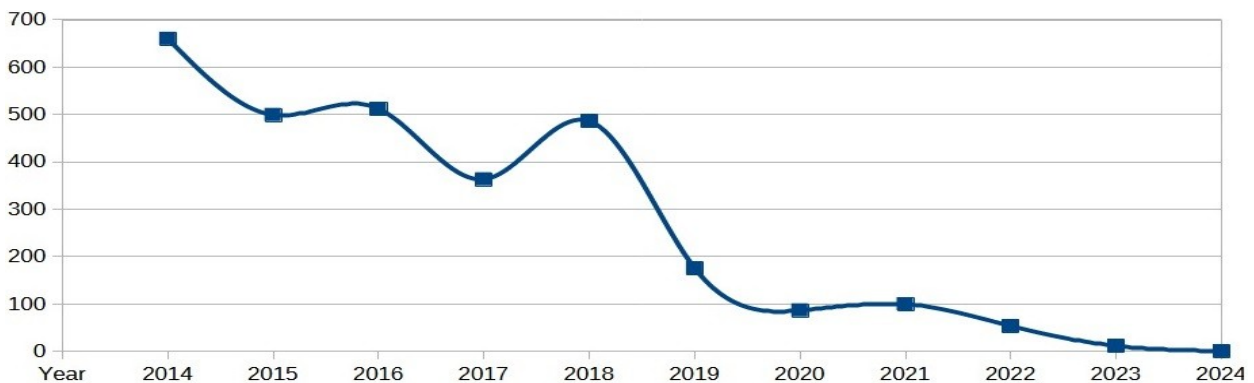


# **Stanford Ringing Group**

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## **ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

***So, farewell then our Tree Sparrows***



*Over the last five years our Tree Sparrows have gone into a very sad decline. In 2024 for the first year ever, we have not rung any; neither adults nor pulli. Only two have been seen at Stanford. This is a significant loss to local biodiversity, to the visiting public, and the SRG. More details inside.*

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## Forward and Summary for 2024 by MJT, Group Leader

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Well what a year of mixed weather! Globally It's been the hottest, wettest and windiest on record, and although it hasn't been notably hot and sunny at Stanford, it has certainly been wet and windy. We have been very concerned about how this has affected our breeding birds. Having very few insects about would hinder breeding success, which would result in fewer numbers of young birds. To see how this actually affected our birds, please read the new section on *Warbler Breeding Success* and the usual *Individual Species Reports*. The good news seems to be that despite the worst the weather that north western Europe could throw at us, the birds at Stanford generally managed to produce young.

The weather certainly limited our ringing opportunities. It just seemed we had one storm after the other with very little respite in between. From mid August to the year's end it was very much up and down with prolonged spells of wind and rain. However we did manage to have our 3rd best year with some 12,010 birds ringed of which some 9,240 were warblers, again our 3rd best year.

As usual our year started with scrub maintenance which lasted from January to the end of March. Again we would love volunteers to come and help us; we start at 0800 meeting at the gated entrance to the rail track and finish just before 1200 with frequent coffee breaks and finish at the pub; contact details can be found on our website. Ringing commences at the beginning of April and continues to the year end (weather willing). Again if you would like to come along and see what we do you are more than welcome.

The beginning of our ringing year from April to June is always a trying time with very few birds ringed compared to the amount of effort put in and this year was no different with just 1,214 birds ringed; this includes our nestbox pulli (422 tits); the team headed by our

Secretary AGH, see also the *Nest Recording Report* section, below. The following four months produced 10,346 new birds with Nov/Dec providing a paltry 445.

This year our annual celebration of migration ringing, where a contingent camps out and we ring every day (*Stanstock*), was extended to cover the last two weeks of August. Seventeen days were planned but due to the weather being so bad, six days were virtually wiped out. However we still managed to ring 3,528 birds, we also had 353 retraps and 11 controls totalling 3,892 birds processed. Unfortunately we failed to catch a Wryneck this year but we did manage to ring only our second ever Water Rail in 49 years! The next nine days were a complete wash out with persistent wind and rain losing any hope of an early September Wryneck or other rarity, and badly affecting the month's total. In September we only managed 2,760 birds compared with 4,069 last year. We never recovered from this and with virtually no ringing in December due to very few birds being about we were glad to reach 12,010 birds for the year. October was also poor for weather so we never got to do *Stocktoberfest* (ringing every day for the first week of October- a recent initiative), as it rained and rained! The one highlight has been the number of autumnal Yellow-browed Warblers that have been seen and caught at Stanford this year, with three being caught, and one re-caught a week later. With other birds being seen we estimate that there were at least four or five birds about, with a possible two others that weren't confirmed. Amazing for our small inland reservoir.

Warbler numbers were again very good with 9,240 ringed. Blackcap led the way with 4,027, followed by Chiffchaff on 1,552 and Reed Warbler 988, the best ever year for both species. The next three species seemed to be hit the hardest by the poor weather and lack of insects, Whitethroat down a whopping 390 to 851 and Willow Warbler again down 320 birds to 541. Garden Warbler seemed to suffer too, down 105 to 262. Hopefully survival rates will be up over the winter period or next year could be dire.

After ringing 660 Tree Sparrow in 2014 we can report that none were ringed this year and just ends 10 years of decline; a sad and sorry state. A recent bird race in the East Midlands recorded no Tree Sparrows in Leicestershire. Unfortunately they are not the only species to record a sharp decline.

Compared to their 2014 numbers the following have all markedly declined; Chaffinch from 144 to 34, Bullfinch from 54 to 16, Goldfinch from 158 to 99 and Greenfinch from 238 to 52. Finally Lesser Redpoll were down from 130 birds last year to 39! From this list you can see they are all seed eaters and were once extremely common birds with hundreds seen in winter flocks; hopefully its not too late to arrest their seemingly relentless decline.

Finally I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in all the activities at Stanford Reservoir however small their role, it is very much appreciated as without your help this would not happen.

***MJ Townsend (Group Leader/Ringer in Charge)***

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## Thanks

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- Thanks again to Severn Trent Water (STW) for allowing access to their land for ringing and for financial support of our activities. Thanks in particular to Ian Martindale our ranger and to Briony Harrison, conservation manager at STW.
- Thanks also to Parker Farms for allowing us to use the railtrack which provides access to the reservoir. Thanks again for allowing us to camp out during the annual migration festival in August.
- We are very grateful to the individuals who have supported the group financially during the year, including Peter Bateup, Alan Herbert, Chris Hubbard and Bryan McCallion.
- Thanks to all our group members who contributed their photos to the annual report.

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## Introduction to bird ringing at Stanford Reservoir

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Birds have been ringed at Stanford Reservoir since 1976. The full story of the ringing and associated wildlife activities can be found on the group's website at [www.stanfordrg.org.uk](http://www.stanfordrg.org.uk). A blog is maintained which gives an account of our activities throughout the year. It can be found at: <http://stanfordrg.blogspot.com/>



*AGH extracting birds at Church ride*

Most birds were trapped using mist-nets, with occasional use of traps for specialist species such as Meadow Pipit. Most sessions were conducted from dawn until approximately midday. A feeding station is supplied and maintained on a weekly basis in Blower's Lodge Bay with seed, nuts and fat balls. Another is maintained in the Leicestershire Paddock by our birding colleagues.

By law, wild bird ringing in the UK is licensed by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). The procedures of the BTO's *Ringers' Manual* (2001) were followed throughout to secure the welfare of the birds. All extraction, ringing and recording was carried out by group members who are either ringers licensed by the BTO, or are trainees under their direct supervision. For the first year, all data were entered directly into the BTO's Demography Online (DemOn) portal.

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## Totals for 2024

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### Global Summary

Fifty seven species of bird were ringed.

- A total of **12,010** new birds were ringed.
- A total of **2,320** birds were recaptured.
- A total of **45** birds ringed elsewhere were controlled at Stanford.

Therefore the total number of birds processed by the Stanford Ringing Group in 2024 is **14,375**

### Annual numbers ringed over the last decade

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
7537	8207	7385	6606	8377	9311	8312	13395	13482	12010

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## The Ringing Year

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### New birds ringed per month in 2024

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Conservation work			Ringing								
18	1	11	146	624	422	1360	4893	2759	1320	431	25

Conservation work ('scrub bashing') is carried out from the first of January until the first migrants return and the establishment of territories begins.

At the end of August, we had our fifth annual festival of migration, with two weeks of consecutive ringing mornings; despite decidedly changeable weather, some ringing was carried out every morning.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza continues to affect birds in the UK. Fortunately for the SRG, no noticeable effects were found in our passerines, as it largely affects waterfowl and other sea birds. However, extra precautions were employed during the year *as per* BTO policies.

Most ringing took place at five sites:

- **Paddock:** Ranged along the Leics shore of the reservoir, it consists mainly of scrub, willow and shoreline.
- **Leicestershire Reed Bed:** A medium size reed bed, accessed beyond the Paddock.
- **Railtrack:** Again in Northants, gives entry to **Blower's Bay** at the east side of the reservoir. Gives access to approximately 15 net rides. Access is by courtesy of Parker Farms.
- **Point:** Mix of reed bed, woodland and scrub on Northants side, situated at the end of the line of poplars, a conspicuous landmark at Stanford.
- **Top Road:** Two lines of nets along the approach road to the reservoir, an area with beech mast to attract finches and tits

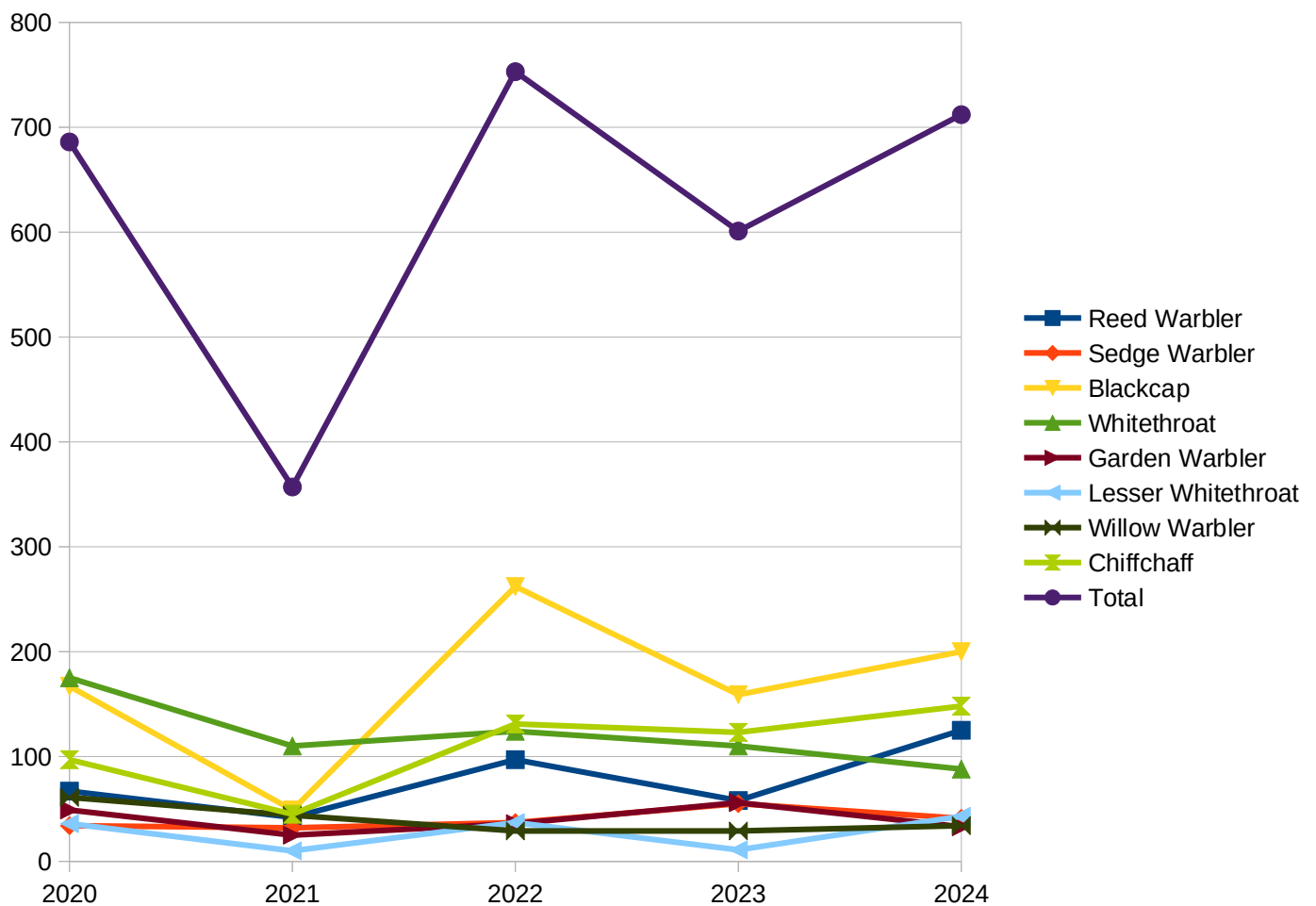
For part of the year, access to sites becomes limited due to waterlogging, so the Railtrack is the main site for autumn into winter.

Tree Sparrow, Sedge Warbler, Reed Warbler and Whitethroat populations were monitored as part of the BTO's Ringing for Adult Survival (RAS) census. The nest box ringing team was led by our Group Secretary, AGH, and added large numbers of ringed pulli to the annual totals, specifically targeting our Owls, Doves, Swallows and Tits.

## Warbler Beeding Success

This is a new section for the 2024 report included on a trial basis. The table and graph illustrate the numbers of juvenile warblers (age codes 1, 1J and 3J) ringed at Stanford before 1st August for the last five years; the intention is to give a measure of the breeding success for these species, before the influx of migrants in August.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<i>Reed Warbler</i>	67	42	97	58	125
<i>Sedge Warbler</i>	34	32	37	55	41
<i>Blackcap</i>	167	49	262	159	200
<i>Whitethroat</i>	175	110	124	110	88
<i>Garden Warbler</i>	49	25	36	56	33
<i>Lesser Whitethroat</i>	36	10	37	11	43
<i>Willow Warbler</i>	61	44	29	29	34
<i>Chiffchaff</i>	97	45	131	123	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>712</b>





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## Individual Species Accounts: Key

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- Names in **red** show best ever or best equal year for species
- Names in **blue** show second best
- Names in **green** show third best
- **Species name** plus **total number ringed in 2024** given in bold.
- **Numbers in brackets** show increase or decrease over a 10 year average for all species, where the 10 year average is greater or equal to 10. Hence:

**Wren: 182 (+12%)**

- This shows that in 2024, 182 Wren were ringed; 12% more than the 10 year average. This was the third highest annual total for this species.
- **Returns:** The number of birds ringed by the SRG in previous years, which were re-caught and processed in 2024.
- **Bar charts** show birds numbers ringed at Stanford over a period of 10 years, for which the 10 year average number of birds ringed is greater or equal to 10.

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- **Non Passerines**

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A poor cool wet summer resulted in disappointing numbers of breeding non-passerines. Owl numbers were low (no Tawny Owls at all!) as were pigeons/ doves. However, six kingfishers was a good result after a few lean years. The four young Lapwing were an unusual addition, (the first since 2020) ringed on a field immediately adjacent to the reservoir. The single Water Rail was a first year bird which fortuitously wandered into a net in the Box 8 ride set low for Grasshopper Warbler. Twelve common tern ringed as pulli was a superb effort from our team of nest recorders.

**Mute Swan: 1**

Ringed 18 May

**Sparrowhawk: 1**

Ringed 30 Oct

**Water Rail: 1**

Ringed 30 Aug



**Lapwing: 4**

Ringed as pulli 02 May

**Common Tern: 12**

Twelve ringed as pulli, 10 on 22 Jun, two on 20 Jul

**Stock Dove: 20 (-27%)**

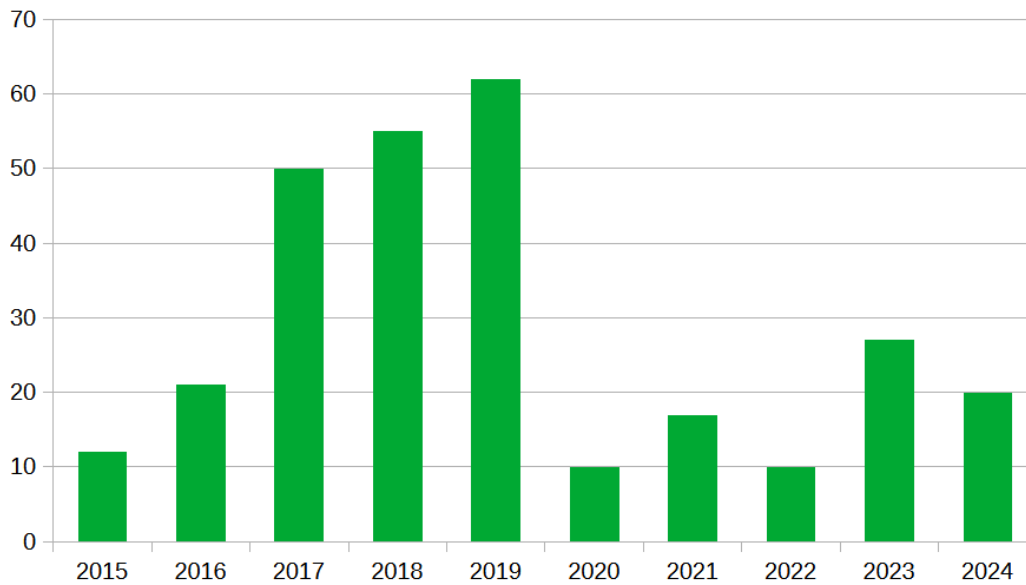
Eighteen pulli ringed.



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Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					3	11	6				

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**Wood Pigeon: 2**

Two pulli ringed on 07 Aug

**Barn Owl: 6**

Six ringed as pulli, three on 07 July. three on 13 July.



*Barn owl pulli: destined for great beauty, but possibly not quite there yet*

**Kingfisher: 6**

Six ringed, singles on 13 Jul, 29 Jul 24, 30 Jul, 19 Aug, two on 26 Aug.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker: 4**

Ringed on 26 May, 22 Jun, 15 Jul, 30 Aug.

**Returns: 3**

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- **Hirundines and Swift**

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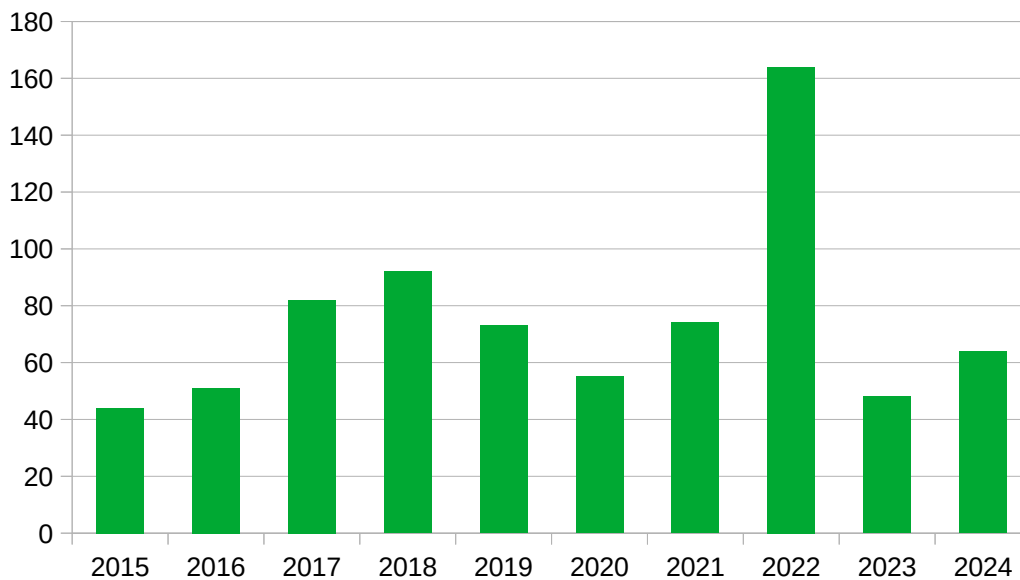
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Another group of birds which had a dismal year. AGH and the nest recording team ringed 39 pulli at Park Farm, down from the bumper year of 2022, but more inline with average values. However, once again there were no Sand nor House Martins. The last time these species were ringed was in 2022. A terrible state of affairs!

**Swallow: 64 (-13%)**

Thirty nine pulli ringed.

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					16	10	37	1			



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- **Larks, Pipits and Wagtails**

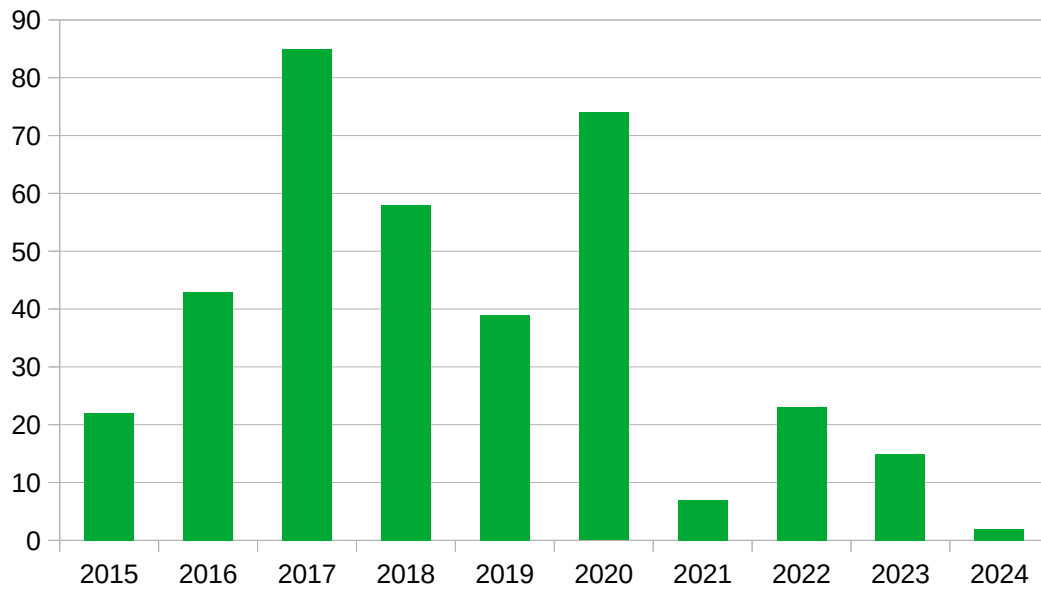
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Another group having a grim time. Meadow Pipit were barely present, and both Grey and Yellow Pipit were not ringed at all, reflecting our local birdwatchers' impressions of a poor year. The Pied Wagtails were ringed as pulli at Park Farm. Two Tree Pipits were a nice addition, a little earlier than previous years.

**Meadow Pipit: 2 (-95%)**

Ringed, on 25 Sep and 29 Sep



**Tree Pipit: 2**

Two ringed on 17 Aug



## Pied Wagtail: 4

Four pulli ringed on 01 Jun

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### • Wren, Dunnock, Robins and Chats

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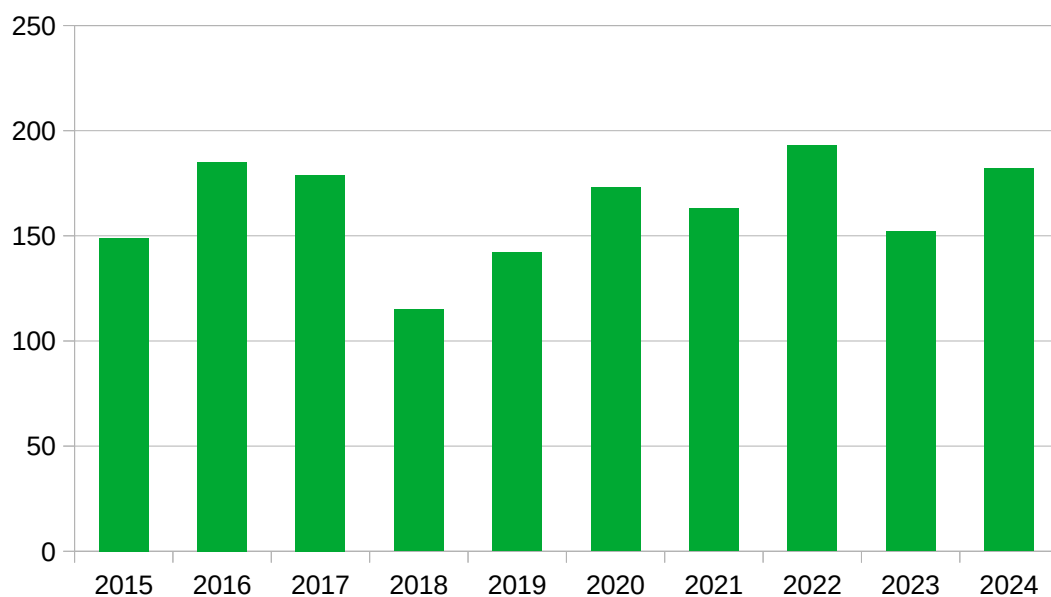
Finally a group with some positive results. Wren had their third best ever year, marginally above their 10 year average (we will certainly accept that, after the tale of woe above!). Dunnock numbers were up and Robin had their second best ever year, notably increased by 'falls' of birds in the Autumn. For Stanford, Whinchat, Stonechat and Flycatchers remain occasional passage visitors, so are always welcome, but our autumnal influx passage of Redstart was very meagre. Here's hoping for better next year!

**Wren: 182 (+12%)**

Six pulli ringed

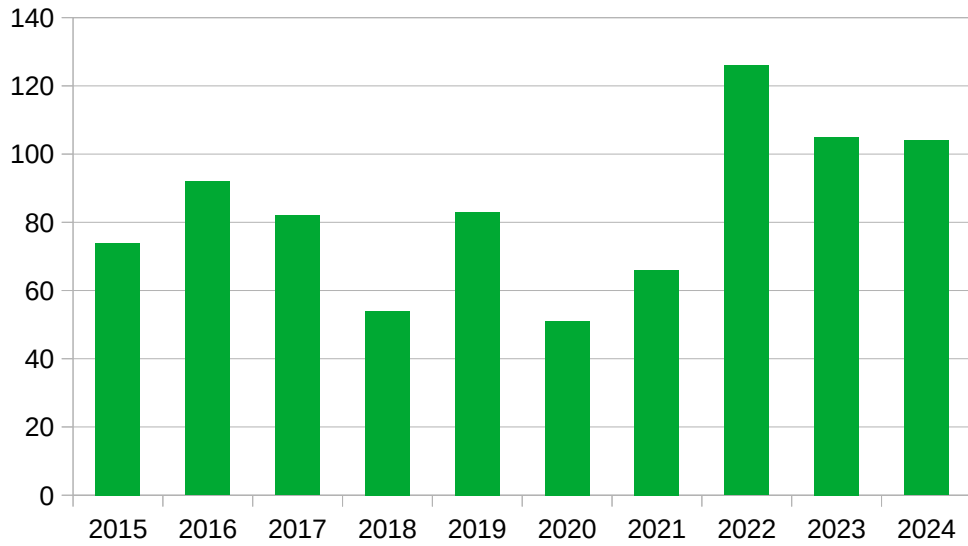
**Returns: 21**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		1	3	6	25	45	41	12	39	12	



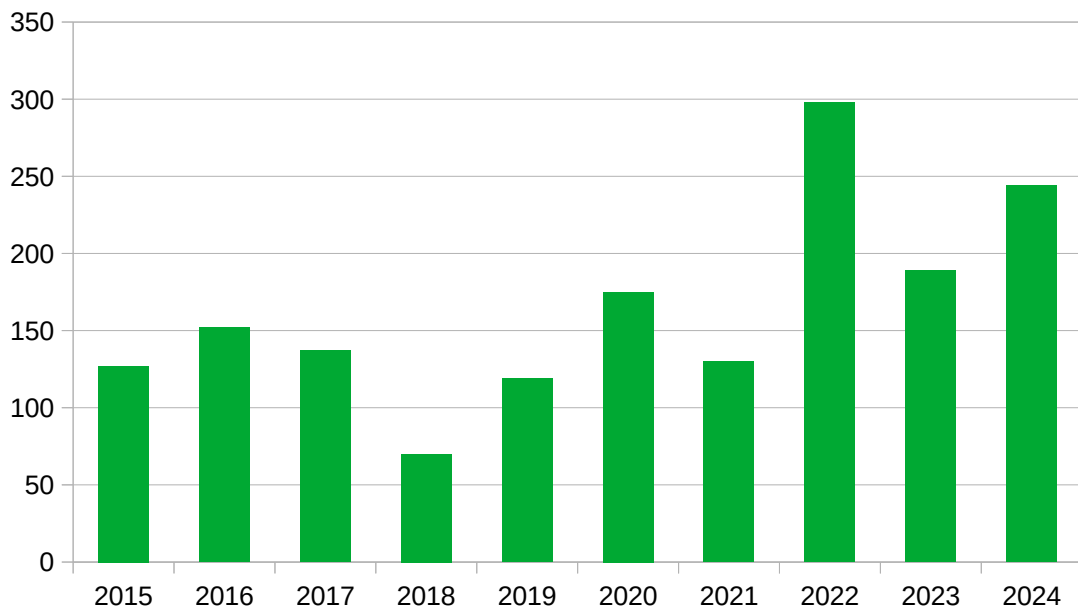
**Dunnock: 105 (+22%)**  
**Returners: 41**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3		4	9	10	22	24	6	12	12	4	1



**Robin: 244 (+61%)**  
 Eleven pulli ringed.  
**Returners: 21**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		1	6	21	21	24	106	44	20	1	



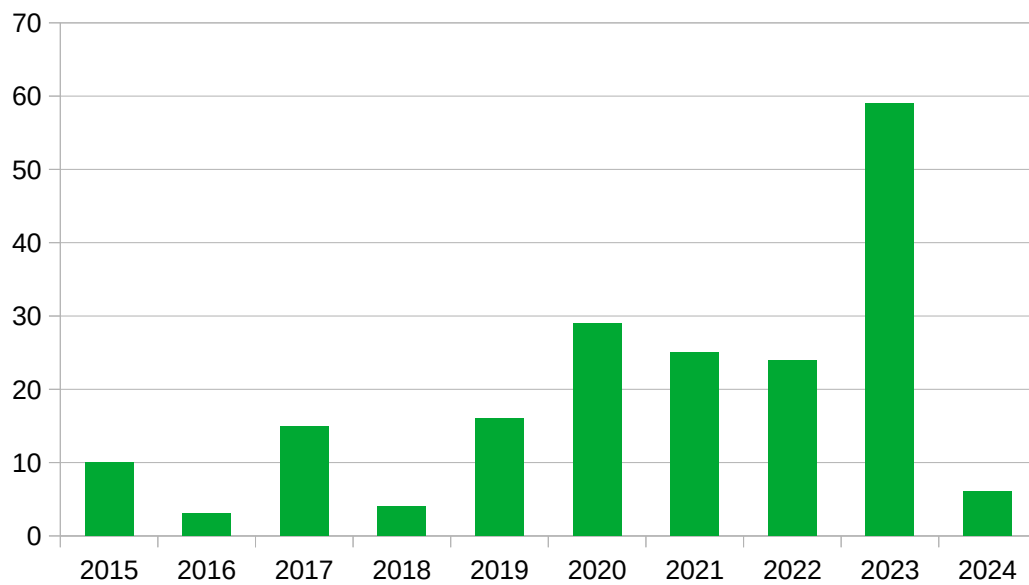


**Redstart: 6 (-68%)**

One ringed on 11 Aug, one on 17 Aug, four on 31 Aug



*Adult male redstart; very pretty!*



**Whinchat: 1**

One ringed on 19 Aug

**Stonechat: 1**

One ringed on 26 Oct



*Juvenile male Stonechat from the Paddock*

**Spotted Flycatcher: 3**

Three ringed on 15 Jul, 27 Aug and 28 Aug



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- **Thrushes**

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A rather disappointing year for our thrushes. Ringing was limited in the later stages of autumn due to poor weather, which might account for lower number of migrants, but anecdotally large flocks seemed to be largely absent. However Song Thrush had their third best ever year, bolstered by October migrants.

**Fieldfare: 11 (-37%)**



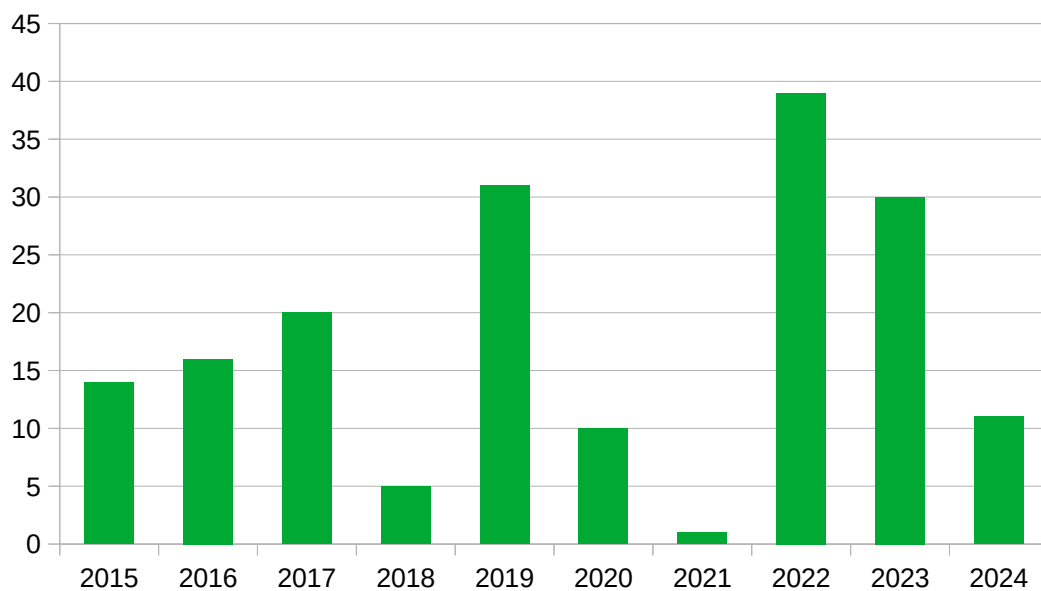

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Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
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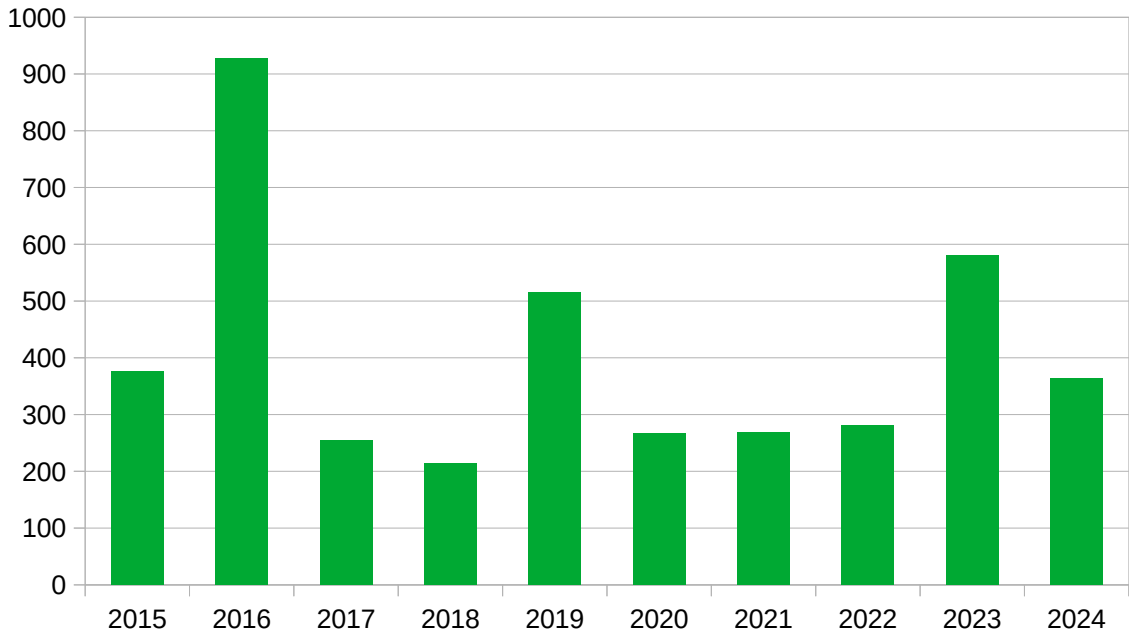
11

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**Redwing: 363 (-11%)**

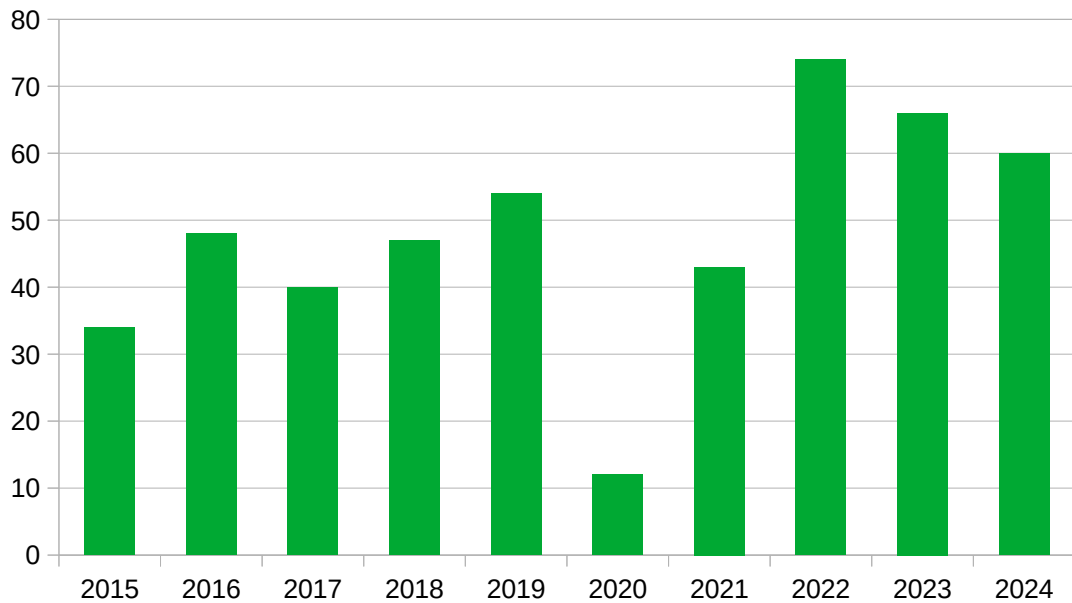
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1									133	229	



**Song Thrush: 60 (+11%)**

**Returners: 24**

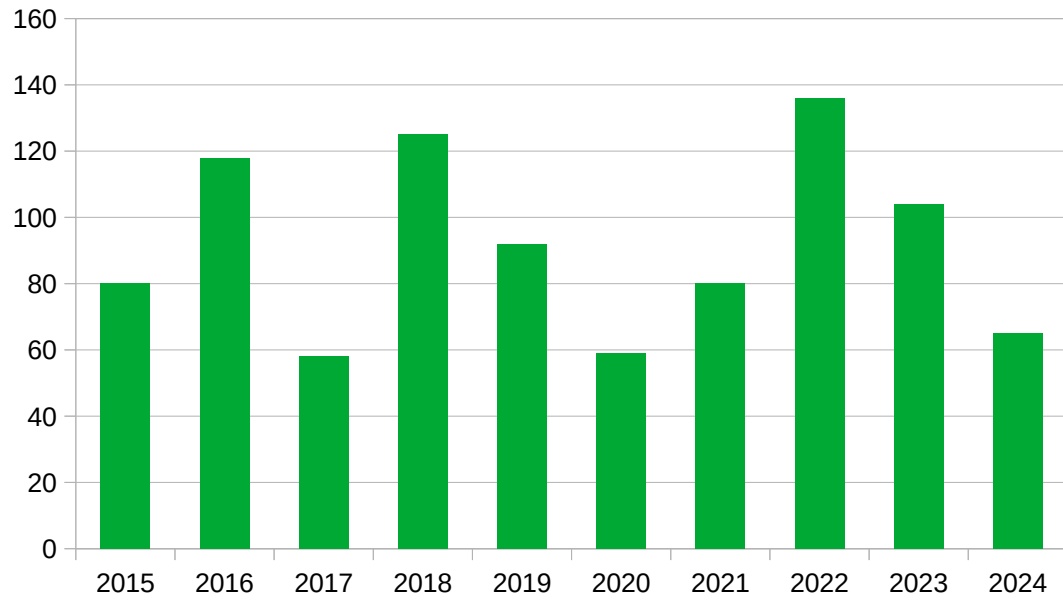
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		2	3	7	2	9	4	4	19	9	1



**Blackbird: 66 (-34%)**

**Returners: 27**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	1		4	1	2	20	3	3	9	21	2



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- **Warblers**

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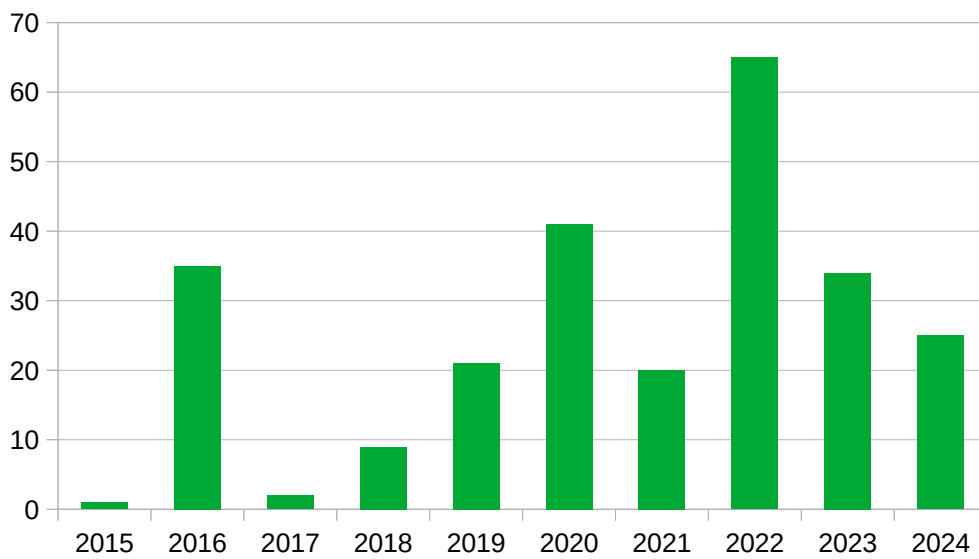


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Finally, a section full of good news! The group manages the habitat in Blower’s Bay and the Paddock to promote breeding and migrant warblers, and again this seems to have paid off. To start with the superlatives, Reed Warbler and Chiffchaff had their best ever years, Garden Warbler had their second best ever year and Sedge Warbler, Blackcap and Lesser Whitethroat had collectively their third best ever years. Our other breeding warblers had good if not exceptional years. Three Yellow-Browed Warblers was very acceptable as they are a rather hit or miss vagrant to the site; really they should be migrating between Russia and India! An absence of breeding Grasshopper warbler was a shame, but our resident Cetti’s population seems to be stable. A Blackcap (Z369144) ringed on 11 June 2016, was the oldest bird to be recaptured this year!

**Grasshopper Warbler: 25 (+9%)**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
						2	22	1			

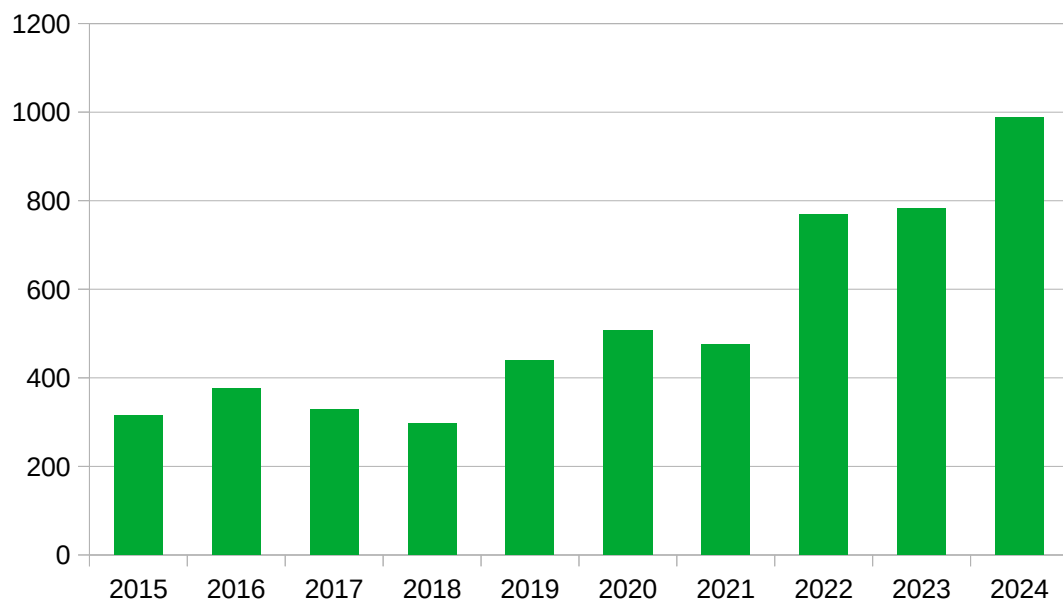


**Reed Warbler: 988 (+119%)**

**Returners: 74**

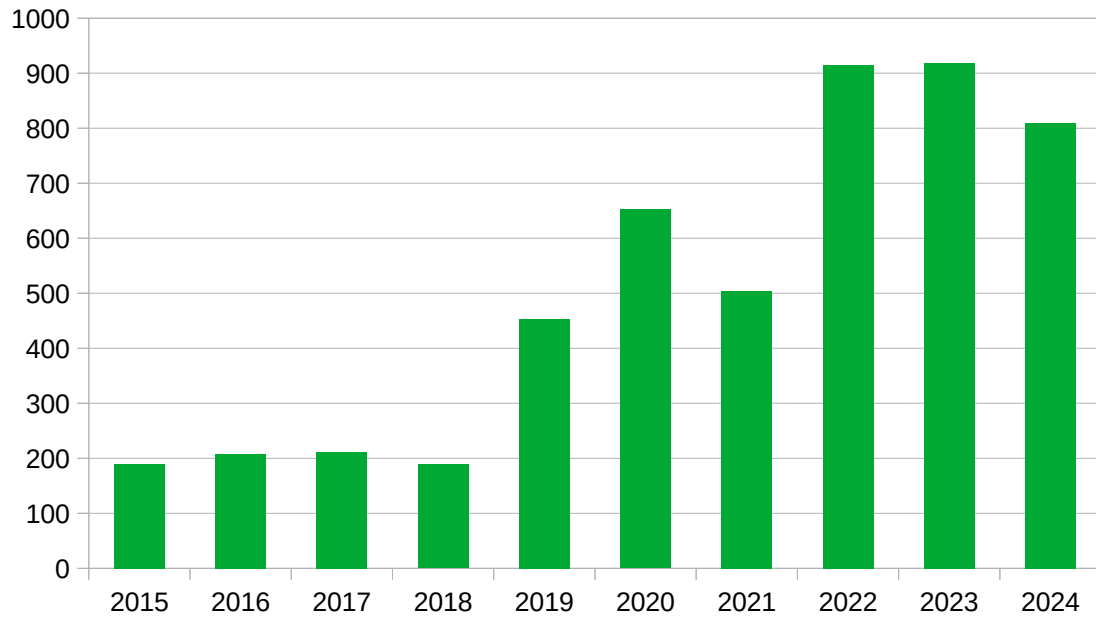


Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			1	20	20	262	592	89	4		



**Sedge Warbler: 810 (+84%)****Returners: 17**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			2	10	8	214	551	25			



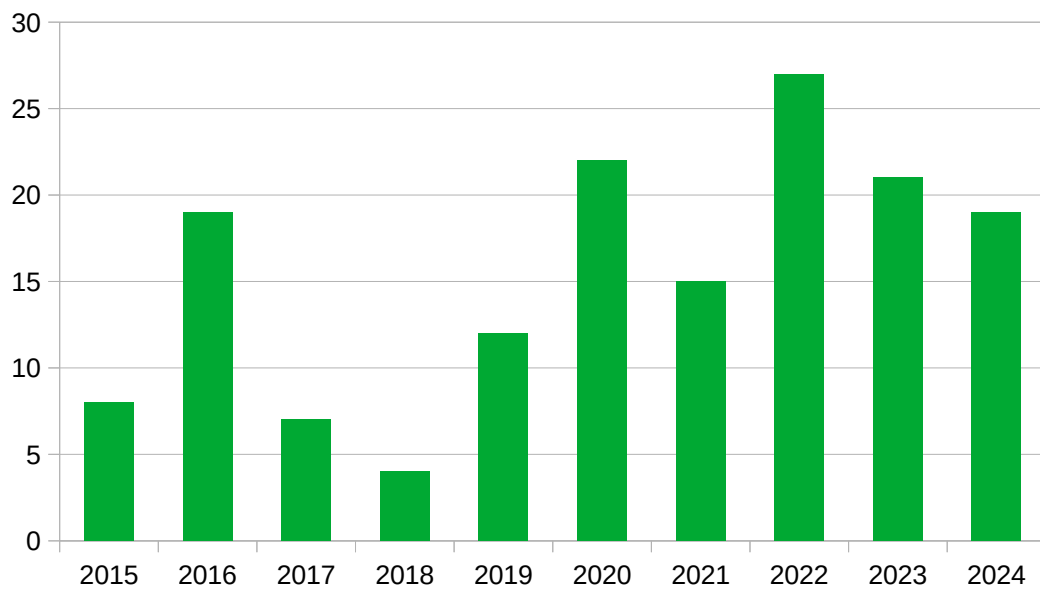


**Cetti's Warbler: 19 (+37%)**  
**Returners: 5**



*Cetti's Warbler; often heard but seldom seen*

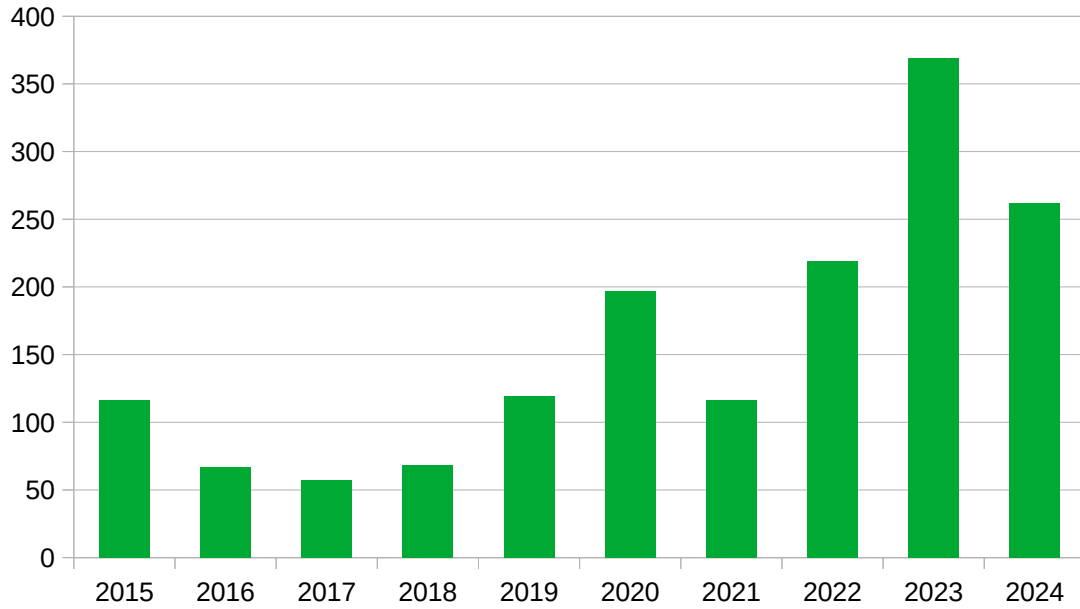
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			1	1		2	3	6	4	2	



**Garden Warbler: 262 (+82%)**

**Returners: 40**

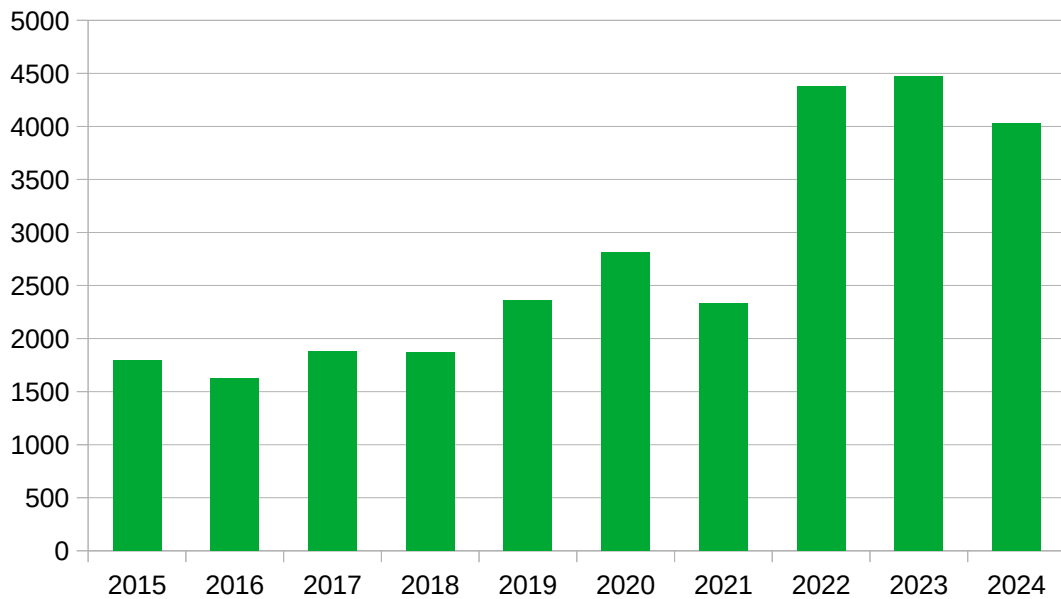
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
				15	13	53	176	5			



**Blackcap: 4027 (+60%)**

**Returners: 18**

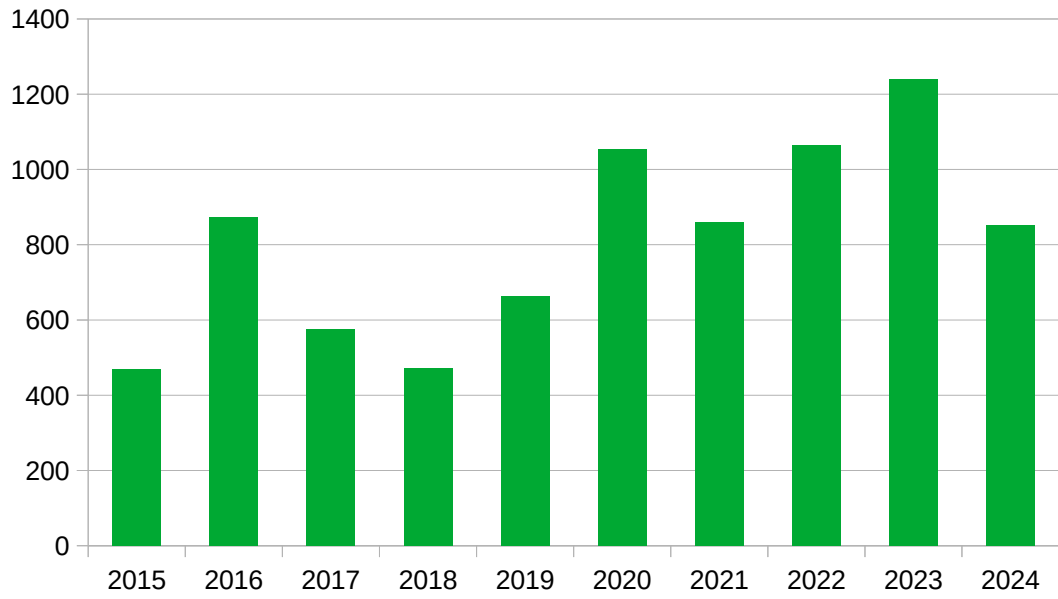
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			47	22	55	175	1838	1605	282	3	



**Whitethroat: 851 (+10%)**

**Returners: 28**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			2	11	30	101	694	13			



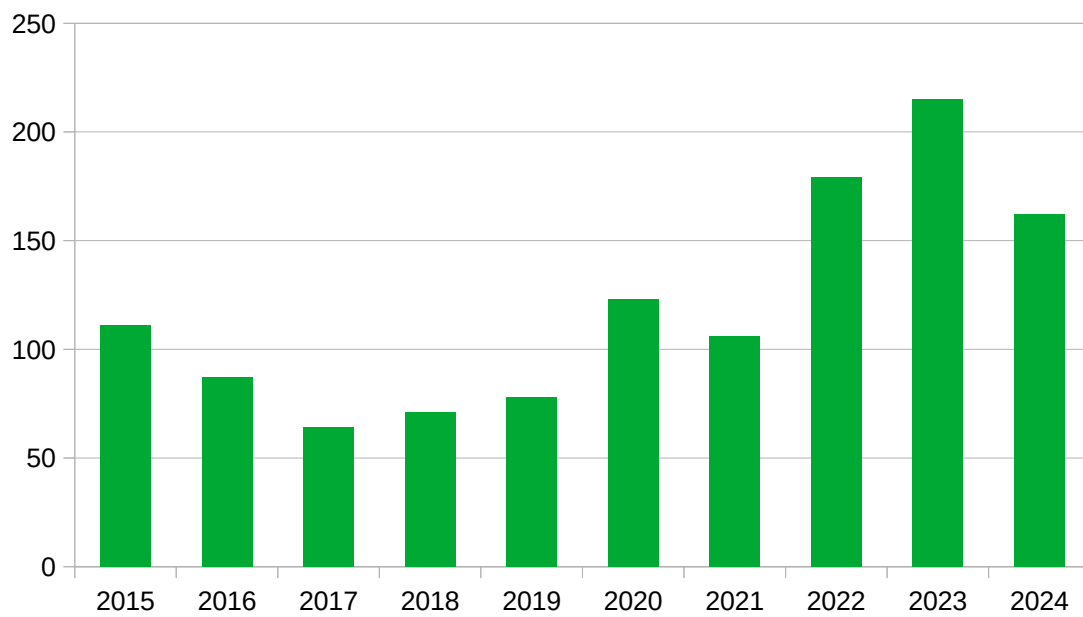
**Lesser Whitethroat: 162 (+45%)**

**Returners: 3**



*Beautiful little birds; ringers have a soft spot for S. curruca*

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			5	8	17	40	86	6			

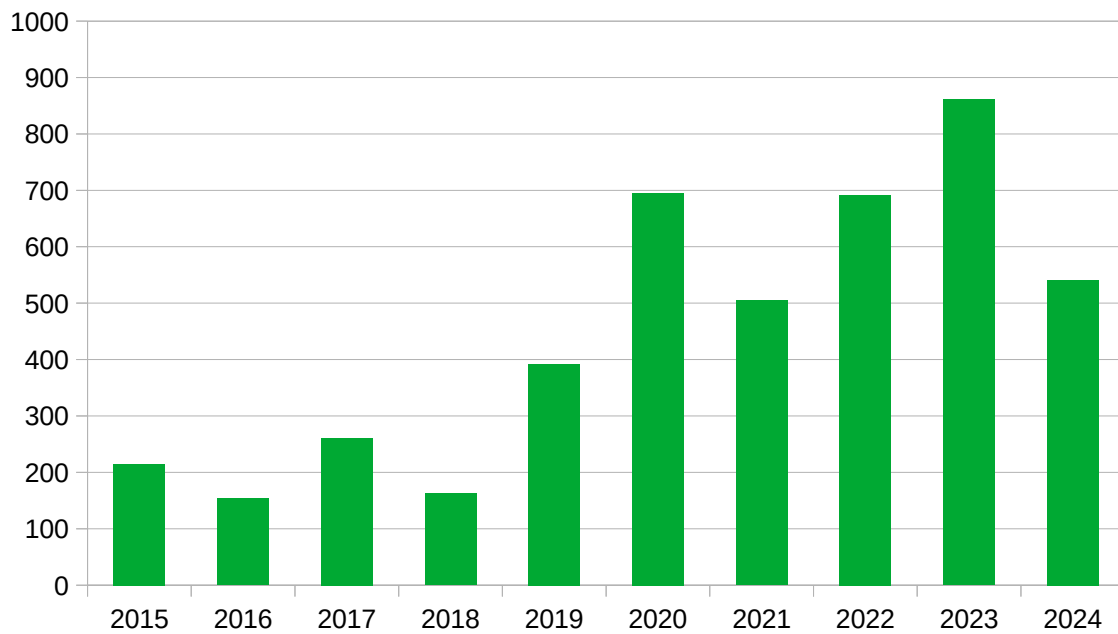


**Willow Warbler: 541 (+30%)**  
**Returners: 13**



*Northern type Willow Warbler*

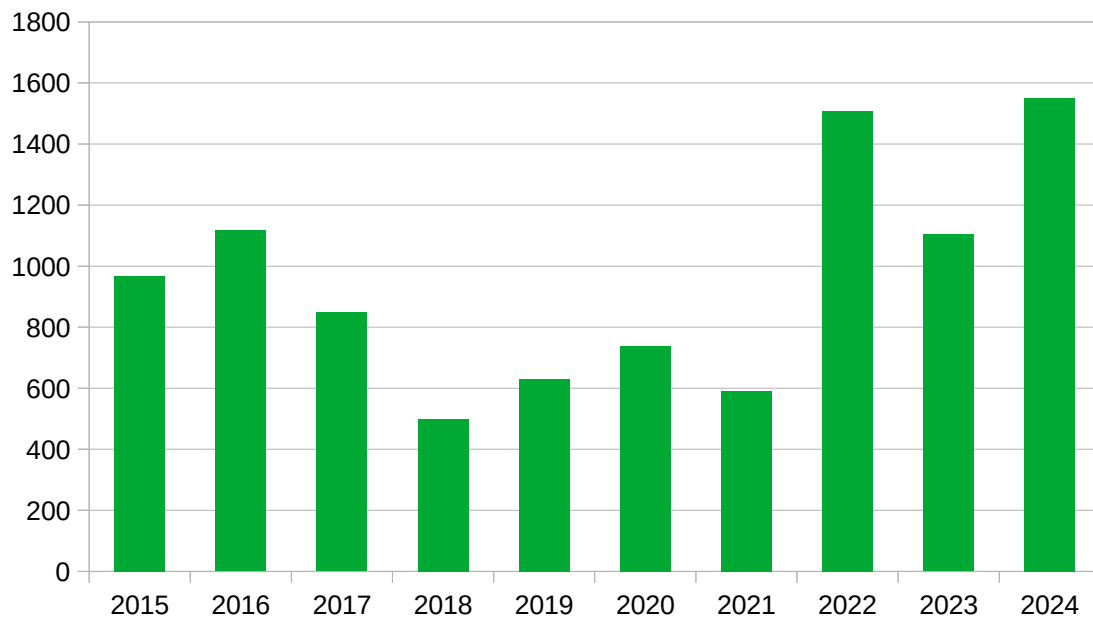
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			6	1	10	80	420	20			



**Chiffchaff: 1551 (+78%)**

**Returners: 37**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			19	14	46	111	149	826	378	8	



**Yellow Browed Warbler: 3**

Ringed on 28 Sep, 29 Sep and 23 Oct



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- **Crests, Tits and Allies**

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A decent year for our residents tits and crests, with Treecreeper having their second best ever year and Long Tailed Tit their third. Other species were more or less in line with their 10 year averages, with Coal Tit just about hanging on. Willow and Marsh Tit seem to be truly extirpated from the local area, the former being last ringed in 2021, the latter in 2017, a very sad result. It is safe to say that the whole group were delighted when our hard working secretary AGH finally got to extract and ring a Firecrest; it just shows that if you put in the hard yards, the birds *will* come to you!

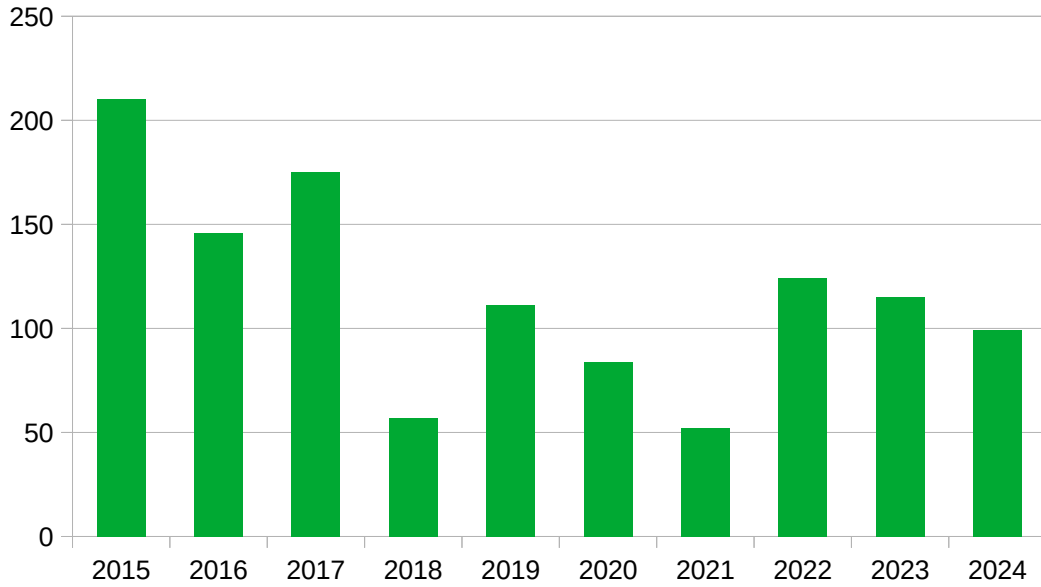
### **Firecrest: 1**

One bird ringed 24 Oct



**Goldcrest: 101 (-14%)**

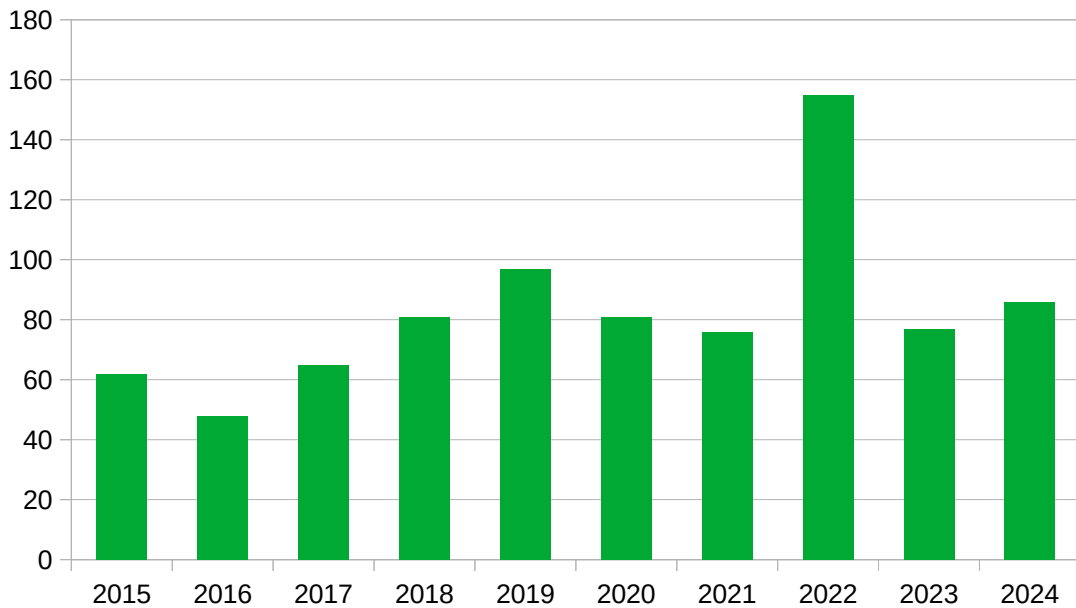
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3			1			5	11	30	42	5	2



**Long-tailed Tit: 86 (+5%)**

**Returners: 21**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2		1			3	7	17	6	48	2	



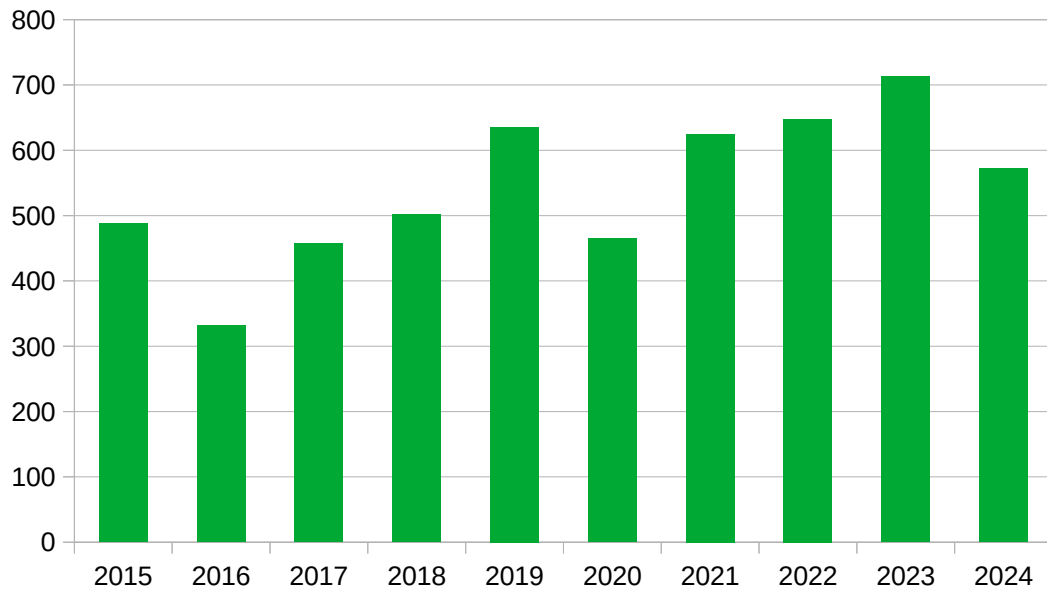


**Blue Tit: 574 (+7%)**

Two hundred and fifty four ringed as pulli

**Returners: 36**

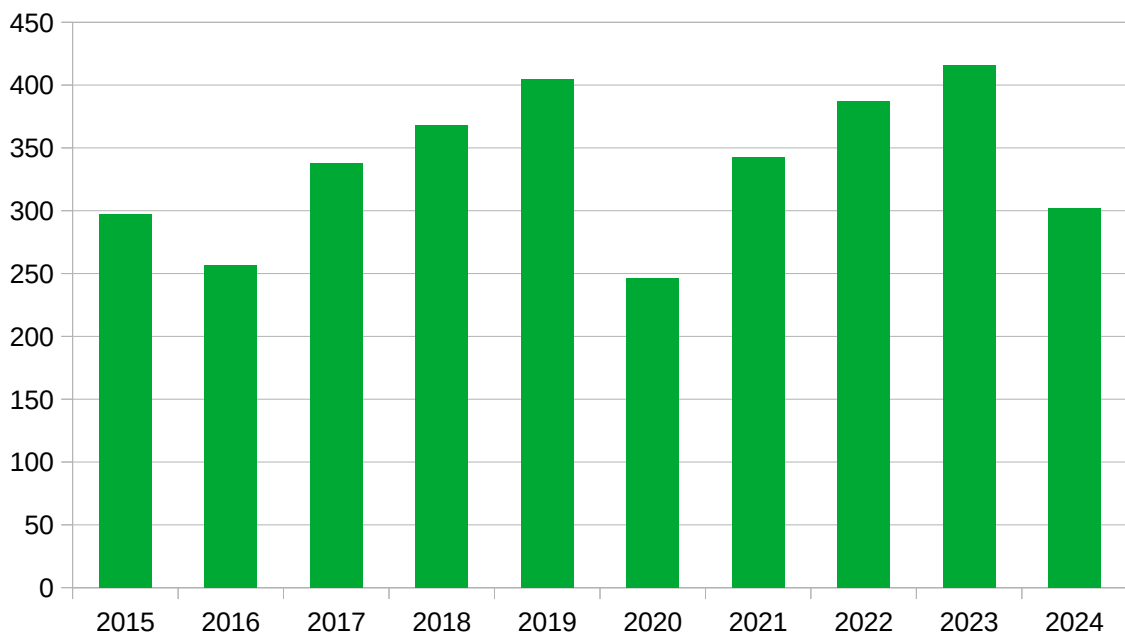
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
4			9	252	45	51	23	15	137	35	5

**Great Tit: 302 (-10%)**

One hundred and sixty eight ringed as pulli.

**Returners: 36**

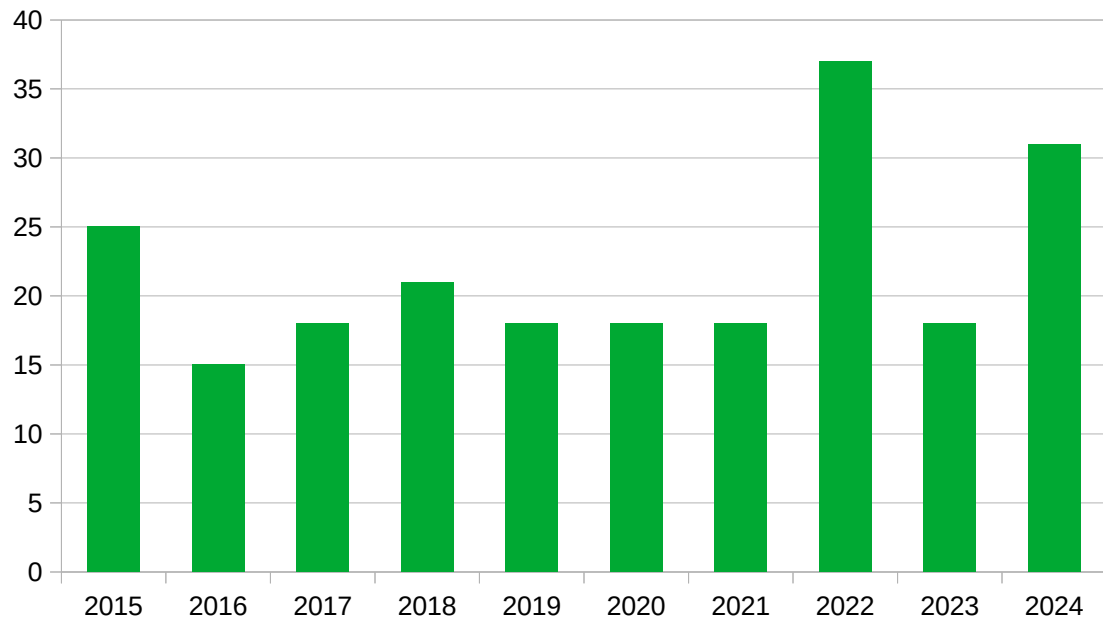
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2			2	170	14	17	5	15	74	5	



**Treecreeper: 31 (+47%)**

**Returners: 2**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			1	1	7	15	2	1	3	1	



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- **Corvids and Allies**

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Corvids are highly intelligent and wary, so largely manage to avoid our nets. The exception this year was a solitary Jay in the Paddock. A very young Carrion Crow was found wandering on the road near Park Farm and was promptly ringed! The Jackdaw were all ringed as pulli, and this seems to have been a good year for them and their busy parents. The Starling were largely ringed as autumn roosts in the Northants reedbed, with one clearly lonely individual turning up in a mist net in Blower's Bay! (*and one heading into the distant east! Ed*)

### Jay: 1

Ringed on 01 May

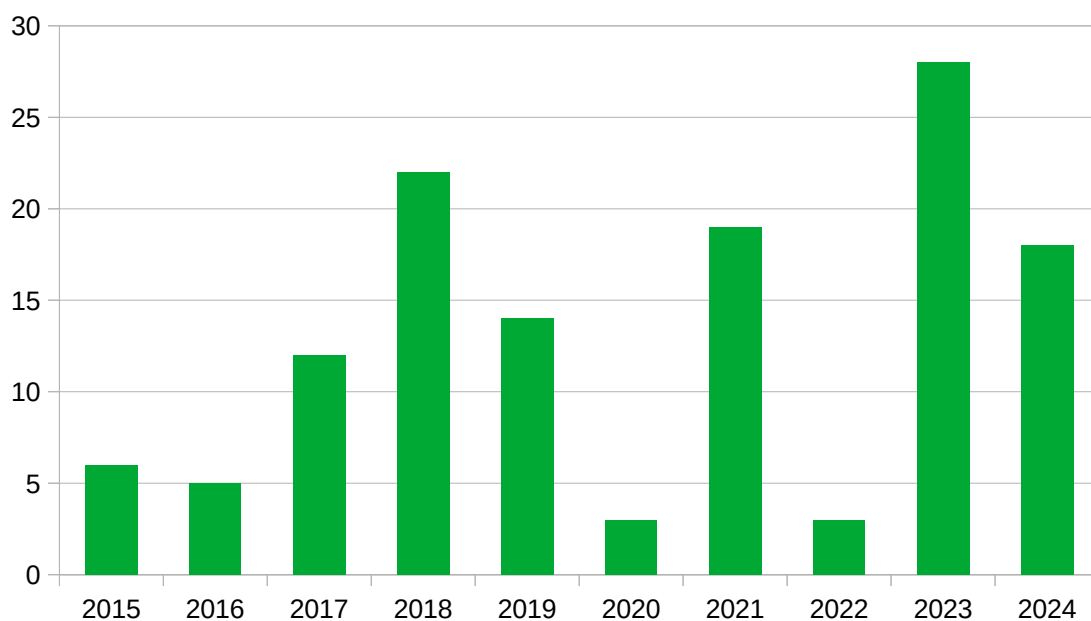
### Carrion Crow: 1

Ringed on 08 Jun

### Jackdaw: 18 (+49%)

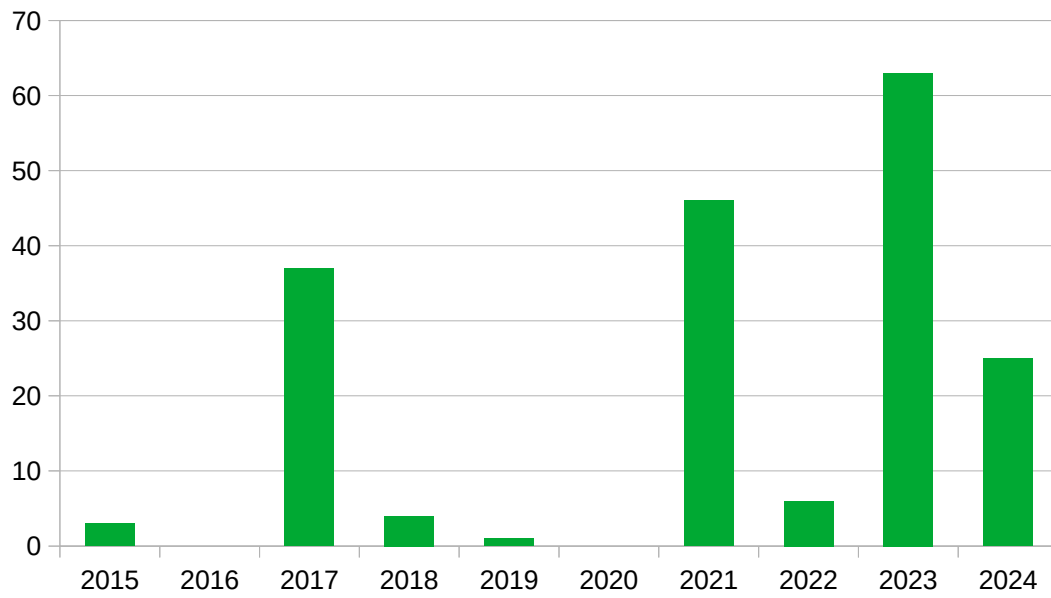
Eighteen birds ringed, all as pulli

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
				15	3						



**Starling: 25 (+49%)**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
					1		24			1	



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- **Sparrows and Finches**

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Firstly, the good news. A single House Sparrow was an unusual bird for Stanford, the first since 2014. Secondly, our resident Linnets had a good year, for the third year running, with 20 juveniles being ringed; however these do follow some pretty lean years, so our fingers are crossed that this delightful little bird will continue to prosper. Goldfinch did well too, although the pattern of birds arriving in autumn suggests these might be more migrant or flocking birds, rather than Stanford residents. The rest of the group fundamentally had a terrible year. Both Chaffinch and Bullfinch were down by 53%. Greenfinch did even worse, down 60%, and our much awaited annual influx of Lesser Redpoll just sputtered out. Two Siskin ringed in October were a welcome relief from the gloom.

### House Sparrow:

Ringed on 31 Oct

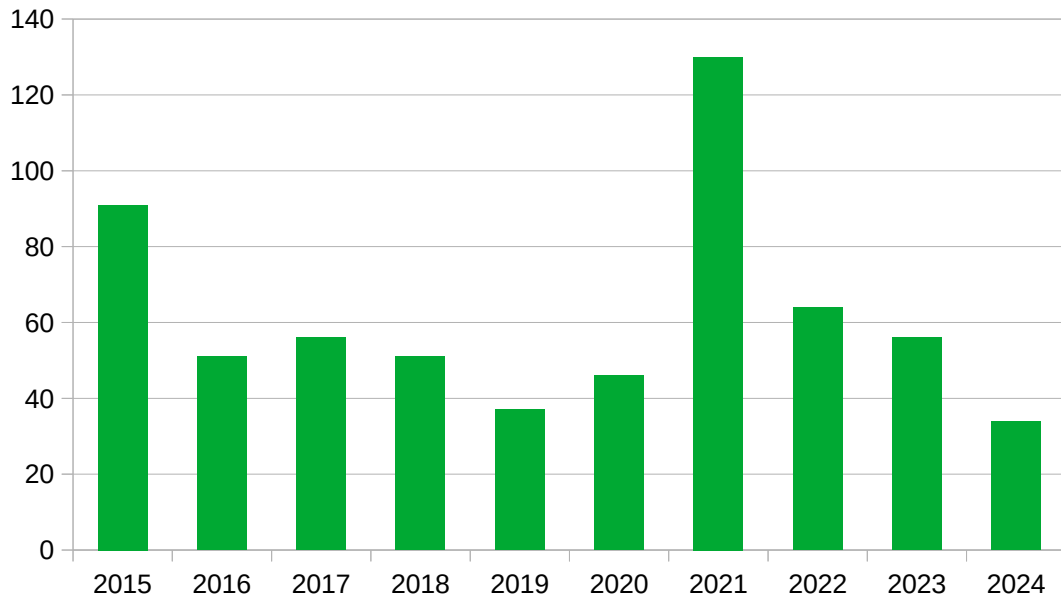


*Not exactly a rarity, but very welcome, *P. domesticus*!*

**Chaffinch: 34 (-53%)**

**Returners: 3**

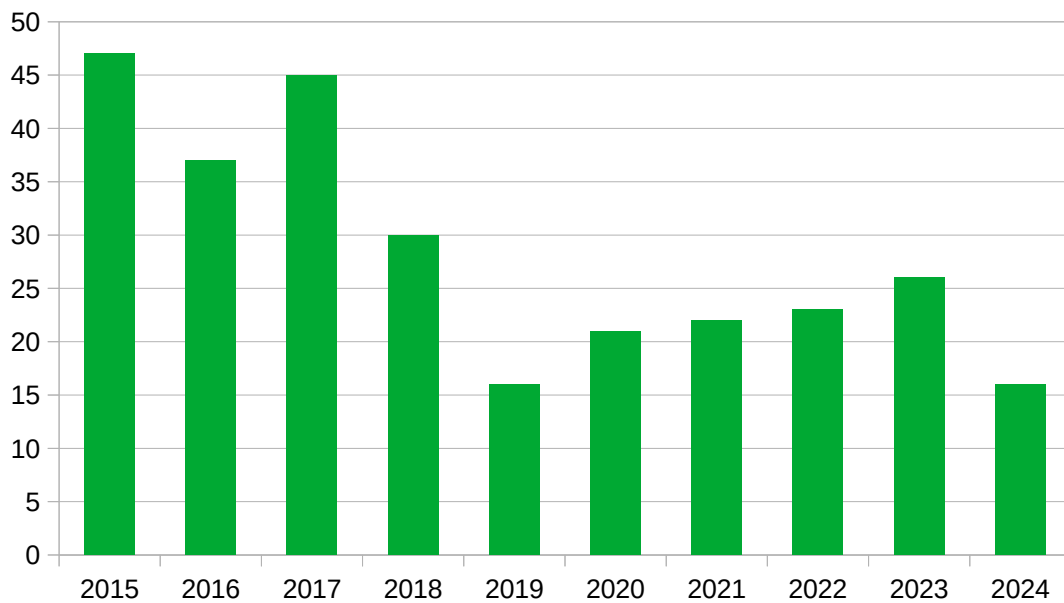
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			2	1	13	11	2		4	1	



**Bullfinch: 16 (-53%)**

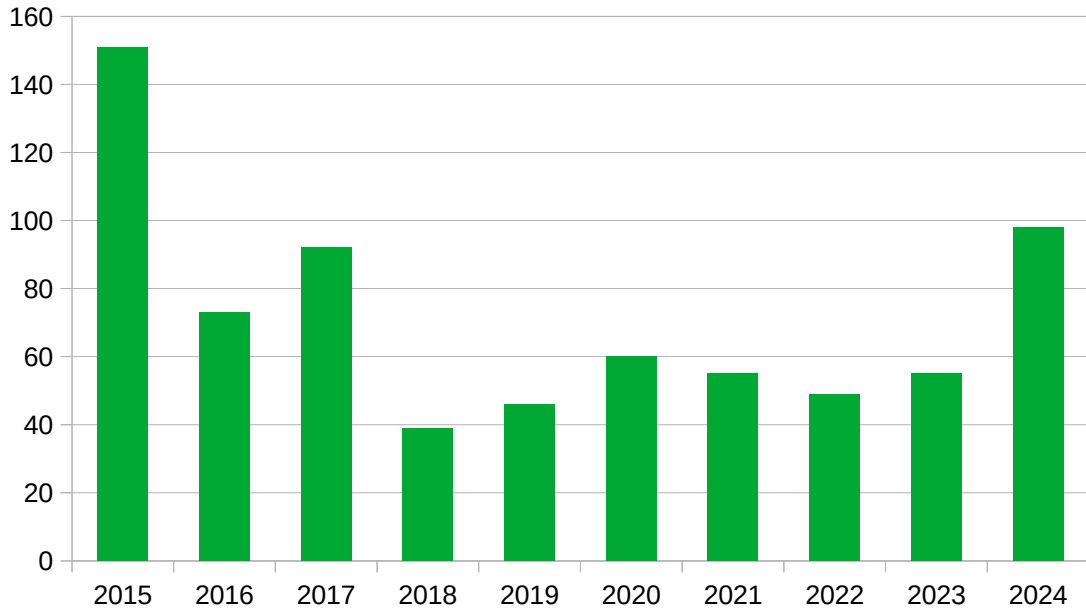
**Returners: 5**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			1	1	3	3	1		2	5	



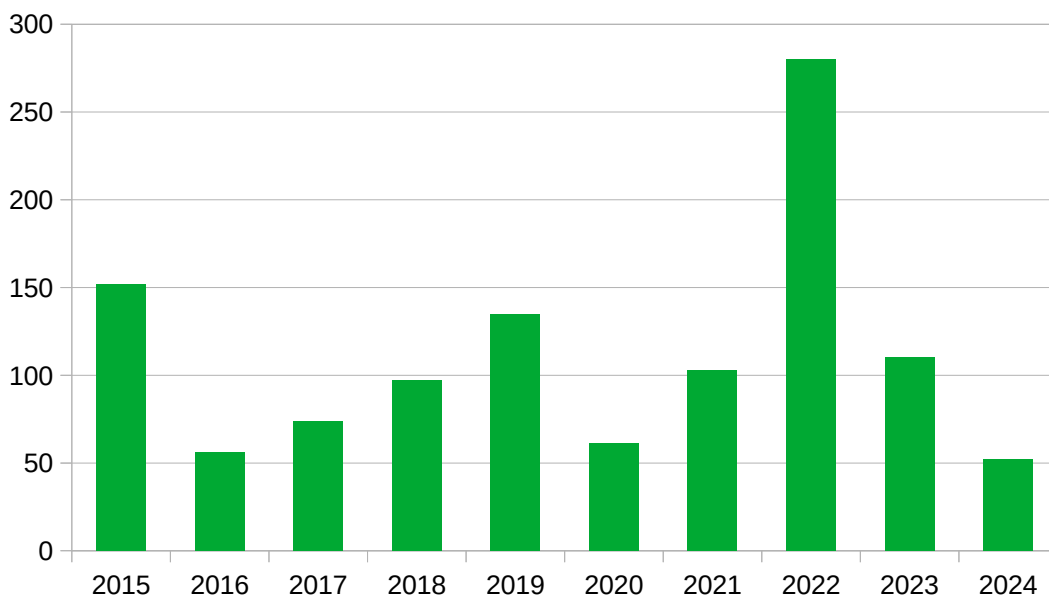
**Goldfinch: 99 (+25%)**  
**Returners: 3**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			8	9	10	5	4	2	25	31	4



**Greenfinch: 52 (-60%)**  
**Returners: 2**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
						3	3	1	37	8	



**Siskin: 2**

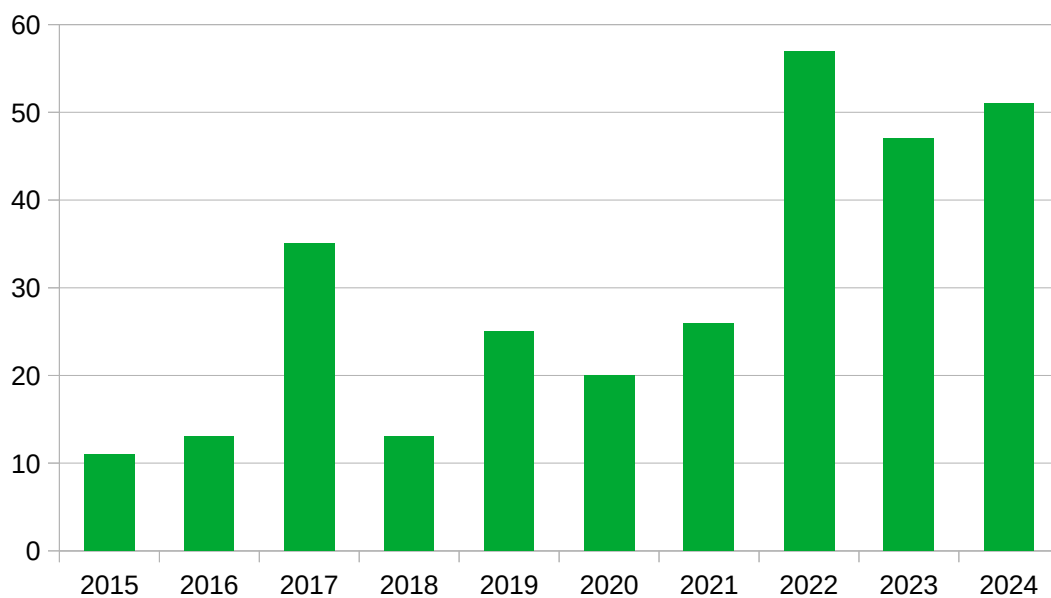
Ringed, 05 and 22 Oct



**Linnet: 51 (+76%)**

Returners: 5

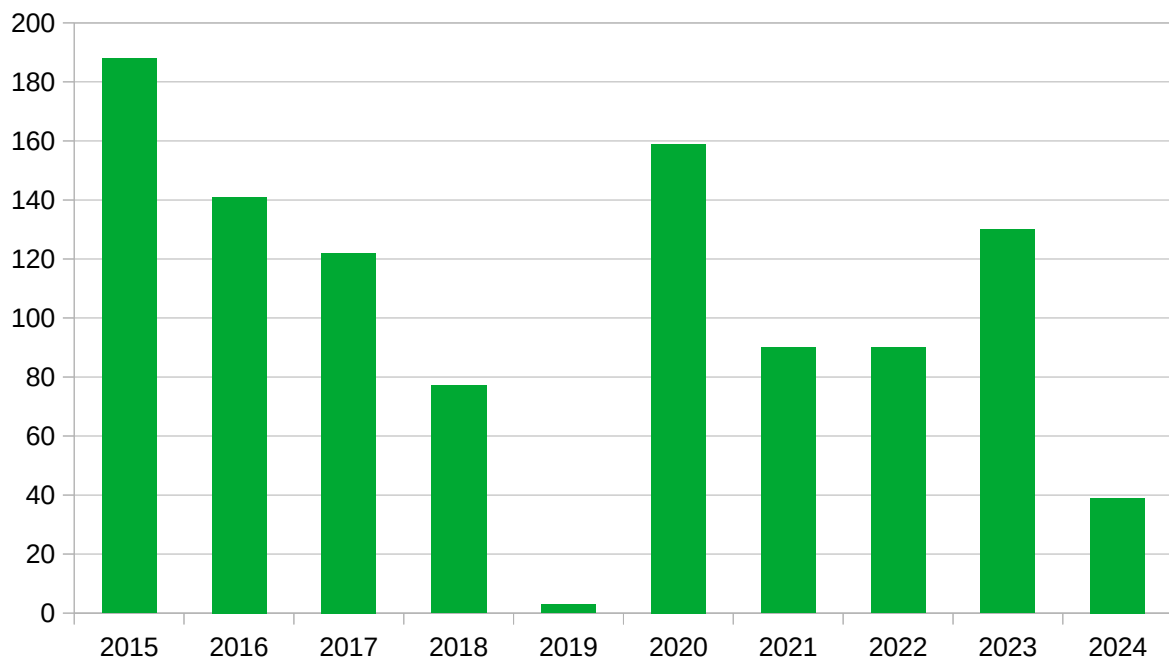
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			5	11	5	19	5		6		





**Lesser Redpoll: 39 (-61%)**

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
									9	29	1



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• **Buntings**

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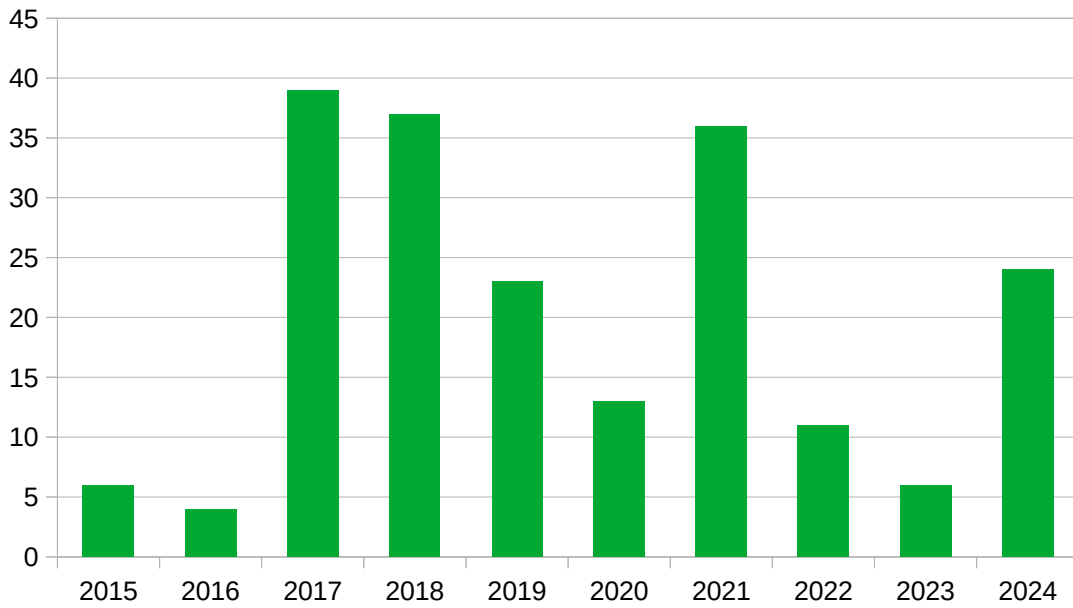


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Our two resident Buntings had good years, with numbers very close to average.

**Yellowhammer: 24 (-5%)**

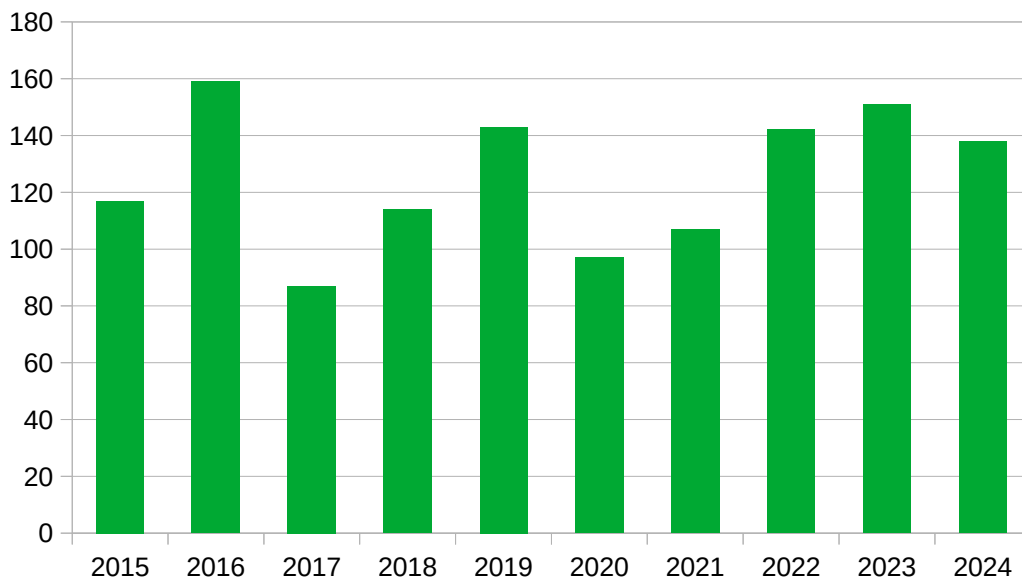
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
									15	3	6



**Reed Bunting: 138 (±0%)**

Returners: 41

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
3		2	9	5	19	55	30	7	5	2	1



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## Nest Recording Report by Adam Homer (AGH)

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### Introduction

The wettest spring since 1986 hampered many nesting species this year. Tawny Owls made no attempts at all with just one unpaired adult recorded exiting a nestbox in March and Stock Dove attempts nose-dived again after a brief recovery last year. One hundred and twenty-four nests of fourteen species was a poor result. Five hundred and forty-two pulli were ringed, nearly a hundred fewer than 2023.

### Individual Species Accounts

**Coot:** One nest containing three eggs was found in a small patch of reeds with five eggs recorded a week later. Unfortunately, the nest couldn't be seen a few weeks later due to vegetation so the outcome was unknown.

**Lapwing:** Four chicks were rounded up in the adjacent field to the railtrack and ringed on the 2nd May. Several pairs of adults were observed displaying from as early as March.

**Common Tern:** Our second best year from a single raft with twelve pulli ringed from seven nests. There are plans to install two more rafts in Blower's Bay with the aim of attracting more nesting pairs and potentially adding colour-rings to the pulli as part of the colour-ringing scheme. This will enable us to record sightings in subsequent years on their return.



*Common Tern pullus (DS)*



*Later stage Common Tern pulli (HJG)*

**Stock Dove:** Eighteen pulli ringed from just fourteen nest attempts is a set back after what seemed to be a turning point last year. Two nests were deserted at egg stage and one was predated at egg/juvenile stage.

**Woodpigeon:** Two nests were found this year that reached egg-laying stage. One nest in the wood was predated at egg stage and two chicks were ringed in one nest found in the railtrack hedgerow.



*Woodpigeon pulli (AGH)*

**Barn Owl:** One nest at nearby Park Farm produced three young that were all ringed on 7th July and another nest on the Leicester side also containing three young were ringed on 13th July.

**Swallow:** A slow start to the year due to the cold weather but things soon picked up when the adults eventually arrived. Fourteen nests at nearby stables and Park Farm resulted in 39 pulli ringed. Only one nest was lost this year due to desertion.

**Pied Wagtail:** Four young newly hatched alongside two other eggs were found in one nest on the outside of a grain-store shed at nearby Park Farm. Four young were ringed on 1st June with two eggs added.

**Wren:** One nest found in a crevice on a tree held eight eggs but was later found to have been predated. Wren nests found inside tit nest boxes seems to be becoming an annual event now. One of these nestbox nests produced six young that were ringed on 8th June. However, a second nest was later found to be deserted at egg stage.

**Robin:** Seven nests found is a record for a single year. One nest was found abandoned in the building stage. Two nests were predated, one of which was situated under roofing felt found on the ground in the wood and another containing five eggs was later found empty. A nest found with three eggs was later visited and also found empty but this could have been a successful outcome due to the long interval between visits. Three nests however were successful and produced broods of six, three and two respectively.

**Blue Tit:** Thirty six nests is three more than last year but the cold spring resulted in around fifty fewer young being ringed; 254 young were ringed this year from twenty nine successful nests. Five nests were found deserted at either egg or juvenile stage. Two nests were of an unknown outcome.

**Great Tit:** The number of Great Tit pulli was also down by fifty, which mirrored the decline in the Blue Tit numbers this year. Only 168 pulli were ringed from twenty three successful nests. Two nests were deserted at egg stage and another was predated at egg/juvenile stage. One nest was of an unknown outcome.

**Chaffinch:** One pair were observed nest building in a Hawthorn bush on 4th May. Four warm eggs were found the following week but unfortunately the nest was discovered damaged a week later, having been pulled from the bush.

**Jackdaw:** Continue to take advantage of our owl nest boxes and nine nests this year is our joint second highest. Eighteen pulli ringed from seven nests is our fourth highest total. Two nests were unfortunately predated at juvenile stage before the young were ringed. One nest box inspected on 4th May was found to have seven warm eggs. On 18th May the box was found to hold ten warm eggs. Clearly a case of two females using the same box. Only four eggs hatched but just three of these survived to fledge.



*Jackdaw nest with 10 eggs (AGH)*

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## The Birding Year at Stanford Reservoir by Chris Hubbard (CH)

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Another excellent year for birding at Stanford Reservoir! The overall number of species recorded was 158 compared to 150 in 2022, well above the 10-year average of 148. This was also the third best year ever, just behind 160 in 2017 and 164 in 2020. Eighteen species were recorded in 2024 that were not recorded in 2023. There were no new additions to the overall site list which remains at 253 (reduced by one species due to the 'lumping' of three Redpoll species into one). All birds found by CH unless otherwise stated. All photos by CH unless otherwise attributed.

### Species Totals for Last 10 years\*

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
136	144	160	137	154	164	149	147	150	158

*\*(includes Lesser and Common Redpoll as separate species up to 2024)*

### Summary of the 18 Species Recorded in 2024, but not in 2023

**Pink-footed Goose:** first seen on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Iceland / Kumlien's Gull:** one record on January 11<sup>th</sup>, only the second for the site.

**Waxwing:** five flew through on February 24<sup>th</sup>, the first since 2019 and part of a significant UK invasion this winter (MJT).



*Photo: F Graves*

**Firecrest:** one on March 9<sup>th</sup> was the first since 2020. A second bird was ringed in the autumn on October 24<sup>th</sup> by the SRG.

**Sandwich Tern:** one on April 6<sup>th</sup> was the first since 2021. This was followed by singles in July and two in September (JES and CH).



**Purple Heron:** a strong contender for bird of the year, this was an adult found in the Leicestershire reedbed on April 9<sup>th</sup> and still present the following day. This was only the second ever record for the site, the first was in 2011. This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> record for Northants and the 8<sup>th</sup> record for Leicestershire and Rutland.



**Ferruginous Duck:** a drake was found on April 15<sup>th</sup> and was only present for one day, undoubtedly the waterfowl highlight of the year! This was only the fourth record for the site following birds in 1950, 1972 and 1997. Females were also recorded on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Ringed Plover:** one on April 17<sup>th</sup> (R Cross) was the first since 2022. Several others were seen throughout 2024, but this species remains an irregular visitor.

**Lesser Spotted Woodpecker:** one record of this nationally declining species with an individual seen on June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, the first since 2021.

**Bittern:** a typically elusive individual was seen briefly on July 26<sup>th</sup> (R Allen). This was followed by a slightly more obliging bird found on September 20<sup>th</sup> which was present until at least September 28<sup>th</sup>.



**White-fronted Goose:** one in flight over the dam on 28<sup>th</sup> September was the first since 2022.

**Yellow-browed Warbler:** an exceptional year with a minimum of four individuals recorded. An unringed bird was found on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Three were ringed on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and October 23<sup>rd</sup>. These were the first to be recorded since 2022.

**Hen Harrier:** one juvenile ringtail first found on October 17<sup>th</sup> and was present until the 19<sup>th</sup>, the first since 2019 (S and M Wyatt).

**Knot:** one circled Blowers Lodge Bay on November 3<sup>rd</sup> for around a minute and a half, the first since 2011.



**Jack Snipe:** at least two birds were found, one using thermal imaging on November 12<sup>th</sup>, the first since 2022.

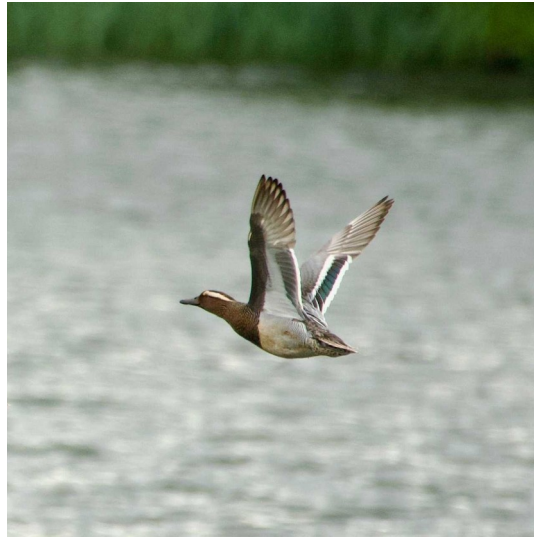
**Hawfinch:** Two flew through on November 13<sup>th</sup>, the first since the last invasion in 2017 (MJT).

**Rock Pipit:** one briefly over the dam calling on November 14<sup>th</sup> was the first since 2022.

**Bewick's Swan:** one mid afternoon on November 28<sup>th</sup> was the first since 2021.

### Full List of Highlights for 2024

Six **Common Scoter:** were recorded – all were singles other than two on September 6<sup>th</sup> and Ferruginous Duck (male and female) were seen.



A drake **Garganey** was present on May 30<sup>th</sup> with another drake in eclipse plumage on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

There were several records of **Red-crested Pochard** with a high count of seven in the autumn and several records of **Mandarin**. There were two records of **Black-necked Grebe** on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Both **White-fronted** and **Pink-footed Geese** were recorded this year and there were three records of **Egyptian Goose**.



**Whooper Swan** made it eight years running with an excellent 22 birds recorded plus a

single **Bewick's Swan** was found late on November 28<sup>th</sup>, the first since 2021.

**Cattle Egret** was recorded for the third year running (a new species for the site in 2022) and just like **Little** and **Great Egret** (numerous sightings) one would expect sightings of this species to become more frequent. There were two records of **Bittern** in the year, with one being seen on and off for over a week in September. An adult **Purple Heron** was found on April 9<sup>th</sup>, only the second record for the site, following one in 2011.

**Marsh Harrier** were present but fewer were seen than in '23, one **Hen Harrier** was seen; **Hobby** were seen regularly over the summer and **Peregrine** were recorded periodically throughout the year.



**Short-eared Owl** was recorded on January 12<sup>th</sup> subsequently there were up to three present for much of the first part of the winter in the area adjacent to the settling pond/rail track.



**Osprey** is an annual summer visitor to the reservoir but we rarely have them stay for long. Looking back over the historical records we have recorded them in every year but two since 2000. This year saw a significant increase in records; they were recorded between the 17<sup>th</sup> July and 20<sup>th</sup> August on 28 days out of a possible 35. To put that into context we only had five sightings in the whole of 2023. The following sightings were made up of at least six different birds, five of which had colour rings with the details obtained on four of these. Below are the details of the four Ospreys where the codes were obtained:

**Code: 5H1**

Date of ringing: 4/7/22

Location: Poole Harbour

Sex: Female

Info: One of a brood of two chicks in first nest at Poole Harbour. Returned to Poole on 14/5.

Subsequently seen at a nest in the Usk Valley in South Wales on 17/5, and near Rutland Water on 22/6.

**Code: 3AY**

Date of ringing: 27/7/19

Location: Site O (Leicestershire)

Sex: Male

Info: Single chick in nest. Also seen at Manton Bay on 10/4, Hollowell Res on 15/4 and 26/4, Pitsford 1/8 and 14/8.

**Code: T3**

Date of ringing: 23/6/16

Location: Site C (Rutland)

Sex: Male

Info: Breeding male in Northamptonshire nest since 2021. Three chicks this year.

**Code: 1H5**

Date of ringing: 25/6/22

Location: Site B (Rutland)

Sex: Male (originally sexed as female due to intermediate weight at ringing)

Info: First returned to Rutland on 3/6/24 and seen regularly since.

**Waders**

Despite the high water level throughout the year there was an excellent selection of waders making this our best year since the low water levels of 2017, totalling an impressive 19 species. They were: **Oystercatcher, Snipe, Jack Snipe, Lapwing, Golden Plover, Sanderling, Curlew, Whimbrel, Ringed Plover, Little Ringed Plover, Woodcock, Green and Common Sandpiper, Greenshank, Ruff, Redshank, Black-tailed Godwit, Dunlin** and of course **Knot** (the first since 2011).

**Gulls and Terns**

As always, there was a steady passage of terns with an excellent showing of four **Sandwich** and c. 34 **Black, Arctic and Common Terns** were also recorded with the latter raising 11 chicks on the tern platform. Two colour rings were read on **Common Terns**, both ringed by the West Midlands Ringing Group (colour-ring numbers A34 and C71).

The gull roost was actively watched delivering 11 different species including good numbers of **Mediterranean Gulls** (including first-winter, second-winter and adult birds) over the year. This species was recorded on over 30 different dates. **Caspian Gull** was also recorded on a regular basis over the winter months. **Kittiwake** was recorded in the gull roost again in 2024, making it recorded in five out of the last six years for this scarce, inland visitor. Having missed out on the **Little Gull** passage in spring, one bird was recorded in the autumn making it recorded in six out of the last seven years. The "roost" highlight of the year though was an **Iceland (Kumlien's) Gull** seen in poor light on the evening of January 11<sup>th</sup> with the identification clinched just before the bird left the roost the following morning; only the second record for Kumlien's at the site. The gull roost at Stanford Reservoir is arguably the best for the range of species on offer in Leicestershire and Northants.

**Passerines**

As in 2023, there were no records of **Grasshopper Warbler** in the spring (and therefore no confirmed breeding this year), but the ringing group did ring a number of birds in the autumn. The habitat continues to be suitable for breeding around the site and we remain hopeful for breeding birds in 2025. **Tree Sparrow** is now very scarce with only two

sightings in 2024, with this species no longer breeding at the site (see cover for the full sad story Ed.).



A singing male **Brambling** was found on the Leicestershire side on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the latest ever recorded in the county, another (usually) winter visitor **Waxwing** was seen flying over, and two **Hawfinch** were seen.

Both **Tree Pipit** and **Rock Pipit** were recorded, the latter the first since 2022. **Yellow Wagtails** were generally down in number this year as were **Wheatear** with only three records. There were reasonable numbers of **Stonechat** and **Whinchat** although there were no spring records of the latter. The star passerines were **Firecrest** in March and October and an exceptional four **Yellow-browed Warblers** during September and October.

Both male and female **Cuckoos** (including a rufous morph individual) were recorded throughout the spring and into summer but there was no confirmed breeding. There was one sighting of **Lesser Spotted Woodpecker**.

Thanks as always to the Stanford Ringing Group, Severn Trent and to all observers who have shared their sightings and images during 2024. Thanks also to Tim Mackrill for his help with the data on visiting Ospreys and to Barry Silverman for his excellent photographs of individual birds which enabled the ring reading to be more comprehensive.

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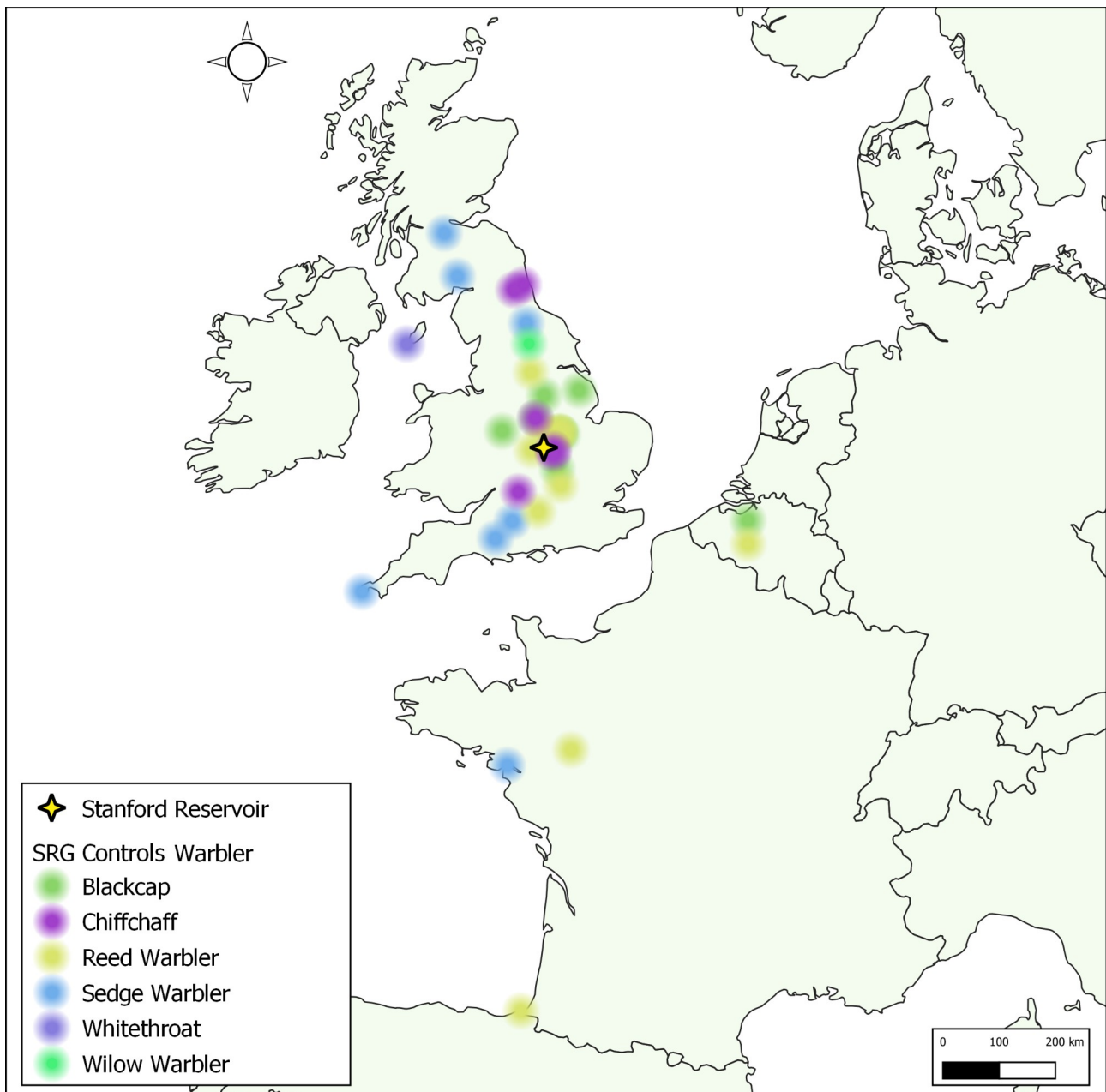
## Controls: Birds Ringed at Other Sites Processed at Stanford

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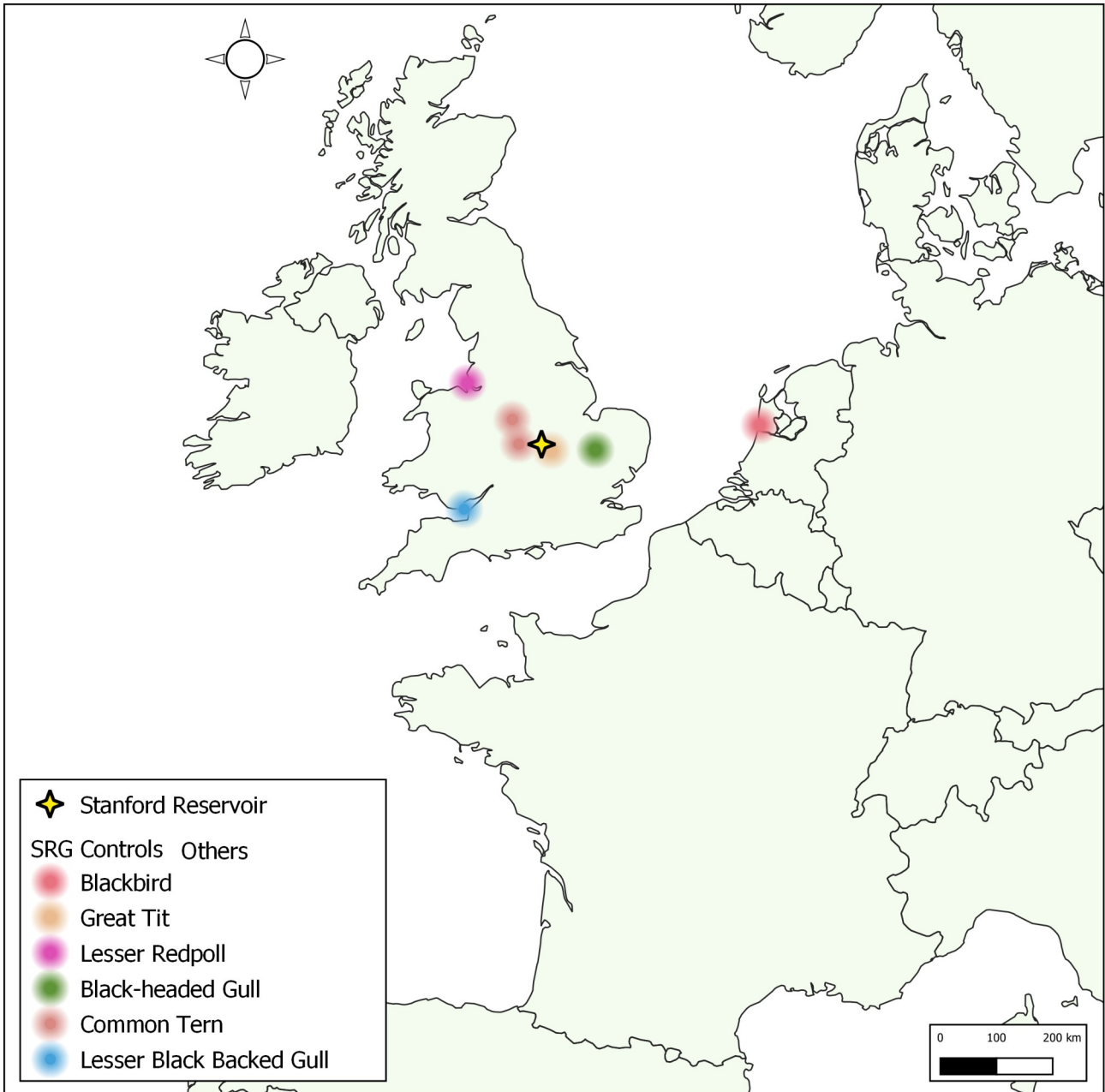
This section details the birds that were ringed at other sites which were subsequently controlled by the Stanford Ringing Group. All details were reported to the BTO, who then contacted the original ringing sites, both in the UK and abroad. As in previous years these birds largely followed the contour of the eastern edge of Europe as they headed south in Autumn. A notable exception is the Blackbird which very likely came to Stanford to escape the harsh continental weather.

Graphs kindly supplied by HJG, separated into 'Warblers' (our most frequent fliers abroad), and 'Non-Warblers'

### Warblers: Controls 2024



### Non Warblers: Controls 2024





### Full List of Controls

Species	Ring number	Date ringed	Site of Origin	Date controlled at Stanford	Time taken (days)	Distance to Stanford (km)
<b>Osprey</b>	1269401 Blue - 5H1	4-Jul-2022	Confidential, in Dorset	13-Jun-2024	710	202
<b>Osprey</b>	1380143 Blue - 3AY	22-Jul-2019	Confidential, near Rutland	17-Jul-2024	1822	43
<b>Osprey</b>	1474816 Blue - T3	23-Jun-2016	Confidential	30-Jul-2024	2959	49
<b>Osprey</b>	1380173 Blue - 1H5	25-Jun-2022	Confidential, near Rutland	12-Aug-2024	779	43
<b>Lesser Black Backed Gull</b>	FJ78869 Blue - F:B18	02-Jul-2022	Flat Holm, Cardiff	5-Jun-2024	704	181
<b>Black Headed Gull</b>	EM31137 White - 2AR1	25-Jun-2022	Kingfisher Bridge, Wicken, Cambs	22-Aug-2024	789	92
<b>Common Tern</b>	SK00627 Black - A34	29-Jun-2022	Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire	18-Jul-2024	750	70
<b>Common Tern</b>	ST82161 Black - C71	15-Jun-2021	Marsh Lane Reserve, nr Hampton in Arden,	18-Jul-2024	1129	40
<b>Blackbird</b>	L613777	20-Nov-2023	Oude Schulpweg, Castricum, Noord-Holland	28-Nov-2023	8	386
<b>Blackcap</b>	18261592	24-Sep-2023	Hamme Sint Anna, Oost-Vlaanderen	10-Oct-2023	16	390
<b>Blackcap</b>	ABX3328	11-Aug-2024	Budby Corner Plantations, Carburton, near Worksop	29-Aug-2024	18	91
<b>Blackcap</b>	AEZ7906	7-Sep-2023	Witches Oak, Derbyshire	13-Apr-2024	219	51
<b>Blackcap</b>	AVH5347	7-Jul-2024	Donington-on-Bain, Lincolnshire	14-Sep-2024	69	120
<b>Blackcap</b>	AYX0771	18-Aug-2024	Linford Lakes Nature Reserve, Milton Keynes	26-Aug-2024	8	45
<b>Blackcap</b>	BXB2585	30-Aug-2024	Lagoon 3 CES site, Rutland Water, Rutland	31-Aug-2024	1	38
<b>Blackcap</b>	BXC1876	7-Sep-2024	North Luffenham Airfield, Rutland	14-Sep-2024	7	41
<b>Blackcap</b>	BZE7754	21-Aug-2024	Belvide Reservoir, Staffordshire	14-Sep-2024	24	79
<b>Whitethroat</b>	BCB8246	6-May-2024	Calf of Man, Isle of Man	30-Aug-2024	116	306
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	9269857	3-Sep-2023	Tour aux Moutons, Donges, Loire-Atlantique	30-Jul-2024	331	572
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	ANH9452	10-Aug-2022	Squire's Down, Dorset	11-Aug-2024	732	183

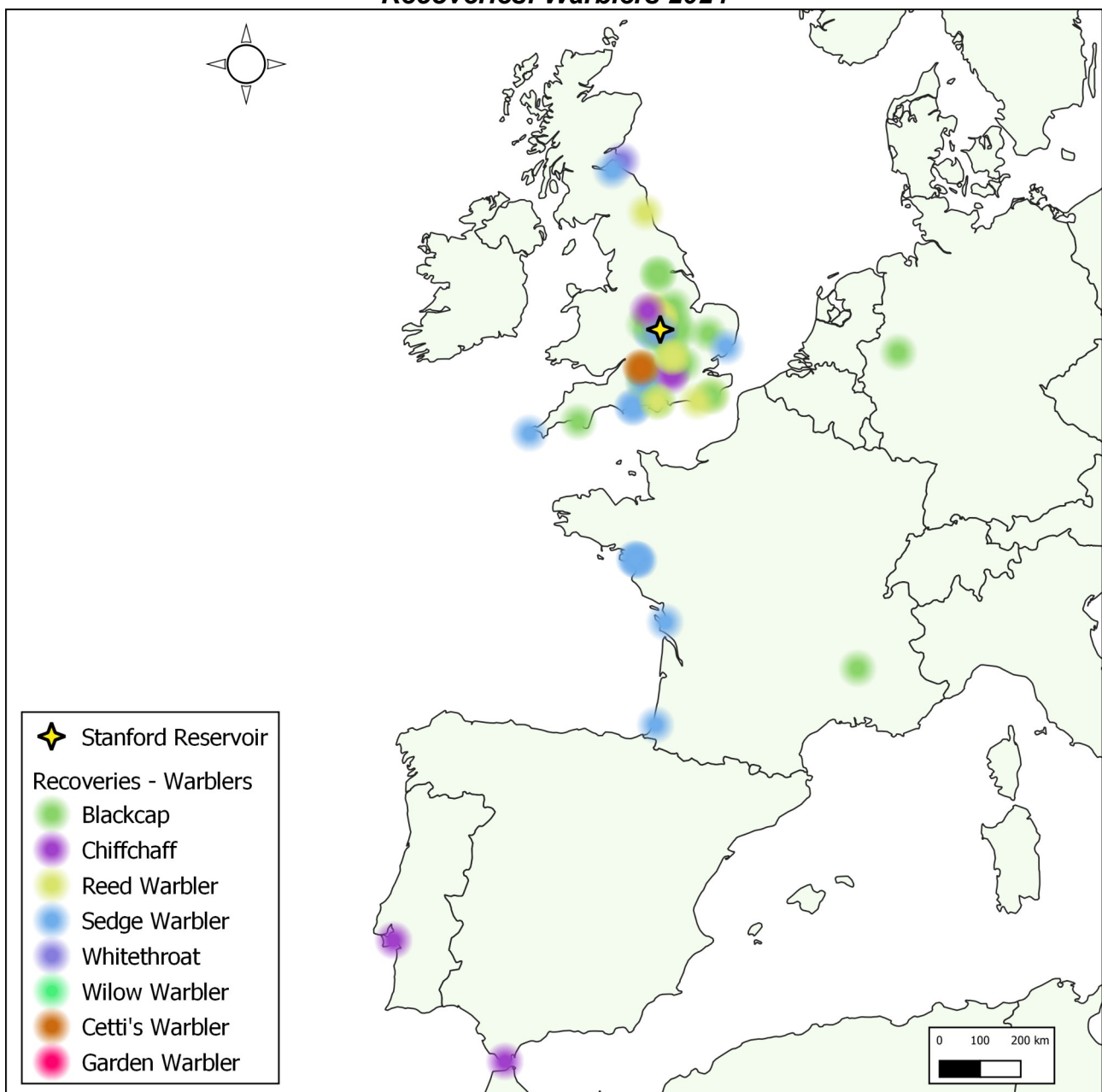
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	AFH1843	2-Aug-2022	Cumrue Loch, Dumfries and Galloway	13-Aug-2024	1472	343
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	AYZ9320	7-Aug-2023	Westdown Plantation, Wiltshire	7-Aug-2024	366	143
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BJB3671	20-Jul-2024	Glebe Farm, Salsburgh, North Lanarkshire	27-Jul-2024	7	420
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BPE8631	28-Jul-2024	Nanjizal, Land's End, Cornwall	30-Jul-2024	2	413
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BTD4313	3-Aug-2024	Pepper Arden, North Yorkshire	17-Aug-2024	14	224
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	18254611	17-May-2024	Herne, Brabant, Belgium	27-Jul-2024	71	401
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	9086806	8-Aug-2023	Noyant, Soulaire-et- Bourg, Maine-et-Loire	11-Jul-2024	338	542
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	9379193	6-Sep-2023	Domaine d'Abbadia, Hendaye, Aquitaine, Pyrénées-Atlantiques	13-Jul-2024	311	1007
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	ABZ7721	14-Sep-2022	Brandon Marsh, Warwickshire	18-May-2024	612	23
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	AJN8771	31-Jul-2021	Winterset Reservoir, Wakefield, W Yorks	08-Jun-2024	1043	135
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	ALY6251	13-Aug-2023	Wilstone Reservoir, near Tring, Herts	27-Jul-2024	349	74
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	ANZ5034	3-May-2023	Lagoon 3 CES site, Rutland Water, Rutland	13-Jul-2024	437	38
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	BDB3588	28-Jul-2024	Thatcham Marsh LNR West Berkshire	26-Aug-2024	29	115
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	BXB2474	26-Jul-2024	Lagoon 3 CES site, Rutland Water, Rutland	26-Aug-2024	31	38
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	BXB2552	11-Aug-2024	Lagoon 3 CES site, Rutland Water, Rutland	21-Aug-2024	10	38
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	BZB5112	16-May-2024	Watermead CP, Leicestershire	13-Jul-2024	58	30
<b>Willow Warbler</b>	KVK468	16-Aug-2022	Weather Hills Pond, North Yorkshire	13-Aug-2024	728	187
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	AJV527	22-Jul-2024	Harrington Airfield, Northamptonshire	27-Aug-2024	36	17
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	APH864	28-Feb-2023	Fairford STW, Gloucestershire	12-Oct-2023	225	93
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	JHN751	19-Jun-2022	Gosforth Park, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Tyne and Wear	22-Oct-/2024	856	291
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	NPL146	17-Aug-2022	Pitsford Reservoir, Northants	29-Jul-2024	712	20
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	PBT985	15-Jul-2024	Mickley Square, Northumberland	28-Sep-2024	75	286
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	PEP337	31-Aug-2024	Witches Oak, Derbyshire	25-Sep-2024	25	51

<b>Great Tit</b>	TA78980	10-Aug-2024	Pitsford Reservoir, Northants	26-Oct-2024	77	21
<b>Lesser Redpoll</b>	AZT9131	18-May-2024	Bidston, Merseyside	16-Nov-2024	182	170

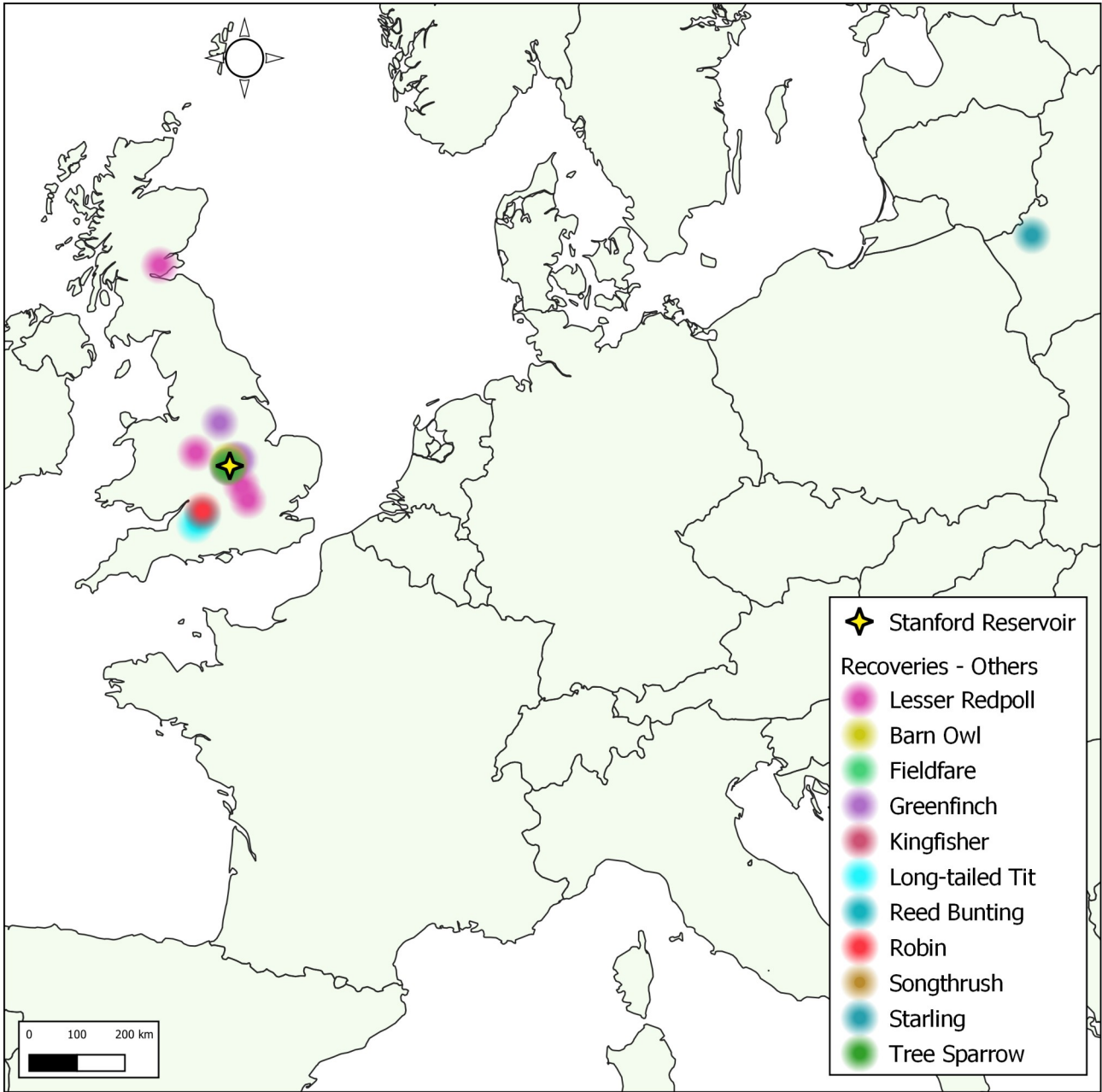
## Recoveries: Stanford Birds Processed at Other Sites

This section details the birds that were ringed by the SRG, and which were subsequently trapped and processed by other sites; or Stanford birds which were found by members of the public and were subsequently reported to the BTO. Special thanks are due to the intrepid metal detectorists of Swinford, who found two of our rings! This year, as happens on occasion, two birds went east; one Blackcap into Germany near Dortmund, and one Starling into Belarus near Minsk! As in previous years, most of the birds followed the Atlantic coast in autumn and headed south:

### Recoveries: Warblers 2024



### Recoveries: Non- Warblers 2024



### Total List Recoveries

Species	Ring number	Date ringed	Site Recovered	Date retrapped	Time taken (days)	Distance to Stanford (km)
<b>Barn Owl</b>	GJ74788	7-Jul-2024	Dunton Bassett, Leicestershire	23-Sep-2024	108	11
<b>Barn Owl</b>	GJ74821	8-Jul-2022	Fleckney, Leicestershire	17-Jun-2024	710	2
<b>Kingfisher</b>	SH24825	30-Jul-2024	Stanford on Avon, Northants	12-Aug-2024	13	4
<b>Fieldfare</b>	LC98665	21-Dec-2013	Swinford, Leicestershire <i>-found by metal detectorists</i>	12-Apr-2024	3764	5
<b>Song Thrush</b>	RZ94746	12-Oct-2024	Portland Bill, Dorset	7-Nov-2024	26	231
<b>Robin</b>	BCD3194	13-Sep-2024	Somerford Common, Wilts	14-Sep-24	92	109
<b>Cetti's Warbler</b>	ADF5505	21-Sep-2019	Sewage Treatment Works, Swindon	21-May-2023	1338	108
<b>Blackcap</b>	ADF9920	26-08-2021	Lea Marston, Warwickshire	6-May-2024	984	42
<b>Blackcap</b>	AXV2278	28-Aug-2022	Belton Estate, Lincolnshire	20-May-2024	631	66
<b>Blackcap</b>	AXV3691	13-Sep-2022	Clearfell, Nth Yorks	10-Jul-/2024	637	137
<b>Blackcap</b>	AXV7745	25-Jul-2023	Huckarde, Dortmund, Arnsberg, Germany	16-Jul-2024	296	558
<b>Blackcap</b>	AXV9937	24-Aug-2023	Linford Lakes NR, Milton Keynes	29-Jun-2024	310	45
<b>Blackcap</b>	BCD2554	18-Sep-2024	Roynac, Drôme, France	10-Nov-2024	53	973
<b>Blackcap</b>	BCD3287	13-Sep-2024	North Luffenham Airfield, Rutland	15-Sep-2024	2	41
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA0728	16-Sep-2023	Kitley Marsh, Devon	30-Sep-2023	14	308
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA1268	28-Aug-2023	Hilfield, Elstree, Hertfordshire	18-Apr-2024	234	101
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA1644	31-Aug-2023	Old Weston Cambridgeshire	17-May-2024	260	49
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA3400	13-Sep-2023	Haxton Down, Wiltshire	23-Sep -2023	10	136
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA4297	15-Sep-2023	Daventry, Northants	9-Apr-2024	207	19
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA4374	15-Sep-2023	Lackford Lakes SWT Reserve, Suffolk	24-May-2024	252	117
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA5212	27-Sep-2023	Wilstone Reservoir, near Tring, Hertfordshire	29-Sep-2024	368	74
<b>Blackcap</b>	BEA8456	27-Aug-2024	Icklesham, Sussex, East Sussex	4-Sep-2024	8	208

<b>Blackcap</b>	BCD1047	31-Aug-2024	Badbury, Swindon	13-Sep-2024	13	109
<b>Blackcap</b>	BCD3390	13-Sep-2024	Titchfield Haven National NR, Hampshire	20-Sep-2024	7	180
<b>Garden Warbler</b>	BEA8878	28-Aug-2024	Church Langton, Leicestershire	2-Sep-2024	5	16
<b>Whitethroat</b>	AXV1548	25-Aug-2022	Isle of May, Fife	5-May-2023	253	427
<b>Whitethroat</b>	AXV7816	25-Jul-2023	South Kilworth, Leicestershire	15-Jul-/2024	256	2
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	ADF9141	7-Aug-2021	Brandon Marsh, Warwickshire	2-Jun-2024	1022	23
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	AXV8462	7-Aug-2023	near Prestonpans, East Lothian	6-Jul-2024	334	310
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BCD0013	10-Aug-2024	Reserve du Migron, Frossay, Loire-Atlantique, France	22-Aug-2024	12	575
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA2711	29-Jun-2024	Levington Creek, Suffolk	5-Aug-2024	37	166
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA6326	29-Jul-2024	Casier Barrage- Marais D'Orx, Labenne, Landes, France	18-Aug-2024	20	984
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA6482	30-Jul-2024	Carey Floodplain, Dorset	31-Jul-2024	1	205
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA9044	27-Jul-2024	Nanjizal, Land's End, Cornwall	31-Jul-2024	4	413
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA9330	11-Aug-2024	Haxton Down, Wiltshire	18-Aug-2024	7	136
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA9228	4-Aug-2024	Westdown Plantation, Wiltshire	11-Aug-2024	7	143
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEE5821	4-Aug-2024	Carey Floodplain, Stour	15-Aug-2024	11	205
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEE5861	4-Aug-2024	Plaisance, Saint Froult, Charente Maritime, France	10-Aug-2024	6	724
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA9408	11-Aug-2024	Tour aux Moutons, Donges, Loire Atlantique, France	22-Aug-2024	11	572
<b>Sedge Warbler</b>	BEA7132	2-Aug-2024	Tour aux Moutons, Donges, Loire Atlantique, France	21-Aug-2024	19	572
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	AXK7063	6-Aug-2022	Watermead CP, Leicestershire	10-May-2024	643	30
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	AXV8676	10-Aug-2023	Attenborough NR, Nottinghamshire	9-Jun-2024	304	54
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	AXV9109	16-Aug-2023	Gosforth Park, Newcastle-upon-Tyne	4-Aug-2024	354	291
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	BEA7292	7-Aug-2024	Icklesham, Sussex, East Sussex	8-Aug-2024	1	208
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	BEA9041	27-Jul-2024	Litlington, East Sussex	25-Aug-2024	29	201

<b>Reed Warbler</b>	BRA7502	29-Jul-2023	Wilstone Reservoir, near Tring, Hertfordshire	18-Aug-2024	354	74
<b>Reed Warbler</b>	S668193	23-Jul-2019	Kelham Bridge, Leicestershire	27-May-2024	1770	37
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	LXA888	8-Sep-2022	Willington Wetlands NR Derbyshire	04-May-2024	604	52
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	NET088	15-Sep-2022	Quinta da Atalaia, Setúbal, Spain	19-Nov-2023	430	1637
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	NEV390	3-Dec-2022	Burnham Abbey, Slough	31-Oct-2024	698	107
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	PKV133	21-Sep-2023	El Arraez Bajo, Tarifa, Cádiz	16-Nov-2023	56	1846
<b>Chiffchaff</b>	RAH538	18-Sep-2024	Jealott's Hill, Bracknell Forest, Berkshire	29-Sep-2024	11	110
<b>Long Tailed Tit</b>	PKX794	29-Oct-2024	Biss Wood, Wiltshire	22-Nov-2024	24	144
<b>Starling</b>	LE68230	20-Nov-2023	Shpil'ki, Minsk O., Belarus	15-Jun-2024	207	1905
<b>Tree Sparrow</b>	TX80465	3-Jun-2017	Swinford, Leicestershire <i>-found by metal detectorists</i>	13-Apr-2024	2506	5
<b>Lesser Redpoll</b>	BEA2999	23-Oct-2023	Milton Keynes, Northants	26-Mar-2024	155	52
<b>Lesser Redpoll</b>	BEA5311	25-Oct-2023	Milnathort, Perth & Kinross	6-Apr-2024	164	449
<b>Lesser Redpoll</b>	BEA5340	25-Oct-2023	Brewood Park Farm, Staffs	8-Apr-2024	166	76
<b>Lesser Redpoll</b>	BEA5611	14-Oct-2023	Berkhamsted, Herts	16-Mar-2024	154	83
<b>Greenfinch</b>	TX27675	25-Oct-2022	Chesterfield, Derbyshire	9-May-2024	562	92
<b>Greenfinch</b>	TX28147	12-Oct-2023	Catthorpe, Leicestershire	18-Jun-2024	25-0	7
<b>Greenfinch</b>	TX28718	4-Nov-2022	Nevill Holt, Mkt Harborough, Leicestershire	18-Aug-2024	652	23
<b>Reed Bunting</b>	AXV7756	25-Jul-2023	Hilmarton, Wiltshire	27-Jan-2024	186	118



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## Group Members in 2024

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**Key:**

- A permit holder:** Fully qualified, can ring independently
- S (supervisor) permit holder:** As 'A', can also train and assess ringers
- C (conditional) permit holder:** Can ring without supervision with agreement of S permit holder

- Mick Townsend (MJT) Co-founder, Ringer in Charge, S permit ringer
- Adam G Homer (AGH) Group Secretary, Nest Recorder, S permit ringer,
- David Neal (DMN) Group Treasurer, S permit ringer
- Dawn Sheffield (DS1) A permit ringer
- Peter Norrie (PMN) S permit ringer
- Gavin Bennet (GBE) A permit ringer
- Kate Moore (KEM) S permit ringer
- Ed Tyler (ERT) S permit ringer
- Stuart Heath (SH) C permit ringer
- Jo Underwood (JLU) C permit ringer
- Heather Gilbert (HJG) C permit ringer
- Jade Gunnell (JLG) C permit ringer
- Theo De Clermont (TDC) Trainee ringer
- Emily Bertin (EMB) Trainee ringer
- Josh Sollitt (JES) Trainee ringer
- Chris Hubbard (CH) Sightings Officer
- Chris Begley Group Helper
- Peter Bateup Group Helper

**Credits**

- *Edited by PMN*
- *Posted by Mike Haigh*