

## Ashleworth Ham Nature Reserve Ringing Report 2016



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# Introduction

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The Constant Effort Sites (CES) scheme is the first national standardised ringing programme within the [BTO Ringing Scheme](#) and has been running since 1983. Ringers operate the same nets in the same locations over the same time period at regular intervals through the breeding season at over 130 sites throughout Britain and Ireland.

The Scheme provides valuable trend information on abundance of adults and juveniles, productivity and also adult survival rates for 24 species of common songbird.

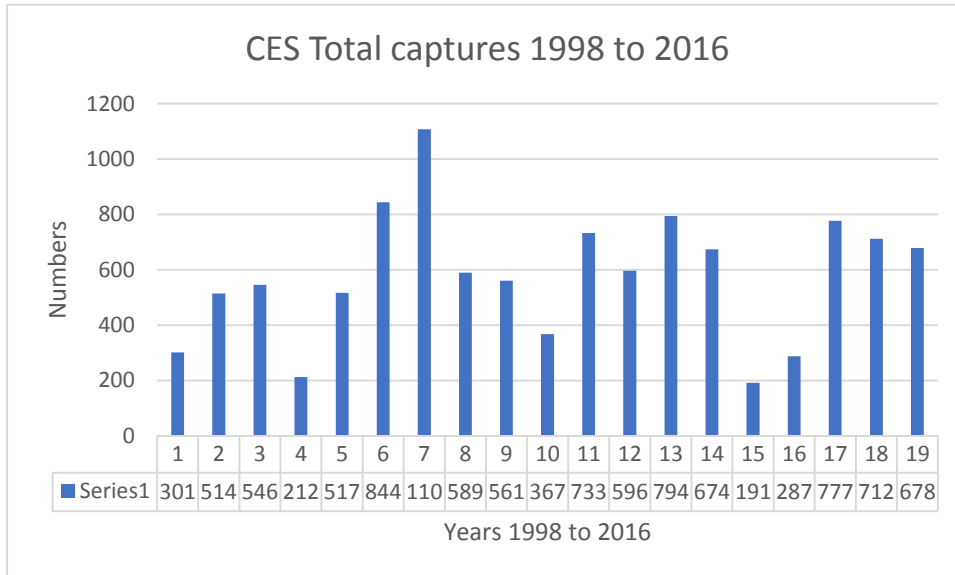
## Summary

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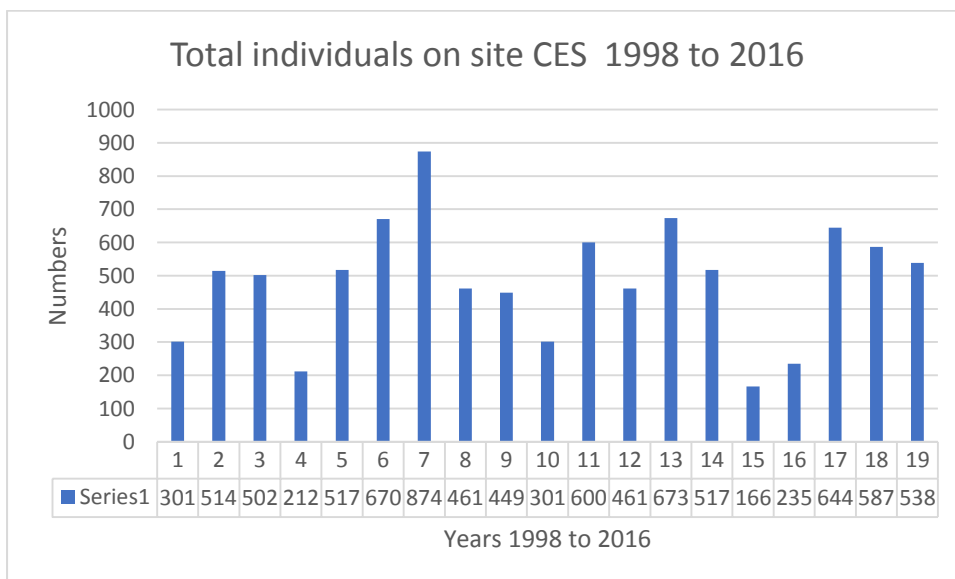
This was the nineteenth year of CES ringing at Ashleworth Ham, and twenty first since ringing recommenced at the site. All of the twelve timed visits were successfully completed, no additional visits were made during the CES period, and no preliminary visits were made in April. Nine autumn visits were made to monitor migration through the site. The same pattern of nets was used as last year. Preliminary visits were not possible due to the weather conditions, so monitoring of the arrival of the summer migrants, and recording the earlier starts to the breeding season being predicted by global warming was not possible this year.

Thirty one species of birds were handled in the area this year and the total of birds handled was once again over a thousand. No new species were added to the list this year, so the number of species encountered over the years remains at 50. See place totals Summary at end of report for full list of birds and numbers caught during the year at the end of the report.

The figure below shows the total numbers of birds trapped during the timed visits of CES. The cyclic pattern of “Boom and bust” continues with 2016 being a good year with 538 individual birds handled in the survey period, and the 678 birds handled in total is the 7<sup>th</sup> highest total. The overall figures give a rough overview of the season and its success or otherwise, but the species accounts below give a better insight into how the totals are made up.



Ringed birds allows individuals to be recognised, and the figure below shows the totals of known individuals present on the site each year during the CES period. It is no surprise that the shape of the two graphs is similar, as the majority of individuals each year are new birds, and as the number of birds with rings on from previous years varies, depending on adult survival, this explains any slight differences in the shape of the graphs



# BTO CES results 2016

The table below is produced by the BTO from the sites around the UK which carry out CES and have their data in early enough for this preliminary extract. This actually represents the majority of sites, so the figures are pretty reliable. It is from this data that the following species accounts will be compared with.

Table 1. Adult abundance and breeding success calculated from 2016 CES data. Figures represent a percentage change relative to the five-year average (2011–15), with lower and upper 95% Confidence Intervals given in brackets. Statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) positive and negative changes are highlighted in blue and red respectively. \* denotes a small sample size.

Species	Adult abundance change (%)		Productivity change (%)	
<b>Migrant warblers</b>				
Chiffchaff	<b>22</b>	<b>(14, 32)</b>	<b>-13</b>	<b>(-21, -5)</b>
Willow Warbler	-7	(-14, 1)	<b>15</b>	<b>(4, 28)</b>
Blackcap	<b>17</b>	<b>(10, 23)</b>	<b>-47</b>	<b>(-51, -42)</b>
Garden Warbler	-5	(-16, 8)	<b>-20</b>	<b>(-35, -2)</b>
Lesser Whitethroat*	<b>29</b>	<b>(7, 56)</b>	-19	(-39, 7)
Whitethroat	<b>-12</b>	<b>(-20, -2)</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>(-27, -4)</b>
Sedge Warbler	<b>13</b>	<b>(5, 21)</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>(-25, -7)</b>
Reed Warbler	<b>23</b>	<b>(17, 29)</b>	<b>-29</b>	<b>(-33, -23)</b>
<b>Resident tits</b>				
Blue Tit	<b>-11</b>	<b>(-18, -4)</b>	<b>-31</b>	<b>(-38, -23)</b>
Great Tit	-7	(-15, 3)	<b>-22</b>	<b>(-31, -11)</b>
Willow Tit*	<b>99</b>	<b>(13, 251)</b>	-10	(-56, 82)
Long-tailed Tit	8	(-2, 20)	<b>-13</b>	<b>(-24, -1)</b>
<b>Other residents</b>				
Cetti's Warbler*	<b>65</b>	<b>(37, 100)</b>	<b>-27</b>	<b>(-46, -2)</b>
Treecreeper*	19	(-8, 53)	-20	(-43, 11)
Wren	<b>39</b>	<b>(29, 50)</b>	<b>-22</b>	<b>(-29, -15)</b>
Blackbird	1	(-7, 9)	<b>-18</b>	<b>(-27, -7)</b>
Song Thrush	<b>26</b>	<b>(11, 42)</b>	<b>-26</b>	<b>(-40, -9)</b>
Robin	<b>36</b>	<b>(24, 49)</b>	<b>-21</b>	<b>(-29, -12)</b>
Duncock	<b>11</b>	<b>(2, 20)</b>	<b>-23</b>	<b>(-32, -14)</b>
Chaffinch	-6	(-17, 6)	<b>-23</b>	<b>(-37, -6)</b>
Greenfinch	4	(-15, 27)	<b>-63</b>	<b>(-75, -46)</b>
Goldfinch	6	(-10, 26)	5	(-22, 43)
Bullfinch	3	(-6, 13)	-12	(-24, 2)
Reed Bunting	5	(-6, 17)	6	(-13, 28)

# Ashleworth Percentage changes from average of the previous five years

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The smallness of the sample gives exaggerated changes compared with the national figures above, figures here are for comparison with national trends. The presence or absence of one or two successful nesting attempts in the site for some species can have a dramatic effect on our figures)

As can be seen from the tables above, some species at Ashleworth follow the national trends, but a number of them differ. The species accounts below give a better picture of what has been happening to populations at Ashleworth. Only those species of which we catch reasonable numbers are looked at in detail.

**Table 1: Ashleworth Percentage changes from average of previous five years. Note: Black = positive change, Red = negative change**

<b>2016</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>Juvenile</b>
Wren	43	34
Dunnock	-33	45
Robin	65	57
Redstart	28	41
Chiffchaff	5	43
Willow Warbler	-40	70
Whitethroat	13	-47
Sedge Warbler	53	31
Long-tailed Tit	72	51
Blue Tit	20	-37
Great Tit	56	46
Reed Bunting	16	-39

# Species Accounts

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## Pictures of species in accounts



Sedge Warbler



Whitethroat



Male Reed Bunting



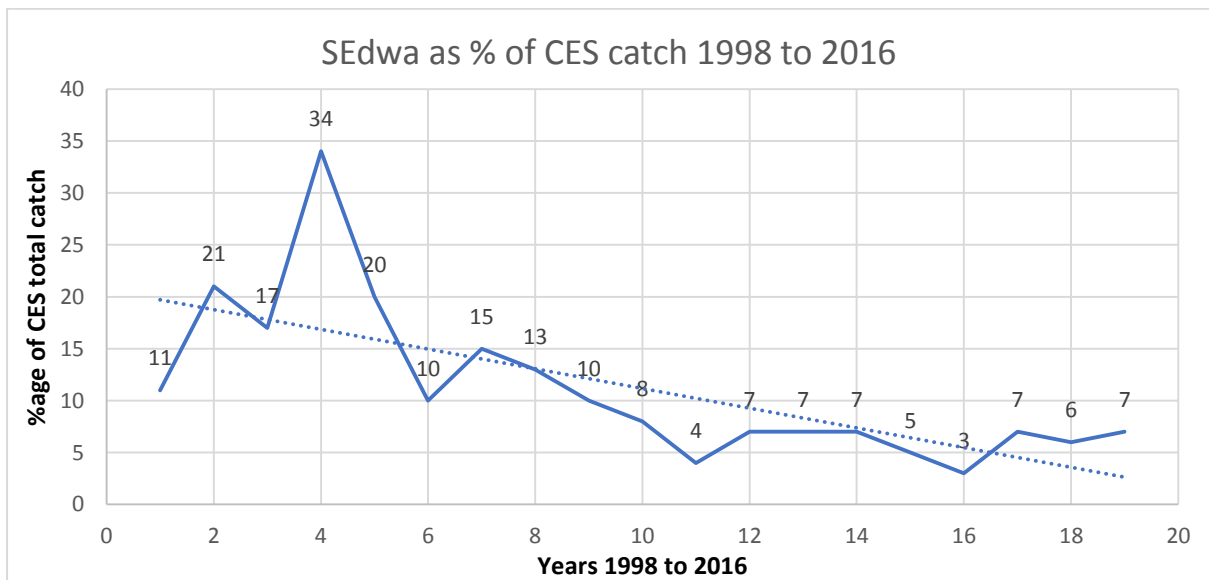
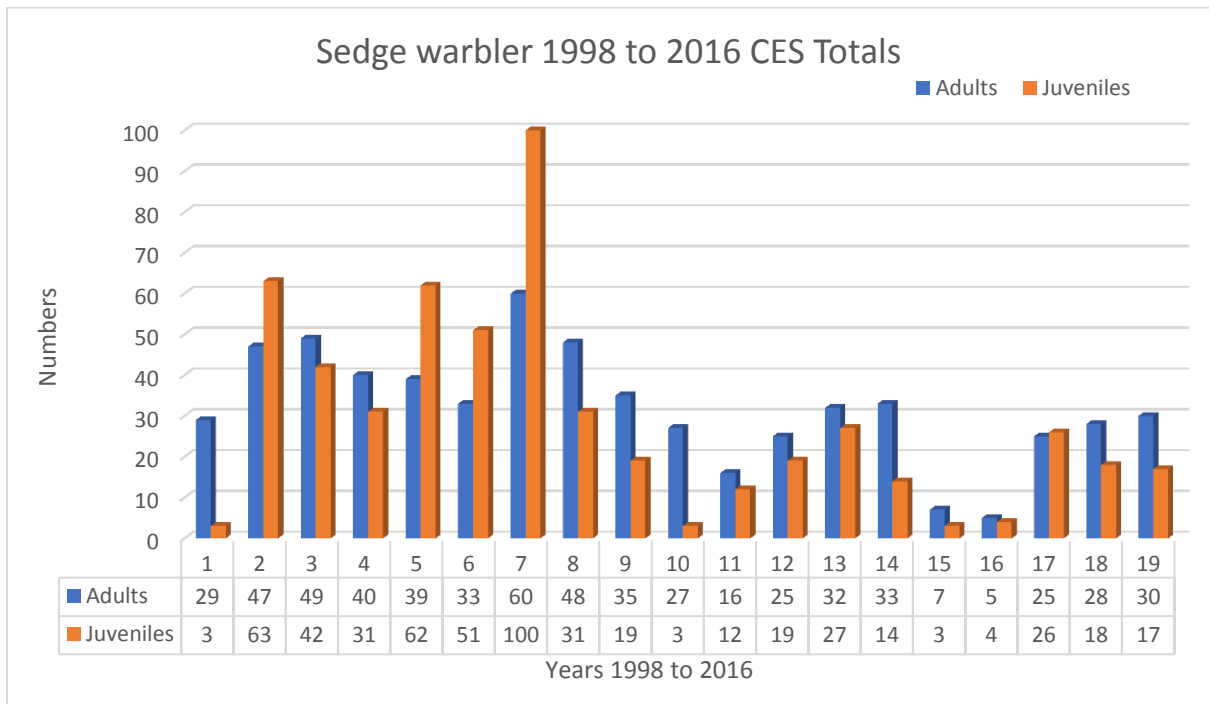
Willow Warbler



Female Reed Bunting

## Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

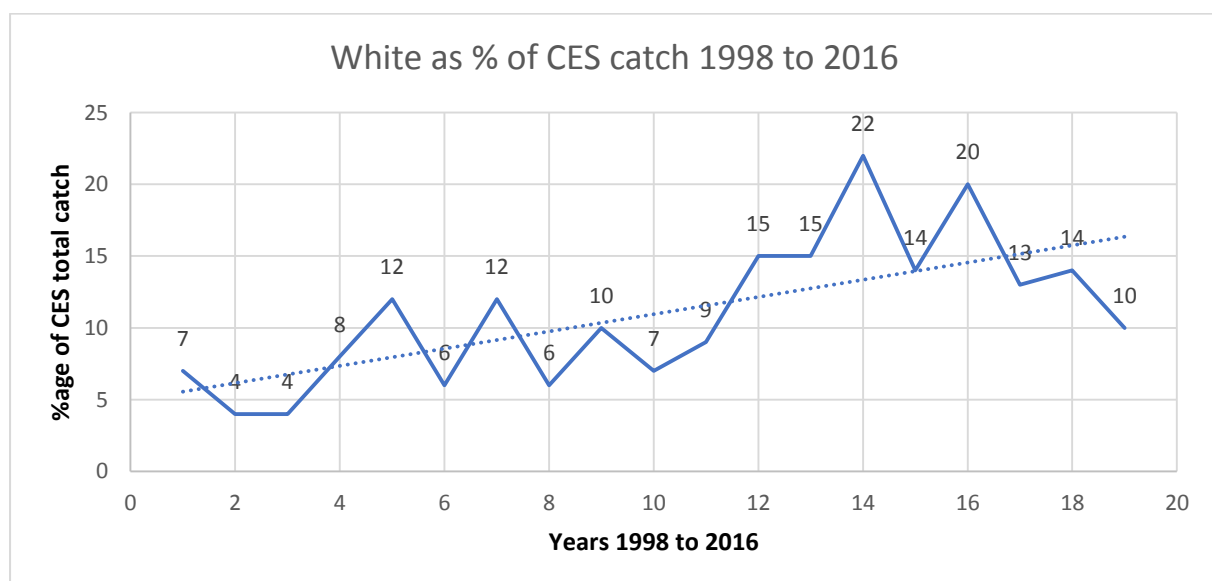
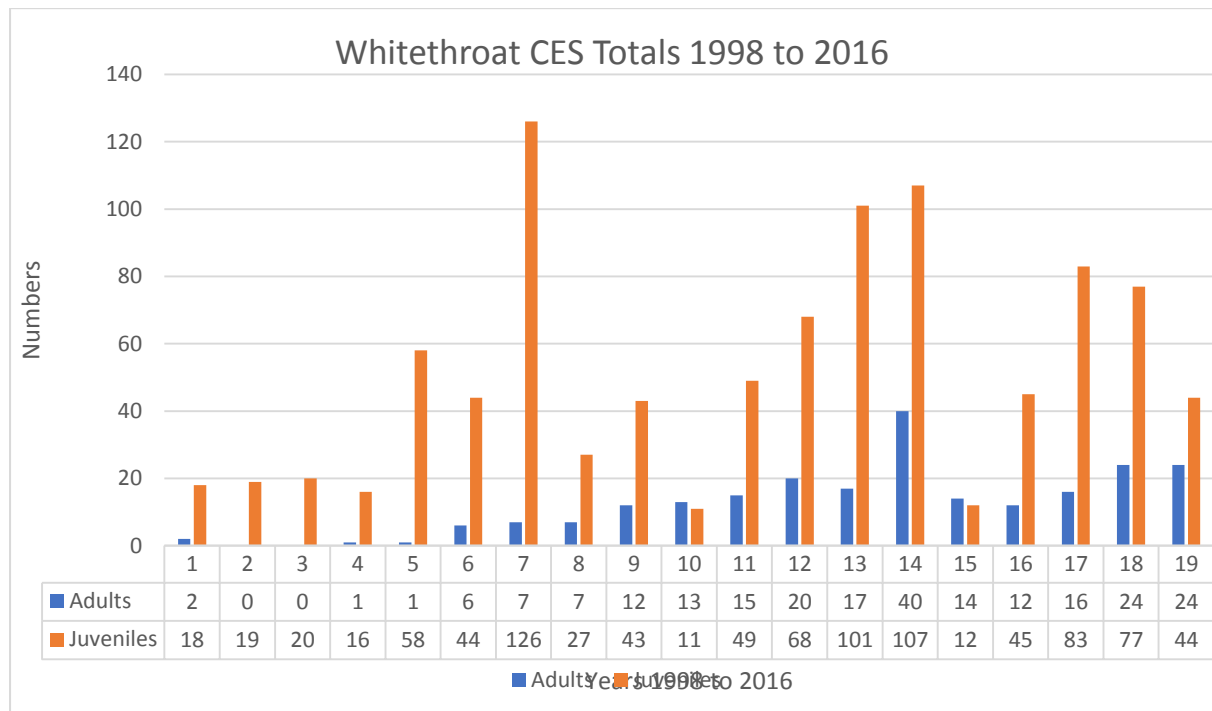
Sedge Warblers appear to be maintaining their population of recent years, and mirror the national trend with a slight increase in adult survival and despite the low numbers of juveniles, apparently doing slightly better than the national picture. They remain, however, below 10% of the total catch, where up to 2004, they had always been 10% or more of the catch.





## Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*

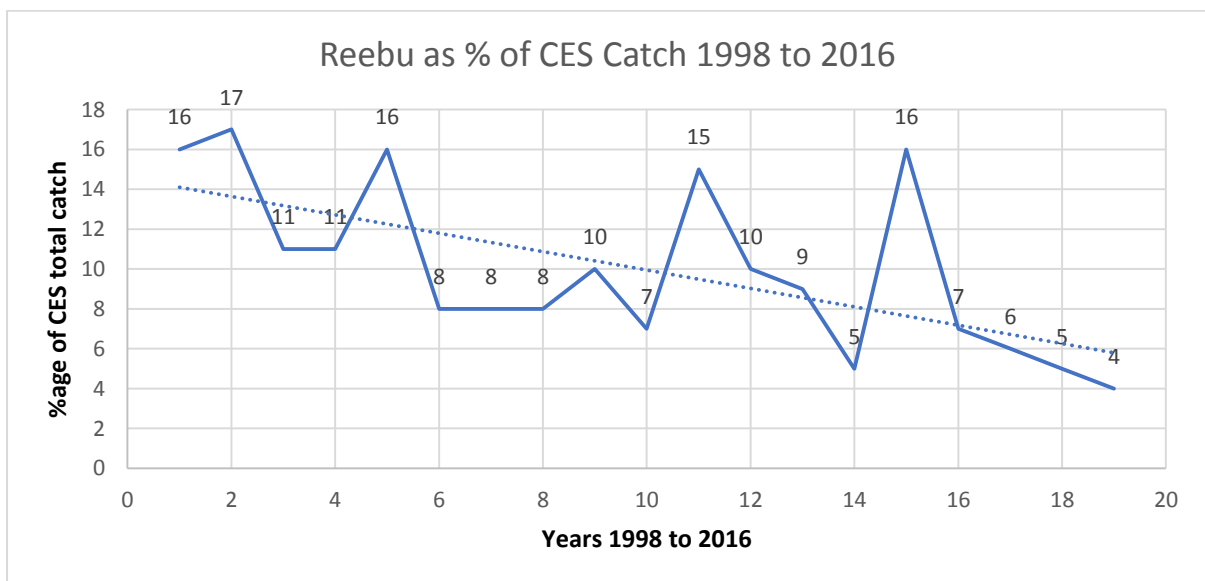
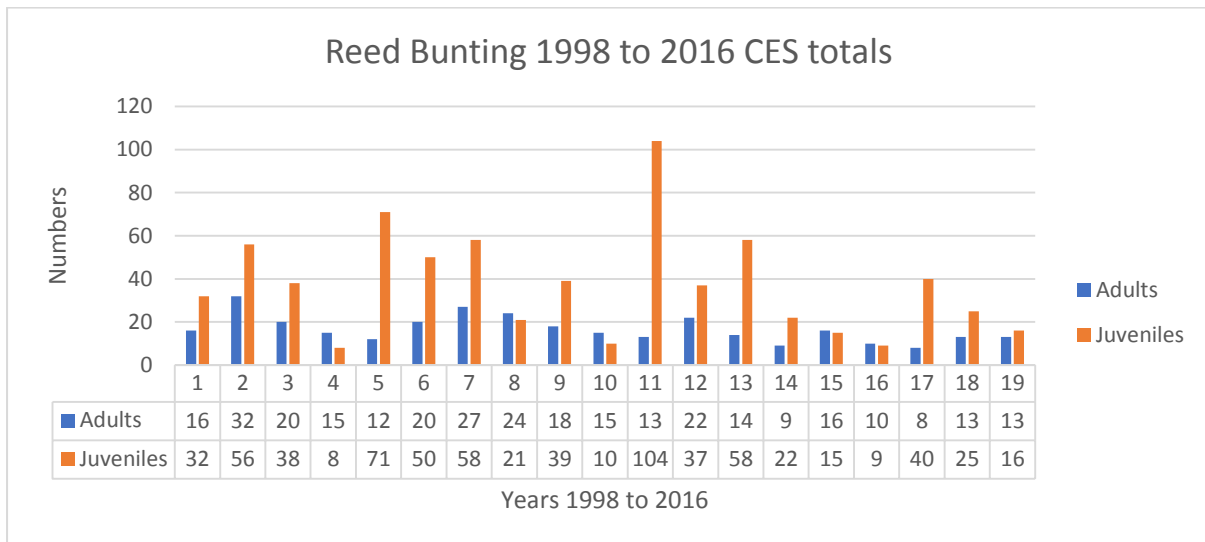
Once breeding had started on the site in 2001 to 2003, the numbers of adults climbed to a peak in 2011, and now appear to be cyclic. With the development of breeding on site, their numbers have done the opposite to Sedge Warblers, and are now the dominant species on the site, and have not been less than 10% of the catch since 2007. Adult survival at Ashleworth appears to buck the national trend, whereas juvenile figures mirror the national figures, with adults maintaining their numbers and are above the previous five-year average, whilst juveniles are 47% below the previous five-year average. Whitethroat numbers now appear to be entering a cycle much as the Sedge Warblers do.





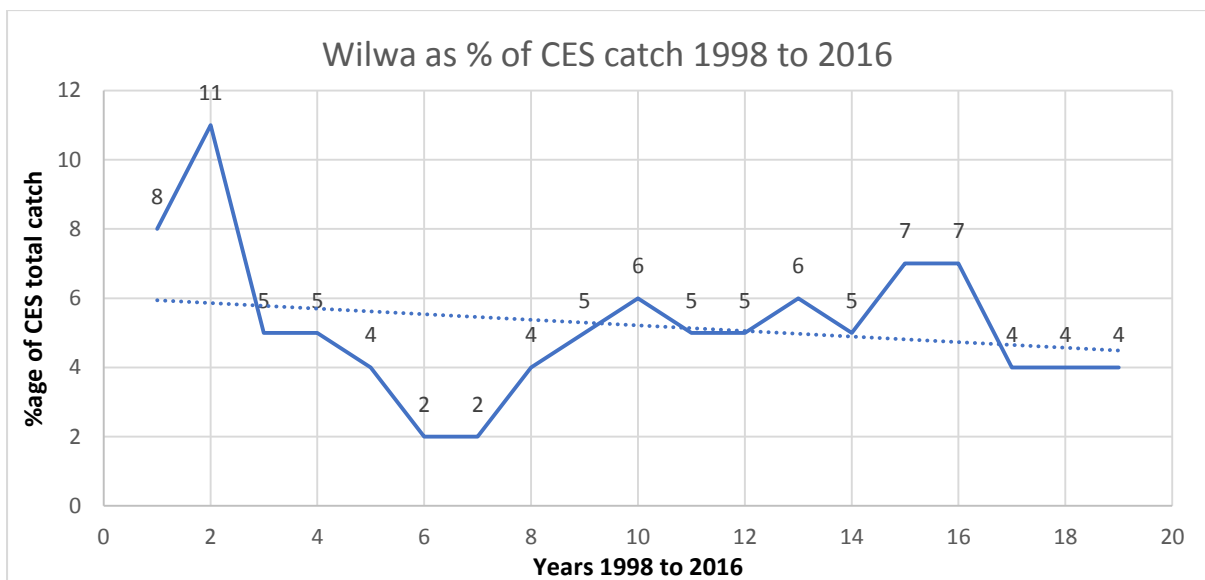
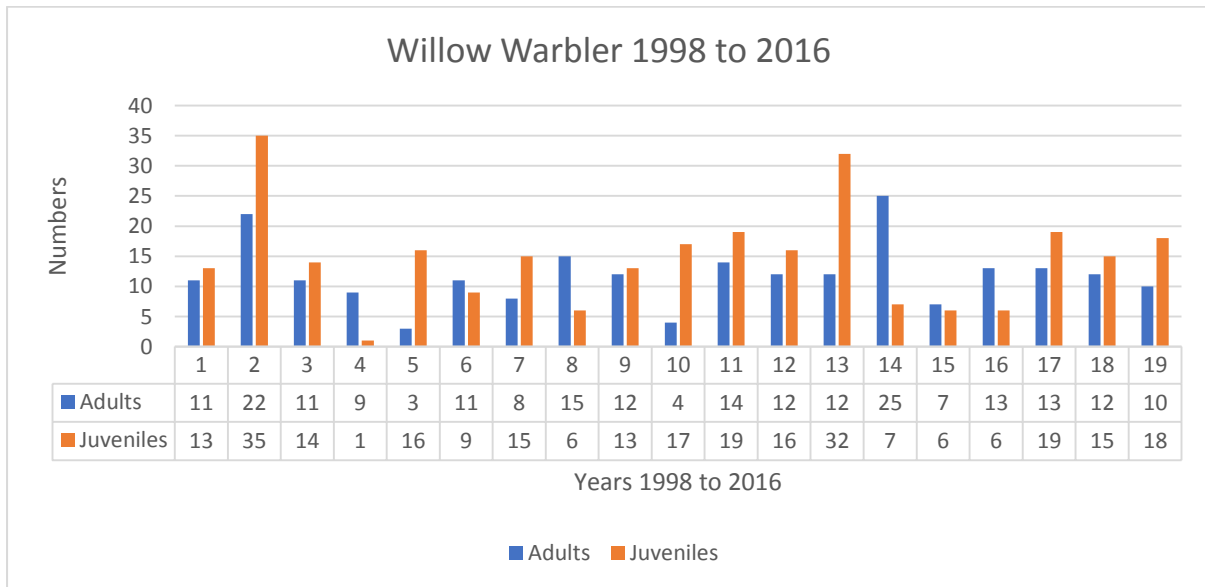
### Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*

The general decline of the Reed Bunting continues, despite a slight upturn in the fortunes of the adults (in keeping with national figures), the poor productivity is in contrast to national figures, and can't be blamed on the timing of the hay cut this year. Where once the Reed Bunting was a major element of the overall catch, it has declined to only 4%.



Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Willow Warblers at Ashleworth have stayed similar over the period, and the trend lines for numbers of adults is horizontal and for juveniles fractionally down. It is because of the rise in overall catch sizes in recent years that the trend for %age of catch is down. The trend for actual numbers is bucking the trend for Southern Britain, where Willow Warbler populations are in decline. The National figures above are skewed because the Willow Warbler is doing so well in Scotland.



# Appendices

## CES Submission Summary Sheet

Site No: **395** Ringer/Group: **Mervyn Greening** Year: **2016**

Site Name: **Hasfield Ham** County: **GBGL** SGrid Ref: **SO8326**

Habitat type: **E2 C6** Year started:

Standard CES Net Length (feet): **360**

Species	Visits 1 to 6			Visits 1 to 12			Additional Visits			Captures in CES season without a visit	Total
	Adult	Juv	Age 2	Adult	Juv	Age 2	Adult	Juv	Age 2		
KINGF	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRSWO	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WREN	6	1	0	7	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
DUNNO	3	4	0	4	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROBIN	2	9	0	4	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
REDST	7	1	0	12	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLABI	9	3	0	12	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
SONTH	2	3	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRAWA	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SEDWA	22	2	0	30	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
REEWA	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LESWH	4	3	0	4	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
WHITE	20	4	0	24	44	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLACA	5	0	0	17	9	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHIFF	4	9	0	4	42	0	0	0	0	0	0
WILWA	3	5	0	10	18	0	0	0	0	0	0
SPOFL	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
LOTTI	5	11	0	5	13	9	0	0	0	0	0
BLUTI	6	7	0	7	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRETI	8	11	0	10	22	0	0	0	0	0	0
TREEC	0	3	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHAFF	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GOLDF	5	5	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
LINNE	2	2	0	2	14	0	0	0	0	0	0
BULLF	6	0	0	9	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
REEBU	11	1	0	13	16	0	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

New Birds ringed during CES sessions: **487**

and additional nets/visits: **0**

## Visit Details

Total captures (in standard or additional nets) per visit were as follows:

Visit no.	Capture total	Date	Times (start-finish)	Footage of std net	Weather						Catch affected?	Notes/ additional nets
					First half of visit			2nd half of visit				
01	41	6/5	06:00-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 2	R 0	W 1	C 2	N	
02	26	15/5	05:00-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 1	R 0	W 1	C 1	N	
03	32	24/5	05:00-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 1	R 0	W 1	C 1	N	
04	36	7/6	04:40-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 1	R 0	W 0	C 2	N	
05	68	16/6	04:40-10:00	360	R 1	W 0	C 3	R 0	W 0	C 3	N	
06	75	25/6	04:30-10:00	360	R 1	W 1	C 3	R 1	W 1	C 3	N	
07	81	6/7	04:30-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 2	R 0	W 0	C 2	N	
08	68	14/7	05:00-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 1	R 0	W 0	C 1	N	
09	98	25/7	05:30-10:00	360	R 0	W 2	C 2	R 0	W 3	C 3	Y	
10	55	10/8	05:40-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 2	R 0	W 1	C 2	N	
11	59	23/8	05:00-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 1	R 0	W 1	C 1	N	
12	39	1/9	06:00-10:00	360	R 0	W 0	C 2	R 0	W 0	C 2	N	

Rain (R): 0 = None; 1 = Drizzle; 2 = Showers; 3 = Heavy  
 Wind (W): 0 = Calm; 1 = Light; 2 = Breezy; 3 = Strong

Additional nets - give footage and one of following codes:  
 a = all standard nets only  
 b = all standard nets and some additional nets  
 c = not all standard nets and some additional nets

## Totals Summary

	Full grown	Pulli	Retraps/ Recoveries	Total
Kestrel	1	0	0	1
Kingfisher	2	0	0	2
Great Spotted Woodpecker	2	0	0	2
Meadow Pipit	90	0	0	90
Wren	44	0	16	60
Duncock	26	0	18	44
Robin	21	0	7	28
Redstart	31	0	4	35
Stonechat	1	0	0	1
Blackbird	17	0	12	29
Song Thrush	12	0	4	16
Grasshopper Warbler	2	0	1	3
Sedge Warbler	40	0	35	75
Reed Warbler	4	0	0	4
Lesser Whitethroat	17	0	4	21
Whitethroat	58	0	34	92
Blackcap	33	0	9	42
Chiffchaff	68	0	7	75
Willow Warbler	28	0	6	34
Goldcrest	5	0	0	5
Spotted Flycatcher	1	0	0	1
Long-tailed Tit	42	0	31	73
Blue Tit	28	0	15	43
Great Tit	48	0	9	57
Treecreeper	7	0	2	9
Chaffinch	6	0	1	7
Goldfinch	176	0	3	179
Linnet	16	0	0	16
Lesser Redpoll	4	0	0	4
Bullfinch	23	0	22	45
Reed Bunting	71	3	20	94
<b>Total:</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>1187</b>

# Controls and recoveries

These are birds that have been caught at Ashleworth, then retrapped or found somewhere else, or caught somewhere else then retrapped at Ashleworth. The table below has nine columns.

Ring = the unique number on the bird's ring.

Species = the five letter code for birds used by the BTO ringing scheme, most are obvious, but the basic rule for decoding is: in birds with one word names the first 5 letters form the code, in birds with a two part name the first three letters are the first three letters of the first part of the name and the last two letters are the first two of the second part of the name, e.g. Great Tit = GRETI. Birds with three part names: the first word provides the first two letters, the second word the third and the third word the last two, e.g. Great Spotted Woodpecker = GRSWO. There are obvious exceptions because of duplications e.g. BLABI = Blackbird, and GREFI = Greenfinch. There are a few other exceptions, but are usually obvious.

Date ringed and date controlled are when the bird was ringed and when it was recaptured or found. The dates are shown as whole numbers with the year followed by the month followed by the day number. This gives dates with increasing value as time passes.

The sites are codes used by the BTO for computerisation purposes, so where the bird has been caught at a registered site there is a code. Ashleworth code = HAH.

Dist/dir= How far the bird has travelled in a straight line between site of ringing and recapture site, and direction is the compass direction from ringing site to recapture site. E.g. 219ksw means a distance of 219 kilometres in a south westerly direction.

Notes give a little explanation.

Ring	Species	Date ringed	Site ringed	Date controlled	Site controlled	Dist/dir.	Days	Notes
4M4081	CHIFF	990801	HAH	990918	BHS	219ksw	48	Beachy Head Sussex
FA90794	WOODP	20050603	HAH	20051105	Amblie	318Kse	155	Bird found dead in Calvados France.
N243165	SEDWA	970809	HAH	970901	FRANCE	523ks	23	Le Massereau Frossay LoireAtlantique
N243513	REEBU	970817	HAH	980222	HER	33kn	189	Grimley SO8360
N243614	GRETI	970907	HAH	980212	WOC	35ksw	158	FL Garden
N625608	BULLF	980816	HAH	990511	BOT	10kwnw	268	Road casualty botloes green near Newent
P377157	SEDWA	20000730	HAH	20000810	CVL	73kssw	11	Chew valley ringing station.
P377163	REEWA	20000730	HAH	20000830	RLD	147ks	31	Radipole Dave and Pete
R026555	REEBU	20020714	HAH	20021003	FOS	22Ksw	81	Frampton
R026581	SEDWA	20020714	HAH	20030424	SPAIN	1275Kssw	284	Between El Castell & El Pas Ulledecona
R026667	SEDWA	20020726	HAH	20020811	FRANCE	523Ks	16	Le Massereau Frossay LoireAtlantique
R026760	REEBU	20020818	HAH	20050626	LLT	8KNE	1043	I caught this at sand martin site
R026817	BULLF	20020826	HAH	20030514	Hartpury	4Kw	261	Hartpury. Found dead.
T020504	GRETI	20040613	HAH	20050126		24KWSW	227	J.Lewis Briery FOD
T020610	SEDWA	20040704	HAH	20040731	FOS	22KSSW	27	BHB
T020667	SEDWA	20040704	HAH	20040805	FRANCE	547KS	32	Mars-Ouest, St-Philbert-de-Grand-Lieu, Loire Atlantique, France.
T020689	SEDWA	20040704	HAH	20040804	FRANCE	514KS	31	Tour Aux Moutons, Doges, Loire Atlantique.
T020750	SEDWA	20040710	HAH	20040817	FRANCE	514KS	38	Tour Aux Moutons, Doges, Loire Atlantique.

Ring	Species	Date ringed	Site ringed	Date controlled	Site controlled	Dist/dir.	Days	Notes
T020765	REEBU	20040710	HAH	20041116	LPG	8KWSW	129	GRA lower parting
T020778	SEDWA	20040710	HAH	20040801	FRANCE	366KS	22	Mont Manet, Genets, Manche France
T021648	SEDWA	20040815	HAH	20040908	ICK	233KSE	24	Icklesham
T611527	SEDWA	20050803	HAH	20050812	ICK	233KSE	9	Icklesham
T021497	REEBU	20040805	HAH	20051224	BLA	105KS	506	Higher Nayland Somerset
V094239	REEBU	20060911	HAH	20070605	LPG	8KSW	267	Lower parting GRA
T321550	SEDWA	20050529	HAH	20070408	SPAIN	1165KSSE	679	Lerida Spain
V094353	GRETI	20061004	HAH	20061216		9KNE	73	Dead walton cardiff Tewkesbury
X246295	SEDWA	20080712	HAH	20080721	ICK	233KSE	9	Icklesham
V739827	BLUTI	20071015	HAH	20071217	LPG	8KSW	63	GRA at lower parting
X372814	REDPO	20081018	HAH	20090413		118KSSE	177	nr Romsey Hampshire
X853611	REEBU	20090926	HAH	20100319	NAN	320KSW	174	Nanjizal Lands end.
X853729	REEBU	20091004	HAH	20091212	GLE	25KNE	69	Glenmore farm Wick, Worcs.
X853580	REEBU	20090926	HAH	20091227	GLE	25KNE	92	Glenmore farm Wick, Worcs.
X853505	SEDWA	20090920	HAH	20090927	ICK	233KSE	7	Icklesham
X700883	REEBU	20090919	HAH	20091214	GRM	34KN	86	Grimley SO8360
L518394	BLUTI	20100804	HAH	20101105		5KSSE	62	Cat kill Down Hatherley
DS81467	SPARR	20080827	HAH	20100914		4KS	747	Dead at Sandhurst.
X700718	WHITE	20090704	HAH	20110419		1245KS	654	Spain Mirafloresde la Sierra
X853532	REEBU	20090920	HAH	20120201	GLE	25KNE	864	Glenmore farm Wick, Worcs.
FH00266	WIGEO	20060129	HAH	20060510		4479KENE	101	Shot in Russia
FH00258	WIGEO	20060129	HAH	20110421		2770KE	1908	Shot in Russia
EW36355	HOBBY	20100801	HAH	20130610	Walford	63KNW	1044	Found dead under Red Kite Nest
FH00258	WIGEO	20060129	HAH	20110421	Moscow	2770KE	1908	Shot
D639889	REEBU	20130924	HAH	20131201	GLE	25KNE	68	Pete Holmes Glenmore Farm, Wick, Worcs.
D639885	BLACA	20130924	HAH	20131003	ICK	233kese	9	Rye bay ringing group.
HLC168	LOTTI	20141015	HAH	20150309	Churchdown	10kSE	145	Dead headless.
FA90793	WOODP	20050603	HAH	20150731	Ashleworth	3ksw	3710	Shot. Both siblings known about Ringed as pulli
Z656771	LESWH	20150723	HAH	20160612	MSF	19kN	325	Poolbrook water works Worcs.
Z867190	LERPO	20151008	HAH	20160508	HILBRE	173kNNW	213	Hillbre bird obs.
D759465	WHITE	20140605	HAH	20160804	Ashleworth	3kSW	791	Cat Kill
R259275	SEDWA	20030807	ICK	20040502	HAH	233KNW	269	Icklesham
R510217	REEWA	20030811	LEM	20040613	HAH	251ks	307	Ringed as 3j Leighton Moss breeding male at HAH
VS93610	GREFI	20000108	CVL	20000707	HAH	73knne	181	Chew valley ringing station
CAN429	WILWA	20070811	LPG	20080529	HAH	8KNE	292	GRA at lower parting
V165723	REEWA	20070603	WIL	20080624	HAH	108KW	387	wilstone res. Tring Herts.
BNC996	WILWA	20070504	LPG	20080615	HAH	8KNE	408	GRA at lower parting
V948790	SEDWA	20090818	USK	20100605	HAH	67KNE	291	Usk Mouth Goldcliff RG
V680118	GRAWA	20090829	TFH	20100515	HAH	143KNW	259	Titchfield Haven Hants.
V582944	MEAPI	20070907	ORF	20100818	HAH	262KW	1077	Orfordness Suffolk
5528120	SEDWA	20080731		20110603	HAH	514KN	1037	Donges Loire France
6037251	SEDWA	20090727	Loire	20100424	HAH	514KN	271	Donges Loire France
Y279058	MEAPI	20110820	MHF	20130905	HAH	219ks	746	Fylde RG Lancs.
L786637	REEBU	20101209	OXE	20141011	HAH	12kE	1402	R Husbands Also 1633 days and also 1237days and 1586 days
7513056	SEDWA	20140820	Treogat	20150504	HAH	475knne	257	Finisterre.
Z437644	GOLDF	20150103	CHW	20151019	HAH	143KNW	289	Chilworth Surrey
Z854489	LERPO	20150929	BHILL	20151015	HAH	177kS	16	From Merseyside. PJ Alker
7504228	SEDWA	20150801	France	20160725	HAH	514kN	359	Tour Aux Moutons, Doges, Loire Atlantique.



## Oldest Birds on site

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Treec ECC695 Ringed 19/05/12 as 4M

Dunno Y500717 Ringed 25/06/12 as a 4

Dunno D298893 Ringed 13/07/13 as a 3j

Dunno D639946 Ringed 28/09/13 as a 3

Blabi CF69754 Ringed 19/06/13 as 5M

Blabi LC89950 Ringed 24/02/13 as a 5m at RFN so a control 8kENE 3y 72d.

Blaca D298896 Ringed 13/07/13 as 3j

Bluti D639880 Ringed 24/09/13 as 3j

Bullf D639515 Ringed 13/07/13 as 5M

White D639506 Ringed 13/07/13 as 3j

Sedwa D639635 Ringed 01/08/13 as 4F

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