

RINGWEAR ON TURNSTONES

by Christopher Clapham

A check through the Morecambe Bay retrap data for Turnstone produced the following figures for ring wear, all birds being ringed with size C2 rings of the BT0:

<u>Period since ringing</u>	<u>Ring OK: no rering needed</u>	<u>Ring Worn: rering needed</u>	<u>Ring partly illegible</u>	<u>Total</u>
2-3 years	67 - 78%	17 - 20%	2 - 2%	86
3-4 years	68 - 92%	6 - 8%	0	74
4-5 years	13 - 56%	8 - 35%	2 - 9%	23
5-6 years	12 - 47%	10 - 38%	4 - 15%	26
6-7 years	7 - 64%	3 - 27%	1 - 9%	11
7-8 years	2 - 20%	7 - 70%	1 - 10%	10
uncertain			5	5
	<u>169</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>235</u>

Over half the rings over four years old were worn, in many cases badly, and 17% of rings at this age were partly or wholly illegible. Ring wear is thus clearly a problem with this species, and the Morecambe Bay Wader Group has started (with Ringing Office approval) to ring Turnstone above the tarsal joint, in order to see whether this makes any difference. This does have the disadvantage that the ring is less easily noticed, and it would be helpful if ringers handling Turnstones could make a point of checking whether the bird has been ringed in this way.

Dr.C.Clapham, Dept. of Politics, University of Lancaster, Bailrigg, Lancaster.

..... AND RING LOSS AFTER RECOVERY

by Mike Pienkowski

In WSG Bull. 11 (March 1974) I listed the ringing recoveries resulting from the expeditions to Morocco in 1971-73. A Curlew Sandpiper carrying a German ring and controlled by Derek Stanyard's Cambridge Sidi Moussa Expedition 1972 had been reported but had to be listed as "no details yet". Although we are still patiently waiting for ringing information, I noticed some familiar details while looking through an abstracting journal recently. The abstract concerned a pleased little note published in 1973 about the first Curlew Sandpiper ringed in W. Germany and found elsewhere ..... We are not sure whether the moral is that the passing of information between schemes still leaves a lot to be desired or that keeping up to date with the literature eventually receives its rewards - but whatever the answer, those of us who provided this first recovery would still welcome the missing ringing details.