

## WADER STUDY GROUP

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Although it is only just one year since the first meeting of the W.S.G., much has happened to further the cause of ringing research into waders in Britain. Firstly the high degree of co-operation amongst existing ringing groups has expanded and secondly the realisation that it is vital to analyse the data is now universal amongst ringers. These two trends will result in a tremendous increase in our knowledge of wader populations, ecology and migrations in the next few years.

### The Swale Wader Ringing Group

Recently a meeting was held of members of the MKRG and the NKRK at which it was unanimously decided to reform a specialist wader ringing group based on the Swale in North Kent. An application for recognition has been made and the three officials appointed were Chris Wheeler (Chairman), Rodney Smith (Secretary) and Billy Buck (representative to WSG). We wish them every success in the coming season and so we can look forward to even more effort being put into ringing in this extremely interesting area.

### Wader Ringing in Spring 1971

It is very encouraging to hear of the continuing successes of cannon-netting visits. Two of these were at the previously proven site of the Point of Air on the Dee, one of which made an excellent catch of Godwit and Curlew and the other of Sanderling and Ringed Plover. The other success was at Conway, and owes much to the perseverance of the Shropshire R.G. and local ringers, where a good catch of Dunlin was made. These apart, Three other catchers provided the cream, two of these were of Ringed Plover at Priory Point, Morecambe Bay and the other was the capture of a South-African ringed Sanderling at Heacham on the Wash.

The ringing totals for the spring are set out below.

Abbreviations not used before, ARG: Ayrshire R.G. and HRG includes birds ringed at Cherry Cob and by Spurn B.O. on the Humber.