

	Recovered on	Humber	Wash	Swale	Dee	Ribble
Kinged on						
Number		-	2	2	-	-
Wash		1	-	-	-	1
Dee		-	1	-	-	-
Morecambe		-	3	-	2	7
Solway		-	-	-	-	1

The other recovery was

1Y 5.5.69. Wolferton, Wash c off N. Wales 26.7.71.

### Dunlin

The only foreign recoveries reported were

1Y	10.10.66.	Kemsley, Kent	c	Hame, Finland	16.8.71.
Ad	23.12.69.	Bardsea, Morecambe	c	Hame, Finland	16.8.71.
Ad	16.3.68.	Snettisham	x	Oland, Sweden	12.8.71.
Ad	11.9.68.	Cherry Cob, Humber	x	Limfjorden, Jutland, Denmark	23.8.71.
1Y	28.12.70.	West Kirby, Dee	x	Jutland, Denmark	0.3.71.
Ad	31.8.69.	Terrington, Wash	+	Manche, France	26.9.71.
Ad	8.9.67.	Dawsmere, Wash	c	Amager, Denmark	17.7.71.
Ad	16.3.68.	Snettisham, Wash	c	Mikoszewo, Poland	25.7.71.
Ad	28.2.71.	Dartford, Kent	c	Mikoszewo, Poland	3.8.71.

The 14 British recoveries are listed below

	Wash	Swale	Chichester	Milford Haven	Conway	Dee
Northumberland	-	-	-	-	1	-
Wash	-	-	1	2	3	2
Swale	1	-	-	-	-	-
Dee	-	1	-	-	-	-
Ribble	-	-	-	-	-	1
Morecambe Bay	-	-	-	1	-	-

### Sanderling

FG	29.8.69.	Hilbre, Dee	+	Algarve, Portugal	early 8.70.
PJ	24.5.71.	Point of Air, Dee	+	Dakar, Senegal	26.1.72.
PJ	13.7.68.	Snettisham, Wash	+	Manche, France	7.8.71.
Ad	25.8.69.	Snettisham, Wash	+	Humberston, Humber	4.2.72.
Juv	18.9.71.	Thornham, Wash	x	Alger, Algeria	18.2.72.

### Cannon Netting on the Swale

Dennis Blphick.

Wader trapping on the Swale in North Kent has for the last 12 years been largely carried out by the North and mid-Kent Ringing Groups on an independently agreed basis. Mist-netting at night-time, high-tide roosts has been the major method used. With the obvious need to help fill the gap in the work being carried out in other parts of the country and with increasing pressures on the area, highlighted by its designation as a suitable site for a Maritime Industrial Development Area in 1970, interested members from both groups got together in 1971, to form the Swale Wader Ringing Group. All wader trapping in the area is now controlled by this group and it is hoped to collate all past records with the eventual production of a report covering the period up to 1971.

With discussions on the formation of this group well under way the opportunity of combining forces to assist in a cannon netting expedition arose. During the weekend 13th/14th February 1971 Peter Stanley and a team from the WWRG came down to party for Oystercatchers. Of two nets set on the saltings on the Saturday, one was successfully fired, catching 152 birds. Unfortunately, because the Oystercatchers were close to walking over the nets it was not possible to wait for the Bar-tailed Godwits, also present, to move into the trapping area. Of this catch 4 birds were controls:

3103851	pull	Horsey Island, Essex	25.6.65.	63 Km	SSW
ED00626	Ad	Snettisham, Norfolk	12.8.67.	168 Km	SSE
SS75155	Ad	" "	21.8.67.		
SS76456	Ad	" "	29.6.68.		

An attempt to catch Knot on turf fields behind Shellness on the Sunday was, however, unsuccessful, despite attempts to 'roll' the birds with Landrovers and the presence of the Director!

A second trip was arranged for the weekend 4th/5th December 1971 and this proved to be considerably more successful. A total of 1038 birds were caught of which 59 were controls.

	New Birds Ringed	Controls	Total
Oystercatcher	22	-	22
Turnstone	4	-	4
Grey Plover	3	-	3
Knot	394	1	395
Dunlin	554	58	612

The site chosen for the Saturday was again turf fields behind Shellness, although not the same as was attempted in February. The bare earth on the site was reasonably dry, and the weather was dry but overcast. Two nets were set and the birds entering the area about two hours before high tide (1330 hrs) acted as a nucleus. Soon after 1200 hrs. the main tidal movement began and c.2000 Dunlin arrived in the area. As soon as a break in the landing flocks was noted one net was fired (c.1230 hrs.) Covering was soon accomplished and extraction took about 50 mins. The Oystercatchers were ringed immediately on extraction to conserve available storage space (8 keeping cages). Nine members of the WWRG and seven of the SWRG were present and ringing was completed in 2hrs. 40 mins., the whole operation being carried out in daylight. The Turnstone, Grey Plover and samples of 50 Dunlin and 162 Knot were processed, as well as some of the controls by a team of four from the Wash.

Because no other sites had been surveyed the nets were set in the same site on the Sunday. One being set in a damper site for Oystercatcher that had been present there on the Saturday. Unfortunately, the Oystercatcher did not leave the saltings and smaller waders landed in the area of this, the larger meshed net. There was considerable discussion as to whether firing should take place or not. The majority of birds were loathe to land in the area but joined a second nucleus in a nearby field. After 'rolling' with the Landrovers it was considered that a sufficient number of birds was in the catching area to fire, the decision being prompted by birds beginning to move out of the area. Firing took place at about 1430 hrs. but only 22 birds were caught, all of which were processed. Two of four controls were from the previous day.

Of the Dunlin controls nine were foreign ringed birds:  
Norway - 3, Sweden - 4, Denmark - 1, Finland - 1.

47 had been ringed locally. The following age analysis shows that more than half of these were four years old or more:

<u>Minimum Age (yrs)</u>	<u>No. of birds</u>	<u>Minimum Age (yrs)</u>	<u>No. of Birds</u>
11	3	5	9
10	-	4	3
9	7	3	5
8	2	2	3
7	3	1	2
6	5	Birds of the year	5

Only one Dunlin controlled was ringed elsewhere in Britain, at East Tilbury, Essex on 19.12.65. as an adult. The single Knot controlled was ringed at Cherry Cob on the Humber on 22.10.67. as a PJ. 17 Dunlin were reringed and ten had new rings added, five had badly worn rings which were removed and taken to Beech Grove. They have since been successfully deciphered.

Of the 395 Knot ringed only four (1%) were aged as juveniles and others, although probably not adults, provoked some discussion on the possibility of being second year birds. Of the 554 Dunlin 13 (2.3%) were aged as juveniles. A preliminary plot of wing measurements against bill for Dunlin showed that there was a high proportion of the Northern Race (Calidris a. alpina) as has previously been shown with birds caught in this area. A further trip has now been arranged for the end of February, when it is hoped to catch Turnstone, Oystercatcher and Bar-tailed Godwit.

P.S. The February trip came and went without a net being fired. The tide beat the Turnstones to the net on the beach and the Oystercatchers roosted all round but not in the trapping area on the saltings. Attempts were made to walk them into the area but it was unsuccessful. Cold winds and heavy drizzle did nothing to alleviate the frustration!

Report on Cannon Netting of Waders on Hayling Island 20/21 November 1971. by

David Steventon

LOCATION: Mill Rithe, East Hayling Island, Hants.

PERSONS PRESENT: Eight visitors from Wash Wader Ringing Group, having cannon netting licence and supplying equipment, and seven members of the Farlington Ringing Group.

20 NOVEMBER 1971: Three nets were set on Rushy Point, an area of saltings above M.H.W.M., primarily to obtain a moderate catch of small waders. One net was fired shortly before high tide: the composition of the catch is set out below.

21 NOVEMBER 1971: Three nets were set on saltings about 500m. south of Rushy Point. None were fired as no birds came into the catching area due to the prevailing weather conditions.

20 November:	Species	Totals
	Dunlin	552
	Redshank	19
	Grey Plover	16
	Knot	3
	Curlew	1
		<u>591</u>

Dunlin Controls:

Ring Number	Age	Date	Place of Ringing
Bt. Mus BB43097	Juv	8.9.68.	Snettisham, Norfolk.
Stockholm 3171787	Juv	22.8.67.	Skanor, Malmohus, Sweden.
" 3205269	Juv	23.9.69.	Ottenby, Oland, Sweden.
" 3183978	Juv	11.9.70.	" " "
" 3108605	Adult	11.7.64.	" " "
Helsinki P241404	Postjuv	8.7.68.	Niemi, Lahti, Hame, Finland.

Dunlin 19 (3.4%) of the 552 Dunlin were juveniles. The high percentage of adults may perhaps indicate that segregation is taking place, perhaps to the best feeding areas.