

2. The Bird Bander.

As this is the first regular issue of "The Bird Bander" it may not be out of place to explain the lay-out. After the editorial notes (a necessary evil) come the main articles: "The Silvereye Project" and "Banding Little Wattle-Birds at Weeney Bay" are samples of the kind of contributions we hope for. Then follows "Notes from Members", which is envisaged as one of the main sections of the Magazine. We hope to keep this section lively and informal, and we feel that most Members must have something to report or discuss which will be of interest to others.

In "Recovery Round-up" we shall try to keep Members informed of interesting recent recoveries of Australian bands. Warren Hitchcock has promised to keep us informed of major long distance recoveries; we believe we have the Silvereye project under close surveillance; but we also look to individual Members to report recoveries which come to their notice and seem to them to be of particular interest. Then there are a variety of other categories of items which we have thought of, some of which are represented in this issue, and others will occur to our readers.

Under "Special Notices" we draw the attention of readers to two important announcements, (a) about the supply of mist-nets, and (b) about a forthcoming expedition to Lord Howe Island.

To finish off, we decided that it was desirable to publish a re-statement of the qualifications for becoming a Member of the Australian Bird Banding Scheme, drawn up by Warren Hitchcock, and a complete list of Association Members to date. One of our primary functions is to facilitate contact between banders, and this seems a necessary preliminary: it may also encourage the laggards.

Finally, we must remind Members that ultimately the quality of "The Bird Bander" must depend on its contributors: contributions, both small and large, are always welcome, and we should urge all Members who feel they have something interesting to say to have a go; if in difficulty, our editorial advice is always at their disposal.