

dearer than normal, as follows :-

30' x 9'	£2 15	9	each.
40' x 9'	£3 12	9	each.

A REALLY FISHY STORY.

WANTED! Information regarding appropriate band size and method of banding mist-netted fish.

Page 14 of "The Bird Bander" No.2 spoke of the unusual catches we Wilsons have had in mist nets. On 16.12.62, while banding at Lake George we noticed some fish swimming very lazily on the surface in very shallow water, as though dying. Later in the day, while checking the nets I noticed something peculiar in the top shelf of a net 40 ft. from the water, and this turned out to be a live six inch carp!

During the following week thousands of fish were washed up, dead, on the shores of the lake. The fish we saw dying were probably affected by a disease which, according to newspaper reports, fisheries experts could not identify.

P.S. The fish in the net may be explained by the fact that there was a Kookaburra with wet feathers in the net eighteen inches away.

P.P.S. What would we have thought if the bird had escaped?

Denis Wilson, Narrabundah.A.C.T.

RECOVERY ROUND-UP.

Our star recovery in this issue is undoubtedly Doug Gibson's Wandering Albatross found at it's nest on Kerguelen in the Southern Indian Ocean $3\frac{1}{2}$ years after being banded. Those of us with a special interest in albatrosses have for some time tipped that some of Doug's birds would be found among the breeding population at Kerguelen (the size of this population is quite unknown, except that from the size of the archipelago and other information it must certainly be large), if only someone could be persuaded to go and have a look. Now at last someone has.

Another striking recovery is Dom Serventy's Straw-necked Ibis, whose trans-continental journey confirms the no-

madic nature of the movements of Ibis flocks.

1. Wedge-tailed Shearwater (Puffinus pacificus), 160-04869
Banded by S.G.Lane on Lion Island, N.S.W. on 20.12.58.
Caught while fishing off Sydney Heads, by R.S.Harker, on
28.1.63 and released with band.
2. Wandering Albatross (Diomedea exulans):
(a) 140-01546 Banded by J.D.Gibson off Bellambi, N.S.W.
on 3.8.58.
Recovered between Lorne and Apollo Bay namely Kennet River,
Vic., dead by D. Macvean approximately 26.10.62, 530 miles
S.W. and 50 months after original banding.
(b) 140-02720 Banded by J.D.Gibson off Bellambi, N.S.W. on
2.8.59.
Found "building it's nest at the foot of Mount Campbell"
on Kerguelen by a member of the French expedition there, on
26.12.62, 4,100 miles S.W. of Bellambi.
3. Straw-necked Ibis (Threskiornis spinicollis), 120-28324
Banded as nestling by D.L.Serventy in swamp near Muchea, W.A.
on 26.10.61.
Recovered injured and later died at Clergate, N.S.W. on
10.11.62, this 1940 miles East of where banded 13 months
before, and the first record of an Ibis crossing the con-
tinent from W. to E. (or vice versa).
4. Black Swan (Cygnus atratus), 150-10031
Banded as an immature by J.R.Wheeler at Lake Wendouree,
Vic., on 21.1.61.
Recovered dead at Mildura, Vic., by G.Chevalier in December
1962. This was 23 months after banding and 250 miles N.N.W.
5. Regent Parrot (Polytelis anthopeplus), 070-00811
Banded as an adult at Kojonup Location, Nyabing, W.A. by
V.F.McDougall on 29.12.57.
Recovered at Kukerin, W.A. approximately March 1962, by
Mrs.C.Brown 24 miles North of where banded 51 months before.
6. Eastern Silvereye (Zosterops lateralis),
(a) 010-10425 Banded by S.G.Lane at North Ryde, N.S.W. as
an adult on 2.8.59.
Recovered again by him at the same place nearly 30 months
later on 26.5.62. Finally recovered dead at Rosebery, Tas.,
by B.Clayton on 12.11.62. This bird was thus at least four
years old and had travelled 640 miles S.S.W. in 6 months.
(b) 010-28287 Banded by S.J.Wilson as an adult at Uriarra
Crossing, A.C.T. on 12.3.61.
Recovered from an orchard near Bathurst on 28.12.62 by
W.Northcott. This was 21 months later and 128 miles N.N.E.

from the banding place.

7. Red Wattle Bird (Anthochaera carunculata), 070-31817
Banded as an adult at Maryborough, Vic., by J.L.Rogan on
8.7.62.
Recovered dead at Frankston, Vic., by R.Shone on 27.12.62
105 miles S.E.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

BAND SIZE: SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER.

Miss Lexie Nicholls, and three other banders who have handled a large number of Sharp-tailed Sandpipers (Erolia acuminata) at Pelican Point, W.A., consider that 050 is a much safer fit for the species and recommend that it replace the current approved size of 040. This is approved by the Scheme. Size 5 has the additional advantages (a) address on outside of band, and (b) already available in monel metal.

-W.B.Hitchcock, Secretary A.B.B.S.

A.B.B.S. REQUEST FOR PHOTOGRAPHS.

The Banding Scheme is anxious to build up a first-class library of photographs illustrating all facets of banding and would be most grateful for any assistance that banders can give towards that objective. Subjects desired are :

- Techniques - traps and nets (with or without catches), decoys, bait, catching-boxes, etc.
- Handling, banding, and release of birds of all species (common or otherwise, but especially passerines, waders, water birds, raptors, and parrots).
- Photos of banding groups in the field - setting up traps or nets, working a seabird colony or water-bird rookery, especially those involving hazards of any kind, e.g. island landings, high nests, "fierce" species.

Black and white negatives (35 mm or 120), with good contrast and detail, are preferred, and these should be accompanied by a "data slip" showing place, date, subject, and name of photographer, and stating (where applicable) the type of trap and/or name of species concerned. In return for negatives the Scheme will undertake to supply the donor with one or more enlargements, as requested.