

## RECOVERY ROUND-UP.

After consultation with the Secretary of the Australian Bird Banding Scheme, it has been decided that "Recovery Round-Up" shall list all Australian recoveries of special interest, with appropriate cross-reference if discussed elsewhere. In this way this section serves both to keep readers informed of all recent recoveries of special interest and as a convenient progressive index of such recoveries.

The present list contains two outstanding recoveries, a Sooty Shearwater banded on Macquarie I. and recovered in California, and an Arctic Tern banded in Sweden and recovered in W. Australia. A circumpacific migration has been postulated for the Short-tailed Shearwater from the fact that that species occurs off the North American coast at the appropriate time, and by inferences the existence of such a route has been extended to other species, but we believe that this recovery is the first to prove beyond dispute that individuals banded in Australian waters do actually follow the North American coast on their return journey. It is all the more remarkable in that we believe that the number of Shearwaters banded on Macquarie I. must have been quite small. The Arctic Tern is the second banded bird of this species from the far north to be recovered on the West Australian coast, and seems to indicate that this species must occur on this coast very much more frequently than existing records would lead one to believe.

1. Sooty Shearwater (Puffinus griseus)  
160-10925. Banded by J. Warham (A.N.A.R.E.) on Macquarie I. as adult, 28.2.61. Found dead on Avila Beach, California on 17.9.63, 7,800 miles from banding place, band returned.
2. Fleishy-footed Shearwater (Puffinus carneipes)  
Five further individuals of this species, banded by J. McKean and his colleagues on Lord Howe I., have been reported as taken by fishermen off Japan in June-August this year. This brings the tally of N.Pacific recoveries of this species to 12. McKean will no doubt comment on these in due course.
3. Giant Petrel (Macronectes giganteus)  
130-13518. Banded by S.G. Lane off Malabar, N.S.W. 7.7.62. Found dead on beach at Wreck Bay, via Nowra on 19.8.63. This recovery is at variance with current ideas about movements of this species. The great majority of birds seen off Australian coasts are in first year plumage, and this is the first indication

that individuals may return to the same waters in consecutive seasons, if the possibility that this was a mummified corpse which had lain since the previous year can be excluded.

4. Little Tern (Sterna albifrons)

- (a) 040-05935 Banded as nestling on 13.12.58  
(b) 040-05960 " " " " 1.12.59  
(c) 040-11524 " " " " 15.11.60  
(d) 040-05260 " " adult " 1.12.62

All banded at Sydney Airport; (a), (b) and (c) by C.B. Campion and (d) by S.G. Lane. All retrapped by C.B. Campion as breeding adults on 7.12.63 at Port Kembla, 40 miles from banding place.

5. Arctic Tern (Sterna macrura)

400-7833. Banded as chick, at Ekholmen, Sweden, (lat. 59° 10' N., long. 19° E.) on 27.6.62. Found dead on beach at Mudora Bay, 35 miles south of Fremantle on 10.6.63, about 13,000 miles from banding place via Cape of Good Hope. Now a study skin in W.A. Museum.

6. Magpie Lark (Grallina cyanoleuca)

070-34113. Banded as juvenile by Miss H.A. Doyle at Oatley, N.S.W., on 24.1.63; recovered in a very weak condition on 2.9.63 at Hurlstone Park, 5½ miles away. This is one of the most distant recoveries to date of this very sedentary species.

7. White-naped Honeyeater (Melithreptus lunatus)

020-19618. Banded as adult by S.G. Lane at Duffy's Forest (Sydney) on 6.7.63. Retrapped at N. Ryde on 15.9.63, 9 miles south of banding place (released with band).

8. Eastern Spinebill (Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris)

(a) 010-05126: Banded 18.11.62 by S.G. Lane at Lane Cove, N.S.W., in juvenal plumage. Killed by cat at French's Forest on 3.9.63, five miles from banding place.

(b) 010-05164. Banded 13.1.62 by S.G. Lane, at North Ryde, N.S.W., in juvenal plumage. Taken in mist net at Rocky Creek, East Gordon, by D. Nicholls on 14.9.63 and again on 21.9.63, 2.9 miles from banding place.

9. Little Wattle-bird (Anthochaera chrysoptera)

060-18144: Banded 7.3.60 by Harry Battam at Weeney Bay, N.S.W. Found dead in Sutherland 6 miles from banding place and 3½ years later (6.10.63). This is the first recovery away from banding place in the project described by Battam in our issue of October, 1962.

The last four recoveries are a welcome reminder that

there is a lot to be learned about our common honeyeaters, and that more intensive banding should result in more recoveries between banders.

10. Raven (Corvus coronoides)

100-32112: Banded by J.N.Hobbs on 6.10.62 near Balranald, N.S.W. Recovered near Violet Town, Victoria, 24.6.63, 162 miles from banding place.

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CENTRAL BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION

On 1st July, 1963, the activities of the Central Bird Banding Association were merged with those of the Bird Banders' Association of Australia. The Bird Banders' Association has thus become the only body authorised by the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Wildlife Research and the Department of Customs to import mist nets into this country.

The C.B.B.A. was formed in January, 1962, with the express purpose of providing good quality nets at a reasonable price to Australian banders. Made possible only by the hard work of Steve Wilson and the generosity of a fellow Canberra bander who provided an interest free loan of £140, no strings attached, banders quickly availed themselves of the service provided by the C.B.B.A.

During the 18 months of its independent existence the Association imported 359 mist nets of various sizes, at a cost of £945 and at the date of takeover had orders placed for a further 80, worth nearly £220. The original loan has been repaid and a surplus of £184 has been made, almost sufficient for the service to be financially self-supporting in the future. That this stage has been reached is in large measure due to the generosity of individual banders who responding to an appeal by Steve Wilson donated a total of £42 over and above the list price for nets.

Your committee felt it desirable that the B.B.A. take over the management of the C.B.B.A. as by so doing bander members of the Association may exercise control over the mist net service which exists only to provide a service to them. This, however, in no way prejudices the right of non-member banders to obtain their mist net supplies from the Association.

Banders wishing to order mist-nets should note that the merger in no way affects the procedure hitherto followed. Orders should still be placed with Steve Wilson and all remittances for mist-nets should be forwarded direct to him:  
S.J. Wilson, 2 Scott Street, Narrabundah. A.C.T.

-R. G. Lonnon.