

until the end of March. There is a roost of about 1,000 Starlings nearby, but I did not have time to locate it. My surprise catch was three Tawny Grassbirds (Megalurus timoriensis).

The site I use at Cabarita is unfrequented, and I have adopted the practice of erecting the nets after work on Friday (weather forecast being reasonable), doing an after dark round by torchlight, and leaving the nets erected overnight. This means an extra hour in bed on Saturday morning. I have left nets erected overnight here and in Tasmania on perhaps fifty occasions, and have only once taken a bird after dark - a Boobook Owl (Ninox novaeseelandiae) in Tasmania.

N.B. : All localities mentioned are on the North Coast of N.S.W.

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#### SIGHTING OF COLOUR-BANDED SILVEREYE.

Laurie Haines has reported the sighting of a Silvereye (Zosterops lateralis) in his garden at Haberfield (Sydney) on 9.1.64. We believe this to be the first reported sighting of a colour-banded Silvereye away from its banding place.

When the co-operative Silvereye banding scheme was initiated, a number of banders felt that colour banding might assist by creating enthusiasm if not by producing definite knowledge.

In 1960 an area colour banding scheme was approved as follows:

Sydney	Black
Canberra	Yellow
Melbourne	Red
Mildura	Dark Blue
Naracoorte, S.A. )	Light Blue
Coleraine, Vic. )	
Tasmania	White

This was intended to apply to areas within approximately 50 miles of stated location; metal band to be placed on right leg, colour band on left.

However, a colour band sighting can never be taken as equivalent to a recovery. Miss Joan Bradley and her sister had been individually colour-banding Silvereyes since 1956

(see Bird Bander, Vol.1. No.5,p.93), and though most were put on a good number of years ago, it is not possible to exclude the possibility that this could have been one of their birds.

G. K. Meldrum has also used pink leg bands in Tasmania. All the same, there is a tantalising possibility (in spite of the season of the year), that this could have been a Victorian bird. For the record, the Secretary of the Australian Bird Banding Scheme has informed us that the following Victorian banders have been using red band on L.leg, metal band on R. : J.McKean and F.Stewart; T.Pescott (Geelong District); A.Reid (Mornington Peninsula).

Banders are reminded that, for reasons which should be obvious, colour banding may be undertaken only with the approval of the Secretary of the A.B.B.S. Colour banding is an important adjunct for specific studies, and for this very reason it is vital that there should be central control over colour-banding projects.

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## TWO INTERNATIONAL RECOVERIES.

Notification has been received from the United States Department of the Interior regarding details of two beach washed banded birds found on the north coast of Tasmania.

On September 17, 1962, a decaying Black-browed Albatross (Diomedea melanophris) was found on the beach at Badger Head. It carried a U.S.A.R.P. band, No.568-08979. On October 20, 1962, the dessicated remains of a Giant Petrel (Macronectes giganteus) with U.S.A.R.P. band No.568-01172 was found on the beach at Pipers Heads.

These bands, together with the bird remains were brought to the Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston by the finders, Mr. Burge and Mr. Franklin. Details were sent to the return address and the remains were added to the Museum's reference collections.

We were later advised that both birds were banded on Bird Island, South Georgia, (lat 54°.30' S., long. 37°W.) The Black-browed Albatross on February 18, 1962, and the Giant Petrel on February 2, 1962. It is interesting to note that these two birds, banded on the same island almost at the same time, had flown half way round the world to be recovered within twenty miles of each other and, judging from the condition of the remains, both having died at approximately the same time.