

## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held in the Hallstrom Theatre, the Australian Museum, Sydney, on January 21, 1967.

The President welcomed all present, particularly overseas visitors Dr H. Elliott McClure (Bangkok) and Mr B. Bond (Malacca). Apologies were received from the Hon. Secretary and several interstate members.

Following the Hon. Secretary's and Hon. Treasurer's reports, the retiring President, H. J. de S. Disney, thanked all those members who in many ways had assisted the Committee during 1966 and helped maintain "*The Australian Bird Bander*" as one of the most useful and practical bird banding journals.

Office bearers for 1967 were elected as follows:—

**President: M. H. Waterman (S.A.).**

**Vice-Presidents: J. Liddy (Qld.), Mrs. P. N. Reilly (Vic.), Dr. A. M. Gwynn (N.S.W.).**

**Hon. Secretary: H. Battam.**

**Hon. Asst. Secretary: B. A. Speechley.**

**Hon. Editor: S. G. Lane.**

**Hon. Asst. Editor: H. J. de S. Disney.**

**Hon. Treasurer: R. G. Lonnon.**

Messrs. C. B. Campion and M. T. Murn were re-appointed Auditors.

On completion of business a Scientific Meeting was held. Dr H. Elliott McClure, Director of the Migratory Animal Pathological Survey in S.E. Asia, with the aid of colour slides described the bird banding scheme operating under his direction and some of its results to date. Other speakers were D. Purchase, Secretary of the Australian Bird-banding Scheme who spoke on "Some factors involved in Population Regulation of the Southern Skua" and S. Marchant of Canberra who spoke on "The R.A.O.U. Nest Record Scheme".

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## Editorial

Of the few matters requiring editorial comment, the most important is to draw attention to the notice in this issue announcing Warren Hitchcock's retirement from the post of Secretary of the Australian Bird-banding Scheme and the succession in that post of David Purchase.

Warren is well known to all of us by reputation and from the many communications of one sort or another which we have received over his signature, he is also known to many of us personally, and for us he was, as it were, a "father figure" at the centre of the Scheme, always ready with advice and information when called upon. Through previous contacts in the museum field, in South Australia from 1938 to 1941 and in Melbourne from 1949 to 1954, he was already known personally to about 50 per cent. of banders when he took over the office of Secretary of the Scheme in November, 1957, and he made it his business to extend his acquaintanceship and contacts among banders at every opportunity. In him, amateur banders could feel that they had a friend at the centre, and one who would always have a sympathetic

ear for their interests. We are grateful for his past efforts on behalf of the Banding Scheme, and we take this opportunity to extend to him our very best wishes for success in his future sphere.

Warren's successor, David Purchase, is as yet known to relatively few of us, but his past experience augurs well for his suitability for the job, and we have already been made to feel that he is determined to carry out the very onerous duties of his office with the best interests of the Scheme and of the individual banders at heart. We were very glad to have the opportunity of welcoming him at the Annual Meeting of the Association on January 21, when he gave a very interesting talk on his work on the Southern Skua.

Finally, we should mention the second Regional Organisers' Conference which is to be held in Canberra under the Chairmanship of Dr Harry Frith at about the time this journal goes to press. We hope to be able to make some reference to the work of this Conference in our next issue.