

TABLE 3

Band Number	Examples of Winter 'Travellers'			
	Date Banded	Dates Retrapped		
010-				
24420	13.6.65	27.9.65		
24452	14.7.65	15.7.65	18.9.65	
24434	7.7.65	25.6.66		
24499	25.7.65	17.8.67		
24315	7.8.65	8.8.65	6.8.67	7.8.67
		27.8.67		
24455	15.7.65	16.7.65	17.7.65	
		(*22.8.65	30.8.65	
		25.9.65)		
24461	15.7.65	16.7.65	17.7.65	
		(*22.8.65)		
021-				
39085	9.6.67	18.6.67	13.7.67	14.7.67

*Retrapped at Lane Cove, 3 miles north of banding place.

October and 20 November 1966, five fledglings and three probable fledglings were banded.

In 1967 the pattern was basically the same. Nesting commenced early in October but only a few young appeared to have survived the variable and adverse weather conditions at that time. One fledgling was banded on 17 October and two nestlings on 28 October. Seventeen young birds were banded between 17 November and 14 December.

'Off' Period (January to June)

By late December, breeding activity has almost ceased. Some adults have moulted and are in fresh plumage, so the age of new (unbanded) birds cannot be determined (In future, skull

ossification and cloacal examination will assist in determining these differences.)

There is an apparent 'wandering' of birds which bred in the area and an influx of others which are mostly unbanded. In the first few months of the year, new (unbanded) birds greatly outnumber retraps from the previous period, but the daily average of individuals (January to May) is only about one. In June, winter flocking is evident from observation but the daily average of birds trapped is still small (about two) probably because berries on which the birds feed, are plentiful in the district. Also in June, the first few Tasmanian visitors are caught.

The number of birds visiting the trap increases in July to a daily average of nine individuals.

This increases to a peak average of 25 individuals per day in August.

Future Work

Further study and banding may provide information on the extent of wandering by permanent residents, the distance fledglings move from their natal area in their first year and the proximity of their breeding location to their natal area.

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Reference

Lane, S. G. (1966), 'The Co-operative Silvereye Project', *Aust. Bird Bander*, 4:73-75.

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Immature plumage of Flame Robins

Lack of information concerning immature plumage is one of the major problems for banders in Australia. In most instances little information is available and where such is the case, it usually states rather vaguely that 'the juvenile and/or immature is similar in plumage to the female'.

The only significant information I have received to date from retrapping Flame Robins (*Petroica phoenicea*) was from an immature male banded by A. J. Reid on 30 April 1964 at Flinders Naval Depot, Victoria, a wintering area for this species. The only detail recorded was that it had an orange throat. I retrapped it on 3 September 1967, over

three years later, as an adult male in full plumage, about one mile south of the banding place.

During this past season I have made similar recordings of Flame Robins in 'uncoloured' plumage, as well as some birds with an orange wash extending over all or part of the chin, throat, breast, belly and flanks. I should be glad if those participating in banding this species would record on schedules the areas so coloured in an endeavour to sort out the plumage differences of females and immatures.

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