

RECOVERY ROUND-UP

This section is prepared with the co-operation of the Secretary, Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes, Australian Nature Conservation Agency. The recoveries are only a selection of the thousands received each year; they are not a complete list and should not be analysed in full or part without prior consent of the banders concerned. Longevity and distance records refer to the ABBBS unless otherwise stated. The distance is the shortest distance in kilometres along the direct line joining the place of banding and recovery; the compass direction refers to the same direct line. (There is no implication regarding the distance flown or the route followed by the bird). Where available ABBBS age codes have been included in the banding data.

Recovery or longevity items may be submitted directly to me whereupon their merits for inclusion will be considered.

Hon. Editor.

The following abbreviations appear in this issue:

AWSG — Australasian Wader Study Group.

NSW NPWS — New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service.

NZWSG — New Zealand Wader Study Group.

VWSG — Victorian Wader Study Group.

WAWSG — Western Australian Wader Study Group.

Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans*

- (a) 140–39610. Adult (1+) banded by J. D. Gibson at sea off Bellambi, NSW (34°24'S, 151°00'E) on 27 July 80. Recaptured (released alive with band) on Adams Island, Auckland Islands, New Zealand (50°55'S, 166°00'E) on 7 Feb. 94, over 13 years 6 months after banding. 2 199 km SSE.
- (b) 140–39648. Adult (1+) banded by J. D. Gibson at sea off Bellambi, NSW (34°24'S, 151°00'E) on 18 July 81. Recaptured (released alive with band) on Adams Island, Auckland Islands, New Zealand (50°55'S, 166°00'E) on 9 Feb. 94, over 12 years 6 months after banding. 2199 km SSE.

Southern Giant-Petrel *Macronectes giganteus*

81806536* Nestling banded near King George Island, Antarctica (62°00'S, 58°15'W) on 26 Feb. 94. Recovered dead at sea west of Lancelin Island, WA (31°01'S, 115°16'E) on 8 Aug. 94. 9653 km S.

*Bird Banding Laboratory (USA) band.

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

170–03001. Adult (1+) banded by N. J. Favaloro at Mildura, Vic. on 28 June 78. Recovered dead at Lake Tinaroo near Atherton, Qld on 2 Mar. 95, over 16 years 8 months after banding. 1 924 km N. (This is the oldest recorded for this species).

Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator*

57514*. Juvenile banded on White Island, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand (37°31'S, 177°12'E) on 9 Feb. 95. Recovered dead at Middleton Beach, SA (35°31'S, 138°42'E) on 25 Mar. 95. 3 423 km W.

* New Zealand Banding Scheme band.

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*

- (a) 121–15493. Nestling banded by B. R. King on Pandora Cay, Qld (11°26'S, 144°00'E) on 31 July 82. Recovered dead near Eunuoro Island, south-east of Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea (10°24'S, 149°27'E) on 14 July 94, over 11 years 11 months after banding. 606 km E.
- (b) 121–16190. Adult (2+) male banded by B. R. King on MacLennan Cay, Qld (11°22'S, 143°48'E) on 19 June 81. Recovered sick, later died at Kerema Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea (8°00'S, 145°45'E) on 3 Sep. 94, over 13 years 2 months after banding. 431 km NNE.

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*

140–34109. Immature (1) banded by J. R. Wheeler at Lake Wendouree, Ballarat, Vic. on 11 Apr. 70. Recovered (band number read in field, bird not captured) near banding place on 31 Dec. 94, over 24 years 8 months after banding. (This is the oldest recorded for this species).

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*

091–24403. Juvenile male banded by R.W. Sonnenburg at Labrador, Qld on 16 Dec. 92. Recovered dead (poisoned) at Cunningar, NSW on 27 Dec. 94. 875 km SSW.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*

121–10673. Nestling female banded by N. Mooney at Chauncyvale, Tas. on 21 Nov. 79. Recovered dead at Old Beach, Tas. on 12 Mar. 95, over 15 years 3 months after banding. 21 km S.

Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris*

101–03694. Adult (3+) banded by VWSG at Barry Beach, Corner Inlet, Vic. on 13 Aug. 94. Recovered (colour marking sighted in field, band number inferred) on Sand Island, Wallis Lake, Forster, NSW on 22 Jan. 95. 911 km NNE. (This is the longest movement recorded for this species).

Lesser Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*

061–88660. Adult (2+) banded by F. W. C. van Gessel on Kooragang Island, Newcastle, NSW (32°52'S, 151°46'E) on 24 Feb. 90. Recaptured (released alive with band) at Luganville Santo, Vanuatu (15°32'S, 167°08'E) on 19 Sep. 92. 2 472 km NE.

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*

- (a) C50411*. Adult (1+) male banded at Lake Tekapo, New Zealand (43°55'S, 170°30'E) on 10 Nov. 92. Recovered (colour marking sighted in field, band number inferred) at Congo Point, NSW (35°57'S, 150°09'E) on 15 Mar. 95. 1 940 km WNW.
- (b) C50778*. Adult (1+) female banded at Ahuriri River, New Zealand (44°28'S, 169°59'E) on 9 Dec. 93. Recovered (colour marking sighted in field, band number inferred) at Werribee, Vic. (37°54'S, 144°40'E) on 21 May 95. 2 230 km WNW.

* New Zealand Banding Scheme band.

Terek Sandpiper *Tringa terek*

- 051-55254. Adult (2+) banded by AWSG at 80 Mile Beach, WA (19°15'S, 121°20'E) on 26 Sep. 92. Recaptured (released alive with band) at Unbuk-Dong (Unbuk-Ri) Yongjong Island, Korea (37°30'N, 126°34'E) on 6 Sep. 94. 6 332 km N.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*

- (a) 071-75875. Adult (1+) female banded by P. V. Driscoll on North Stradbroke Island, Qld (27°24'S, 153°25'E) on 7 July 89. Recaptured (released alive with band) at Nakdong Estuary, Korea (35°08'N, 128°54'E) on 14 Apr. 91. 7 413 km NNW.
- (b) 071-83884. Adult (2) banded by VWSG at Barry Beach, Corner Inlet, Vic. (38°42'S, 146°23'E) on 24 Mar. 92. Recaptured (released alive with band) by NZWSG at Miranda, Firth of Thames, New Zealand (37°10'S, 175°19'E) on 23 Oct. 94. 2 532 km E.
- (c) 071-86757. Adult (2+) male banded by AWSG at 80 Mile Beach, WA (19°15'S, 121°20'E) on 4 Apr. 90. Recovered dead on Chongming Island, Shanghai, China (31°28'N, 121°27'E) on 10 Apr. 92. 5 638 km N.
- (d) 072-33410. Adult (2+) banded by AWSG at 80 Mile Beach, WA (19°15'S, 121°20'E) on 26 Mar. 94. Recovered dead at Miao-Gang, Yangtze River, Shanghai, China (30°52'N, 121°52'E) in Apr. 94. 5 572 km N.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*

- (a) 061-37938. Adult (1+) banded by WAWSG at Roebuck Bay, WA (18°04'S, 122°19'E) on 30 Aug. 81. Recovered dead at Miao-Gang, Yangtze River, Shanghai, China (30°52'N, 121°52'E) in Apr. 94, over 12 years 7 months after banding. 5 440 km N.
- (b) 061-38561. Adult (1+) banded by WAWSG south of Anna Plains, 80 Mile Beach, WA (19°15'S, 121°20'E) on 24 Aug. 82. Recovered dead at Miao-Gang, Yangtze River, Shanghai, China (30°52'N, 121°52'E) on 23 Apr. 95, over 12 years 7 months after banding. 5 572 km N.
- (c) 061-92046. Adult (2+) banded by P. V. Driscoll on Bishop Island, Brisbane River, Qld (27°21'S, 153°10'E) on 3 Mar. 91. Recovered sick (later died) at sea near the Indonesia/Papua New Guinea border (9°25'S, 141°01'E) on 17 Apr. 95. 2 366 km NNW.

- (d) 062-09854. Adult (1+) banded by P. V. Driscoll on Nudge Beach, Brisbane, Qld (27°20'S, 153°05'E) on 3 May 93. Recovered (tangled in fishing gear), later released with band at Manila Bay, Philippines (14°30'N, 120°58'E) on 1 May 94. 5 798 km NW.

- (e) 05000918*. Adult (2) banded on Yongjong Island, Korea (37°27'N, 126°29'E) on 19 Oct. 93. Recaptured (released alive with band) by V. W. Smith at Princess Royal Harbour, Albany, WA (35°05'S, 117°53'E) on 3 Sept. 94. 8 112 km S. (This is the first recovery of a Korean banded bird in Australia, and the first foreign recovery for the Korean Banding Scheme.)

*Korean Banding Scheme band.

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

- (a) 031-91520. Adult (1+) banded by A. J. Leishman on Kooragang Island, Newcastle, NSW (32°56'S, 151°47'E) on 23 Oct. 76. Recovered dead (shot) at Okhinskiy District, Moskalvo, Russia (53°35'N, 142°32'E) on 4 Sep. 78. 9 659 km N. (Recovery information received by Banding Office in May 1995.)
- (b) 032-53117. Adult (2) banded by AWSG at Beaches Crab Creek Road, Roebuck Bay, Broome, WA (18°00'S, 122°22'E) on 1 Sep. 92. Recovered dead (shot) at De Vries Peninsula, Vladivostok, Russia (43°10'N, 132°30'E) on 29 Aug. 94. 6 878 km N.

Silver Gull *Larus novaehollandiae*

- 082-31486. Adult (1+) banded by NSW NPWS on Big Island, Five Islands, Port Kembla, NSW on 21 Oct. 88. Recovered dead at Bathurst, NSW on 22 Aug. 94, over 5 years 10 months after banding. 172 km NW.

Crested Tern *Sterna bergii*

- (a) 070-58813. Nestling banded by M. H. Waterman on Stoneywell Island, Coorong, SA on 5 Dec. 64. Recovered (band number read in field, bird not trapped) by J. Reside on Albifrons Island, Ocean Grange Lakes Nat. Park, Vic. on 12 Feb. 95, over 30 years 2 months after banding. 769 km ESE. (This is the oldest recorded for this species.)
- (b) 070-91009. Nestling banded by M. H. Waterman on Stoneywell Island, Coorong, SA on 10 Dec. 66. Recovered (band number read in field, bird not trapped) by J. Reside on Albifrons Island, Ocean Grange Lakes Nat. Park, Vic. on 12 Feb. 95, over 28 years 2 months after banding. 769 km ESE.

Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher
Tanysiptera sylvia

- 050-94679. Adult (1+) female banded by M. M. Crouther at Mount Charlton, Qld on 3 Mar. 94. Returned to breed at same nesting site in Nov. 94, bird recaptured on 28 Nov. 94. (Although this recovery is of only short duration it has been included to show the nest site fidelity for this northern Australian species which migrates through Papua New Guinea.)

Northern Scrub-robin *Drymodes superciliaris*

041-22366. Adult (2+) male banded by S. G. Lane at Iron Range National Park, Qld on 26 Nov. 88. Recaptured at banding place by W. Klau on 20 Nov. 94, over 5 years 11 months after banding.

White-faced Robin *Tregellasia leucops*

015-26752. Adult (2+) banded by S. G. Lane at Iron Range National Park on 23 Nov. 88. Recaptured at banding place by W. Klau on 19 Nov. 94, over 5 years 11 months after banding.

White-browed Babbler*Pomatostomus superciliosus*

050-82073. Adult banded by R. J. Brown at Manjimup, WA on 29 Oct. 80. Recovered dead (taken by cat) near banding site on 29 Mar. 95, 14 years 5 months after banding. (This is the oldest recorded for this species.)

Speckled Warbler *Sericornis sagittatus*

014-94041. Adult (1+) banded by D. Fields at Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, near Mudgee, NSW on 4 Oct. 87. Recaptured at banding place six times, the last occasion by R. Jacobs on 1 Apr. 94, over 6 years 5 months after banding.

Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata*

014-86137. Adult (1+) banded by G. D. Bell at Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, near Mudgee, NSW on 25 Jan. 86. Recaptured at banding place nine times, the last occasion by R. Jacobs on 27 Jan. 95, over 9 years after banding.

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

015-87937. Adult (1+) banded by K. Wood at Mangerton, NSW on 30 Mar. 89. Recaptured at banding place five times, the last occasion on 4 June 95, over 6 years 2 months after banding.

Black Butcherbird *Cracticus quoyi*

071-52098. Adult (2+) banded by S. G. Lane at Iron Range National Park, Qld on 27 Nov. 88. Recaptured at banding place by C. Rich on 23 Nov. 94, over 5 years 11 months after banding.

EDITORIAL

Two papers in this issue demonstrated the importance of colour-banding in bird study. Of 254 Pied Currawongs banded by John Farrell, many were resighted within the Blue Mountains, and 12 were subsequently seen at great distances from the banding place. This phenomenal recovery rate has made a substantial contribution to our understanding of the dispersal of Pied Currawongs. Such a high reporting rate was only possible because the birds could be identified from their colour bands.

It is clear from Mike Clarke's fascinating review of co-operative breeding, that most of the work on this subject has been dependent upon identification of individual birds. Philopatry, helping rates, and even just the number of birds attending a nest can only be determined if individuals are identified. Modern biochemical methods are required to determine paternity, but the role of colour bands is still firmly entrenched in this research field.

The need to visually identify individuals is not restricted to the study of co-operative breeding. Our understanding of the behaviour and breeding biology of most Australian birds could be vastly improved by the collection of information on subjects such as the number of broods produced by a female in a season, the number of years a female uses the same nest site, and whether birds partner the same mate year after year. This

information is only obtained by combining a banding study with systematic observations.

Unfortunately, large amounts of time are required to collect comprehensive data, more time than is usually available for the average bird-bander. However, records of the behaviour of even one pair would provide a substantial contribution for many Australian species. Some of these records might be available from banders now, perhaps the result of 'backyard banding'. With observations from several banders, a more complete picture will slowly build up.

I would like to see these records presented in *Corella*. Simple records might be included in Recovery Roundup, or if there were enough contributions, a new section could be added to the journal. Some excellent short notes resulting from observations of colour-banded birds have been published in *Corella* in the past, and readers are encouraged to refer to the papers of Joan Sandbrink and Doug Robinson in 18(3), and Kevin Wood in 19(2).

Over the last 10 years, the Australian Bird Study Association has been selling between 20 000 and 50 000 colour bands per year! It would be nice to see more of these bands revisited in the journal.

Richard Major (Hon. Editor)