

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:

ABBBS – Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes
 AWSG - Australasian Wader Study Group.
 BMRC - The Bird Migration Research Centre, Japan.
 NZBS – New Zealand Banding Scheme.
 SABRU- South African Bird Ringing Unit.
 SOSSA – Southern Oceans Seabird Study Association
 SSG -BOAT – Shorebird Study Group – BOAT (Tas.)
 VWWSG - Victorian Wader Study Group.

Red-tailed Tropicbird *Phaethon rubricauda*

200-16854. Adult (1+) banded by G. K. Williams on Sugarloaf Rock Nature Reserve, WA on 11 Jan. 2006. Recaptured, released alive with band at Nosy Ve Islet, near Anakao, Madagascar on 20 Apr. 2015 by M. Le Corre, over 9 years 3 months after banding. 6919 km WSW.

(This is the longest movement recorded for the species.)

Tristan Albatross *Diomedea dabbenena*

J09313*. Nestling banded by SABRU, South Africa on Gough Island, South Atlantic Ocean, South Africa (40°20'00"S 09°55'00"W) on 30 Oct. 1992. Recaptured, released alive with two bands at sea East of Wollongong, NSW, (34°25'00"S 151°00'00"E) by SOSSA on 5 Oct. 1997. 11 473 km SSE.

(The bird was also banded with ABBBS band no. 140-34794)

*South African Bird Ringing Unit band.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna pacifica*

161-70290. Nestling banded by N. W. Swanson Muttonbird Island, Coffs Harbour, NSW on 9 Apr. 1981. Recovered dead at Bonny Hills Beach, NSW on 28 Nov. 2015, over 34 years, 7 months after banding 146 km SSE.

(This is the oldest recorded for the species.)

Short-tailed Shearwater *Ardenna tenuirostris*

162-28394. Adult (1+) banded by R. D. Wooller on Great Dog Island, Bass Strait, Tas. on 3 Dec. 1991. Recovered dead at 90 Mile Beach, Loch Sport, Vic. on 15 Nov. 2015, over 23 years, 11 months after banding. 252 km N.

Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator*

(a) M57092*. Juvenile banded by NZBS on White Island, Bay of Plenty, New Zealand (37°31'00"S 177°11'00"E) on 8 Feb. 1995. Recovered exhausted, rehabilitated and released alive with band at

Lighthouse Beach, Ballina, NSW (28°52'00"S 153°35'00"E) on 14 Oct. 2015, over 20 years, 8 months after banding. 2388 km WNW.

* New Zealand Banding Scheme band

(b) 131-64923. Nestling banded by F. I. Norman at Popes Eye off Queenscliff, Port Phillip, Vic. on 24 Nov. 1988. Recovered dead at Ocean Grove Beach, Vic. on 21 Dec. 2015, over 27 years after banding. 16km W.

Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

121-33441 plus Satellite Tag. . Immature (1) male banded by A. F. Silcocks at Rice Crop, Kidman Highway, 20 km SSW of Coleambally, NSW on 22 Apr. 2015. Located using radio telemetry three times:

- (1) At Pick Swamp, SA on 2 May 2015, 10 days after banding, 551 km SW.
- (2) At Long Swamp, Vic. on 10 May 2015, 18 days after banding, 4 km E of previous site.
- (3) At Lake Wyangan, NSW on 18 Sep. 2015, 4 months, 27 days after banding. 615 km NE of previous site. (85 km N of the original banding site).

(This is the longest movement recorded for the species.)

Australian Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris*

101-04626. Adult (3+) banded by VWWSG on Swan Island, Queenscliff, Vic. on 22 Dec. 1995. Recovered dead on Mud Island, Port Phillip Bay, Vic. on 9 Dec. 2015, over 19 years, 11 months after banding. 8 km E.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

5A54180* plus Engraved Leg Flag: Orange XCK. Juvenile (J) banded by BMRC Japan at Shunkunitai, Nemuro, Hokkaido Pref. Japan (43°17'00"N 145°26'00"E) on 27 Aug. 2013. Bird recaptured, released alive with band at Pelican Point, Carpenter Rocks, SA (37°55'00"S 140°24'00"E) by AWSG on 11 Nov. 2015. 9041 km S.

* Bird Migration Research Centre, Japan band.

Bridled Tern *Onychoprion anaethetus*

061-76060. Nestling banded by J. N. Dunlop on Penguin Island, WA on 1 Jan. 1988. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place twice, the last occasion on 26 Sep. 2015, over 27 years, 8 months after banding.

(This is the oldest recorded for the species.)

Pacific Gull *Larus pacificus*

110-96984. Nestling banded by SSG –BOAT on Visscher Island, Tas. on 31 Dec. 1983. Recovered dead at Eaglehawk Neck, Pirate Bay, Tas. on 3 Aug. 2015, over 31 years 7 months after banding. 19 km S.

(This is the oldest recorded for the species.)

Purple-crowned Fairy-wren *Malurus coronatus*

026-06164 plus colour bands LDymRDm. Adult (2-) male banded by J. C. Z. Woinarski at the Victoria River access Boat-ramp, Gregory National Park, NT on 7 Aug. 2002. Colour marking sighted in field (band number inferred) at banding place on 7 Jun. 2015, 12 years, 10 months after banding.

(This is the oldest recorded for the species.)

Speckled Warbler *Pyrrholaemus sagittatus*

019-73349. Adult (1+) male banded by R. Jacobs at Burrendong Arboretum, near Wellington, NSW on 30 May. 2009. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place on 21 Nov. 2015, over 6 years, 6 months after banding.

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

019-20399. Adult (1+) banded by A. & A. Leishman at Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, NSW on 24 April 2005. Recaptured, released alive with band twice the last occasion by G. Fry on 18 April, 2014, 9 years after banding.

(The bird was also banded with band no. 019-95575.)

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides*

018-87343. Adult (1+) banded by G. Fry at Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, NSW on 11 May 2009. Recaptured, released alive with band on 15 Aug. 2015, over 6 years, 3 months after banding.

(The bird was also banded with band no. 019-95723.)

Inland Thornbill *Acanthiza apicalis*

(a) 018-57959. Adult (2+) banded by G. Fry at Warraderry State Forest, near Grenfell, NSW on 14 Dec. 2008. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place five times, the last occasion on 23 Sep. 2015, over 6 years, 9 months after banding.

(b) 018-57986. Immature (1) banded by G. Fry at Warraderry State Forest, near Grenfell, NSW on 14 Dec. 2008. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place three times, the last occasion on 17 May. 2015, over 7 years, 5 months after banding.

(The bird was also banded with band no. 019-95338.)

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

(a) 026-10498. Adult (1+) banded by C. Kinross at Burrendong Arboretum, near Wellington, NSW on 5 Jun. 2005. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place ten times the last occasion by J. Allnutt on 22 Nov. 2015, over 10 years and 5 months after banding.

(b) 026-32431. Adult (2+) male banded by D. McKay at Burrendong Arboretum, near Wellington NSW on 5 May 2007. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place twice the last occasion by A. Hunt on 21 Nov. 2015, over 8 years, 6 months after banding.

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*

(a) 035-14220. Adult (3+) male banded by G. Fry at Warraderry State Forest, near Grenfell, NSW on 7 Oct. 2007. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place on 25 Sep. 2015, over 7 years 11 months after banding.

(b) 035-14226. Adult (3+) male banded by G. Fry at Warraderry State Forest, near Grenfell, NSW on 7 Oct. 2007. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place on 25 Sep. 2015, over 7 years, 11 months after banding.

(The above two birds were banded on the same day and at the same banding place in 2007 recaptured together on the same day at the banding place in 2015.)

(c) 035-26466. Adult (3+) male banded by A. & A. Leishman at Warraderry State Forest near Grenfell, NSW on 5 Oct. 2006. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place on 25 Jan. 2015, over 8 years, 4 months after banding.

Grey Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

051-80526. Adult (2+) male banded by A. R. Bougher at the Wandoo National Park (formerly Dobaderry Nature Reserve) near Beverley, WA on 17 May 2003. Recaptured, released alive with band at banding place on 28 Jun. 2015, over 12 years, 1 month after banding.

BANDING SNIPPET

Pink Robins



Only three Pink Robins have been banded in the Sydney Region: the first at Shaw's Creek (May 1984) below the Blue Mountains escarpment and adjacent to Hawkesbury Heights, the second at Nurragingy Reserve, Doonside (July 2013) and the third at Wianamatta Nature Reserve near Penrith (August 2014 and retrapped in June and August 2015). There have also been three observations recorded from around Sydney – Picnic Point (August 1972), Castle Hill (April 1975) and St. Ives (June 1985) and two near Wollongong – Primbee (Sept 1987) and Bulli (September 1988).

It is unlikely that the Pink Robin banded by us in 2014 and retrapped twice at the same locality in 2015 travelled from the species' northerly limit of its known breeding range in the Brindabella Ranges west of Canberra, approximately 250 kilometres south, to this locality two years running. It has been speculated that in the Canberra area the Pink Robin is a winter migrant from its high altitude breeding areas to the relatively warmer lower altitudes. The most likely scenario is that in the Sydney region the species is also an altitudinal, rather than latitudinal, migrant and probably spends most of its time (breeding season September to April) in the densely forested valleys of the Blue Mountains and moves east out of the mountains to winter on the relatively warmer Cumberland Plain.

Rose Robins, a similar species, are known to migrate from the Blue Mountains to the Cumberland Plain during winter months and are regularly sighted and captured at our study sites at Scheyville National Park, Agnes Banks Nature Reserve, Windsor Downs Nature Reserve, Nurragingy Reserve, Prospect Nature Reserve and Wianamatta Nature Reserve. Perhaps the Pink Robins are following the same altitudinal movement pattern.

Pink Robins breed in the dense understory of wet sclerophyll forests and rainforests, such as occur in the deep gullies and valleys of the eastern and central Blue Mountains. It is possible that in this region they occupy areas that are rarely visited by skilled bird observers, or they have been misidentified as the relatively common Rose Robin. The plumage features to watch for are a prominent frons white spot (lower forehead – base of upper mandible), rufous wing bars, lack of white in tail and a pink (as distinct from rose-red) breast or wash on the breast.

John Farrell and Jeff Hardy