

He was one of the original associate members of the Bird Banders Association of Australia (at that time only licensed banders were members). Over the years he most willingly helped the Association and its successor the Australian Bird Study Association in many ways. He helped with editing material, checking the annual indices of volumes, commenting on papers submitted and various similar tasks. Always prepared to help, he wrote reviews of publications for most volumes of *The Australian Bird Bander*.

Finally, I am a better person for having known Arnold McGill and having shared his friendship for so many years.

S.G.L.

He enjoyed travelling, which gave him an insight into the urgency of emerging problems of conservation, and during his last few years he planned the establishment of scholarships for black South African students to study this subject at the University of Aberdeen.

Throughout all these ventures Robert was helped by his wife, Chriss, who was his very able field assistant, his eyes (he was colour blind and Chriss played an unwritten vital role in reading colour-bands), his listener, his critic, his companion, and in latter years, his nurse when he was not well. They were a couple full of kindness and of great generosity, whose house was open to many. Chriss died suddenly in Capetown early this year and Robert never really recovered from the shock; fortunately his own death was equally sudden while he slept in his chair. Those of us whose lives have been enriched by knowing the Carricks shall never forget them.

M.D.M.

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## OBITUARY

Dr Robert Carrick died suddenly on August 17 at Rogart, Sutherland, Scotland. After graduating from Glasgow University he obtained his Ph.D. at Edinburgh and for a short period he was a member of the staff of Leeds University, a period interrupted by World War II when he saw service in Italy, Burma and India. In 1948 he joined the Department of Zoology, University of Aberdeen, where he was able to commence seriously his interests in ornithology, applying his imaginative and critical abilities to a field study of the European Starling. His study of the Northern Fulmar on Eynehallow, Orkney, was continued by his student, Professor George Durnet, and is one of the longest continuous studies of a seabird. From Aberdeen, Robert Carrick joined the CSIRO Wildlife Section in Canberra, where he founded the Australian Bird-Banding Scheme and became a great friend of this Association. One of the initial co-operative projects of the Scheme was the banding of the Silver Gulls in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia, and his encouragement stimulated the banding study of the Wandering Albatross off the New South Wales coast. His own study was initially the feeding behaviour of ibises. Then he commenced his classic study of the Black-backed Magpie, in which he set the standards of meticulous field work for which he became renowned. Another interest was Antarctic Biology, a field in which he again set standards with his studies of the Royal Penguin, Wandering Albatross and Southern Elephant Seals at Macquarie Island. However, these were not his sole interests and many students and colleagues were encouraged to study other fauna of this environment. In addition, he played a major role in the drafting and obtaining acceptance of the Agreed Measures for the Protection of the Antarctic Fauna and Flora. He also played an advisory role in the initial creation of national parks in Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales. On leaving Canberra he moved to the Mawson Institute, University of Adelaide, where he continued his Antarctic interests, and developed another detailed study of the Silver Gull, again advancing the state of the art of field studies. His main interest was population regulation and the role of territories and influence of available food; this theme may be seen running through all his papers, usually with refreshing insight.

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## New Members

DAVIES, G. B., Alice Springs, N.T.  
 DUNN, A. M., Bundoora, Vic.  
 EGAN, K., Belmore, NSW  
 GRIFFIN, R. O., Colac, Vic.  
 HEAP, C., Byford, W.A.  
 NATT, Mrs V. A., Kingston, S.A.  
 PARNABY, H. E., Kensington, NSW  
 PATERSON, I. B., Lane Cove, NSW  
 PUTT, T., Brighton, Vic.  
 SMITH, R. J., Gateshead, NSW  
 SUTTON, P. H., Forster, Vic.