

White-tailed Black-Cockatoo*Calyptorhynchus baudinii*

210-00472. Adult banded by D. A. Saunders at Coomaloo Creek, WA on 5 Dec. 73. Found shot near banding place on 10 Oct. 80, over 6 years 10 months after banding.

Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus*

250-02025. Banded by C. Cannon at Currumbin Beach, Qld on 29 Apr. 80. Recaptured at Burleigh Heads, Qld on 10 Jan. 81. 8 km NNW.

Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*

090-50401. Banded by G. S. Clark at Botanic Gardens, ACT on 24 May, 75. Found dead near banding place on 3 Mar. 81, over 5 years 9 months after banding.

White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*

(a) 020-59137. Adult female banded by J. L. McKean at Bushrangers Creek, Brindabella Ranges, ACT on 8 Nov. 70. Recaptured at banding place by I. Grant on 21 Dec. 80, over 10 years 1 month after banding.

(b) 020-99369. Adult male banded by G. Horey at New Chum's Road, Brindabella Ranges, ACT on 28 Dec. 70. Recaptured at banding place six times, the last occasion by the BBG on 20 Aug. 80, over 9 years and 4 months after banding.

(c) 021-99890. Adult male banded by G. Horey at New Chum's Road, Brindabella Ranges, ACT on 13 Sept. 71. Recaptured at banding place three times, the last occasion by the BBG on 14 Sept. 80, over 9 years after banding.

White-throated Treecreeper*Climacteris leucophaea*

030-24467. Adult female banded by G. Horey at New Chum's Road, Brindabella Ranges, ACT on 2 Oct. 72. Recaptured at banding place 10 times, the last occasion by the BBG on 10 Aug. 80, over 7 years 10 months after banding.

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*

011-92510. Juvenile banded by S. J. Wilson at New Chum's Road, Brindabella Ranges, ACT on 14 Feb. 70. Recaptured at banding place six times, the last occasion by the BBG on 14 Sept. 80, over 10 years 7 months after banding.

Satin Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

090-45989. Immature banded by G. P. Clancy at Tumbi Umbi, near Tuggerah, NSW on 11 Mar. 73. Caught near banding place (released with band) on 15 Feb. 81, over 7 years 11 months after banding.

Regent Bowerbird *Sericulus chrysocephalus*

061-17811. Banded by P. A. White at Tumbi Umbi, near Tuggerah, NSW on 18 Feb. 78. Found dead near Holgate, NSW on 8 Nov. 80. 7 km SSW.

Australian Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*

060-03068. Immature banded by S. R. Tingay at Koongamia, WA on 12 Feb. 74. Found dead near banding place on 10 Jan. 81, 6 years 11 months after banding. (This is the oldest recorded for this species).

REVIEW

Learning About Australian Birds, by Rosemary Balmford. William Collins Pty. Ltd., 1980. 240 pp., 8 Coloured Plates, many B & W figures. \$16.95.

The highly-qualified professional ornithologist and the casual bird-watcher each had a common beginning. There was a time in their respective lives when they first realised both the desire and the need to identify a certain species of bird, either by sight or sound. This book is intended to assist such persons from that original enquiring beginning and details various ways in which research can be continued. As the author states in the Introduction — "Bird study can be a lifetime's activity, begun or continued at any age. All kinds of people find a common interest in birds, and the friendships arising from this interest form no small part of the pleasures which it brings".

Nevertheless, even the bird-observer of long standing will find helpful material throughout. Each of the thirteen chapters covers various aspects of field ornithology that will materially assist the embryo observer. Such a section as "What bird is that?" contains helpful advice concerning the diagnostic characteristics which distinguishes birds that share one common group name from another. Although aimed mostly towards the elementary side of ornithology the final two chapters deal with more "heavy" aspects, such as evolution and palaeontology.

Both scientific and common names follow the recent lists, although the author states: "I am not entirely happy with all the vernacular names used in the *Check-list* and *Interim List*". Who is, except the person who originally designed them? Stability and uniformity is desirable, but both these RAOU publications surely unstabilised what was mostly in use during the previous half century.

The drawings of Rhyllis Plant are well-executed and the colour plates of birds from Mark Gottsch's photographs makes one wish there could have been many more. Stephen Davies states in his Foreword — "There are large numbers of Australians interested in birds, but without a guide book to foster this interest". This does imply a prior lack of any like publication, but P. A. Bourke's *Elementary Bird Study*, published in 1955, is somewhat similar and certainly assisted many would-be bird observers in past years.

In the section "Further Reading", occupying pages 214 to 231 it is somewhat strange that among the many authors of selected books and articles in this comprehensive coverage the names of such men as A. H. Chisholm and K. A. Hindwood are not mentioned, yet these two contributed more to Australian ornithology than any other writers on that subject, past or present.

Despite some light criticism, this book contains helpful information and everyone desirous of furthering their knowledge among the ever-increasing band of bird observers will find in this book much of interest.

A. R. McGill, Moorebank, N.S.W.