

**Buff-rumped Thornbill** *Acanthiza reguloides*

012-95652. Adult banded by J. T. Richards at Murchison, Vic. on 20 Aug. 77. Recaptured at banding place by D. G. Roberts on 20 Aug. 83, 6 years after banding. (This is the oldest recorded for this species.)

**Red Wattlebird** *Anthochaera carunculata*

071-32173. Adult male banded by E. B. Male near Millwood Dam, Bendigo Whipstick, Vic. on 25 Sept. 83. Recovered at Elphinstone, Vic. on 15 Nov. 83, 60 km S.

**Yellow Wattlebird** *Anthochaera paradoxa*

070-07030. Banded by N. P. Ali at Lower Sandy Bay, Tas. on 3 Apr. 74. Found "dead in donkey's plastic water bin" at banding place on 31st Dec. 83, over 9 years 9 months after banding. (This is the oldest recorded for this species through ABBS.)

**Yellow-tufted Honeyeater***Lichenostomus melanops*

031-32279. Immature banded by A. K. Morris at Mung-horn Gap Nature Reserve near Mudgee, NSW on 22 Oct. 74. Recaptured at banding place three times, the last occasion by J. W. Hardy on 20 April 84, over 9 years 5 months after banding.

**Black-chinned Honeyeater** *Melithreptus gularis*

031-48780. Adult banded by G. Logan at Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve near Mudgee, NSW on 9 April 77. Recaptured at banding place three times, the last occasion by A. K. Morris on 22 April 84, over 7 years after banding.

**Pied Currawong** *Strepera graculina*

091-00190. Banded by H. L. Bell at Aranda, ACT on 24 May, 73. Found dead (upper mandible has been missing for several years) at banding place on 23 Feb. 84, over 10 years 9 months after banding.

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## New Members

ASQUITH, M., Gordon, N.S.W.

CULLEN, Dr M., Clayton, Vic.

MAJOR, R., Clayton, Vic.

MERROTSY, P. L. Canungra, Qld.

ROOKE, J., Casterton, Vic.

SCHMIDT, L., Subiaco, W.A.

SMITH, G. C., Nathan, Qld.

WAKEFIELD, Dr W. C., Lenah Valley, Tas.

WOOD, G. A. Atherton, Qld.

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## REVIEW

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**Fairy Penguins and Earthy People.** Pauline Reilly, 1983, Lothian Publishing Company Pty Ltd, Melbourne. 92 pp., 35 drawings, 1 map, bibliography. \$5.95.

Pauline Reilly's work on the Little Penguin, *Eudyptula minor*, extending over a period of 13 years, is now well known to all interested ornithologists in Australia and to many overseas. The results of these studies are embodied in a series of papers by herself and Professor J. M. Cullen, published in *Emu*, as well as by a chapter in Bernard Stonehouse's definitive work on *The Biology of Penguins* (1974) and numerous shorter papers. However, in the present book Pauline addresses herself to the interested spectator, with a most happy result.

It is important for the scientific community, especially in a field of widespread interest such as this, that the results of its researches should be made available to the general public in an interesting and understandable form. And those who address themselves to this task are performing a valuable service both to their science and to the general community.

In this book Pauline sets out to describe both the story and the results of 13 years work by the Penguin Study Group (PSG) under her leadership, in an entertaining and readable form. (The Penguin Study Group is a part of the Victorian Ornithologists Research Group.) Starting with a chapter on how the study began, she follows its progress with a chapter on each season's work, introducing new aspects of the study as she goes. To give continuity to her story, she details the fortunes of individual birds as they returned to nest season after season, identifying them by the pet names used by the PSG. Ebb and Flo remained faithful over 12 consecutive seasons, during which Flo laid 32 eggs, till one year Ebb failed to return. Other characters were much less constant. Jezebel had four different mates, who in turn had to find solace elsewhere. And the whole text is enlivened by the numerous black-and-white drawings of Ralph Keller, who displays his talent in this direction to good advantage.

In this way the whole story is covered in a short book of 90 pages, a considerable part of them occupied by the illustrations. Perhaps to compensate for this, the print, though very clear, is small to a point which some older people may find trying. This is my only criticism. The need for such a book is clearly demonstrated by the fact that every year many thousands of visitors to Phillip Island, some of them coming expressly for this purpose, go to view the Little Penguins on their nightly parade.

But it should not be thought that this is a book only or even primarily for the casual visitor. Written by an authority on the species, it contains a great deal of original information and many serious ornithologists will read it with enjoyment. It is also an easy way of brushing up on a study which has now become a classical piece of work. As well, it may stimulate some who read it to take a deeper interest in the subject of ornithology.

A. M. Gwynn, Albury, N.S.W.