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THE SUNBIRD

Volume 15 Number 3

September, 1985.

THE QUEENSLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY BIRD REPORT, 1984

TONY PALLISER

This second annual QOS Bird Report presents a selection of the State's more interesting bird records for the calendar year of 1984. It is encouraging to note that the number of records received and the number of observers sending them have substantially increased since the 1983 report (Stewart 1984). It is hoped this trend will continue into future years.

Perhaps the most exciting event of 1984 was the addition of two new species for Queensland, namely Soft-plumaged Petrel and Lesser Yellowlegs. The latter being the second record for Australia. The continued visits by Magpie Geese to South-East Queensland, in spite of the drought breaking, suggests these are due to factors other than the climate. Point Lookout on North Stradbroke Island continues to supply the State with interesting seabird sightings. In South-East Queensland waders were down in numbers with the exception of a small influx of Broad-billed Sandpipers.

METHODS

Records submitted have been vetted by the compiler and an informal committee. Especially unusual reports have not been included unless substantiated by detailed field notes, specimens or photographs.

In addition to those sent to QOS other records were gained by searching the following newsletters: Australian Birding Association, Cosmic Flashes (April '84 to June '85); The Bird Observers

Club Newsletter (April '84 to March '85); Queensland Ornithological Society Newsletter (Feb.'84 to May '85); RAOU Newsletter (March '84 to March '85); and Urimbirra (Feb.'84 to Dec. '84).

Exclusion from this bird report in no way implies that a record was considered erroneous.

Nomenclature follows the RAOU (1978) with the exception of White-necked Petrel *Pterodroma cervicalis* which is now split from the Juan Fernandez Petrel *Pterodroma externa* (Imber 1985) and the Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata* split from White's Thrush *Zoothera dauma* by Ford (1983).

Details of the location are only given with the first reference to that location but the region of each sighting is shown in parentheses in the Systematic List. For locations see Readers Digest (1977). The regions are shown in Fig. 1. and follow Dahms (1978). Initials of the observers appear after the dates of their observations. A list of observers and their initials appears below.

ABBREVIATIONS

bw	beach washed	QM	Queensland Museum
CQ	Central Queensland	QNPWS	Qld. National Parks & Wildlife Service
E	East	QOS	Queensland Ornithological Society
I.	Island	S	South
km	kilometre	SCQ	South-Central Queensland
MEQ	Mid-East Queensland	SEQ	South-East Queensland
Mt.	Mount	SWQ	South-West Queensland
N	North	W	West
NCQ	North-Central Queensland	WCQ	West-Central Queensland
NEQ	North-East Queensland		
NP	National Park		
NWQ	North-West Queensland		
Pt.	Point		

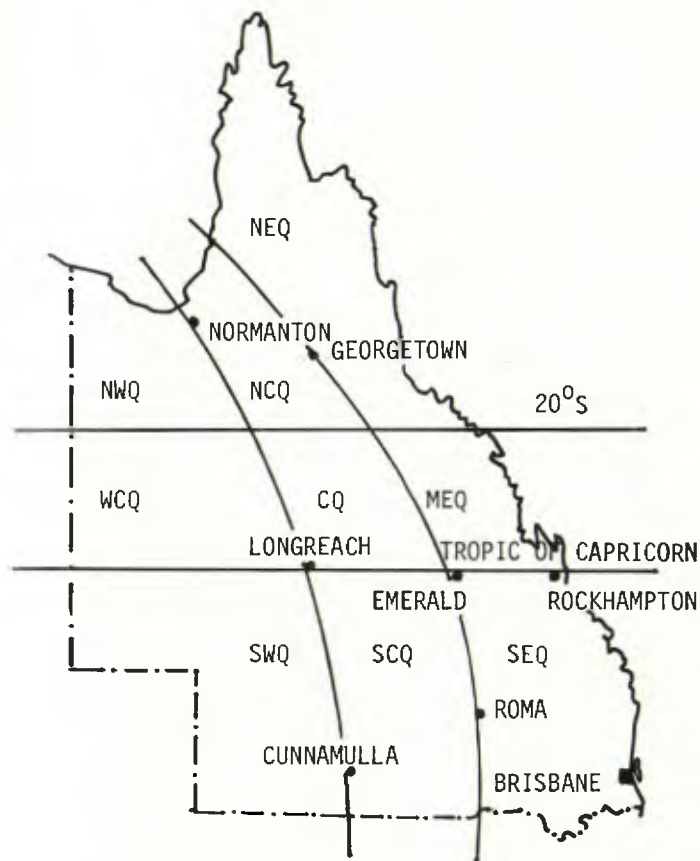


FIG. 1. Queensland districts mentioned in the text.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I gratefully acknowledge all those QOS members and friends who contributed to this report. I am particularly indebted to the following for their advice and assistance: Chris Corben, David A. Stewart, Anita Smyth and Glen Ingram. Wayne Longmore kindly gave me access to Queensland Museum specimens and bird records.

LIST OF OBSERVERS

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KB	KEVIN BARTRAM	SH	S HEUSSLER
RB	R BAUER	AH	A HIGGS
PB	PETER BERRY	HH	HARRY HINES
KBE	K BETTERIDGE	GH	GLEN HOLMES
MB	MATTHEW BLISS	W&HH	W & H HORTON
RBR	RAY BROOKER	KH	K HUGHES
JB	J BROWN	KJ	K JAKES
DB	D BURNETT	DJ	DAVID JAMES
SB	SCOTT BURNETT	MJ	M JOHNSON
HB	HARDY BUZACOTT	JK	J KIKKAWA
MC	MIKE CARTER	PK	P KUMMEROU
JCV	JANET COVACEVICH	PL	PETER LANGSLEY
JCH	J CHOSTNER	GL	GRAHAM LEACH
RC	R COBCROFT	PLN	P LEHMAN
FC	F COOMBES	AM	A MAGARRY
CC	CHRIS CORBEN	DM	DAWN MAGARRY
PC	PATRICIA COSTER	JM	J MOVERLY
JC	JOHN CROWHURST	PMR	PHILLIP MAHER
GD	GERRALD DALY	PM	P MOHONEY
AD	A DANSON	RM	R MOHONEY
BD	B DIXON	NM	NOELA MARR
RD	ROBERT DRUMMOND	KM	K MOORE
PD	P DURBIDGE	TM	TIM MURPHY
DE	DAVID EADES	AMC	ALAN MCBRIDE
REH	R ELVISH	PMC	PAT MCCONNELL
R&JE	R & J EVANS	NMC	NEIL MCKILLIGAN
TF	TOM FERRIER	DMC	D MCNAMARA
NF	N FLITTNER	PMCR	P MCRAE (QNPWS)
BF	BRIAN FOULIS	GN	G NEILSON
GG	GEOFFREY GOADBY	DN	DAVID NILAND

LIST OF OBSERVERS

JN	J NOYCE	DS	DAVID STEWART (MULLUMBIMBY)
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GP	GRAHAM PALMER	JS	J STEWART
CP	C PATTERSON	ES	ERIC STICKLER
PP	PAM PATTERSON	FS	F STOKES
CPY	CHRIS PAVEY	BTW	BETTY TEMPLE- WATTS
PPK	PAUL PEAKE	JT	J THORNTON
JP	JIM PORTER	CT	C TOUISANT
PPR	PAUL PRICE	GT	GLEN TRELFO
BRY	BRUCE RAMSEY	IV	IAN VENABLES
DRD	DAVID REDHEAD	JWH	JOAN WALSH
TRD	TIM REID	R&JW	R & J WALTER
TR	TERRY REIS	AW	A WEST
CR	C RESSOM	NW	DR NORMAN WETTENHALL
GR	GREG ROBERTS	KW	KEITH WILLIAMS
PR	P ROE	MW	MALCOLM WILSON
DR	D ROGERS	RW	R D WOODCROFT
BR	B RYAN	JW	JOHN WREN
MJS	M J SCANLAN	GW	GEOFF WRIGHT
LS	L SHARROCK		
RS	R SHARROCK		
JSK	J SKOK		
AS	ANITA SMYTH		

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SYSTEMATIC LIST

- Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*. Many records received from SEQ, all being of small numbers in winter months from Lake Clarendon, Atkinson Dam, Somerset Dam and Samsonvale; also (2) birds at Lake Nuga Nuga in the Arcadia Valley (SEQ) OCT. 11 ES.
- Hoary-headed Grebe** *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*. Smaller numbers than usual, largest count was of c.20 birds at Seven Mile Lagoon (SEQ) March 25 CPY; Recorded at McAllister Station, SW of Normanton (NCQ) in Sept. NW.
- Little Penguin** *Eudyptula minor*. (1) bird found alive on Main Beach, N Stradbroke I. during an Army exercise April 8; (1) on Heron I. (SEQ) in late June JK (also on TV news).
- Black-browed Albatross** *Diomedea melanophrys*. (1) sighted from Pt. Danger (SEQ) May 19 CC, AS; (5) birds off Pt. Lookout, N Stradbroke I. May 20 TP, RD.
- Giant Petrel** *Macronectes* sp. (1) bird at Michaelmas Cay (NEQ) well north of its normal range June 30 RBR; (1) sighted from Pt. Lookout July 8 CC, TP, AS, DAS.
- Southern Giant-Petrel** *Macronectes giganteus*. (1) bird bw Sunshine Beach (SEQ) Aug. 6 R&JE (specimen in QM).
- Northern Giant-Petrel** *Macronectes halli*. (1) bird bw Southport Spit (SEQ) Aug. 5 JVC, AD (specimen in QM).
- White-headed Petrel** *Pterodroma lessonii*. (1) bird bw Moreton Island (SEQ) Sept. 13 AW (specimen in QM).
- White-necked Petrel** *Pterodroma cervicalis*. The increased sightings of this bird suggest it may not be as rare as previously supposed. (1) bird off Pt. Lookout, Feb. 11 QOS boat trip; (1) Feb. 19 CC, TP, AS, DAS; (1) bird flying over a flooded paddock c.1 km N of Mudgeeraba (SEQ) April 9 CC, TP, AS, DAS.
- Providence Petrel** *Pterodroma solandri*. Single birds sighted from Pt. Lookout May 20 RD, TP and July 15 CC, TP. AS.

- Tahiti Petrel** *Pterodroma rostrata*. (1) seen on edge of continental shelf off N Stradbroke I. (SEQ) Feb. 11 QOS boat trip.
- Soft-plumaged Petrel** *Pterodroma mollis*. (1) found alive at Maryborough (SEQ) July 20 and subsequently died five days later. Specimen lodged in QM. This being the first Queensland Record (The Bird Observer 632, p92 F & T Smith).
- Gould's Petrel** *Pterodroma leucoptera*. (3) sighted off Pt. Lookout Feb. 11 QOS boat trip.
- Prion** *Pachyptila* sp. (1) unidentified bird sighted off Pt. Lookout July 8 CC, TP, AS, DAS.
- Petrel** *Procellaria* sp. (1) either *P. westlandica* or *P. aequinoctialis* off Pt. Lookout July 15 CC, TP, AS.
- Streaked Shearwater** *Calonectris leucomelas*. Sightings from Pt. Lookout include (17) Feb. 19 CC, TP, AS, DAS; (29) March 10 CC, AS; (6) March 19 KB, CC, TP; (1) March 17 QUOS boat trip; (1) bird off Caloundra Head (SEQ) March 25 DAS.
- Flesh-footed Shearwater** *Puffinus carneipes*. Many sightings from Pt. Lookout during the summer months CC, TP, AS, DAS *et al*.
- Wedge-tailed Shearwater** *Puffinus pacificus*. (1) pale phase bird, Pt. Lookout Oct. 21 CC, AS.
- Buller's Shearwater** *Puffinus bulleri*. (1) off Pt. Lookout Feb. 11 QOS boat trip.
- Sooty Shearwater** *Puffinus griseus*. (2) bw on Main Beach, N Stradbroke I. Nov. 17 DAS, DJ.
- Short-tailed Shearwater** *Puffinus tenuirostris*. (1) sighted in Deception Bay (SEQ) Jan. NM.
- Fluttering Shearwater** *Puffinus gavia*. Small numbers sighted throughout the year off Pt. Lookout CC, TP, AS DAS, *et al*.

- Hutton's Shearwater** *Puffinus huttoni*. Sightings from Pt. Lookout include (1) Feb. 19 CC, TP, AS, DAS; (3) March 17 QOS boat trip; (2) Dec. 16 CC, DAS; (1) sighted off Caloundra Head (SEQ) March 25 DAS.
- Wilson's Storm-petrel** *Oceanites oceanicus*. (1) off Pt. Lookout April 14 CC, TP, DAS, AS.
- White-bellied Storm-Petrel** *Fregetta grallaria*. (1) sighted near Flat Rock off Pt. Lookout Feb. 11 QOS boat trip.
- Australian Gannet** *Morus serrator*. (249) counted in 15 minutes off Wickham Pt. near Caloundra (SEQ) May 28 HB.
- Masked Booby** *Sula dactylatra*. (1) sighted off Caloundra (SEQ) July 23 HB.
- Brown Booby** *Sula leucogaster*. (4) individuals sighted at Scarborough (SEQ) July 4 PM.
- Least Frigatebird** *Fregata ariel*. All sightings from Pt. Lookout (7) Jan. 30, AD,GP; (1) March 10 CC, AS.
- Red-Tailed Tropicbird** *Phaethon rubricauda*. (1) sighted off Shelly Beach, Caloundra (SEQ) July 27 HB.
- White-tailed Tropicbird** *Phaethon lepturus*. (1) picked up alive at Manly, Brisbane on April 9 after "Claytons" cyclone and released at Victoria Point (SEQ) April 12 DB.
- Great-billed Heron** *Ardea sumatrana*. Many sightings of a single bird on CSR road, Yarrabah (NEQ) from June 17 to Aug. 19, AM, DM, JC *et al.*
- Cattle Egret** *Ardeola ibis*. Westerly records include a record from "Brooklyn" near Toobeah (SEQ) Jan. 1 PP, (12) birds at Dalby (SEQ) Nov. 10 PMC, TR, BF.
- Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus minutus*. (1) at Lytton (SEQ) Dec. 23 TRD, PL, DAS; two at Minden (SEQ) Dec. 9 to Dec. 17 GL, HH, KH, CC, CPY, DAS.



Red-tailed Tropicbird *Paethon rubricauda* photographed at Cape Clear, Lord Howe Island on 5th March, 1985. (Tony Palliser)

Black Bittern *Dupetor flavicollis*. Regularly noted throughout the year along Milton, Toowong and St. Lucia reaches of Brisbane River (SEQ) IV; (1) on the beach at Deception Bay (SEQ) April 12 NM; (1) at Bulli Creek c.17 km SW of Millmerran (SEQ) Jan. 19 R&JW; (1) at Biloela (SEQ) May 5 PMC; (1) at Flagstone Creek (SEQ) Sept. 26 to Oct. 20 PMC, MA, TP.

Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*. Sighted at "Cytherea" c.80 km SW of Mitchell (SCQ) April 25-26 CP,PP; (1) at "Ballanbroke" near Kingaroy June 9 (Urimbirra 18(7), p5).

Black-necked Stork *Xenorhynchus asiaticus*. Many records received from SEQ throughout the year including breeding records from Bald Hills and Brackenridge DAS, KM *et al.*

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*. Small numbers recorded throughout the year from Luggate Pt., Seven Mile Lagoon and Lytton (SEQ) by many observers.

Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopica*. (1) on Heron Island (SEQ) May 11 JK (a vagrant there).

Magpie Goose *Anseranas semipalmata*. The influx of this species into SEQ has continued throughout 1984. (4) at Brooklyn Jan. 5 CP,PP; (1) at Bellevue, nr Chinchilla Feb. 21 H. Mason (Urimbirra 18(3), p3); (15) just N of Taroom. April 17 R. Hando (Urimbirra 18(8), p5); (14) at Eagleby Swamp, Beenleigh June KW; (10) at Old Man Lagoon, Chinchilla June 2 MW; (4) Oxenford July 1 ES; (1) at Linville Sept. GN; (12) c.20 km E of Chinchilla Sept. 22 CP,PP; (30+) at Lake Nuga Nuga in the Arcadia Valley (SEQ) Oct. 11 DA, GH *et al*; (44) in the Gympie area Nov. NM; (1) at Wooroolin Fauna Reserve near Murgon Dec. 15 PP, DR; records from Sandgate Lagoon include c.40 June 30 ES; (9 to c.80) Aug. ES, CC; (5) Dec. 29 DAS.

Wandering Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*. As in 1983 still present in larger numbers than usual in SEQ. (4) at Kilcoy (SEQ) Oct. 14 MA; sighted at Wooroolin Swamp (SEQ) Nov. 23-28 PP & DR; sighted at Moffatdale near Murgon (SEQ) Nov. 9 PP & DR; sighted at Goomeri (SEQ) Nov. 28 PP, DR; c.20 at Sandgate Lagoon (SEQ) Dec. 29 DAS.

Plumed Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*. 300+ at Merinda, Bowen (NEQ) July 21 and 250+ at Pioneer (NEQ) Oct. 7, both being exceptionally high counts for these areas JW.

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa*. A small party noted on Lake Bindigolly (SWQ) April 30 CC, TP, DAS, AS; (2) near Cooroy (SEQ) Oct. NM; c.10 birds between Ingham and Forest Beach (NEQ) Oct. 3 BD.

Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides*. About (12) at Townsville Common (NEQ) June 25 NMC. These being well N of normal range.

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea*. (2) resident throughout the year at Seven Mile Lagoon (SEQ) CC, TP, DAS *et al*; (1) at Lake Broadwater near Dalby (SEQ) apparently the second record here Dec. 4 MW.

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*. Small numbers present throughout the year in the Brisbane Valley; (55) were at Seven Mile Lagoon (SEQ) Aug. 15 ES; (8) including three young birds at Doboy, Brisbane March 24 CPY, MB, PPR; (2) at Rocklea (SEQ) Jan. 1 JT.

- Cotton Pygmy-goose** *Nettapus coramandelianus*. At Atkinsons Dam (SEQ) throughout the year with maximum of 18 in March CC, CPY, DAS, DJ, TP, AS *et al.* (12) at Lowood (SEQ), March 28 DAS, PLN; (4) at Lake Clarendon (SEQ) April 22 ES; (2) birds on Rewan Station near Rolleston (SEQ) Oct. 11 DA, GH; (1) at Silverleaf Weir, Byee near Murgon (SEQ) Dec. 6 PP, DR.
- Green Pygmy-goose** *Nettapus pulchellus*. Recorded with Cotton Pygmy-Geese just N of Taroom (SEQ) April 17. R Hando (Urimbirra 18(8), p5).
- Blue-billed Duck** *Oxyura australis*. (1) well out of its normal range at Wynnum North (SEQ) Feb. BR; A small party noted on Lake Bindigolly (SWQ) CC, DAS.
- Musk Duck** *Biziura lobata*. (1) at Hoods Lagoon, near Helidon (SEQ) Feb. 19 MA; (1) on Fraser Island June 16 AW; (1) at 19 Mile Swamp, N Stradbroke I. Dec. 23 HH, GL.
- Pacific Baza** *Aviceda subcristata*. Westerly records include (2) at Mitchell (SCQ) Sept. 4 RS, and a breeding record from Riverside, Chinchilla (SEQ) Dec. 84 IV; seen regularly in winter months in the Kenmore area (SEQ) IV; (1) 7 km N of Mitchell (SCQ) Dec. 2 DA, RS, LS.
- Square-tailed Kite** *Lophoictinia isura*. (1) 41 km E of Adavale March 14; (1) 70 km E of Adavale (SWQ) March 14 DJ, DAS; (1) 14 km E of Roma (SEQ) March 15 DJ, DAS; (1) at Cythera (SCQ) April 19 PP; (1) at Mt. Molloy (NEQ) May 6 AM, DM, JC; (1) at Wondecla (NEQ) June 9 AM, DM, JC; (1) at Paluma Dam near Townsville (NEQ) June 29 CPY; (1) at Lake Clarendon (SEQ) Dec. CC, CPY, DAS.
- Black-breasted Buzzard** *Hamirostra melanosternon*. (1) pale phase bird at Cloncurry (NWQ) Jan. 24 JW; (1) at Auburn River National Park (SEQ) April QOS camp; (1) c.16 km SW of Mitchell (SCQ) April 19 PP.
- Grey Goshawk** *Accipiter novaehollandiae*. (1) suburban record West End, Brisbane Sept. 20 FG.
- Red Goshawk** *Erythrotriorchis radiatus*. Single birds at The Gap Brisbane April 24, DRD; at Mt. Allen, Conondale Ranges (SEQ) Sept. GD, TP, DAS *et al.*; and Iron Range (NEQ) Dec. 7 MC, TP.

- Little Eagle** *Hieraaetus morphnoides*. (1) at Pullenvale (SEQ) June 12 DA.
- Black Falcon** *Falco subniger*. Recorded as being numerous in the Davenport Downs area (SWQ) in May PMR; (1) at Spring Hill, Brisbane June 1 TM; (1) at Atkinsons Dam (SEQ) June 3 TP; recorded at McAllister Station SW of Normanton (NWQ) in Sept. NW.
- Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*. All sightings of single birds. (1) chasing Galahs at Wooroolin Swamp (SEQ) Jan. 25 PP, DR; A juvenile at Mt. Elphinstone (SEQ) June 6 DA; (1) at Greenwood, Condamine (SEQ) Sept. 21 PP; (1) Jondah (SWQ) Sept. 24 MW; (1) Murgon (SEQ) Oct. 6 PP, DR.
- Australian Hobby** *Falco longipennis*. Brisbane suburban records include (1) at Brisbane Airport Jan. 7 ES; (1) at Taringa July 3 DA; (1) at Archerfield May 20 ES; (1) at Hendra Oct. 13 ES; also a single bird sighted at Southport (SEQ) May 20 ES.
- Grey Falcon** *Falco hypoleucos*. (1) bird sighted c.40 km SSE of Winton (CQ) in July SH.
- Painted Button-quail** *Turnix varia*. Notable westerly records include (1) at Cythera (SCQ) April 23 and July 3 PP; (1) bird 74 km S of Mitchell in mulga May 7 DA, RS, LS.
- Buff-breasted Button-quail** *Turnix olivei*. A pair at Iron Range airstrip (NEQ) Sept. DS.
- Black-breasted Button-quail** *Turnix melanogaster*. Regularly sighted in the Conondale Ranges and Ravensbourne NP (SEQ) throughout the year.
- Little Button-quail** *Turnix velox*. Recorded as being very common in grasslands between Thargominda, Eulo and Adavale (SWQ) in March and April CC, TP, DAS, DJ; (1) at Malben (CQ) April 12 JW.
- Red-chested Button-quail** *Turnix pyrrhothorax*. Recorded at Cythera (SCQ) April 22-24 CP,PP; (1) female at Jimboomba (SEQ) Nov. 24 PB.

Plains-wanderer *Pedionomus torquatus*. (6) birds including a male with two chicks on sparsely grassed reddish clay plains W of the Diamantina on Davenport Downs Station (SWQ) May 17-19 PMR.

Buff-banded Rail *Rallus philippensis*. Westerly records include; (1) at "Booringa Downs" near Mitchell (SCQ) Jan. 14 DA; (1) 5 km W of Eulo (SWQ) March 11 DJ, DAS; (1) dead bird and one heard just W of Quilpie (SWQ) Sept. 22 CC.

Lewin's Rail *Rallus pectoralis*. (1) dead bird 6 km E of Pomona (SEQ) Jan. 31 JP (specimen in QM). With the use of tape recorders several new localities for these elusive birds have now been located in SEQ where they are probably resident. (1) pair at Kenmore Aug. 15; (3) pairs at Pullenvale July 23; (1) pair at Dayboro Aug. 4; (1) pair at Indooroopilly July 16-22 TP, CC; records were also received from the Conondale Ranges, Fig Tree Pocket, Mutdapilly and Swanbank (SEQ) dates not available CC, IV.

Red-necked Crake *Rallina tricolor*. (1) bird found dead at Cairns Esplanade (NEQ) May 8 JC (specimen in QM).

Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla*. Recorded regularly throughout the year at Mutdapilly and Swanbank IV; (1) at Goomeri (SEQ) Jan. 5 - Feb. 12 PP, DR; (1) at Lytton (SEQ) Jan. 24 CR, AS; (1) at Mitchell (SCQ) April 23 JM.

Australian Crake *Porzana fluminea*. (1) at Mt. Isa (NWQ) July 19 PMC, TR, BF; (3) at Lytton (SEQ) Aug. 26 CPY and a further (6) June 9-23 TP.

Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis*. (1) dead bird picked up 3 km S of Beaudesert (SEQ) Feb. 28 RW (specimen in QM). At least (6) calling at No. 2 bore "Davenport Downs" (SWQ) May 18 PMR. A pair at Withcott (SEQ) Aug. 8 MA, PMC.

Bush Hen *Gallinula olivacea*. Recorded throughout the year at Swanbank, Kenmore, Moggill and Brookfield areas (SEQ) IV; (2) with two young at Mt. Cootha Botanic Gardens, Brisbane Jan. 29 TM; (2) at Murrarie (SEQ) March 29 RM; (1) at Sherwood (SEQ) March 31 ES; (1) found dead at Halloway Beach near Cairns (NEQ) May 27 DM (specimen in QM); (1) at Amity Pt., N Stradbroke I. Oct. 21 AS, CC, CPY.

Brolga *Grus rubicundus*. (1) at Brooklyn (SEQ) Jan. 6 PP; (1) at Deception Bay (SEQ) April 8 NM; (3) at Coolum Swamp (SEQ) April 10 HB; a sight record from Cytherea (SCQ) June 2 CP, PP; (1) at Toorbul (SEQ) July 17 HB; 200+ at Cromarty (NEQ) (an exceptionally high count) Sept. 14 JW; (3) at Bald Hills (SEQ) Sept. 29 ES; (2) at Beachmere (SEQ) Nov. NM and (3) on Dec. 11 DJ, DAS.

Australian Bustard *Ardeotis australis*. A pair at Auburn River NP (SEQ) in April QOS camp; (1) at Rockhampton (SEQ) May 27 PMC, (5) at Atherton (NEQ) Oct. 10 AMC.

Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*. (1) bird at Rewan (SEQ) Oct. 11 DA, GH *et al.*

Painted Snipe *Rostratula benghalensis*. (1) at No. 2 bore Davenport Downs (SWQ) May 18 PMR; (1) at Minden (SEQ) Sept. 23 GL, *et al.*; (1) male at Seven Mile Lagoon (SEQ) Dec. 9 CC, CPY, DAS.

Sooty Oystercatcher *Haematopus fuliginosus*. (3) at Scarborough (SEQ) July 1 NM.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*. Both races (*miles* and *novaeollandiae*) present at No. 2 bore, Davenport Downs (SWQ) May 19 PMR.

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor*. (2) at Doomben (SEQ) Sept. 3 ES; (2) at Forest Hill near Gatton (SEQ) Sept. 16 MA.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*. (1) on Cairns waterfront (NEQ) Sept 26 to Oct. 9 AM, DM, JC; (4) on a sandbank, near Moreton Island (SEQ) Nov. 10 QOS boat trip; (1) at Luggate Pt. (SEQ) Dec. 23 PL, DS, TRD.

Lesser Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica*. (63) counted at Archerfield Aerodrome (SEQ) after heavy rain March 2 TP.

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythrogonys cinctus*. A pair breeding at Kippa Ring (SEQ) Oct. 24. Apparently the first breeding record for SEQ NM.

Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bincinctus*. (16) at Scarborough (SEQ) June 23, the highest count for the season NM.

Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus*. (3) birds on Cairns waterfront (NEQ) Sept. 2 AM, DM, JC; (1) bird near "Booringa Downs" c.10 km W of Mitchell (SCQ) Oct. 20 DA.

Inland Dotterel *Peltohyas australis*. Recorded as being numerous at Davenport Downs (SWQ) May 16-19 PM; breeding near Windorah (SWQ) in Sept. CC, CPY, CR, AS.

Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*. Recorded at Lytton (SEQ) April 20 JT; (2) at Deception Bay (SEQ) July 1 DAS and a further (35) Aug. 13 NM; (7) at Keong's Lagoon near Oakey (SEQ) Aug. 28 BTW.

Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*. (94) at Deception Bay (SEQ) Aug. 21, an exceptional count for this area in winter, NM.

Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*. (12) near Dalby (SEQ) Nov. 20 PMC; (10) at Seven Mile Lagoon (SEQ) Dec. 9 CC, CPY, DAS.

Wandering Tattler *Tringa incana*. Many sightings during the summer months from Pt. Lookout and headlands around Caloundra (SEQ) Many observers.

Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*. (1) at Luggage Pt (SEQ) March 29 DAS, PLN; (1) at Birdsville (SWQ) Sept. 35 CC; (1) at Pt. Sandstone, near Bribie Island Bridge (SEQ) Oct. 23 DAS.

Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes*. (1) bird present at Lytton (SEQ) from Sept. 2 to Sept. 7 seen by many observers CC, TP, DAS, AS *et al.* This being the first Queensland record and the second record for Australia.

Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*. (52) at Deception Bay (SEQ) April 28, an exceptionally large number NM.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*. (1) at Mareeba (NEQ) Sept. 13 AM, DM.

Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*. (2) birds at Pt. Lookout Dec. 23 HH.



Lesser Yellowlegs *Tringa flavipes* photographed at White Island on 3rd September, 1984. (Chris Corben)

Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus*. (1) at Lytton (SEQ) Jan. 7, Feb. 5 and again the following season Oct. 22 CC, TP, DAS *et al*; (1) at Thornside (SEQ) Dec. 15 possibly the same bird as above CC, CPY.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*. High counts for Deception Bay include (259) Feb. 4 and (248) Feb. 5 NM; (1) bird at Boynoe River SW of Normanton (NCQ) Sept. NW.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*. (675) counted at Scarborough (SEQ) Feb. 2, an exceptionally large number NM.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*. (6) adults in alternate plumage the first for the season, at Luggage Pt. (SEQ) Aug. 17 DAS.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*. (3) on the Cairns waterfront (NEQ) Sept. 3 AM, DM, JC.

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*. (3) birds sighted near Birdsville (SWQ) Sept. 23 CC.

- Sanderling** *Calidris alba*. (3) at Scarborough (SEQ) from Jan. 8 to Jan. 22 CC, DE, DJ *et al*; (4) at Clontarf (SEQ) Jan. 24 GR, AS; (1) at Cairns waterfront (NEQ) Sept. 2 AM, DM, JC.
- Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Limicola falcinellus*. A good season with (1) at Lytton (SEQ) Jan. 21 CC, DE, DAS; (1) at Scarborough Jan. 22 and again Feb. 4 CC, DE, DAS, DR; (1) at Clontarf Jan. 24 GR, AS; (1) sighted on N Stradbroke I. Jan. 30 W & HH; (3) at Thornside (SEQ) March 18 MA, BF, TR and (1) March 24 to March 29 DAS, PLN and (2) Feb. 5 TP. (4) on Cairns waterfront (NEQ) Sept. 28 to Oct. 9 AM, DM; (1) at Luggage Pt (SEQ) Nov. 9 DAS, DJ; (9) at Clontarf Nov. 14 NM; (1) inland record from Seven Mile Lagoon (SEQ) Dec. 9 CC, CPY, DAS; (6) at Nudgee Beach Dec. 22 IV.
- Australian Pratincole** *Stiltia isabella*. 600+ counted at Cloncurry Airport (NCQ) Jan. 2 JW; recorded breeding just N of Dalby (SEQ) in Jan., Feb. and again the following season in Dec. MW; small numbers sighted at Iron Range Air Strip (NEQ) Dec. 6-7 TP, MC.
- Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida*. Several sighted on Cairns waterfront (NEQ) Sept. 2 AM, DM, JC.
- White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucoptera*. (90-130) present at Luggage Pt (SEQ) Jan. to April ES, TP *et al*; (c.20) at Sampsonvale (SEQ) Nov. 4 ES; (3) found dead at Lytton (SEQ) Jan. 21 CC, AS (specimens in QM).
- Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*. Many birds sighted carrying food to a presumed nesting colony at Lake Bindegolly, near Dynevor Downs Station (SWQ) May 13-14 PMR.
- Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*. Winter records include (1) in basic plumage at Scots Pt, Redcliffe (SEQ) June 18 DAS, NM and (2) more July 1 DR, NM; (1), also in basic plumage, at Caloundra (SEQ) July 15 DAS; (17) at Redcliffe Aug. 1-2 DAS.
- Roseate Tern** *Sterna dougallii*. (1) at Michaelmas Cay (NEQ) Oct. 12 AMC.
- White-fronted Tern** *Sterna striata*. (1) off Pt Lookout (SEQ) July 8 AS, CC, TP, DAS.

- Black-naped Tern** *Sterna sumatrana*. (66) counted at Michaelmas Cay (NEQ) Oct. 12 AMC.
- Sooty Tern** *Sterna fuscata*. (1) bw Orchid Beach, Fraser Island Jan. 1 AH (specimen in QM); (6) off N Stradbroke I. (SEQ) Feb. 11 QOS boat trip; (1) sighted from Pt Lookout (SEQ) May 20 TP, RD.
- Bridled Tern** *Sterna anaethetus*. (1) sighted from Pt Lookout (SEQ) March 10 CC, AS.
- Lesser-crested Tern** *Sterna bengalensis*. (1) at Caloundra (SEQ) July 15 DAS; (1) at Redcliffe (SEQ) Aug. 1-2 DAS; (1) at Scarness, Hervey Bay (SEQ) Oct. 4 IV; (1) at Tin Can Bay (SEQ) Oct. 5 IV.
- Common Noddy** *Anous stolidus*. 1000+ sighted at dusk from Pt. Lookout (SEQ) July 15 TP, AS, CC.
- Black Noddy** *Anous minutus*. Single birds sighted from Pt. Lookout (SEQ) Feb. 19, AS, CC, TP, DAS; March 10 CC, AS; March 17 QOS boat trip.
- Superb Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus superbus*. Seems to be an influx into SEQ this year with (2) at Gheerulla Falls, Mapleton Feb. 16 CC; (1) at Slaughter Falls, Mt. Coot-tha April 28 IV; (1) found dead at Lindum May 23 MJS (specimen in QM). (1) found dead at Loganlea May 25 CT. (1) immature male found dead at Caboolture Aug. 14 JS (specimen in QM); (1) sighted at Rainbow Beach Sept. 22 ES; (1) sighted at St. Lucia Oct. 5 (anonymous); (1) female at Holland Park Oct. 24 BRY.
- Torresian Imperial-Pigeon** *Ducula spilorrhoa*. (2) seen flying S at Longford Creek between Bowen and Proserpine (NEQ) Nov. 11 JW.
- White-headed Pigeon** *Columba leucomela*. Brisbane suburban records include (1) at The Gap March 3 TM; (2) at Indooroopilly in May IV, TF.
- Brown Cuckoo-Dove** *Macropygia amboinensis*. (2) at Deception Bay (SEQ) May 11, well out of their normal habitat NM.

- Flock Bronzewing** *Phaps histrionica*. (1) flock of c.200 birds and several smaller flocks sighted W of Diamantina on Davenport Downs Station (SWQ) PMR.
- Squatter Pigeon** *Petrophassa scripta*. Many sightings throughout the year at Atkinsons Dam (SEQ) TP, CC, AS, DAS *et al.* (1) at Girraween NP (SEQ) Nov. 11 CPY, DAS.
- Spinifex Pigeon** *Petrophassa plumifera*. Recorded with eggs and young near Jundah (SWQ) Sept. 25 MW; sighted at Georgetown (NEQ) April 22, AM, DM.
- Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptorhynchus magnificus*. (5) sighted E of Windorah (SWQ) Sept. 28 CC, CPY, GR, AS.
- Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo** *Calyptorhynchus funereus*. c.25 birds at Mt. Elphinstone (SEQ) Oct. 8-27, in larger numbers than usual GG, MG.
- Little Corella** *Cacatua sanguinea*. (1) at Belmont (SEQ) Feb. 19 and (5) March 4 CPY, JS, PPR, MB; (1) at Rockhampton (MEQ) May 12 PMC.
- Musk Lorikeet** *Glossopsitta concinna*. Sighted in W Toowoomba (SEQ) Oct. 16 MA.
- Double-eyed Fig-Parrot** *Psittaculirostris diopthalma*. (2) at Eubenangee NP near Bramston Beach (NEQ) July 5 NMC.
- Australian King-Parrot** *Alisterus scapularis*. Brisbane suburban records include (1) at Everton Hills May 5 REH; (2) at Kenmore May 9 RM.
- Cockatiel** *Nymphicus hollandicus*. (3) at North Pine Dam (SEQ) in early May DA.
- Eastern Rosella** *Platycercus eximius*. (1) at Pacific Golf Course, Belmont (SEQ) Feb. 19 CPY, JS.
- Red-Rumped Parrot** *Psephotus haematonotus*. Many sightings of small numbers in the Brisbane Valley throughout the year DR, TP *et al.*; (6) at Doboy (SEQ) April 14 CPY, JS, MB; (12) at Toombul (SEQ) May 6 ES; (4) at Brisbane Airport June 4 TP and (24) Nov. 17 ES.

- Mulga Parrot** *Psephotus varius*. (3) at Booringa Downs 16 km W of Mitchell (SCQ) Sept. 28 DA; a flock of 10-12 birds seen regularly from April to July at Cythera (SCQ) CP, PP.
- Bourke's Parrot** *Neophema bourkii*. (3) birds 46 km E of Thargominda (SWQ) March 10 DAS, DJ; (2) at Coonumarra Station near Eulo (SWQ) probably breeding March 11 DAS, JD; (1) bird near Jundah (SWQ) Sept. 23 MW.
- Turquoise Parrot** *Neophema pulchella*. (14) at Girraween (SEQ) Jan. 13 ES; sighted at Long Pocket (SEQ) March 5 FC; (2) at Pallen Creek (SEQ) Dec. 12 KJ, KBE.
- Oriental Cuckoo** *Cuculus saturatus*. (1) at Mitchell (SCQ) Jan. 19 DA, RS, LS; (2) at Toohey Forest Park Mt. Gravatt (SEQ) Feb. 17 CPY, JS; (1) at Yarrabah, near Cairns Dec. 3 TP and on Dec. 17 AM, DM.
- Black-eared Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx osculans*. (1) at Mitchell (SCQ) feeding on caterpillars in cedar trees Jan. 19 DA, RS, LS; (1) at Cythera (SCQ) April 17-20 and again July 2 PP; (1) at Atkinsons Dam (SEQ) Dec. 4 PPK.
- Shining Bronze-Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx lucidus*. (1) being fed by two Red-browed Treecreepers at Mt. Nebo (SEQ) March 4 ES.
- Little Bronze-Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx malayanus*. (1) at Samford (SEQ) Oct. 7 ES; sightings from N. Stradbroke I. include (1) at Dunwich Oct. 21 and (1) at Amity Pt. Oct. 21 CC, AS.
- Channel-billed Cuckoo** *Scethrops novaehollandiae*. (2) at Long Pocket (SEQ) throughout most of Dec. RC *et al*.
- Rufous Owl** *Ninox rufa*. (1) dead on the Cook Highway at Hartley's Creek (NEQ) Sept. 10 FS (specimen in QM); (1) flushed during the day close to mangroves Portland Roads (NEQ) TP.
- Powerful Owl** *Ninox strenua*. (1) at Redwood Park near Toowoomba (SEQ) Dec. 12 and Dec. 31 MA.

Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*. Reported in Mudlo Forest, Kilkivan (SEQ) March 12 PP, DMC; (1) at Biloela (SEQ) March 17 PMC; (1) Mansfield (SEQ) April 6 DA; (3) birds at Imbil (SEQ) in Aug. CC, TP, DAS, AS; (1) at Bunya Mountains (SEQ) Oct. 26 PP, DR, RH.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba*. (1) dead at Lytton (SEQ) July 1 TM (specimen in QM).

Masked Owl *Tyto novaehollandiae*. Sight records from the Conondale Ranges include (2) birds on Jan. 24 CR, AS and (1) Oct. 13 QOS camp; also (1) at Edmonton (NEQ) Oct. 11 AMC; (1) dead on the Bribie I. Caboolture road (SEQ) Nov. 8 DAS (specimen in QM).

Eastern Grass Owl *Tyto longimembris*. (2) nestlings at Brookfield (SEQ) Sept. 3 IV; (11) at Atherton (NEQ) Oct. 9 AMC.

Sooty Owl *Tyto tenebriosa*. (1) at Boombana, Mt. Nebo (SEQ) Jan. 2 IV, JCH; (1) at Goomburra State Forest Park (SEQ) June 9 QOS camp; (1) heard at Ravensbourne NP (SEQ) Aug. 5 CC, TP, CP, DAS, AS; (2) at Atherton (NEQ) Oct. 10 AMC; sightings from O'Reilly's (SEQ) include (2) birds Sept. 15-16 CP, GT, SB and (1) on Oct. 20 and again Nov. 24 PMC, TR, BF, MA.

Tawny Frogmouth *Podargus strigoides*. (1) red phase bird picked up on the Bribie I. Caboolture road (SEQ) March 18 DAS (specimen in QM).

Marbled Frogmouth *Podargus ocellatus*. Many sightings throughout the year in the Conondale Ranges (SEQ) CC, AS, *et al*; (1) sight record from Beechmont (SEQ) Nov. 13 in the same locality as 1983 CR.

Australian Owlet-Nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*. (6) birds seen on roadside after rain and in the presence of very numerous hawk moths at Cythera (SCQ) April 16 CP, PP; (2) birds found dead at Payungan Fraser I. (SEQ) in Dec. PK (specimen in QM).

Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus*. (1) bird present most of the year at Scarness, near Maryborough (SEQ) PC.

White-rumped Swiftlet *Collocalia spodiopyga*. Sighted at Mt. Isa (NWQ) P. Harris (The Bird Observer 627, p27).

- Fork-tailed Swift** *Apus pacificus*. (20-25) sighted 4 km N of Aratula (SEQ) March 10 CPY, JS.
- Azure Kingfisher** *Ceyx azurea*. (1) at Wolston Park Hospital (SEQ) Aug. 23 ES.
- Laughing Kookaburra** *Dacelo novaeguineae*. (1) albino bird sighted at Wishart (SEQ) June 6 RB.
- Blue-winged Kookaburra** *Dacelo leachii*. (1) seen near Boonah (SEQ) July NM; (1) at Lake Clarendon (SEQ) Nov. 3 ES.
- Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher** *Tanysiptera sylvia*. (1) overwintering at Yarrabah (NEQ) June 24 J. Jillet (The Bird Observer 635, p124).
- Noisy Pitta** *Pitta versicolor*. (1) on S Stradbroke I. (SEQ) May 12 PR; (1) in mangroves on Coochie Mudlo I. (SEQ) May 13 NF; (1) in dry sclerophyll forest well away from the nearest rainforest at Dalmoak (SEQ) Dec. 5 NA.
- White-backed Swallow** *Cheramoeca leucosternum*. (12) at Doboy, Brisbane (SEQ) April 14-15 JS, MB.
- Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*. (18) at Garadunga, near Innisfail (NEQ) Dec. 2 TP.
- Yellow-eyed Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina lineata*. (6) at little Yabba Creek, Conondale Ranges (SEQ) Jan. 24 GR, AS; (2) at Sherwood (SEQ) March 3 ES; (1) at Mt. Tambourine (SEQ) March 11 ES.
- Ground Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina maxima*. (2) at Atkinsons Dam (SEQ) April 16 TP; (2) at Lake Clarendon (SEQ) May 6 CPY; also sighted at Ashgrove Cement Mills, near Inglewood (SEQ) Sept. 1 PP.
- Varied Triller** *Lalage leucomela*. (1) bird at Mt. Walker, S of Hughendon (CQ) in Sept. This being well inland from its normal range NW.
- Bassian Thrush** *Zoothera lunulata*. (1) bird flew into a window at Mt. Gravatt, Brisbane May 15 (specimen in QM) JWH; Several individuals at Goomburra State Forest Park (SEQ) June 9-10 QOS camp.

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*. Recorded at Jullatten (NEQ) in July. This being well N of normal range. L. Ballard (The Bird Observer 633, p99).

Sandstone Shrike-thrush *Colluricincla woodwardi*. Recorded at Lawn Hill Gorge (NWQ) in Aug. KW.

White-eared Monarch *Monarcha leucotis*. (1) at Little Yabba Creek, Conondale Ranges (SEQ) Jan. 24 GR, AS; (1) at Ravensbourne (SEQ) Jan. 28 NM; (1) at Mt. Glorious (SEQ) March 4 ES; reported as being in abundance around Cairns (NEQ) from May to Sept. DM, AM, JC; (1) at Terranora Lake (SEQ) May 10 MJ; (1) at Nangur Forest, W Goomeri (SEQ) Oct. 7 and again Nov. 24 PP.

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca*. Recorded at Kuranda, The Crater and Whitfield (NEQ) Aug. to Oct. DM, AM, JC.

Clamorous Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus stentoreus*. Sighted as a vagrant on Heron I. (SEQ) May 11 JK.

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*. (1) at Carnarvon Gorge (SCQ) during the Carnarvon Gorge bird week Oct. 7 DA, GH *et al*.

Spinifex Bird *Eremiornis carteri*. (1) bird sighted at Mt. Stewart "Longford Station: SW of Jundah (SWQ) in Sept. Malcolm Wilson (Urimbirra 18(10, p4). This extended the known range a further 30 km south.

Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*. Recorded as a vagrant on Heron I. (SEQ) May 11 JK.

Variegated Fairy-wren *Malurus lamberti*. A sighting of the race *assimilis* (Purple-backed Wren) at "Ballonbrook" c.16 km from Kingaroy (SEQ) June 11 PP, DMC.

Eastern Bristlebird *Dasyornis brachypterus*. (2) at Duck Creek Road, Lamington NP (SEQ) Jan. 14 CPY, GW, JSK, PPR; several pairs located in Conondale Ranges (SEQ) March 1. This being a rather dramatic extension in the range north CC *et al*.

- Redthroat** *Sericornis brunneus*. (1) male sighted 41 km E of Adavale (SWQ) March 14 DJ, DAS; reported at "Mariala" 132 km W of Charleville (SWQ) and at "Tryone" 70 km W of Charleville (SWQ) Oct. 25 PMCR, QNPWS; (1) male at "Lisburn" 108 km N of Adavale (SWQ) HH.
- Speckled Warbler** *Sericornis sagittatus*. Surburban Brisbane records include (2) at Lakeside Raceway Sept. 29 ES; (1) at Taigum Aug. 24 JN.
- Western Gerygone** *Gerygone fusca*. (1) at Georgetown (NEQ) April 22 DM, AM, JC.
- Slaty-backed Thornbill** *Acanthiza robustirostris*. (4) 17 km SW of Eromanga (SWQ) April 28-29 CC, TP, DAS; several birds c.70 km E of Windorah (SWQ) Sept. 28 CC, CPY, GR, AS.
- Red-browed Treecreeper** *Climacteris erythroptis*. (2) feeding a Shining Bronze-Cuckoo at Mt. Nebo (SEQ) March 4 ES.
- Spiny-checked Honeyeater** *Acanthagenys rufogularis*. Sighted at Murgon (SEQ) June 7 PP; (2) at Townsville Common (NEQ) June 26 CPY.
- Yellow-faced Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus chrysops*. Sighted at Cytherea (SCQ) April 19 and June 29. This is one of the more westerly records for Qld PP.
- Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus melanops*. A small colony located in the Conondale Ranges (SEQ) Aug. CC; also at Wondai Forest (SEQ) Aug. 3 and Oct. 5 PP, DR.
- Grey-headed Honeyeater** *Lichenostomus keartlandi*. A small group located 60 km E of Thargomindah (SWQ) April 30 CC, TP, DAS. Recorded breeding near Jundah (SWQ) Sept. 25 MW.
- Painted Honeyeater** *Grantiella picta*. (1) at Mt. Walker, near Hughenden (SWQ) Sept. NW.
- White-fronted Honeyeater** *Phylidonyris albigrons*. (5) c.40 km E of Windorah (SWQ) Sept. 28 CC, CPY, GR, AS.
- Banded Honeyeater** *Certhionyx pectoralis*. (3) at Big Mitchell Creek, near Mt. Molloy (NEQ) Oct. 10 AMC.

Pied Honeyeater *Certhionyx variegatus*. Recorded at "Lina Glen" near Mt. Stewart SW of Jundah (SWQ) Sept. R. Hando (Urimbirra 18(10), p4); (3) birds sighted c.40 km E of Windorah (SWQ) Sept. 28 CC, CPY, GR, AS.

Yellow Chat *Ephthianura crocea*. Recorded as being numerous at No. 2 bore, Davenport Downs (SWQ) May 18 PMR.

Gibberbird *Ashbyia lovensis*. Recorded as being numerous in the Davenport Downs area (SWQ) May 16-19 PMR.

Painted Firetail *Emblema picta*. A family party sighted at "Lina Glen" (SWQ) Sept. R. Hando (Urimbirra 18(10), p4).

Plum-headed Finch *Aidemosyne modesta*. Sighted at Brooklyn (SEQ) Jan. 6 PP; flocks of about 40 seen regularly from April to July at Cythera (SCQ) PP; sighted at Georgetown (NEQ) July 17 PMC, TR, BF; c.100 about 60 km W of St. George (SCQ) March 11 DJ, DAS.

Blue-faced Finch *Erythrura trichroa*. Recorded breeding at Mt. Lewis (NEQ) May 7 DM and May 17 with young F.T. Morris (The Bird Observer 635, p124). Plus many sightings throughout the year by many observers at the same locality.

Regent Bowerbird *Sericulus chrysocephalus*. (7) females at Lytton (SEQ) May 6 well away from the nearest rainforest CC, TP, RD.

Apostlebird *Struthidea cinerea*. (4) at Everton Hills (SEQ) March 2, this is an easterly record JB.

Australian Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*. A pair recorded as vagrant on Heron I. (SEQ) May 11 KJ; at least (2) on Herald North East Cay, about 360 km NE of Townsville (NEQ) Oct. 16 DN.

Blackfaced Woodswallow *Artamus cinereus*. Recorded in numbers at the Jardine River, tip of Cape York (NEQ) Sept. '84. This is an extension in range north NW.

Little Woodswallow *Artamus minor*. (6) at Dayboro (SEQ) Aug. 4 CC, TP, CPY.

Little Crow *Corvus bennetti*. c.20 15-20 km W of Charleville (SWQ) March 13 DJ, DAS.

SPECIES OMITTED FROM THE 1983
QUEENSLAND BIRD REPORT

- White-tailed Tropicbird** *Phaethon lepturus*. (1) sighted at Michaelmas Cay (NEQ) Aug. 26 Ian McAllan *et al.*
- Magpie Goose** *Anseranas semipalmata*. (2) at Lake Broadwater, near Dalby (SEQ) Dec. 16. Apparently the first known record here. Malcolm Wilson.
- Australasian Shoveller** *Anas rhynchotis*. (1) male at Hasties Swamp (NEQ) May 15 Ian McAllan.
- Square-tailed Kite** *Lophoictinia isura*. (1) at Lakeland (15° 55' 144° 45') Sept. 7 Ian McAllan.
- Little Eagle** *Hieraaetus morphnoides*. (1) at Coen (NEQ) Aug. 31 Ian McAllan.
- Australian Crane** *Porzana fluminea*. (1) 5 km N of Mungindi (28° 55' 148° 55') Feb. 5 Ian McAllan *et al.*
- Oriental Plover** *Charadrius veredus*. (1) at Cairns Esplanade (NEQ) Aug. 25 Ian McAllan.
- Wandering Tattler** *Tringa incana*. (1) at Michaelmas Cay (NEQ) Aug. 26 Ian McAllan.
- Common Mynah** *Acridotheres tristis*. Slowly moving west. The first record for Dalby (SEQ) being of a single bird Nov. 7 Malcolm Wilson.

CORRIGENDUM TO THE 1983
QUEENSLAND BIRD REPORT

- P47 DN David Niland was omitted. SV should read "Steve Van Dyck".
- P48 **Tahiti Petrel** *Pterodroma rostrata*. Should read "(2) seen on edge of continental shelf off Cape Moreton (SEQ) Nov. 12 QOS boat trip."
- P55 **"Black-breasted Button-quail** *Turnix melanogaster*"
- "Lewin's Rail** *Rallus pectoralis*. (1) female dead at Mt. Belthorpe (SEQ) Sept. 15 TPA, another dead near Cairns Esplanade Oct. 16 DM."

TONY PALLISER, 26 Warmington Street, Paddington, Queensland 4064.

PETAL DISPLAY BY THE VARIEGATED WREN

MICHAEL STRONG AND EDITH CUFFE

On 17 September 1984 in open forest at Caboolture, south-east Queensland, 27° 04' 30", 153° 01' 15", the writer observed two male Variegated Wrens *Malurus l. lamberti* exhibiting unusual behaviour. The birds were watched between 1230 and 1300 hrs. The day was fine and clear after heavy rain the previous night.

From a distance of some three metres a female was watched building a nest. She carried a grass stalk to a clump of Blady Grass *Imperata cylindrica v major* some eight metres away. Closer inspection revealed the basal structure of a nest, probably begun only that morning. As she returned with more nest material two fully plumaged adult males pursued her. Each carried a bright yellow object that close examination through fieldglasses proved to be a petal from a wallum flower *Hibbertia vestita*. This is a fairly common spring flower in wallum areas. A clump was flowering within two metres of the nest site.

Both males left the nest site with the female but returned with her next trip, still holding the petals. One of the males flew to the female and offered the petal in a similar fashion to feeding chicks. The female ignored him. However the male continued to carry the petal. Both males were still carrying their petals after 15 minutes of observation.

Hindwood (1951) reported similar flower-offering behaviour by a male Superb Blue Wren *M. cyaneus* but this seems to be the first record of such behaviour by *M. lamberti*. Rowley (1965) has summarised this behaviour by other members of the genus.

We wish to extend our thanks to N.W. Longmore, Queensland Museum for comments on an earlier draft and for supplying the literature references.

REFERENCES

- HINDWOOD, K.A. 1951. Flower Petals and Bird Display. *Emu* 50: 208-209.
- ROWLEY, Ian. 1965. The Life History of the Superb Blue Wren *Malurus cyaneus*. *Emu* 64: 251-297.
- MICHAEL STRONG and EDITH CUFFE, Abbey Museum, St. Michael's, Old Toorbul Point Road, Caboolture, Qld. 4510.

6. The obvious dark 'M' mark across this seabird's upperwings, in combination with its strikingly pale head and tail immediately limits the range of possibilities to some of the gadfly petrels of the genus *Pterodroma*. In fact there is only one species to which this bird shows more than the most superficial resemblance, and that is the correct one; White-headed Petrel, of course.



Mottled and Soft-plumaged Petrels may also show strong 'M' marks with pale heads and tails, but in neither case is the head anything like white, or even contrasting to any marked extent with the back. Likewise, the extreme paleness of this bird's tail is really quite diagnostic of White-headed.

Perhaps Cook's Petrel is the species which could most nearly approach the paleness of this bird, but once again, not to this extent. In the field, there should never be any problem between Cook's and White-headed as the former is a small bird, little larger than a Prion, with nearly all-white underwings whereas the latter is a big petrel with essentially all-dark underwings.

This White-headed Petrel was photographed by Anita Smyth off eastern Tasmania in September, 1984.

CHRIS CORBEN

Mystery Photograph 7. Identify the species. Answer next issue.

