NOTES & NEWS

RECOVERY OF INTRA-AFRICAN MIGRANT

One of the most exciting recoveries in the 1981/1982 ringing year came from Zaire. A Greyhooded Kingfisher Halcyon leucocephala ringed by Mrs. Dale Hanner of Nchalo, Malaŵi in December 1981, was killed with a sling shot near Mwanza-Seya in the Malemba Nkulu region about 700 km north of Lubumbashi on 26th May 1982. The bird had moved 1 430 km from the ringing site and was possibly still on passage. So little is known about the routes of intra-African migrants that any recovery such as this contributes significant new knowledge. Knowledge of wintering areas, where known, is usually based on taxonomic criteria of collected birds; the Greyhooded Kingfisher is believed to migrate from southern Africa to Uganda.

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GREYHEADED GULL LONGEVITY

In the caption to the photograph of a Greyheaded Gull Larus cirrocephalus in the last issue of Safring News (Vol. 11: p.25) it was stated that the longest surviving bird had lived eight years. No more than a week after publication we received two further recoveries of Greyheaded Gulls from Boksburg. Both had been ringed as nestlings in nearby Benoni. The younger of the two had lived for 92 months before being hit by a road vehicle. The older one, found sick on 19 May 1982, had been ringed on 27th May 1972 and so had lived for 10 years.

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