

# NOTICE

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## BIRD RINGING

PLEASE TAKE CARE

FINE, ALMOST INVISIBLE NETS ARE SET UP BETWEEN POLES IN THIS AREA TO CATCH BIRDS FOR RINGING PURPOSES. THE NETS ARE REGULARLY VISITED BY OURSELVES AND ANY BIRDS FOUND, ARE TAKEN TO OUR BASE A SHORT WALK AWAY. OUR BASE IS USED TO RECORD DETAILS OF THE BIRDS' RINGS, WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS, etc., BEFORE RELEASING THEM.

PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE NETS OR ANY BIRDS WHICH HAVE BEEN CAUGHT. TRAINED NETTERS CAN EASILY UNTANGLE THE BIRDS WITHOUT HARMING THEM IN ANY WAY. BUT INEXPERIENCED HANDS COULD WELL HURT THE BIRDS.

IF THE NETS ARE SET ALONG THE PATH WHERE YOU ARE WALKING, PLEASE DO NOT STOP BESIDE THEM, AS YOUR PRESENCE MAY SCARE ANY BIRDS IN THE NET. THE MATERIAL FROM WHICH THE NETS ARE MADE IS NOT VERY STRONG, SO BE CAREFUL NOT TO BRUSH AGAINST THEM - THEY MIGHT TEAR.

PLEASE KEEP YOUR DOGS ON A LEAD WHILST THEY ARE IN THE NETTING AREA.

THANKS,

TYGERBERG RINGING UNIT

The above English-language notice is displayed by the Tygerberg Bird Club ringing group when they are netting in public areas. It helps to prevent incidents perpetrated by well-intentioned but uninformed members of the public, such as "Oh, that's what the nets are for. I thought they were illegal so I have been letting all the birds out." (see Dale Hammer's article for more examples, *Safring News* 20:58-60).

The notice is weatherproofed in a sealed plastic envelope with a wire frame and can be easily displayed on any convenient support.

These notices are available to SAFRING ringers/ringing groups for a nominal fee. For further information contact Mrs Debbie Philogene of Tygerberg Bird Club, Tel. No. 021 968 701.