

**SELECTED RECOVERIES FROM SAFRING: January 1994 – June 1994**

are found (South Africa now has nine provinces instead of the previous four).

**T B Oatley**

Most of the recoveries included in this list were reported in the six months from January to June 1994. During this period details were also received for recoveries made in previous years (of White Storks, for example) and these are included as well. Ringing and recovery sites in South Africa are accorded the names of the new provinces in which they

Recoveries (birds found dead or dying) listed here are a selection from those reported to SAFRING during the six month review period. Criteria for inclusion are significant movement (dependant on species), significant elapsed time from ringing to recovery and unambiguously reported cause of death.

Controls satisfying the first two criteria are also listed.

**African Penguin *Spheniscus demersus***

T 1058 juvenile

	27.05.78	St Croix Is, Algoa Bay, E Cape		
Dead	18.01.94	Kromme River Mouth, E Cape	188 mths	92 km

**Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans***

BS 0777 nestling

	18.09.68	Possession Is, Crozet, Southern Ocean		
Incubating egg	25.01.94	Marion Is, Southern Ocean	304 mths	1 068 km

**Yellowbrowed Albatross *Diomedea chlororhynchos***

8 44345 nestling

	05.02.88	Tristan Island, South Atlantic		
Caught in longline	01.06.88	Salvador Beach, Brazil	4 mths	3 727 km

**Northern Giant Petrel *Macronetes halli***

9 79805 nestling

	13.01.94	Marion Is, Southern Ocean		
Controlled	29.03.94	Dargaville, New Zealand	3 mths	9 811 km

**Cape Gannet *Morus capensis***

9 89157 nestling

	03.02.94	Bird Is, Lambert's Bay, W Cape		
Dead	14.04.94	Morgan's Bay, E Cape	2 mths	946 km

9 69820 nestling

	14.03.90	Bird Is, Algoa Bay, E Cape		
Dead	00.04.93	Namibe, Angola	37 mths	2 515 km

9 94305 nestling

	01.03.94	Bird Is, Algoa Bay, E Cape		
Dead	29.06.94	Namibe, Angola	4 mths	2 515 km

9 43833 nestling				
Dead	09.02.93	Malgas Island, Saldanha, W Cape		
	09.06.94	Bazley Beach, Natal	16 mths	1 239 km
<b>Whitebreasted Cormorant</b> <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>				
9 63906 nestling				
Shot	05.08.90	Redhouse, Port Elizabeth, E Cape		
	14.06.94	Molteno District, E Cape	46 mths	286 km
9 63965 nestling				
Dead	08.05.91	Redhouse, Port Elizabeth, E Cape		
	11.01.94	Komga District, E Cape	32 mths	263 km
<b>White Stork</b> <i>Ciconia ciconia</i>				
B 20630 nestling				
Skeleton	15.06.86	Trebisov, Slovakia		
	27.11.91	Plumtree District, Zimbabwe	65 mths	7 674 km
B 23530 nestling				
Injured leg	08.07.88	Mlada Boleslav, Czechoslovakia		
	26.03.89	Middelburg District, E Transvaal	9 mths	8 592 km
KAU 1621 nestling				
Collided with powerline	03.07.89	Kedainial, Lithuania		
	15.02.91	Lydenburg District, E Transvaal	19 mths	8 927 km
P 517 nestling				
Collided with wire fence	28.06.86	Luckau, Lueneburg, Germany		
	15.12.93	Phillipolis District, OFS	90 mths	9 345 km
<b>Spurwinged Goose</b> <i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>				
G 04637 1-6 months				
Shot for sport	28.04.92	Sterkfontein Dam, Harrismith Dis, OFS		
	21.06.94	Muzi Pan, KwaZulu Natal	26 mths	340 km
<b>South African Shelduck</b> <i>Tadorna cana</i>				
7 74754 adult				
Shot	11.10.88	Barberspan Nat Res, N W Province		
	08.05.94	Spitzkopdam, N W Province	67 mths	213 km
<b>Cape Griffon</b> <i>Gyps coprotheres</i>				
G 12235 nestling				
Electrocuted	27.09.75	Manyelanong, Botswana		
	30.06.94	Marico District, N W Province	225 mths	35 km

**Whitebacked Vulture** *Gyps africanus*

G 19768 nestling

	19.09.93	Kimberley, N Cape		
Electrocuted	08.03.94	Plooyburg, N Cape	6 mths	38 km

**Lappetfaced Vulture** *Torgos tracheliotus*

G 17407 nestling

	16.10.93	Namib Naukluft Park, Namibia		
Dead	09.03.94	Nord Daweb, Namibia	5 mths	408 km

**Rock Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

5 15664 free flying

	16.01.89	Etosha National Park, Namibia		
Controlled	07.07.90	N.E. of Hobatere, Namibia	18 mths	167 km

6 63352 adult

	26.07.90	Kalahari Gemsbok N P, N Cape		
Drowned in cement reservoir	01.03.94	Calvinia District, N Cape	44 mths	660 km

**Tawny Eagle** *Aquila rapax*

J 08714 adult

	19.12.90	Kalahari Gemsbok N P, N Cape		
Dead	30.06.93	Vanzylsrus, N Cape	30 mths	209 km

**Wahlberg's Eagle** *Aquila wahlbergi*

9 68070 1-2 years

	30.12.92	Soutpansberg, N Tranvaal		
Trapped	18.04.94	Kabongo, Zaire	16 mths	1 807 km

**Bateleur** *Terathopus ecaudatus*

J 07248 nestling

	07.05.90	Kalahari Gemsbok N P, N Cape		
Shot	20.10.92	Vanzylsrus, N Cape	29 mths	285 km

**Pale Chanting Goshawk** *Melierax canorus*

K 07711 adult

	25.07.88	Steenbokpan, N Transvaal		
Shot	12.06.94	Steenbokpan, N Transvaal	71 mths	0 km

7 62164 juvenile

	12.07.84	Kalahari Gemsbok N P, N Cape		
Dead	16.11.93	Kalahari Gemsbok N P, N Cape	112 mths	6 km

**African Jacana** *Actophilornis africanus*

5 21904 free-flying

	31.08.91	Harare, Zimbabwe		
Killed for food	17.09.93	Norton, Zimbabwe	25 mths	23 km

**African Black Oystercatcher** *Haematopus moquini*

6 59243 nestling

02.02.87 Malgas Is, Saldanha, W Cape

Killed by predator

07.03.94 Marcus Is, Saldanha, W Cape

85 mths

5 km

**Threebanded Sandplover** *Charadrius tricollaris*

BB 42329 adult

04.05.84 Port Alfred, E Cape

Dead

27.03.94 near Port Alfred, E Cape

119mths

4 km

**Crowned Plover** *Vanellus coronatus*

D 12674 juvenile

30.10.87 Bloemfontein, Orange Free State

Injured, taken to rehabilitation centre

06.01.94 Bloemfontein, Orange Free State

75 mths

0 km

**Blacksmith Plover** *Hoplopterus armatus*

D 15849 adult

18.07.87 Secunda, E Transvaal

Killed by hail

31.01.92 Secunda, E Transvaal

54 mths

0 km

**Knot** *Calidris canutus*

4 47969 adult

19.04.80 Langebaan, W Cape

Shot

08.05.92 Vendée, France

145 mths

9 041 km

**Kelp Gull** *Larus dominicanus*

K 14511 nestling

08.12.92 Bird Is, Lambert's Bay, W Cape

Skeleton

10.02.94 south of Walvis Bay, Namibia

14 mths

1 078 km

K 09945 nestling

06.12.87 Dassen Is, W Cape

Caught on fishing lure, released unharmed

03.04.94 Die Plaat, W Cape

76 mths

163 km

9 12505 nestling

22.11.71 Keurbooms River Mouth, W Cape

Dead

07.01.94 Keurbooms River Mouth, W Cape

266 mths

0 km

This record provides new information on potential life span  
in this species.

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*

JA 15426 nestling

17.07.92 Asker, Akerhus &amp; Oslo, Norway

Trapped accidentally in razor wire

19.02.94 Orange River Mouth, Namibia

19 mths

9 850 km

NA 21205 nestling	11.06.93	Brandenburg, Germany		
Dead	26.06.94	Jeffrey's Bay, E Cape	13 mths	9 607 km
AT 049591 nestling	01.07.78	Uusimaa, Finland		
Dead	12.02.94	Orange River Mouth, Namibia	187 mths	9 883 km
AT 045314 nestling	23.06.79	Uusimaa, Finland		
Dead	20.02.94	Yzerfontein, W Cape	176 mths	10 413 km

A selection from nine recoveries between January and June.

**Sandwich Tern** *Sterna sandvicensis*

XS 06624 nestling	13.06.74	Ogilby Island, Northern Ireland		
Sick, subsequent fate unknown	06.01.94	Buffelsbaai, W Cape	235 mths	10 145 km

**Swift Tern** *Sterna bergii*

5 72701 nestling	17.04.82	Marcus Is, Saldanha, W Cape		
Killed by unknown predator	07.03.94	Marcus Is, Saldanha, W Cape	143 mths	0 km
5 75855 nestling	17.04.82	Marcus Is, Saldanha, W Cape		
Dead	20.05.94	Milnerton Beach, W Cape	145 mths	103 km
5 26994 nestling	08.04.83	Vondeling Is, W Cape		
Killed by unknown predator	07.03.94	Marcus Is, Saldanha, W Cape	131 mths	13 km
5 88625 nestling	07.04.93	Robben Is, W Cape		
Dead	23.06.94	Kariega River Mouth, E Cape	15 mths	767 km
5 89193 nestling	07.04.94	Robben Is, W Cape		
Dead	22.06.94	Nahoon Beach, E Cape	3 mths	892 km

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

K 08989 nestling	04.10.88	Nossob, Kalahari Gemsbok N P, N Cape		
Drowned in cement reservoir	03.01.94	Marico District, N W Province	63 mths	579 km

**European Swift** *Apus apus*

JA 250435 adult

	01.07.86	Orleans, Loiret, France		
Trapped	20.02.90	Ntchisi District, Malawi	44 mths	7 518 km

**Crested Barbet** *Trachyphonus vaillanti*

D 00298 adult

	02.02.91	Melville Koppies, Jbh, PWV Province		
Controlled	18.01.94	Emmarentia, Jbh, PWV Province	36 mths	2 km

**European Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

AD 61698 7-12 months

	16.01.94	Boteti River, near Maun, Botswana		
Trapped	10.04.94	Bukedea, Uganda	3 mths	2 656 km

AD 08483 free flying

	17.02.92	Pretoria, PWV Province		
Shot	27.09.92	Balachmay, Lebanon	7 mths	6 665 km

H 928089 juvenile

	17.08.92	Slapton, Devon, England		
Struck by car	15.04.93	Villiers District, Orange Free State	8 mths	9 164 km

H 596817 juvenile

	10.09.92	Markington, Yorkshire, England		
Ring found in mongoose scat	22.12.92	Morgan's Bay, E Cape	3 mths	10 068 km

5 728719 nestling

	26.06.93	Parnu, Estonia		
Controlled	19.01.94	Boteti River, near Maun, Botswana	7 mths	8 710 km

**Redeyed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus nigricans*

BD 05277 adult

	20.08.93	Ficksburg, Orange Free State		
Struck by car	09.01.94	near Ficksburg, Orange Free State	5 mths	18 km

**Sombre Bulbul** *Andropadus importunus*

BB 35021 adult

	25.06.92	Rhodes Campus, Grahamstown, E Cape		
Dead	26.01.94	Riebeeck East, E Cape	19 mths	34 km

**Kurrichane Thrush** *Turdus libonyanus*

4 86369 adult

	03.10.92	Lilongwe, Malawi		
Killed with catapult	15.06.94	Lilongwe, Malawi	20 mths	0 km

**Olive Thrush** *Turdus olivaceus*

4 95307 immature

	19.02.94	Melville Koppies, Jbh, PWV Province		
Flew into building, caught and released unharmed	11.05.94	Zambesi Rd, Pta, PWV Province	3 mths	61 km

**Cape Robin** *Cossypha caffra*

F 23001 juvenile

	09.02.91	Goedeontmoeting, nr Malmesbury, W Cape		
Killed by cat	28.03.94	Goedeontmoeting, W Cape	38 mths	0 km

F 22383 juvenile

	02.01.94	Glencairn, Cape Peninsula, W Cape		
Killed by cat	19.02.94	Glencairn, Cape Peninsula, W Cape	2 mths	0 km

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*

BD 61849 immature

	29.08.93	Sundre, Gotland, Sweden		
Killed by cat	26.01.94	Cullinan District, PWV Province	5 mths	9 230 km

**Fiscal Flycatcher** *Sigelus silens*

F 03864 adult

	05.07.90	Durbanville Nat Res, W Cape		
Dead	02.05.94	Durbanville Nat Res, W Cape	46 mths	0 km

**Fiscal Shrike** *Lanius collaris*

4 77411 immature

	08.03.87	Hillsboro, Bloemfontein, OFS		
Struck by car	19.04.94	Hillsboro, Bloemfontein, OFS	85 mths	0 km

**Redwinged Starling** *Onychognathus morio*

D 25619 free flying

	03.09.93	Rhodes Campus, Grahamstown, E Cape		
Dead	23.01.94	Riebeek East, E Cape	5 mths	44 km

D 23835 immature

	21.05.93	Rhodes Campus, Grahamstown, E Cape		
Shot	12.01.94	Brentwood Farm, E Cape	8 mths	98 km

D 16595 nestling

	28.02.92	Cape of Good Hope Nat Res, W Cape		
Killed by cat	11.01.94	Simon's Town, W Cape	23 mths	6 km

**Black Sunbird** *Nectarinia amethystina*

AD 18272 immature

	09.04.94	Rustenburg District, PWV Province		
Killed by cat	29.05.94	Cresta, Johannesburg, PWV Province	2 mths	69 km

**Cape White-eye** *Zosterops pallidus*

AD 02583 adult

	04.03.92	Goedeontmoeting, nr Malmesbury, W Cape		
Controlled	06.04.94	Tygerberg Nature Res, W Cape	25 mths	20 km

**Cape Weaver** *Ploceus capensis*

BB 98572 adult

	30.06.92	Goedeontmoeting, nr Malmesbury, W Cape		
Injured, collided with window	24.05.94	Durbanville, W Cape	23 mths	15 km

CC 04414 adult

	31.07.92	Goedeontmoeting, nr Malmesbury, W Cape		
Shot to protect fruit crops	30.01.94	Kersfontein, W Cape	18 mths	17 km

**Masked Weaver** *Ploceus velatus*

BB 48516 immature

	10.03.85	Melville Koppies, Jbh, PWV Province		
Sick, taken to rehabilitation centre	07.01.94	Melville, Jbh, PWV Province	106 mths	0 km

**Yellowrumped Bishop** *Euplectes capensis*

F 22367 immature

	23.05.93	Glencairn, Cape Peninsula, W Cape		
Killed by cat	01.03.94	Glencairn Heights, W Cape	10 mths	0 km

**Bronze Mannikin** *Spermestes cucullatus*

X 87986 adult

	01.01.93	Scottsville, Pmb, KwaZulu Natal		
Killed by cat	30.03.94	Scottsville, Pmb, KwaZulu Natal	15 mths	0 km

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# REVIEWS

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**Kevin Baker.** 1993. Identification guide to European non-passerines. *BTO Guide 24*. Theford: British Trust for Ornithology. 332 pp.

Kevin Baker, of the British Trust for Ornithology, has just written a long-awaited ageing and sexing guide for European non-passerines. The companion guide for passerines by Lars Svensson first appeared in 1970 and reached its fourth edition in 1992. 'Svensson' was reviewed in *Safring News* 22.82-83 (1993).

*BTO Guide 24* covers 119 non-passerine and non-wader species. The waders were excluded because there was already a similar guide for this well-studied Order in this series: (*BTO Guide 17* 'Guide to the identification and ageing of Holarctic waders' by A.J. Prater, J. Marchant and J. Vuorinen, published in 1977, and reviewed in *Safring News* 7:14-15 (1978)).

Excluding waders, there are roughly 250 non-passerine species that occur fairly regularly in Europe, so the first thing to say about this Guide is that it is not comprehensive, covering less than half the species that occur in Europe.

On the other hand, at least one species is included from each of the Families which a European ringer is likely to encounter. A high proportion of species in Families at the starting end of 'Voous order' are dealt with (Divers as far as Auks), but thereafter (Doves to Woodpeckers) the coverage is less consistent.

The book is based both on Kevin Baker's own know-how as a ringer and ornithologist and on papers in journals, in his case particularly *Ringers' Bulletin* and *Ringing & Migration*, the journals in which British ringers publish their methods of ageing and sexing birds.

As is the case with Svensson's passerine guide, the most useful chapter for SAFRING ringers is the one on general principles for ageing and sexing. Kevin Baker has sections on 'moult and wear', 'growth bars', 'cloacal examination' and 'incubation patch'. Of these, he considers that "A full understanding of the principles of moult and wear of feathers is **essential** for the purposes of ageing and sexing birds" (his emphasis). Looking through the guides published in *Safring News* to date, this has certainly been the experience in southern Africa as well (at least as far as ageing is concerned).

Looking at a sample of Kevin Baker's accounts, they are written (understandably!) from a Britcentric viewpoint. The Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* guide applies only to the population breeding in Britain and the adjoining North Sea coasts of Europe, and not to the Baltic Sea (and Black Sea) populations migrating to southern African waters – the timing of moult in these populations differ from each other.

No doubt many ringers across Europe will be provoked to submit additions, improvements and additions based their experience.

Kevin Baker's Foreword welcomes this: "The scope for learning much, much more about ageing and sexing methods in non-passerines is enormous. Periodic revision is essential ... Users are urged to pass on information about ageing and sexing methods not covered in this guide, or those techniques which need modifying, or those which do not appear to work!" It was largely this kind of feedback that enabled Svensson's passerine guide to progress from edition to edition!

Perhaps the most important thing about this Guide is the encouragement it (again) provides to ringers in southern Africa to imi-