

REPORTS

SELECTED RECOVERIES REPORTED TO SAFRING: July 1995 - December 1995

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The 94 records that are featured in this list involve 52 species and include 16 foreign ring recoveries of eight species. Seabirds account for 35 records (38%) and passerines 29 records (31%). The records include what must be one of the greatest longevity records for the Arctic Tern, and the first South African-ringed

Redbacked Shrike to be recovered in the northern hemisphere.

Criteria for selection involve significant movement (especially post-natal dispersal) and/or interesting elapsed time between ringing and recovery (either with respect to distance covered or age survived) or a known cause of death. What is significant for one species may be quite normal for another, so quite small movements of species normally thought to be sedentary are of interest.

African Penguin *Spheniscus demersus*

S12791	adult	11.08.92	Robben Island, Western Cape		
Dead		22.07.95	Port Alfred, Eastern Cape	35 mths	788 km
V 0440	adult	07.10.84	St Croix Is, Algoa Bay, E Cape		
Dead		03.10.95	Goukamma Nat Res, W Cape	132 mths	262 km
S18282	nestling	18.01.94	Bird Is, Algoa Bay, Eastern Cape		
Sick, later died		09.09.95	Suiderstrand, Western Cape	20 mths	590 km
S25577	juvenile	24.05.95	Bird Is, Algoa Bay, Eastern Cape		
Dead		20.08.95	Vermont, Western Cape	3 mths	658 km
S25671	juvenile	24.05.95	Bird Is, Algoa Bay, Eastern Cape		
Oiled, taken to rehabilitation centre		18.08.95	Boulders, Cape Peninsula, W Cape	3 mths	723 km
S 8641	juvenile	10.02.89	Cape of Good Hope Nat Res, W Cape		
Injured, later died		28.12.95	Mercury Island, Namibia	83 mths	1 021 km

Several of the above records bear witness to the propensity of young penguins to move substantial distances.

Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans*

J09312	nestling	30.10.92	Goney Dale, Gough Is, South Atlantic		
Longline fatality		28.11.95	southwest Atlantic Ocean,	37 mths	3 666 km

Shy Albatross *Diomedea cauta*

13182913	nestling	15.03.94	Mewstone, Tasmania, Australia		
Dead		15.07.95	Van Stadens River Mth, Eastern Cape	16 mths	10 422 km

Northern Giant Petrel *Macronectes halli*

973281	nestling	29.01.91	Marion Is, Southern Ocean		
Dead		18.08.95	Fish Hoek Beach, Western Cape	55 mths	2 153 km

Cory's Shearwater *Calonectris diomedea*

L 4169 nestling 24.09.81 Madeira, Portugal
 Control 09.02.94 at sea NE of Durban, KwaZulu-Natal 149 mths 8 437 km

European Storm Petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus*

9918092 adult 20.07.91 Stigen, Nolsoy, Faroe Is, N Atlantic
 Dead, broken wing
 17.12.95 Cape Recife, Eastern Cape 53 mths 11 063 km

Cape Gannet *Morus capensis*

910124 nestling 10.01.81 Bird Is, Lambert's Bay, W Cape
 Dead 11.12.95 Bird Is, Lambert's Bay, W Cape 179 mths 0 km

929570 nestling 19.01.83 Malgas Is, Saldanha, Western Cape
 Controlled at nest 29.08.95 Bird Is, Algoa Bay, Eastern Cape 151 mths 781 km

991619 nestling 24.01.95 Malgas Island, Saldanha, Western Cape
 Longline fatality 26.08.95 at sea, Atlantic Ocean, 7 mths 1 398 km

991639 nestling 24.01.95 Malgas Island, Saldanha, West Cape
 Control 27.07.95 Maxixe, Mozambique 6 mths 1 984 km

996926 juvenile 28.02.95 Bird Is, Algoa Bay, E Cape
 Sick, subsequently died
 25.07.95 Cuanza River Mouth, Angola 5 mths 3 056 km

997230 juvenile 28.02.95 Bird Is, Algoa Bay, E Cape
 Longline fatality 26.08.95 at sea, Atlantic Ocean 6 mths 2 127 km

Whitebreasted Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

986069 nestling 31.03.94 Redhouse, Port Elizabeth, E Cape
 Dead 30.12.95 Somerset East, Eastern Cape 21 mths 119 km

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*

Z 932 nestling 15.06.81 Bogyiszlo, Tolna, Hungary
 Dead, collided with powerlines
 15.02.95 Maraisburg, Gauteng 164 mths 8 123 km

B35367 nestling 02.07.93 Maly Bor, Klatovy, Czech Republic
 Dead, collided with powerlines
 07.02.95 Humansdorp District, Eastern Cape 19 mths 9 345 km

2822 nestling 05.07.94 Rokiskis, Lithuania
 Injured, wing broken
 01.01.95 Salem, Grahamstown, Eastern Cape 6 mths 9 952 km

Cape Griffon *Gyps coprotheres*

G18716 7-12mth 15.12.94 Blouberg Nat Res, Northern Province
 Sick, taken to rehabilitation centre
 22.09.95 Dealesville, Free State 9 mths 696 km

Whitebacked Vulture *Gyps africanus*

G04732	nestling	28.10.93	Sandveld Nat Res, Free State		
	Dead under powerlines				
		12.10.95	Brakdam Farm, Free State	24 mths	131 km

Lappetfaced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotus*

G17419	nestling	20.10.93	Namib-Naukluft Park, Namibia		
	Poisoned	26.07.95	Constancia, Namibia	21 mths	18 km

G17427	nestling	17.12.93	Tsondab, Namib-Naukluft Pk, Namibia		
	Poisoned	18.07.95	Stryfontein Farm, Namibia	19 mths	236 km

G17495	nestling	19.11.91	Tsauchab, Namib-Naukluft Pk, Namibia		
	Poisoned	03.08.95	Constancia, Namibia	45 mths	91 km

Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus*

914230	juvenile	07.05.74	Chizarira Game Reserve, Zimbabwe		
	Poisoned	08.09.95	Gokwe District, Zimbabwe	256 mths	112 km
			A new longevity record.		

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus*

782647	nestling	20.09.93	Umgeni, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal		
	Shot	31.10.95	near Mandini, KwaZulu-Natal	25 mths	153 km

648026	juvenile	16.04.90	Durbanville, Western Cape		
	Dead	31.07.95	Allandale, Eastern Cape	64 mths	672 km

Rock Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

582217	adult	29.03.88	Waterberg, Otjiwarongo, Namibia		
	Drowned in reservoir				
		21.09.95	Belle Benno, Namibia	90 mths	38 km

Yellowbilled Kite *Migrans parasiticus*

786564	immature	15.09.95	Saldanha, Western Cape		
	Controlled	03.12.95	Gannabosch, Northern Cape	3 mths	426 km

Blackshouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*

K07783	adult	05.09.93	Byzonder, Springbokvlakte, N Prov		
	Road casualty	23.12.95	Ficksburg District, Free State	28 mths	461 km

Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus*

G18668	nestling	27.07.94	Bitterpan, Northern Province		
	Drowned in reservoir	05.09.95	Omkyk Farm, Northern Cape	14 mths	351 km

Jackal Buzzard *Buteo rufofuscus*

841888	1-2 yrs	24.04.93	2 km west of Driebult, Free State		
	Road casualty	14.07.95	north of Beaufort West, W Cape	27 mths	732 km

846185	1-6 mths	01.05.95	Mynfontein, Richmond Dist, N Cape		
	Injured, later died	03.11.95	Franshoek Farm, Free State	6 mths	247 km

Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates*

784440	adult	17.03.95	Pontdrif, Northern Province		
	Drowned in reservoir				
		12.10.95	Armenia Farm, Northern Province	7 mths	6 km

Pale Chanting Goshawk *Melierax canorus*

K09388	adult	02.01.93	Nooitgedacht, Northern Province		
	Road casualty				
		05.11.95	Nooitgedacht, Northern Province	34 mths	0 km

Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

668176	adult	11.03.95	Rondebult, Germiston, Gauteng		
	Control				
		02.12.95	east of Driefontein, Gauteng	9 mths	77 km

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*

D19773	7-12 mths	13.01.88	Geelbek, Langebaan, W Cape		
	Control				
		29.08.95	Jonkoy, Ukraine	92 mths	8 937 km

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*

D08080	1-2 yrs	09.09.93	Chegutu, Zimbabwe		
	Killed by predator				
		18.05.94	Tyungyulyu Yakutia, Russia	8 mths	12 334 km

Ruffs are consistently our longest-travelled migrants.

Hartlaub's Gull *Larus hartlaubii*

523721	nestling	26.05.73	Robben Island, Western Cape		
	Drowned in swimming pool				
		25.11.95	Elsiesrivier, Western Cape	270 mths	19 km

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*

661809	nestling	22.02.95	Bird Is, St Lucia, KwaZulu-Natal		
	Dead				
		30.06.95	Sule Dam, Mozambique	4 mths	384 km

Comon Tern *Sterna hirundo*

SX76044	7-12mth	03.09.94	Teesmouth, Cleveland, England		
	Weak, later died				
		29.04.95	Groenvlei, Western Cape	8 mths	10 121 km

AT096114	nestling	04.07.87	Porvoo Mlk, Ususimaa, Finland		
	Dead				
		10.10.95	Langstrand, Namibia	99 mths	9 279 km

AT107312	juvenile	22.06.90	Porvoo Mlk, Ususimaa, Finland		
	Road casualty				
		29.10.95	near Walvis Bay, Namibia	64 mths	9 286 km

Arctic Tern *Sterna paradisaea*

7113856	adult	03.06.67	N Frisian Is, South Holstein, Germany		
	Dead				
		09.09.95	Langstrand Beach, Namibia	339 mths	8 612 km

It is notable that this bird was ringed as an adult, presumably in a breeding colony. If it is assumed that it was at least already two years old, then it must have been in its 31st year when recovered, and is likely to have flown in excess of 500 000 km on its annual migrations in its lifetime.

XR50375	nestling	26.06.91	Holm of Rendall, Orkney, Scotland		
	Wing broken in hailstorm	03.11.95	Christmas Rock, Eastern Cape	53 mths	10 641 km
AT120492	juvenile	19.07.91	Vehkalahti, Kymi, Finland		
	Sick, later died	22.11.95	Clifton Beach, Western Cape	52 mths	10 516 km
Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>					
5T16847	nestling	08.06.92	Zeebrugge, West Vlaanderen, Belgium		
	Dead	08.12.95	Lambert's Bay, Western Cape	42 mths	9 392 km
1200457	nestling	20.06.86	Markenje, The Netherlands		
	Dead	11.12.95	6 km N of Swakopmund, Namibia	114 mths	8 338 km
DK66637	nestling	11.06.92	Strangford Lough, Down, N Ireland		
	Dead	07.07.95	Cape Town, Western Cape	37 mths	10 105 km
Swift Tern <i>Sterna bergii</i>					
5H04094	nestling	18.04.95	Luderitz Harbour, Namibia		
	Weak, subsequently died	23.08.95	East London, Eastern Cape	4 mths	1 420 km
5H05323	nestling	18.04.95	Luderitz Harbour, Namibia		
	Dead	20.12.95	Kommetjie, Western Cape	8 mths	887 km
5H08417	nestling	16.05.95	Luderitz Harbour, Namibia		
	Sick, subsequently died	03.11.95	Christmas Rock, Eastern Cape	6 mths	1 405 km
572706	nestling	09.04.83	Marcus Is, Saldanha, W Cape		
	Dead	22.08.95	Jakkals River Mth, Western Cape	148 mths	110 km
572232	nestling	17.04.82	Marcus Is, Saldanha, W Cape		
	Injured, wing broken	03.11.95	Christmas Rock, Eastern Cape	163 mths	900 km
572894	nestling	17.04.82	Marcus Island, Saldanha, W Cape		
	Sick, subsequently died	01.07.95	Umkomaas Beach, KwaZulu-Natal	159 mths	1 254 km
570961	nestling	19.04.80	Jutten Island, Saldanha Bay, W Cape		
	Sick, subsequently died	05.10.95	Munster, KwaZulu-Natal	186 mths	1 182 km
589788	nestling	13.04.95	Robben Island, Western Cape		
	Dead	16.10.95	Richard's Bay, KwaZulu-Natal	6 mths	1 414 km
Laughing Dove <i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>					
D14899	adult	03.05.88	Hillsboro, Bloemfontein, Free State		
	Injured on road	25.08.95	Hillsboro, Bloemfontein, Free State	88 mths	0 km

Spotted Eagle Owl *Bubo africanus*

850497	1-6 mths	20.12.94	Scottysmith, Postmasburg, Northern Cape		
	Road casualty	10.08.95	Saldanha, Western Cape	8 mths	695 km

An interesting example of post-natal dispersal, and more evidence to show that immature Spotted Eagle Owls are prone to road deaths.

Little Swift *Apus affinis*

E08038	adult	14.11.87	Melville Koppies, Jhb, Gauteng		
	Sick	18.12.95	Vrededorp, Johannesburg, Gauteng	97 mths	2 km
E13567	adult	23.09.87	Bloemfontein, Free State		
	Sick, subsequently died	30.10.95	Bloemfontein, Free State	97 mths	0 km

Swift recoveries are rare. Both of these indicate apparent fidelity to breeding site area, and it is a remarkable coincidence that both should show similar elapsed times since original ringing although they need not have been of the same age.

Redfaced Mousebird *Colius indicus*

4A05602	adult	07.08.94	Potchefstroom, Northwest Province		
	Dead	27.08.95	Koster, Northwest Province	13 mths	99 km

Acacia Pied Barbet *Lybius leucomelas*

490130	juvenile	30.05.93	Ficksburg, Free State		
	Killed by cat	15.10.95	Ficksburg, Free State	29 mths	0 km

European Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

AD27989	adult	30.10.93	Greystone Park, Harare, Zimbabwe		
	Dead, collided with wires	27.12.95	Epworth, Harare, Zimbabwe	26 mths	13 km
AD32362	immature	27.10.94	Greystone Park, Harare, Zimbabwe		
	Control	22.05.95	Oleksiivka, Ukraine	7 mths	7367 km
AA06649	1-6 mths	31.12.93	Boteti River, near Maun, Botswana		
	Control	05.09.95	Baljeryd, Sweden	21 mths	8 600 km
C720951	adult	30.08.94	Wakefield, W Yorkshire, England		
	Control	02.04.95	Prozesky N R, Northwest Province	8 mths	9 352 km

Forktailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis*

479712	adult	23.01.88	Zais, Namib-Naukluft Park, Namibia		
	Sick, later died	13.11.94	Zais, Namib-Naukluft Park, Namibia	82 mths	0 km

The oldest Forktailed Drongo on record so far. Only 630 have been ringed since the initiation the ringing scheme.

Olive Thrush *Turdus olivaceus*

461839	adult	05.06.91	Rondebult, Germiston, Gauteng		
	Shot	08.08.95	Northcliff, Gauteng	50 mths	31 km

485434	adult	19.09.91	Kirklington, Ficksburg, Free State		
	Dead	03.12.95	Kirklington, Ficksburg, Free State	51 mths	0 km

Natal Robin *Cossypha natalensis*

BC18504	adult	17.08.91	Glenwood, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal		
	Road casualty	13.11.95	Glenwood, Durban, KwaZulu-Natal	51 mths	0 km

Cape Robin *Cossypha caffra*

BD09144	immature	23.05.95	Hill 60, Grahamstown, E Cape		
	Killed by cat	27.10.95	Grahamstown, Eastern Cape	5 mths	0 km

Cape Batis *Batis capensis*

AA54167	free flying	03.10.93	Somerset West, Western Cape		
	Killed by cat	14.11.95	Somerset West, Western Cape	25 mths	0 km

Redbacked Shrike *Lanius collurio*

BC45734	adult	10.12.94	Houtkop, Vereeniging, Gauteng		
	Dead	15.05.95	As-salif, Yemen	5 mths	4 927 km

There is only one previous recovery of a southern African-ringed Redbacked Shrike being recovered in the northern hemisphere. A female ringed in Kitare, Zambia, in December 1962 was found nesting in Czechoslovakia in June 1970. The finder of BC45734, a Sudanese school teacher working on the Red Sea coast of Yemen, commented "These sort of birds usually come to these places in April-May every year. People here love these birds and eat them."

Cape Sugarbird *Promerops cafer*

CC13408	adult	08.05.95	Pringle Bay, Western Cape		
	Control	10.08.95	Elsie's Peak, Glencairn, W Cape	3 mths	43 km

It is improbable that this sugarbird flew 43 km directly across False Bay from Pringle Bay to Elsie's Peak. By land, the distance is close to 100 km.

Malachite Sunbird *Nectarinia famosa*

BC13859	adult	30.06.92	Schoemanspoort, Western Cape		
	Control	01.11.95	Schoemanspoort, Western Cape	41 mths	0 km

A111210	adult	22.06.88	Durbanville Nature Reserve, W Cape		
	Road casualty	17.08.95	near Vissershok, Western Cape	86 mths	9 km

Scarletched Sunbird *Nectarinia senegalensis*

A135447	immature	24.07.90	Chirawanoo Farm, Banket, Zimbabwe		
	Killed by unknown predator	05.09.95	Chinhoyi, Zimbabwe	62 mths	25 km

Cape White-eye *Zosterops pallidus*

W02905	adult	12.08.95	Bedworthpark Dam, Vereeniging, Gauteng		
	Dead, in mosquito trap	21.12.95	Vanderbijlpark, Gauteng	4 mths	0 km

AD24606 adult	22.07.93	Botanical Gdns, Grahamstown, E Cape		
Road casualty	03.11.95	Grahamstown, Eastern Cape	28 mths	3 km

A111037 adult	25.01.90	Durbanville Nature Reserve, W Cape		
Control	24.11.95	Durbanville, Western Cape	70 mths	0 km

Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus intermedius*

AE15731 immature	13.07.95	Secrabje, Waterpoort, N Province		
Shot	10.10.95	Mt Stuart Farm, Northern Province	3 mths	74 km

Spottedbacked Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus*

CC06567 adult	20.11.92	Scottsville, Pelham, KwaZulu-Natal		
Dead	05.10.95	Scottsville, Pelham, KwaZulu-Natal	35 mths	0 km

487447 adult	30.08.92	Umhlanga Ponds, KwaZulu-Natal		
Caught in fowl run, released				
	27.12.95	Umhlanga, KwaZulu-Natal	40 mths	2 km

Cape Weaver *Ploceus capensis*

BD15161 adult	14.01.94	Goedeontmoeting, Malmesbury, W Cape		
Dead	06.11.95	Brooklyn, Cape Town, W Cape	22 mths	26 km

BC20578 adult	14.03.92	Durbanville Nature Reserve, W Cape		
Dead	11.07.95	Durbanville, Western Cape	40 mths	0 km

BC04992 1-2 yrs	06.04.89	Betty's Bay, Western Cape		
Killed by cat	13.09.95	Hopefield, Western Cape	77 mths	154 km

Masked Weaver *Ploceus velatus*

BB62196 adult	19.06.88	Victory Park, Johannesburg, Gauteng		
Killed by cat	26.09.95	Blairgowrie, Gauteng	87 mths	0 km

BD19012 adult	11.06.94	Goedeontmoeting, Malmesbury, W Cape		
Shot	30.09.95	Durbanville, Western Cape	16 mths	17 km

Redbilled Quelea *Quelea quelea*

AD49898 adult	04.09.93	Eleazer, Northwest Province		
Killed for food	02.10.95	Chiponga, Malawi	25 mths	1 617 km

AE15254 adult	18.05.95	OPM Prozesky N R, N W Province		
Killed in quelea control operation				
	15.11.95	Bishops Glen, Free State	6 mths	263 km

Red Bishop *Euplectes orix*

F60518 adult	16.06.95	Darvill, Pmb, KwaZulu-Natal		
Control	22.11.95	Protea Valley, Western Cape	5 mths	1 215 km
		The longest movement so far recorded for a Red Bishop bird.		
		The previous record was 200 km.		