

## LOCAL NEWS

### RINGING SEASON 1972/73

The totals list for the 1972/73 season is hot off the computer and contains the following information. The bird-ringing effort for the season increased by 16.2% from 64 866 to 75 379. The total of retraps was recorded for the first time and reached the high figure of 62 706 of which about 40 000 were recorded at permanent professional ringing stations at Barberspan and Jonkershoek. The three most ringed species were in order Laughing Dove 7 522, Yellow-billed Duck 6 157 and European Swallow 5 329. Other impressive totals include:- Jackass Penguin 3 442, White-backed Vulture 81, Black-shouldered Kite 191, Curlew Sandpiper 2 832, Ruff 651, Black-eyed Bulbul 546, Cape Reed Warbler 198, Red-billed Quelea 3 885. The total number of species ringed was 467.

### DETONATOR CANNON-NET DEVELOPED

Details of a device developed by Pete Mundy for the capture of vultures are given in this paper. The cannon has a number of advantages over conventional designs being cheaper and simpler. Most important, it has also proved effective in the field for catching vultures. Whether the cannon is quick enough to catch birds which react faster than vultures, such as duck and waders, is not known. (Ref: Mundy, P.J. & Choate, T.S. (1973) - Arnoldia Rhod. 6(17):1-6)

### SENSATIONAL RINGING INCREASE

Among the end-of-season totals lists received at NUBRA in July 1973, was one from Mr. Lynn Hurry. He pointed out that his rate of increase from the 1971/72 season to the 1972/73 season, being 1 to 16 birds, was 1600%. He was warned however that if this rate continued, he could be expected to be ringing about 1 500 000 birds by the 1979/80 season. It was pointed out that NUBRA was trying to encourage quality, not quantity!

### NEW PROJECTS

The following new projects have been received. Not all have necessarily been approved by the NUBRA Steering Committee or issued with free rings.

	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>RINGER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
R253	Little Stint	A.J.Tree	A broad-spectrum ringing study.
R264	Wood Sandpiper	"	"
	The Windhoek Area	H.Stöck (leader)	A community study.

### ZAMBIAN RINGING

A published report for 1970 & 1971, a cyclostyled report for 1972 and a Ringing Newsletter for 1973 combine to give an accurate picture of the current status of ringing research in Zambia. The effectiveness of ringing work is reduced by the fact that it is mostly carried out by a floating population of expatriates and the annual total of birds fluctuates at the comparatively low level of 2 000 birds per year. Of particular interest to S.A., are the efforts now being put into waterfowl ringing at Lochinvar, where 1 000 Red-billed Teal have been ringed recently. Results are already coming in, in the form of local recoveries and the control of two Barberspan and one Botswanan Redbills. This effort and some interest in waders augurs well for

the future and for a more complex knowledge of waterfowl movements in southern Africa. The next requirement is a ringing station in the Joao Belo area of Mocambique.  
(Ref:Dowsett,R.J. (1971) - Zambian Mus.J., 2:83-89)

#### RECENT RECOVERIES

As suggested the inclusion of the following does not constitute full publication and therefore may not be used for research purposes by anyone but the original ringer without permission.

R.172 Osprey Pandion haliaetus Ring No: M6660 (Recov.per C.Vernon)

Pull.	06.07.72	Kaijanluodot, Mikkeli, Finland	62.03 N, 28.33 E
	June 1973	Fort Victoria, Rhodesia	20.05 S, 30.50 E

Remarks: The bird was found dead. As far as is known, this is the first recovery of Osprey in southern Africa.

R.378 European Swift Apus apus P.2685

Pull.	06.07.70	Wageningen, Holland	51.58 N, 05.41 E
	25.02.71	Kamphinda, nr.Dedza, Malawi	14.09 S, 34.10 E

Remarks: This is the third Swift to southern Africa, the other two being to Rhodesia and Malawi, respectively.

R.002 Jackass Penguin Spheniscus demersus P-1605 (Ringed:J.Cooper)

Pull.	05.03.72	Dassen Island, W.Cape.	33.26 S, 18.05 E
Found dead	25.12.72	Haga Haga, nr.East London, E.Cape	32.46 S, 28.15 E

R.61 Cattle Egret Bubulcus ibis 6-35379 (Clive Hunter)

Pull.	30.12.72	Westdene, Benoni, Tvl.	26.11 S, 28.18 E
Pres. dead	May, 1973	Lubutu, Rep.du Zaire	00.44 S, 26.35 E

R.91 Knob-billed Duck Sarkidiornis melanotos 675-00750 (Ken Cackett)

Ad,♂	16.12.71	Chiredzi, Rhodesia	21.01 S, 31.33 E
Shot	01.05.73	Chikwawa, Malawi	16.03 S, 34.48 E

R.97 Red-billed Teal Anas erythrorhyncha 6-02551 (R.Dowsett)

Juv.♀	09.10.69	Lochinvar, Zambia	15.51 S, 27.14 E
Pres. dead	Feb. 1973	Bukalo, East Caprivi	17.54 S, 24.41 E

R.106 Cape Vulture Gyps coprotheres 509-0041 (Martin Johannsmeier)

Pull.	19.09 70	Skeerpoort, Tvl.	24.45 S, 27.45 E
Dead:poison	Dec. 1971	nr.Okahandja, S.W.A	21.38 S, 16.34 E

R.130 Black-shouldered Kite Elanus caeruleus 7-04443 (Harry Biggs)

1Y	10.10.72	Settlers Dist., Tvl.	24.57 S, 28.37 E
Shot	09.08.73	Beira area, Mocambique	19.49 S, 34.52 E

R.154 Steppe Buzzard Buteo buteo 7-09389 (Peter Mendelsohn)

Post juv.	12.12.71	nr.Settlers, Tvl.	25.00 S, 28.24 E
Killed	March 1973	nr.Cradock, Cape	32.11 S, 25.11 E

R.251 Curlew Sandpiper Calidris ferruginea 2-42732 (Waltner & Pfister)  
 F.g. 16.12.71 Rietvlei, Milnerton, C.P. 33.50 S, 18.30 E  
 ca.25.02.73 Evander, Kinross, Tvl. 26.28 S, 29.05 E

R.253 Little Stint Calidris minuta A-14426 (Tony Tree)  
 Adult 24.09.72 Lake Mellwaine, Rhodesia 17.55 S, 30.46 E  
 Controlled 30.10.73 Barberspan Reserve, Tvl. 26.33 S, 25.36 E

R.288 Grey-headed Gull Larus cirrocephalus 5-06073 (Clive Hunter)  
 Pull. 25.04.70 Westdene, Benoni, Tvl. 26.11 S, 28.18 E  
 Found dead 25.02.73 Welkom (Klippan), O.F.S. 28.02 S, 26.48 E

R.289 Hartlaubs Gull Larus hartlaubii 634-09027 (E.Middlemiss)  
 Adult 09.03.65 Rondevlei, Cape. 34.04 S, 18.30 E  
 Dead March 1973 Milnerton, Cape. 33.53 S, 18.29 E

R.296 Sandwich Tern Sterna sandvicensis 4-13161 (Tony Tree)  
 Adult 08.01.72 Cape Recife, Port Elizabeth E.C. 34.02 S, 25.42 E  
 Dead 22.04.73 Rivedoux, Ile de Ré, France 46.10 N, 01.16 E

R.317 Laughing Dove Streptopelia senegalensis 634-09726 (E.Middlemiss)  
 Adult 20.06.67 Rondevlei, Cape. 34.04 S, 18.30 E  
 Dead ca.24.06.73 Bergvliet, Cape. 34.03 S, 18.27 E

Remarks: In 73 S. senegalensis recoveries reputed to date from 1st July, 1972, this one is the oldest at six years, and one of only three in the whole sample surviving more than two years.

R.545 Black-eyed Bulbul Pycnonotus barbatus 622-13611 (C.Hodgson)  
 Adult 13.10.65 Penhalonga, Rhodesia 18.53 S, 32.41 E  
 Decomposed 23.08.73 - ditto - retrapped 7 times - ditto -

R.709 Boubou Laniarius ferrugineus 593-01001 (G.Lipp)  
 Adult 05.07.62 Troughend, Stellenbosch, C.P. 33.57 S, 18.50 E  
 Controlled 05.07.73 - ditto - - ditto -

R.786 Cape Sparrow Passer melanurus 652-02430 (W.Tarboton)  
 Ad.♂ 16.11.65 Forest Town, Jhbg. 26.10 S, 28.02 E  
 Killed by cat 06.08.73 - ditto - - ditto -

R.821 Cut-throat Amadina fasciata 662-11544 (Ian Milton)  
 ♂ 15.12.69 Norwood, Bulawayo, Rhodesia 20.03 S, 28.32 E  
 No details 21.07.72 Gokwe Dist., Rhodesia 18.14 S, 28.55 E

STOP PRESS

R.253 Little Stint Calidris minuta A-93916 (T.Choate & R.Harwin)  
 Adult 20.02.73 Lake Kariba, Rhodesia 17.00 S, 28.00 E  
 Controlled 06.10.73 Lake Magadi, Kenya 1.52 S, 36.17 E

Remarks: Controlled by David Pearson - is this the first Stint to East Africa? If so it is following the Rift Valley route as long suspected.