

# EDITORIAL

## MILESTONES

I make no apology for the title of this editorial - there is no suitable metric equivalent! 1981 will usher in changes at SAFRING: a new Ringing Organiser occupying, at long last, a permanent position. This is the culmination of the long journey through time since 1948 when the then South African Ornithological Society's ringing scheme was established. The establishment of the permanent post is a measure of the confidence that SAFRING's sponsors have in the Unit and in the role it plays in ornithology both in southern Africa and internationally.

I have learnt much and made many good friends during my four years as Ringing Organiser. I hope that my successor, Terry Oatley, will be given as much support and friendly criticism as I have received. Bird ringers can be difficult customers, mainly because they remain individuals in a world of conformity. Individuality is the quality that makes bird ringers so interesting to work with but so hard to organise!

It remains for me to wish all my ringing friends, my successor and SAFRING every success in the future.

*Patricie Horant-*

DR W. RYDZEWSKI

It is with regret that we report the death of Dr W. Rydzewski on 28th August 1980 in Wroclaw, Poland. Dr Rydzewski was well-known to bird ringers throughout the world through the medium of The Ring which he edited from its inception in 1963. We are sure that all bird ringers in southern Africa will join us in conveying our condolences to Dr Rydzewski's family and colleagues.

P.D.M. & J.A.L.