

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RAOU NEST RECORD SCHEME

The 1973-74 season has been a record. 3,605 cards were returned and this is the best intake since 1968-69.

PARTICIPATION

Between 30 June 1973 and 1 July 1974 the following sixteen individuals and two corporate bodies joined the scheme:

Mrs N. P. Ali (Tas.)	A. Marsland (Vic.)
Bayles Primary School (D. Jewell) (Vic.)	J. Peterson (Tas.)
Dr J. A. Broadbent (NSW)	A. B. Rose (NSW)
Dr A. G. Brown (Vic.)	D. R. Reid (WA)
Geelong C. of E.G.S. Timbertop (Vic.)	N. W. Schrader (NSW)
C. L. Gill (SA)	N. W. Sheppard (Tas.)
R. J. Hadley (Qld)	R. K. Templeton (WA)
Mrs B. Howie (NSW)	T. W. Trudgeon (NSW)
	S. B. Unthank (Vic.)
	J. Woinarski (Vic.)

The total of 3,605 cards returned this season includes 303 for previous years, which have again altered previous totals. Among cards received for past years were 193 from Fisheries and Wildlife Dept, Victoria, for Pied Cormorant and Black Swan.

The highest return of cards was from the Bird Observers' Club. This effort was organized by Mr F. F. James and we are grateful to him and to the BOC for a splendid contribution.

Other outstanding contributors were J. N. Hobbs and N. W. Schrader whose combined total was 667 cards from Ivanhoe, NSW. Substantial records, 560 in all, again came in from the Murray Valley: E. B. Thomas and P. A. Disher, both operating through the BOC at

Barham, P. Allan (Echuca), V. T. and T. G. Lowe (Mystic Park) and Dr A. G. Brown (Kerang) were the contributors there. Messrs Heinecke and Boehm sent in a large return from Eudunda, SA. S. B. Unthank's (Moorooduc, Vic.) 125 cards included forty-six for the Red-browed Finch; Mrs P. Park (Tas.) contributed eighty cards for the Welcome Swallow and C. Spiker (Vic.) twenty-three for the Great Crested Grebe.

It is not possible to mention all contributors. I can only emphasize that each card is valuable, and thank and congratulate all contributors for their hard work, time and interest.

Seventy-one individuals and five corporate bodies contributed to the Scheme during 1973-74 and these are listed in Table I.

RESULTS

The total number of cards in the collection is now 21,117 and the annual totals are as follows:

Pre-1964	896
1964-65	1,602
1965-66	1,640
1966-67	1,786
1967-68	2,405
1968-69	2,407
1969-70	1,597
1970-71	1,674
1971-72	1,810
1972-73	1,998
1973-74	3,302
	<hr/> 21,117

TABLE I

Contributors to the scheme for 1973-74 (number of cards in brackets after name)

G. Alcorn, W. Alcorn, H. Watkin (37) NSW	N. Lamb, A. McWhirter, K. Thaler (89) ACT
Mrs N. P. Ali (4) Tas.	V. T. and T. G. Lowe (123) Vic.
P. Allan (117) Vic.	W. Maddeford (15) WA
B. Baker, S. Davey (42) ACT	S. Marchant (59) NSW
P. Balmford (9) Vic.	A. Marsland (2) Vic.
Bayles Primary School (18) Vic.	Mrs H. M. McArthur (22) SA
Mrs R. Bigg (16) NSW	Dr O. M. G. Newman (11) Tas.
E. C. Birt (6) Qld	NSW Fld Orn. Club (61) NSW
BOC (506) Vic.	Mrs P. Park (81) Tas.
M. G. Brooker, J. Estbergs (37) WA	Mrs J. Paton (71) SA
Dr A. G. Brown (27) Vic.	A. Pecze (5) Vic.
R. J. and M. N. Brown (11) WA	Dr H. F. Recher (4) NSW
R. Buckingham (17) Vic.	D. R. Reid (11) WA
P. Bulfin, E. O. Dawson (35) Vic.	Mrs P. N. Reilly (29) Vic.
Dr D. H. Close (14) SA	A. Robinson (dec'd) (10) WA
Mrs C. C. Crowe (64) NSW	A. B. Rose (68) NSW
N. J. Favaloro (3) Vic.	N. W. Schrader (292) NSW
Fisheries and Wildlife Dept (293) Vic.	E. H. Sedgwick (19) WA
R. Garstone (72) WA	N. W. Sheppard (32) Tas.
C. Gill (64) SA	Sir Henry Somerset (4) Vic.
D. G. Gosper (68) NSW	C. Spiker (35) NT
Mrs I. Grant (4) NSW	R. K. Templeton (14) WA
R. J. Hadley (17) Qld	Mrs B. E. Triggs (10) Vic.
L. C. Heinecke, E. F. Boehm (113) SA	J. W. Trudgeon (44) NSW
Bro. Matthew (17) PNG	S. B. Unthank (125) Vic.
J. N. Hobbs (375) NSW	N. and J. Vincent (65) Vic.
Mrs B. Howie (33) NSW	VORG (105) Vic.
R. Jaensch (49) SA	N. F. Weatherill (14) Vic.
M. A. Johnson (15) NSW	L. E. Wall (3) Tas.
G. W. Johnstone, K. R. Kerry (17) Vic.	J. Wheeler, I. Tiley (49) Vic.
Mrs J. Johnstone, Miss H. Christensen (35) Vic.	J. Woinarski (17) Vic.

TABLE II
Species list of Nest Record Cards (only species with
100 or more cards)

	to 1972	1972- 73	1973- 74	Total		to 1972	1972- 73	1973- 74	Total
Fairy Penguin	214	6	7	227	White-winged Triller	106	17	34	157
Common Bronzewing	81	4	23	108	White-fronted Chat	141	24	18	183
Crested Pigeon	212	32	28	272	White-throated Warbler	117	7	3	127
Dusky Moorhen	57	7	48	112	Brown Thornbill	124	14	24	162
Little Grebe	85	4	78	167	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	349	22	38	409
Pied Cormorant	59	61	57	177	Reed Warbler	116	10	5	131
Spur-winged Plover	856	22	49	927	Superb Blue Wren	406	36	43	485
Banded Plover	171	25	18	214	White-browed Woodswallow	133	45	62	240
Red-capped Dotterel	200	5	18	223	Dusky Woodswallow	179	18	32	229
Black-fronted Dotterel	64	23	19	106	Silvereye	254	23	23	300
Pied Stilt	40	26	39	105	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	190	9	21	220
Black Swan	190	4	42	236	White-plumed Honeyeater	100	23	34	157
Nankeen Kestrel	82	18	24	124	New Holland Honeyeater	170	13	9	192
Galah	86	7	26	119	Noisy Miner	147	19	21	187
Tawny Frogmouth	80	9	13	102	Red Wattlebird	93	9	11	113
Kookaburra	93	8	14	115	Pipit	95	18	10	123
Superb Lyrebird	111	9	2	122	Zebra Finch	108	22	40	170
Welcome Swallow	434	116	254	804	Banded Finch	104	10	3	117
Fairy Martin	76	15	9	100	Red-browed Finch	235	64	88	387
Grey Fantail	356	26	34	416	White-winged Chough	159	11	40	210
Willie Wagtail	572	98	141	811	Black-backed Magpie	199	12	46	257
Flame Robin	87	11	14	112	White-backed Magpie	198	10	27	235
Yellow Robin	267	22	41	330	Raven	79	6	15	100
Golden Whistler	94	1	6	101	Little Raven	155	12	36	203
Rufous Whistler	196	18	22	236	Blackbird	311	41	56	408
Grey Shrike-thrush	154	6	21	181	House Sparrow	91	20	7	118
Magpie Lark	355	48	72	475	Goldfinch	295	34	38	367
Black-faced Cuckoo- shrike	136	16	33	185	Starling	214	39	36	289

These represent 476 species, an increase of eleven this season, but do not include nineteen cards submitted for New Guinean species that do not breed in Australia. Thirteen species were added to the list of those for which there are 100 or more cards. These are listed in Table II.

Ten species that had not been recorded before are: Little Egret, Plumed Egret, Plumed Tree-duck, Blue-billed Duck, Brahminy Kite, Red-capped Parrot, Chestnut Quail-thrush, Inland Thornbill, Regent and Spotted Bowerbirds (the six species of bowerbirds are represented by only thirteen cards).

Return of cards for many species, specially some waterbirds, increased dramatically, perhaps because of a wet season or attention by some participants to particular species. For instance, there were twenty-six for Coot until this year, when seventy-three were contributed, and only two for the Black-tailed Native-hen, for which thirty-five were returned this season. The Dusky Moorhen's total jumped from sixty-four to 112, Great

Crested Grebe's from sixteen to forty-eight and Little Grebe's from eighty-nine to 167. Eight cards for the Whiskered Tern are the first since 1968 when one was submitted.

During the year cards were borrowed as follows:

G. Beruldsen	White-eared Flycatcher
R. Buckingham	Spotted Turtle-dove
Fisheries and Wildlife Dept, Vic.	
S. Cowling	Ibises
Dr F. I. Norman	Chestnut Teal, Starling
J. Peterson	Some eagles; hawks and falcons
Dr H. F. Recher	Some honeyeaters
P. Roberts	White-throated Nightjar

The following paper, based entirely on cards in the collection, was published during the year:

S. Marchant. 1974. Analysis of nest-records of the Willie Wagtail. *Emu* 74: 149-160.

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