

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RAOU NEST RECORD SCHEME

INTRODUCTION

The total of 1,651 cards returned for the 1976-77 season is the lowest since 1969-70. It appears that this is because the contributors to the Scheme have decreased. The average return per contributor (30 cards) is equivalent to the previous season (31 cards). This tends to suggest that there was no significant difference in nesting activity between the two seasons.

PARTICIPATION

Between 1 July 1976 and 30 June 1977 the following thirty-one individuals and one corporate body joined the scheme:

E. Atkins (WA)	K. W. Lowe (Vic.)
S. Bennett (Vic.)	I. Lutz (WA)
K. Bottcher (Vic.)	M. S. Miles (Vic.)
R. S. Coghill (Vic.)	K. E. Moroney (WA)
R. V. Cooling (Vic.)	V. Patterson (WA)
K. Davey (NSW)	L. Pedler (SA)
R. Draffan (Qld)	K. D. Perry (WA)
V. J. Dunning (NSW)	R. L. Pink (WA)
E. Edwards (NSW)	Queensland Ornithological Society.
E. W. Fitzpatrick (Vic.)	D. E. Rounsevell (Tas.)
S. Garnett (NSW)	G. Tirrell (Vic.)
J. Grant (Vic.)	E. G. Watts (WA)
M. J. Hunter (NSW)	M. Wellings (Vic.)
L. Joseph (SA)	B. Weston (Vic.)
Mr & Mrs E. M. Kentish (SA)	J. Zitta (Vic.)
R. D. Lawer (WA)	

TABLE I

Contributors to the scheme for 1976-77
(number of cards in brackets after name).

P. Allan (82) Vic.	K. Lowe (8) Vic.
Atlas (6)	S. Marchant (222) NSW
B. Baker (34) SA	M. S. Miles (2) Qld
R. Bigg (30) NSW	A. K. Morris, N. Kurtz (81) NSW
E. Birt (5) Qld	I. C. Morris (11) Vic.
R. J. & M. N. Brown (141) WA	H. M. McArthur (7) SA
P. Congreve (68) WA	NSW Fld Orn. Club (37) NSW
C. C. Crowe (72) NSW	R. Noske (19) NSW
P. Dann (76) Vic.	P. Park (6) Tas.
R. Elvish (26) Qld	D. C., P. A. Paton (64) Vic.
P. Fell (19) Vic.	J. Paton (22) SA
Fish. Wildl. Dept (10) Vic.	V. Patterson (1) WA
C. Gill (31) SA	K. D. Perry (3) WA
C. N. Gove (1) Vic.	D. R. Reid (5) WA
P. du Guesclin (1) Vic.	P. N. Reilly (26) Vic.
L. C. Heinicke, E. F. Boehm (30) SA	A. B. Rose (17) NSW
J. N. Hobbs (31) NSW	N. Schrader (78) NSW
B. Howie (38) NSW	E. H. Sedgwick (30) WA
A. Huggett (15) NSW	R. Smith (23) NSW
T. Hunt (8) SA	H. Somers (4) Vic.
D. Johnstone (3) NSW	S. Unthank (116) Vic.
J. Johnstone (25) Vic.	VORG (80) Vic.
L. Joseph (6) SA	L. E. Wall (5) Tas.
J. Klapste (20) Vic.	H. Young, S. Reilly (6) Vic.

In the return of 1,651 cards, seventy-six were submitted for the past two seasons: nine for 1974-75 and sixty-seven for 1975-76. Thus, the totals for previous years have been altered.

Totals for four species were substantially increased: by R. J. and M. N. Brown, who sent in twenty-six cards for the Coot; P. Dann and K. Lowe, thirty-five for the Blackbird; and S. Marchant, thirty-eight for the Yellow-faced Honeyeater and thirty-seven for the Eastern Yellow Robin.

Outstanding contributions came from S. Marchant (Moruya, NSW) who sent in 222 cards, R. J. and M. N. Brown (Manjimup, WA), whose contribution numbered 141 cards, and S. Unthank (Moorooduc, Vic.) who made a substantial return of 116 cards to the scheme.

All contributors are listed below and thanked for their encouragement, interest and hard work during the year. Fifty individuals and four corporate bodies contributed to the scheme and these are listed in Table 1.

RESULTS

The total number of cards in the collection is now 27,882 and the annual totals are as follows:

Pre-1964	898	1971-72	1,914
1964-65	1,602	1972-73	2,098
1965-66	1,640	1973-74	3,608
1966-67	1,786	1974-75	2,576
1967-68	2,405	1975-76	2,098
1968-69	2,407	1976-77	1,651
1969-70	1,598		
1970-71	1,675		27,882

Four hundred and ninety-two species are represented. Cards were received for five species not previously represented: Papuan Frogmouth (R. Elvish); Frilled Monarch (R. Elvish and R. Noske); Bower's Shrike-thrush (A. and T. Lindsey); Red-browed Treecreeper (S. Marchant and R. Noske); Kelp Gull (J. Hobbs).

During the year cards were borrowed as follows:

Bird Observers' Club	Victorian Parrots; species breeding in Victorian Alps.
J. J. Counsilman	Babblers.
Dr X. Dennett	Pied Oystercatcher.
Fisheries and Wildlife Dept., Vic.	Victorian breeding species.
J. Ford	Grey Fantail and Western Gerygone.
Dr H. Frith	Pigeons and doves.
S. Garnett	Dusky Moorhen.
Dr O. Mayo	Plovers
A. Morris	Black-necked Stork.

I should particularly like to thank Helen Young for the efficient and pleasant manner in which she arranged the transfer of the organization of the scheme into my hands. Her diligence made the transition a simple one. I am sure that previous contributors will also join with me in thanking her. I should also like to thank Margaret Considine for helping me with some of the larger tasks involved in running the Nest Record Scheme.

TABLE II

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

	to 1975 1975-76 1976-77 Total					to 1975 1975-76 1976-77 Total			
Australasian Grebe	213	72	46	331	Weebill	95	4	4	103
Little Penguin	230	13	18	261	Striated Thornbill	103	18	7	128
Pied Cormorant	179	1	0	180	Brown Thornbill	203	45	25	272
White-faced Heron	112	4	4	120	Buff-rumped Thornbill	101	10	6	117
Black Swan	307	7	4	318	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	480	25	36	541
Pacific Black Duck	117	8	6	131	White-browed Scrubwren	96	9	11	116
Wedge-tailed Eagle	94	6	6	106	Clamorous Reed Warbler	138	18	26	182
Australian Kestrel	131	30	13	274	Superb Fairy-wren	523	56	25	604
Dusky Moorhen	120	16	6	142	White-winged Fairy-wren	99	5	9	113
Eurasian Coot	121	25	29	175	White-browed Woodswallow	244	66	26	336
Pied Oystercatcher	89	6	6	101	Black-faced Woodswallow	103	7	2	112
Masked Lapwing*	964	40	27	1031	Dusky Woodswallow	258	24	22	306
Banded Lapwing	227	26	7	260	Silvereye	319	24	26	369
Red-capped Plover	236	11	13	260	Singing Honeyeater	92	11	3	106
Black-fronted Plover	141	6	5	152	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	234	60	45	339
Black-winged Stilt	124	2	24	150	White-plumed Honeyeater	177	16	8	201
Silver Gull	179	1	2	120	New Holland Honeyeater	208	12	33	253
Common Bronzewing	124	8	2	134	Noisy Miner	194	8	10	212
Crested Pigeon	293	28	17	338	Little Wattlebird	106	4	6	116
Galah	157	10	7	174	Red Wattlebird	135	22	21	178
Eastern Rosella	102	12	3	117	Richard's Pipit	142	9	3	154
Tawny Frogmouth	118	9	7	134	Zebra Finch	203	35	9	247
Laughing Kookaburra	123	9	11	143	Double-barred Finch	118	4	3	125
Sacred Kingfisher	95	7	8	110	Red-browed Firetail	437	79	46	562
Superb Lyrebird	122	1	1	124	White-winged Chough	228	10	6	244
Welcome Swallow	1037	132	60	1229	Australian Magpie***	614	21	13	648
Fairy Martin	108	18	8	134	Australian Raven	126	8	2	136
Grey Fantail	444	39	45	528	Little Crow	181	11	0	192
Willie Wagtail	911	67	45	1023	Little Raven	236	25	10	271
Jacky Winter	92	10	8	110	Blackbird	465	44	74	583
Flame Robin	122	7	2	131	House Sparrow	123	14	4	141
Eastern Yellow Robin**	363	71	65	499	European Goldfinch	401	19	17	437
Golden Whistler	113	8	8	129	Common Starling	320	36	47	403
Rufous Whistler	251	16	13	280					
Grey Shrike-thrush	200	13	16	229					
Aust. Magpie-lark	526	28	17	571					
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	200	15	14	229					
White-winged Triller	171	26	7	204					
White-fronted Chat	204	8	4	216					
White-throated Gerygone	129	1	1	131					

* Includes 9 cards previously listed for Masked Plover according to 1926 Checklist.

** Includes 25 cards for Northern Yellow Robin.

*** Includes 274 for White-backed, 326 for Black-backed and 48 for Western Magpie.

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