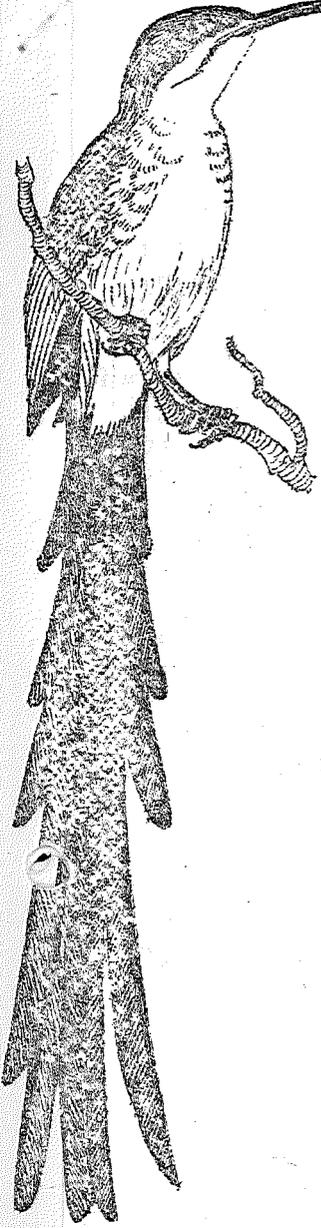


NEWSLETTER - NUUSBRIEF

Nº Nº

72

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Hierdie keer het niemand iets in Afrikaans ingestuur nie, daarom moet ek maar self iets skrywe. Gelukkig kan ek iets vermeld van 'n voëltjie met 'n tipies Afrikaanse naam, die Kwikkie (Cape Wagtail). Teen die einde van Julie het 'n paar van hulle begin nes maak in die heining van my tuin. Op 5 Augustus is die derde eier gelê en op 17 Augustus was daar twee kleintjies uit en op 18 Augustus drie. Hulle het op 2 September uitgevlieg.

Toe die paar, op 12 September, 'n nuwe nes begin bou, net een voet van die eerste, besluit ek om hulle noukeuriger dop te hou. Ek het die eiers gemerk soos hulle op 18, 19 en 20 September gelê is. Die tweede eier is tussen 7.10 en 8.10 v.m. gelê. Ek het natuurlik verwag dat die eerste eier eerste sal uitbroei, maar die kwikkies laat vir hulle niks voorskrywe nie. Op 3 Oktober om 4 n.m. was die kleintjie uit die derde eier uit, die ander twee eiers was gepik. Op 4 Oktober om 7 v.m. was daar twee kleintjies uit, die eerste eier het 'n groot kraak gehad en die kleintjie was net besig om uit te kom. So het alles heel anders gekom as wat ek verwag het, maar dit gebeur mos dikwels in die lewe en nie slegs by voëls nie.

Members are asked to help with a new project:

Information on Eagles and Vultures

Mr. Peter Steyn has been invited by the S.A. Bird Book Fund to write the biological material of a volume on Eagles and Vultures (on the same lines as the Canaries, Seedeaters and Buntings book). The volume will cover numbers 105 - 112 and 133 - 151 (excluding No. 144) in Roberts. Any information on courtship, feeding, voice, breeding, etc. will be gratefully received. No item of information would be considered too important; the very thing you have hidden away in a notebook might just be what is needed. The fact that you are sometimes repeating knowledge does not detract from your contribution one bit - confirmation is always valuable. All contributions will be acknowledged in the book. Mr. Steyn's address is Falcon College, P.O. Essexvale, Southern Rhodesia.

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Nesting of Karroo Birds

Mr. Jack MacLeod writes: During a recent trip with John Martin to Williston, where we went to check on a report that a Black Stork was nesting, we were able to make a few observations on the nesting of Karroo birds. We were delighted to find that the Stork (Ciconia nigra) had obligingly laid an egg on the morning of our visit, so our long journey had not been in vain. Some birds were feeding fledged young: these were Bokmakierie and Dusky Sunbird; some were building nests: Prinia, Fairy Flycatcher, Ground Robin, Mountain Chat, Grey-backed Warbler; others were sitting on eggs: Grey Heron, Fiscal Shrike, Cape Coly, Crombec, Mountain Canary (also building and feeding young out of nest); and a number were feeding young in nest: Eremomela, Grey Tit, Layard's Tit Babbler. Unfortunately the time we were able to spend in the veld was limited to a few hours on Saturday (17 Aug. '63), many other species were undoubtedly nesting. The weather was bitterly cold with heavy frost, and a nest of White-throated Seedeater was found with two dead young, we suspect a result of the intense cold. We made a species count for the farm "Grootfontein" and recorded 53 species. In Williston we noticed a mixed nesting colony of Grey and Black-headed Herons.

The call of the Long-billed Lark at Williston is different from that of the same species at Bredasdorp, it calls "Mè" whereas the Bredasdorp bird says quite clearly "Me too".

Sacred Ibis roosting.

In reply to Mrs. Gwen Lipp's question (cf. Newsletter 71) Mr W.R. Siegfried, Nature Conservation Dept. Jonkershoek, reports that 3 Ibis were regularly roosting at Devon Valley, Stellenbosch and a few at Paarde Vlei, Strand; 2 Ibis roosted for a time together with Cattle Egrets at Mr. Pat Bosman's farm at Faure.

near Klipheuvel (Darling area)

Weekend Camp at Rocklands, 14/15th September 1963

Mr. John Martin reports: The camp was quite a success from a nest-finding point of view. Nine tents dotted the green area around the vacant farm house. Bright sunshine on Saturday afternoon had all the flowers at their very best and the farm could not have looked better.

Members retired to their sleeping-bags about 9.30 p.m. after spending the evening round the Louw/Clarke fire which started as a "Braai" but eventually became a "Bon". A ground mist on Sunday morning retarded the opening of the buds, but by noon the flowers were at their best again. "Muggies" could have been worse, but not much. Many nests were found: 4 Prinia (2 with eggs and 1 with young), Yellow Canary with 3 young, 3 Karroo Robin (2 with eggs), 1 Stonechat with 3 young and 1 Cape Robin with 2 young. Other nests with eggs included Bokmakierie, Cape Wagtail, Cape Sparrow, Cape Weaver, Crowned Plover, Grey-backed Warbler, Fiscal Shrike and Cape Canary. Keith Morgan found a Clapper Lark nest with 3 eggs and a Pied Barbet nest still being chipped out. Another Pied Barbet Nest apparently had eggs but we were unable to verify this. Near a large colony of Sand Martins

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a pair of Malachite Kingfishers had their nest tunnel in a sand bank. Both Lesser Double-collared and Malachite Sunbirds nests were found and both Cape and Red Bishopbirds nests were being built. The highlight of the outing, however, was the finding of two Black Korhaan nests, each with the usual clutch of one egg, by Peter Wilson. This is indeed, remarkable, and I believe the club members will soon be able to see shots of these nests with the female in attendance, in colour, both in still and cine.

A number of the less hardy members joined us on Sunday morning with the result that the weekenders now had to share their "Muggies" with them, so that on Sunday we had only about one thousand of these little fellows apiece to wave to, instead of Saturday's two thousand. Still, we are not complaining. About seventy species were recorded, including the S.A. Nightjar which kept repeating its beautiful call practically in our camp, but was heard by surprisingly few members although it called at six o'clock in the morning. I thoroughly enjoyed the outing and hope the committee will organise something similar next spring.

1962 Report of C.B.C. Nest Record Scheme

Mr. John Martin sent me a list of all the 72 contributors, but as this is a bit too long, I shall only mention those who recorded ten nests or more. This should incite all those not mentioned to record more than ten nests during the present breeding season.

Dr. Broekhuysen (40 nests), Mrs. Broekhuysen (17), A.R. Brown (64), A.F. Hallet (69), Mrs. Knipe (19), G.K. Lestranger (38), J. MacLeod (30), Mrs. Martin (90), R. Martin (106), J. Martin (147), E. Middlemiss (40), A. Morris (17), H.K. Morgan (29), N. Myburgh (18), B. Rowlands (34), R.K. Schmidt (138), R. Siegfried (13), D.M. Skead (201), Mrs. Taylor (11), G. Underhill (17), Dr. Uys (48), Dr. Winterbottom (49), Mrs. Winterbottom (10).

Colour Ringing or Marking of Birds

All members who want to put colour rings on birds or mark them with a colour dye, are asked to report about this to the Secretary of the S.A.O.S. This has become necessary to prevent confusion if two workers use the same colour for the same species of bird.

The Records Sub-Committee

The publishing of the 1963 Check List should not be regarded as an end, but as a beginning and a task for every member to help in filling the gaps which still exist. In 1960 the Club adopted the following rules for the Check List:

No new Species will be officially admitted to the Check List of the Cape Bird Club unless one of the following conditions has been fulfilled:

1. A skin or a specimen is available.
2. A recognisable photograph is available.

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3. A live bird is captured and identified before release by at least two independent Members (i.e. not members of the same family), one of whom must be a Member of the Records Sub-Committee.
4. A sight record based on the identification of at least three independent Members, at least one of whom must be a Member of the Records Sub-Committee.
5. A sight record based on identification by two Members of the Records Sub-Committee.

Below is a list of the Members of the Records Sub-Committee as it was in September 1963.

The Records Sub-Committee

Dr. G.J. Broekhuysen	"Ryswyk", Balfour Avenue, NEWLANDS.
Mr. A.R. Brown	"Glenwood", Swan Lane, BERGVLIET.
Mr. S.W. Clarke	69, Pluto Road, PLUMSTEAD.
Mr. W.T. Ferguson	Dept. of Education, U.C.T. RONDEBOSCH.
Mr. K. Fourie	c/o Western Province Fruit Research Station, STELLENBOSCH.
Lt.Col. R. Hallack	17, Lourensford Road, SOMERSET W.
Mr. J.H. Hofmeyr	Friedheim, Highstead Rd. RONDEBOSCH
Miss M.E. Johns	Stansted, Timour Hall Rd. PLUMSTEAD
Mrs. M.P. Knipe	33 Lourensford Road, STRAND.
Mr. G.K. Lestrangle	Undercliff, Simonstown Road, FISH HOEK.
Mr. J.G. MacLeod	4, Frisia Flats, Drama Street, SOMERSET WEST.
Mr. J. Martin	Lower Mountain Rd, SOMERSET WEST.
Mr. E.H.J. Middlemiss	Rondevlei Bird Sanctuary, Prince George's Drive, RETREAT.
Mr. H.K. Morgan	11 Arthurs Court, High Level Rd., CBA POINT.
Mr. J. Perry	14 New Way, FINELANDS.
Mr. R.W. Rand	26 Dulverton Rd., RONDEBOSCH.
Miss C. Robinson	Abberton, Timour Hall Rd., PLUMSTEAD.
Miss J. Robinson	Abberton, Timour Hall Rd., PLUMSTEAD.
Mrs. M.K. Rowan	11 Bishops court Rd., CLAREMONT.
Mr. R.K. Schmidt	Striegau, 54 Lympleigh Road, PLUMSTEAD.
Mr. W.R. Siegfried	P.O.Box 272, STELLENBOSCH.
Mr. D.M. Skead	KOMMETJIE.
Mrs. I. Taylor	2 Green Court, Thornhill Road, GREEN POINT
Dr. C.J. Uys	Pathology Dept., Medical School, MOWERAY.
Dr. J.M. Winterbottom	6 Oak Avenue, GARDENS.