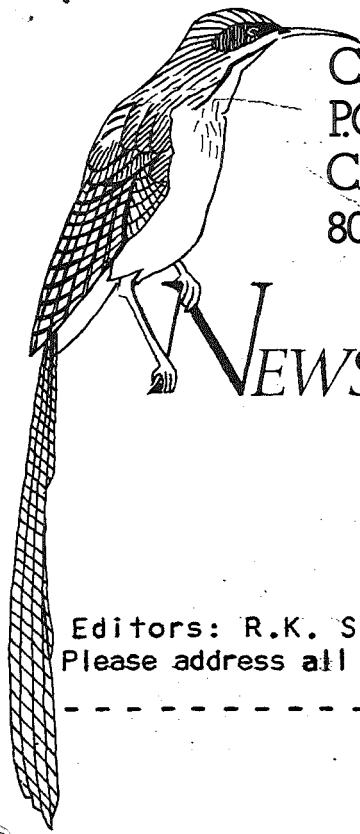


CAPE BIRD CLUB — KAAPSE VOELWAARNEMERSKLUB  
P.O. BOX 5022 POSBUS 5022  
CAPE TOWN KAAPSTAD  
8000 8000



# NEWSLETTER

# NUUSBRIEF

NO. 120 NR.

JANUARY 1976 JANUARIE

Editors: R.K. Schmidt and Philip Tongue.  
Please address all communications to the Club's P.O. Box.

---

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

### THE SLIDE SHOW

After a frantic, late, rush, the slide shows, somewhat to the sub-committee's surprise took place on their appointed dates and everyone we have spoken to agrees they were a great success. Everything went according to plan except that owing to the receipt of inaccurate information about seating capacity, we sold more tickets than there were seats, though after a short panic, the problem was easily solved. The Club's Conservation Fund has been augmented by about R 350.00 and the organisers are already thinking about further shows.

The Committee's thanks have already gone to the photographers who generously lent their best slides and this seems to be an appropriate place to thank members for not only turning up in very satisfactory numbers but for telling their friends too.

### The FOURTH PAN-AFRICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS

This important gathering of ornithologists from many countries will take place this year from November 6 to 13 at Victoria, Seychelles, and promises to be an occasion at which everyone with some spare time and cash should make an effort to be present.

Alas! it is the CASH that, for South Africans, so far from the Indian Ocean Islands, will be a problem. The cost of the whole affair, from Johannesburg to Johannesburg, will be a maximum of R 640.00, though, should enough South Africans apply, to enable a plane to be chartered, this cost would be considerably reduced.

The Congress is to be devoted to two themes, (a) Emergent African Ornithology and (b) Indian Ocean Ornithology. Accommodation is at the luxury Mahe Beach Hotel, and an excursion to some of the outlying islands is included in the fee.

All particulars of what could well be an outstanding ornithological holiday may be obtained from Dr. Richard Liversidge, at the Alexander Mc Gregor Museum, Kimberley.

Papers will be presented, among others, by our own Dr. Winterbottom and Dr. Liversidge.

For those NOT holding South African passports, wonderful excursions, both before and after the Congress are to be made in Kenya.

The EASTERN CAPE WILD BIRD SOCIETY

We have received a pleasant letter from the Hon. Secretary of our sister Club in Port Elizabeth congratulating us on our NEWSLETTERS ..... very comforting to the editors .... and making a request that any Cape ornithologists or birdwatchers who have slides and/or the potentialities of a talk, please to take them with them if they visit Port Elizabeth as that city, does not number a professional ornithologist among its many attractions.

May we urge members to remember this plea when they are on the road? Mrs. Jean Spearpoint is the Hon. Sec., and her P.O. Box 1305 PORT ELIZABETH. 6000.

BIRD GARDENING

Information on planting for birds can be obtained from Kenneth Newmans "Garden Birds of South Africa" also "Trees of Southern Africa" by Eve Palmer and Norah Pitman. And from a list drawn up at the suggestion of Mr. Jimmie Hall by the Transvaal provincial nature conservation division.

For nectar:- Aloes, red hot poker and strelitzia, proteas, watsonias, Cape honeysuckle and kaffirboom, for warmer areas, buddleia species, wild dagga, boerboon tree (schotia), wisteria, gardenia, notsung, (Halleria lucida) and ericas.

For insects:- Acacias, especially the rough bark of the sweet thorn or mimosa (acacia karoo) boerboon, white elder (noxia) wild pear (dombeya) and combretum.

For fruit or seeds:- Acacias- also good for nesting because of their thorns and for nectar, anaboom (albidia) tender at first but fast. Rocusta, sweet thorn, ecologically most useful. Other trees. Wild olive, pittosporum, viridiflorum, wild fig, wild medlar, wild plum, (pappea capensis) wild peach, eugenia species. Shrubs. Kei apple, grewia, ochna, noltea africana.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

VOLUNTEERS please to work on the NEWSLETTER.

The Club has now purchased an electric duplicating machine and a typewriter and intends to produce the MARCH issue and all subsequent issues from what may be called its own press.

Since late of 1974 we have owed the regular production of the journal to the kindness and generosity of Miss Iris Zammit who has organised things for us with the greatest of goodwill and helpfulness, but the Committee has recently been feeling that it was time for us to stand on our own feet .... and that time has now come.

The work to be done is this. Stencils have to be cut from the (mostly) typewritten rough paste-up provided by the editors. This sometimes needs some planning and re-arrangements to fit the material into the number of pages decided on. Then the pages must be passed through the duplicating machine (an average issue contains ten pages, five sheets) and we print 500. These are next stapled together, folded, and placed in the envelope previously addressed on the Secretary's addressograph. The final job is to get them to the nearest post office.

We think that two days every other month should be sufficient to get the whole job finished. Normally we start about the end of each second month and posting date is roughly the 10th of the next month ..... that is to say, the March issue will be ready for the production department about the 28th of February, or a little later, and should be in the post about 10th of March.

A large room has been made available for this purpose by the Chairman, Mr. Alan Morris, in Plein Street.

Will people who want to work for the Club please contact either the ditors, Philip Tongue at 2-7921, Rudolf Schmidt at 41-2045 (after 4 p.m.) or Alan Morris at 2-9659 so that we can plan for the March NEWSLETTER well in advance.

The work will be done during office hours.

### BIRDS OF DAMARALAND

Would the member who kindly donated a copy of the above book to the S A O S please contact Miss Searle at 69-8531 because his name has been mislaid.

### APOLOGIES

Odd things happen in the progress of such a broadsheet as this NEWSLETTER as contributions travel from the editorial desk to the final roneoning. In the November issue, no 119 the note on the Arctic Skua lost the names of its contributors, who are Tony Williams and John Cooper.

Still odder was the transcription on page 9 of the name of Mr. Manfred Waltner (of the Western Cape Wader Study Group) into M. HATTIUS!

Editorial apologies to all three gentlemen.

### GOOD NEWS FROM CAPE POINT

The Divisional Council of the Cape has been as good as its word and the western shore of the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve from Olifantsbos to Scarborough is now closed to everyone from September to March. Notice boards are now in place and, at long last, the shore nesting birds are assured of proper protection.

By pressing the Divisional Council to close this stretch of shore, the Cape Bird Club has deprived itself of access to one of the best places in the Peninsula for watching shore birds; the disappointment of those who visited it regularly will, however, be tempered by the knowledge that a substantial step forward in conservation has been taken.

### CLUB ACTIVITIES

The final field excursion of the 1975 season took a large number of people to Roostrand/Afdak Plaas, at Bot River Lagoon on Sunday November 16, in ideal weather.

Arrived at the meeting place, we were offered the alternatives of a picnic spot by the water's edge and a leisurely day, or of a cross-country drive farther up-stream followed by a longish walk along the shores.

Those who opted for a walk recorded 68 species, including such highlights as a Fish Eagle (149), Marsh Harrier (167), eight Ruffs (256) initially noted by our Chairman, Yellow-billed Kite (129) Steppe Buzzard (154) Red-chested Cuckoo (343), Blue Crane (216), , eight Crested Grebes (4) and one Eared Grebe (5).

Kittlitz Sandplovers (237) with young were shown to us by the leader Arthur Gregory, four Pied Kingfishers (394), a Dusky Flycatcher ( 655) rather away from its normal woodland habitat and large flocks of African Shelduck (90) and Egyptian Geese (89). An invitation by the leader to estimate the numbers of these .... always an interesting exercise .... produced some remarkably varying figures ..... The Club is happy to thank Mr. J.J. Delpont, for permission to visit his farm for this enjoyable outing.

For the last evening meeting, Mr. Stafford Smith concluded the talk of which the first part was given in February, on the Galapagos. This, like the first one, was distinguished by great expertise in the presentation and splendid photographs. Although these once remote islands have become very much a part of the tourist round, it may in the long run be beneficial, as the revenues thus obtained and the spotlight of world publicity, may help in keeping down the introduced predators and in limiting the use of the natural resources by a population hard-pressed to keep itself alive. Mr. Stafford Smith's two talks have given us an appreciation of the vulnerability of a place most of us will never see, and of its fascination to birdwatchers. ....4/

THE DA GAMA COUNTS

The twelfth count took place on November 10, so that the one on December 15 began a new series, the results of which, from now onwards, will permit comparison with those of a year back. The total numbers of individuals was 1511 in November and 1918 in December, with 74 and 67 species respectively.

The devastated area has grown alarmingly since we began in 1974; the high south-westerly gale on December 15 created Sahara conditions in places and the face of the land has been changed to such an extent that the birds too have changed. All this sort of information will show when George Begg's report is ready. Cape Bird Club members will be pleased to know that the Club is to circulate this report, which will be posted as soon as it is ready.

REPORTS AND OBSERVATIONS(a) SIGHTINGSGREATER FLAMINGO (86)

1st November 75, 30 adults and 4 juveniles Velddrif estuary (Riviera Hotel) Midday. plus another flock of 40-45 adults late afternoon.

2 " " Rocher Vlei 43 Greater Flamingo.

PAT LOCKHART SOMERSET WEST

10 " " Berg River Estuary. Uncounted flock of Greater Flamingo.

E.T. HOLDER. BERGVLIET

LESSER FLAMINGO (87)

2nd November 75, Rocher Vlei. 14 Adults, and one at Kleinmond Lagoon on 8 Nov.

BLACK HARRIER (169)

2nd November 75, One seen flying low near Rocher Pan.

16 " " , On the way to the Field Excursion at Bot River, one seen by writer and a CBC member flying very low along the grass verge of the Hermanus road, and again that afternoon (with three CBC members). A singleton was also seen several km away along the hillside skirting the lagoon, and could well have been a second bird. It is within the vicinity of a breeding pair already reported in the NEWSLETTER;

2nd November 75, One flew low over the car (a wonderful viewing) on the tarred road from the Het Kruis turnoff leading to Piketberg. This bird is not uncommon in the Piketberg-Velddrif area.

PAT LOCKHART SOMERSET WEST.

STANLEY BUSTARD (219)

A pair seen between Stompneus Bay and Paternoster, Oct. 10, 75.

J.F. HARVEY BERGVLIET

MARTIAL EAGLE (142)

On Monday 24 November about 10 am we saw a magnificent Martial Eagle on a pole about 27km on the Cape Town side of Beaufort West. He was holding the hindquarters of a rabbit, and stayed there, quite unconcerned, whilst we watched him for about 10 minutes.

MARIETTE BROEKHUYSEN NEWLANDS.

Editors' note; whilst Beaufort West is outside the Cape Bird Club's area, we rarely hear of this bird so close to the Cape and we felt it should be mentioned here)

GOSHAWKS

Dr. J.M. Winterbottom writes as follows:-

With reference to the records in NEWSLETTER 119, of the African and Gabar Goshawks, I keep an updated version of the CBC "Check List" and the following notes are relevant.

AFRICAN GOSHAWK (160)

Two sightrecords from Stellenbosch (Siegfried) and one from Afdaks River Mouth. (Roberts)

GABAR GOSHAWK (162)

Sight records from Clanwilliam, Montagu and Somerset West. I think both species will have to be included in the Next edition of the Check List".

A BLACK SWAN at large!

At the Olifants River Mouth on 13.11.75 Tony Williams and I saw an Australian Black Swan swimming past a group of White Pelicans. Many Lesser Flamingoes were also present on the estuary. What was presumably the same bird was seen by members of the PFAIO flying over Strandfontein Sewage works on 5.1.74 and at Waddrift Salt Pan, just south of Lambert's Bay on 21.10.75. A Black Swan arrived at Rondevlei on 31.12.73 and stayed for three weeks, leaving in the company of approximately 50 Greater Flamingoes in the direction of Strandfontein. (Middlemiss: Rondevlei Annual Report for 1973)

More detective work discovered that the bird, in all likelihood, came from the wildfowl collection of Mr. L.J. Hill of "Simonsvlei" Constantia where it (a female) was stolen along with a pinioned male in November 1973. The female, which was not pinioned, then presumably escaped.

It seems likely that the bird, with no congeners handy, attaches itself to groups of flamingoes or pelicans and wanders with them, moving North in the process.

CBC members who see this handsome bird should note the presence or absence of flamingoes or pelicans and whether there appears to be any association.

J. COOPER PFAIO

SECRETARY BIRD (105)

One seen between Langebaanweg and Langebaan Village. Oct. 10.  
J.F. HARVEY BERGLIET

LITTLE TERN (299)

One Hermanus Lagoon 30.10.75. Described in ROBERTS as a rare migrant on west" I may add that I was very familiar with this species in Britain.

E.L. ROBERTS HERMANUS

AFRICAN SPOONBILL (85)

On September 5th, at 14.20 hours on a warm sunny windless day a group of 14 of these birds were observed from the car for about 20 minutes in a small reedy vlei about 30 m from the seaside of the edge of River Road on the way to Melkbos Strand, and 100 m beyond the bridge adjacent to Ascot Turf Club. Two birds were in the water with a pair of Sacred Ibis (81), the other 12 were strung out along a sandbank above water level. These birds varied considerably in size; all had pure white plumage and all bills pale bluish UPPER mandibles and pink lower ones. Legs were grey, darker towards the feet and did not appear to be muddied; thighs of some appeared to have a slight yellow tinge .... could that have been pollen from surrounding Port Jackson? ROBERTS description of bill and leg coloration is different from what I saw. Could they have been sub-adults?

MRS. M.J. LOVE RONDEBOSCH. 13/9/75

WHITE WINGED BLACK TERN (304)

On Nov. 28 I was at Strandfontein Sewage Farm and I saw a White-winged Black Tern in full breeding plumage .... head and body all black, black bill and red legs; wings dark grey, tail light grey.

H. GOTTSCHALK PLUMSTEAD. 1/11/75.

AFRICAN HOOPOE (418)

A few days ago I saw a Hoopoe under some oak trees outside the dining-room window where a pair sometimes come to feed, only this one was white instead on chestnut and had black markings on the back, wings and crest; a few days later it was back, and was seen by all the family. A neighbour tells us that she and a friend saw a pair of them in her garden.

JONATHAN STEYTLER (AGED 12)  
Brommersvlei Road, CONSTANTIA.

Has anyone else seen them? (Editors)

(b) BEHAVIOUREGYPTIAN GOOSE (89)

Recently, at Meerlust Dam I was watching a female Egyptian Goose with four very young chicks, not more than 50m from the road. Suddenly the goose gave a warning cry and a male goose landed nearby and immediately attacked the female and then one or more of the chicks which scuttled into the reeds. The two geese then circled each other, just like wrestlers, their heads, necks and backs held horizontal and the wings slightly lowered. First one would attack and then the other. After about 10 minutes the female appeared to gain the upper hand and the male flew off.

She then called to the chicks of which three appeared, and she entered the water with them, calling continuously.

Has any other member of the Club seen anything like this? Is it usual? Does it mean anything?

M.J. WHITE PLUMSTEAD 10/10/75.

GLOSSY IBIS (83)

Six Glossy Ibises seen feeding at Verloren Vlei on 2 Nov. 75. One, a little apart from the other five, proceeded to act in the same fashion as the Black Heron (64). It was fishing in shallow water, in bright sunshine, and raised its wings, stretching out and forming them into a canopy over the water.

We watched this bird for 20 minutes, and the sun shining on its plumage gave it a bright bluish tinge. Have any other CBC member seen this species fish in this manner?

PAT LOCKHART SOMERSET WEST.

(c) NESTS, EGGSSACRED IBIS (81)

In company with Alf Brown at Paarl Sewage Farm to-day, we found 8 nests of the Sacred Ibis amongst a colony of Cattle Egrets (61). Seven were sitting on nests, all on the same level, about 3.6m high in Acacia trees, in two groups, a metre apart; one group of 4, another of 3; the nests in each group were very close together, almost touching.

The eighth nest was about 9 metres away from the others, about 4.25 metres in Acacia trees, with one young being fed by the parent.

There were also three nests of the BLACK NECKED GREBE (5) on the water among tufts of reeds a metre or so apart, all with sitting birds.

H. GOTTSCHALK PLUMSTEAD.

PIED STARLING (746)

Returning from Lambert's Bay on 10th October 1975, I flushed two Pied Starlings from a dead Bat-eared Fox on the road near Graafwater. Both birds flew off with tufts of fur in their bills. ROBERTS states that the species makes a padded nest and it seems likely that the birds were utilizing the carcass for material to line their nesting holes.

E.L. ROBERTS. P.F.I.A.O. 4/11/75.

MALACHITE SUNBIRD (751)

Nest with two eggs found on October 22, 75 in Port Jackson wattle at Sand Bay, Hermanus. Two young hatched on Nov. 4 and left the nest on Nov. 20.

E.L. ROBERTS HERMANUS.

SECRETARY BIRD (105)

Male seen in display flight over veld near Bot River on 26.10.75. This consisted of steep climbs followed by plunging descent with closed wings, the wings then being opened suddenly at the bottom of the dive; with the long legs trailing it looked, as one of my companions remarked, "like somebody opening an umbrella"! A short search revealed the nest, containing two young about two weeks old, in the top of a solitary pine tree, and incidentally, only about a km from the Black Harrier nest we were watching. We could (and did) sit comfortably all day and watch both nests! We saw the male Secretary Bird visit the nest on several occasions though the female remained on the nest brooding the young for the entire six hours that we were there. He sometimes flew directly to the nest with food, and at other times walked a long distance to the vicinity of the tree before making a brief flight up to it. During this, and subsequent watches, we saw him on several occasions carry beakfuls of nesting material to the nest, this occurring in both early and late stages of the fledging period. We also noted his habit when, having apparently seen us watching (though we never closer than 1 km distance), he would circle the tree on foot and make his flight up to the nest on the side away from us. This was very effective and to a large extent concealed his final stage to the nest. On one occasion, using a powerful telescope, we saw the male disgorge 6+ snakes of up to 45cm in length, into the nest. These were then picked up by the sitting female and fed to the young. The two young were very well fledged and complete with long head-plumes when the nest was last visited on 7.12.75.

BLACK HARRIER (169)

Refer NEWSLETTER 119, November, 75. Pair nesting near Bot River. On several visits during late October and early Nov. we found the female to be a close brooder, and never in the least aggressive. She always returned very quickly to the chicks once we withdrew, going directly back to the nest even though we were still well in sight and no more than 300 m distant. A hide was used for a short period at this nest, when prey brought in included Striped Mouse, other (?) mouse species, unidentified small passerines, a frog, and a yellowish downy nestling - possibly a duckling or francolin chick. Unfortunately I was away from the district when the first left the nest, but during a visit on 7.12.75, saw all three in fine plumage and strong on the wing. A quite remarkable incident occurred on this occasion when the male Harrier, which had just brought in food to the female (she being immediately converged upon by the scattered young), began to mob a Secretary Bird which was walking in the general direction of the brood of young Harriers. The Harrier's swooping attacks were met by the raised wings and menacing beak of the Secretary Bird which, however, soon turned about with what dignity it could muster, and stalked away in the opposite direction.

WHITE STORK (80)

Flock of 30+ wheeling very high in thermal over Sir Lowry's Pass, 2.11.75. ROBERTS states that the general arrival is in mid-November, so that these birds, seen so far south, would appear to be quite early.

E.L. ROBERTS HERMANUS.

FROM SALISBURY TO WINDHOEK VIA CAPE TOWN

In September-October, I had the experience of accompanying a party of American bird-lovers round most of the birding high-spots in southern Africa. The party, organised by Bird Bonanzas Inc. of Miami and led by Dr. Joel Abramson, were "life-listers" and very agreeably people. But they birded from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. - or very later, if possible.

We began in Salisbury, where we spent an afternoon in the Lake Mcllwaine National Park. Nothing very rare turned up but we had our introduction to African eagles in the shape of a Wahlberg's eagle. Next morning, we flew to Wankie, hastily dumped our baggage at the Safari Lodge and set off for the park. We stopped at Main Camp for a couple of hours and got over half the day's list there. Some of the party had the luck to see and photograph a pearl-spotted owl catch a masked weaver as he was building his nest and the rest of us saw the owl later, the weaver still in its claws, being mobbed by white-eyes and other small birds. All in all, we did very well that day. At Ntamandhlovu Pan were two saddle-billed storks - presumably the same ones as we had seen there in July when we were up for the Symposium. We met with two parties of the grotesque ground hornbills, two crowned cranes and on the way home, four spotted snad-grouse.

We didn't do quite so well next day, though we had splendid views of the ineptly-named plum-coloured starling (amethyst starling is a much better name) and crested barbet. We also saw a congregation of lappet-faced and white-backed vultures.

So on to the Victoria Falls, where we were joined by Bob Dowsett from Livingstone. By and on the river, we saw several "Falls specials" - trumpeter hornbill, morning warbler and white collared pratincole - and before we left next morning a trip into the Baikiaea woodland gave us an Angola thrush.

After a night at Johannesburg, we set off for Mala Mala, on the edge of the Kruger Park. Several long-tailed widows were seen on the way. Next brought us a brown snake-eagle on its nest and the camp was full of brown-headed parrots and green pigeons.

After leaving Mala Mala, we spent a night at Piet Retief on our way to Mkuze. The journey had been rich - Stanley bustards, mocking chats, purple-crested lourie and, most exciting of all, a bald ibis. When we reached Mkuze, there had been 65mm of rain the night before and a heavy thunder storm that evening added to the wet state of the countryside. We managed to get to the reserve, however, and were astounded to find an injured sooty tern on the road. We also saw crested guineafowl here. Next day, we made our way to Ndumu and were lucky to have George Zaloumis to take us round. We had hoped to see a fishing owl there but were unlucky. However, George did show us a Narina trogon, a breadbill and pygmy geese. We went on to Mtubatuba in the evening.

From Mtubatuba, we visited St. Lucia, where we saw woolley-necked storks, white-eared barbets and the Zululand specialities Rudd's apalis and the Zulu batis. A sparrow-like chirping we traced to a grey sunbird. We re-visited St. Lucia next day and saw long-crested eagles on the way. A launch trip revealed many spoonbills, a black heron, two whimbrels and a flock of pratincoles.

A rather tedious cross-country journey took us to Bergville, where we were surprised to see palm swifts. We went to the Kamberg Reserve, where sharp-billed honeyguides were seen - and heard, sneezing! Next morning, we spotted a wryneck in the cemetery and, on the way to the Royal Natal National Park, a buff-streaked chat.

On our way to Durban, we visited the Town Bush at Pietermaritzburg with Gordon Bennett and had good views of the charming starred robin and the chorister robin. Then to Tsitsikama by plane and bus where we saw Knysna louries and another Narina trogon before moving on to Cape Town.

We had a profitable, but unexciting, day at Karoopoort and then went north to Lambert's Bay, where we admired the Club's sign-post and enjoyed the sea-fowl. On the way back, at the Clanwilliam dam, we spotted a booted eagle eating what appeared to be a blacksmith plover. The Strandfontein Sewage Works were a little, and Kirstenbosch a great, disappointment. The development of Kirstenbosch into a place of public recreation had reduced area were Gerry Broekhuysen made this studies of sugarbirds and orange-breasted sunbirds to an ornithological desert; and the C.B.C. appears to have allowed the authorities to get away with this wrecking of the environment without protest. It has been far worse for the birds than the projected freeway would have been.



After this, we flew up to Windhoek and, next day, by bus to the Etosha National Park. We had good birding here, though the confinement to the bust was irksome. However, we saw lots of kori bustards - six, with two Ludwig's, at Leeuwbron water-hole - blue cranes, bare cheeked and black-faced babblers, buffalo weavers, white-tailed shrikes (or shrike flycatchers) and double-banded coursers with young. At one water-hole, as we arrived, a black gabar goshawk flew off with a victim clutched in its claws and ate it some 50 m away. It then returned and perched inconspicuously near the water. The birds drinking, which had all flown off when the goshawk arrived, gradually came back and before we left, the hawk had made a second kill.

It is a curious point, made vivid by the contrast with Wankie and Mala Mala, that there seem to be no oxpeckers in Etosha.

From Etosha, we went to Swakopmund and a visit to the Namib Desert Park produced two Grays larks (and very little else). The journey back to Windhoek gave us the last new birds, including karoo korhaans and rosy-faced lovebirds. Our total list for the trip was over 470, including several, like the lammergeier which I did not myself see. Still, lots of bonanzas!

PROGRAMME for 1976

Keep this page and fill in the details as they are announced

-----

FIELD EXCURSIONS.

- Saturday 14 February. TAMATIE VLEI (see below)  
Weekend 20/21 March. BOTTELARY. Langebaan Lagoon (see below)
- Sunday 18 April .....
- Sunday 16 May .....
- Sunday 6 June .....
- Sunday 15 August .....
- Saturday 11 September .....
- Sunday 19 September .....
- Weekend 16/17 October .....

EVENING MEETINGS. ALL on FRIDAYS. 8.15 p.m.

At the Zoology Lecture Theatre. University of Cape Town.

27 February. Dr. P. Shaughnessy. SEA BIRDS OF MACQUARIE ISLAND.

Macquarie Island lies South-east of Tasmania, on the edge of the Antarctic Convergence.

26 March. Mr. George Begg. KARIBA.

George Begg is an ecologist working at the Marina da Gama, well known to many members as organiser of the monthly bird counts there.

- 23 April .....
- 21 May .....
- 11 June .....
- 20 August .....
- 24 September .....
- 22 October .....
- 19 November .....

THE DATE OF THE CLUB'S A G M WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER

---

The first two field excursions.

Saturday 14 February. TAMATIE VLEI. Leader Rudolf Schmidt.

Starting time 2.30 pm. Meet at the gate on Baden Powell Drive (the shore road going east from Muizenberg). It is about km beyond the bridge over the stream.

Camping weekend at BOTTELARY. Leader Stan Clarke.

The farm is 45 km from Darling by the Ysterfontein road, taking the new road to Langebaan and 9 km from that place. The CBC notice board will be displayed at the gate, which carries a small name-plate.

PLEASE NOTE that fires are only permitted at authorised places, that ALL REFUSE MUST BE TAKEN HOME ..... not buried ..... and that Drinking Water must be taken.

---

MARINA DA GAMA COUNTS on Sundays: 11 January, 8 February, 14 March, 11 April, 9 May, 13 June, 11 July, 8 August, 12 September, 10 October, 14 November and 12 December.

Meet at the Visitor Centre, Prince George Drive at 9 sharp. Newcomers welcome but please telephone Len Hicks. 6-3470.

The next NEWSLETTER will be circulated about 10 March. Last date for contributions (all very welcome) about 24 February. But not all can be published for space reasons. Nonetheless we do like hearing from you.