

‘Banding Round-Up: A complete list 1992-1996’, compiled by E.B. Dettmann of ABBBS. It is ‘A revised list of recoveries of Australian-banded waders over 100km from the banding place, between January 1992 and February 1996 ...’. It contained no records of Banded Stilt recoveries.

JL searched on-line for more-recent lists such as these but was unsuccessful. **Consider** having a look through more-recent hard copies of Corella when next at DPaW library in Kensington.

# Stilt 28 - April 1996

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There are no Banded Stilt in this list (Jan '92 - Feb '96)

20/02/2014



## BANDING ROUND-UP: A COMPLETE LIST 1992-1996.

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A revised list of recoveries of Australian-banded waders over 100km from the banding place, between January 1992 and February 1996, is presented. The last complete round-up is presented in Pook (1992), and interim reports can be found in Dettmann (1993, 1994a,b, 1995). This list supersedes the before mentioned reports. A revised list of the symbols used in the presentation of data is shown in Table 1. Recoveries are presented in Table 2. The layout of data in Table 2 is shown below:

Line 1: band number, banding place, co-ordinates, date of banding, age, sex, bander

Line 2: recovery method, recovery status, recovery place, co-ordinates, recovery date, age, sex, finder

Line 3: distance and direction between banding and recovery places, time elapsed between banding and recovery

Permission must be sought from the banders and the ABBBS before using these data in publications.

**Table 1. Symbols used in Table 2.**

**Age code:**

U = unknown;

P = nestling;

J = juvenile;

1 = within the first year of life;

+1 = within the first year or older;

2 = within the second year;

+2 = within the second year or older;

**Sex:**

U = unknown;

M = male;

F = female.

**Method of encounter:**

01 = probably trapped;

02 = probably trapped but the device is unknown to the banding office;

03 = trapped in a mistnet;

04 = trapped with a cage trap;

05 = trapped with a cannon net;

06 = trapped in clap trap, sprung trap, etc;

08 = trapped by hand or with handheld net;

09 = trapped using light device;

13 = hand caught at roost or nest;

15 = deliberately trapped for the aviary;

18 = trapped because band tangled in fishing gear;

20 = trapped because bird tangled in human object;

21 = trapped because bird tangled in fishing gear;

23 = trapped accidentally in marine/aquatic trap;

25 = bird sick or injured;

26 = exhausted;

27 = injured by band;

30 = found near electricity wires;

31 = collided with a moving road vehicle;

33 = collided with moving aircraft;

35 = collided with a lighthouse or stationary night light;

38 = collided with a mast, tower, pole., wire fence, aerial, sprinkler;

39 = found on road but not certainly hit by car;

40 = band found on bird, no further data on how encountered;

41 = band returned, not reported if on bird;

43 = band number only reported;

46 = colour marking sighted in field, bird one of a cohort colour marked in this manner;

47 = band number read in field (bird not trapped);

48 = colour marking sighted in field;

49 = band number/colour marking sighted on bird in nest;

54 = beachwashed;

55 = found in/on car, ship etc probably encountered elsewhere;

57 = band found on species different to that banded;

58 = leg or wing and band only found;

61 = shot - reason unknown;

63 = taken for scientific study;

67 = taken for food or feathers;

68 = shot for food or sport;

81 = taken by domestic or wild cat;

85 = taken by a wild bird;

89 = taken by a wild fish;

95 = found in still water;

96 = captive bird (was from the wild);

98 = found dead in/near a nest (pulli or adult);

99 = found dead, cause unknown.

**Status of encounter:**

00 = status of bird and band unknown;

01 = status of bird unknown, band left on bird;

02 = status of bird unknown, band removed from bird;

03 = bird is dead, status of band is unknown;

04 = bird is dead, band left on bird;

05 = bird is dead, band removed from bird;

07 = was mercy killed and the band was left on;

08 = was mercy killed and the band was removed;

09 = rehabilitation attempted but bird died, status of band unknown;

10 = rehabilitation attempted but bird/bat died, band left on;

11 = rehabilitation attempted but bird/bat died, band removed;

13 = bird was released alive with the band;

14 = bird was released alive and the band was removed;

16 = was rehabilitated and released alive with the band;

18 = is alive in captivity and the status of the band is unknown;

19 = is alive in captivity with band;

24 = transported to new site and released with band;

26 = bird was alive in the wild with the band;

29 = bird was partially decomposed and the band was removed;

32 = was skeleton/dried out corpse, band removed.



## References

Dettmann, E.B. 1993. Banding Round-up. Stilt 22, 57-61.  
 Dettmann, E.B. 1994a. Banding Round-up. Stilt 24, 35-8.  
 Dettmann, E.B. 1994b. Banding Round-up. Stilt 25, 47-9.  
 Dettmann, E.B. 1995. Banding Round-up. Stilt 26, 61-4.  
 Pook, J. 1992. Banding Round-up Complete List. Stilt 20, 51-76.

**Table 2. Details of banded waders recovered more than 100 km from the banding place**  
**Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres***

ND9-9806 34,MIRANDA FIRTH OF THAMES NEW ZEALAND	37d10m S 175d19mE	911028	+2	U	NZ SCHEME
05 13 SH,ST HELENA ISLAND MORETON BAY QLD	27d23m S 153d13mE	930919	+4	U	QWSG
Distance: 2336 km	Direction: 291 degs.	Time elapsed:	1 yrs 10 mnths	22	days
<b>Pied Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus longirostris</i></b>					
100-82051 11,RHYLL PHILLIP ISLAND VIC	38d21m S 145d19mE	800301	2	U	VWSG
48 26 2F,3 MILE ROCKS BEACHPORT C.P.SA	37d29m S 140d1m E	930917	U	U	COOK
Distance: 475 km	Direction: 280 degs.	Time elapsed:	13 yrs 6 mnths	16	days
100-82506 X1,CRESCENT ISLAND OCEAN GRANGE VIC	37d58m S 147d45mE	811030	P	U	BURBIDGE
05 13 07,OFF MANNS BEACH CORNER INLET VIC	38d41m S 146d50mE	930508	+3	U	VWSG
Distance: 113 km	Direction: 225 degs.	Time elapsed:	11 yrs 6 mnths	8	days
100-82507 X1,CRESCENT ISLAND OCEAN GRANGE VIC	37d58m S 147d45mE	811030	P	U	BURBIDGE
05 13 04,SWAN ISLAND QUEENSLIFF VIC	38d15m S 144d40mE	930115	+3	U	VWSG
Distance: 272 km	Direction: 262 degs.	Time elapsed:	11 yrs 2 mnths	16	days
100-85195 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLET VIC	38d42m S 146d23mE	880702	+2	U	VWSG
48 26 98,SMITH TONTAS	40d51m S 145d8m E	950625	U	U	PLOWRIGHT
Distance: 262 km	Direction: 204 degs.	Time elapsed:	6 yrs 11 mnths	23	days
100-96760 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS	38d55m S 144d31mE	890416	+2	U	VWSG
48 26 2F,ON THE BEACH AT CARPENTERS ROCKS SA	37d55m S 140d24mE	950205	U	U	& MS P PERT
Distance: 361 km	Direction: 272 degs.	Time elapsed:	5 yrs 9 mnths	20	days
100-96771 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS	38d55m S 144d31mE	890416	+2	U	VWSG
48 26 3F,RIVOLI BAY SOUTHERNSA	37d34m S 140d8m E	930906	U	U	COOK
Distance: 389 km	Direction: 277 degs.	Time elapsed:	4 yrs 4 mnths	21	days
100-96839 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLET VIC	38d42m S 146d23mE	890806	+3	U	VWSG
48 26 1F,LAKES ENTRANCE VIC	37d52m S 148d0m E	940427	U	U	DOWLING
Distance: 169 km	Direction: 57 degs.	Time elapsed:	4 yrs 8 mnths	21	days
100-96841 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLET VIC	38d42m S 146d23mE	890806	2	U	VWSG
48 26 7F,WOOLLOOWARE BAY (BOTANY BAY) NSW	34d1m S 151d9m E	940108	U	U	STRAW
Distance: 673 km	Direction: 41 degs.	Time elapsed:	4 yrs 5 mnths	2	days
100-96888 06,BARRY BEACH CORNER INLET VIC	38d42m S 146d23mE	900610	+3	U	VWSG
48 26 7F,PELICAN POINT CARPENTERS ROCKS SA	37d54m S 140d22mE	950204	U	U	& MS P PERT
Distance: 532 km	Direction: 278 degs.	Time elapsed:	4 yrs 7 mnths	25	days
100-96915 11,RHYLL PHILLIP ISLAND VIC	38d21m S 145d19mE	900722	1	U	VWSG
48 26 X6,SHIPWRECK POINT PERKINS ISLAND TAS	40d45m S 145d2m E	930704	U	U	LORD
Distance: 268 km	Direction: 185 degs.	Time elapsed:	2 yrs 11 mnths	12	days
100-96936 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS	38d55m S 144d31mE	910209	+2	U	VWSG
48 26 23,KILLARNEY BEACH VIC	38d21m S 142d20mE	950927	U	U	GARRETT
Distance: 193 km	Direction: 260 degs.	Time elapsed:	4 yrs 7 mnths	18	days
100-99398 16,THE GURDIES WESTERNPORT BAY VIC	38d22m S 145d33mE	910929	2	U	VWSG
05 13 07,OFF MANNS BEACH CORNER INLET VIC	38d41m S 146d50mE	930508	+3	U	VWSG
Distance: 117 km	Direction: 108 degs.	Time elapsed:	1 yrs 7 mnths	9	days
100-99508 07,OFF MANNS BEACH CORNER INLET VIC	38d41m S 146d50mE	920321	1	U	VWSG
05 13 16,THE GURDIES WESTERNPORT BAY VIC	38d22m S 145d33mE	931017	+3	U	VWSG
Distance: 117 km	Direction: 287 degs.	Time elapsed:	1 yrs 6 mnths	26	days
100-99577 01,WERRIBEE SEWERAGE FARM (SPIT, PT WILS	38d55m S 144d31mE	920503	1	U	VWSG
48 26 23,KILLARNEY BEACH VIC	38d21m S 142d20mE	950927	U	U	GARRETT
Distance: 193 km	Direction: 260 degs.	Time elapsed:	3 yrs 4 mnths	24	days

Article titled 'Leg-flagged Banded Stilts' on p.18 of WA Bird Notes, No.77, March 1996. Reports recent leg-flagging activity and requests sighting to be reported to GBP. Doesn't list any sightings to date. First paragraph reads 'In April-May [1995] metal bands were placed on 500 Banded Stilts and metal bands and yellow leg flags were placed on a further 500, all in the Lake Ballard area (see WABN 74, p.3 and Wingspan 5(2):13-15, June 1995'). The aim is to gather data on timing and direction of dispersal away from breeding areas, and subsequent movements'. Also: 'The bands and flags were placed above the 'knee' and are most visible when the birds are foraging'. Author not shown. Last sentence says please send records to Grant Pearson.

Note that a different article with the same heading, with authorship by JL, appeared in the Dec 1996 issue of WA Bird Notes (No.80). That article did list leg-flag sightings to date.

## LEG FLAGGED BANDED STILTS

In April-May, metal bands were placed on 500 Banded Stilts and metal bands and yellow leg flags were placed on a further 500, all in the Lake Ballard area (see WABN 74, p. 3 and Wingspan 5(2): 13-15, June 1995). The aim is to gather data on timing and direction of dispersal away from breeding areas, and subsequent movements.

To date (early February '96), only two leg-flagged stilts have been sighted away from the breeding areas: one at a small salt lake near Kalgoorlie in September and one at Herschell Lake on Rottnest Island on 20/1/96.

RAOU members are requested to watch out for Banded Stilts wearing leg flags. The bands and flags were placed above the 'knee' and are most visible when the birds are foraging. For each observation, the following information is required:

- location
- date and time of observation
- name(s) and contact details of observer(s)
- total number of Banded Stilt seen at the location
- estimate of % of birds with chestnut chest bands
- number of Banded Stilts with yellow leg flags, and those with metal bands, seen at the location
- whether or not the flagged stilts have chestnut chest bands

Numbers, date and location are the most important information to note. Also, if you have examined Banded Stilts for flags and not found them, this is also valuable information.

Please send records to Grant Pearson, Wildlife Research Centre, Dept CALM, PO Box 51, Wanneroo 6065, or telephone (09) 405 5100, fax (09) 306 1641.

## CONSERVING AUSTRALIA'S THREATENED BIRDS

The RAOU, in conjunction with the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, has just established a threatened bird network to conserve Australia's 127 species and sub-species of threatened birds.

The network aims to link and strengthen the actions of species recovery teams around Australia, and in particular, to encourage community participation in urgent conservation tasks.

Over 2000 discrete tasks await adoption by the community, tasks developed by teams of scientists and community members expert in particular species requirements. Actions range from searching remote areas of Cape York for Golden-shouldered Parrots, to guarding nest sites of Little Terns on the beaches of south-eastern Australia.

Anyone wishing to help should contact Michael Fendley at RAOU Melbourne. Below are updates on two threatened species occurring in WA.

### Gouldian Finch

For the first time information is coming to light on the bird's Wet season movements, with observations near Katherine (NT) suggesting that birds move from the hills to the flats to seek out seeding, perennial grasses along creeks and around depressions.

Population numbers appear to be down at Yinberrie in the Northern Territory, but further monitoring is required. Waterhole counts across the Top End are planned for late September-early October 1996, at which time volunteer

assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Glen Holmes is chasing up leads in Queensland with the objective of locating a good population for intensive study. Any sightings by Queensland birders would be very useful.

### Malleefowl

A most successful national conference was held in Adelaide in September 1995. Although Malleefowl range and numbers appear to be declining, there is hope that this can be arrested. Energetic recovery work is going on in several areas, with Western Australia lucky enough to have a Malleefowl shire and faunal emblem (Gnowangerup Shire - apparently 'Gnow' is Aboriginal for Malleefowl), and a dynamic Malleefowl Preservation Group numbering 250 financial members, with the natty T-shirt slogan of "It's Gnow or never".



Encouraging news has been received from South Australia where the number of active mounds in Bakara Conservation Park has increased from 9-16 over the last four years. Increased breeding density is attributable, at least in part, to a cooperative fox and rabbit control program implemented by local landholders, volunteers and Department of Environment and Natural Resources staff.

Joe Benshemesh is extending the Recovery Team's grid monitoring system in Victoria and would welcome help in setting up grids in the Little Desert area. Other volunteers will be needed shortly to carry out similar extension of the system throughout the bird's range.

Michael Fendley

### NEW MEMBERS

The following people joined the RAOU WA Group between 23 October 1995 and 24 January 1996. We look forward to meeting you at our excursions and general meetings.

E P Anderson, C and J Andrews, R Bernardo, J Bonomelli, M and A Buckman, C Chodorowski, P Comerford, A R Fergie, Mr and Mrs R S Ferguson, A Fincham, T and H Galluccio, J Gonat, M Gale, N Hogstrom, P Hyndes, D Blyth, D Jonas, T P Kemp, A and B King, M R Kollinger, J and R Luyer, H Macarthur, J D Massey, B, S and S Mee, S and J Miller, J Mills, S T Murray, U Neumann, K Peggs, J M Price, R D Moore, M Pudovskis, T Reynolds, A G Robertson, K Saunders,

**Fax (11/09/1995) from JL to Barry Baker at ANCA [ABBBS]. It reads 'My apologies for your letter of 13/8/95 to Grant Pearson re banding projects not having been replied to yet. We have a heavy field work load [e.g. SW wetland monitoring] at the moment and it will be approx 3 weeks before a reply can be prepared'.**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: Barry Baker URGENT: YES / NO

AT: ANCA  
.....

FROM: Jim Lane

DATE: 11/8/95 Your Ref: .....  
Local Ref: .....

*FAXED*  
Fax No. ....

06 2500314

My subject for your letter of 13/8/95 to  
Grant Person re banding project not having  
been replied to yet. We have a heavy  
field work load at the moment and it will be  
approx 3 weeks before a reply  
can be prepared.

No. of pages inc. this page: 1

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

*Agenda (JL)*

**Article on pp.16-17 of WA Bird Notes, No.76, December 1995, titled 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job', authored by 'Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson' and re-printed from 'The Tattler' No.4, July 1995. Inter alia it reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described.**

community is indicated, eg, good representation of insectivorous species.

It would be appreciated if your responses, including a copy of the relevant survey information, could be directed to:

Mr Kevin McAlpine  
Conservation Branch  
Environmental Protection Authority  
141 St George's Tce, Perth WA 6000

There are also a number of specific areas for which the DEP is keen to receive information on the avifauna. Some of these areas are known to have high conservation value from a plant community perspective while others are areas for which additional information might help in the selection process. Some of the areas containing important plant communities are listed below for your information:

Talbot Road Reserve and bushland to the south  
Shireview Hill, Neerabup  
Landsdale Rec reserve  
Hartfield Park  
Brixton Reserve and adjacent bushland  
Waterloo Townsite  
Manea Park, Bunbury  
Capel Nature Reserve and adjacent bushland  
Yoongarillup reserve, Busselton  
Ambergate reserve, Busselton  
Carbunup Townsite  
Yallingup siding, Dunsborough  
Philips Road Nature Reserve and adjacent bushland,  
West Pinjarra

Clifton Townsite

Bushland north and south of rifle range, South Yarloop  
If there are any members interested in surveying one or more areas for the System 6 update programme, including those listed above, could they please contact Mr Kevin McAlpine of the DEP (Tel 09 222 7055, fax 321 5184).

Any assistance you can give us would be greatly appreciated.

#### System 6 Study Team

#### FOR SALE

Zeiss Binoculars 8 x 20B with leather case as new \$330.00  
ono : Ring Nancy Stewart – Tel (09) 383 3492

#### NW 1996 EXPEDITION

The north west of Australia is one of the top regions in the world for waders with up to three quarters of a million individuals of 50 species spread between three main locations:

- Roebuck Bay Roebuck Plains (near Broome)
- 80 Mile Beach/Anna Plains (250 kms SW of Broome)
- Port Headland Saltworks (600 kms SW of Broome)

The 1996 expedition will be the sixteenth to NW Australia and will last for **seven weeks – from 2 March to 20 April**. Participants are encouraged to come for as long as possible (preferably a minimum of 2-3 weeks). They are also welcome to stay at Broome Bird Observatory outside the 'core' expedition dates – counting of migration departures will, for example, be continuing until the end of April.

The main objectives of the expedition will include banding – mainly by cannon-netting, but with some mist-netting and associated leg-flagging (yellow flags) and moult/weight/other biometric data measurement. During the 1994 expedition 6,000 waders of 36 species were caught (as well as eight species of terns and several hundred passerines).

Would prospective participants please indicate their preferred dates as soon as possible so manpower can be scheduled to give as even a cover as possible? It is necessary to do this for logistic reasons – particularly with transport limitations in mind.

For full details of the expedition including itinerary, climate, costs, travel, etc, contact Clive Minton, 165 Dalgety Road, Beaumaris, Victoria 3193, Australia. Phone/Fax (61) 3-9589-4901.

#### Snippets

A Sooty Tern, banded by New Zealand meteorological staff on Raoul Island 35 years ago, has been found 14,000 kilometres away on the Seychelles group of islands in the Indian Ocean. The bird was still breeding! Banding studies are almost the only way such fundamental life history information can be gathered about many species.

#### AWSG WADER CONFERENCE – AN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIR

Plans are well underway for the first International Wader Conference to be held in Australia, on 16/17 March 1996. This event will be one of the most significant wader conferences to be held and will be a truly international affair.

Although the full program for the Conference will not appear until the October issue of "The Tattler" it can be safely said that the Brisbane Wader Conference will be the most significant milestone event in wader conservation to be held in this part of the world, and will have major implications on the future activities of the AWSG. The Wader Conference will also provide a unique opportunity for Australian ornithologists to meet and talk to wader specialists from other parts of the globe. At least one evening is planned during the Ramsar Conference for Wader Conference participants to meet with Ramsar delegates to discuss important wader sites within the Flyway. This information will be essential to delegates when addressing the importance of Ramsar sites.

Activities during the Conference will include a Conference Dinner to be held on the Saturday evening. Excursions are being organised by the QWSG to allow participants of the Wader Conference and Ramsar to visit important wader sites in and around the Moreton Bay Ramsar site. It is hoped that a number of participants from both conferences will attend the NW '96 Expedition to take part in the cannon-netting and wader monitoring program carried out by the AWSG.

Conference fees will be A\$65 and will include morning and afternoon teas and lunches for both days, Conference package, program abstracts and post seminar proceedings. Proceedings will be available to non-participants for A\$40 (A\$25 to AWSG members).

**Billeting:** the QWSG will play host to a number of members of AWSG by providing accommodation at members' homes. This will substantially reduce costs for interstate and overseas visitors. Anyone looking for a bed during the Conference should notify Peter Driscoll, Fahey Rd, Mt Glorious, Qld 4520, early to avoid missing out.

#### BANDED STILTS COMPLETE THE JOB

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land

Management (CALM) in Western Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow-up visit in late May to film chick creching and fledging.

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with an excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Lamble, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre deep water during their first few days after hatching they preferred to gradually make their way down to the shallow parts of the lake, 30 kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food – thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimps.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in numbers as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They thus periodically left the chicks and flew to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

In contrast to Lake Torrens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Plenty of adults are still present on the lake however and some excited gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5,000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion and at least 2,000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in banding and colour-flagging chicks, with nearly 1,000 birds being marked altogether. It was reasonably straightforward to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood. This precautionary procedure was also followed with larger groups of chicks. It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays such as the "broken-wing trick" like other waders.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid-July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would everyone in Western Australia, please keep a lookout for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson  
from *The Tattler* 4 July 1995

surroundings of Roebuck Bay provide the perfect setting. Our exciting news is that an Ecotourism Grant application for a 24 hour power system (just 4 hours at present) was successful. RAOU Headquarters applied for the grant from the Department of Tourism on BBO's behalf and we were told the amazing news in May. Over two years work have gone into the development of a suitable remote area power supply by Western Power, who will use the system to promote renewable energy. The Observatory and Western Power will also contribute to the capital cost.

The system, as specified by the Murdoch University Energy Research Institute, will be capable of supplying air conditioning during the hot tropical summer months and enough power for peak use during the busy dry season. The good news is that the gas fridges will be replaced with electric and there will be power for fans, lighting and office equipment. The system will comprise an array of solar panels tracking the sun, batteries, inverter and backup generator. Installation is expected to be completed by end of January. The benefits will be enormous and hopefully the enjoyment of all visitors to BBO will be enhanced.

The new power system will be well tested in March and April 1996 when the Australasian Wader Studies Group descend on BBO for a seven-week expedition. The reputation of past expeditions has created a demand for places, resulting in a strong team representing 11 countries. To make the best use of these wader experts, our first course *Wave the Waders Goodbye* will overlap a few days when the expedition is at the Observatory. Danny Rogers, course leader, will fill in the story of our waders as they leave Broome, as he was lucky to visit the northern coast of Russia last year. Please book early (discount for RAOU members).

Broome and Russia continue to play international ping pong with the third sighting of an individual Red and White colour banded Great Knot from Russia:

1. 22/06/94 Banded NE Siberia (adult female)
2. 09/09/94 Seen Roebuck Bay, Broome (three occasions)
3. 27/06/95 Seen NE Siberia (same breeding grounds)
4. 17/10/95 Seen Roebuck Bay, Broome.

The last sighting was on the beach directly in front of the Observatory. Becky, keen to have a witness, ran to find Jon. Fortunately Jon had a good look just before an Australian Hobby sent the flock into a panic. It seems a remarkable set of sightings, as more than 22,000 Great Knot occur in Roebuck Bay and such huge distances have been travelled. Considering the odds, this Great Knot might as well have landed in BBO car park and stretched out her leg for examination!

Another record was established in August when a Great Knot was caught on exactly the same beach as it was banded way back in 1981. Aged as a juvenile, it is now 15 years old making it the oldest Great Knot on record and certainly the oldest retrap for NW Australia.

After welcoming back the waders in August and September this year we farewelled our four workers who had worked for so long and so hard. Tim and Kerry Thornton were Assistant Wardens for over four months and Emile and Francine Delhaize were volunteers for six weeks. They all contributed so much to BBO's success and helped us look after some 4,500 visitors to the Observatory. It is only with such dedicated volunteers that BBO can continue to be the special place it is.

Many of the waterholes surrounding Broome continued

## Excursion and Observatory Reports

### BROOME BIRD OBSERVATORY

The dry season of 1995 at BBO has been the busiest on record. There has been an increased demand for nature-based experiences such as birdwatching and the peaceful

**Article titled 'Update on Banded Stilt Breeding event' by Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson, p.9 in Sept 1995 issue of Wingspan, that inter alia reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described.**

# Update on Banded Stilt breeding event

The June edition of *Wingspan* (Vol. 5 (2): 13-15) featured an article by Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson, describing the beginning of this historic Banded Stilt breeding event at Lake Ballard, WA. Banded Stilts only breed on recently-flooded salt lakes, and only about 20 nesting events have ever been recorded. In the June feature, we left the breeding colony just as the chicks were hatching. Here is an update on how they have fared since...

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow-up visit in late May to film chick creching and fledging.



It seems that breeding has been successful, with an excellent rate of young birds surviving to fledging. Mark Lamble, the ABC camera-man, reported 'tens of thousands' of well-grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard.

Although the newly-hatched chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre-deep water, they seemed to prefer to make their way gradually down to the shallow parts of the lake (30 km away) for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or

in very shallow water picking up minute items of food — too small to be the brine shrimp that are thought to be their preferred diet.

In contrast, the accompanying adults — which had greatly reduced in number as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred-strong groups — seemed to find feeding in the shallows unsatisfactory. Thus they periodically left the chicks to fly to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1,000 birds marked. To do this, we caught chicks in a handnet from a moving boat — a method which proved reasonably straightforward. When the chicks were still in family parties we found it necessary to catch only part of the brood at a time, then to return these birds to the parent before catching the rest of the brood. We also followed this precautionary procedure with larger groups of chicks. Incidentally, the behaviour we observed while catching the chicks provides yet another con-



Above: Banded Stilt chick taking a first drink at the water's edge.

Left: Each brood is accompanied only by a single parent as it leaves the colony for the water.

Below left: A newly-hatched chick, still wet, is visible under this incubating adult.

PHOTOS BY CLIVE MINTON

trast between Banded Stilts and other waders: Banded Stilts neither actively defend their young nor perform distraction displays (such as the 'broken-wing trick') to deter intruders, as do other waders.

So far there has apparently been no second round of breeding at Lake Ballard, unlike the breeding event at Lake Torrens in 1989. However, plenty of adults are still present on the Lake, and some excited gathering and even copulating has been observed, so further nesting may occur.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid-July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made, and to log the number of adults and juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

A small nesting colony (5,000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion, and at least 2,000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower there than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of predators in the form of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon.

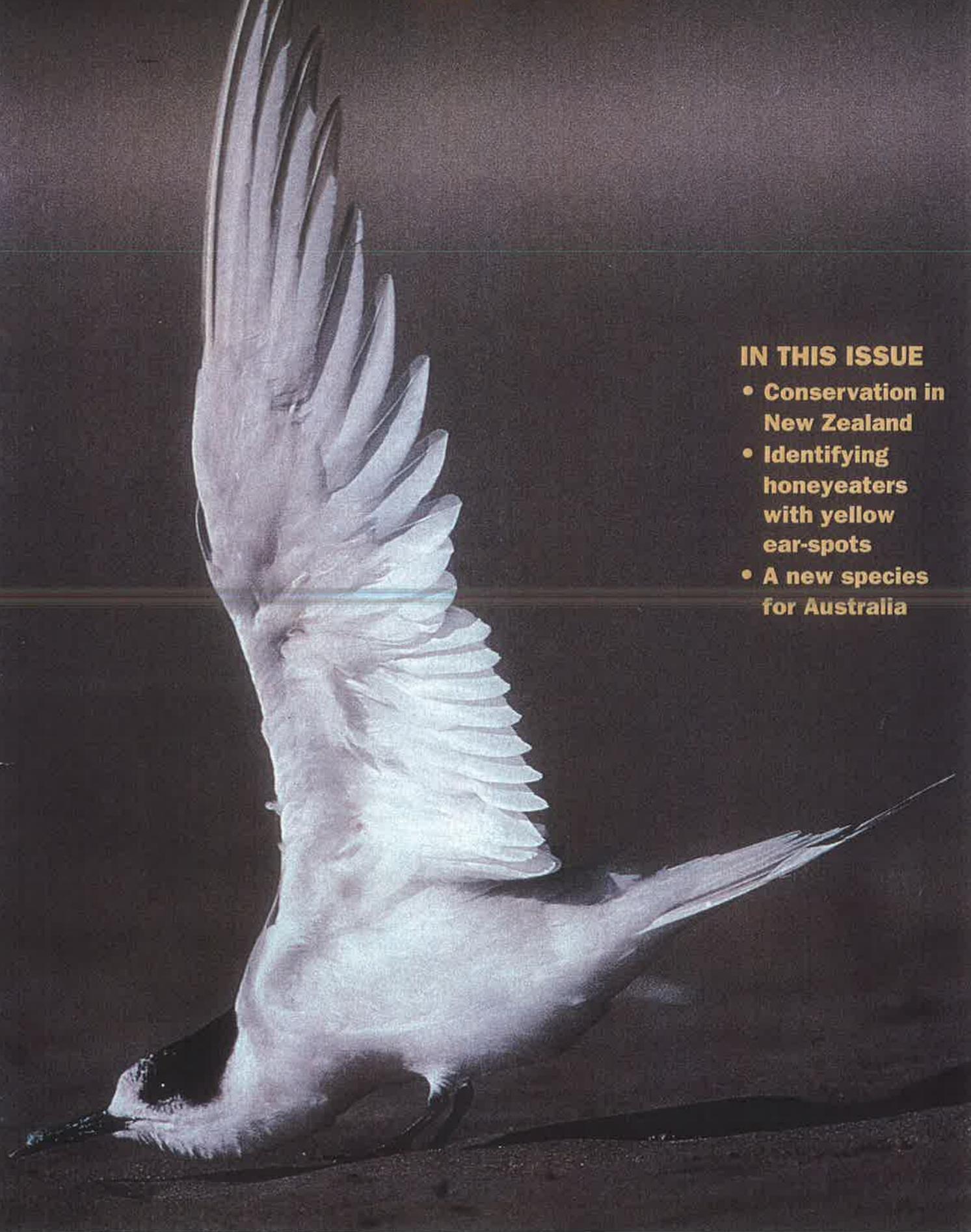
Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded and leg-flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

CLIVE MINTON, JIM LANE AND GRANT PEARSON

# Wingspan

For birds and birdwatchers

Vol. 5 No. 3 September 1995



## IN THIS ISSUE

- Conservation in New Zealand
- Identifying honeyeaters with yellow ear-spots
- A new species for Australia

**Fax (23/08/1995) from JL to GBP with memorandum headed 'Banded Stilt Monitoring' that reads '[the recent] air survey by Andy Chapman showed that Lake Marmion will be dry in a week or so and Ballard in the next month or two. The stilt are therefore starting to move ...'.**

63.  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: GRANT PEARSON URGENT: YES/NO

AT: WRC

Fax No. ....

FROM: JIM LAKE

DATE: 23/8/95

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

No. of pages inc. this page: 3.....

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

Watkins 1993 *A National Plan for Shorebird Conservation in Australia*). The number in brackets is the highest known count, as given in Watkins 1993. Mike Bamford will be able to give you advice on who might be approached about which sites. I have asterisked the sites I think you are most likely to find people for.

Lake McLeod (53 100)	too remote? <i>CAcm esIRO Reddles research program</i>
* E Lake King (30 000)	rarely has water/stilts?
* E Lake Gore (20 000)	ask Hoop researcher?
Shark Bay (14 500)	too remote?
Lake Grace North (12 000)	too remote?
Walyormouring lake (10 700)	
* E Lake Warden (10 000)	Esperance resident?
* Peel Inlet (9 000)	we are doing (Greenv)
Lake Hinds (8 000)	
Lake Kurnicup (7 000)	
Lake Dumbleyung (6 000)	
Lake Mears (5 200)	
E Culham Inlet (5 000)	<i>Monk Trilaw</i> ask Andy Chapman?
Didon wetlands (Esperance)	
Lake Quarbingo (Waqin) (4 500)	
Nambling (nearby lake) (3 000)	
Lake Ninan (3 000)	

*2 sites minimum bands*

TO: GRANT PEARSON

23/9/95

22/8/7. 10/1/4.

### BANDED STILT MONITORING

Monday's air survey by Andy Chapman showed that Lake Marmion will be dry in a week or so and Ballard in the next month or two. The stilt are therefore starting to move and will very soon be headed for more watered parts near and on the coast.

What we need are a few observers (one each) at a few key localities where Banded Stilt are known to congregate as inland waters dry out, to record the following on a regular basis. Weekly or fortnightly would be great, monthly would also be very worthwhile.

The information required from each visit is:

- \* Location
- \* date and time
- \* observer
- \* total number of Banded Stilt
- \* % with chestnut chest band
- \* number with yellow leg flags or metal leg bands or both
- \* whether or not each of the banded/flagged birds has a chest band.

The few localities could be chosen from the following list (from Watkins 1993 *A National Plan for Shorebird Conservation in Australia*). The number in brackets is the highest known count, as given in Watkins 1993. Mike Bamford will be able to give you advice on who might be approached about which sites. I have asterisked the sites I think you are most likely to find people for.

Lake McLeod (53 100)	too remote?	CALM esko <i>Indicators and Issues Program</i>
E Lake King (30 000)	rarely has water/stilts?	
* E Lake Gore (20 000)	ask Hoop researcher?	
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Lake Mears (5 200)		
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Gidon wetlands (Esperance)		
Lake Quarbino (Waqin) (4 500)		
Nambling (nearby lake) (3 000)		
Lake Ninan (3 000)		

668 hours + totals  
Gas \$60

Lucky Bay Biggest  
legends

62.

2 sites minimum based on

Oldfield Estuary (3 000)

White Water L (Yealering) (2 900)

Ballicup Lake (2 800)

Wilsons Inlet (2 500)

ask Denmark resident?

Other sites with useful numbers of Banded Stilt but not listed by Watkins are:

- \* F. Hedland or Dampier saltworks ask Mike Bamford which & who might do
- \* Rottnest Island ask Denis Saunders or Ferry de Rebeira who might do
- \* Vasse Wonnerup I could take care of

You might find CALM staff, e.g. Malcolm Graham and Leon Silvester in the Wheatbelt region (where there are numerous prospective sites), who could participate or give you names.

It also occurs to me that we can count/check the BaSt at each of the lakes we monitor in Sep and Nov this year.

Would you please set this up as a matter of urgency. The first step should be to contact Mike Bamford for ideas on who might cover which localities and to make sure that as far as possible whatever we set up is not in conflict with the regular wader counts he is setting up. I will let Mike know you will be contacting him and will also send him a copy of this fax for info.

All observations should be sent to you rather than me.

Any queries please ring me.

  
Jim Lane

23/8/95

P.S. Please ~~ring~~ my me when  
you have read this.

**JL's copy of GBP's fax (18/08/1995) to JL. JL has annotated the 13/08/1995 letter from Barry Baker, including with 'Grant. Which projects?'**

53

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



Date: 10/8

To: Tim Lane

At: B37

From: Grant

No of Pages: 2

Message: Just some brief comments on objectives  
discussions & confirmation of Project Ph.  
Ches.

AUSTRALIAN BIRD AND BAT BANDING SCHEMES  
GPO Box 8  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Telephone (06) 2500321 Facsimile (06) 2500314

Authority no : 831

MR GE PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Dear Grant

1994/95 PROJECT REPORTS

I refer to my letter of 12 May 1995 in which you were requested to advise whether you wished to continue any of your banding projects in 1994/95 and to provide reports on your projects. So far, we have not received a response from you on this matter, nor have we received a report on your project/s.

As projects will not be considered for approval in 1994/95 until a progress report has been received I would urge you to address these matters as soon as possible if you want to continue. Projects for which no report has been received by 31 August 1995 will lose their approved status and State and Territory wildlife authorities will be advised accordingly.

Details of previously approved projects are again attached. Please check the details and indicate whether you wish to continue by circling YES or NO as appropriate. Reports should address the following points:

1. Project Title
2. Objectives - what were the initial objectives of the project?  
- what has been achieved to date?
3. Methods - techniques used, including capture methods, colour marking and data analysis,  
- frequency of sampling during the assessment period,  
- A, C and R class banders who have assisted in the project,  
- number of species, and number of individuals banded and retrapped during the assessment period.
4. Discussion - brief discussion of results achieved to date,  
- proposed refinements to methodology, if any, to achieve the objectives of the study.
5. Publications - details of any publications resulting from the project. (ABBBS would appreciate a copy please.)

If you do not wish to continue with your project/s, please:

- provide a final report for each project, in the form indicated above;
- return any bands and equipment you have to the Banding Office;
- provide details of all outstanding banding data.

If you require any further advice or assistance please contact me on 06 2500346.

Regards

*Barry Baker* 2500 346

Barry Baker  
Executive Officer, ABBBS

13 August 1995

*Grant* ?  
Which projects?

Canberra Office  
GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

An agency of  
the Federal  
Environment  
Portfolio

**GBP's copy of his fax (18/08/1995) to JL. Cover page reads 'Just some brief comments [needed] on objectives, discussion & continuance of project pls'. Second page is copy of Barry Baker's letter of 13/08/1995 to GBP.**

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



Date: 18/8

To: Jim. here

At: BSN

From: Grant

No of Pages: 2  
(including face sheet)

Message: Just some brief comments on objectives  
discussion & continuation of Project M.  
Cheers

Authority no : 831

MR GE PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Australian  
Nature  
Conservation  
Agency

Dear Grant

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- provide details of all outstanding banding data.

If you require any further advice or assistance please contact me on 06 2500346.

Regards



Barry Baker  
Executive Officer, ABBBS

13 August 1995

Canberra Office

GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

**Fax (18/08/1995) from GBP to Melinda Maher at ABBBS saying 'Many thanks for the bands. We may have to return the last 280 if there is no further activity'. Next two pages of fax are copies of two 'Receipt of Bands' forms.**

**One (signed on 18/08/1995 by GBP) was for receipt of 280 'Size 08', 'Metal SS' leg-bands with 'Prefix 082' and 'Serial Numbers 95721 to 96000', issued on 07/06/1995. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of bands received. [JL 04/02/1995: None of these bands was used in 1995. It would seem that they were not received in time for the last banding & flagging effort of 1995, which was at Lake Marmion on 11-12/06/1995.**

**The other was a copy of the form (signed on 01/06/1995 by GBP) for receipt of 200 'Size 08', 'Metal SS' leg-bands with 'Prefix 082' and 'Serial Numbers 95501 to 95700', issued on 17/05/1995. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> batch of bands received. [All of these bands were used on 11/06/1995 at Lake Marmion].**

**GBP's original (pink) copy of the form he signed on 18/08/1995 is also here.**

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



Date:

18/8/95

To:

Melinda Maher

At:

ABBS

From:

Grant Pearson

No of Pages:  
(including face sheet)

3

Message:

Many thanks for the bands. We may have  
to return the last 280 if there is no further  
activity.

Cheers

Grant P

Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes  
G.P.O. Box 8, Canberra, ACT, 2601

RECEIPT OF BANDS ISSUED TO:

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Authority no : 831 Date bands issued : 07/06/95

Please find enclosed the band supplies you recently requested. You should check these bands against the computer listing given below to ensure that no errors have been made by the Banding Office Staff. Note any errors on the sheet and return it to the Banding Office as soon as possible. Even if the bands supplied and the listing correspond, this should be signed and returned to acknowledge the receipt of the bands. The number of bands supplied may be adjusted subject to the availability and normal string length of the size required.

SIZE	METAL	QUANTITY	PREFIX	SERIAL NUMBERS	CORRECT
08	SS	280	08	95721 to 96000	

I acknowledge receipt of the bands listed above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

18/6/95  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes  
G.P.O. Box 8, Canberra, ACT, 2601

RECEIPT OF BANDS ISSUED TO:

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

Authority no : 831 Date bands issued : 17/05/95

Please find enclosed the band supplies you recently requested. You should check these bands against the computer listing given below to ensure that no errors have been made by the Banding Office Staff. Note any errors on the sheet and return it to the Banding Office as soon as possible. Even if the bands supplied and the listing correspond, this should be signed and returned to acknowledge the receipt of the bands. The number of bands supplied may be adjusted subject to the availability and normal string length of the size required.

SIZE	METAL	QUANTITY	PREFIX	SERIAL NUMBERS	CORRECT
		1	SML	PLIER	
08	SS	200	082	95501 to 95700	

I acknowledge receipt of the bands listed above.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

11/6/95  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Australian Bird and Bat Banding Schemes  
G.P.O. Box 8, Canberra, ACT, 2601

RECEIPT OF BANDS ISSUED TO:

=====

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065

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SIZE	METAL	QUANTITY	PREFIX	SERIAL NUMBERS	CORRECT
08	SS	280	082	95721 to 96000	

I acknowledge receipt of the bands listed above.



Signature

18/6/95

Date

**Letter (17/08/1995) from GBP replying to Barry Baker's (ABBBS) letter of 13/08/1995 (below). Inter alia reads: 'My guess is the project has probably been completed. However it is not known whether there is still activity at the Lake Ballard or the Lake Marmion colony and an aerial survey [by ACh] on 21 August will confirm this. [When we have his report] I will complete the relevant details for you and forward then to your office'.**

# Department of Conservation and Land Management



Your ref:13/8/95  
Our ref:absgp895

W.A. Wildlife Research Centre  
Ocean Reef Road, Woodvale  
PO Box 51 Wanneroo,  
Western Australia, 6065  
Telephone +61(09) 405 5163, fax (09) 306 1641

Mr Barry Baker  
Executive Officer  
ABBS

Re: 1994/95 Progress Report

Dear Barry

My apologies for the delay in responding to your first request. My guess is the project has probably been completed. However it is not known whether there is still activity at the Lake Ballard or the Lake Marmion colony and an aerial survey by the Kalgoorlie regional ecologist Andy Chapman on 21 August will confirm this. As soon as we have his report I will complete the relevant details for you and forward them to your office

Best wishes,

Grant Pearson  
17 August 1995

**Letter (13/08/1995) from Barry Baker (Executive Officer of ABBBS) to GBP referring to a letter of 12/05/1995 '... in which you were requested to advise whether you wished to continue any of your banding projects in 1994/95 [or did he mean 1995/96?] and to provide reports on your projects' BB was still awaiting a response and report/s. 'Details of previously approved projects are again attached'.**

AUSTRALIAN BIRD AND BAT BANDING SCHEMES  
GPO Box 8  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Telephone (06) 2500321 Facsimile (06) 2500314

Authority no : 831

MR GB PEARSON  
WILDLIFE RES CENTRE  
PO BOX 51  
WANNEROO WA 6065



Dear Grant

1994/95 PROJECT REPORTS

I refer to my letter of 12 May 1995 in which you were requested to advise whether you wished to continue any of your banding projects in 1994/95 and to provide reports on your projects. So far, we have not received a response from you on this matter, nor have we received a report on your project/s.

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  - techniques used, including capture methods, colour marking and data analysis,
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  - brief discussion of results achieved to date,
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5. Publications
  - details of any publications resulting from the project. (ABBBS would appreciate a copy please.)

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- return any bands and equipment you have to the Banding Office;
- provide details of all outstanding banding data.

If you require any further advice or assistance please contact me on 06 2500346.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry Baker".

Barry Baker  
Executive Officer, ABBBS

13 August 1995

Canberra Office  
GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

CONTINUE? YES NO

PROJECT: 1 Study of Banded Stilt breeding biology  
FAMILY OR GROUP: RECURVIROSTRIDAE SPECIES: Banded Stilt ,  
REGION: WESTERN AUSTRALIA , LOCALITY: L BALLARD LOCODES: 0831B1 ,  
START DATE: 22/03/95 END DATE: 30/06/95  
GOALS: ECOLOGY ,  
HABITAT: INLAND WATERS ,  
COLLABORATORS:



Canberra Office  
GPO Box 636  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Ph (06) 250 0200  
Fax (06) 250 0399

PROJECT: 1 Study of Banded Stilt breeding biology

CONTINUE? YES/NO

FAMILY OR GROUP: RECURVIROSTRIDAE

SPECIES: Banded Stilt ,

REGION: WESTERN AUSTRALIA ,

LOCALITY: L BALLARD

LOCODES: 0831B1 ,

START DATE: 22/03/95

END DATE: 30/06/95

GOALS: ECOLOGY ,

HABITAT: INLAND WATERS ,

COLLABORATORS:



Canberra Office

GPO Box 636

Canberra ACT 2601

Ph (06) 250 0200

Fax (06) 250 0399

Article titled 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' (p.3 in 'The Tattler No.4, July 1995) authored by 'Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson'. Inter alia it reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described. Note that this article was re-printed on pp.16-17 of WA Bird Notes, No.76, December 1995.

16/8/95

JIM LANE

PVI

3

The Tattler

No. 4 July 1995

The tour involved presentations by Drs Driscoll and Zikov illustrating the important link between Russia and Australia with Japan. Evening talks at visits to each site were attended by local wetlands groups and representatives of the media. Information was exchanged about Russian, Australian and local research and conservation efforts. An overview of shorebird and Little Tern banding was presented by Shigeta Yoshimitsu of the Yamashina Institute for Ornithology at the Tokyo meeting.

It is hoped that the tour will result in a greater awareness by the Japanese people of the international importance of local wetlands and the need for international cooperation for the conservation of shorebirds and their habitat. The link between Australia and Japan was demonstrated by the presence of colour-flagged Banded Godwits from Queensland and New Zealand during the tour and observations of colour-flagged waders by members of all groups who attended the visits at the various sites.

Japan has lost great expanses of tidal flats during the last few decades due to development.

## Banded Stilts complete the job

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western

Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow up visit in late May to film chick creching and fledging.

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with an excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Lambie, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre deep water during their first few days after hatching they preferred to gradually make their way down to the shallow parts of the lake, 30 kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food - thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimps.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in numbers as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They thus periodically left the chicks and flew to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

In contrast to Lake Torrens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Plenty of adults are still present on the lake however and some excited gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marnion and at least 2000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in banding and colour-flagging chicks, with nearly 1000 birds being marked altogether. It was reasonably straightforward to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood. This precautionary procedure was also followed with larger groups of chicks. It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays such as the "broken-wing trick" like other waders.

A further serial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would everyone in Western Australia, please keep a lookout for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane & Grant Pearson

オオジ シキ\* by  
any other name-  
Sniping in  
Hokkaido

As an adjunct to an ecological study on migratory shorebirds in the Hunter estuary, conducted by Shorland

Wetlands Centre for the Kooragang Wetlands Rehabilitation Project, I was recently fortunate enough to spend a month, from mid-May to mid-June, in Hokkaido, Japan studying Latham's Snipe. My family and I were accompanied during the first week of the trip by Mike Weston of the Royal Australian Ornithologists Union and the AWSC. Mike, incidentally, is quite an impressive sight in a suit. It is hoped that the RAOU and the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, in conjunction with the Wildbird Society of Japan and the Japanese

**Faxes (18/07/1995) from JL to Phil Straw (RAOU Sydney) and Kate Gorringe-Smith (RAOU Melbourne) with finalised typescript headed 'Follow-up note for 'Wingspan' and 'Tattler' as written by [CDTM], with a few amendments by JL (18/7/1995)' and two suggested titles: 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' or 'Banded Stilts Did It!!' Inter alia it reads 'Banding and colour-flagging of chicks went very well, with nearly 1000 birds marked'. A 'precautionary procedure' adopted for catching chicks is then described.**

**This article was published in the Sept 1995 issue of Wingspan (see above) under the title 'Update on Banded Stilt Breeding event' and on pp.16-17 of WA Bird Notes, No.76, December 1995, titled 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' (re-printed from 'The Tattler' No.4, July 1995).**

40  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BESSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

**FAXED**

TO: PHIL STRAN

URGENT: YES/NO

AT: RAOH SYDNEY

02 25214460

Fax No.

FROM: JIM LANE

DATE: 18/7/95

Your Ref: Local Ref:

Typed version with amendments (deletions struck through, additions in bold) as discussed. Cheers.

No. of pages inc. this page: 2

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

excited gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion and at least 2000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in banding and colour flagging chicks, with nearly 1000 birds being marked altogether. It was quite easy reasonably straightforward to catch chicks in a handnet from a moving boat. When birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood at a time and to return these birds to the parent before catching the rest of the brood. ~~Once chicks had formed into larger groups this precautionary procedure was not necessary.~~ This precautionary procedure was also followed with larger groups of chicks. It does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays such as the "broken-wing trick" like other waders.

A further aerial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and fledged juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson

41-  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: KATE ~~ENGENE~~ **FA**~~XED~~ URGENT: YES / NO  
AT: RON MELB  
FROM: JIM LANE

Fax No. 03 322 9184

*882 2677  
322 9184*

DATE: 18/7/85 Your Ref: .....  
Local Ref: .....

*A typed version of the handwritten note Clive sent you - with a few amendments (deletions, struck through, additions in bold). Clea.*

No. of pages inc. this page: .....2...

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

~~Extravagant gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.~~

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↑

4

A further aerial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the numbers of adult and ~~fledged~~ juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging. ↗

Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson

42

FOLLOW-UP NOTE FOR WINGSPAN AND TATTLER,  
AS WRITTEN BY C.M., WITH A FEW AMENDMENTS BY J.L. (18/7/95)

**"BANDED STILTS COMPLETE THE JOB"**  
**OR**  
**"BANDED STILTS DID IT!!"**

Research work by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western Australia has continued at the Banded Stilt breeding locations in the Goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit also made a follow up visit in late May to film chick creching and fledging.

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with an excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Lamble, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal metre deep water during their first few days after hatching they preferred to gradually make their way down to the shallow parts of the lake, 30kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food - thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimps.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in number as the chicks gradually coalesced into hundred strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They thus periodically left the chicks and flew to deeper water, presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimps.

In contrast to Lake Torrens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Plenty of adults are still present on the lake however and some excited gatherings and even copulation have been observed, and so a further nesting event may occur.

A small nesting colony (5000 pairs) did form on nearby Lake Marmion and at least 2000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than at Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Peregrine Falcon at the colony.

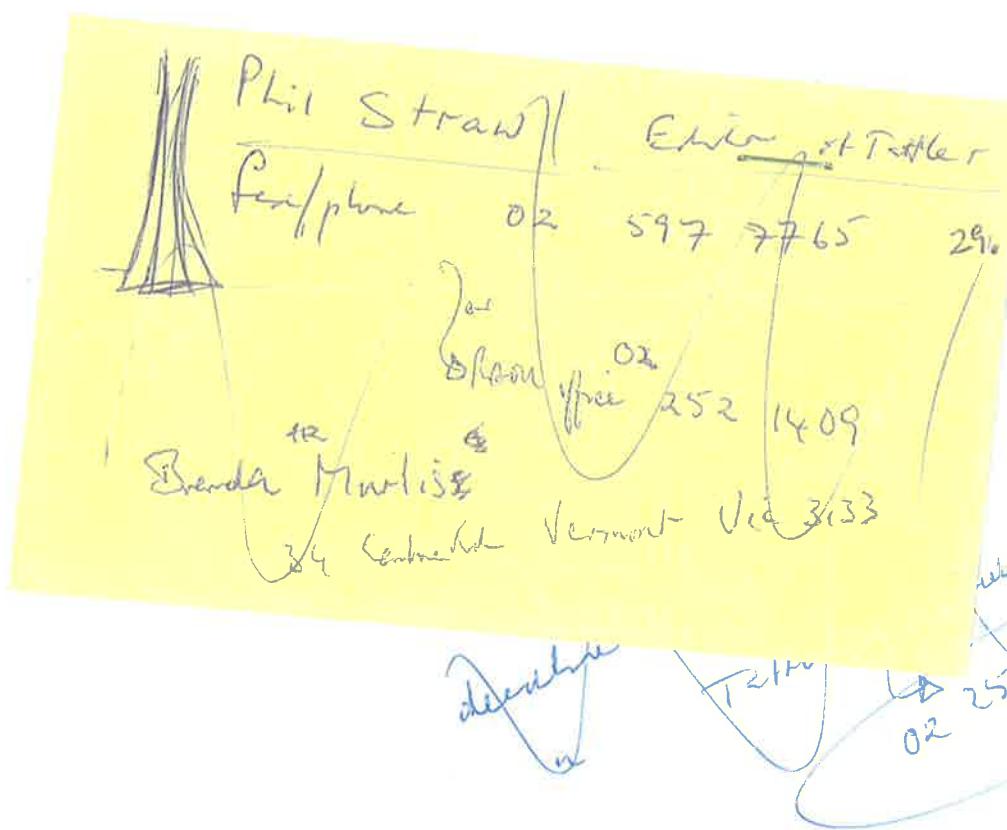
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Would everyone, especially in Western Australia, please keep a look out for banded/flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Jim Lane and Grant Pearson

**Fax (14/07/1995) from CDTM to JL with handwritten draft of article with suggested alternative titles 'Banded Stilts Complete the Job' or 'Banded Stilts Did It!!' See JL's fax above (18/07/1995) to P Straw and K Gorringe for typed version and relevance to this RMCR.**



Fax to Jim House CALM Russellton  
From Clive Minton 0971-521-432  
 03-9589-4901

14/7/95

I attach the text of a follow up note for Wingspan.  
 Could you please arrange the necessary approval?  
 If you have any comments please contact Kate Gormley  
 Smith, the editor, at RAOU HQ.

It is not as good as I would have liked - time pressure  
 We sent her 12 more slides + captions & this should make  
 it more interesting.

We sent an identical text to "Te Tattler" - the  
 AWS-E newsletter. In preparing this I looked at what  
 I sent them in April & am pleased to see I made  
 due mention of CALM (& got AWS-E attributed only to  
 Mary Reni!).

I return from New Zealand, Meanwhile all  
 the best. Clive

(1)

Banded Stilt, complete the job  
or Banded Stilt, did it !!

Research work by Tim Lane, Grant Pearson and other officers from the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) in Western Australia continued at the Banded Stilt <sup>breeding</sup> locations in the goldfields. The ABC Natural History Unit made a <sup>following</sup> ~~follow~~ <sup>up</sup> visit to Lake Torens <sup>14th May</sup> to film chick ~~nesting~~ <sup>creching</sup> and fledging.

Overall it appears that breeding success was good with an excellent survival rate of young birds to fledging. Mark Hamble, the ABC cameraman, reported "tens of thousands" of well grown chicks on the western end of Lake Ballard. It seems that although the chicks could swim and feed in the normal native deep water during their first few days after <sup>hatching</sup> they preferred to gradually make their way down to the <sup>shallow</sup> ~~scattered~~ parts of the lake, 30 kms away, for the bulk of their fledging period. There they marched around on the wet mud or very shallow water picking up minute items of food. I thought to be too small to be the traditional brine shrimp.

In contrast the accompanying adults, which had greatly reduced in number as the chicks gradually <sup>increased</sup> ~~coalesced~~ into hundred strong groups, seemed to find feeding unsatisfactory. They thus periodically left the chicks and <sup>swim</sup> ~~wade~~ <sup>thus</sup> to deeper water presumably to feed on the now abundant supply of brine shrimp.

In contrast to Lake Torens in 1989 there has apparently been no 'second round' of breeding at Lake Ballard. Many of adults are still present

in the lake however and some isolated gatherings and <sup>even</sup> ~~cooperative~~ <sup>cooperation</sup> ~~colonies~~ have been observed and on a further ~~nesting~~ <sup>event</sup> <sup>nesting</sup> may occur <sup>near</sup> ~~near~~ <sup>near</sup> ~~near~~ for a small nesting colony <sup>(up to 50 pairs)</sup> did form on a nearby lake. Murrison and at least 2000 chicks were seen in June, but nesting success was probably lower than on Lake Ballard due to the regular presence of a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a ~~herring gull~~ <sup>Peregrine</sup> Falcon at the colony.

Considerable success was achieved in Banding and colony flagging chicks, with nearly 1000 birds being marked altogether. It was quite easy to catch chicks in a bandnet from a moving boat, when birds were still in family parties it was necessary to only catch part of the brood at a time and return these birds to the parent before catching the rest of the brood. Once chicks had formed into larger groups this precautionary procedure was not necessary, it does incidentally provide yet another contrast between Banded Stilts and other waders. Banded Stilts do not defend their young and do not carry out agitated distraction displays (such as the "broken-wing trick") like other waders.

A further denial survey is planned for mid July to see if any further nesting attempts have been made and to log the number of adult and fledged juvenile birds still present. The water levels are holding up well, which is encouraging.

Would anyone, especially in western Australia, <sup>look</sup> please keep a look out for banded / flagged birds? Please also monitor, by regular counts, the return of birds to traditional non-breeding areas as they leave the drying salt lakes in the future.

Clive Minton, Thin Bone and Grant Farson

**Faxes (both 13/07/1995) between JL and CDTM discussing possibility of 'presenting a paper on the Banded Stilt work' to SHOC in Albany, WA, on 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Oct 1996. The presentation would include information about BaSt leg-banding and leg-flagging activities at Lakes Ballard and Marmion by the authors in 1995 and subsequent band/flag sightings.**

41  
FAXED

FAX to Tim Lane CALM 09-306-1641

13/7/95

From: Clive Minson 03-9589-4901

What a grand idea!

Yes, I am attending SHOC. In fact I'm responsible for putting together the wader programme. I don't know why I didn't think of putting Banded Shells onto the programme, but I do think it would make an excellent joint presentation.

I have a problem. I have invited 8 speakers already for the 2hr. session I am allocated. These cover speakers from South America, Africa & NZ & Australia + 2 others (Canada & Holland) covering very wide interest / relevance subjects. I expect to get 6 'yes' which, at 1/2 hr. each, fills the wader programme.

I am already contemplating going back to Brian Collins & asking for a whole day allocation for waders. An alternative would be for us to present Banded Shells under sub-item 1. I will await responses to my invitations before deciding which course to follow. In any event we should, and will, make a presentation.

I will be in touch again around mid-August on this subject. Best wishes, Clive

PS I am away for 12 days from Saturday 11/7/95 - I'm taking my 90 yo. mother & 3 1/2 yo. grandson on holiday to N.T.

12.

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100



Date: 13/7/95

To: CLIVE M.

At: MEWS

From: STEPHEN C.

No of Pages: 3

Message: Attached is my registration of interest  
in attending the SITC Congress in Albany, W.A.  
in October next year.

- ① Will you be attending?
- ② What do you think about us presenting  
a paper on the Banded Skink work?

If you are attending we could co-deliver  
it. If not, I would be happy  
to deliver it on behalf of both (all?)  
of us.

- ③ Your thoughts in due course?

## **Southern Hemisphere Ornithological Congress Albany, Western Australia**

If you hope to attend the Congress, please complete this form and return it to the address given below. Registration fees and titles of intended talks are not required at this time.

Title: MR. Family name: LANE  
Given names: JAMES ALAN K.  
Postal address: DEPT. CONSERVATION & LAND MANAGEMENT  
14 QUEEN STREET, BURENDON  
Country: W.A. 6380  
Telephone: 097 521 677 Facsimile: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I intend to register as a:  
 Full Member  
 Accompanying Person  
 Student Member  
 Day Member

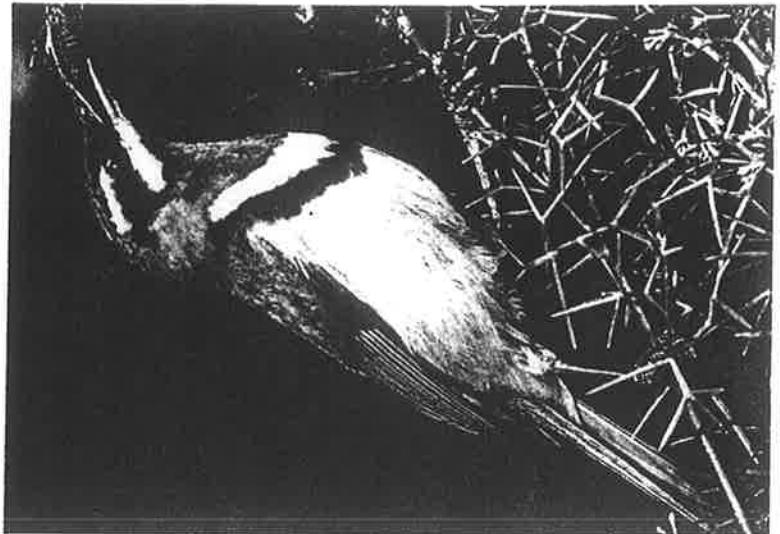
I would like to present a:  
 Spoken paper  
 Poster paper

My paper would be related to:  
 Sub-theme 1  
 Sub-theme 3  
 Sub-theme 5  
 Sub-theme 7

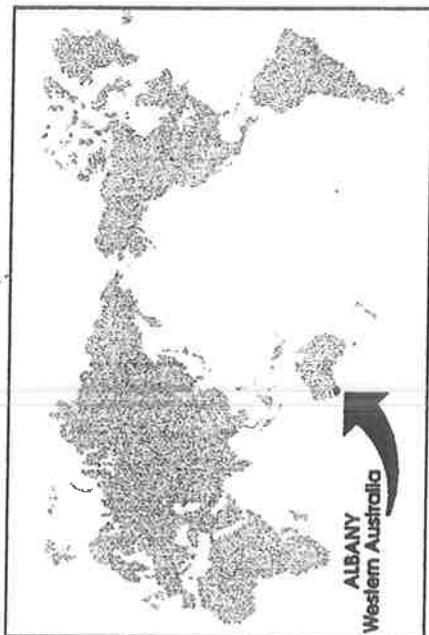
Sub-theme 2  
 Sub-theme 4  
 Sub-theme 6

Please return to: Professor Brian Collins, School of Environmental Biology, Curtin University of Technology, GPO Box U1987, Perth, Western Australia, 6001; Tel: 619 351 7041, Fax: 619 351 2495; Email: B.Collins@info.curtin.edu.au.

**ALBANY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
OCTOBER 5 - 9, 1996**



Western Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus superciliosus* (Wells/CALM)



### **The Albany Experience**

Located on the rugged south coast of Western Australia, Albany offers panoramic views of the magnificent Princess Royal Harbour and surrounding countryside. First settled in 1826, the town offers visitors much that is of historical and cultural interest. The Albany hinterland is renowned for its unique fauna and flora, and intersperses farming communities with vineyards and an extensive system of National Parks and Nature Reserves.



Panoramic view of Albany and Princess Royal Harbour  
Photo courtesy of Roish Productions

## **Southern Hemisphere Ornithological Congress**

The ecology, conservation and management of southern hemisphere birds.



## Proceedings

**Location**  
The Congress will be based at the Esplanade Hotel and Extravaganza Gallery, F Albany, a major regional centre on the south coast of Western Australia.

### Time

Saturday, 5th - Tuesday, 9th October 1996

### Theme

A major focus will be placed upon the ecology, conservation and management of southern hemisphere birds.

### Sub-themes

- (1) Conservation and management of birds
- (2) Impact of fire and habitat fragmentation on bird communities.
- (3) Studies of seabirds and waders.
- (4) Breeding biology and mating systems of birds.
- (5) Abundance and distribution of birds.
- (6) Plant-animal interactions.
- (7) Contributed papers in areas other than those indicated above will be considered.

### Congress format

Provision has been made for the presentation of plenary lectures and spoken or poster papers on three days of the Congress. Mid-congress tours to places of scenic and scientific interest have been planned for 8th October, and form part of the official program.

### Language

English will be the official language for the Congress. No translation facilities will be available.

## Accommodation

Accommodation ranging from youth parks, motel units, apartments and available.

### Provisional registration

Delegates will be required to register in one of the following categories:

- (1) *Full Member*, who will receive a copy of the Congress Proceedings, be provided with lunch, and morning/afternoon tea each day, and may attend all official activities other than the Congress Dinner without further charge (expected cost AUD \$290 per person);
- (2) *Accompanying Persons*, who will be entitled to participate in a program of alternative activities and attend all social events other than the Congress Dinner without further charge (expected cost AUD \$200 per person);
- (3) *Student Members*, who will have the same entitlements as Full Members, except that no copy of the Congress Proceedings will be issued (expected cost AUD \$200 per person); or
- (4) *Day Members*, who may attend only for nominated days of the program (expected cost AUD \$80 per day).

### Alternate program

Special activities will be organised for Accompanying Persons, and for other members who may wish to participate. These will include visits to places of cultural and historic interest.

### Social activities

The Congress will open with a civic reception in the Extravaganza Gallery on the evening of Saturday, 5th October. An optional Congress Dinner has been planned for Tuesday, 8th October, and will be held at Pymont House, an historic building that has been restored and is now used as a major reception centre.

### Transport

Regular air and road services connect Albany with Perth and other major Australian cities. A shuttle bus service will operate in Albany during the Congress for the benefit of delegates without their own transport.

### Post-congress tours

Although not a part of the official Congress program, organised tours that demonstrate the magnificent natural history of south western Australia will be available.

### Host organisation

The Congress will be hosted by Australia's leading bird research and conservation group, the Royal Australian Ornithologists Union (RAOU).



### Further Information

A second circular will be sent to those people who return the attached reply slip or have already indicated their interest in the congress. Details relating to the scientific program, field trips, social activities, accommodation and transport will be provided. Prospective speakers will be asked for titles and a thumbnail of their papers at that time.

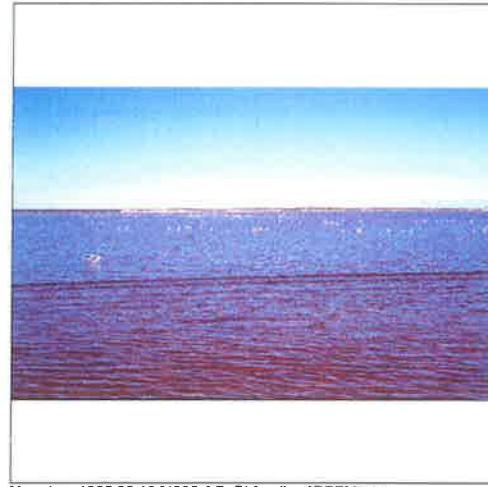
**Undated map of Lake Ballard, with annotations in ACI's handwriting.**  
The following locations are marked: 'Crossover Lake (Fresh)', 'Camp Island', 'BaSt No.1 Breeding Colony', 'No.2 BaSt Breeding Colony' and 'Tripod Island'. The map is also annotated with 'Dist. between Tripod [Island] and Camp [Island] [is] 16km. Most birds [were] taken between the two islands. Check GBP's notes'. This annotation must refer to the adult BaSt and chicks that were collected (not banded/flagged) by GBP & ACI (see another RMCR, yet to be prepared, for details of the BaSt collecting that was done). 'Tripod Island' is a name conferred by JL on an island that he and ACI used to search for BaSt chicks from (for banding & flagging), using a telescope and tripod. From memory (JL, 31/01/2014) this was about as far west as they could go in their punts. It was too shallow to operate the punts further west.



**Photos (4 pages of 'thumbnail prints'), mainly taken by GBP and probably all with his camera, of BaSt banding & flagging activities at Lake Marmion on 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> June 1995.**

**Also photos (one page; photos supplied to JL by Ian Kealley) that were presumably taken by ACh, in which case they must have been taken on 11/06/1995 (not 12/06/1995) at Lake Marmion.**

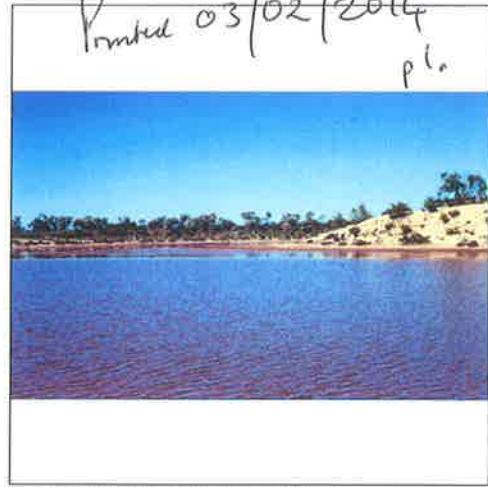
**Note that JL also has other photos taken at Lake Marmion in 1995, but not of banding and flagging activities (see another RMCR, yet to be prepared, for these photos).**



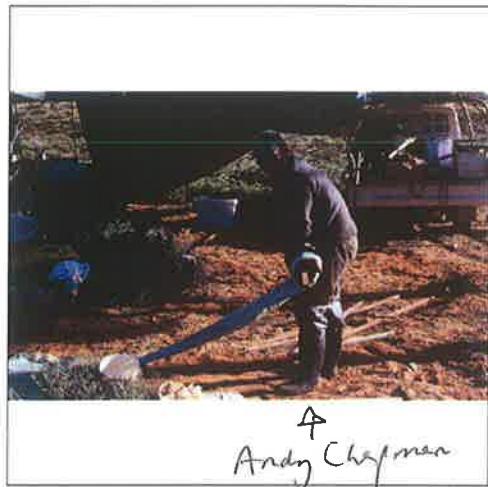
Marmion, 1995.06.10 [4335x] BaSt feeding [GBP].bmp



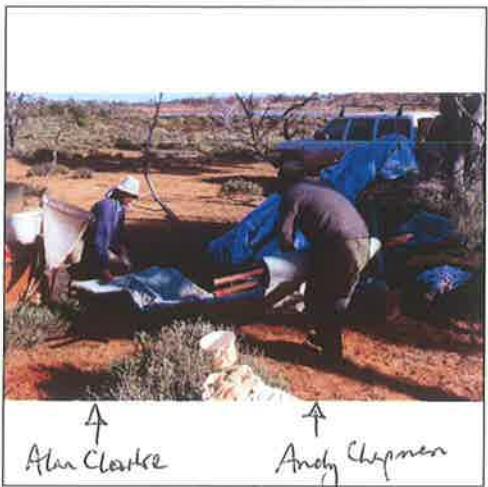
Marmion, 1995.06.10 [4335y] BaSt feeding [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4336] camp [GBP].bmp

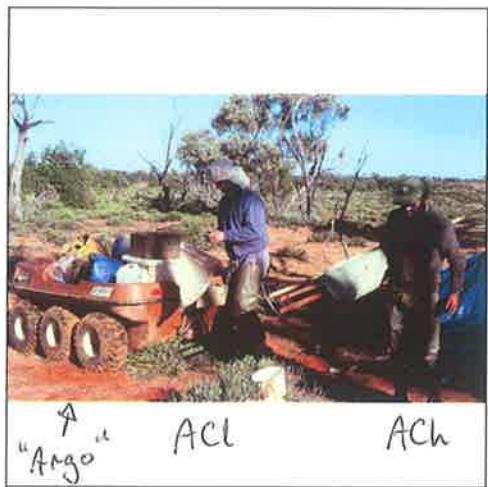


↑  
Andy Chapman



↑  
Alan Clarke

↑  
Andy Chapman

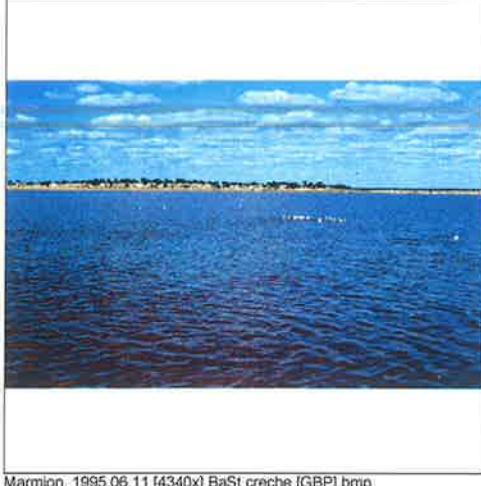


↑  
"Argo"      ACh      ACh

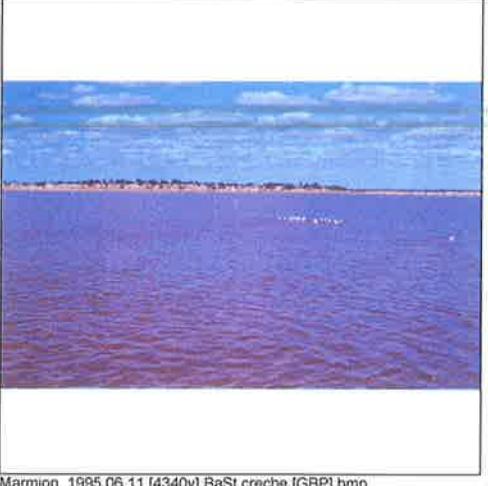
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4337] camp, AChapman rolls corral [GBP].bmp

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4338] camp, ACh Clarke rolls corral [GBP].bmp

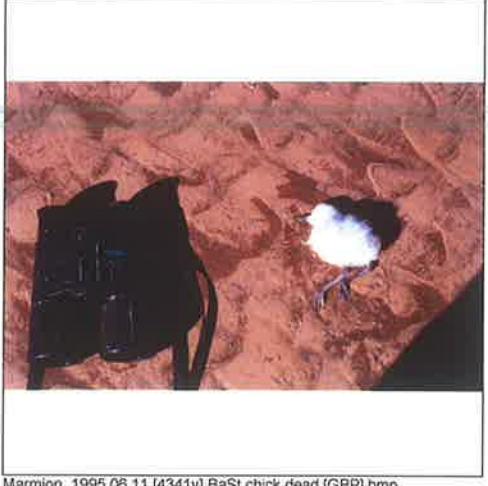
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4339] camp, ACh w corral, ACh, Argo [GBP].bmp



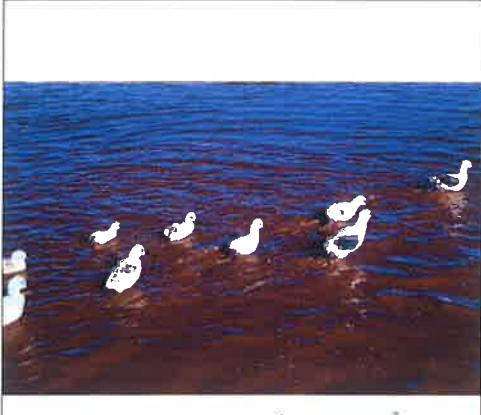
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4340x] BaSt creche [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4340y] BaSt creche [GBP].bmp

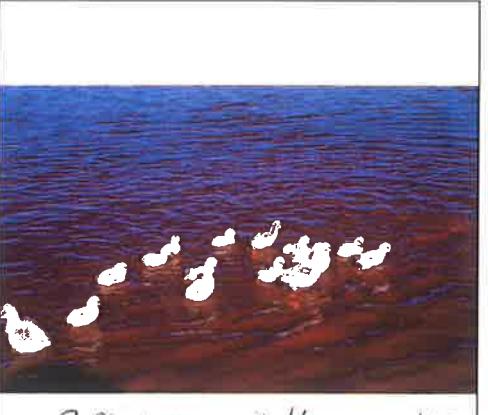


Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4341y] BaSt chick dead [GBP].bmp



BaSt chicks with flags on right leg

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4342] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



BaSt chicks with flag on right leg

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4343] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



BaSt chicks with flag on right leg

Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4344] BaSt chicks flagged, GBP.bmp

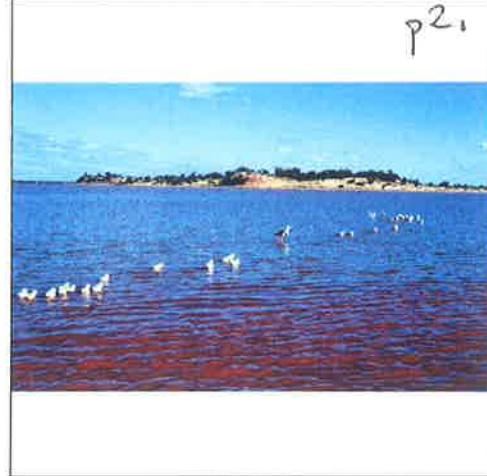
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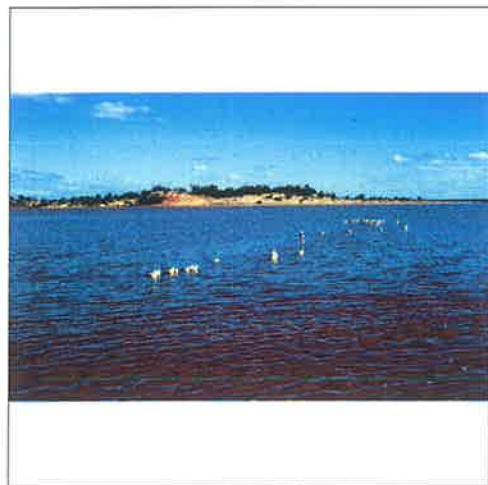
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4345] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4346] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4347] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



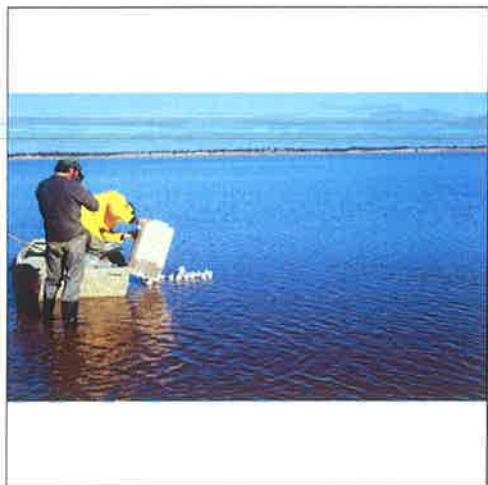
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4348] BaSt chicks flagged [GBP].bmp



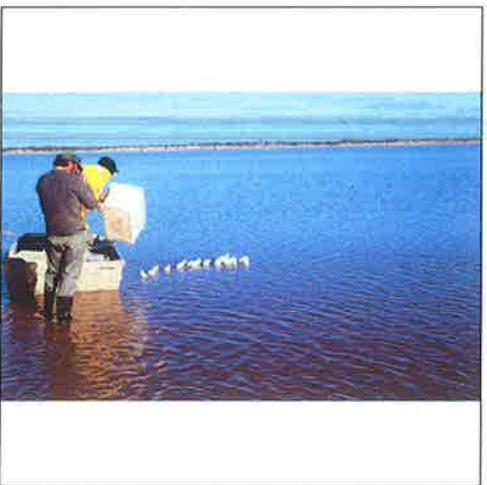
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4349] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



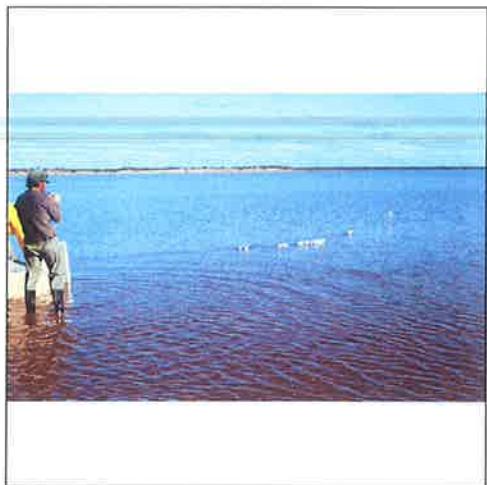
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4350] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4351] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4352] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



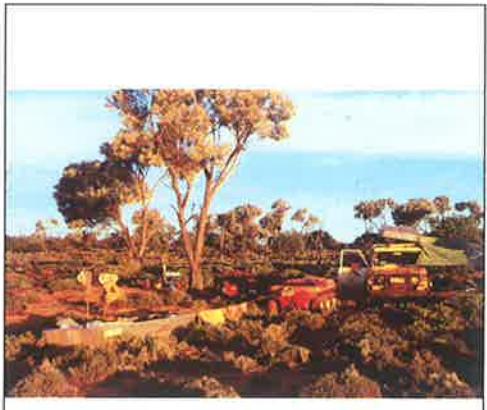
Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4353] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4354] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp

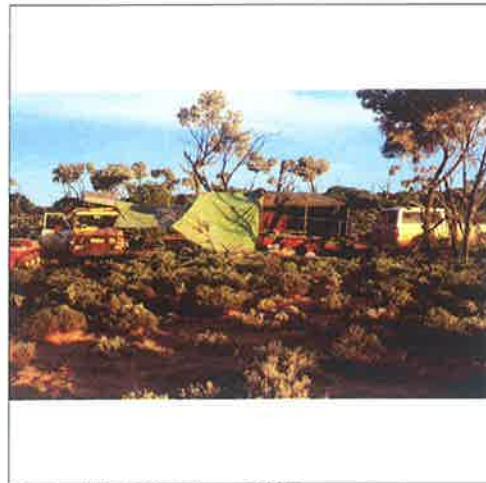


Marmion, 1995.06.11 [4355] BaSt chicks flagd w ACh ACI [GBP].bmp

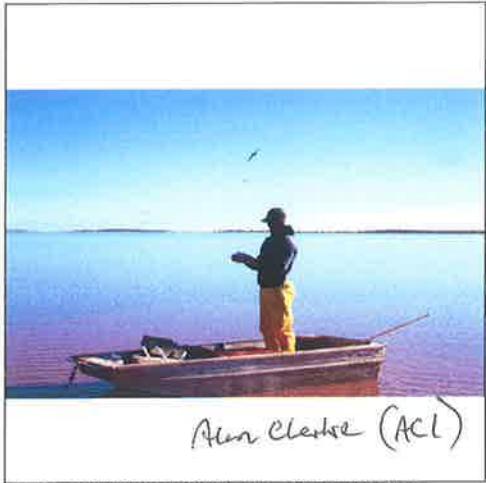


Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4356] camp, punts, Argo [GBP].bmp

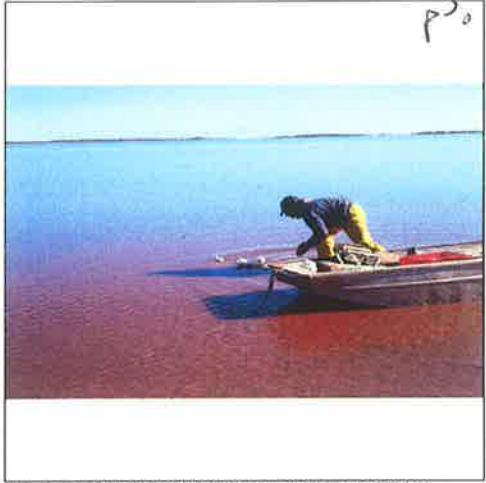
p2.



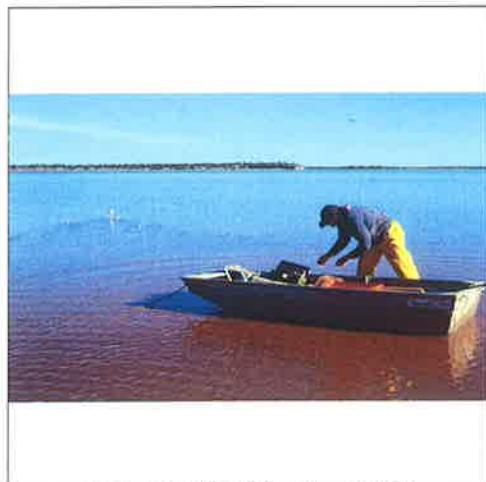
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4357] camp [GBP].bmp



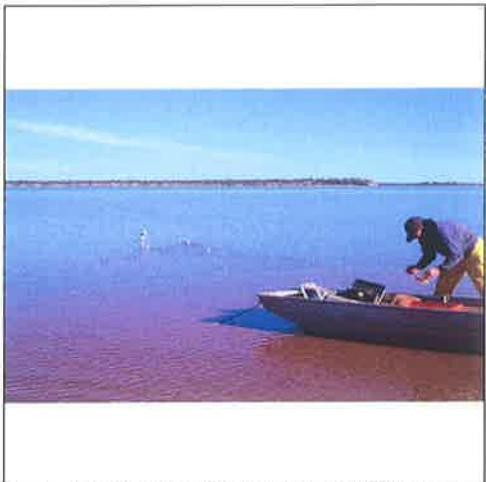
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4358] BaSt chick, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



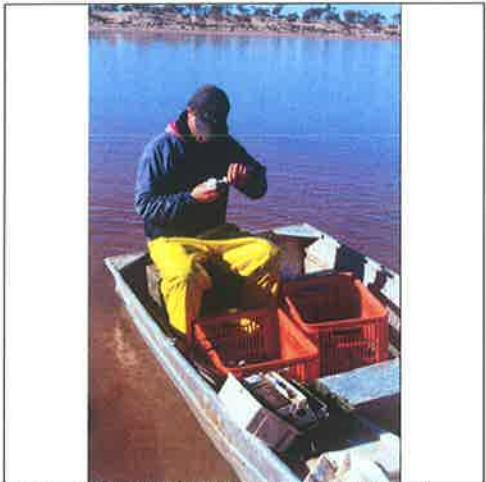
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4359] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4360] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4361] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



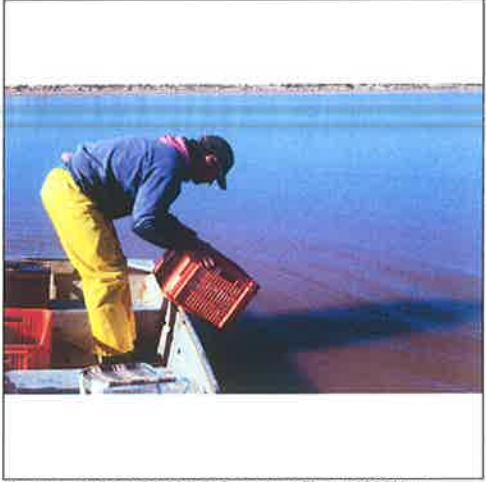
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4362] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4363] BaSt chicks in tub [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4364] BaSt chick flagged by ACI [GBP].bmp



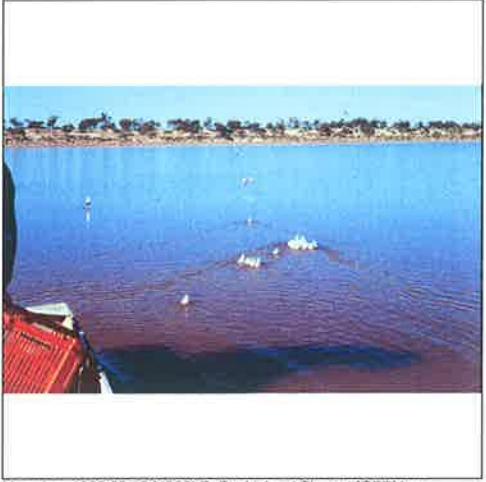
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4365] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



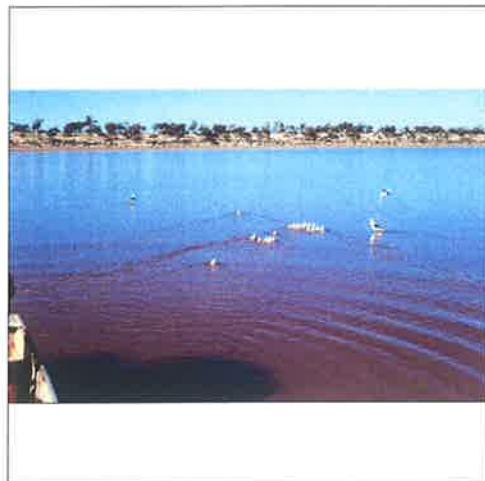
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4366] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



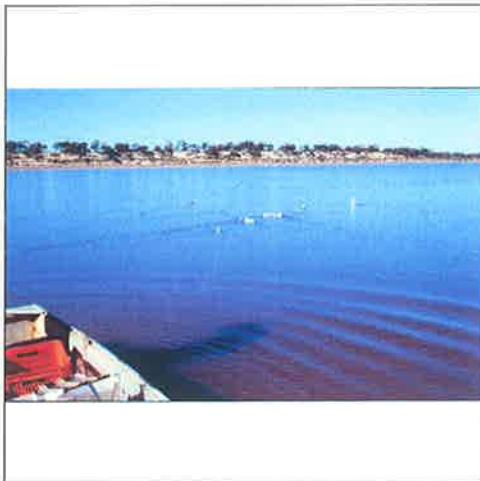
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4367] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



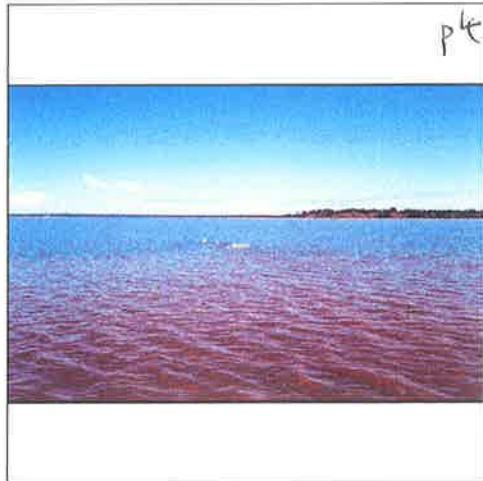
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4368] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



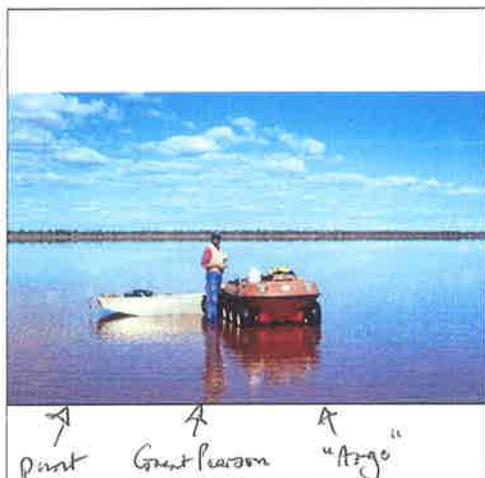
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4369] BaSt chicks, ACI, punt [GBP].bmp



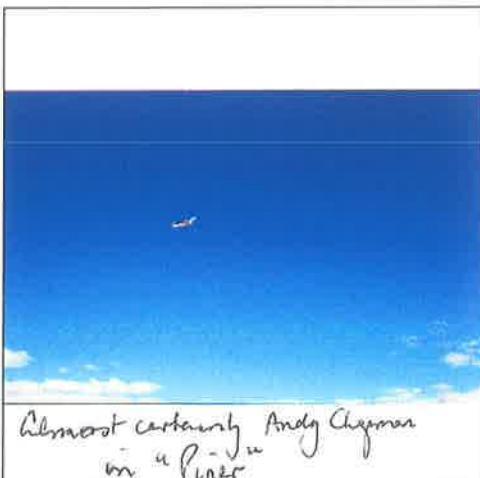
Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4370] BaSt chicks, punt [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4371] BaSt chicks [GBP].bmp

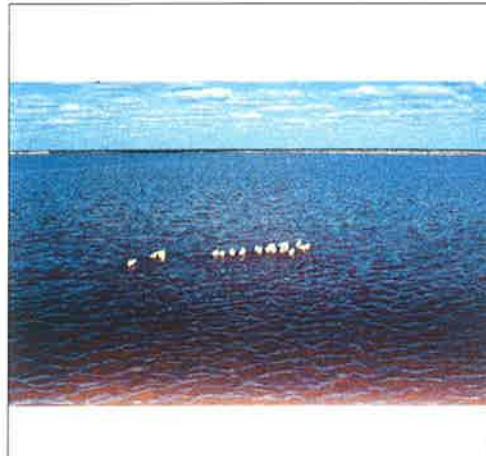


Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4372] GBP, punt, Argo [GBP].bmp



Marmion, 1995.06.12 [4373] plane overhead [GBP].bmp

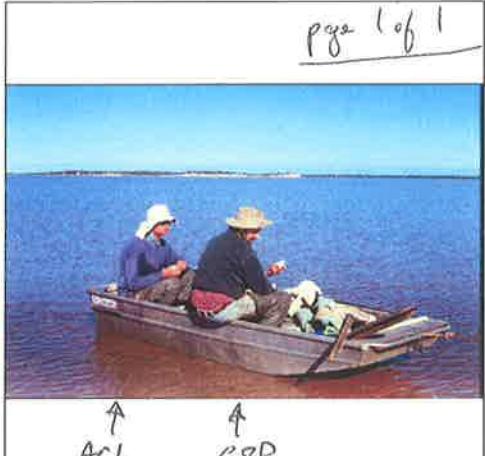
Pages 1-4 printed 03/02/2014  
These photos are in "BAST PHOTO SCANS"  
sub-folder of "JLs" "BASTLIT" folder  
JL 3/2/14



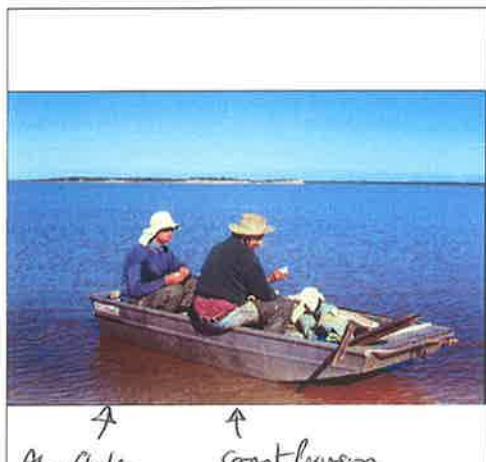
[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion BaSt chicks 11Jun1995 a.bmp



[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion BaSt chicks 11Jun1995 b.bmp



[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion, ACI GP, 13Jun1995.bmp



↑ Alan Clele ↑ Grant Pearson

[Slides from IK] Lake Marmion, ACI GP, 13Jun1995.JPG

Printed 01/02/2014

These photos are in

"PHOTOS FROM IK SCANNED MAR 2013"

subfolder of this "BANSHEE"  
folder.

("IK" is Ian Keeley,  
Goldfields Regional Manager  
for Dept. CACM.)

R  
01/02/2014

Faxed (19/06/1995) copy of 17/06/1995 report by GBP for JL, headed 'Report on Survey to Lake Ballard and Lake Marmion 8 June 1995 to 13 June 1995'. Inter alia reads 'A Chapman [ACh] had flown the lakes and reported no flightless [BaSt] chicks remained on [Lake] Ballard but young chicks found at [Lake] Marmion'. Report says GBP, ACI & ACh banded 200 BaSt chicks on left tibia and flagged 195 chicks on right tibia on Lake Marmion on 11/06/1995, and GBP & ACI flagged an unspecified number of BaST chicks there on 12/06/1995. An annotation by GBP reads 'Total flagged 195 + 260 + 20 = 475'. How did GBP arrive at these numbers?.

Compare with JL's tallying (01/02/2014) of numbers in GBP's field notebook, indicating 200 were banded+flagged and 13 were flagged but not banded on 11/06/1995 and 158 were flagged but not banded on 12/6/1995. Did GBP submit numbers to ABBBS? Ask ABBBS An un-faxed copy of this report, with GBP's work hours annotated at the end, accompanies the faxed copy.

Note that the 'colony' and 'camp' coordinates referred to in this report (last page) by GBP refer to Lake Marmion and JL has plotted them (in 2014) on a Google Earth image at 06/10/2000 in this RMCR.

DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
SCIENCE & INFORMATION DIVISION  
WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTRE, WOODVALE  
FAX NO (09) 306 1641 TELEPHONE NO (09) 405 5100

154.  
155

Date: 19/06/95  
To: Alan Horne  
At: BSN  
From: C. W. M.  
No of Pages: (including face sheet)  
Message: Copy for your consideration & queries  
Thursday  
Cheers  
P

Re visit to  
Savannah of Bokkerd + Mervin from  
8 - 13 June 95

1

155.  
154.

## REPORT ON SURVEY TO LAKE BALLARD AND LAKE MARMION 8 JUNE 1995 TO 13 JUNE 1995

(Tues)

(Fri)

G Pearson and A Clarke in Toyota Landcruiser 7QE 236. Met Andy Chapman in Kalgoorlie on 9/6 and departed for Ballard. A Chapman had flown the lakes and reported no flightless chicks remained on Ballard but young chicks found at Marmion

## OBJECTIVES (from Jims notes) (Jim Lane's)

Obtain further water chemistry data

Measure extent of breeding site on Camp Island colony

Download datalogger

Withdraw gear from Camp Island

Record waterbirds seen on crossover lake during trips

## Results

Water samples for salinity, Total P (unfiltered) were collected from the camp island site and from the crossover lake site.

Camp Isd... Depth. 775mm... Temp? NA... pH. 8.67...

Crossover ..... 53cm. .... 12.0.... 8.76...

Invertebrate sweeps collected at each site

The extent of the breeding was measured and mapped for Camp island colony Great ~~the~~ has dimensions

Datalogger was downloaded and reset to record every hour and average every 6 hours

Waterlevels varied from 398<sub>units</sub> to 689 for the 70 days it was in place.

All gear was withdrawn from the island and Crossover camp leaving the sites clear.

## Waterbirds

## Ballard

BaSt	6
Pipit	1
White-backed Swallow	1
Banded Lapwing	2
RNAV	7
Shel	2
Gytl	11
RCaP	2 plus 1 juv

## Crossover Lake

Coot	11 plus 6 juv
MusD	3 male
	2 female
Pabd	2 (pr)
LiGb	1

(2)

153.

10 June

Packed and loaded gear and departed to Lake Marmion 1108 to Jeedamya. Called in to station for first aid kit and to talk to Finlaysons. Neither were located. Left a note for the latter.

Drove on to Marmion via Bronc Rock fence line to lake edge.

#### OBJECTIVES

Use all available yellow flags

Band 200 chicks

Collect water samples

Record depth and install depth post

Locate colony if possible and measure extent and size

Photograph colony

Collect dominant vegetation

1545 arrived Marmion.

Installed depth gauge using an old survey line peg (second from camp side of shore) 770 mm above water level  
depth at gauge was 220 mm

Installed second marker to denote location of site only  
Collected water samples and sweep.

pH... 7.39....

temp 12.0C.....

Argod to big island at 300 degrees from camp to reconnoitre.  
Back to camp at nightfall

11 June 95

Began banding and flagging in argo towing 3m punt

Banded 200 on left tibia

Flagged (yellow) 195 on right tibia

Collected one family of Banded Stilts. 1 adult 5 chicks 3-5 days old.

Family 1

1.1 39 gms yolk sac large

1.2 34 gms yolk sac large

1.3 33 gms yolk sac large

1.4 42 gms yolk sac large

1.5 32 gms yolk sac large

1.6 adult male 221 gms

wing length 199 mm

total head 118.7 mm

teste 14.4 mm

Brood patch yes Band full belly 100%

sweep taken

tot P

conductivity 46% (Andy Chapman)

pH 7.94

12/6/95

Need to confirm ACh departed  
on 12/6 *10/01/14*

(3)  
15T  
152

Andy Chapman departed for Kalgoorlie at 0700  
AC and GP headed east for 5 mins and then back west when it  
became obvious that there were no chick east of the camp.

Large numbers of loose creches and masses of adults  
extending out of site to the west and north.  
Drove up behind creche of 30 chicks and ran all down placing  
them in a nally bin with a cloth base. Flagged all and  
released with adults which had remained in attention.  
Caught brood of 5 and released with parent.  
Continued catching flagging and releasing all day releasing  
chicks with attending adults.  
Ages varied from 2 to 18 days. Total flagged. 195

+ 260  
10  
475

Collect

Family 2 Depth 29 cm

5 young 1 adult

number	wt (gms)	wt (gms)	metatarsus	bill	wing		gizzard		teste
					total	head	oesophagus	giz	
2a	34	24.4	51.5	27.3	-	y	y	-	-
2b	32	25.2	49.7	26.5	-	y	y	-	-
2c	30	25.6	52.3	31.8	-	y	y	-	-
2adult	238	35.0	111.5	74.7	-	y	y	m	17.2
brood patch	yes	Band	strong	belly	80%			r	-

Family 3 Depth 3cm

2 young 1 adult

3a	31	23.3	48.8	23.8	-	y	ostracods	y	-
3b	34	25.3	50.9	25.9	-	y	y	-	-
3adult	232	32.5	107.8	71.9	202	y	y	m	120.1
								r	14.6

brood patch yes Band full Belly 100%

Family 4 Depth 12 cm

3 young 1 adult

4a	30	22.7	46.3	23.6	36	y	y	-	
4b	34	23.5	49.8	26.3	23	y	y	-	
4c	31	24.1	49.9	26.5	25	y	y	-	
4adult	200	34.3	-damaged bill	189	y	ost.	y	m	15.5
								r	10.4

Brood patch yes Band full Belly 100%

Family 5 depth 9cm

2 young 1 adult

5a	35	24.1	52.1	22.2	25	y	y	-	
5b	34	24.9	50.2	29.8	25	y	ost, ants, coleo		
5adult	205	32.0	104.9	68.5	193	y	ost, y		14.4
Brood patch	yes	Band	full	Belly	100%			r	-

(4)

150.  
151.

13/6/95

0615 to colony on a bearing of 300degrees determined from flight of aircraft previous day.. Distance unknown

Gty1 4 large waders 8  
small waders 30 shel 2

Masses of adults and broods at north end of Big Island. Proceeded west along north side of Big Island. Located colony with telescope from west end of Big Island. Proceeded west across expanse of water to 52cm deep.

Approaching colony 28 chicks and 18 adults in a loose creche. Numerous dead chicks about 1-5 days old along the strand line of the colony island.

300-400 adults at the waters edge in front of the central part of the colony. Agitated and flighty. Occasional dashes by 30-50 birds up the bank to the colony but they would almost immediately fly off in alarm. Peregrine falcon flew low over colony putting flock of Bast on the colony to flight. Wedge-tailed Eagle took off from rear of colony about 100m from active area and flew to a raised tussock about 200 m west of the colony where it sat and watched. On our approach of the colony the eagle departed and during measurements every stilt flew out of site out of sight. Began measurements at 0846 and finished at 0931

#### Observations

21 chicks in nests with unhatched eggs in a small discrete area of the colony

About 100- 200 nests spread around a greater area of the colony, but within a roughly discrete area, with 2-3 eggs all very cold. No incubation for many hours perhaps days. Some covered with fine sand suggesting exposure during rain some days ago.

Numerous (up to 20) moribund chicks in nests in the discrete active area with an egg or often with one healthier but obviously cold stressed chick.

About 10 small chicks wandering through active part of the colony.

Measured length and breadth of colony plus several other satellite colonies.

#### Photos of colony

vegt'n samples collected

Measured twenty nests for diameter and dispersal

On our departure about 50 -80 adult bast returned and milled about at the front of the colony . Several ran into the active area but left quickly. We continued to observe until 0950

Chapman reports that the eagle was present on the colony at 1400 when Chapman flew the area and there were no Bast on the colony at all or in the area.

Much evidence of ancient nest attempts from egg shards.

#### Notes

In large groups of adults there <sup>was</sup> some copulation attempted. Two families of Rnav with two young each. One had adopted a Bast chick about 3 days old and bigger than Rnav chicks.

Left at the camp is argo inside trailer. Chains had been sprayed but require more

Engine needs oil change. Have to buy a vaccuum pump to get the oil out of the sump.

one jerry can of water

One 3m punt

lighting and generator

Depth post installed at colony 211 mm exposed

Coordinates of colony 29.44.36

121.29.13

camp

29.47.01

121.33.06

G Pearson  
17 June 1995

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1995 TO 13 JUNE 1995

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	2 female
PaBD	2 (pr)
LiGb	1

(2)

(99)

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		total	head	mt	th	b	w	Oes	oesophagus	giz	sex		
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4adult	200	34.3	-damaged bill	189	y	ost.	y	m
								l 15.5
								r 10.4

Brood patch yes Band full Belly 100%

Family 5 depth 9cm

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5a	35	24.1	52.1	22.2	25	y	y	-
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13/6/95

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#### Notes

3  
97

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121.29.13

camp

29.47.01

121.33.06

G Pearson  
17 June 1995

Thurs	8/4	1400	→	2130	Hotel
fm	9/4	0730	→	1900	Camp
Sat	10/4	0600	→	1900	
Sun	11/4	0620	→	1900	
Mon	12/4	0630	→	2330	
Tues	13/4	0600	→	2345	

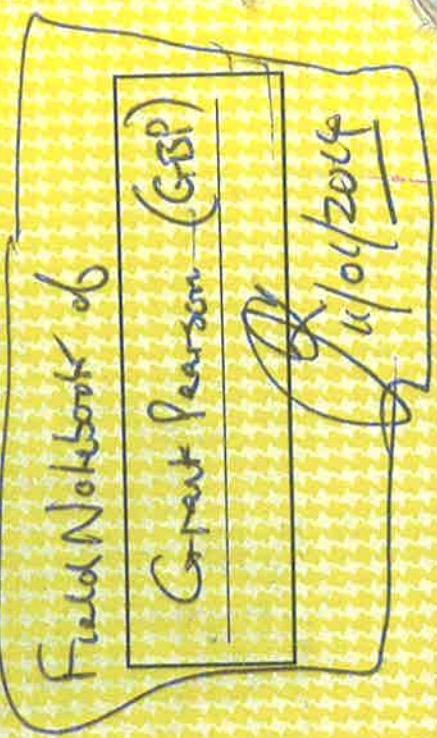
Photocopies of pages of GBP's field notebook covering his (with ACl and ACh) 8-13 June 1995 trip to Lakes Ballard and Marmion, during which they banded and leg-flagged BaSt chicks on Lake Marmion only (on 11-12/06/1995). These field notes include (understandably) details of adults, chicks, techniques, etc., that are not in GBP's subsequent report (17/06/1995) on this trip.

Lk. Marnon  
9/6/95



# NOTE BOOK

No. 561



✓

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50120

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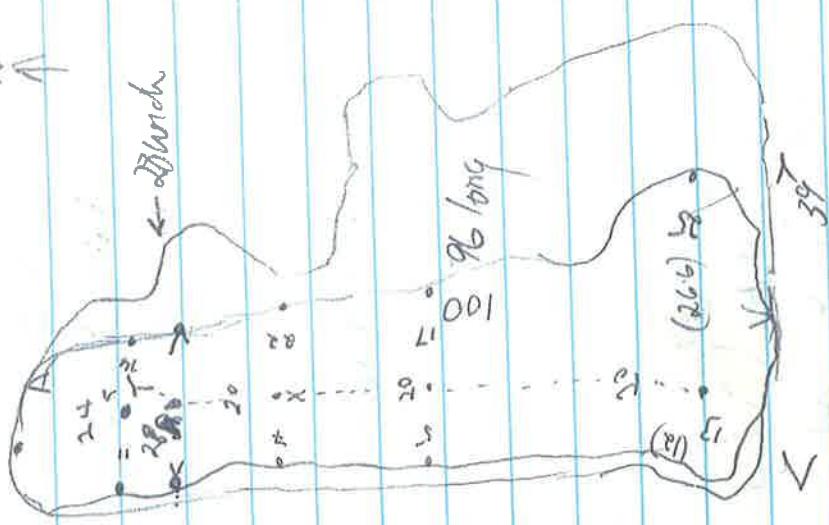
004  
50120

3

1350 mm

435 Colony Test

N



39

(266) 58



2  
1350 mm

Colony agar

Colony agar

1350

390 mm  
1350 mm  
Total  
1350 mm

1350

Colony

1350 mm

1350 mm

1350 mm



6/10/05

0530 50

lock

0955 To Monman

1108 Radio ring

00 Turn Cane Roads

10.3 Turn at Moreton Stn

10.8 Roberts & Scott

Take gate

21.5 will turn off the gate

drive will

Anderson

20.2 Took to RT

30.1 Gate open

32.5 cattle gate + the go ahead

40.6 Gate

43.1 Pipe shrub in from left

46.5 Gate closed

48.8 bush

48.8 Outstation then gate

9.2 9

Cloud

7

48.8 Outstation then gate

9.2 9

Cloud

48.8 Outstation then gate

9.2 9

Cloud

48.8 Outstation then gate

9.2 9

Cloud

48.8 Outstation then gate

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48.8 Outstation then gate

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48.8 Outstation then gate

9.2 9

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Cloud

Cloud

Cloud



11

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1921

Ke s d o l o o d a x d o o l

1/25  
3/25  
4/25  
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23/25  
24/25  
25/25

values in documents

378

20 630 130 130 130

1

339, 3, 50848

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卷之三

四  
卷之三

卷之三

12/11/09 05

McKinney

0930 5 caravans

082 95501 - 5

Bone # 7

(101) 506 - 19

128  
Lagomys

40

38

39

35

30

13

Dead bird - Tool

342 days  
Alborensis in QCS  
Keph

Tool

342 days

Alborensis in QCS

QCS in Dec. Left

14

342 days



16

11/16/95

Collected Scanning #1

27 1 Ad. ♂ Chicks 2-5 days  
Placed in bag + presented to Comd

Swed

Tot 4

SOI 46.00 (Avg)

PH 7.094

Fronts 11 Junc 39 gms Volk  
soc' base

12 34 large Volk

13 33 gms large Volk

14 42 gms large Volk Soc

15 32 gms large Volk Soc

17

Family # 106

Adult

27 1 Ad. ♂ Chicks 2-5 days  
Placed in bag + presented to Comd

Swed

Male ♂ Total wt 11.4 gm

Fully developed breast band

Total weight 18.7 (+ Dull)

7.0 H = 7.000 Rev  
12/10/05 05  
4 min 7 Pm  
Col 1/6

~~5270~~

6

7.05 on 5833

7.10 on 2070

8

7.15 0102  
Col 1/6  
5270  
2070

7.15  
7.16

7.15  
7.16

Accm

8/01/05

18

21

Salinity

6:00 AM Start school + boat

8:00

07:00 Roads light

08:00 Depart for sleeping

08:45 Headed back for 5 min  
No children at all in display  
house.

Headed west for 10 min to  
former cattle area

Large NPS bone crosses  
with names of adults on  
one so can see to West +  
Nth. 08:00

Caught 30 + flagged left below  
house broken drove off behind  
I ran behind object

22

33

1033

11

11

106 *Geological Survey of India*

362

卷之三

It is seen to consist of a large number of small, irregular, rounded, and somewhat angular particles, which are often very minute, and are easily scattered by the wind.

25

29 47 46

11/21 29 13

卷之三

卷之三

Angod do East Bay

caught 32 nests w/ ad

March 1000  
Caught 9 released with tag



八

2000	2000	2000	2000
2000	2000	2000	2000
2000	2000	2000	2000
2000	2000	2000	2000

order filled with orderbooks

A close-up view of a spiral-bound notebook. The spiral binding is visible along the right edge, and the pages are ruled with blue horizontal lines. The notebook is open, showing two facing pages.

22

12/16/95 Sawdust

40

3

25.1

14

26.5

3

4

Adult

3

200 gms

5

181

MT

34.7

ST

30.7

CON

30.7

ST

30.7

CON

20 A wt 21 gms

MT 22.3

TH 48.8

23.8

3

0.6 Ostracod

gig. weight

36

34 gms

MT 25.3

25.9

TH 50.04

3

1

25.9

25.9

25.9

25.9

25.9

25.9

gig. weight

15.5

10.4

Oes. Ostracods +  
Bad Deltu Yes

CON

29



32

20  
♂  
300 mm  
TH 52.0  
B 31.8  
WT 25.6  
3 -  
0.25

Adult 2

♂  
35.0  
TH 33.5  
WT 23.8  
B 74.7  
3 208  
Glandular Yes  
Glandular 80%  
Teste 17.2

33

35

12/16/95

to color  
620

5  
5  
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5

5  
5  
5  
5

Wings of *W. s. woodi*

Wings of *W. s. woodi*

3000 ft

Wings 1000 with no chinks

recorded 75 along NH side

150 + 150

100

Wings 1000 +

1000 +

1000 +

1000 +

1000 +

1000

34

36

Approaching Gobur  
and Chink (P.M.)  
12050 Castle 500 m (800)  
wasn't gone back down  
by 1215 so I went to  
the castle at 0755  
500 m above the water

37

② it's very necessary with lot of  
resting 400 m away on east side  
sampled here. constantly trying to  
the name & meaning here until  
will

about 30 birds at 10:00 am with  
most by Ad's

Two birds about 40 m from shore  
yellow or blue with long white tail  
was preening at water edge of  
Rock disease it.

③ albatross colony with many  
birds of ♂ or ♀?

1 Ad on hundred (birds) distribution  
trigon is difficult which will control

6

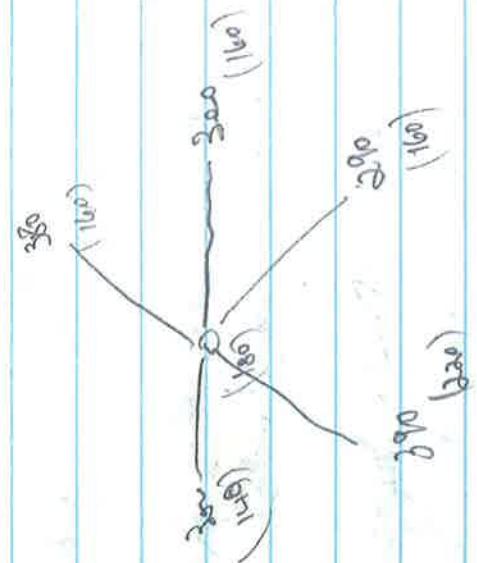
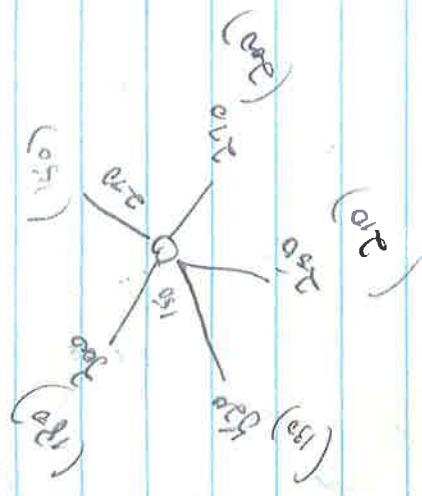
2.  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$

10 20 10

34

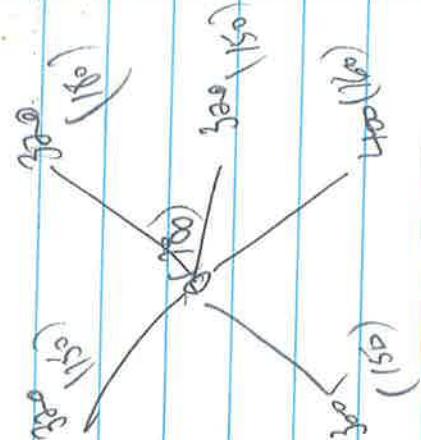
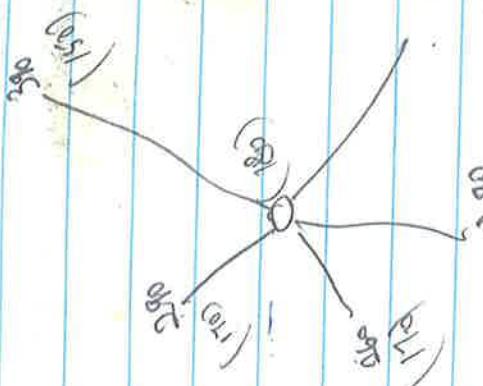
41

7



40

→ branch



47

Centrifuge 100 ml with 10 ml sucrose in rotator

There was no sign to colour  
the water blue.

Estimated 100 nests with 1  
egg in morning 2 + 3  
in night birds in nests  
main part of colony  
more eggs in nests to N.H.  
of apparently active birds  
but all eggs  
stone cold + appears cover  
in some cases suspended  
over water

Designs and Ideas

15

33

١٦٧

445

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1000

understand the teacher not  
well. The teacher did the  
most of the day break

Second morning watched birds

and died from exposure

Other 1 day work of most design  
Other 2 days standard of first

Half a dozen

Geological Survey of India

2016.01.25

1. *Leucania dominula*

27

10

100

21

46

25-30 m tall  
10-15 cm dbh  
15-20 cm dbh

Some Coptis occurring at base

Only 1-2 m tall running

Oblong leaves  
100-150 cm long

Wavy margin

Large flowers  
5-10 cm  
orange

Challando

Color red with white stripes  
the eggs large white brown green

Nashville yellow 3-4

Black measured all

Collected small colors

47

249

254

255

256

257

258 water demand

259

260

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264

265

266

267

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562

105

$$57 = 101 - 28 \text{ days}$$

65				
85				
92	02	10.00	39.8	151
92	02	10.00	39.8	151
101				604
101				604
132				604
132				604

Arrived 11th 2.30pm  
Left 8.30

$$57 = 101 - 28 \text{ days}$$

Arrived 11th 2.30pm  
Left 8.30

Notes made by JL that appear to record information GBP communicated to JL by radio telephone on Sun 11/06/1995 at 5.50pm. Inter alia these notes read 'have used the 200 leg bands' [which would indicate they only had 200 bands to use] and '220 done today (removed flags from 20!) therefore 200 to date' and 'have 200 flagged' [contrast with GBP's typed report of 17/06/1995 above which indicates 195 flagged on 11/06, and with JL's tallying (01/02/2014) of numbers in GBP's field notebook, indicating 200 were banded+flagged and 13 were flagged but not banded on 11/06/1995. Perhaps GBP was giving JL approximate figures by phone]. There is also mention of chick ages and catching methodology in these notes. E.g. 'Drive to creche with Argo – chase 20-30 and take back to boat [to band/flag]'. 'Creches c.30. Try to get all then release [after banding/flagging] – adults coming back'.

Murton CDT - 03 9 589 4901

106,  
149

Radio Telephone call from Grent

Sun 11/6/95 ✓

5.50 pm

- They are  
- Just arrived - arrived yesterday

or 6<sup>th</sup>? ✓?  
ie June?

- Found 10-15,000 adults  
several 1000 chicks

- ~~PPS~~

220 done today. (removed flags from 20!)  $\Rightarrow$  200 to date

- have met the 200 by nests  
- have 200 flagged.

- collected 1 family  
of 4 chicks + 2 adults

most 10-20 cm

too shallow  
for boat.

- boat v. soft - depth up to 30 cm

- will look for colony in NH

- drove to creeks with Argos - chose 20-30 +  
table back to boat

- creeks c 30

try to get all them where - adults coming  
back.

- chicks have

oldest, well developed 1° 2° + all body except head  
will fly  $\Rightarrow$  1 week  $\Rightarrow$  3 weeks old? + wings

also chicks

- 2-4 days old.

- these have magic complete.

Andy flight tomorrow  
photo + bird where  
detected to Grent 7pm  
me listen on radio



**Fax (07/06/1995) from JL to GBP with a four-page ‘Revised Program Lake Ballard June 1995’ with instructions for GBP, ACh and ACI regarding survey and other work to be undertaken at Lake Ballard and Lake Marmion from Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> to Wed 14<sup>th</sup> June 1995. Inter alia the program refers to: ‘leg flag glue’; ‘I have mailed Australia Post to you [from Busselton, to Woodvale] a bag of leg flags ...’, and ‘Band and flag flightless chicks [at Lake Marmion from Sun 11/06 onwards]’. There is also a detailed description of the catching, banding & flagging methodology to be followed, including:**

‘band on right tibia (i.e. above ‘knee’) and flag on left tibia every chick’;  
‘remove any miss-applied bands (special pliers) and flags (separate ‘wings’ with knife)’;  
‘if you run out of bands (unlikely), continue with flags only’;  
‘record band numbers of chicks in same brood (where identifiable) and band numbers used each day’.

See JL’s fax of 02/06/1995 below to CDTM for the ‘draft work program’.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
**FAXED**  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO. (097) 521 432

145.  
146.

TO: Grant Pearson URGENT:  YES  NO

AT: WRC

Fax No. ....

FROM: J.C.

DATE: 7/6/95

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

*Revised program - jobs may not  
when have read.*

No. of pages inc. this page: 6

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

REVISED PROGRAM ~~Grant Pearson - 7/6/95~~

[Grant: modify program as circumstances dictate. The important thing is to get the main tasks done]

**Thurs 8 June**

Grant Pearson and Alan Clarke drive to Kalgoorlie

**Fri 9 June**

GP and AC1 visit CALM office and pick up Argo keys (from June), wheel for trailer (from Andy Chapman) etc., make radio arrangements and telephone Jeedamya and Lake Marmion station (name?) to advise of plans.

GP, AC1 and ACh drive (2 vehicles) to Lake Ballard and withdraw all gear from Camp Island to Crossover Lake. Camp there overnight.

[Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake; measure this lake's depth and take water samples]

(P)

142.  
145.

### **GRANT: REVISED LIST OF SOME ODDS AND ENDS REQUIRING ATTENTION**

- \* Is the leg flag glue at Woodvale (if not, it is on Camp Island)? You should obtain another tube in any case as the first tube probably won't do more than 50-100 flags.
- \* I have mailed Australia Post to you a bag of leg flags, two plastic weighing cones & your pocket radio.
- \* Banding pliers in dissecting box at Woodvale? I think pair also at Ballard (Camp Island or in trailer).
- \* I assume you have a work camera you can take.
- \* If you are buying film the 100 ASA Ektachrome is excellent (remember to have Churchills number them).
- \* You will need to make another wing rule (no less than 25cm). I have the oversized rule from the last trip.
- \* The dial calipers are stuffed. You need to buy or borrow a "pair" of good quality vernier calipers
- \* You should have received copy of fax from Mark to me concerning his last trip and location of Argo keys etc.
- \* Note that ABC tent has gone back to Melbourne.
- \* Andy Chapman has one tyre from trailer in Kal (was flat, now fixed).
- \* 10' punt from Bsn is bungless.

### **REVISED PROGRAM LAKES BALLARD & MARMION JUNE 1995**

[Grant: modify program as circumstances dictate. The important thing is to get the main tasks done.]

#### **Thurs 8 June**

Grant Pearson and Alan Clarke drive to Kalgoorlie

#### **Fri 9 June**

GP and AC1 visit CALM office and pick up Argo keys (from June), wheel for trailer (from Andy Chapman) etc., make radio arrangements and telephone Jeedamya and Lake Marmion station (name?) to advise of plans.

GP, AC1 and AC2 drive (2 vehicles) to Lake Ballard and withdraw all gear from Camp Island to Crossover Lake. Camp there overnight.

[Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake; measure this lake's depth and take water samples]

44  
144

2

### Sat 10 June

Boat to Camp Island. Measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island

Precisely measure (in order to precisely determine area) the boundaries of the nesting area of 1st breeding island).

Assuming no or very few flightless chicks encountered, return to camp on south side of Crossover Lake, withdraw all gear (except water level recorder & droppers/pickets) from Ballard area, head for Lake Marmion and establish new campsite near its shore.

### Sun 11 June to Tues 13 June

At Lake Marmion.

[Note that ACh needs to be back in Kalgoorlie on Sun night]

- i) Establish depth gauge(s) and on first and last days measure water depth, water temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps at a marked location (i.e. same routine as previously at Ballard)
- ii) Locate flightless chicks, collect 5 family parties for oesophagus and proventriculus+gizzard contents analysis (details below).
- iii) Band and flag flightless chicks (details below).
- iv) Attempt to locate Marmion nesting island. If successful:
  - \* measure (or pace) the nesting area so its area ( $m^2$ ) can be determined.
  - \* photograph island and nesting area.
  - \* sample dominant plant species.
  - \* measure diameter & depth of a scattered sample (20-30) of nest scapes.
  - \* in unlikely event hatching chicks being led off island, record number of chicks & adults reaching water in sample (50-100 will suffice) of family parties. Repeat at 1-2 day intervals if not too time consuming (the other work is more important than repeats).

### Wed 14 June

Stockpile Argo and other appropriate gear (one punt?) at Lake Marmion, Station Hstd or Kalgoorlie. Return to Perth with remainder.

### Collecting Methodology:

- \* ACI in one punt and GP & ACh in other.
- \* choose **solitary** family parties with **single** adults.
- \* ACh shoot the adult, gather chicks and dispatch (ACh technique).
- \* Attach waterproof label to each bird and label "Adult (1-5)" and "Chick (1a, 1b etc, 2a, 2b etc to 5a, 5b etc)".
- \* weigh each bird.
- \* record "completeness" of breast band and black belly of adults.
- \* record presence/absence of brood patches (bare skin) on either side of sternum.
- \* dissect out (scissors & tweezers) oesophagus & gizzard (incl proventriculus) of each bird. Store each separately in 70% alc with label (Adult 1, Chick 1a etc **plus date**).
- \* while GP & ACh do the above, ACI to measure water depth, take water samples, do standard invert sweeps (as on last trip).
- \* keep bodies (take back to camp at end of day and that night sex and **measure gonad size of the adults** and measure bill, head+bill, metatarsus & wing of adults and chicks).
- \* **retain bodies of chicks (and preferably of adults also) to give to WA Museum (Ron J. is keen to have even if split up middle & bloody).**
- \* carefully replace alcohol (except dregs) after 24 hrs or so. Replace again one week later.

### Banding and Flagging Methodology (based on water deep enough to use boats)

- \* when find chicks, have GP, ACI & ACh in 12' punt towing 10' punt.
- \* have Nally bin with towel (at camp) in bottom to keep chicks dry/clean.
- \* Initially at least, ACI driver, GP catcher and **bander/flagger**, ACh flagger
- \* **band on right tibia** (i.e. above "knee") and **flag on left tibia** every chick.
- \* note that the bands are difficult to close properly and patience is required.
- \* to apply flags, hold flag open, slip onto tibia, apply glue to both surfaces, hold together for 1 minute (timed).
- \* note that flag surfaces to be glued **must** be clean and dry and **must not** move at all while being held together.
- \* remove any miss-applied bands (special pliers) and flags (separate "wings" with knife)
- \* ACI & ACh can advise on the most efficient tactics in catching and returning chicks
- \* If you run out of bands (unlikely), continue with flags only.
- \* record band numbers of chicks in same brood (where identifiable) and band numbers used each day.

139.  
142.

4

If too shallow for boats, note that Mark found Stilt very shy of people on foot but very accepting of Argo.

#### OTHER TASKS

- \* record dates of definite drinking by Stilt for comparison with salinity.
- \* make notes of any predator/scavenger activity you see.
- \* record other waterbirds seen on Lake Ballard.
- \* keep me informed (every day or two) of progress/findings.

Fax (05/06/1995; typed 01/06/1995) message from Mark Lamble, ABC Natural History Unit, to JL with a 'rough diary' of observations he made while at Lake Ballard from 09/05 to 17/05/1995. Note that they encountered a BaSt chick with a leg band on 10/05/1995 '... about 3kms north west of Camp Island at approximately 2pm. ML regrets they did not manage to record the band number. A map of where the stilt chicks were is attached (and where they camped and the vehicular route to it). JL faxed a copy of this fax to CDTM on 06/06/1995.

5th June 1995

J24.  
133.

# Facsimile Cover Sheet

**To:** Jim Lane  
**Company:** CALM, Busselton District  
**Phone:** (097) 521 677  
**Fax:** (097) 521 432

**From:** Mark Lamble  
**Company:** ABC Natural History Unit  
**Phone:** 03-524-2341  
**Fax:** 03-524-2373

**Date:** 06/01/95

**Pages including this  
cover page:** 5

14 June 95

R 29/01/2014

## Comments:

Jim

Here is information as to where everything is and the state of things when we left.

1. In the Kalgoorlie CALM lock up: 87 Ward street, Kalgoorlie, we have left the Outboard Motor and fuel tank (1/2 full), the CALM H.F. radio (the antenna is still up on Camp island), several empty water Jerry cans and one empty fuel Jerry can.
2. At the CALM Kalgoorlie office, the Argo key was left with June Anderson for safe keeping.
3. We left the first aid kit at Jeedamya station in the shearers' quarters.
4. The 12 ft and 10 ft punts are on the north side of Crossover Lake as are the trailer with lifejackets, the Tirfor winch, and one 20 Lt drinking water Jerry can (full).
5. The Argo is where you left it last trip, we washed it with fresh water and lubed the chains with the adhesive lubricant. The bungs are attached to the steering brakes as we found them. The fuel tank is a little over 1/2 full.

3 wheel only  
The 4th is with Andy Clayton

5th June 1995

*Count take another long count?*

120.

132.

6. On Camp Island we have taken our tent. Your pegs are in Grants shelter. Also in Grants Shelter are the generator, the electric outboard, both 12 volt batteries (the big yellow one we charged up and the other one still reads as being charged), the gas bottle and burner (we didn't use it), the cutlery box and some odds and ends of non perishable food, the lights (we did take back our power cord though yours is still there), a Jerry of unleaded fuel, 10 Lt of drinking water and your other bits and pieces. Your outboard oil is still on Camp Island as we bought our own in form Kalgoorlie.

*from*

7. The outboard while running well is a bit difficult to start when cold. It is very easy to flood so use the choke sparingly and do not pump the bulb to pressurise the system. If in doubt use only a small amount of throttle and keep pulling.

I think that takes care of the bits and pieces of gear that we used on the last trip. Here is a rough diary of where we were, the weather for the day and some of the things we saw during the last trip that I think will interest you and may be of value.

*Two*

09/5/95 Collected gear, food, fuel etc. in Kalgoorlie and drove up to Crossover Lake that night. Rained over night, just a mm or three

*Wind*

10/5/95 To Camp Island and then up the lake to the north ~~east~~ to reconnoitre way to chicks seen from the air. I got approximately 15kms up but then water became to shallow and forced to return to camp. Wind NW strong enough to flatten our tent. Rained overnight again less than five mm.

*prev day*  
North-West  
✓

11/5/95 To mainland to explore route to north western end of the lake to find the crèches via station tracks (see map and instructions). Returned to Camp Island. Wind NW strong but moderating, overcast rain and showers. Rained overnight again.

12/5/95 Filmed about Camp Island and deserted colony. Weather partly cloudy, but fine. Wind light and variable. Clear cold night.

13/5/95 Filmed about Camp Island and second colony Island. Weather fine, some high cloud increasing. Wind south easterly, light but strengthening.

14/5/95 Filmed about Camp Island and second colony Island. Weather cloudy but fine, Wind south easterly moderate strength.

15/5/95 Moved from Camp Island to New camp on NNW shore of lake. (see map). Weather cloudy but fine, Winds SE changed to N.W variable strength.

16/5/95 Filmed chicks on lake. Weather fine and warm patchy cloud. Winds SE moderate strength.

17/5/95 Filmed chicks on lake. Returned to Crossover lake camp. Weather fine but cloud increased during the day. Winds NW moderate to strong. Rain overnight heavy at times

18/5/95 Returned to Kalgoorlie

#### OBSERVATIONS

1. On Friday 12th May, many adult birds, estimate of 2,000 to 3,000 individuals, all arrived in large flocks to the south and south west of the main breeding island. These birds did not appear to be feeding but formed into a large flock that moved right up to the island. Within the flock many birds were apparently trying to copulate while still in the water. The flock was very vocal in fact this was what got our attention in the first place. When they reached the island they remained in the water were not seen to come up onto land however they did disappear behind the colony island. They were very flighty and for this reason I did not try to approach them. I shot several minutes of material for Camp Island 20 metres south of your observation point up on Camp Island. They all departed when a wedge tailed eagle flew in and landed on the breeding island. This activity was not repeated while we were on Camp Island.

2. While we were on Camp Island we saw many flocks of up to 25 birds flying from the west to the east and east to west. I feel that the Adult birds were feeding to the east and returning to the west where they were seen in large numbers, (1000's), to the south east of the main body of chicks.

3. The water surrounding Camp Island appeared to contain many more brine shrimp than our previous trip. This is an empirical observation only, but we both felt that there was about a four fold increase in numbers visible in the water. We also shot footage of the brine shrimp.

*subjective*

4. On Wednesday 10th May, I encountered a small group of seven chicks and three adults, about 3kms north west of Camp Island at approximately 2pm. One of these chicks was banded but I did not manage to record its band number (sorry about that).

5. When we moved to New Camp to the north west of Camp Island (see map), we found hundreds perhaps thousands of chicks all in various stages of development (stages all on film). On the 17/5/95 Campbell and I both saw chicks flapping along about 30cm to 50cm above the water/mud for about 10 to 15 metres. These were the oldest chicks we had seen. This was seen only three times during our time at New Camp.

*the 1st*

*green*

*more feeding time*

118  
130

6. The chicks were spread out over the lake in loose clusters of groups of 3 to 20 odd birds. It was hard to tell where one group started and another ended with chicks of all ages frequently being present in one group. Interspersed with the chicks were adults that acted like sentry/alarm birds, that at any sign of a threat would lead the chicks toward deeper water or away from the threat. It did not appear that the adults were attached to any particular chicks as they came and went from group to group quite frequently. It may be of interest that during the time at New Camp I saw very few brine shrimp in the water.

7. When we moved to New Camp we took the Argo in the tandem trailer. On the lake the Argo did not fare well, constantly sinking and bogging in soft spots in the mud. However it was totally accepted by the birds who came to within feet of it on several occasions and so made a great filming/observation platform. If the birds saw a human form on the shore or out in the lake they would run for hundreds of metres and not return until the person was long gone.

The final page of this fax is a map that we have marked up with the route to New Camp. John Finlayson (Jeedamya) gave us the general directions and told us of the track that goes right to the edge of the lake at New Camp that I have marked on the map.

Best of luck on your next trip and if there is anything I can do to help you please don't hesitate to contact me via our fax number as I am working very odd hours at the moment and out more often than not.

Regards



Mark Lambie

Mark went  
Argo would be  
good catching  
platform  
also good  
for herding  
chicks where  
sound from

P.S. Jim the fully marked up map will follow tomorrow.



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BESSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

FAXED

134  
135

TO: MARK LAMBIE URGENT: YES / NO

AT: ASC NAT HIST

Fax No. ....

FROM: JIM LANE

DATE: 6/6

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

Many thanks for comprehensive fax.

Info is most useful. ~~I~~ I have

faxed copy to Chris today for his info.

~~Also~~ said I thought you were likely to call him today.

No. of pages inc. this page: 1

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

Clean

Fax (02/06/1995) from CDTM to JL with suggestions on draft works program that JL had sent him on same date. (see below). Inter alia CDTM wrote: 'page 4. I thought band was on left tibia and flag on right tibia. But I may have been wrong. Please re-check your official permission (& note I may have done it wrongly)'. 'page 4. I presume you are recording band numbers put on members of same brood (where identifiable). If not, then I think we should try to'.

From Clive Minton 03-9589-4901

To Tim Lane 097-521-432

2/6/95

Many thanks for copy of draft work programme. Seems fine to me & I have only minor suggested additions.

(11) Try & get some photographs of chick flocks from the air. Will enable us to cross check count estimates if proper cross referencable records are kept. Also for publication purposes.

(12) "Buy bodies". Wouldn't it be worth keeping these sexed & measured breeding birds, or at least giving them to Ron Johnson at the museum to make skins? Who knows but in due course with a good enough sample we may be able to find consistent differences in breeding plumage between the sexes. It seems a waste not to make fullest possible use of "sacrificed" birds.

(13) The right band was on left tibia & flag on right tibia. Or I might have been wrong. Please recheck your official permission (note I may have done it wrongly !!).

(14) I presume you are recording band numbers put on members of some band (which identifiable). If not then I think we should try to.

(15) If a new colony is found we need to take steps to get more data in areas where we are still deficient i.e. incubation period & slaving of incubation dates. Also need to collect data to see if average clutch sizes are same as first nesting attempt.

Therefore eggs in "just laying" nests need to be marked & clutches in "laid" areas need to be counted and/or photographed.

Hope these suggestions can be incorporated into final work programme. Best wishes, Clive

Fax (02/06/1995) from JL to CDTM (also sent to GBP) with: 'draft work program for Grant [GBP] and co. to work to next week. I ... would appreciate any comments'. The draft program includes a detailed description of the catching, banding & flagging methodology to be followed, including 'band on right tibia (i.e. above 'knee') and flag on left tibia every chick'. Note that there are two copies of the draft program here – one with subsequent annotations by JL and one without. See JL's fax of 07/06/1995 above to GBP for 'Revised Program'.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BESSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

127. 225.

TO: CLIVE MENTON URGENT: YES / NO

AT: MELB

FROM: JIM LANE Fax No. ....

DATE: 2/6 Your Ref: .....  
Local Ref: .....

Enclosed is a draft Work Program for  
Grant and co. to work to next week.

I thought you would be interested to see it  
and would appreciate any comments. Cheers  
No. of pages inc. this page 5

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

Jim Lane

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BESSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

125 126  
127 128

TO: GP URGENT  YES  NO

AT: WRC

..... Fax No. ....

FROM: J-L

DATE: 2/6 Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

No. of pages inc. this page: 5

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

129  
124  
P  
Some urgent:

### GRANT: SOME ODDS AND ENDS REQUIRING ATTENTION

- \* Is the leg flag glue at Woodvale? You should obtain another tube in any case as the first tube probably won't do more than 50-100 flags.
- \* I have today mailed Australia Post to you a bag of leg flags and two plastic weighing cones. ~~& your radio~~
- \* Banding pliers in dissecting box at Woodvale?
- \* I assume you have a work camera you can take
- \* If you are buying film the 100 ASA Ektachrome is excellent (remember to have Churchills number them).
- \* You will need to make another wing rule (no less than 25cm). I have the oversized rule from the last trip.
- \* The dial calipers are stuffed. You need to buy or borrow a "pair" of good quality vernier calipers
- \* I have sent fax today to Jeremy Hogarth asking whether ABC tent still on island; where Argo keys are and how much fuel and water is a) at the trailer and b) on the island

### DRAFT PROGRAM LAKE BALLARD JUNE 1995

#### Wed 7 June Morning

Andy Chapman + 2nd observer fly Lake Ballard. Telephone or fax Grant Pearson at Woodvale immediately after flight to confirm still chicks on lake.

#### Objectives (priorities highlighted)

- i) Are there still Banded Stilt (BaSt) on the Lake? If so, how many and in which part(s) of Lake?
- ii) **Are there still flightless chicks on the Lake?** If so how many and where?
- iii) **Is there any current nesting activity on the Lake?** If so, what is location of island(s) and approx number of nests?

#### Methodology

- \* Fly east-west transects of lake to find BaSt and any current nesting.
- \* Fly low over flocks to see if capable of flight or not.

#### Equipment

- \* Maps (1:250,000 ?) to record locations of BaSt, flightless chicks and current nesting islands.
- \* GPS (plane/s?) to fix location of any current nesting islands
- \* 35 mm camera with Ektachrome 100 ASA (or Kodachrome 64 ASA) to photograph current nesting islands.

#### Extra

as ~~as~~ cassette recorder

228.  
229.  
230.

- \* Fly one transect of Lake Marmion on way back to Kalgoorlie to check for nesting and/or chicks. Record appropriate info.

#### **Thurs 8 June**

Grant Pearson and Alan Clarke drive to Kalgoorlie

#### **Fri 9 June**

##### Morning

Gp, AC1 and ACh drive (2 vehicles) to Lake Ballard and establish camp on Camp Island. Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake; measure depth; take water sample(s).

##### Afternoon

Measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island

Precisely measure (in order to precisely determine area) the boundaries of the nesting area of 1st breeding island).

If time permits, start collecting family parties for oesophagus and proventriculus+gizzard contents analysis (details below)

#### **Sat 10 June**

##### Morning

Collect family parties for oesophagus and proventriculus+gizzard contents analysis (continue until 5 family parties collected).

##### Afternoon

Banding and flagging of chicks.

#### **Sun 11 June**

Banding and flagging of chicks.

ACh needs to be back in Kalgoorlie on Sun night. Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake in the afternoon.

27.  
123.  
123.

(3)

Mon 12 June and Tues 13 June

Banding and flagging of chicks.

Wed 14 June

Again measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island (same procedure as Fri afternoon).

Return to Perth

← Crosser Lake notes Sept 11

#### Collecting Methodology:

- \* AC1 in one punt and GP & ACh in other.
- \* choose **solitary** family parties with **single adults**.
- \* ACh shoot the adult, gather chicks and dispatch (ACh technique).
- \* attach waterproof label to each bird and label "Adult (1-5)" and "Chick (1a, 1b etc, 2a, 2b etc to 5a, 5b etc)".
- \* weigh each bird.
- \* record "completeness" of breast band and black belly of adults.
- \* record presence/absence of brood patches (bare skin) on either side of sternum.
- \* dissect out (scissors & tweezers) oesophagus and gizzard (incl proventriculus) of each bird and store <sup>each</sup> separately in 70% alcohol with label (Adult 1, Chick 1a etc plus date).
- \* while GP & ACh do the above, AC1 to measure water depth, take water samples, do standard invert sweeps (as on last trip).
- \* keep bodies (take back to camp at end of day and that night **sex and measure gonad size of the adults** and measure bill, head+bill, metatarsus & wing of adults and chicks).
- \* bury bodies.
- \* carefully replace alcohol (except dregs) after 24 hrs or so. Replace again one week later.
- \* Andy Chapman has one tyre from trailer in Kal (was flat, now fixed).
- \* Also ask Andy whereabouts of 2nd outboard and any other gear ABC may have left with him.
- \* 10' punt from Bsn is hungless.

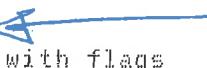
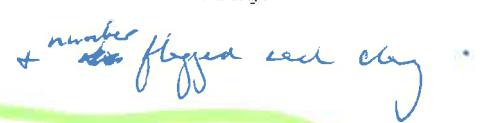
new Date!

Odds + ends

#### Banding and Flagging Methodology

- \* when find chicks, have GP, AC1 & ACh in 12' punt towing 10' punt.

126  
422  
(21)

- \* have Nally bin with towel (at camp) in bottom to keep chicks dry/clean.
- \* Initially at least, AC1 driver, GP catcher and **bander**/flagger, ACh flagger
- \* **band on right tibia** (i.e. above "knee") and **flag on left tibia** every chick.
- \* note that the bands are difficult to close properly and patience is required.
- \* to apply flags, hold flag open, slip onto tibia, apply glue to both surfaces, hold together for 1 minute (timed).
- \* note that flag surfaces to be glued **must** be clean and dry and **must not** move at all while being held together.
- \* remove any miss-applied bands (special pliers) and flags (separate "wings" with knife)
- \* AC1 & ACh can advise on the most efficient  methods.
- \* If you run out of bands (unlikely), continue with flags only.
- \* record band numbers used each day  + <sup>number</sup> ~~the~~ flagged each day.

#### Nesting Colony Methodology

If you find one and can readily get to it on the ground (one visit will suffice):

- \* measure (or pace) the nesting area so its area ( $m^2$ ) can be determined.
- \* visually assess stage(s) of development of colony (laying, incubating, hatching).
- \* photograph island and nesting area.
- \* sample dominant plant species.
- \* in unlikely event hatching is underway and chicks are being led off the island, record the number of chicks & adults reaching the water in a sample (50-100 will suffice) of family parties. Repeat at 1-2 day intervals if not time consuming (the other work is more important than repeats).

#### OTHER TASKS

- \* make notes of any predator/scavenger activity you see.
- \* record other waterbirds seen on Lake Ballard.
- \* keep me informed (every day or two) of progress/findings (radio?).

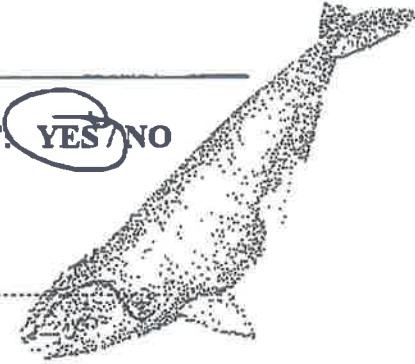
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT  
BUSSELTON DISTRICT  
FAX NO: (097) 521 432

TO: G.P. URGENT:  YES  NO

AT: WRC

FROM: J.L. Fax No. ....

DATE: 2/6 Your Ref: ....  
Local Ref: ....



Re Bellard — Draft

No. of pages inc. this page: 5

Please call us on (097) 521 677 if this message was incomplete or illegible

**FAXED**

Some urgent

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Methodology

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- \* Fly low over flocks to see if capable of flight or not.

Equipment

- \* Maps (1:250,000 ?) to record locations of BaSt, flightless chicks and current nesting islands.
- \* GPS (plane's?) to fix location of any current nesting islands
- \* 35 mm camera with Ektachrome 100 ASA (or Kodachrome 64 ASA) to photograph current nesting islands).

Convette  
recorder

Extra

(2)

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**Fri 9 June**

Morning

Gp, AC1 and ACh drive (2 vehicles) to Lake Ballard and establish camp on Camp Island. Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake; measure depths; take water sample(s).

Afternoon

Measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island

Precisely measure (in order to precisely determine area) the boundaries of the nesting area of 1st breeding island).

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Banding and flagging of chicks.

**Sun 11 June**

Banding and flagging of chicks.

ACh needs to be back in Kalgoorlie on Sun night. Make notes on evidence of waterbird breeding seen while crossing Crossover Lake in the afternoon.

Mon 12 June and Tues 13 June

Banding and flagging of chicks.

Wed 14 June

Again measure water depth, temp, pH & take water samples, do standard invertebrate sweeps near Camp Island (same procedure as Fri afternoon).

Return to Perth

#### Collecting Methodology:

- \* ACI in one punt and GP & ACh in other.
- \* choose solitary family parties with single adults.
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- \* weigh each bird.
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- \* dissect out (scissors & tweezers) oesophagus and gizzard (incl proventriculus) of each bird and store separately in 70% alcohol with label (Adult 1, Chick 1a etc plus date).
- \* while GP & ACh do the above, ACI to measure water depth, take water samples, do standard invert sweeps (as on last trip).
- \* keep bodies (take back to camp at end of day and that night sex and measure gonad size of the adults and measure bill, head+bill, metatarsus & wing of adults and chicks).
- \* bury bodies.
- \* carefully replace alcohol (except drags) after 24 hrs or so. Replace again one week later.
- \* Andy Chapman has one tyre from trailer in Kal (was flat, now fixed).
- \* Also ask Andy whereabouts of 2nd outboard and any other gear ABC may have left with him.
- \* 10' punt from Ben is bungless.

#### Banding and Flagging Methodology

- \* when find chicks, have GP, ACI & ACh in 12' punt towing 10' punt.

- \* have Nally bin with towel (at camp) in bottom to keep chicks dry/clean.
- \* Initially at least, ACI driver, GP catcher and bander/flagger, ACh flagger
- \* band on right tibia (i.e. above "knee") and flag on left tibia every chick.
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- \* remove any miss-applied bands (special pliers) and flags (separate "wings" with knife)
- \* ACI & ACh can advise on the most efficient
- \* If you run out of bands (unlikely), continue with flags only.
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If you find one and can readily get to it on the ground (one visit will suffice):

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#### OTHER TASKS

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- \* record other waterbirds seen on Lake Ballard.
- \* keep me informed (every day or two) of progress/findings (radio?).

Article in WA Bird Notes (No.74, p.19 – June 1995 issue, author ‘Jim Lane’) headed ‘STOP PRESS Leg-flagged Banded Stilts’ inter alia stating ‘During the first week of May [1995], Alan Clarke, Andy Chapman and I leg-flagged 170 chicks at various stages of growth. The leg-flags are small, made of stiff yellow plastic and located above the left ‘knee’ (on the tibia). This article is a restructured and slightly reworded version of JL’s draft of 16/05/1995 (see below).

**Monday 25 September Meeting — Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre 8.00 pm**

Neil Hamilton is Section Keeper of Birds at the Perth Zoo and will talk about the Zoo's role in bird conservation, a role often performed in conjunction with other organisations such as government departments and other zoos.

**Monday 23 October Meeting — Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre 8.00 pm**

Michael Craig, a former secretary of the WA Group, will help us with wader identification, a source of considerable difficulty to many, as migrant wader species, normally in WA in the summer, are then less distinctive.

**Monday 27 November Meeting — Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre 8.00 pm**

Some time ago Gordon Tozer and others started a photographic group within the RACV in Perth. Gordon, Peel Howden and Mavis Norgard will show 15 slides apiece and Dusty Miller will display print photographs. In discussing their work, they will be giving helpful hints for beginners in bird photography.

**STOP PRESS Leg-flagged Banded Stilts**

Tens of thousands of Banded Stilts have nested at Lake Ballard near Menzies during the past two months, following cyclonic rain in January. During the first week of May, Alan Clarke, Andy Chapman and I leg-flagged 170 chicks at various stages of growth. The leg-flags are small, made of stiff yellow plastic and located above the left "knee" (on the tibia).

The lake's water level is high and food supply (brine-shrimps) abundant so the majority of these chicks should survive to fledge and disperse to other wetlands.

Should you sight any of these leg-flagged stilts we would be most grateful if you could pass the details on to me at CALM's Busselton office (ph: 097-521677 or fax: 097-521432 or mail c/o Dept. of CALM, Queen Street, Busselton, 6280). Information we would like is location, date, number of "flagged" stilts seen, total number of stilts and any other information of possible interest. Include the name of the observer and a contact number or address.

Jim Lane

WABN #74 p 19.

June '95 issue

(N° 74, p 19)

"Work Ant  
Divil Notes"

*Yvonne Donohoe*

not sent as calls for  
info to go to me - should  
be to GBP

- Copy of last year call for info

Request still applies - particularly coming  
dry season.

*A-Down*

23/10/96

Should have said  
February  
10/10/96

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Jim Lane

WABN #74 p 19.

final numbers

were 500 leg flagged and 800 banded.

23/10 '96 08:19

TX/RX NO.768