

Seven page fax (24/04/1995) from CDTM (at Broome Bird Observatory) to JL (at Busselton) with a cover note that reads 'Herewith 6 pages of data – some of it partly processed and/or with comments. It will give you knowledge of what we've got & what we still need!'. Note that pages 2, 4 & 6 'spilled over' onto a second page for each.

This fax indicates, *inter alia*, that on Lake Ballard CDTM:

- At 1<sup>st</sup> colony, on 12/04/1995 and 14/04/1995, individually weighed eggs of clutches of various clutch sizes and stages of embryo development.
- Used several different approaches to estimating / calculating the incubation period from the various recordings made.
- At 1<sup>st</sup> colony, on 14/04/1995, photographed and counted 'currently occupied nests', eggs, chicks (assuming 'Y' means chicks), dead chicks, addled eggs, 'dumped' eggs and 'chipping eggs' in each of 15 'gridded areas' [quadrats].
- Was on Lake Ballard on at least the 9<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> April 1995, as each of these dates is specifically mentioned in the above dates.

Text at top of second p.2 appears to read: 'Eggshell etc must therefore weigh close to ... ?? gm'.

Note that JL's only copy of this fax has small amounts of important text missing due to cropped borders.

See CDTM's letter of 27/06/1995 in which he asks JL to 'process' (extract specific data from) the nest quadrat photos CDTM took while doing the work described above. CDTM's photos accompanied that 27/06/1995 letter. Note that the requested processing has not yet (as at 16/03/2014) been done.

See also "JL's recordings (notes) of phone conversation with CDTM in April 1995 ..." below.

FAX to Tim Lane, CALM Busselton

98.

94.

24/4/95 097-521 432

From Clive Minton at Broome B.O.

Herewith 6 pages of data - some of it partly  
processed and /or with comments,

it will give you knowledge of what we've  
got & what we still need!

Best of luck,  
Clive



Brometric data

87.

93.

Adults (collected with 1 or 2 day old broods)

Family	Sex (directive)	bill	THL	wing	wt.	Plumage
1	♂	74.5	110.7	205	210	Full breeding plumage
2	♀	64.1	101.5	196	197	* Some white feathers in breast band of fledgling
3	♂	74.6	109.4	209	203	* Some white feathers still in breast band of fledgling
4	♂	74.2	111.2	210	211	*
5	♂	69.1	103.9	198	209	*

\* No active molt occurring in breast feathers.

? appearance that males are bigger than females?

all five birds had active large double broad patches, they had been incubating (even the female one).

Chicks - collected with above adults 1-2 days after leaving nest

Family	Bill length	Weight	12/4/95
1	23	7	
	23.5		
	23.4		
2	24.4	26.3	
	20.3	26.6	
	20.2	26.3	
	22.5	24.6	
3	23.3	28.5	
	25.2	27.8	
	21.7	26.7	
4	22.5	—	{ 22.8 - gizzard
	19.7	—	{ 24.5 - gizzard
	23.1	26.9	
5	21.2	25.2	
	22.5	26.5	
	26.1	26.7	

Average chick weight (only of birds  
in 3 chick broods)= 25.8 gm at 1-2 days  
after leaving nestChicks - caught & released as they left the colony before reaching water

12/4/95

i.e. just left nest

Bill length	Weight
—	28.5
—	29.5
—	30.5
24	—
29	—
31	—
22	had difficulty walking / keeping up with rest of brood
26	—
30	—
25.5	—
27	—

Average chick weight (all 3 chick broods)  
= 27.6 gm at leaving colony

285

Chicks - caught & banded some		
Band No.	bill	lot.
11	18.8	27 2 1/2
12	22.2	31 3
13	21.2	27.5 2 1/4
14	18.9	23
15	19.1	26 3 2 1/2

bill	lot.	13/4/95 (probably)
17	22.0	29.5
18	23.6	30.5
19	20.5	26.5
20	22.6	28.0

average chick weight  
= 27.4 gm (soon  
after leaving colony)

88.92

Brood sizes

Colony 1, Lake Ballard. 1995.

87

31.

as leaving the colony

onwater  
1-3km from colony

11/4

344

288

56

Brood Size	9/4 %	12/4 %	14/4 %	%	11/4
1 Y	0	15	16		9
2 Y	23	40	57		37
3 Y	24	55	61		29
4 Y	11	17	16		6
5 Y	2	3	3		0
6 Y	0	1	—		0
total broods	60	131	153		81

average brood size	2.87	2.67	2.56	2.40
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\* probably 1-2 <sup>days</sup> after leaving colony.

Egg weights

Colony 1, Lake Ballard, WA

12/4/95 (S. end of colony) Egg within a week of hatching. 3 clutches of each clutch size

Clutch Size      weights (gm)

86.  
90.

1	40	38	33.5
2	41 40	39.5 33.5	39 37
3	40.5 37 33	40 39 37	44 41.5 40.5
4	36.5 33 31.5 30	40 39 39 32.5	37 36 36 30

14/4/95 (S. end of colony - 5m. from above sample) Eggs within a few days of hatching

Clutch Size      weights (gm)

5 clutches of each size except  
10-2 egg clutches.

1	43.5	41	39	36	35.5
2	39 37.5	39.5 38.5	34 33.5	36 34.5	34 33.5
3	40 39 39	40 40 39	41 38 38	36 33 30.5	37 38.5
4	38.5 37 35 35	39 39 38.5 37	38 38 37.5 35.5	41 38.5 36 36	38.5 36
5	40 39 34 33 <u>28</u>	45 42 41 38.5 <u>38.5</u>	38.5 37 36.5 34 <u>28</u>	38.5 36 35.5 35 31	

46.5 45 41 41 38.5

\* chipping egg =

1	35	33.5
2	40 39.5	

Average egg weights (from combination of above two sets of data)

Clutch Size	No. of clutches weighted	No. of eggs weighted	Average egg weight (gm)	% 40g or over
1	10	10	37.5	30%
2	9	18	37.3	17%
3	8	24	38.4	35%
4	8	32	36.5	6%
5	5	25	37.6	32%

0.20% after  
clutch is built

Differences between heaviest & lightest egg in a clutch

25.89

Clutch size	Difference										Average
2	1	6	2	0.5	1	0.5	15	0.5	0.5		1.5
3	7.5	3	3.5	1	1	3	5.5	0.5			3.1
4	6.5	7.5	7	3.5	2	2.5	5	2.5			4.6
5	12	6.5	9.5	7.5	8						8.7

Nest Changeovers86  
88From 9/4/95

1½ hr period. 60 birds watched returning to colony & commencing incubating. 58 returned to unoccupied nest. 2 displaced already incubating birds in a changeover & I suspect most of the birds had just left to nest for a short time to drink, cool down & wet their feathers (it was a warm afternoon).

From 12/4/95

1hr period. 15 birds watched, 11 did changeovers at the nest. 2 went to unattended nests. One wandered around for 20 mins looking for nest (even briefly sat on a ~~egg~~ unoccupied nest). I then gave up following it. It's possible its mate had departed the colony with the chick leaving only an addled egg & a puzzled mate!

Conclusion - incubation changeovers do take place though less regularly & in what proportion of nests is not clear.

water depth

At marked beside island. Height 14/4/95. 51 cm  
(depth of water)

Incubation period83.  
87.Estimates

## ① Main gridded area.

Hatching commenced on April 3rd. Birds apparently incubating on first aerial survey (March 12th). Assume incubation commenced March 12th. Therefore incubation period 23 days (if count the day on which incubation commenced + day on which hatching started - otherwise 22 days).

② Area where we marked c. 250 <sup>mainly</sup> one & two egg clutches on March 15th.

Assuming mainly 3 or 4 egg clutches then average clutch couple start of incubation would have been Mar 17th.

Hatching of this area (Pt Marshall) mainly took place April 6, 7 & 8th - average say 7th.

Incubation period average 22 days (counting day of hatching) - say 21-23 days.

I visited this area on 26 April & the only marked eggs I could find were

Egg marking	Single cladded		Two cladded		3 eggs	4 eggs	Other
	eggs + eggshells of hatched chick						
1	4		3			1*	
2		3			1	1	3E+2Y
3					1*	1*	1E+1Y†
4		1					

\* 3 eggs were cladded (this gives incubation period of 23 days counting start day on the day of hatching)

† It is possible some older chicks had 'run off'; we thus don't know the full clutch size. Still potentially consistent with a 23 day max. incubation period if hatching commenced on previous day.

• Two of the three eggs were cladded. Assuming incubation started on day of 5 eggs on 18/3 then incubation period is 23 days

all other marked eggs (chicks had already hatched & gone so

Presumably these measurements are at the upper end of the range.  
I suspect therefore period is c. 21-23 days.

82.  
86.

Status of originally gridded squares after main hatching <sup>85</sup>  
 Complete photorecord (24sq) taken + approx. count of eggs etc made  
 of each of 15 gridded areas. <sup>14/4/95</sup> Colony 1, Lake Ballard.

Grid	Currently occupied nests					Dead chicks	Added eggs	"Dumped" eggs
	IE	2E	3E	4E	Other			
3HG	4	1			3E+1Y	5	58	6
2H	1	1				6	76	—
DT1	2	2			1E+2Y	3	73	50
EKT	1		1			8	53	56
F2R	1	5			2E+1Y	13	73	—
HNM	3	1				9	55	20
HION					1Y	3	68	57
HTPO		2			1E+1Y	4	64	37
JKQP	1	1	3		1E+1Y	11	60	46
KLRQ	3*	2			1Y	14	57	22
MNTS		5*				4	80	17
NOUT	1	1			1E+2Y	3	78	13
OPVU	2	3				8	62	41
PQWV	1	3				5	58	—
QRXW	2	2			2E+1Y	10	56	33

\* egg chipping in these nests.

Added eggs = eggs apparently left unhatched in a scrape

"Dumped" eggs = eggs in clusters, not in a scrape

These figures are accurate to  $\pm 10\%$  (probably better) & should be corroborated / improved by detailed examination of the photos as they become available. I did the counts without the full tape in place & this might be one inaccuracy at boundaries. If eggs were in place for the photos, they would not have been present on the original 15/3/95 photos.

E+Y refers to contents of a single nest ie. just hatching.

Currently occupied nests were readily identifiable in most cases by an accumulation of nesting material around the periphery of the nest + a still perfect scrape + lots of eggs!

**JL's recordings (notes) of phone conversation with CDTM in April 1995,  
after CDTM had left Lake Ballard for Broome.**

**Inter alia CDTM had [on 14/4/1995] taken '2 photos of each of 15 quadrats' in the 'original pegged area' and 'counted addled eggs, dead chicks & active nests'.**

**He asked JL to 'exactly measure' the two colonies on Ballard [JL measured the 2<sup>nd</sup> colony on 03/5/1995 and GBP & ACh measured the 2<sup>nd</sup> colony on 09/6/1995].**

**Additionally, CDTM talked of indirect evidence of re-nesting, this being that 4 out of 5 of the (single) adults that led chicks off the colony were males (how determined?).**

**CDTM had also weighed 10 clutches of 1-5 eggs and in one clutch all 5 eggs were over 40gm (up to 48gm?).**

**See also "Seven page fax (24/4/1995) from CDTM ... to JL ..." above.**

Clarie

Conservation of - April 95

091

935 600

 Broomes Bird Observatory  
 phone number - 01470 2104

- data to be posted to Grant (exchange)
- - - write up ASAP (me, Gove + Clarie)
- outline + ~~details~~ details +
- night puffed area - took 2 photos of each of 15 points. Fri last week.  
- don't need to do again.

- also counted added eggs, dead chicks, + active nests.
- me to exactly ~~measure~~ <sup>measure</sup> up Colony 1 ~~once~~ <sup>once</sup> vacated. (gives 20,000 nests)
- Colony 2  $80 \times (20 \times 5 = \text{ex 15}) = 1200$   
= ~~12000~~ <sup>-12000</sup> nests.
- do measure exactly.

- \* do aerial survey - other colonies.  
- could find no chicks > 2 days old even 11 days after hatching started.

- cold wind ~~boot~~ - proper engine oil ~~boot~~  
at least 2 Jerry cans.

- indirect evidence of hatching - "4 out of 5 were naked"

- big unknown  
 ① When do family parties start collecting?  
 ② What role do sexes play?  
 ③

- AM genuine incubation changes  
PM left nest don't be returned.

- 46% proportion of ~~are~~ are steadily incubating

- no evidence of more than 1 parent with chick when leave colonies.

- rain added 13 cm  
 (51 cm <sup>& 4 days after rain</sup> water depth  
at shelter in)

- bending: did not bend in colony
  - didn't bend any J-Hay to water
  - did catch boards going to water for recompence progress!

(2)

- full = participants came they
- landed 10 chicks (4 females) on water.  
scraped with plowbar net — easiest way.
- \* if Tools whole boat went left (disengaged)  
+ did not reappear
- 5-10 min to weigh measure, land, by flag glue.  
↑ with length.
- label 2,
- weigh ~~it~~ is right, return to boat.
- drop gong when you have done before catching the next 2.

[

- flags:
  - open minimum + push on
  - dab of glue between the ends
  - hold glued <sup>tab</sup> ~~tab~~ for 1-2 mins. — be v. careful it doesn't move.

— need more bird bags \*

- do 20-40 to dry near shore if can't coral.
- expect normal to be very tight.
- 7-7.5 mm on "tow".
- did 10 in 2 hours.
- flag on right like (of the boat) band on left
- Egyptian at Freedom
  - first bedroom = steam graham
  - and is heated — with bags to Argos.
- Argos is 30 m from where
- boat next to trailer. — yards down <sup>is at station</sup>
- robot on board motor — robot is.
- fuel tank is trailer.
- electric is on board is not kept.

3)

- lots of good water on -sheet
- 2 cyphers at stream
- 
- weighed 10 chicks of 1 - 5'  
one chick all 5 eggs over 40 gm ( $\rightarrow 48$ )
- leaving Dove Th May 3/4  $\rightarrow$  5 chicks
- not thru Holymud
- 
- 3.4
- 2.8
- 2.4      2 days later.
- 2000 per day leaving young

**Fax (13/04/1995) from Ron Johnstone (WA Museum) to JL detailing the observations made during an aerial survey for breeding BaSt that he and ... [not specified in fax, but were Phil Stone and Nick Kolichis] made of Lakes Goongarrie [or Raeside? See notes of 11/04/1995 below], Marmion, Ballard and Barlee on ... [date not specified in fax, but was 07/04/1995].**

**Inter alia he wrote: 'As mentioned over the phone, I would be grateful if you would help me with the following: (1) Measure a few nest scrapes; (2) Collect some of the semi-buried clutches and some of the groups of eggs that I think are possibly gathered by non-breeders'.**

13/4/95

FAX TO: Jim Lane  
CALM BESSELTON  
FAX NO: 097 - 521432

FROM: R.E.JOHNSTONE

Western  
Australian  
**museum**

Francis Street Perth  
Western Australia 6000  
Telephone (09) 328 4411  
Facsimile (09) 328 8686

Date:

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Dear Jim,

Here are the details of our Banded Shill survey. We flew over Lake Coongarrie, Lake Marmion, Lake Ballard and the central arm and northern portion of Lake Berre.

Lake Marmion.

About 500-1000 birds on the south end, (one large group of about 500 another of 300 and several smaller groups).  
Lake Ballard.

On the eastern end of Lake Ballard we located your main site with c. 3-5000 pairs.

About 4 km further west at 29°27'5" 119°58'E we located another breeding colony (your site 2) with about 2-3000 pairs.

Further west at 29°23'5" 119°51'E we located another small colony of 500-1000 pairs.

Also near the western end of Ballard (on map) there was a group of 500-1000 birds which appeared to be breeding on a small circular island. They lifted and returned quickly.

Lake Berre.

On central northern portion of Lake Berre at 29°07'56" S 119°32'10"E we found another small colony of about 1000 pairs all sitting at one end of a small island.

Branches  
Western Australian  
Maritime Museum  
Citt Street, Fremantle  
Western Australia 6100  
Telephone (09) 431 8444  
Fax (09) 430 5120

Fremantle Museum  
Flinnery Street, Fremantle  
Western Australia 6160  
Telephone (09) 431 5444  
Fax (09) 430 5120

Geraldton Region Museum  
Marine Terrace  
P.O. Box 112, Geraldton  
Western Australia 6830  
Telephone (099) 21 5080  
Fax (099) 21 5158

Albany Residency  
Museum  
Residency Road, Albany  
Western Australia 6330  
Telephone (098) 41 4844  
Fax (098) 41 4027

Museum of the Goldfields  
P.O. Box 25  
Kalgoorlie, Western Australia 6430  
Telephone (090) 21 8533  
Fax (090) 91 2791

73  
74.

I will send you details of specimen stomach contents etc at a later date. As I mentioned over the phone I would be grateful if you could help me with the following.

1. Measure a few nest scrapes.
2. Collect some of the semi-incubated clutches and some of the groups of eggs that I think are possibly gathered by non-breeders.
3. Collect a series of different age chicks.

Any WAM collections of this species are good so anything you can get will be useful.

Best Wishes  
Ron Johnston.

Ron J. (7/6/95) he says he has a range of adults that were incubating or (10-12 weeks) (from full chest band to zero chest band)

He also has c 4 chicks.

↑ Telephone conversation of 7/6/95

**Photocopy (2 A4 pages) of six small notepad pages of notes made by JL during phone conversation with Ron Johnstone (WA Museum) on 11/04/1995 in which Ron shared details of his aerial survey (with Phil Stone and Nick Kolichis) for breeding BaSt on 07/04/1995 and their subsequent ground visit to Lake Ballard, in kayaks, which JL recorded as being on 12/04/1995 but couldn't have been, given date (11/04) of phone conversation [It was on 08/04/1995 (JL 16/3/2014)].**

**Inter alia the notes read: 'eggs for variation for handbook'; 'nest scrapes – please measure 10-12 scrapes and distance apart'; 'collect eggs from group'.**

(2)

JL.  
720

2000 pairs in  
- 3000 pairs on 2nd breeding  
sites.

- eggs for variation for Landbuck.

- get birds - just a few y  
but + were marking - collected  
small series. (2 catches +?)
- food - chicks of very small  
creepers - 5 chicks seen, 2  
just above - others more普及  
+ ~~too~~ too many to return.

has notes from: (4)  
John Dorell - Bawdseyland 69.  
50-60,000 80% involve 70.

(12/4/95)

had one day only on Bellens  
- targets (single)

Bawdsey - below this

Phil Stone had "view CAM"

They had photos

Coll squalls.

Count of 50 birds.

Phone call from  
Ron Johnson  
11/4/95

Ron Johnson

Phil Stone (Memor) & his  
co-writer  
Nick Golichios

Flew on 7/4/95  
Memor Bellens, <sup>central</sup> <sub>Burke</sub>  
Roxside (central)

Visited Memor 1000 birds  
feeding parties.

From west - on ground  
another further west - order of couple of  
1000 birds.  
small colony in central area of Burke.

(3)

JL.  
71.

nest scopes - (a) please measure  
10-12 scopes + distance apart.

(b) collect chicks at various  
stages. - fringed - plastic bags.

(c) collect eggs from ground

found fresh

- partial band had rolled off back to (b)  
~~foot~~ (with foot) tried to sit on it.  
(foot of 20) (broken)

large cluster

(5) (6) Keyhole? 68.  
69.  
Hoof of  
X Cows came off 2nd wheel  
at Dallens

Wedge 1.

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Dalles Laboe  
Central Com  
 $29^{\circ} 07' 56''$  S  
 $119^{\circ} 32' 20''$

10000 hours.

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Further West on Dalles  
 $29^{\circ} 23' 40''$  "Smell"  
 $(20^{\circ} 51' 31' E)$

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Mammals - mostly near N end - n of  
water  $42^{\circ} 27' 39''$  <sup>3 stages ahead (Keweenaw</sup>  
 $42^{\circ} 27' 39''$  from N).

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West end of Dallens (6) 67.  
68.  
Signs well  
2 tracks in + forming

---

W.W. check his let + topo  
+ far west unmet.

**A list (from 30/03/1995 to 07/04/1995) of the 35mm colour positive Films (JL numbered the film boxes 1-12) and 35mm cameras ('new' and 'old') that JL used at Lake Ballard in 1995, and the Dates (of film exposure) and the exposure numbers and subject material.**

**Inter alia the list matches films & photos to quadrats ('quadrats', 'laying quadrats', 'hatching quadrat'), colonies ('1<sup>st</sup> Island' or 'Island 1', '2<sup>nd</sup> Island') and dates. It does not match photos to individual quadrats.**

**The strike-through and notation 'See photocopy of this side (6/6/1995)' suggest there might be a more recent version of the above list of films somewhere. Nonetheless this is a very useful page for double-checking dates on photos.**

FILM	DATE	CAMERA	REMARKS
1	30/3 - 1/4	-	aerial (by Count) and Gannet Lake camp.
2	1/4 - 2/4	-	3-22, 10 quadrats on 1st Island
			23-26, 4 laying quadrats on 1st Island 2/4
3	31/3 2/4 - 2/4	-	1-28, Gannet Lake + moving to camp Island 31/3
			29-38, adult Gannet shot by Count 2/4
4	29/3 -	-	1-4, move to Islaygatle 29/3 5-24, 10 quadrats on 1st Island 2/4
			25-28, 4 quadrats on Island 1 31/3 29-32, 4 quadrats on Island 1 with pink traps 1/4
5	3/4 only	-	3/4 (1-30, 15 quadrats on 1st Island) 31-34, 4 laying quadrats on 1st Island 3/4
6	4/4 only	new	4/4 (1-11, 10 quadrats on 2nd Island) 13-38, 10 quadrats on 1st Island 4/4
7	Wet 5/4 only	new	5/4 (3-21, 10 quadrats on 2nd Island) 5/4 22-38, 10 quadrats on 1st Island 4/4
8	2/4 - 5/4	old	4-23, 10 quadrats on 1st Island 2/4 24-27, dead birds 5/4 28-31, 4 laying quadrats on 1st Island 5/4 32, blank 5/4 33-36, 4 laying quadrats on 1st Island 5/4 37, last of hatching quadrats on 1st Island
9	Fin 7/4 only	old	7/4 1-7, birds on water 7/4 8-39, 10 quadrats on 2nd Island 7/4 30-35, scenic of 2nd Island
10	6/4 - 7/4	new	6/4 1-20, 10 quadrats on 2nd Island 6/4 21-28, 4 laying quadrats on 1st Island 7/4 29-37, distant shots of Island 2
11	7/4 only		
12	7/4 only		

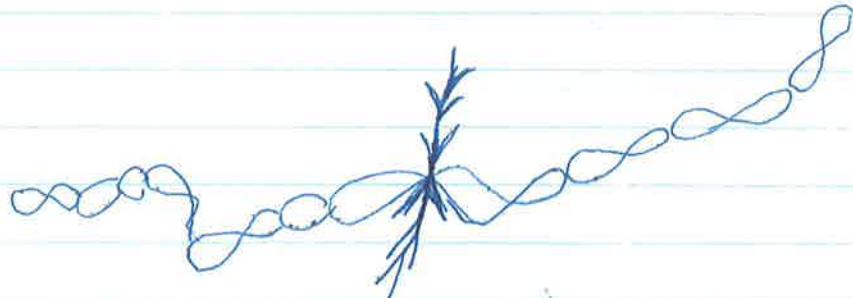
See Loc 17 (6/6/95)  
 This side  
 of

**A Table by JL in 1995 tabulating the film (slide box) & photo numbers that correspond with each of the monitoring visits (31/03/1995 – 07/04/1995) to three categories of Quadrats, these being '10(15) hatching quadrats on 1<sup>st</sup> Island', '4 laying quadrats on 1<sup>st</sup> island' and '10 laying quadrats on 2<sup>nd</sup> island'. '10(15) hatching quadrats' refers to the fact that although 15 hatching quadrats were originally (on 15/3/1995) established, only 10 of these were subsequently monitored at frequent intervals.**

### QUADRANTS

DATE	10 (15) Hatching Quadrants on 1st Island	4 laying quadrant on 1st Island	10 laying quadrant on <del>2nd</del> 2nd Island
1/4	2: 3-22 (20 photos)	4: 29-32 (4 photos)	—
2/4	8: 4-23 (20 photos)	2: 23-26 (4 photos)	—
3/4	5: 1-30 (30 photos)	5: 31-34 (4 photos)	—
4/4	6: 13-33 (21 photos)	8: 28-31 (4 photos)	6: 1-11 (11 photos)
5/4	7: 22-38 and 8: 37 (18 photos)	8: 33-36 (4 photos)	<del>9: 7-29</del> 7: 3-21 (19 photos)
6/4	—	10: 21-28 (8 photos)	10: 1-20 (20 photos)
7/4	—	yet to be processed?	9: 8-29 (22 photos)
31/3	4: 5-24 (20 photos)	4: 25-28 (4 photos)	—

Flow



**Photos by JL of collected BaSt eggs. These 36 Banded Stilt eggs were collected by JL from either the 1<sup>st</sup> or the 2<sup>nd</sup> colony (it's not clear from JL's field notes of 07/4) on Lake Ballard on Fri 07/4/1995 and photographed by JL in Perth on Sat 08/4/1995.**



(s05)

995.04.07 [4104] BaSt eggs 1.1-2.4, photod 1995.04.08 [JAKL].bmp



(s06)

995.04.07 [4105] BaSt eggs 3.1-4.5, photod 1995.04.08 [JAKL].bmp



(s07)

995.04.07 [4106] BaSt eggs 5.1-6.4, photod 1995.04.08 [JAKL].bmp



(s08)

995.04.07 [4107] BaSt eggs 7.1-8.5, photod 1995.04.08 [JAKL].bmp



(s09)

995.04.07 [4108] BaSt eggs 9.1-9.3, photod 1995.04.08 [JAKL].bmp



These 36 BaSt eggs  
were taken to Cardiff University  
for DNA analysis.

These eggs were collected  
from - - - colony  
on Lake Bellend

on Fri 07/04/1995

and photographed by JL in Perth on Sat 08/04/1995.

J  
13/02/2012

**Photos of 2<sup>nd</sup> BaSt breeding colony on Lake Ballard, while approaching  
by boat on 07/4/1995.**

Seems odd that cloud in photo 3967 is very different from cloud in photos 3968-72, though note that they were taken from different directions. Also seems odd that photos 3968-72 were taken while *approaching* island, yet photos 3945-3966 (i.e. *earlier* photos) were of quadrats on this island on the same day (07/4/1995). JL's field notes on this day are not adequate to explain. Best not spend more time attempting to explain, but keep in mind if any problems appear with quadrat dates.



[3967] (f9s30) 1995.04.07

...30) BaSt colony on 2nd Isl, 29d28m07sS 120d59m07sE [JAKL].bmp



[3968] (f9s31)

Ballard, 1995.04.07 [3968] (f9s31) BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [JAKL].bmp



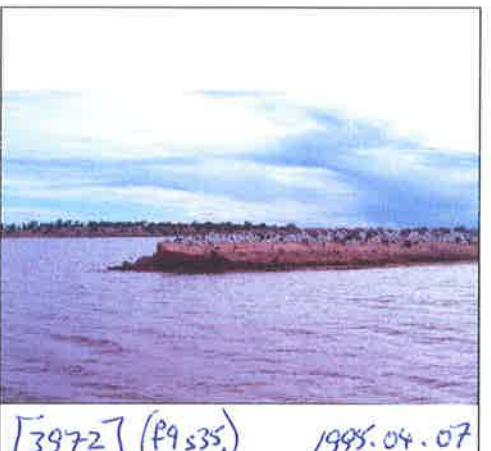
Ballard, 1995.04.07 [3969] (f9s32) BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [JAKL].bmp



Ballard, 1995.04.07 [3970] (f9s33) BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [JAKL].bmp



Ballard, 1995.04.07 [3971] (f9s34) BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [JAKL].bmp



[3972] (f9s35) 1995.04.07  
Ballard, 1995.04.07 [3972] (f9s35) BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [JAKL].bmp

**Many photos taken by JI on 07/4/1995.**

**Photos 4001-19 were taken from a high point on the west side of Camp Island with a telescopic zoom lens, early in the morning. They are of the 1<sup>st</sup> breeding colony.**

**\*Some of the photos are of adult BaSt sitting on individually tagged (numbered) nests. These nests were tagged to study the nesting behaviour of adult BaSt.**

**Mark Lamble (filming) and Cameron Miller (sound recording) (ABC Natural History Unit) are in some photos.**

**Many photos are of adult BaSt walking their chicks from nests to water's edge and away.**





[403] 1995.04.07

...) BaSt colony, Mark Lamble [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



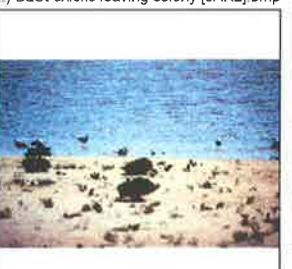
...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



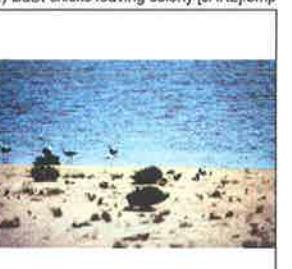
...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt colony, bird of prey [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt colony, bird of prey [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt colony, bird of prey [JAKL].bmp



...) colony, sound recordist Cam [JAKL].bmp



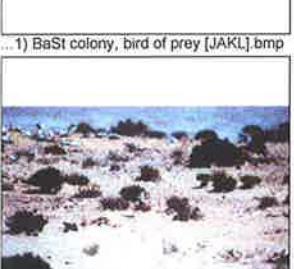
...) M.Lamble & sound recordist [JAKL].bmp



...) M.Lamble & sound recordist [JAKL].bmp



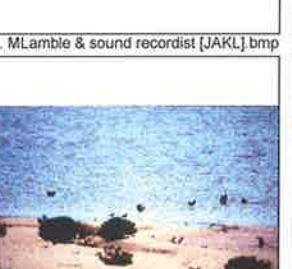
...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



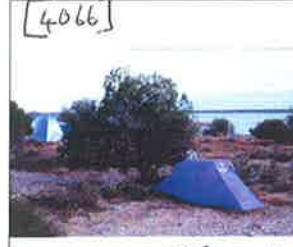
...) f12s01) Camp Island shelter [JAKL].bmp



...) Camp Island ABC gear tent [JAKL].bmp

[4065]

[4066]



1995.04.07

...03) Camp Island ABC tents [JAKL].bmp

[4068]



...nd ABC gear tent, MLamble [JAKL].bmp

[4068]



1995.04.07

...068] (f12s05) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp

Page 3 of 4.

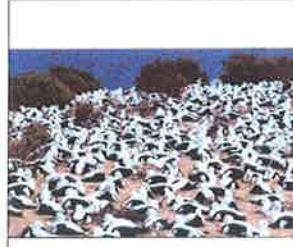


...069] (f12s06) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp

[4070]



...070] (f12s07) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...071] (f12s08) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...072] (f12s09) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



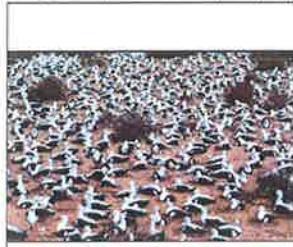
...3.1] (f12s10) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...3.2] (f12s11) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



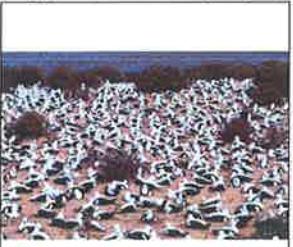
...074] (f12s12) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...075] (f12s13) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...076] (f12s14) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...077] (f12s15) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...078] (f12s16) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...079] (f12s17) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...080] (f12s18) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...081] (f12s19) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



...082] (f12s20) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



[4083x] 1995.04.07  
...2s21] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



[4083y] 1995.04.07  
...2s21] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



...2s22] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



...2s22] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



...2s23] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



[4085x] 1995.04.07  
...2s23] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



[4086x] 1995.04.07  
...2s24] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



...2s24] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



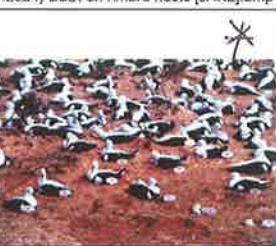
...2s25] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



...2s25] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



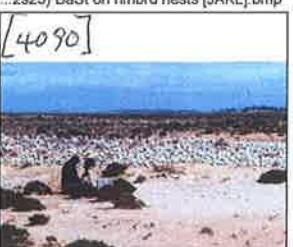
[4088] 1995.04.07  
...088] (f12s26) BaSt on nests [JAKL].bmp



[4089x] 1995.04.07  
...2s27] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



1995.04.07  
...2s27] BaSt on nmbrd nests [JAKL].bmp



1995.04.07  
...s28] BaSt colony, MLamble [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



[4093] 1995.04.07  
...) BaSt chicks leaving colony [JAKL].bmp



Photos 4001 - 4019 were taken from a high point on the west side of Camp Island with a telescopic zoom lens. They are of the 1st breeding colony and were taken early AM on 07/04/1995.

\* Some of the photos are of adult BaSt sitting on individually tagged (numbered) nests. These nests were tagged to study the nesting behavior of the adult BaSt.

Mark Lomble and Cameron Miller (ABC Natural History Unit) are in some photos (filming and sound recording).

Many photos are of adult BaSt walking their chicks from nests to water's edge (and away).

**GBP's aerial photos of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> BaSt nesting colonies on Lake Ballard, taken by him on 30/03/1995. Camp Island is visible in the distance in one photo.**

**The original slides (35mm colour transparencies) are now (17/03/2014) in JL's work collection. The scanned (digitised) copies of the slides are on JL's work computer.**

[3671]



1995.03.30 2nd Colony  
Lake Bellard

...671] (f1s12) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp

Page 1 of 2. Printed 16/3/2014



...672] (f1s13) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp



...673] (f1s14) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp



...674] (f1s15) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp



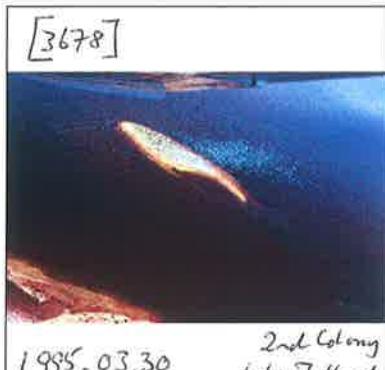
...675] (f1s16) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp



...676] (f1s17) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp



...677] (f1s18) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp



1995.03.30 2nd Colony  
Lake Bellard

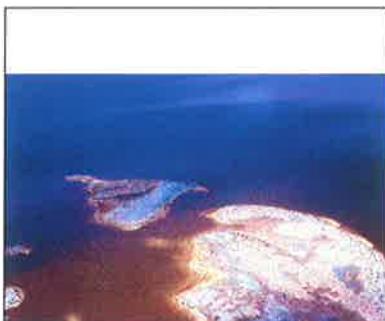


...679] (f1s20) aerial, BaSt colony on 2nd Isl [GBP].bmp



1995.03.30 1st Colony

...3.30 [3680] (f1s21) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...3.30 [3681] (f1s22) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



1995.03.30 1st Colony

...3.30 [3682] (f1s23) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...3.30 [3683] (f1s24) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...3.30 [3684] (f1s25) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...3.30 [3685] (f1s26) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp

[3686]



1995.03.30

1st Colony

...3.30 [3686] (f1s27) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp

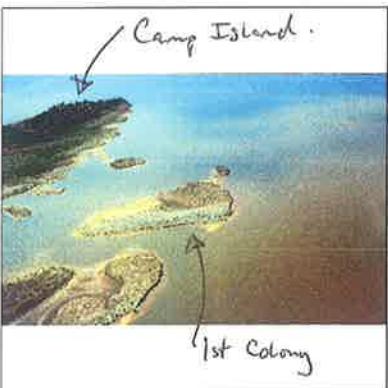
Page 2 of 2.



...3.30 [3687] (f1s28) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



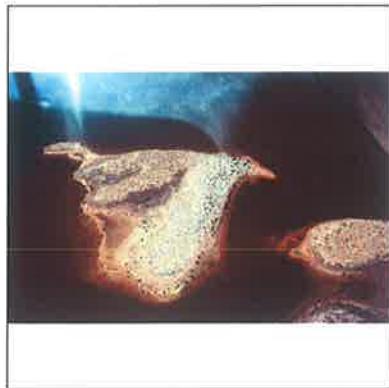
...3.30 [3688] (f1s29) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



... (f1s30) aerial, 1st BaSt colony & Camp Isl [GBP].bmp



...3.30 [3690] (f1s31) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...3.30 [3691] (f1s32) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp

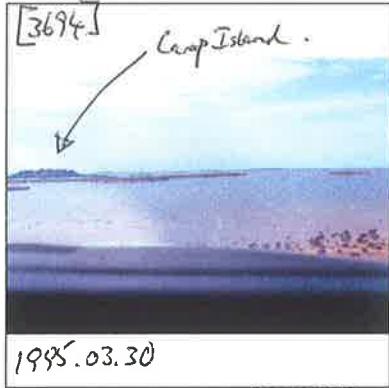


1995.03.30 1st Colony

...3.30 [3692] (f1s33) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...3.30 [3693] (f1s34) aerial, 1st BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



1995.03.30

..., 1995.03.30 [3694] (f1s35) aerial, Camp I [GBP].bmp

All photos taken by GBP of 1st and 2nd  
island colonies (BaSt) on Lake Bellard  
on 30.03.1995.

16/3/2014

**Fax (24/03/1995) from UWA Library to CALM Library re Miller CD (1994). *Patterns of reproductive success determined by DNA fingerprinting in a communally breeding oceanic bird.* Biological Journal of the Linnaean Society 52(1):31-48.**

**It appears that a copy was provided (for JL).**



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Arthur Ellis, BA, FLA, AALIA

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Telephone (09) 380 2837

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AUTHOR

Biological journal of the Linnaean  
Society  
Vol. 52 1 (1994) pp. 31-48

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**Fax (20/03/1995) from JL to CALM Library requesting copy of  
Bellchambers, K & Carpenter, G (1992). Nat. Hist. 4:42-48.**

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

TO: LISA WRIGHT URGENT: YES / NO

AT: WOODVALE

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

FROM: JIM C.

DATE: 20/3/95 Your Ref: .....  
Local Ref: .....

Would you be obtain a photocopy of  
BELLCHAMBERS, K., and G. CARPENTER (1993).  
Nat. Hist 4: 42-48 (title unknown)

for me by Wed noon. Thanks

No. of pages inc. this page: 1

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

**Instructions headed 'Program BIRD NEST, in Husky Basic' by 'Michael Yung, 1 Oct [1991]'.**

**M Yung was a computer programmer at CALM's Wildlife Research Centre in Woodvale, Perth.**

**This program was for use at colonial nesting sites, to ... [calculate total number and/or spacing of nests from a measured sample?]. JL's recollection (10/02/2014) is that Andrew A. Burbidge used a 'Husky Hunter' at one or more WA seabird colonies (Abrolhos Archipelago?) in the 1990s.**

**See also the email exchange of 04-08/06/1999 above.**

Changes from the previous version:

This version stores one data set for you for each program Run.

After one Run for a Colony, you may choose to Start the program again for another Colony, for which you must then give a different data set name when prompted, otherwise the latter will overwrite the former.

**Notes:** (1) Use a new filename for each data set.  
(2) Bring at least 8 reserve batteries.  
(3) Make sure you have enough unused memory :

- Each data set uses at least 2 kilo bytes.
- Each number you enter occupies 7 bytes.

During a run, it uses a scratch file which is as large as your data set you are taking. You must also allow for this.

To Run the program :

Step

(1) Switch on the Husky computer

(2) You must Start the program Run at the System Prompt only. This is at the screen just after the Husky trademark screen. At the prompt sign > , key-in :

> CONT BRDNST11.HBA <CR>

Then the program will prompt you along to enter data until you choose to End the Run.

This way of starting the Run has the advantage that if you switch the machine off or change the batteries and switch it on again, the program will continue from where it was.

(3) When you stop the program, you will see the word READY.

**DO NOT** Start the program again here as the screen suggests that you can ! You must get back to the System Prompt by pressing [control 8] (2 keys together), then start the program Run as above for the next data set.

<end>

**Table of ‘Pairs of random co-ordinates ...’ that was photocopied by JL  
for possible use in setting up / conducting nest monitoring activities at  
Lake Ballard (and Marmion) in 1995.**

## APPENDIX L

Pairs of random co-ordinates from 1 to 100

Select co-ordinates systematically; e.g. begin column 4, row 27 and take every 7th pair. Do not select "by eye".

<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>														
98	03	91	50	48	07	33	26	12	72	56	16	42	36		
56	06	03	45	71	88	05	53	56	59	31	85	96	18		
98	68	89	41	08	92	98	61	65	100	78	12	66	10		
96	06	13	43	38	51	85	13	34	87	98	81	88	77		
09	02	71	71	51	83	04	41	70	39	95	66	67	98		
54	80	19	28	78	12	03	10	48	21	03	35	95	39		
40	69	56	38	68	73	54	08	09	04	72	93	90	54		
100	31	39	27	95	28	68	50	71	30	80	81	22	30		
96	74	73	13	82	17	39	90	56	33	85	79	47	19		
51	22	81	60	13	38	56	50	97	50	32	25	73	87		
94	36	05	62	26	40	59	77	40	33	08	64	69	63		
07	15	62	97	48	77	25	19	17	78	97	96	33	56		
15	90	31	13	43	15	23	02	39	46	80	66	58	61		
04	02	97	38	80	40	55	85	90	14	26	02	78	35		
39	37	32	11	96	59	68	45	60	22	03	30	58	70		
29	45	81	99	32	24	69	31	35	27	98	59	34	78		
28	10	45	74	18	64	37	31	37	11	64	72	47	42		
23	26	11	84	43	47	66	42	100	84	98	02	33	11		
75	09	14	66	89	58	33	65	12	08	76	66	97	30		
46	14	40	25	61	21	76	32	60	60	97	28	86	62		
22	17	44	48	55	80	43	33	60	09	53	58	54	80		
86	56	41	94	30	85	28	31	67	85	14	96	68	47		
91	25	07	12	41	92	97	19	62	95	32	22	13	26		
46	66	64	27	62	40	82	80	48	79	24	32	22	17		
29	12	80	71	13	50	03	68	88	09	30	28	19	36		
29	41	27	06	78	66	65	16	12	75	04	73	16	77		
43	30	54	68	51	57	24	65	61	73	42	70	78	43		
66	40	02	92	66	86	02	72	48	06	83	27	03	28		
96	11	83	52	19	83	79	16	71	42	24	77	93	22		
31	89	38	61	51	78	04	75	85	64	82	77	78	76		
64	27	01	01	79	68	40	64	48	69	33	14	23	68		
34	40	21	66	73	52	06	27	14	83	04	51	15	39		
84	39	32	29	63	99	62	40	09	11	50	09	58	71		
76	28	04	59	86	28	100	97	54	52	60	73	57	35		
61	23	38	64	97	96	50	64	50	58	93	09	48	50		
62	48	48	33	93	41	38	54	35	69	91	67	61	96		

$x$	$y$														
09	70	82	82	40	24	46	86	38	58	49	92	36	93		
81	34	63	100	06	06	90	74	72	22	67	95	18	87		
58	67	94	51	97	81	66	21	04	69	54	50	88	53		
39	50	60	52	65	99	87	05	68	50	56	23	09	72		
36	85	98	01	16	91	46	90	16	47	11	28	12	96		
62	90	26	45	62	03	11	88	20	50	77	55	85	94		
77	54	59	81	92	27	11	05	39	58	35	96	38	64		
32	55	10	85	45	51	33	94	92	17	02	84	53	44		
12	48	08	56	100	81	24	89	15	64	49	90	40	76		
85	10	36	01	05	06	15	19	46	86	75	27	02	17		
90	26	78	38	12	68	05	64	48	28	92	42	95	17		
78	04	32	59	07	79	57	49	58	92	34	59	35	76		
60	86	60	14	52	16	77	82	52	62	71	63	26	29		
96	06	87	39	16	01	24	10	55	98	61	63	77	80		
28	89	60	58	89	84	50	100	44	67	32	15	46	40		
30	29	06	49	51	99	44	37	46	44	68	49	37	56		
95	74	01	28	08	12	90	57	30	80	50	93	61	65		
01	85	58	57	69	99	50	74	89	99	92	20	93	43		
10	91	76	56	88	91	44	04	62	03	21	68	21	96		
05	33	72	49	59	45	32	74	17	27	13	81	95	20		
04	43	68	98	84	27	75	73	19	79	25	76	97	86		
05	85	03	02	65	45	76	18	93	74	83	79	69	92		
84	90	04	47	48	28	100	17	17	18	61	58	04	31		
28	55	04	78	93	18	54	95	42	37	48	84	61	06		
89	83	36	13	18	26	69	99	35	63	07	28	85	93		
73	20	71	100	45	62	25	47	26	41	46	13	21	74		
10	89	88	80	26	22	47	46	98	10	32	25	15	69		

Appendix L is taken from Table No. 33 of Fisher and Yates, "Statistical Tables for Biological, Agricultural and Medical Research", published by Oliver and Boyd, Ltd., Edinburgh, and by permission of the authors and publishers.

$a$  =  $y$ -intercept,  
 $\alpha$  = the index of  
 $b\{$  = regression co  
 $\beta$  = the index of  
 $m$  = the mean =  
 $n$  = the number =  
 $N$  = the number =  
 $\phi$  = physiograph  
 $S$  = the number =  
 $s^2$  = variance  
 $s$  = standard dev  
 $t$  = time  
 $\theta$  = temperature  
 $x$  = the indepen  
 $\chi^2$  = chi-squared  
 $y$  = the depende  
 $>$  = greater than  
 $<$  = less than  
 $\geq$  = greater than  
 $\leq$  = equal to or 1  
 $\pm$  = plus or min  
 $\times$  = times or divi

JAK LANE

AUGUST 1978

# Introduction to Experimental Ecology

A Student Guide to  
Fieldwork and Analysis

T. LEWIS M.A., Ph.D.

and

L. R. TAYLOR D.Sc.

*Rothamsted Experimental Station,  
Harpenden, Herts, England*



ACADEMIC PRESS  
LONDON · NEW YORK

**Blank 'RAOU Nest Record Scheme Colonial Breeding Record Sheet'  
faxed to JL from Australian Museum on 20/03/1995.**

**JL was interested in the type of information recorded and the format in  
which it is recorded.**

ATTN: Jim Lane

20/3/95

RAOU NEST RECORD SCHEME  
COLONIAL BREEDING RECORD SHEET

OBSERVER:		ADDRESS						Off. Use Only			
Observer No: <input type="text"/>		Telephone No: <input type="text"/>						<input type="checkbox"/>			
STATE:	LOCALITY:				Lat. <input type="text"/>	'S	Long. <input type="text"/>	'E			
	Map Used:				Altitude: <input type="text"/>	m	Block size: <input type="text"/>				
LAND USE OF COLONY	01 <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial 02 <input type="checkbox"/> Wood production		03 <input type="checkbox"/> Residential 04 <input type="checkbox"/> Rangeland		05 <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational/roadsides 06 <input type="checkbox"/> Unmanaged crown land		07 <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural 08 <input type="checkbox"/> National park or reserve				
YEAR	Standard Time: <input type="checkbox"/>	Percentage coverage of colony by observer			0 - 25%	25 - 50%	50 - 75%	75 - 100%			
		MONTH	DAY	TIME	NO. OF ADULTS	NUMBER OF NESTS			DEPENDENT YOUNG OUT OF NEST		
SPECIES:						UNDER CONST.	WITH EGGS	WITH YOUNG	WITH E. & Y.	CONTENTS UNKNOWN	
Latin:										attended <input type="checkbox"/>	unattended <input type="checkbox"/>
RAOU No:											
SPECIES:											
Latin:											
RAOU No:											
SPECIES:											
Latin:											
RAOU No:											
SPECIES:											
Latin:											
RAOU No:											
SPECIES:											
Latin:											
RAOU No:											
SPECIES:											
Latin:											
RAOU No:											
DESCRIPTIONS — Is there additional information overleaf on: (indicate species being referred to)											
01 <input type="checkbox"/> habitat		06 <input type="checkbox"/> behaviour of adults/young		10 <input type="checkbox"/> more than two birds attending nest or young							
02 <input type="checkbox"/> nest plant species		07 <input type="checkbox"/> nearby nests of species not on sheet		11 <input type="checkbox"/> other							
03 <input type="checkbox"/> nest building stages/method		08 <input type="checkbox"/> banding data		15 <input type="checkbox"/> water level							
04 <input type="checkbox"/> nest material		09 <input type="checkbox"/> stages of development of young		16 <input type="checkbox"/> data on clutch sizes							
05 <input type="checkbox"/> eggs											
12 <input type="checkbox"/> this sheet linked to others (staple together)											

**Fax (20/03/1995) from JL (at CALM Busselton) to Raelene [Hick] (at CALM Woodvale) with corrections (typos) to her typescript of the 'Banded Stilt Research Programme – Lake Ballard, March/April 1995' that CDTM had hand-drafted (see 14/03/1995 below).**

TO: KAELENE URGENT: YES / NO

AT: WOODWARD

FROM: JEM L. Fax No. ....

DATE: 20/3/95 Your Ref: .....  
Local Ref: .....

Please send draft 1993  
and place copy in my region book for Wed.  
(and fax to me in Bsn if completed today)

Thanks.  
No. of pages inc. this page: 5

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

Of the 70 species of wader which have been recorded in Australia (55 regularly), it is one of the eight resident endemic species.

There are estimated to be 250 000 Banded Stilts in Australia (Watkins 199 <sup>1993</sup>). Some 60-70% of these live in Western Australia, the remainder being in South Australia and Victoria.

Breeding has only been recorded about 20 times (Higgins 199 <sup>1993</sup>) since it was first proved in 1930 (at Lake King in W.A. and at Lake Callabonna in S.A.). All but three of these attempts have been in Western Australia, with Lakes Barlee, Ballard and Marmion most favoured. The last known breeding occurred at Lake Barlee in 1992 and at Lake Torrens (S.A.) in 1989.

The Banded Stilt is one of the least studied species of wader in Australia. In particular its breeding biology is little understood. This is because breeding takes place in remote locations, which are especially inaccessible after the heavy rains which precede such events. In fact most breeding records relate to colonies found after

**BANDED STILT RESEARCH PROGRAMME - LAKE BALLARD, MARCH/APRIL 1995**

*(Drafted by C.D. Minton) following discussion with Dr. I. T. Sinclair*

Background

R See folios 3-10 of this file  
for Clive's handwritten originals  
of this.

The Banded Stilt is unique amongst the 214 species of wading birds in the world in that it

- (a) nests colonially
- (b) rears its chicks in crêches
- (c) only nests intermittently - when inland salt lakes become flooded by exceptional rains

Of the 70 species of wader which have been recorded in Australia (55 regularly), it is one of the eight resident endemic species.

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Breeding has only been recorded about 20 times (Higgins 199<sup>3</sup>) since it was first proved in 1930 (at Lake King in W.A. and at Lake Callabonna in S.A.). All but three of these attempts have been in Western Australia, with Lakes Barlee, Ballard and Marmion most favoured. The last known breeding occurred at Lake Barlee in 1992 and at Lake Torrens (S.A.) in 1989.

The Banded Stilt is one of the least studied species of wader in Australia. In particular its breeding biology is little understood. This is because breeding takes place in remote locations, which are especially inaccessible after the heavy rains which precede such events. In fact most breeding records relate to colonies found after

breeding has finished (often abandoned in mid-breeding because of declining water levels/food supplies) or at the chick stage (often roaming many kilometres from the actual breeding site).

28

The discovery of a nesting colony on Lake Ballard on 12th March 1995, only 15 days after the commencement of a three day 'wet' from the aftermath of cyclone "Bobby", provides a unique opportunity to study the breeding process throughout the full cycle. The aerial survey showed several thousand (3-5000) birds apparently already with nests but there was another 5000+ birds (mostly in pairs) on adjacent parts of the lake which seem likely to join the colony in the near future. The colony is thus still at the formative stage.

There are many scientific reasons why the systematic study of a Banded Stilt breeding event should be undertaken. Basic information such as even the <sup>incubation</sup> period is still not known. And ~~for~~ a species where the majority of the world population lives in one area (the southern half of W.A.) and is subject to vagaries of the climate for rare breeding opportunities it is important to determine breeding success and lay the foundations for future survival measurements - and to determine the factors governing these.

It is important also, from a conservation viewpoint, to assess the predator impact at a Western Australian breeding colony. Historical information suggests this has in the past been very low. However at Lake Torrens (S.A.) in 1989 there was a huge influx of Silver Gulls during the breeding event and this resulted in severe egg losses (and some chicks too) - the last two thousand nests were totally predated because the Banded Stilts were outnumbered by gulls. The Silver Gull population in Australia has increased enormously over the past 50 years and may well pose a long-term threat to the Banded Stilt (at least at South Australian locations).

### Objectives

The broad objective should be to collect all practicable data on the breeding event, with a particular emphasis on the special adaptations developed by the Banded Stilt to maximise its breeding productivity in the limited 'window of opportunity' which it seeks to exploit.

The specific parameters which should be studied/measured/assessed include (not in order of priority):

- a) Courtship, pairing, nest site selection (within a colony).
- b) Plumage of breeding birds, especially early in the event.
- c) Frequency of laying and commencement of incubation (and egg protection prior to incubation).
- d) Clutch size and nest density.
- e) Incubation period and sharing of incubation duties.
- f) Hatching success (related to clutch size e.g. can they successfully hatch 5 egg clutches?).
- g) DNA analysis of clutches (especially 5 egg ones) to assess egg dumping <sup>and ex-pair</sup> ~~pair~~ copulation frequency.
- h) Crèche formation - initial formation and development over the fledging period.
- i) Fledging success.
- j) Re-nesting attempts.
- k) Predator activity at the colony and subsequent on chick crèches. <sup>ly</sup>
- l) Food availability/water level/salinity.
- m) Dispersal after breeding (by banding/colour marking adults and chicks). <sup>by</sup>
- n) Survival/mortality rates (by banding/colour marking of adults and chicks).
- o) The practicability of visits by other ornithologists, film crews etc. to the breeding site without undue disturbance ~~of~~ of nesting birds.

## Fieldwork programmes

### Marj

The initial visit by Jim Lane, Grant Pearson, ~~René~~ Reni and Clive Minton on 15th March can make initial observations and measurements on many of the specific study objectives (a, b, part of c, d, part of e, k, l, and o).

In particular the main existing nesting area can be 'pegged out' and eggs (particularly of incomplete clutches) marked as a foundation for future follow up (e.g. to determine incubation period/hatching success).

It is desirable that ~~a scientist be made available to undertake the~~ detailed study over the whole nesting cycle.

This would involve extended periods of observation and activity at the breeding colony, preferably commencing whilst new pairs are still arriving and especially covering the hatching period (likely to be extended). Subsequent follow up during the fledging period could be done more intermittently by boat and/or from the air.

It is also desirable that occasional (aerial and/or ground) surveys be made of Lake Barlee to determine breeding activities there and their outcome.

This breeding event is likely to continue until the end of April, and longer still if any re-nesting occurs.

## Publication

Results should be published in both the scientific literature (e.g. Emu), and in more widely circulated "popular" journals. If the ABC decided to make a half hour documentary then this will provide further dissemination of the information gained of this spectacular Banded Stilt breeding phenomena.

### References

Watkins, D. (199...). A national shorebird plan for Australia - WWF and RAOU publn.  
 (Eds) (1993). *Vol II: Raptors to Lapwings*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Marchant, S. and Higgins, P.J. (Eds) (1993). *Australasian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Maguire and P. A. Higgins (Eds) (1993). *Vol II: Raptors to Lapwings*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

start

alphabetical order

**Fax (20/03/1995) from JL to GBP requesting that he have Romeny Lynch '... search through recent issues of 'Corella', 'Field Ornithology' and 'Colonial Waterbirds' for scientific papers that describe methodologies for censusing nests and eggs, and for determining laying rates, incubation periods and hatching success, etc., of colonial nesting seabirds and waterbirds ...'.**

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Form CLM 208

39

To:

(19)

Your Ref:  
Our Ref:  
Enquiries:  
Phone:  
Subject:

Romney Rk. check all seabirds, Herons

1Bis

Egrets, spoonbills for Jim &  
Perfor. Thinks

~~Grant~~

As discussed, please have ~~DOB~~ someone  
(honey) search through recent issues

(~~last~~ last 10 years?) of "CORELUS",  
(1984)

"FIELD ORNITHOLOGY (Journal of)" and

"Colonial Waterbirds" (all issues) for specific

papers that describe methodologies for censusing  
nests and eggs, and for determining laying  
dates, incubation periods and hatching success  
etc of colonial nesting ~~water~~ seabirds and  
waterbirds (e.g. gulls, terns, pelicans — probably  
those nesting close together in thousands on low flat  
islands). ~~Highly~~ fit

of few papers, photogrs and in entirety →  
CONT'D

TO: Grant Person

URGENT:  YES  NO

AT: Woodburne



Fax No. ....

FROM: JIM L.

DATE: 20/3/95

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

as discussed

No. of pages inc. this page: 3

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

"FIELD ORNITHOLOGY (Journal of)" and

"COLONIAL WATERBIRDS" for scientific

papers that describe methodologies for censusing nests and eggs, and for determining laying dates, incubation periods and hatching success etc of colonial nesting ~~water~~ seabirds and waders (eg gulls, terns, pelicans — particularly those nesting close together in thousands on low flat islands). ~~Photography first~~

If few papers, photography each in entirety  $\rightarrow$

To:

(13)

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Enquiries:

Phone:

Subject:

*front*

As discussed, please have someone (Ronney) search through recent issues (~~last~~ last 10 years?) of "CORELLA", "FIELD ORNITHOLOGY (Journal of)" and "COLONIAL WATERBIRDS" for scientific papers that describe methodologies for censusing nests and eggs, and for determining laying dates, incubation periods and hatching success etc of colonial nesting ~~seabirds~~ seabirds and waterbirds (eg gulls, terns, pelicans — particularly those nesting close together in thousands on low flat islands). ~~Photography front~~

If few papers, photocopy each in entirety →

CONT'D

43.  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Form CLM 80B

To:

(2)

Your Ref:

Our Ref:

Enquiries:

Phone:

Subject:

and put in my pigeon hole for Wed AM.

If many papers, photocopy front pages (or abstracts) only and place in my pigeon hole for Wed AM.

Any queries before or during, telephone me at Dunsborough today (unconquerable tomorrow)

Clear

Jin.  
20/3 2.15 pm.b.  
"Corolla" "Corolla" 16(4)123

P.S. I already have WATERMAN + READ (1992) *Developments of the Australian Pelican - on Lake Eyre* sold in 1990

**Fax (20/03/1995; cover sheet & last page only) from JL to GBP with  
inter alia a list of equipment for GBP to obtain for next trip to Lake  
Ballard.**

**The instructions include: 'Get an extra 10 rolls of Ektachrome 64 ASA  
(or similar)' and 'approx 100 short (30-40cm) wooden stakes with white  
tops (We will number them with a broad marker pen so that we can  
read the numbers from our photos)'. GBP has annotated the later with  
'Jim white markers'.**

**This gear would have been for staking out more nest monitoring  
quadrats and monitoring (film) the quadrats.**

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

36.

TO: GRANT PEARSON URGENT:  YES  NO

AT: WOODVILLE

Fax No. ....

FROM: JIM L.

DATE: 20/3/95

Your Ref: .....

Local Ref: .....

*As discussed, please have someone (pay if necessary)  
urgently repair the green, angle tending keys.*

No. of pages inc. this page: 6

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

**FAXED**

5  
Y

heavy & bulky gear  
to a minimum  
keep A

Rope  
S/pickets x 4  
Poles  
String  
Tarp x 2  
Water 1 x 20 ltrs, 3 x 5 ltrs  
Table, chairs x 4  
Cutlery 4 sets each supply own  
Cups 4, plates 8 "  
Pots, billy etc  
Fire grate and utensils

Also

- ✓ Get an extra 10 rolls of Extreme 64 ASA (or similar)
- Obtain a thermometer (max/min?) so we can monitor ambient ~~water~~ (air) temperature through the day (and night).
- Bring a copy of Willians' Aquatic Invertebrate Identification Guide (there should be <sup>an old</sup> ~~an old~~ copy in my office)
- ~~Also~~ borrow a copy of Sainty's (spelling) little identification book for aquatic plants in Australia (maybe Street or Gray (Engel)?)
- ~~9m - white markers~~ <sup>approx 100</sup> short (30-40 cm) wooden stakes with white tops. (We will number each with a broad marker pen so that we can read the numbers from our photos)

**Six undated pages of jottings by JL that relate inter alia to: film [10 more rolls of 36 exposure 64ASA Ektachrome] presumably for monitoring nest quadrats; weighing scales for eggs, [wooden] stakes with white tops and 'fat [i.e. broad] marker pens'; 'How collect / preserve eggs for DNA analysis?'; references [re DNA], possible sources of advice [re DNA]; 'How we test for mixed parenting', 'standardised sampling techniques'; 'shortcoming'; 'not marking eggs'; 'incubation period, laying rates, hatching success, clutch size' and 'egg dumping / ex pair copulation frequency'.**

**There is also a timeline with breeding event stages from 'rain' to 'flying' and the possible number of days for each stage. One stage is 're-nest at 20 days?'.**

— Film

10 rolls

~~36~~

64 ASA

Exelcia

— look at my quadrant photo  
— can see the eggs in all nests?  
— all other photos or?

— GDFP do fixed wing surveys — when? — There?

— columbines  
have bands for adults?

— Thermometer

highlight pens

— Fresh grade — insects (W. Wren)  
— aquatic plants

— scales (ups & down)

— shrikes - white tops - fat marker pens

~~1000~~

598.33 HAC

"Wader" by Hale

Questions to ask ↗  
CLIVE MINTON

- How to collect / procure eggs for DNA analysis.
- ref. "Amelia and the mystery eggs" ? (What mystery? date? author? title?)
- ref - techniques for colour matching seabirds - what others

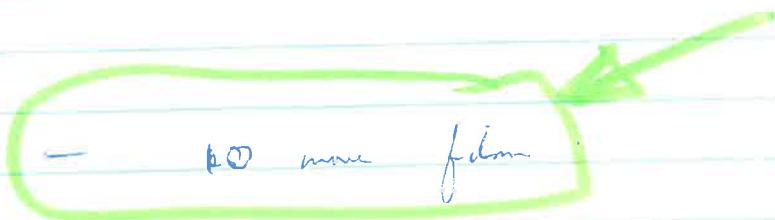
ANSWERS (By telephone from Broome) from CLIVE MINTON

wide knowledge ↗

- ① David Biscoe Gulls might help.
- few ② Chris Parsons - ~~Edmund Way Goodwin~~ Professor of Zoology Oxford  
Court Tits eggs. how we test for mixed parenting.
- ③ Les Christidis - Curator Museum, Victoria.

Cost~~egs~~

- gear for daily sampling of agrobi insects (near surface)  
in at least 3 areas



- Sandy - Wilkins
- Divers. ( $\pm 400$  gm) (eg 300g + 1000g)

- Data logger?

- personal expenses

- wages refs

Mick Smith - Wed - standard supply technique.

Steve Van Leeuwen 091-86 8288  
 - "Dove Census technique" - chapter on  
 colonial birds.

After D. L. Smith?

Ron - David Barker - Nest Record Scheme

Mandy - ...  
 ↳ 03 882 2622

↑  
 Richard Majori  
 British Mum - Sydney.  
 02 339 8111

Lise - gulls -

can't find anything

- - -

Reed  
 John ~~Stiles~~ - Cornell  
 1993

- Polynesian nesting like Egret  
 - Short-taunting was not  
 - many eggs

Reed

- my little RSPB book book.
- back issues of Cornell  
 "Field Ornithology"   
 Colonial Waterbirds.

Ray Barker

Introductory (explanatory pages of HANDBK)

Murdoch Uni

- Ron Wodder

360 6000

33 2211

4  
A

- \* incubation period
- \* laying rates
- \* hatching success
- \* clutch size

egg density / ex pair cop. frequency

back at work

Fin 24/3/95

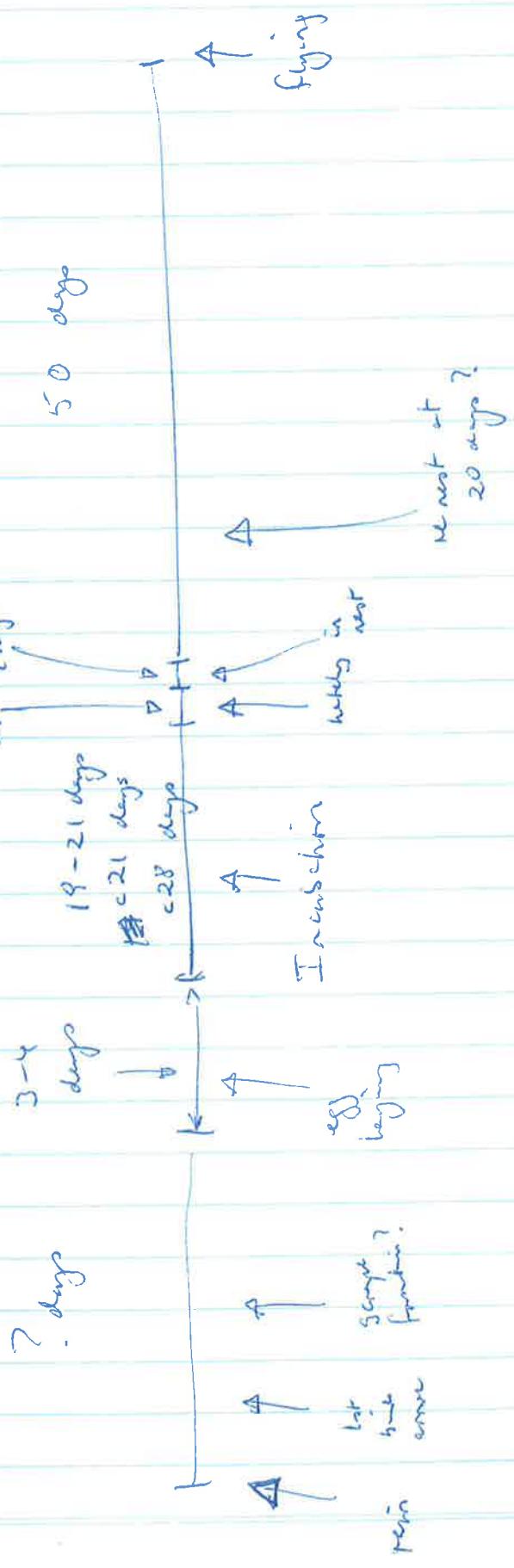
Kathryn McPhail Leanne Wadsworth  
060 5566 00 fax  
or 060 5566 18 fax

Dept Env Mgt & Biol.

Dictionary of Birds

- re laying rates  
incubation period etc

date of return: ?  
nearest birds? (Shore?)  
distance from: ?



Fourteen small pages of notes by JL on red 'Shellabear & Son' note paper (which suggests to JL that he was in transit in Perth when he made these notes). Folio 65 has the following written on it: 'These notes made in preparation for 2<sup>nd</sup> visit ([proposed to be in] March 95), JL 14/5/96'. The pages are numbered as file folios 65-52. It is difficult – but probably unimportant – to know in which order each was written in.

What is important is what was actually done.

The notes are transcribed as follows, because the originals are difficult to read.

*Folio 65: 'Info To Get: hatching success, laying rate, incubation period, date of earliest eggs'. Each of these is ticked.*

*Folio 64: 'Date of earliest eggs: work out from – laying rate, plus, DNA testing (of those nests with 5 eggs on 15/3) laid by one female (?Ask Clive who does DNA)'.*

*Folio 63: 'Incubation Period: Work out from incomplete clutches (on 15/3) (of quadrats) plus knowledge of how many in final clutch (need two more visits to confirm for most) plus laying rate (when known) plus date of hatching – OK for all quadrats'.*

*Folio 62: 'Laying Rate: [Monitor?] New area for several days (up to 5?). Peg quadrats (or line) in a line. Take photos of each quadrat each day of same area, from same position, and same height. No other egg marking or nest marking'.*

*Folio 61: Indecipherable thoughts with dates '23/3' and '24/3'. It seems JL was considering possibly having someone back at Lake Ballard by 23/03/1995 to resume nest monitoring.*

*Folio 60: Apparently unproductive sketch labelled 'Laying Rate', '15/3/95' and 'if 28/3/95'. Page ends with: 'Don't continue with this area – photos no good (none taken initially and not in defined area and disturbs 15/3 quadrat area'.*

*Folio 59: 'Laying rate: Find many of the 1 and 2 egg nests marked to the SW of pegged area. Count how many eggs now in each. Relate to number of days elapsed (at least 8). Therefore elapsed time too great. Therefore need to mark a new lot of 1 egg nests & follow them every day'. The 'at least 8' (days elapsed) perhaps refers to 23/3, this being 8 days after the visit by helicopter on 15/3. The 23/3 is referred to on folio 61 above.*

*Folio 58: '\*Get to see photos [taken on 15/3] of quadrats before 2<sup>nd</sup> visit! 'Hatching Success: Take photos from same directions! Use 1→, A→, P→ to identify clutches started at different dates. Need 30 photos/day = 1 roll film/day. Egg marking is only verifying what we should get from our photos, nothing more'.*

*Folio 57: '1<sup>st</sup> visit 15/3: Marked every egg in every nest in each quadrat with no. of eggs in that nest. Photographed quadrat to see how many eggs, nests and eggs/nest. 2<sup>nd</sup> visit 18/3 [this must have been a proposed date, as it was not achieved]. All clutches should be complete but possibly some new clutches. Change numbers. Use A→O. Use little letters. 3<sup>rd</sup> Visit: Use P→Z'.*

*Folio 56. This appears to be a page exploring possible alternative ways of indicating (by marking each egg) how many eggs are in each clutch on each visit.*

*Folio 55: 'Hatching Success': Either (1) ... or (2) ... [two different ways of re-numbering the eggs in a nest as the number of eggs increases with each 'visit'. The second alternative is crossed out].*

*Folio 54: Sketch labelled '15/3/95' that appears to show the number of eggs in each of a number of nests in a hypothetical quadrat on that date. Underneath is written 'If no predators and eggs don't roll out, no problem. If predators, need to be able to identify which eggs predated versus which eggs hatched'.*

*Folio 53: 'Hatching success = % of eggs that hatched [and/or] = % of nests successful'.*

*Folio 52: Diagrammatic sketch map of nesting island / colony with a hypothetical grid of numbers 1-100 and letters A-F, perhaps contemplated by JL as a way of randomly positioning (using random numbers, see below) quadrats in addition to those established on 15/03/1995. Notations read 'Backpack. 20mm pipe (8m), 4 elbows, [a closed circle & open triangle – meaning what?], pegs / droppers'.*



Date of earliest eggs

work out from

— dots

— laying rate

plus

DNA testing to see if all  
laid by one female.

of these nests  
with 5 eggs  
on 15/3

↗ post chix  
who does DNA

WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS



INFO TO GET

- hatching success ✓
- laying rate ✓
- incubation period ✓
- date of earliest eggs

These notes made in preparation

for 2nd visit (March 95)

JK 14/5/95

WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS



INCUBATION RECORD

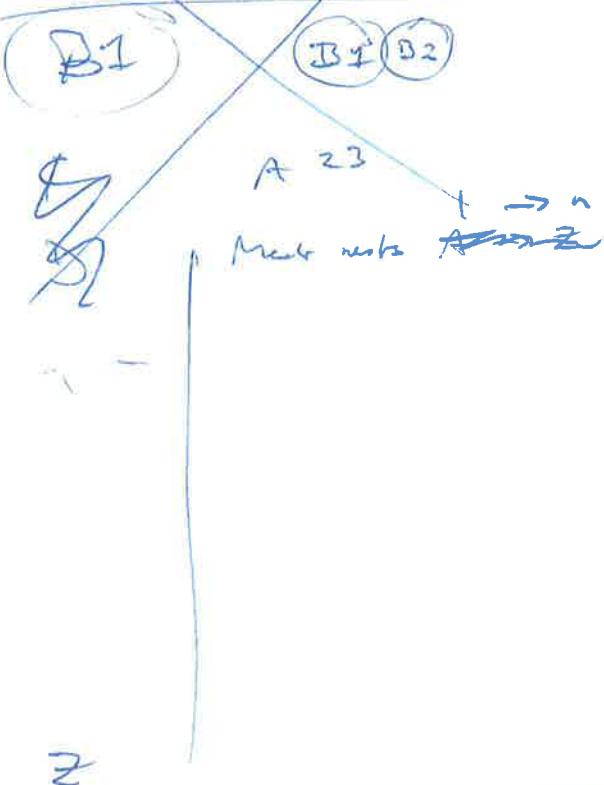
of gradients:

Work out from incomplete circles  
(on 15/3) plus knowledge of how many in full circle  
plus laying rate (when  
known) plus date of hatching.

— ok for <sup>all</sup> 1 gradients

need two points to  
confirm for most.





- New nest for several days (up to 5?)
- Peg quadrats (or line) in a line
- Take photos of each quadrant each day for of same area, from same position, and same height.
- No other <sup>eggs</sup> ~~nest~~ marking or nest marking

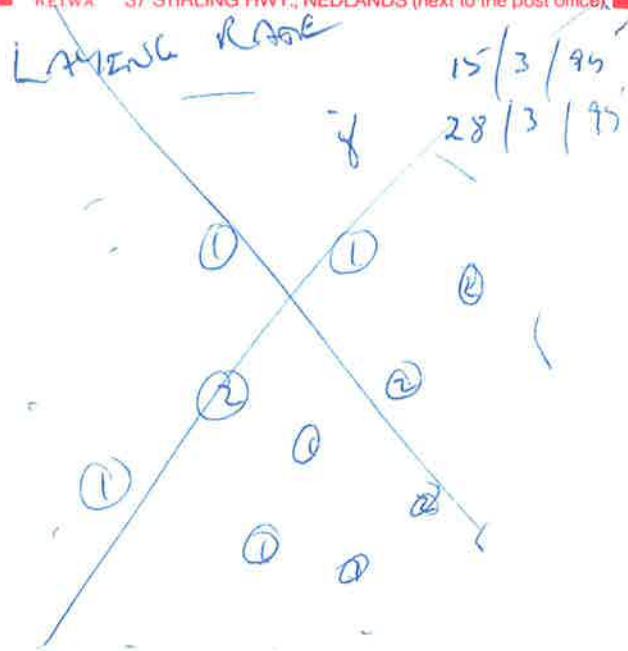
WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS



Laying date

- find many of the 1 and 2 egg nests nested to the SW of pegged area -
- count how many eggs now in each
- relate to number of days elapsed (at least 8)
  - ⇒ elapsed time to great
  - ⇒ need to mark a new lot of 1 egg nests + follow them -
- every day. ~~\*~~

WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS



Don't continue with this area - photos no good (more taken outside) and not in defined area)

WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS

And don't do 15/3 quadrant area.



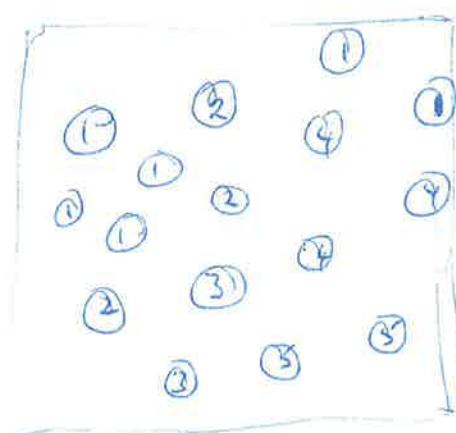




Hatching success

= % of eggs that hatched

= % of nests successful.



15/3/95

and eggs don't roll out

If no predators, no problem.

If predators, need to be able to identify which eggs predators versus which eggs hatched.

THE TRUSTED NAME IN PROPERTY SINCE 1925



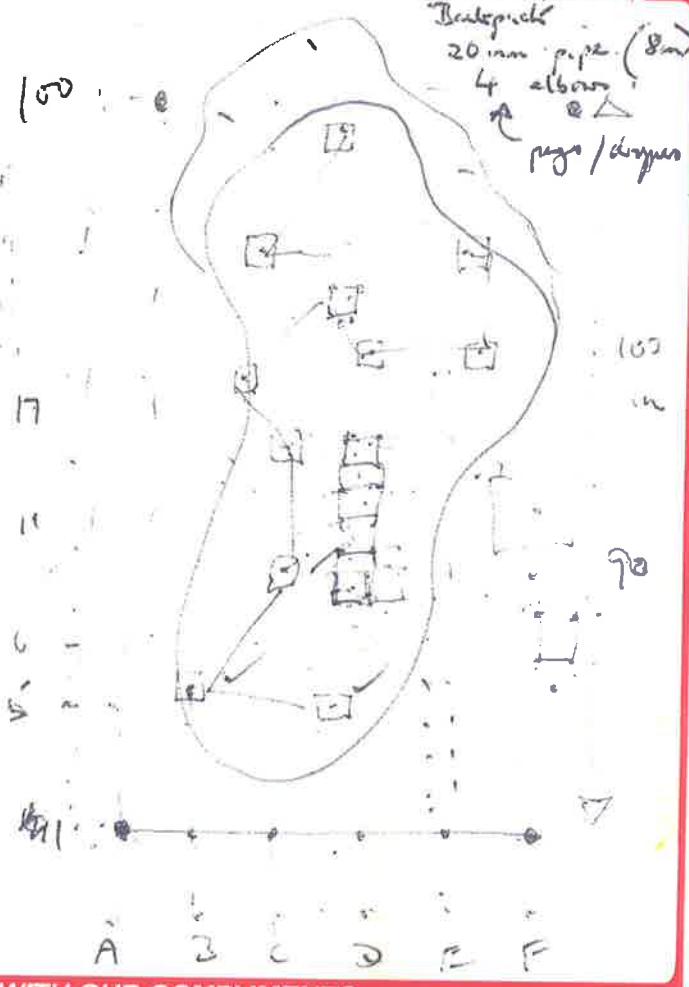
**SHELLABEAR & SON**

ESTATE AGENTS • VALUERS • AUCTIONEERS • PROPERTY MANAGERS

**386 7822**

REIWA 37 STIRLING HWY., NEDLANDS (next to the post office)

52



WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS

**Tracings (by JL) of the boundaries of the main BaSt nesting island (i.e. the one next to 'Camp Island') and of the 'nest area (15/3/95)' as they appeared in three photos (3648-3650 in JL's scanned and original film collection) taken by JL from the helicopter on 15/03/1995.**

**These could be used to measure the dimensions of the nest area at that time and compare with on-ground measurements made on 09/6/1995 by GBP & ACh (and any post-15/3/1995 aerial photos taken of this colony)..**

SLIDE 4 (F.S.)

from 1.1.1995 15/3/95

Slide 3648 in J. Lewis  
Slide Collection  
21/12/2013

water

water

island

lava

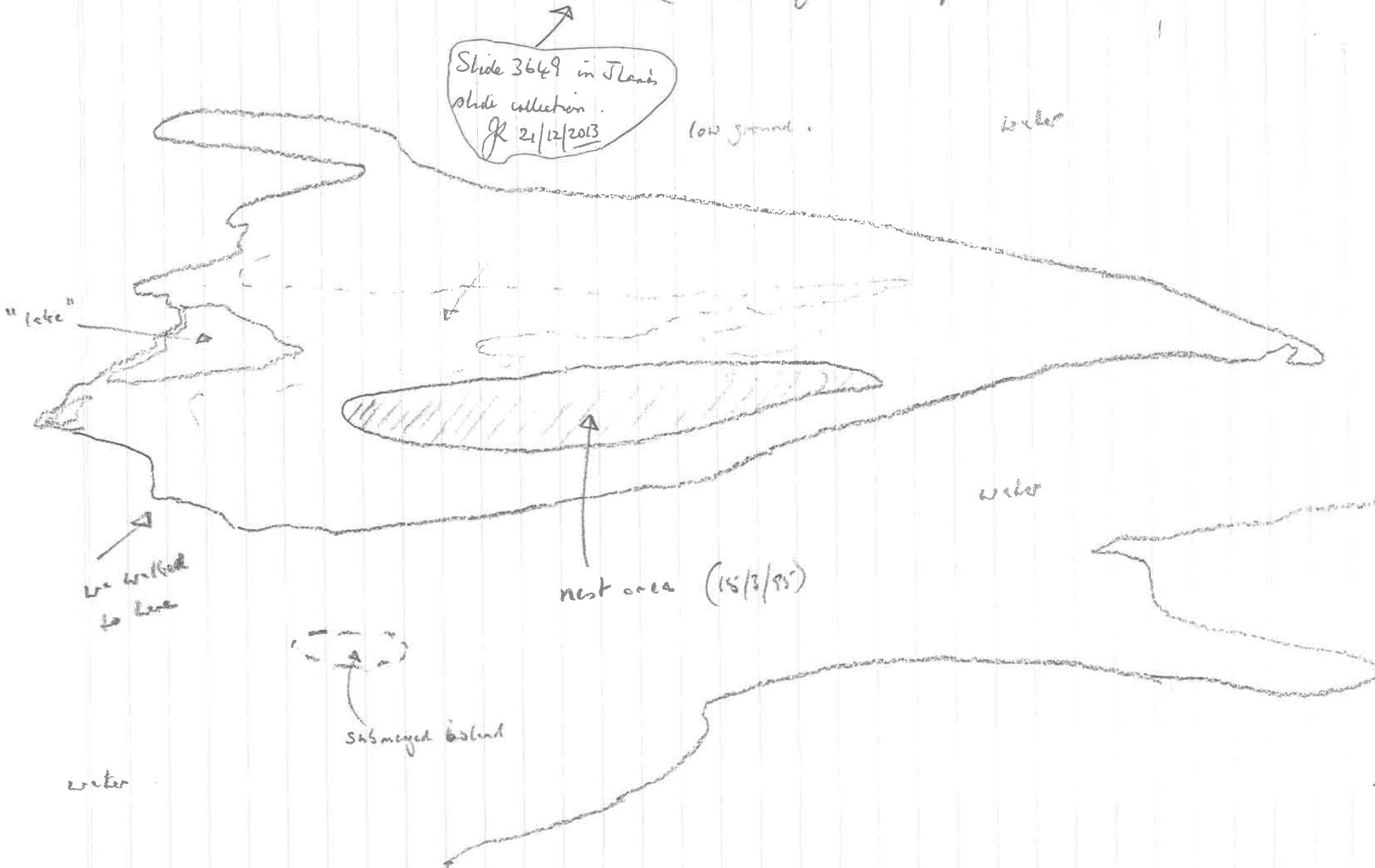
low ground

we walked  
to lava nest case  
(15/3/95)

submerged bars / blends

water

SLIDE 5 (J.C.) from helicopter 15/3/95



SCIDE 6 (J.C.) from below to 15/2/95

3650m  
~~water~~ in J.C.  
Shore collection  
21/12/2013

water

water

we netted  
to this landing point

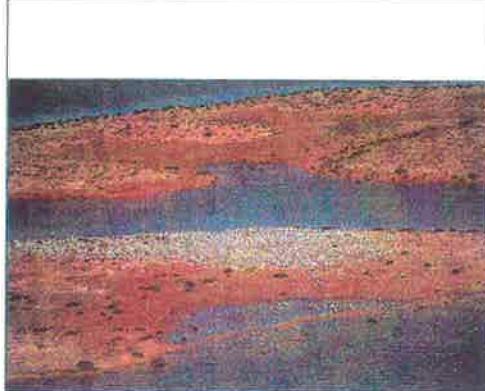
nest area (15/2/95)

water

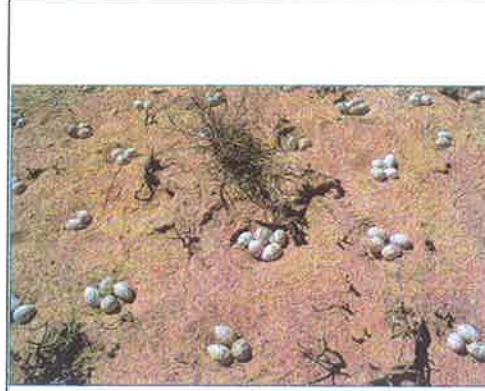
140

**Some photos taken by CDTM which were published (with others) in the June 1995 issue of Wingspan. These photos have been scanned by JL from that article. At least one, and probably all (check captions), were taken on the 1st colony island on Lake Ballard on 15/03/1995.**

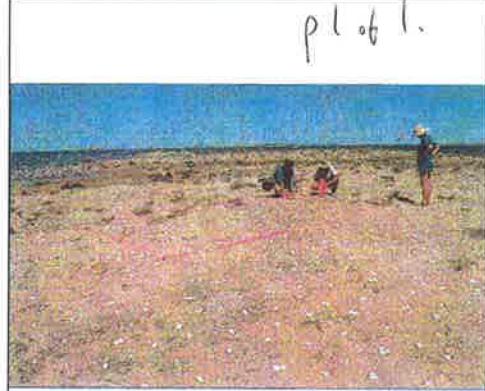
**None of the nesting quadrat monitoring photos taken by CDTM on that day are here (they are with all the quadrat photos taken in later days / months – see above). CDTM sent those photos (original slides) to JL in 1995 for ‘processing’.**



Ballard 1995, BaSt 4500 nests [CDTM, Wingspan Jun1995 scan].bmp



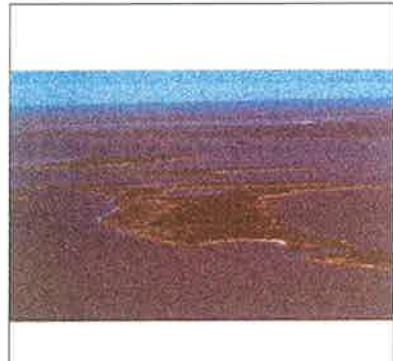
Ballard 1995, BaSt eggs [CDTM, Wingspan Jun1995 scan].bmp



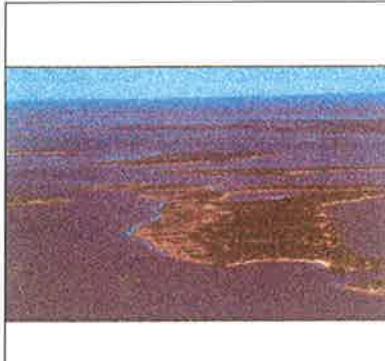
...95, JAKL GBP MR peg nests [CDTM, Wingspan Jun1995 scan].bmp

**All of GBP's photos from the helicopter trip of 15/03/1995 (see notes below re JL's photos for some more details of this trip).**

**The original slides (35mm colour transparencies) are now (17/03/2014) in JL's work collection. The scanned (digitised) copies of the slides are on JL's work computer.**



...ard, 1995.03.15 [4217] (s10) aerial, islands [GBP].bmp



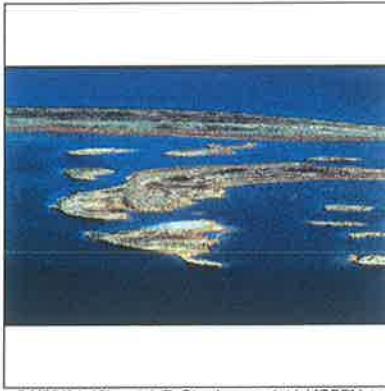
...ard, 1995.03.15 [4218] (s11) aerial, islands [GBP].bmp



...5 [4219] (s14) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



...5 [4220] (s15) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



...5 [4221] (s16) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



...[4222] (s34) helicopter on Camp I, pilot MR [GBP].bmp



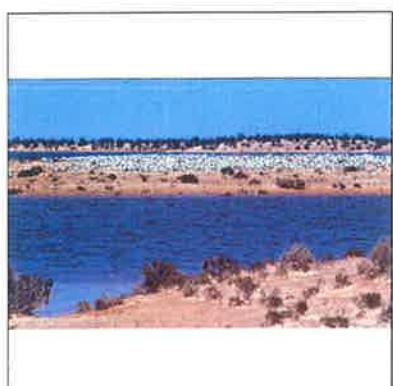
...5.03.15 [4223] (#3) CDTM on BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



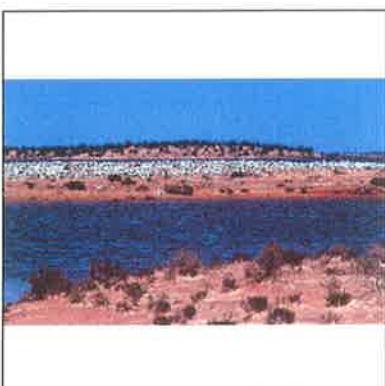
...24] (#4) JAKL & MR approach BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...25] (#5) JAKL & MR approach BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



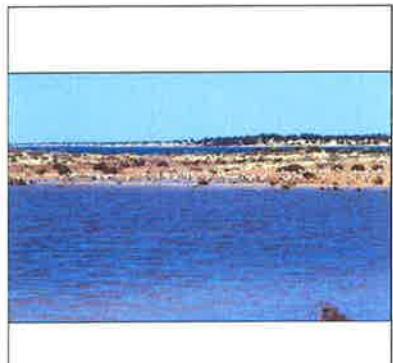
Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4226] (#6) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4227] (#7) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4228] (#8) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4229] (#11) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4230] (#12) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4231] (#13) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp

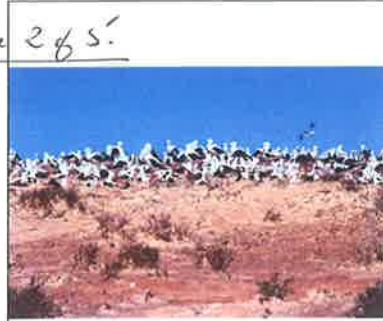


...lard, 1995.03.15 [4232] (#14) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...15 [4233] (#15) BaSt colony, CDTM, JAKL [GBP].bmp

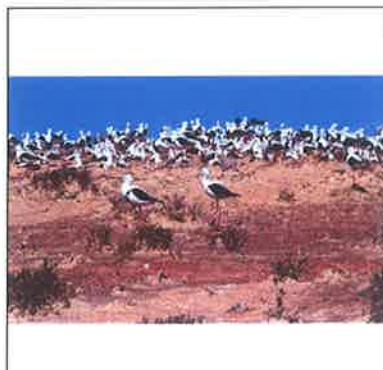
Page 265.



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4234] (#16) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4235] (#17) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



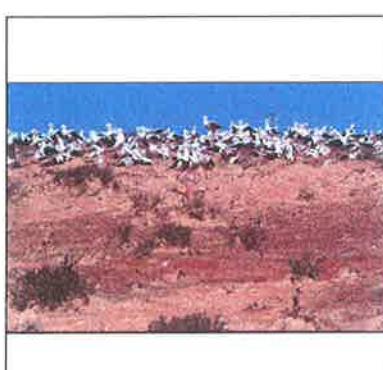
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4236] (#19) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



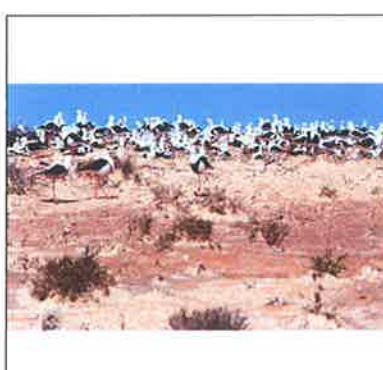
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4237] (#18) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4238] (#20) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



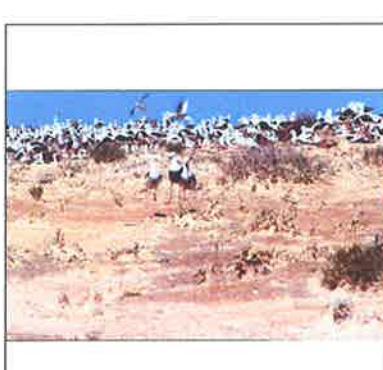
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4239] (#21) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



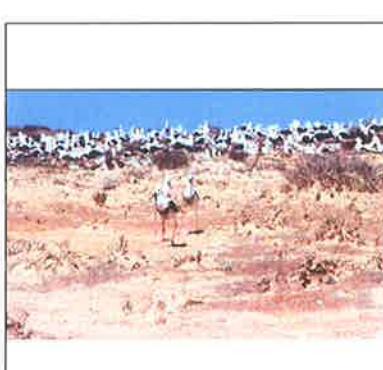
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4240] (#22) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



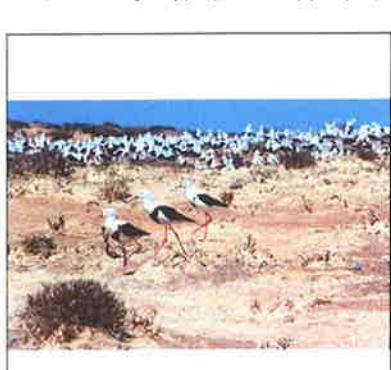
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4241] (#23) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



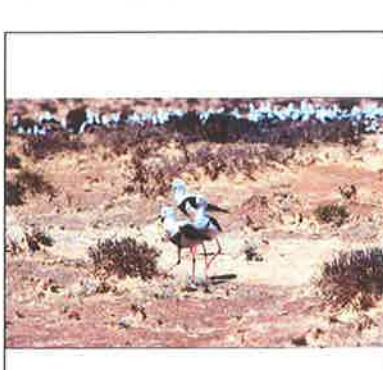
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4242] (#24) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4243] (#25) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4244] (#26) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



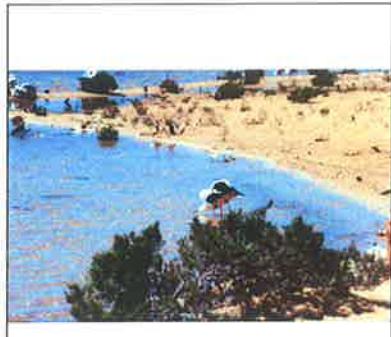
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4245] (#27) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



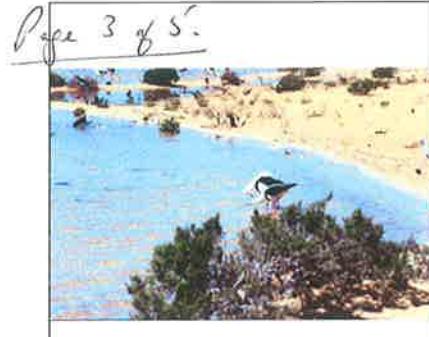
...5.03.15 [4246] (#28) BaSt colony, drinking [GBP].bmp



...5.03.15 [4247] (#29) BaSt colony, drinking [GBP].bmp



...5.03.15 [4248] (#30) BaSt colony, drinking [GBP].bmp



...5.03.15 [4249] (#31) BaSt colony, drinking [GBP].bmp



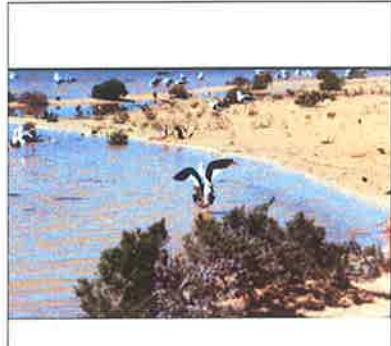
...95.03.15 [4250] (#32) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



...95.03.15 [4251] (#33) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



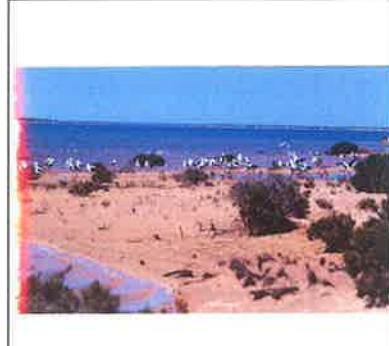
...95.03.15 [4252] (#34) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



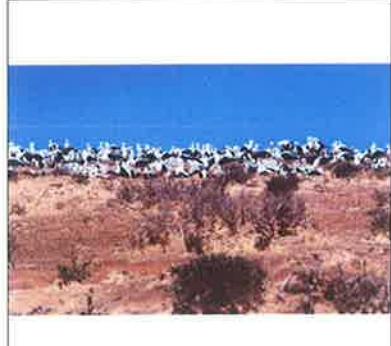
...95.03.15 [4253] (#35) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



...03.15 [4254] (#36end) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



...1995.03.15 [4255] (#00beg) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4256] (#0) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



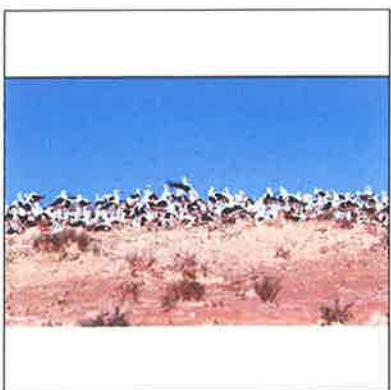
Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4257] (#1) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4258] (#2) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4259] (#3) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4260] (#4) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



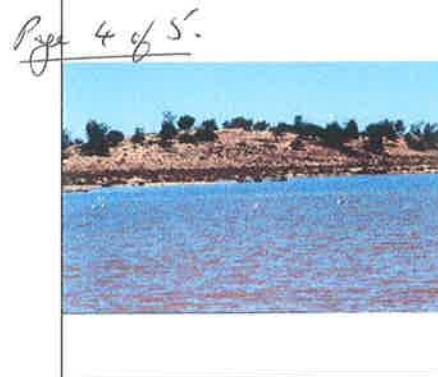
Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4261] (#5) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



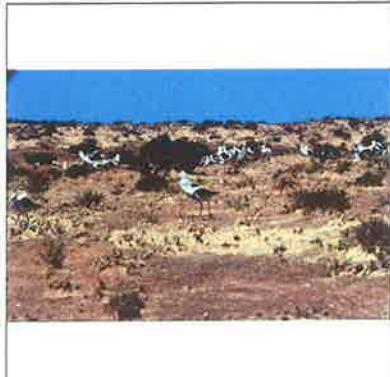
Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4262] (#6) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4263] (#7) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



...5.03.15 [4264] (#8) BaSt near camp island [GBP].bmp



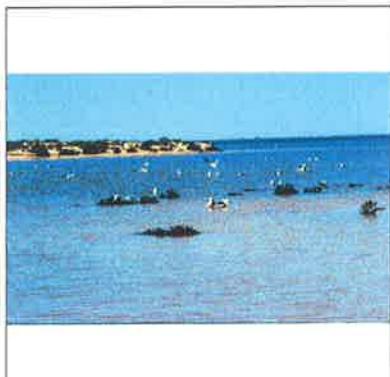
Ballard, 1995.03.15 [4265] (#9) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4266] (#10) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



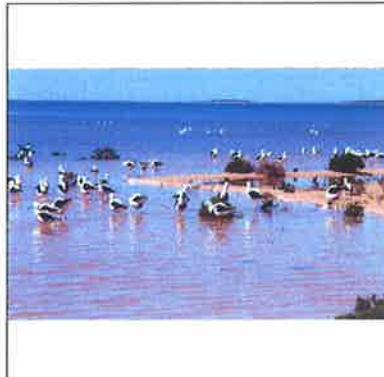
...995.03.15 [4267] (#11) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4268] (#12) BaSt colony, mating [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4269] (#13) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4270] (#14) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4271] (#15) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4272] (#16) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



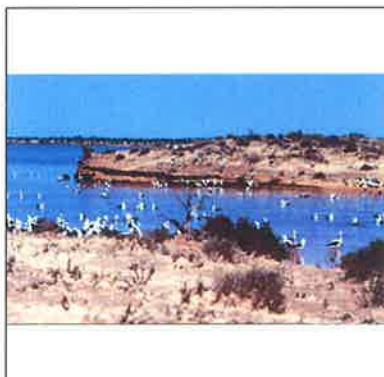
...995.03.15 [4273] (#17) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4274] (#18) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4275] (#19) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...995.03.15 [4276] (#20) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp

Page 4 of 5.

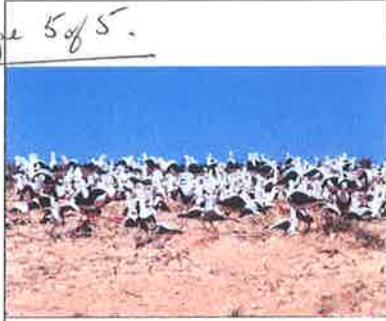


...lard, 1995.03.15 [4277] (#21) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4278] (#22) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp

Page 5 of 5.



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4279] (#23) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4280] (#24) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4281] (#25) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



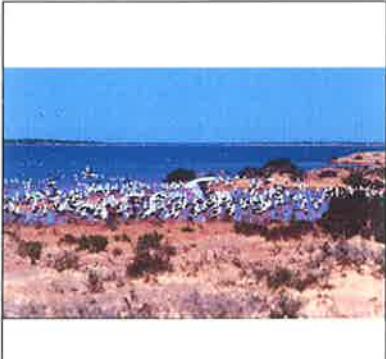
...lard, 1995.03.15 [4282] (#26) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4283] (#27) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4284] (#28) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4285] (#31) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4286] (#32) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...15 [4287] (#33) BaSt colony, Clive Minton, [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4288] (#34) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4289] (#35) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...lard, 1995.03.15 [4290] (#36) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp



...1995.03.15 [4291] (#36Aend) BaSt colony [GBP].bmp

**All of the aerial and ground photos (from takeoff at Kalgoorlie to takeoff on the return flight, but except the nesting quadrat monitoring photos) that JL took on the day of the helicopter flight (15/03/1995) to Camp Island (as it came to be known) and the walk and wade to the nearby '1<sup>st</sup> island colony' (of nesting BaSt) on Lake Ballard.**

**The original slides (35mm colour transparencies) are in JL's work collection. The scanned (digitised) copies of the slides are on JL's work computer.**

**None of the nesting quadrat monitoring photos taken on that day are here (they are with all the quadrat photos taken in later days / months – see above).**

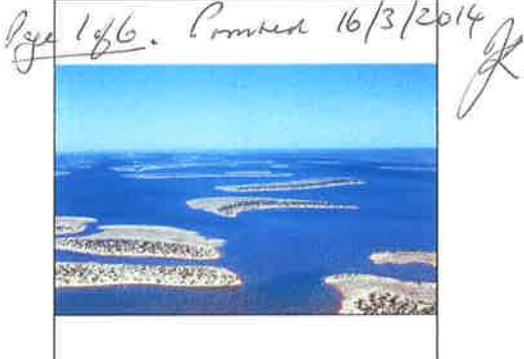
**Photos taken on the return flight to Kalgoorlie are not here as they were not of nesting.**



...51] (f.s20) CMinton, pilot, Marj Reni, GBP [JAKL].bmp



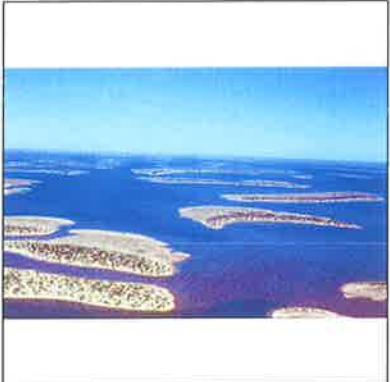
...3552] (f.s21) pilot, CDTM, Marj Reni, GBP [JAKL].bmp



Page 166. Printed 16/3/2014  
...Ballard, 1995.03.15 [3553a] (f.s22) aerial, [JAKL].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [3553b] (f.s22) aerial, [JAKL].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.15 [3554] (f.s23) aerial, [JAKL].bmp



...f.s24) aerial, Camp I & BaSt colony distant [JAKL].bmp



...3556] (f.s25) aerial, Camp I & BaSt colony [JAKL].bmp



...3557] (f.s26) aerial, Camp I & BaSt colony [JAKL].bmp



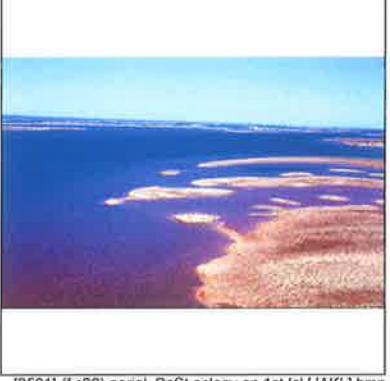
...[3558] (f.s27) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [JAKL].bmp



...[3559] (f.s28) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [JAKL].bmp



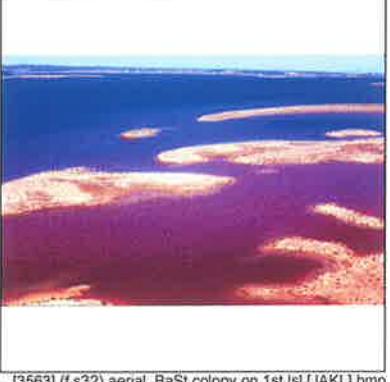
...[3560] (f.s29) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [JAKL].bmp



...[3561] (f.s30) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [JAKL].bmp



...[3562] (f.s31) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [JAKL].bmp



...[3563] (f.s32) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [JAKL].bmp



... ) Camp I, hcopter, CDTM, pilot, MR, JAKL [JAKL].bmp



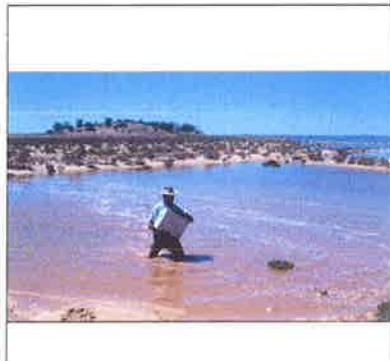
... Camp I, hcopter, pilot, CDTM, MR, JAKL [JAKL].bmp



...66] (f.s35) Camp I, CDTM, JAKL, MR, pilot [JAKL].bmp



...67] (f.s36) Camp I, CDTM, JAKL, MR, pilot [JAKL].bmp



...15 [3568] (f.s37end) Camp I, GBP wading [JAKL].bmp



...3569] (f..s01beg) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...15 [3570] (f..s02) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3571] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3572] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3573] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3574] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3575] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3576] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3577] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3578] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3579] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp

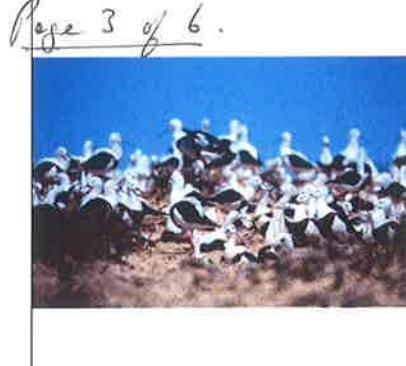
Page 2 of 6.



...995.03.15 [3580] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



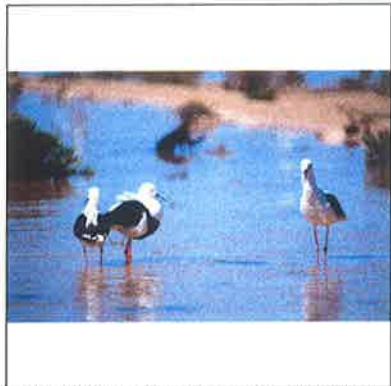
...995.03.15 [3581] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3582] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3583] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



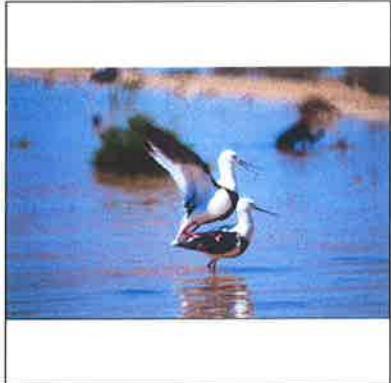
...5.03.15 [3584.1] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...5.03.15 [3584.2] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3585] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



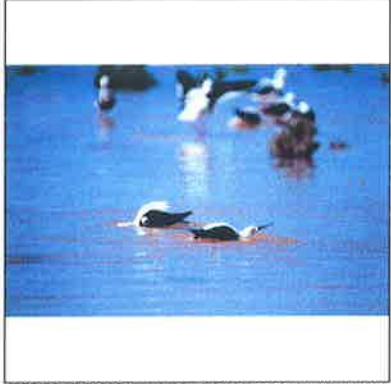
...995.03.15 [3586] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3587] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3588] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



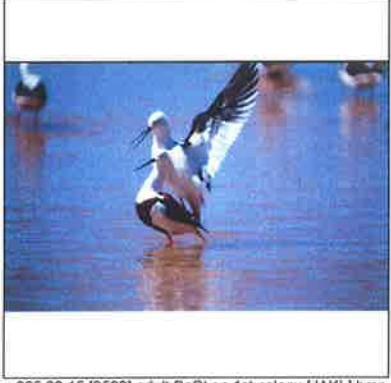
...995.03.15 [3589] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



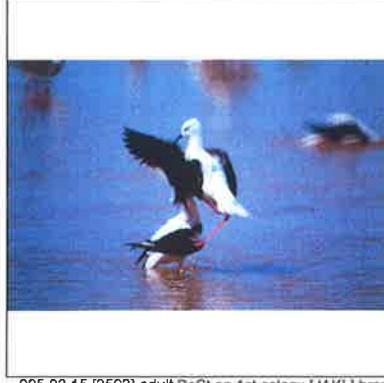
...995.03.15 [3590] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3591] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3592] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



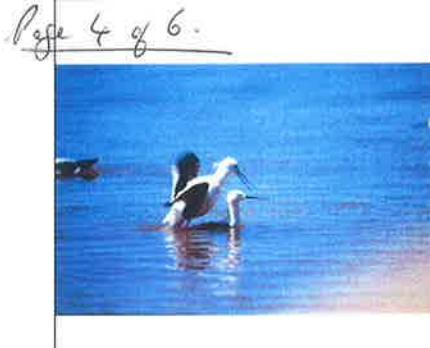
...995.03.15 [3593] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3594] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3595] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3596] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3597] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



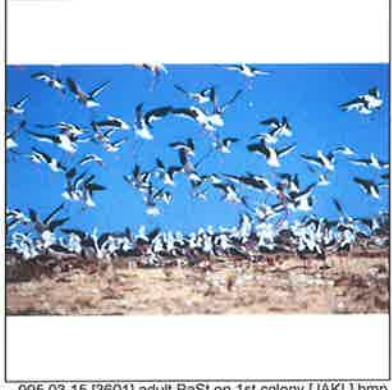
...995.03.15 [3598] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3599] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3600] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3601] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3602] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...995.03.15 [3603] adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...15 [3604] (f..s37) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...5 [3605] (f..s38) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...05.1] (f..s39end) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...607] (f..s01beg) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...] (f..s02) adult BaSt on 1st colony, CDTM [JAKL].bmp

Page 4 of 6.



...5 [3609] (f...s03) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...04) wading to 1st BaSt colony, GP CDTM [JAKL].bmp

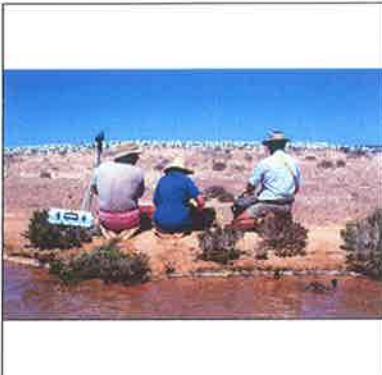
Page 5 of 6.



...05) wading to 1st BaSt colony, GP CDTM [JAKL].bmp



...f...s06) on 1st BaSt colony, CDTM MR GP [JAKL].bmp



...f...s07) on 1st BaSt colony, CDTM MR GP [JAKL].bmp



...14] (f...s08) on 1st BaSt colony, CDTM GP [JAKL].bmp



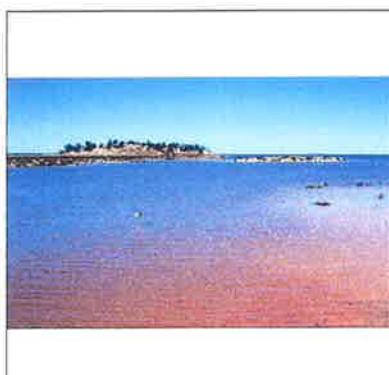
...5 [3615] (f...s09) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...16] (f...s10) on 1st BaSt colony, CDTM GP [JAKL].bmp



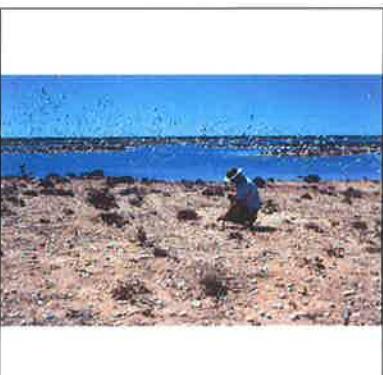
...5 [3617] (f...s11) adult BaSt on 1st colony [JAKL].bmp



...18] (f...s12) Camp 1 from 1st BaSt colony, [JAKL].bmp



...9] (f...s13) MR, CDTM, measure for quads [JAKL].bmp



...3.15 [3620] (f...s14) GBP, pegs for quads [JAKL].bmp



...3.15 [3621] (f...s15) GBP, pegs for quads [JAKL].bmp



...1995.03.15 [3622] (f...s16) BaSt clutches [JAKL].bmp



...1995.03.15 [3623] (f...s17) BaSt clutches [JAKL].bmp



...5 [3634] (f...s28) Camp I, CDTM MR GBP [JAKL].bmp



...5] (f...s29) nmbrd eggs C3 C7, joins 3636 [JAKL].bmp

Page 6 of 6.



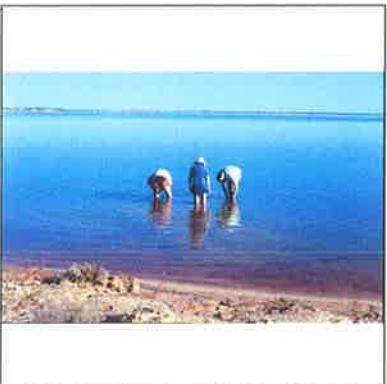
...6] (f...s30) nmbrd eggs C3 C4, joins 3635 [JAKL].bmp



(f...s31) nmbrd eggs C2 C3 C5 C9, peg H [JAKL].bmp



15 [3638] (f...s32) washing, CDTM MR GP [JAKL].bmp



...15 [3639] (f...s33) washing, CDTM MR GP [JAKL].bmp



....s34) Camp I, hcopter, MR CDTM GP pilot [JAKL].bmp

**Undated page of notes by JL listing equipment he was thinking of taking  
on helicopter trip to BaSt breeding colony on Lake Ballard on  
15/03/1995. It included: 'egg mark pens?', 'board & string', 'tape  
measure', 'film [35mm]', 'camera lenses & camera', 'notebook', 'pens',  
'calipers', 'pegs & tape', 'compass' and 'Orange [? other word?] rods'.**

**Most or all of these items would have been intended for measuring /  
recording nesting activity.**

**PS: 'Orange' is perhaps 'Gorenje' and might be a reference to rods to  
be inserted into washing machine (Gorenje?) when moving house (JL  
Perth to Bsn)!**

Water samples  
Plankton net.

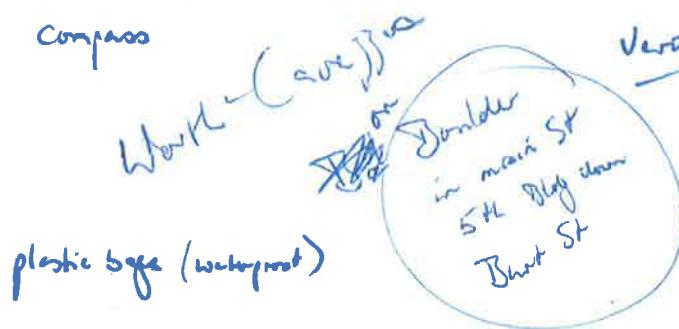
Great, LPO tools  
Coring rods.  
\*

home . egg melt pens.

42.  
66.

## Tools

tape measure  
film  
camera lenses + camera  
notebook  
pens  
\* calipers .  
Pogo + tape  
Compass



Sunglasses

## Clothes

footwear  
(travel)

hat  
sunscreen  
shorts  
shirt .

blue bag  
brown bag .

Wet suit boots

fin .

Wetsuit top

thermal undershirt top

board + string .

## Cash

min. keys

Toilet paper .

bag

bandage

## Checklist

matches ✓ ✓  
cash ✓ ✓  
notebook ✓  
fins + fin  
doring / food .  
plastic bags ✓  
short ✓  
boots ✓

## Drinks

Water in al. bottles  
or 2 plastic lamm drink b. ml

## Food

Muesli Bars  
Chocolate (Energy).  
Nuts / fruit .

## Shelter / Warmth

Green matches  
space blanket .

**Fax (14/03/1995) from CDTM to JL with his (CDTM's) draft manuscript headed 'Banded Stilt Research Programme – Lake Ballard, March/April 1995'.**

**Inter alia CDTM lists '... specific parameters which should be studied / measured / assessed' , including (all verbatim):**

- (c) Frequency of laying & commencement of incubation (and egg protection prior to incubation);**
- (d) Clutch size and nest density;**
- (e) Incubation period & the sharing of incubation duties;**
- (f) Hatching success (related to clutch size, e.g. can they successfully hatch 5 egg clutches?**
- (g) DNA analysis of clutches (especially 5 egg ones) to assess egg dumping / ex pair copulation frequency;**
- (j) Re-nesting attempts;**
- (k) Re-nesting attempts.**

**CDTM also writes: 'In particular the main existing nesting area can be 'pegged out' and eggs (particularly of incomplete clutches) marked as a foundation for future follow up (e.g. to determine incubation periods / hatching success'.**

14/3/95

DRAFT

①

## Banded Stilt Research Programme - Lake Ballad March/Mar 1995

### Background

The Banded Stilt is unique amongst the 214 species of wading birds in the world in that it

- (a) nests colonially
- (b) rear its chicks in cracks
- (c) only nests intermittently - when inland salt lakes become flooded by exceptional rains

Of the 70 species of wader which have been recorded in Australia (55 regularly), it is one of the eight resident endemic species.

There are estimated to be 250,000 Banded Stilts in Australia (Watkins 1991). Some 60-70% of these live in western Australia, the remainder being in South Australia and Victoria.

Breeding has only been recorded about 20 times (Higgins 1994) since it was first found in 1930 (at Lake King in W.A. and at Lake Callabonna in SA). All but three of these have been in Western Australia, with Lakes Barlee, Ballad and Marion most favoured. The last known breeding occurred at Lake Barlee in 1992 and at Lake Torrens (SA) in 1989.

The Banded Stilt is one of the least studied species of wader in Australia. In particular its breeding biology is little understood. This is because breeding takes place in remote locations, which are especially inaccessible after the heavy rains which precede such events. In fact most breeding records relate to colonies found after breeding has finished (often abandoned in mid breeding because of declining water levels / food supplies) or at the chick stage (often roaming many kilometres from the actual breeding site).

The discovery of a nesting colony on Lake Ballad on 12th March 1995, only 15 days after the commencement

of a three day 'wet' from the aftermath of cyclone "Bobby", provides a unique opportunity to study the breeding process throughout the full cycle. The aerial survey showed several thousand (3-5,000) birds apparently already with nests but there was another 5000+ birds <sup>(mostly in pairs)</sup> in adjacent parts of the lake which seem likely to join the colony in the near future. The colony is thus still at the formative stage.

There are many scientific reasons why the systematic study of a Banded Stilt breeding event should be undertaken. Basic information such as even the incubation period is still not known. And for a species where the majority of the world population lives in one area (the southern half of W.A.) and is subject to vagaries of the climate for rare breeding opportunities it is important to determine breeding success & lay the foundations for future survival measurements - and to determine the factors governing these.

It is important also, from a conservation viewpoint, to assess the predator impact at a Western Australian breeding colony. Historical information suggests this has in the past been very low. However at Lake Torrens (SA) in 1989 there was a huge influx of Silver Gulls during the breeding event and this resulted in severe egg losses (+ some chicks too) - the last two thousand nests were totally predated because the Banded Stilts were outnumbered by gulls. The Silver Gull population in Australia has increased enormously over the past 50 years and may well pose a long term threat to the Banded Stilt (at least at South Australian locations).

## Objectives

The broad objective should be to collect all practicable data on the breeding event, with a particular emphasis on the special adaptations developed by the Banded Stilt to maximise its breeding productivity in the limited 'window of opportunity' which it seeks to exploit.

The specific parameters which should be studied/measured<sup>assess</sup> include (not in order of priority)

- (a) Courtship, pairing, nest site selection (within a colony)
- (b) Plumage of breeding birds, especially early in the event
- (c) Frequency of laying & commencement of incubation (and egg protection prior to incubation)
- (d) Clutch size and nest density
- (e) Incubation period & the sharing of incubation duties
- (f) Hatching success (related to clutch size e.g. can they successfully hatch 5 egg clutches?)
- (g) DNA analysis of clutches (especially 5 egg ones) to assess egg dumping / ex pair copulation frequency
- (h) Ovule formation - initial formation and development over the fledging period
- (i) Fledging success
- (j) Re-nesting attempts
- (k) Predator activity - at the colony and subsequent on chick crèches
- (l) Food availability / water level / salinity
- (m) Dispersal after breeding (by banded / colour marking adults + chicks)
- (n) Survival / Mortality rates (by banding / colour marking of adults + chicks)
- (o) The practicability of visits by other ornithologists, film crews etc. to the breeding site without undue disturbance

## Fieldwork programme

The initial visit by Tim Lane, Grant Pearson, Mary Reni and Clive Minton on 15th March can make initial observations and measurements on many of the specific study objectives (a, b, part of c, d, part of e, b, l, and o).

In particular the main nesting area can be 'pegged out' and eggs (particularly of incomplete clutches) marked as a foundation for future follow up (eg to determine incubation period / hatching success).

It is desirable that a scientist be made available to undertake the detailed study over the whole nesting cycle. This would involve extended periods of observation and activity at the breeding colony, preferably commencing whilst new pairs are still arriving and especially covering the hatching period (likely to be extended). Subsequent follow up during the fledging period could be done more intermittently, by boat and/or from the air.

It is also desirable that occasional (aerial and/or ground) surveys be made of Lake Barlee to determine breeding activities there and their outcome.

This breeding event is likely to continue until the end of April, and longer still if any re-nesting occurs.

## Publication

Results should be published in both the scientific literature (eg Emu), and in more widely circulated "popular" journals. If the ABC decides to make a half hour documentary then this will provide further dissemination of the information gained of this spectacular Banded Stilt breeding phenomenon.

**Two pages of notes by JL headed 'Telephone Discussion with Clive Minton (at Kalgoorlie) on Monday ... February [1995] ( $\pm$  1 day)'. Is February correct? Or was it March? The notes 'all on one egg today?' and '15 days since' suggest this conversation was on the day of the first aerial survey in 1995, i.e. on Sunday 12/03/1995.**

**In relation to nesting, these notes read: 'incubation period?'; 'assess productivity ... of pairs'; 'mark 100s eggs (incomplete clutches) to follow up'; 'get in before predation (gulls)'; all on one egg today? or on full clutches – 15 days since ...'; mark eggs' and 'photos'. These were probably CDTM's thoughts on the work that should be done / started on the day of the first visit to the colony, i.e. on 15/03/1995 (helicopter trip).**

Telephone Discussion with Clive Minton (at Kalganhi) on Monday ~ February ( $\pm 1$  day)

— incubation period

—

— assess productivity  $\rightarrow$  Bedder =  
of pair | Bedder =

— mark WWS eggs (incubate clutches)  
to follow up

— get in before predation (gulls)

— all in one egg batch? or on  
full clutches.  $\rightarrow$  15 eggs max  
— all in brey plonage or not yet

— Cindy Clever cont

— Jet Ray  
or Helicopter from Wed ( $\pm 1$  day)  
\$6.95 / hr (1 hr in and out)

8 hrs.

— carry 4 people + birdy +

- dirt + obscene
- hatching eggs
- photos

---

Prospector Reservoir Park

Plane Count at 7:30

Quarter  
6am or 7am <sup>Breakfast</sup>  
Breakfast  
4pm or 8pm <sup>Breakfast</sup>

\$2200 ~~\$260~~  
\$2200 ~~\$260~~

~~\$700~~  
\$640  
\$700  
2,040

**GBP's aerial photos ('thumbnail prints') of the main (i.e. '1<sup>st</sup> colony' or '1<sup>st</sup> island colony') Banded Stilt nesting colony on Lake Ballard, taken by him during the aerial survey (by fixed-wing aircraft) of 12/03/1995 (the day of discovery of this actively nesting colony). One photo is of the nearby 'Camp Island' (as it came to be known by those who camped there in 1995).**

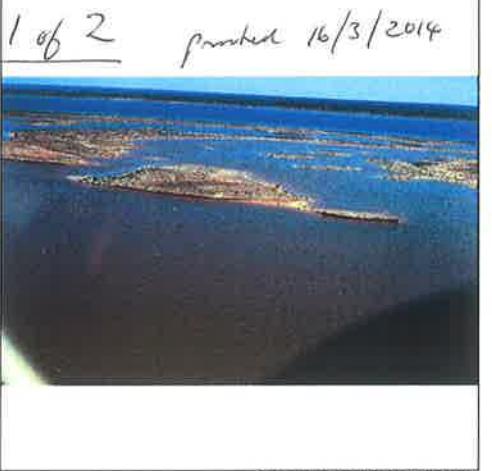
**The original slides (35mm colour transparencies = diapositives) are now (17/03/2014) in JL's work collection. The scanned (digitised) copies of the slides are on JL's work computer.**



.... 1995.03.12a [4193x] (14K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



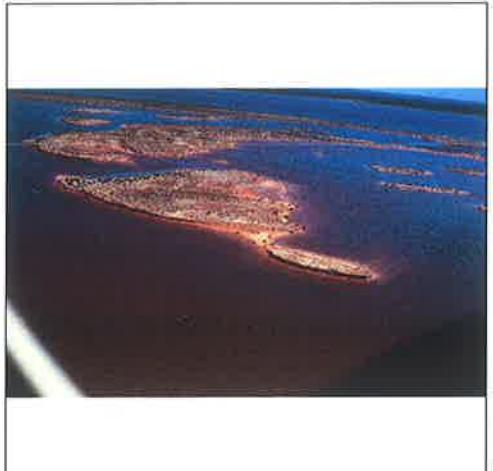
.... 1995.03.12a [4193y] (14K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4194x] (15K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4194y] (15K) aenal, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



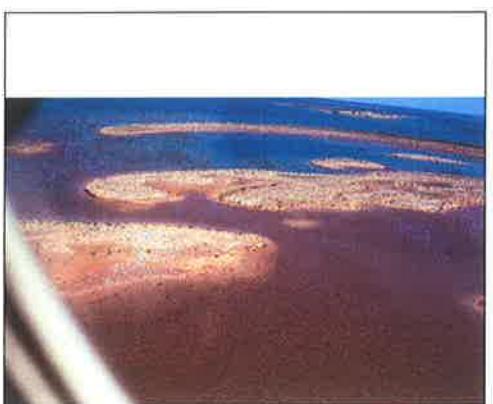
.... 1995.03.12a [4195x] (16K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4195y] (16K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



....d, 1995.03.12a [4196] (17K) aenal, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



....d, 1995.03.12a [4197] (18K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



Ballard, 1995.03.12a [4198] (19K) Camp Island, aerial [GBP].bmp



....d, 1995.03.12a [4199] (20K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4200x] (21K) aenal, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



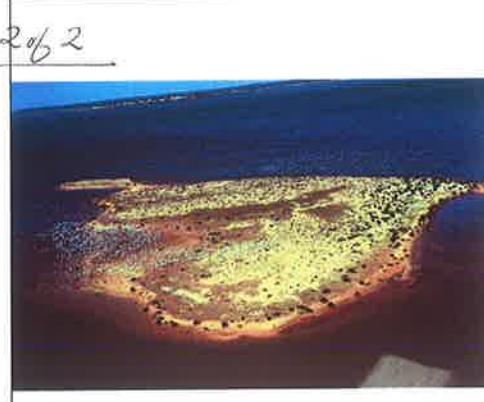
.... 1995.03.12a [4200y] (21K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4201x] (22K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4201y] (22K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4202x] (23K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4202y] (23K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4203x] (24K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4203y] (24K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4204x] (25K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp



.... 1995.03.12a [4204y] (25K) aerial, BaSt colony on 1st Isl [GBP].bmp