THE NOVOCASTRIAN WARBLER

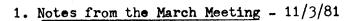
April 1981

NEWSLETTER of the HUNTER (Newcastle) BIRD OBSERVER GROUP.

Issue No. 3/81 - Released monthly at General Meetings.

MEETINGS: 2nd Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Garden Suburb Primary School at 7.30 .m.

Principal Officers: Chairman: Fred van Gessel
Secretary: Mrs. Wilma Barden (57 3928)



(a) Attendance 26 - thus maintaining the good start established at the February meeting.

recovered

- (b) Our Chairman reported that a TEREK SANDPIPER on Kooragang on 22/11/80 had been banded in Japan at KISARAZU on the Obitsu river in Chiba prefecture. on 1/9/78
- (c) Bird Calls played during the meeting were from the Warbler group White-throated warbler, the Mangrove warbler and the White-tailed or Wester warbler.
- 2. Guest Speaker JACK PURNELL gave us an interesting, informative and well illustrated talk on birds of the NEAR INLAND Jack's personl experiences enabled him to add that something extra to his comments and most of the 87 colour slides he showed were first class. On behalf of the gathering, Gary Weber expressed appreciation to our visitor for giving us such an absorbing talk
- 3. Atlas Outing to Williamtown/Salt Ash Sunday 8/3/81. Five enthusiastic Atlassers under the leadership of Jim Imrie roamed around this area and recorded 5,000 mosquitoes and 56 bird species for the grid. Probably the most interesting one being a Mangrove Heron who was nicely camouflaged in the mangroves at Lemon Tree Passage.
- 4. Visit by Victorian Wader Study Group; Arranged by Fred van Gessel and capable Secretary bird, Wilma, the week-end of 20-22 March would have to be recorded as a great success. Fourteen banders from Victoria and Canberra visited, plus Bill an Lorraine Lane who hail from Sydney but seem to be more like part of the scenery at Kooragang. Visitors were billetted by local members and here we must record formal thanks to those people who really went out of their way to extend their hospitality. The large Cannon net was fired on both Saturday and Sunday mornings, and a total of 500+ birds was banded by a large and enthusiastic group of helpers. It is pleasing to report that there was no casualty (bird) or human) during the exercise, and perhaps even by now many Sharp-tailed Sandpipers and Bar-tailed Godwits and Eastern Curlews could be en-route to their Northern Hemisphere breeding grounds, suitably tagged with a perpetual reminder of their Summer holiday at Newcastle. It was interesting to work with the visiting banders, a really well-drilled and most experienced crew and a self-satisfied grin on the bushy face of F.v.G. at the conclusion of the week-end seemed to indicate his opinion of the results.



5. THE CARE OF SICK, INJURED AND ORPHANED NATIVE BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

This is the title of a booklet by Jack Wheeler and published by the Geelong Field Naturalists Club. Anyone who would like a copy please let our Secretary know and we should be able to procure a supply - the cost incidentally is NIL.

COMING EVENTS

- April 17 20 Easter Camp. BLACKWATER CREEK, Widden Valley (past Denman) Please ring John Dorman (581564) if you intend going.

 John advises that you take your own drinking and cleaning water.
- May 2 3 Atlas survey to Krambach Nabiac area details, Jim Imrie

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The chairman would like to extend his sincere appreciation to those many willing and able members who participated with the cannon netting, banding and processing.

He would also like to thank those who offered to billet the various people during the weekend.

After what appeared to be a disastrous start, (part of the Melbourne groups arriving at 1.30 am the next morning due to a breakdown) the successful capture of 612 birds in the subsequent two days proved that in spite of minor setbacks the group functioned like a well oiled machine.

The various members of the Melbourne team would also like to thank our members for their generosity and comfortable stay.

Thanking you all for a very rewarding weekend.

Fred.