
*BRUMMITT—Birds Around Robe.***Birds Noticed Around Robe in the Summer, 1932-33.**

By D. W. Brummitt.

Two trips were made to Robe, the first from the 12th to 21st November, 1932, and the second from 28th December, 1932, to 31st January, 1933. In November the Coorong stretch was passed through at night, so that no report of birdlife can be given, but the second trip, both down and up, was made in daylight. From Robe trips were made in November to Konetta, Boatswain Point, Little Dip, Freshwater Lake, Lake Battye, Boundary, and to various swamps around Robe. In January trips were made to Beachport and Nora Creina Bay, in addition to the Baudin Rocks, Little Dip, Boundary, and Freshwater Lake. At Konetta Mr. John Watson kindly lent us horses to ride to the teatree swamp where the Nankeen Herons nest, but although some three hundred birds were about they were not nesting. Very few nests with eggs were found during the two trips. The following species were seen and identified:—

Dromaius novae-hollandiae, Emu.—A fine pair was seen at the Boundary and several pairs along the Coorong. *Eudyptula minor*, Little Penguin.—Many nesting at the Baudin Rocks. *Coturnix pectoralis*, Stubble Quail.—A number was seen on Konetta and around Robe in January. *Synoicus australis*, Brown Quail.—A single specimen was flushed from some swampy country. *Phaps chalcoptera*, Common Bronzewing; *Phaps elegans*, Brush Bronzewing.—Both species were quite common, and sometimes could not be distinguished. They were both found nesting. *Ocyphaps lophotes*, Crested Pigeon.—Was common on the River Murray flats. *Gallinula tenebrosa*, Dusky Moorhen.—Common around some swamps. *Porphyrio melanotus*, Bald Coot.—In swamps near Robe with chicks. *Fulica atra*, Coot.—Common. *Podiceps ruficollis*, Little Grebe.—Common. *Podiceps poliocephalus*, Hoary-headed Grebe.—Was fairly common. I watched one pair from about ten feet away and they did not mind me in the least. *Phalacrocorax*

BRUMMITT—Birds Around Robe.

ater, Little Black Cormorant.—Common. *Phalacrocorax fuscescens*, White-breasted Cormorant.—Some were seen about the Baudin Rocks. *Phalacrocorax varius*, Pied Cormorant.—A few were noted. *Pelecanus conspicillatus*, Pelican.—A number was seen in the Coorong and several about Robe. *Chlidonias leucopareia*, Marsh Tern.—Several were seen around the swamps and at Freshwater Lake. *Gelochelidon nilotica*, Gull-billed Tern.—A single specimen was seen at Lake Battye. *Hydroprogne caspia*, Caspian Tern.—Several were observed around Robe. *Sterna bergii*, Crested Tern.—Were quite common, and, although present on the Baudin Rocks, were not nesting. *Sterna nereis*, Fairy Tern.—At all the beaches. *Larus novae-hollandiae*, Silver Gull.—Very common. The nesting site at Nora Creina Bay was visited late in January, but was deserted. *Gabianus pacificus*, Pacific Gull.—A single immature specimen was around Robe for about a week. *Haematopus ostralegus*, Pied Oystercatcher.—A pair was at Boatswain Point. *Haematopus unicolor*, Sooty Oystercatcher.—A pair at Little Dip appeared to be nesting on the islet. Several pairs were seen at other beaches. *Erythrogonys cinctus*, Red-kneed Dotterel.—A number was seen around the entrance of a drain into a swamp. *Lobibyx novae-hollandiae*, Spur-winged Plover.—Common. *Zonifer tricolor*, Banded Plover.—Common. *Pluvialis dominicus*, Eastern Golden Plover.—Common at Boat-swain Point; also seen on the Baudin Rocks. *Charadrius cucullatus*, Hooded Dotterel.—At Boatswain Point and around the Long Beach. A specimen ♀, total length, 23 cm.; wing spread, 45.2 cm.; weight, 98 grammes. *Charadrius ruficapillus*, Red-capped Dotterel.—On all the shores. A nest with two eggs was found at Boatswain Point. *Charadrius melanops*, Black-fronted Dotterel.—A pair was seen on mud flats by the drain at Robe. *Himantopus leucocephalus*, White-headed Stilt.—Odd pairs were seen along the Coorong and at Waltowa Swamp. *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*, Banded Stilt.—A very large flock, of at least 2,000 birds, was seen about two miles north of Snipe Point on the Coorong, 31/1/1933. *Erolia ruficollis*, Red-necked Stint.—Was common, in company with Red-capped Dotterels, along the Coorong. *Erolia acuminata*, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.—Was common at Robe in January. *Threskiornis molucca*, White Ibis.—A number was seen near Kingston in November. *Threskiornis spinicollis*, Straw-necked Ibis.—Was common on Konetta in November. *Notophox novae-hollandiae*, White-faced Heron.—Common, many nests with

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eggs or young were seen in November. *Demigretta sacra*, Reef Heron.—Several pairs were seen and a nest with four eggs was found on the island off Little Dip in January. *Nycticorax caledonicus*, Nankeen Night-Heron.—About 300 birds were seen on Konetta, but were not nesting (November). Odd pairs were flushed around Robe in January. Were nesting on the Baudin Rocks in January, and when we were there only two clutches of eggs were found, but young birds were plentiful. *Chenopsis atrata*, Black Swan.—Fairly common. *Casarca tadornoides*, Mountain Duck.—A few were seen on various lagoons in November. Were very common along the Coorong and around Lake Albert in January. *Anas superciliosa*, Black Duck.—A few were seen. *Querquedula gibberifrons*, Grey Teal.—Common. *Nyroca australis*, Hardhead.—Common along the Coorong. *Biziura lobata*, Musk Duck.—Several were seen on every lagoon until about the middle of January, when they began to disappear. *Circus approximans*, Swamp Harrier.—Common. *Astur fasciatus*, Australian Goshawk.—One was seen in Robe. *Haliastur sphenurus*, Whistling Eagle.—A pair was nesting in a gumtree near Robe. The chief diet was rabbit, judging by the bones and fur on the ground and in old nests of Herons in the trees. *Falco berigora*, Brown Hawk.—Was fairly common. *Falco cenchroides*, Nankeen Kestrel.—Several were seen around Robe. *Trichoglossus moluccanus*, Blue-Mountain Lorikeet.—Very plentiful in flowering eucalypts in January. *Platycercus adelaidae*, Adelaide Rosella.—Several were seen in the Mount Lofty Ranges. *Platycercus eximius*, Eastern Rosella.—Several pairs were seen around Robe. *Barnardius barnardi*, Ringneck Parrot.—About a dozen pairs were seen along the Coorong. *Psephotus haematonotus*, Red-rumped Parrot.—Common. *Neophema petrophila*, Rock-Parrot.—Several well-coloured pairs were seen on the Baudin Rocks. *Melopsittacus undulatus*, Shell-Parrot.—Large flocks were seen between Nairne and Wellington, and at Robe. *Dacelo gigas*, Laughing Kookaburra.—A pair was seen in the township of Robe, quite a rare occurrence. *Hirundo neoxena*, Welcome Swallow.—Common. *Cheramoeca leucosterna*, White-backed Swallow.—Several pairs were seen at Kanmantoo. *Hylochelidon ariel*, Fairy Martin.—A few were seen at Robe. *Rhipidura flabellifera*, Grey Fantail.—Several were seen around Robe. *Rhipidura leucophrys*, Willie Wagtail.—Fairly common; a nest ready for eggs was found on Konetta. *Grallina cyanoleuca*, Magpie-Lark.—Common. Several used nests were found on Konetta and one with three

young and an egg: *Pomatostomus superciliosus*, White-browed Babbler. A single specimen flew across the road near Meningie. *Epthianura albifrons*, White-fronted Chat.—Common. *Sericornis frontalis*, White-browed Scrub-Wren.—Several were seen around Robe. *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*, Yellow-tailed Thornbill.—Quite common everywhere around Robe. *Dasyornis broadbenti*, Rufous Bristle-Bird.—Was quite common around Robe, and, although some time was spent looking for nests, none could be found. *Megalurus gramineus*, Little Grassbird.—Several were seen on the Baudin Rocks and a number around Robe. *Malurus cyaneus*, Superb Blue-Wren.—Common around Robe and very plentiful at Boatswain Point. *Artamus cyanopterus*, Dusky Wood-Swallow.—A few were seen along the Coorong. *Artamus superciliosus*, White-browed Wood-Swallow.—Several were seen around Robe. *Zosterops halmaturina*, Grey-backed Silvereye.—Very common every place visited around Robe. *Meliphaga virescens*, Singing Honeyeater.—Common in the scrub around Robe. *Meliphaga penicillata*, White-plumed Honeyeater.—Was seen in gumtrees near Robe. *Meliornis novae-hollandiae*, Yellow-winged Honeyeater.—Common. *Myzantha melanocephala*, Noisy Miner.—Common in the Mount Lofty Ranges. *Anthochaera chrysoptera*, Little Wattle-Bird.—Common. *Anthochaera carunculata*, Red Wattle-Bird.—Fairly Common. *Acanthagenys rufogularis*, Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater. Common. *Anthus australis*, Pipit.—Common on all grassy flats. *Zonaeginthus bellus*, Beautiful Firetail.—Common in damp scrub. *Corvus coronoides*, Raven.—Fairly common. *Strepera melanoptera*, Black-winged Currawong. One seen near Robe. *Corcorax melanorhamphus*, White-winged Chough.—Several were observed. They are always to be seen at a certain spot about 20 miles from Kingston towards Meningie. *Cracticus torquatus*, Grey Butcher-Bird.—A few at Robe; very common just north of Kingston. *Gymnorhina hypoleuca*, White-backed Magpie.—Common.