

Bird Observations in the Vicinity of Adelaide.

By Howard Jarman.

Geopelia placida, Peaceful Dove.—On 24th September, 1935, a bird was seen in the Botanic Park, crouched at the junction of two limbs of a Moreton Bay Figtree (*Ficus macrophylla*) and giving the "nesting call" of the species, thereby attracting a second bird. Subsequently a Dove brooded there from 3rd to 22nd October, 1935, with another bird always feeding nearby.

Porzana pusilla, Marsh-Crake.—On 21st October, 1935, a bird of this species was seen basking in the sun on flattened reeds bordering Lake Torrens.

Tribonyx ventralis, Black-tailed Native-Hen.—On 24th February, 1936, and for a few weeks following, a solitary bird frequented the lakeside, Botanic Garden.

Fulica atra, Coot.—Individuals noted in Torrens Lake on 5th February, 25th March, and 23rd July, 1936.

Charadrius melanops, Black-fronted Dotterel.—Birds of this species were seen along the River Torrens on the following dates:—Three birds on 31st October, 1935; one bird only was seen several times between 4th and 30th March, 1936, also on 31st August, 1st and 24th September, 1936.

Querquedula castanea, Chestnut Teal.—On 13th June, 1936, a male and female were seen in the River Torrens, below Hackney Bridge.

Falco cenchroides, Nankeen Kestrel.—On 2nd September, 1936, two birds were on ledges on the Rundle Street front of Foy and Gibson's premises, City.

Cuculus pallidus, Pallid Cuckoo.—First noted on 14th August in 1935 and on 13th August in 1936.

Microeca fascinans, Jacky Winter.—A bird was seen in the North Parklands on 4th August, 1936.

Petroica multicolor, Scarlet Robin.—On 24th April and 10th June, 1936, a ♂ was seen in Cohen Avenue, South Park.

Petroica phoenicea, Flame Robin.—In Cohen Avenue. Six brown birds were first seen on 7th June, 1936, followed by a ♂ and a ♀ (or immature male) on 15th June; from the latter date until 21st August, 1936, a small loose flock was to be seen, comprising up to five in number of the brown birds, but with never more than one fully coloured ♂. A ♂ was observed in the valley of the Brownhill Creek on 7th and 21st June, 1936.

Petroica goodenovii, Red-capped Robin.—The ♀ of the pair which frequent Cohen Avenue was seen at work on the foundation of a nest on 6th September, 1935, but she did not complete it. On 10th January, 1936, these birds had at least one youngster on the wing. The ♀ was engaged in nest building on 5th August, 1936, the structure was completed on 13th August. A youngster was with its parents on 23rd September, 1936. Red-capped Robins were seen with young at Highbury on 11th February, 1936.

Pachycephala rufiventris, Rufous Whistler.—A ♂ of this species was seen in Cohen Avenue on 20th March, 1936.

Pachycephala sp.—On 22nd February, 1937, in Cohen Avenue a ♀, or immature, Whistler, probably the Golden (*pectoralis*), was observed.

Zanthomiza phrygia, Regent Honeyeater.—This species has been seen in the Hills—National Park, Belair, four birds on 12th July, 1936, one bird on 1st August, and four on 26th September; Brownhill Creek, Mitcham, three birds on 17th August; and five birds at Waterfall Gully, Burnside, on 12th December, 1936.

Anthus australis, Pipit.—In the South Parklands adjoining Cohen Avenue. On 11th October, 1935, a bird was seen to go on to a nest containing two eggs: on the 16th two newly-hatched chicks were in the nest and they were well fledged on 24th October, 1935. In the same locality two birds were noted on 7th and 16th May, 1936; and single birds were observed on 29th July and 5th August, 1936.

Coracina novae-hollandiae, Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike.—During the latter half of November, 1936, one of these birds was seen brooding on a deserted nest of *Grallina cyanoleuca*. Magpie Lark, in Unley Park. The original owners had occupied the structure in the season 1934-5. The Cuckoo-Shrikes had two or three large youngsters sitting on the edge of their unusual nesting site on 7th December, 1936.

Masked Wood-Swallow, *Artamus personatus*, and White-browed Wood-Swallow, *A. superciliosus*.—On 5th December,

1936, a Masked was flushed from a nest, which contained two eggs, near the roadside at Windy Point, Mitcham. Several other birds of this species were seen, as well as one White-browed, but no further nests were discovered. In the evening of 11th December, the above-mentioned place was again visited, with Mr. S. E. Terrill. In addition to the first nest, two more of the Masked were found, each nest containing two eggs, whilst two nests of the White-browed were also located—the latter nests held one and two eggs respectively. All nests were subsequently found destroyed. On 1st February, 1937, at the top of Shepherd's Hill, Eden, both Masked and White-browed Wood-Swallows were in large numbers, there being many young, not yet independent, of both species.
