

**PINK ROBIN IN MT. LOFTY RANGES —**

The main range of the Pink Robin lies in Tasmania and Victoria. It becomes more widespread in winter, and has occasionally been recorded in South Australia between April and September (Rowley & Paton, 1978). The following is the fifth published sighting in the Mt Lofty Ranges.

While in the south-western sector of Kyeema Conservation Park on 4 September 1978 I saw a female-type Pink Robin *Petroica rodinogaster*. At the time of this sighting I was on a walking trail alongside a creek densely overgrown with Tea-tree *Leptospermum pubescens* and Rushes *Juncus sp.* The overstorey was chiefly of Messmate Stringybark *Eucalyptus obliqua*, with some Cup Gum *E. cosmophylla*.

The bird first caught my attention as it dropped from a low perch on to the walking trail approximately 10 m in front of me. The bird perched on the bare ground for approximately 20 seconds before flying back up on to a low perch. I observed the bird through 10 x 50 binoculars which gave me an excellent view. The bird stayed in the same area for over 10 minutes, constantly dropping to the track to catch an insect, and then fluttering back up to a creekside perch. At times I moved to within three m of the bird, and could see all of its features clearly with the naked eye. The notes I took down while observing this bird were as follows:

Robin, dark brown above, light brown below. Double wing bars very distinct and an orange-buff colour. Tail completely brown, lacking in any white colouring whatsoever. White eye-ring with small, dull white patch on forehead. Legs and bill black." — C. I. BAXTER.

**REFERENCE**

- Rowley, D. & J. Paton. 1978. The Pink Robin in South Australia. *S. Aust. Orn.* 28:21-2.  
Accepted December 1978.