

## BIRD REPORT, 1967-68

Contd. from p. 84 of previous issue.

### 390. NOISY MINER (634)

The question as to whether this species occurs in the northern Flinders Ras (NE) is still far from solved (see *S. Aust. Ornith.* 25, 1968, p. 43). Members of the W.E.A. Spring School, Angorichina Hostel, Aug. 26 to Sept. 3, conducted by Mrs. J. B. Paton, reported this species from the Wilpena area, Aroona Dam (on nest) and Angorichina Hostel (moderately common in creekbeds and red gums). Yellow-throated Miners were also recorded at Aroona Dam and Angorichina but not Wilpena. Mrs. Paton (pers. comm.) stated that she had not positively identified Noisy Miners herself but had seen miners in flight that appeared not to have white rumps. On the other hand, other observers (K.M., G.R.) who have spent some time in the Flinders Ras during the last few years have never recorded Noisy Miners in these ranges. This being so far from the recognised range of this species it would perhaps be wise to leave the question open pending more evidence.

### 391. YELLOW-THROATED MINER (635)

On YP extends south to at least Yorketown (K.T.).

### 394. LITTLE FRIARBIRD (646)

Manunda Stn (LN), one sick immature bird, June 29 until July 2; eventually taken by cat (F.S.); Woolpunda (MM), one on Oct. 8; (K.M.), 2 on Nov. 10 (M.T.); Molo (3 miles east of Cadell—MM), 2 on Nov. 27; the furthest downstream ever recorded by observer (K.M.).

### 898A. GOLDFINCH

Manunda (LN), one on Dec. 16; 'seldom seen here' (F.S.); Stansbury (YP), one on Oct. 22, possibly the first record for YP (K.T.).

### 399. RED-BROWED FIRETAIL (662)

Mengler's Hill (4 miles southeast of Nuriootpa—MLR) recorded on Oct. 29 (S.A.O.A. excn.).

## 403. ZEBRA FINCH (653)

Waikerie (MM), plentiful in orchards but never in thick scrub. "We feed 300-400 in our Waikerie backyard . . . started in Feb. 1967 with 6 wild birds in a cage . . . punched small holes in wire and now they come and go at will. Have banded more than 300 and there are still plenty of unbanded birds" (K.M.).

## 403C. STARLING

Bolivar (AP), huge flock of many hundreds of birds at dusk several times during May (B.G.); Gumeracha (MLR), 400+ in orchard on Dec. 31 (D.A.L.).

## 403D. COMMON MYNAH

Still believed to be confined to about four square miles of the Kilburn-Blair Athol-Clearview-Northfield-Enfield-Sefton Park suburban area (AP); the range seems to have constricted slightly since 1964; numbers recorded leaving the communal roost in Bradford and Kendall Foundry (Kilburn) have dropped from a maximum of 84 on April 11, 1964 (counted by Gordon Clarke) to 26 on June 30, 1968 (R.B.).

## 404. OLIVE-BACKED ORIOLE (671)

Waikerie area (MM), 3 on Jan. 10 (R.A.L.), one on Jan. 14 (I.C.); Policeman's Point (MM), 2, immature, banded Feb. 24 (M.W.).

## 406. APOSTLE BIRD (675)

Sandy Creek (MLR), 2 on Jan. 15 (H.C.)—see *S. Aust. Ornith.* 25, 1968 p. 45. The present status of this species in the Upper Murray and pastoral country to the north is covered fully by K. J. Mack 'Apostle Birds in the Murray Lands' *ibid.*, 24, 1967, pp. 139-145. During the current period there were a number of records from the area marked on Mack's map as 'permanent habitat' plus the following, outside this area in the pastoral country (LN), which extends the range of this species considerably:—Manunda, 10 in May, 1967 ('The first for years') (F.S.), 10 on Aug. 25 (K.M.), and a group recorded on numerous occasions during October and once in March (F.S.); Radium Hill, 12 on Aug. 30; Jubilee (Mutooroo), 35 on Aug. 31 (K.M.), 100 and 50

in two flocks, Aug. 31 (C.B.); Lambert's Extension (Mutooroo), 14 on Sept. 1; Crosscut (Mutooroo), 40 on Sept. 1 (K.M.) and Duffield's Well (Mutooroo), 60 in late Aug. (C.B.). Along the Upper Murray (eastern border to Morgan—MM), numerous records over a wide area throughout the year (sev. obs.) and large flocks reported in late June at Cooltong and Glossop and about 50 at Cadell—an estimate of up to 150 still along the Murray. A group of 10 birds bred at Cadell, 40' up in a stone pine tree on a dry sandhill opposite the Institute—most unusual site (K.M.).

## \*408. WHITE-BREASTED

## WOOD-SWALLOW (543)

Moorook (MM), one on May 5 (R.A.L.).

409. MASKED WOOD-SWALLOW  
(544)

A few records, mostly of small numbers only in 1967, from AP, LN and upper and lower MM; larger numbers reported in 1968 (sev. obs.). Bunn's Bore area (MM), 400+, Oct. 6-9 (S.A.O.A. Campout); Oulnina Pk to Tiverton (LN), 30-40 on April 27; between Morgan (MM), Hallett (LN) and Tiverton (LN), up to 200 in late May; Flinders Ras (NE), 100+ in May (K.M.).

## 410. WHITE-BROWED

## WOOD-SWALLOW (545)

Small numbers only reported during 1967 from Roseworthy (AP), Happy Valley Res. (MLR), Bower, Langhorne Ck, Chauncy's Line and Bunn's Bore area (MM).

## 411. BLACK-FACED

## WOOD-SWALLOW (546)

Langhorne Ck (MM), 3 on June 14 (H.E.), ca. 12 on June 12 and several times since (L.P.); 10 miles south-east of Wellington (MM), 2 on Sept. 10 (H.E.).

## 414C. BROWN CURRAWONG (698)

Minlaton (YP), present throughout year; has been recorded as far north as the Ardrossan district (K.T.).

## 420. RAVEN (690)

Bunn's Bore area (MM), the only corvid recorded, Oct. 6-9 (S.A.O.A. Campout).