

#### ORANGE-BELLIED PARROT AT GOOLWA

--- On the afternoon of 17 September, 1975, I observed a single parrot perched on a telephone wire about three km north-east of the Goolwa punt crossing to Hindmarsh Island, and about 400 m away from the channel.

The first impression was of a bright emerald green parrot, but as I walked around the bird at a range of 60 m, a yellow abdomen and an orange belly became visible. As it was facing into the sun and towards me, the colours of the belly were seen very clearly. The green head, belly and wings were a bright, rich emerald colour; different to that of either the Elegant Parrot *Neophema elegans* or the Rock N. *petrophila*, which I have also seen. Any blue colour in the plumage could not be distinguished from the rich green general colour of the bird.

I identified the bird as an Orange-bellied Parrot *N. chrysogaster*, a species which has not been recorded west of Salt Creek in recent times (Milledge, 1972. *S.A. Orn.*, 26: 56-58). Condon (1969. *A Handlist of the Birds of S.A.*, p. 63) listed it as a rare coastal species — mostly recorded from the vicinity of Robe and Beachport in the extreme south-east of the State during "April to August; sometimes November."

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