

BIRD NOTES**DOLLAR BIRD IN BAROSSA VALLEY —**

On 28 December, 1975, at Eden Valley, about 15 km south of Angaston in the Barossa Valley, a very dark bird about a foot tall, with the appearance of a squat bird of prey, was observed in the dead upper branches of a red gum.

It had a thick, pale yellow hooked bill and a short tail. Twice it flew up above the tree and hawked for insects. In flight two white "bullseyes" near the tips of the wings were clearly visible and this left no doubt that it was a Dollar Bird, *Eurystomus orientalis*. Judging by the lack of colour in the plumage and the paleness of the bill, the bird was probably an immature. Adults have red bills.

Condon (1969. *A Handlist of the Birds of S.A.*: 69) listed it as casual in South Australia, and mentioned records from near Farina, near Adelaide, the Upper Murray and the South-East. Slater (1970. *A Field Guide to Australian Birds*, 1: 410) gives the distribution of Dollar Birds as northern and eastern Australia. They migrate to New Guinea and other islands in autumn and return in late spring — W. K. LOFTUS.

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