

BIRD NOTES

A CHESTNUT-BREASTED WHITEFACE SIGHTING NEAR TARCOOLA — While on an atlas survey to the north of the Gawler Ranges, I sighted a Chestnut-breasted Whiteface *Aphelocephala pectoralis* on 3 November 1978. It was near the dog-proof fence 30 km SSE of Tarcoola, in an area of mulga, black oak, blue bush, a few eucalypts and a variety of small shrubs and grasses, crossed with sand ridges. I first saw it perched on a small shrub just over a metre from the ground 10 m from me. In the bright late afternoon light (18.30 daylight saving time) the broad chestnut band on the breast was clearly visible. It also had chestnut on the flanks. The rest of the underparts, face and forehead were white topped with a black band from eye to eye. Bill and legs were black. After sitting on the shrub for a while it dropped to the ground and hopped about foraging for seeds. After observing it for a short time, I lost sight of it when it passed through the fence. While I had been watching it other small birds of the same size were in the area, but were too far away and in shadow to be identified. Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis* were also seen in the area. — TREVOR COX.