

**FIRST RECORD OF THE BLACK-FACED MONARCH IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.** The Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis* inhabits rainforest of eastern Australia from Cape York to the Dandenong Ranges. In the southern part of its range it is a regular summer breeding migrant, frequenting damp gullies. Although it is considered sedentary in north-east Queensland, and two races have at times been proposed, Schodde and Mason (1999) have regarded such separation as unjustified and retained *melanopsis* as monotypic.

It was recorded breeding in Ferntree Gully on Melbourne's eastern outskirts in December 1939 (Chisolm in Wheeler 1967), but has always been considered vagrant further west (Blakers, Davies and Reilly 1984). The present-day area of regular visitation and breeding has now contracted well to the east of Melbourne. It has not been reported from the Portland forest in western Victoria to which other wet forest species such as the Satin Flycatcher *Rhipidura rufifrons*, Rose Robin *Petroica rosea* and Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca* regularly migrate and breed (pers. obs.).

Thus it was a surprise to hear that Mrs O.M. Smith had found one of these birds dead on her lawn at Goolwa on 3 December 1998. It appeared to have fallen from a small dead tuart gum *Eucalyptus gomphocephala*. I examined the bird on 28 May 1999 and her identification was found to be correct. It had been kept frozen with adequate data regarding the finding and was able to be made into a satisfactory study skin. It was in adult plumage with a fully pneumatized skull. Sexing with absolute certainty was not possible due to decomposition within the body but it appeared to have vestiges of male testes. The stomach was nearly full of insect material and it seemed unlikely that its death was caused by starvation.

There was a heatwave in early December 1998 which may have proven difficult for a rainforest bird caught well away from such habitat. The occurrence presents several puzzling aspects, chief of which are the long distance west of normal range and the marked contrast with normal habitat. Usually examples of disorientation and overflying occur at times of migration. Pizzey and Knight (1997) state, "summer breeding migrant to coastal s.e. Aust., from Aug-Sept., to March-April." Thus early December does not suggest a bird lost on migration. Often vagrants are young birds and inexperience offers a reason for migratory error but this bird is unmistakably adult. It is a curiously unexpected example of vagrancy but also an excellent example of how salvaging a specimen and safeguarding it with good documentation can considerably benefit South Australian ornithology.

In March 2000 a Black-faced Monarch was found near Sturt Gorge Recreation Park in Adelaide, representing the second record for South Australia (Rogers 2001).

#### REFERENCES

- Blakers, M., Davies, S.J.J.F. and Reilly, P.N. 1984. *The atlas of Australian Birds*. RAOU and Melbourne University Press, Melbourne.
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- Rogers, C. 2001. A second record of the Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis* for South Australia. *South Australian Ornithologist*, 33, 140.
- Schodde, R. and Mason, I.J. 1999. *The directory of Australian birds: Passerines*. CSIRO, Collingwood, Victoria.
- Wheeler, W.R. 1967. *A handlist of the birds of Victoria*. Melbourne University Press, Carlton, Victoria.

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## CORRIGENDA

The following list of corrections applies to Vol. 32, Part 6, Supplement, 'List of English and scientific bird names, recommend for use in papers submitted to the *South Australian Ornithologist*' (inserted between pp. 102 and 103). The disk file kindly supplied to the editors was understood at the time to be a correct copy of the species list in 'The taxonomy and species of birds of Australia and its Territories'.

- p. i, col. 1, Anatidae, insert \* after Swan, Mute.
- p. i, col. 2, Anatidae, insert \* after Mallard.
- p. ii, col. 2, Threskiornithidae, for both Spoonbill, Royal and Yellow-billed change *Platēlea* to *Platalea*.
- p. iv, col. 1, Columbidae, insert \* after Turtle-Dove, Laughing.
- p. iv, col. 1, Columbidae, insert \* after Turtle-Dove, Spotted.
- p. vi, col. 1, Pardalotidae (cont.), delete <sup>E</sup> after Gerygone, Norfolk Island.
- p. vi, col. 1, Pardalotidae (cont.), insert <sup>E</sup> after Gerygone, Lord Howe.
- p. viii, col. 2, Zosteropidae (cont.), insert <sup>E</sup> after White-eye, Robust.

In Vol. 33, Part 7:

- p. 127, 'The birds of Munyaroo Conservation Park and adjoining coast', Abstract, line 8, 'Grey-shrike Thrush' should be 'Grey Shrike-thrush'.
- p. 139, 'First record of the Black-faced Monarch in South Australia', para. 2, line 10, replace 'Satin Flycatcher' with 'Rufous Fantail' (The next occurring 'Satin Flycatcher' on lines 10-11 is correct.). My apologies to John Eckert for the transcription error—Ed.