

APRIL.

—By J. W. Mellor, Lockleys.—

A number of White-fronted Chats (*Ephthianura albigrons*) have been busy in the lucerne devouring lucerne-fleas and other insects. On 5th and 24th April a Fantailed Cuckoo (*Cacomantis rubricatus*) was noted. It was very quiet, and, as usual during the winter months, scarcely noticed by the native birds. Several Southern Pipits (*Anthus australis*) were seen, and Boobook Owls (*Spiloglaux boobook*) were frequently calling in the evening of 5th April.

On 11th April I observed a pair of Magpies making repeated attacks on a large Brown Snake, which was rapidly crossing a paddock, and which eventually made cover. Several Southern Singing Honey-eaters were observed on the 8th, and on the 10th Rosellas (*Platyccereus eximius*) were calling loudly. The following day I picked up the dead body of a Coot (*Fulica atra*) by the roadside, and witnessed forty Galahs (*Botolphus roseicapillus*) flying over in a northerly direction. This is a most unusual record for this district. On 21st April I noted the first Flame-breasted Robin at Lockleys this season. Black-shouldered Kites (*Elanus axillaris*), Little Falcons (*Falco longipennis*), Whistling Eagles (*Haliaster sphenurus*), and White-necked Herons (*Myola pacifica*) were also recorded during the month.
