

Emmet Easton kindly collected and identified the termites. Jared Diamond and Matthew Jebb read an earlier draft of the manuscript and offered helpful comments. This is CRI publication number 33.

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NOCTURNAL FEEDING BEHAVIOUR OF THREE DIURNAL RAPTOR SPECIES

JERRY WARNE

On 17 July 1988, whilst staying at Kiunga, Western Province, I noticed unusual nocturnal feeding behaviour of an adult Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* and two Australian Kestrels *Falco cenchroides*, although it is probably normal at this site.

Between 21:00 and 22:00 the birds preyed on a plentiful supply of moths that were attracted to powerful security lights illuminating the dock area, adjacent to the Fly River. Brief sorties from nearby perches were almost invariably successful. This active feeding behaviour was still taking place when I left the area. Mr D. Simpson (pers. comm.) has also seen Peregrines *Falco peregrinus* feeding in the same manner at this locality.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE FEEDING HABITS OF THE HUON ASTRAPIA *ASTRAPIA ROTHSCILDI*

PETER LAMBLEY

While staying in the village of Ogeranang, Morobe Province, 28 June - 2 July 1988, I was able to watch a Huon *Astrapia* come down into the village every morning at sunrise to feed on the berries of the introduced shrub Canadian Elder *Sambucus canadensis*. The berries are apparently very attractive to the birds and according to the villagers they will sometimes come down to feed even in the middle of the day if it is quiet. The shrub is common in the vicinity of villages in the area.

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ROOSTING HABITS OF WHITE-BREASTED WOOD-SWALLOW *ARTAMUS LEUCORHYNCHUS*

LEN TOLHURST

While observing birds for the PNGBS Town Bird Survey, I have noticed that a number of White-breasted Wood-Swallows have been gathering at dusk on the campus of the Pacific Adventist College. Over several nights during the later months of 1989, these birds have been seen to gather on a large power pole, which supports a break-down transformer. The numbers that gather vary, but on 6 December 1989 I counted c. 80 birds gathered together and getting into position for the night. They were perched mostly side by side, actually shoulder to shoulder, touching each other and all facing the same way. More than one location was needed to accommodate this number of birds. Mostly they sat on the timber cross-beams, out in the open with no cover over their heads at all. Some birds as they arrived forced their way between others. During the day only small numbers of these birds are seen around the PAC but in the evening they can be seen flying in and circling before taking up their roosting positions.

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