

Additions and corrections to previous issues of Muruk:

Volume 6:3

My thanks to Rolf Jensen for pointing out an error in the article on Bat Hawk (*Macheiramphus alcinus*) by Chris Eastwood in Vol. 6:3 p. 13. The measurements of the nest should be in mm not cm, thus 700 mm in diameter and 200 mm in depth. Author and editor apologize for this oversight (which would surely refer to a Roc's nest if left in cm !)

Volume 7:1

Papuan Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum pectorale*) was inadvertently omitted from the article by Phil Gregory on the Birds of the Ok Tedi Area. The species is common in the area up to about 2200m, usually seen singly or two birds together and mostly in the forest canopy.

Volume 7:2

Peter Rowland has been kind enough to forward the following clarifications concerning forms listed in his article "*Birds Collected in the Southern Sandaun Province, PNG*" in *Muruk* Volume 7:2 p. 60- 70 :

Lowland Peltops (*Peltops blainvillii*). The record of a bird at 1000m given in the article is in the region of overlap in wing measurements between Mountain (*P. montanus*) and Lowland Peltops, and should not be regarded as a definite new altitude record for the latter species (P. Rowland *in litt.*) The wing of this specimen measured 102mm which is at the top end of the scale for *P. blainvillii* and right at the bottom end for *P. montanus*.

The Broad-billed Fairy-wren are of the nominate subspecies *Malurus grayi grayi*, identified on colour.

The Friilled Monarch specimen available is *Arses insularis*, not the Ochre-collared Monarch *A. telescopthalmus*

INTERESTING SIGHTINGS DURING 1993 & 1994

Contributed by Chris Eastwood (CE.) and Phil Gregory (PG).

R Denotes a rarely recorded species M = migrant E = range extension

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* E
30 at great height over Tabubil on 12/10/94 were new for the Ok Tedi area, eventually heading off south down the valley (PG).

Great-billed Heron *Ardea sumatrana* R
4 along Bensbach River 14/6/93 (PG); Bensbach on 7/10/94 & 8/10/94 (CE)

Black Bittern *Ixobrychus flavicollis*
1 imm. captured in an emaciated condition at Ok Menga 13/9/93, died next day (PG).

Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes* E
A single bird with Royal Spoonbills at Fishing Spot No. 2, Bensbach on 14/6/93 (PG) Documented by Gregory (1993).

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*
200+ Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG).

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca*
500+ Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG).

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* M
20 Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG)

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*
30+ Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG)

Brolga *Grus rubicunda* R
60 Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG)

Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus* R
4 Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG)

Australian Bustard *Ardeotis australis* R
5 Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG)

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus* M
80+ Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG)

Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus* R
Nesting pair present throughout 1993 and early 1994 at Sankwep Road (CE)

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus* R
Sankwep Road on 29/7/93 (2); Independence Drive, Lae (near Unitech) 22/8/93 & 23/1/94; I at Tigipa near Tari 25/9/93 (PG)

Papuan Harrier *Circus spilonotus*
Nadzab on 15/1/93 & 13/9/94; 3 separate birds during drive between Lae and Kainantu on 23/5/93; Moitaka on 30/10/94 (CE)

Doria's Hawk *Megatriorchis doriae* R
Sankwep Road on 10/7/93 (CE)

New Guinea Harpy-Eagle *Harpyopsis novaeguineae* R
1 presumed male (relatively small size) caught in Tabubil on 15.3.93. having been knocked out of a tree by a stone at Ok Menga a few days earlier. The bird had a broken leg and was flown down to the vet in Port Moresby, where the leg was pinned and splinted. Many families in the town were saying prayers for the recovery of "Balus" as he came to be known. A full recovery was made and the individual was eventually released at Mt. Stolle Research station in August. Thanks to Warwick of the Port Moresby Veterinary service for his interest and expertise, and to Ok Tedi Mining for transport. An amazing saga ! (PG); I heard calling on the slopes of the Hindenburg Range at Ok Tit GR 362293 Sheet 7187 on 29/3/93. (PG); I heard calling Bailey Bridge area Ambua 27/9/93 (PG). I heard calling at Km 8 on the Ok Ma road on 29/1/94 and 6/2/94.(PG). I heard calling at km 10, Bewani Road, Vanimo 12/6/94 (CE/PG)

Gurney's Eagle *Aquila gurneyi* R
2 in Lae on 10/7/93; 1 at Wutung near Vanimo on 12/6/94 (CE/ PG)

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax* R
Bensbach on 8/10/94 (CE)

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*
1 immature female flushed from the carcass of a Variable Goshawk on the main Kiunga road near Ok Menga 14/2/94 (PG); 1 Mt. Binnie 15/5/93; 1 Ok Menga 27/3/94 (PG).

Australian Kestrel *Falco cenchroides* M
1 Tabubil 15/5/93; 1 on 19/5/93; 2 on 28/6/93. Seems to be an erratic migrant in recent years, formerly more regular. Maybe tied to the occurrence of other austral winter migrants like Australian Hobby and White-throated Nightjar around this time (PG).

Oriental Hobby *Falco severus*
1 Ok Ma Road 28/2/93 (PG); 1 Ok Menga 23/5/93 (PG & HW); 1 at Wasu 19/1/94; 1 Vanimo 12/6/94 (PG)

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis* M
1 at Tabubil on 1/5/93 was unusual (PG), only a single previous record here. 1 Port Moresby 12/7/93 (PG), 2 at Waigani 31/7/93 (PG); 1 Kiunga 20/8/94 (PG).

Magpie Goose *Anseranas semipalmata*
350 Bensbach Plains 14.6.93 (PG). Bensbach on 8/10/94 & 10/10/94 (singles only) (CE)

Green Pigmy-goose *Nettion pulchellus*
Flocks of 160, 120, 110 and some small groups gave a total of over 500 on the Bensbach Plains 14.6.93 (PG).

Salvadori's Teal *Anas waigiuensis* R
1 on the Ok Menga River 23/5/93 (PG & HW). Wonderful views of the bird perched on a rock in mid-stream, the chest a surprisingly bright unmarked pinky-buff colour. 3 Ok Menga intake mid August 93 (David Simon); 1 there 27/3/94 and 2 on 12/8/94 (PG)

Radjah Shelduck *Tadorna radjah*
30 at Moitaka on 14/11/93

Spotted Whistle-Duck *Dendrocygna guttata*
100 Bensbach Plains 14.6.93, including one with tiny ducklings (PG)

Wandering Whistle-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata* M
300 Bensbach Plains 14/6/93 (PG); 15 over Tabubil in low cloud on 5/10/93 (PG) were very unusual here.

Australian Wood Duck (Maned Duck) *Chenonetta jubata* E
1 f. on flooded fields near PAC 5/3/94 and 13/3/94 (PG / Ian Burrows) Ref. Coates Muruk 1994 Vol. 7:2.

Melanesian Scrubfowl *Megapodius eremita*
2 at Kimbe on 8/6/93; 2 at Umboi on 10/9/93 & 30/12/94; Manus on 2/10/94

Brown-collared Brush-turkey *Talegalla jobiensis*
Heard sporadically on Sankwep Road throughout 1993, but only seen once (CE).

Bare-eyed Rail *Eulabeornis plumbeiventris* R & E
1 found dead at Folomian, 2200m Ok Tedi mine on 9/8/93 (PG). 1 injured at Folomian on 6/9/93, broken leg set at the OTML Haus Sik but the bird died later (PG). 1 with an injured leg captured at Tabubil on 17/9/94, and later released (PG).

Chestnut Forest-Rail *Rallina rubra* R
1m and 1 f near Bailey bridge, Ambua 27/9/94 and 1 m there 28/9/94 (PG)

Bush-hen *Amaurornis olivaceus*
2 at Sankwep Road on 29/8/93; 1 on 7/11/93 & 23/1/94

Coot *Fulica atra* R
1 at Lake Wangbin 15/8/93 (per Ian Schofield); 4 at Lake Wangbin 19/9/93 (PG); 5 ad and 4 juv. Lake Wangbin on 14/5/94 (CE / PG)

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa* E
1 at Lake Wangbin 19/9/93 was new for the Ok Tedi area (PG).

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*
1 at Wasu, Huon 23/1/94 (PG); 8 adults of the local race *dubius*, Tabubil airstrip 17/8/94 (PG). Calls are quite distinct from those of the Eurasian form *euronicus*, being a sharp plaintive upward inflected "peeee" or "keee", repeated two, three or four times as well as given singly and the usual flight note. Also an incisive rather pratincole-like "kik" with crowned feathers raised and body stretched up whilst bobbing. Base of lower mandible pink and legs dull pale fleshy-pink.

Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus* M
3 Tari Airstrip 25/9/93 (PG)

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* M
1 on the Tabubil Golf Course 12/9/93 (PG and Ian Schofield); 2 there 12/9/94 (PG).

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* R/M
1 Tabubil rugby pitch 8/10/93 was new for the area (PG)

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* M
6 juv. Tabubil rugby pitch 8 & 9/10/93 (PG).

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* R & M
1 Moitaka ponds 30/12/93 and 1/1/94 (PG / Ian Burrows)

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis* E & M
2 Tabubil rugby pitch 9/10/93 were new for the area (PG); 1 Tabubil airstrip 17/8/94 (PG)

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* M
3 Tabubil airstrip 18/9/93; 3 over Tabubil town 30/9/93; 1+ Tabubil airstrip 5/10/93 (PG). 4 Vanimo Airstrip on 13/6/94 were unexpected (PG). 1 with Little Whimbrel 6/10/94 (PG)

Little Whimbrel *Numenius minutus* M
13 Tabubil golf course area 30/9/93; 12 there on 5/10/93(PG). 1 with Whimbrel 8/10/94 (PG)

Chinese Snipe *Gallinago megala* M
2 Tabubil airstrip 30/9/93; 8 there on 5/10/93 (PG)

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum* M
1 at Moitaka on 30/10/94

Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella* M
6 at Nadzab on 10/6/93 (CE); 1 Tari airstrip 28/9/93 (PG); Kiunga airstrip on 16/5/94 (CE); 3 Tabubil airstrip 27/6/94, 8 on 22/7/94 and 5 on 17/9/94 (PG); Daru airstrip on 7/10/94 (CE).
Winters regularly in small numbers at Tabubil and Kiunga.

Arctic Skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* M
2 pale phase off Wasu, Huon on 23/1/94 (PG).

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* R/M
1 typical heavy-set, deep chested dark phase bird off Bird Island, Madang 13/4/94 (PG).

Sooty Tern *Sterna fuscata* M
1 adult moribund at Tabubil airstrip 29/9/93 was the second for the area, the first being in the 1970's (PG).

Pheasant Pigeon *Otidiphaps nobilis* R
Varirata on 24/7/94 & 18/9/94; Heard at Ok Ma Road Feb. 93 and Ok Menga May 93 (PG)

Southern Crowned Pigeon *Goura scheepmakeri* R
3 Elevala River 2/4/94 (PG)

White-throated Pigeon *Columba vitiensis*R
3 singles of this seldom recorded species flying over Ok Menga on 16.5.93 were unusual (PG)

Nicobar Pigeon *Caloenas nicobarica* R/E
1 imm. flushed from a thicket on Bird Island, Madang on 13/4/94, flying back and landing to permit excellent close views (PG).

White-bibbed Ground-Dove *Gallicolumba jobiensis* R
1 imm. in the grounds of Ambua Lodge 27/9/93 (PG).

Ornate Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus ornatus*
4th Street, Lae on 20/3/94 (CE)

Yellow-bibbed Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus solomonensis*
3 or 4 on Tong island, Manus on 5/10/94 (CE)

White-breasted Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus rivoli*
Umboi on 10/9/93 (CE)

Claret-breasted Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus viridis*
Manus on 2/10/94 (CE)

Orange-bellied Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus iozonus*
4th Street, Lae on 20/3/94 (CE)

Red-knobbed Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus insolitus*
Kavieng on 23/1/93 & 24/1/93; 20+ at Numundo on 6/6/93; also singles seen regularly on Umboi September 1993, February & December 1994 (CE)

Dwarf Fruit-dove *Ptilinopus nana*
Sankwep Road on 1/1/93 (only one sighting in 15 months) (CE)

Rufescent Imperial Pigeon *Ducula chalconota* R
2 above Satop, Huon 20/1/94 (PG); 1 Dablin Creek 19/7/94, altitude about 800m (PG)

Black -collared Imperial-Pigeon *Ducula muellerii*
100+ Elevala River 2.4.94 (PG)

Grey Imperial Pigeon *Ducula pistrinaria*
Manus on 4/10/94 & 5/10/94 (CE)

Red-knobbed Imperial Pigeon *Ducula rubricera*
20+ at Numundo on 6/6/93; several on Umboi on 9/9/93 & 10/9/93 and in February & December 1994 (CE)

Greater Streaked Lory *Chalcopsitta scintillata*
80+ Elevala River 2/4/94 (PG)

Brown Lory *Chalcopsitta duivenbodei* R
10 at Bewani Road, Vanimo on 11/6/94, 4 on 12/6 & 6 on 13/6/94 (CE/ PG).

Dusky Lory *Pseudeos fuscata*
4th Street, Lae on 6/2/93 (CE)

Goldie's Lorikeet *Trichoglossus goldiei*
Veimauri on 4/12/94 (CE)

Streaked Lorikeet *Charmosyna multistriata* R
A total of 125 flying east in small flocks between 1700-1800 at Dablin Creek near Tabubil on 9/5/93. This is the maximum count to date. There is a regular late afternoon flyover here, always of flocks heading east up into the hills and in all months, though there is least activity in the wet and misty months of July and August. 5 there on 8/8/93 and c.40 on 12/8/93 (PG). 30 there 30/1/94; 7 on 19/7/94; 20 11/8/94; 40 + 25/9/94 (PG)

Red-chinned Lorikeet *Charmosyna rubrigularis*
Kavieng on 24/1/93 (at sea level)

Pigmy Lorikeet *Charmosyna wilhelminae* R
4 Ok Ma Road 28/2/93 (PG)

Little Red Lorikeet *Charmosyna pulchella*
c.250 flying north in small groups at Dablin Creek 8/8/93; 5 there on 12/8/93; 20 at Ok Menga 15/8/93; 20 Dablin Creek 11/8/94 (PG)

Modest Tiger-Parrot *Psittacella modesta* E
1 female Ok Tit, slopes of Hindenburg Range at GR 362293 Sheet 7187 on 28/3/93; another there next day 29/3/93. (PG)

Palm Cockatoo *Probosciger aterrimus*
Vanimo on 10/6/94, 11/6/94 & 12/6/94; Bensbach on 7/10/94 & 8/10/94; Veimauri on 4/12/94 (CE)

Little Corella *Cacatua pastinator* R
6+ near Wando, Bensbach 12/6/93 (PG)

Blue-eyed Cockatoo *Cacatua ophthalmica*
Fairly common around Kimbe & Walindi (CE)

Red-breasted Pigmy-Parrot *Micropsitta bruijnii*
50 of the "Masked" Ok Tedi form Ok Menga 13/5/94; 50+ Dablin Creek 15/5/94; 30 there on 19/7/94; 60+ flying north Ok Menga 11/9/94 and 25 feeding in an *Albizzia* the same day (PG). A common bird in the Ok Tedi area.

Buff-faced Pigmy-Parrot *Micropsitta pusto*
Group of 6 at Brown River on 14/11/93 (CE)
Meek's Pigmy-parrot *Micropsitta meeki*
Manus on 2/10/94 (CE)

Edward's Fig-Parrot *Psittaculirostris edwardsii*
5+ at Gain on the Boana Road 24/1/94 (PG); Gain on 30/1/94 (CE); 4 at Bewani Road, Vanimo on 11/6/94, 3 on 12/6/94 & 4 on 13/6/94, inspecting holes in a branch on 12/6; 2 near Wutung 12/6/94 with a single Double-eyed Fig-Parrot (CE/ PG);

Double-eyed Fig-Parrot *Cyclopsitta diophthalma*
Sankwep Road on 31/1/93, 4 on 10/7/93 & 1 on 20/11/93 (CE); Quite common Bewani Road, Vanimo with a flock of 8 on 10/6/94 (PG/CE)

Red-cheeked Parrot *Geoffroyus geffroyi*
Pair resident at 4th Street, Lae during 1993 & 1994 (CE)

Blue-collared Parrot *Geoffroyus simplex*
Quite often seen or heard flying over in the Tabubil area, generally at a great height above ground ! 4+ seen at Ok Menga at the same time as Red-cheeked Parrot (12+) on 23.5.93. though not in the same flock (PG). 15 and a flock of 40+ Ok Menga 27.3.94 (PG); 70+ Lake Wangbin 14/5/94 (CE/PG)

Vulturine Parrot *Psitttrichas fulgidus* R
Sankwep Road on 17/10/93 (CE); 2 nearly fledged juvs. brought to Tabubil 23/12/93 (PG). Still occurs in small numbers in the Ok Tedi area. 5 Ok Menga 13/5/94 (PG). 4 near Satop, Huon 20/1/94 (PG)

Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus*
Bensbach on 7/10/94, 8/10/94 & 10/10/94 (CE)

Papuan Hanging Parrot *Loriculus aurantiifrons* R & E
1 flyover at Dablin Creek on 9/5/93 (PG); 1 male at Bewani Road, Vanimo on 12/6/94 (CE & PG). 1 male Ok Menga 7/8/93, superb views of it actually hanging motionless upside-down in an *Albizzia* for several minutes; I heard Dablin Creek 8/8/93; 1 at km 119 on the Kiunga-Tabubil road on 21/8/93 (PG). 1 heard Ok Ma road 20/3/94.

Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo *Chrysococcyx basalis* M
Bensbach on 8/10/94 (CE)

White-crowned Koel *Caliechthrus leucolophus*
Sankwep Road on 9/5/93; Varirata on 13/11/93; Veimauri on 25/9/94; Goldie River road on 13/11/94 (CE)

Dwarf Koel *Microdynamis parva*
Sankwep Road on 29/7/93 & 2 on 20/11/93; heard at Sankwep Road on 5/12/93 (CE); 1 f. Dablin Creek 27/1/94; 1 male Dablin Creek 15/5/94 (PG).

Common Koel *Eudynamis scolopacea* M
1 f. type on Pig Island, Madang 13/4/94 and 2 females on Bird Island the same day, not of the Australian form subcyanocephala (PG). One of these birds had a long buff supercilium not unlike Long-tailed Koel (*E. taitensis*), a pale malar stripe and a dark mottled throat.

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae* M
4th Street, Lae 1 on 30/3/93, 7 on 8/4/93, 2 on 19/4/93, 4 on 21/4/93, 3 on 30/4/93; at least 6 around Niugini Tablebirds at Lae on 18/5/93 and 8+ on 23/5/93; Sankwep Road on 17/10/93; Umboi on 28/2/94 (CE)

Violaceous Coucal *Centropus violaceus*
Kimbe on 8/6/93 (CE)

White-necked Coucal *Centropus ateralbus*
Fairly common around Kimbe & Walindi (even in oil palm plantations) also seen on Umboi on 9/9/93 & 10/9/93 and in February & December 1994 (CE)

Masked Owl *Tyto novaehollandiae* R
Bensbach on 8/10/94 (a bird roosting during the day) (CE/ Ian Burrows)

Papuan Boobook *Ninox theomacha*
Heard 4th Street, Lae on 25/1/94 (CE)

Papuan Frogmouth *Podargus papuensis*
 1 rufous phase bird in Tabubil town 6/9/93 (PG); Bensbach on 7/10/94 & 8/10/94 (CE)

Marbled Frogmouth *Podargus ocellatus* R
 Bensbach on 7/10/94 (CE); 1 flushed from the ground in a *Pandanus* thicket at Varirata 25/1/94 (PG)

Feline Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles insignis* R & E
 1 trapped and photographed at 1300m on Mt. Robinson, Tabubil 23/7/94 (PG/ Ian Burrows) and also heard calling.

Archbold's Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles archboldi* R & E
 1 trapped and photographed at 1350m on Mt. Robinson January 1994 (Ian & Roger Burrows).

White-throated Nightjar *Eurostopodus mystacalis* E
 1 flying north at dusk over Tabubil swimming pool on 29/4/93. A new record for the area (PG).

Papuan Nightjar *Eurostopodus papuensis*
 Bensbach on 9/10/94 (CE); 1 along the Varirata approach road at dusk on 29/12/93 (PG)

White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus* M
 Sankwep Road on 3/1/93; Brown River on 14/11/93 (CE); 1 Elevala River 2/4/94 (PG)

Hook-billed Kingfisher *Melidora macrorrhina*
 Heard 4th Street, Lae on 6/2/93 & on 30/4/93 (CE)

Shovel-billed Kingfisher *Clytoceyx rex* R & E
 Ambua 7/94 along the waterfall trail (per Chris Doughty of Peregrine Bird Tours)

Spangled Kookaburra *Dacelo tyro* R
 2 on 12/6/93 and 4 on 13/6/93 at Bensbach (PG). Bensbach on 7/10/94, 8/10/94 & 10/10/94 (CE)

Beach Kingfisher Halcyon saurophaga
 Rabaul on 2/3/93 (CE); 2 on Bird Island, Madang 12/4/94 (PG); Tong Island, Manus on 5/10/94 (CE)

Sacred Kingfisher *Halcyon sancta* M
 The first of that season's wintering birds was at Tabubil on 8/4/93. (PG)

Red-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera nympha* R
 Heard fairly often at Sankwep Road but only seen on 7/11/93 & 5/6/94 (CE)

Buff-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera sylvia* M & E
 1 first-winter bird on back veranda of house in Tabubil, another first winter on the veranda of school building Tabubil on the same day 13/5/94, with a third immature individual killed by a cat given to me later that day ! (CE/ PG). An unprecedented influx and confirming the species from the Ok Tedi area, where recorded as a probable by Murray (1988). 1 immature Tabubil 21/5/94; 1 on school veranda there again on 22/7/94, tail now about half grown (PG). An adult at school on 14/10/94 may conceivably have been one of the earlier immatures moulted into full plumage.

Black-headed Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera nigriceps*
 1 at Kimbe on 7/6/93 & 2 on 8/6/93; 2 at Umboi on 10/9/93 and 1 on 30/12/94 (CE)

Blue-tailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus*
 Nadzab on 11/9/93, 13/9/94 & 24/11/94; Vanimo on 10/6/94; Bensbach on 7/10/94 & 8/10/94 (CE)

Blyth's Hornbill *Rhyticeros plicatus*
 Regularly seen in small numbers around Sankwep Road during 1993; also a few seen in the Kimbe area in June 1993 and at Veimauri on 21/8/94, 4/9/94 & 25/9/94 (CE)

Superb Pitta *Pitta superba* R
 Manus on 4/10/94 (CE)

Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor* R
 Bensbach on 8/10/94 (CE)

Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica* M
 18 on wires in the Tabubil lay-down area 28/2/93 (PG); 5 Tabubil 21/2/94 and 4 there on 4/3/94 (PG); Finschhafen on 23/3/94 (CE)

Fairy Martin *Hirundo ariel* R
 1 Tabubil rugby pitch 9/10/93, a vagrant to PNG (Gregory 1993).

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* R
 1 Tabubil rugby pitch 9/10/93; 1 there 29/3/94 (PG)

Golden Cuckoo-shrike *Campochaera sloetii*
 Vanimo on 12/6/94; Veimauri on 4/9/94 (CE); Frequent in the Ok Tedi area (PG)

Log-Runner *Orthonyx temminckii* R
 Heard at Tari Gap 27/9/93 (PG and Joseph Tano)

Papuan Whipbird *Androphobus viridis* R
 1 probable female Ambua waterfall trail 29/9/94 (PG and Joseph Tano). Regrettably I had only a partial view of the bird, which was well seen in mid stratum by Joseph, and identified as such by him. A small berrypecker type but with the upperparts quite a bright green, an unusual shade, and the head unlike a *Melanocharis* berrypecker as the bill was too long and pointy, not the normal stubby, blunt berrypecker effect. Dark eye, and Joseph saw grey underparts. I did not recognize the species from what I saw and strongly suspect Joseph is correct. It would be good to document the occurrence of this species from Ambua, where 4 or five reliable observers have seen it.

Fly River Grassbird *Megalurus albolimbatus* R
 1 near Wando, Bensbach on 14/6/93 (PG); Bensbach on 8/10/94 (CE)

Pale-billed Scrubwren *Sericornis spilodera* E
 1 on Bird Island, Madang on 12/4/94 was unexpected (PG).

Manus Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura semirubra* R
Fairly common on Tong Island, Manus on 5/10/94 (CE)

Island Monarch *Monarcha cinerascens*
1 Bird Island, Madang 13.4.94 (PG); Several on Tong Island, Manus on 5/10/94 (CE)

Spectacled Monarch *Monarcha trivirgatus*
Bensbach on 9/10/94 (CE)

Admiralty Pied Monarch *Monarcha infelix* R
Manus on 2/10/94, 3/10/94 & 4/10/94 (CE)

Bismarck Pied Monarch *Monarcha verticalis*
Single birds at Kimbe on 8/6/93; Umboi on 9/9/93 & 10/9/93 (CE)

Hooded Monarch *Monarcha manadensis*
Regularly seen at Sankwep Road during 1993 (CE); 2+ Elevala River N. of Kiunga 2/4/94 (PG)

Golden Monarch *Monarcha chrysomela*
Kavieng on 23/1/93 & on 24/1/93 (CE)

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca* M
1 male Bird Island, Madang 12/4/94 (PG).

Torrent Flycatcher *Monachella muelleriana*
Resident on the Sankwep River (CE); a pair and an open cup lichen nest 15m up a dead tree overhanging the Ok Tedi at Km 119 on the Kiunga-Tabubil road.

Mangrove Robin *Eopsaltria pulverulenta*
Hisiu on 7/8/94 & 3/9/94 (CE)

Black-throated Robin *Poecilodryas albonotata*
Ambua on 19/2/93 (CE)

Banded Yellow Robin *Poecilodryas placens* R
1 seen and 1 heard at Veimaui on 4/9/94 (CE/PG) & 25/9/94 (CE)

White-rumped Robin *Peneothello bimaculatus* R & E
Ok Ma Road, Tabubil on 15/5/94 (CE/PG); Veimaui on 12/11/94 & 4/12/94 (CE)

Lesser Ground-robin *Amalocichla incerta* R
1 seen Ambua 26/9/94, 3 heard there on 27/9/94, 1 seen and 1 heard 28/9/94 (PG);

Dwarf Whistler *Pachycare flavogrisea*
Fairly common at Varirata during 1994 (CE)

Rusty Whistler *Pachycephala hyperythra*
1 at Sankwep Road on 23/10/93 (CE)

Black-headed Whistler *Pachycephala monacha* E
Gain on 11/7/93 (CE); 1 male at Ok Menga on 23/5/93 was a new species for the area and may well be a recent colonist as the habitat is degraded and becomes suitable (PG).

Sclater's Whistler *Pachycephala soror*
1 female Dablin Creek at 750m on 19/7/94 was at an unusually low altitude (PG).

Golden-backed Whistler *Pachycephala aurea* R
3 birds at the usual site in riparian *Albizzia* dominated scrub at Km 120 on the Kiunga/Tabubil road on 2/5/93. They were calling and singing, with one individual putting its head right back with the bill held vertical whilst calling. Perhaps some sort of display as another bird was calling nearby? 1 adult and a juv. there on 21/8/93 (PG).

Mangrove Golden Whistler *Pachycephala melanura*
2 males and 1 female, Bird Island, Madang 12/4/94 (PG); Some controversy exists over the exact identity of the form of Golden Whistler occurring here, they may be the Bismarck form of *P. pectoralis*. The birds today had blackish tails and prominent pale edgings to the secondaries of both sexes, but the calls are rather different to those of *P. melanura* from Hisiu (PG pers obs.)

Rufous-naped Whistler *Pachycephala rufinucha*
Mt Hagen (Haus Poroman) on 24/7/93 (CE)

Black Pitohui *Pitohui nigrescens*
Ambua on 20/2/93 (CE); 1 male near Hydro 28/9/94 (PG)

White-bellied Pitohui *Pitohui incertus*
2+ with a brown and black bird flock in forest along the Elevala River north of Kiunga 2/4/94 (PG). The first sighting for some time of this rare and elusive but readily overlooked species.

Wattled Ploughbill *Eulacestoma nigropectus* R
Ambua on 20/2/93 (CE); 1 male Ambua Lodge 28/9/93 (PG).

Berrypecker sp. *Melanocharis* sp.
1 singing Dablin Creek 8.8.93 See Gregory (1993) for initial reports of this form. 2 there on 27/1/94 and 2 there 19/7/94, one of which was collected by Bret Whitney;

Bismarck Flowerpecker *Dicaeum eximium*
Kavieng on 23/1/93 & on 24/1/93; Kimbe on 7/6/93 (CE)

Black-headed White-eye *Zosterops hypoxantha*
Manus on 3/10/94 (CE)

Olive Straightbill *Timeliopsis fulvigula* R
2 at Ok Tit, southern slopes of Hindenburg Range 28/3/93. (PG)

Green-backed Honeyeater *Glycichaera fallax*
2 at Bewani Road, Vanimo on 12/6/94 (CE/PG)

- Slater's Myzomela *Myzomela sclateri*
Umboi on 27/2/94 (not previously reported from such a "large" island) (CE)
- Bismarck Black Myzomela *Myzomela melanocephala*
Common on Tong Island, Manus on 5/10/94 (CE)
- Ashy Myzomela *Myzomela cineracea*
Kimbe on 8/6/93; Umboi on 9/9/93 & 10/9/93 and during February & December 1994 (CE)
- Varied Honeyeater *Lichenostomus versicolor*
Regular in and around Lae during 1993 (CE)
- Ornate Melidectes *Melidectes torquatus*
Kainantu on 23/5/93 (CE)
- Cinnamon-browed Melidectes *Melidectes ochromelas*
2 near Satop, Huon 19/1/94 and 10+ above Satop on 20/1/94 (PG).
- Marbled Honeyeater *Pyconpygius cinereus*
1 near Satop, Huon on 20 & 21/1/94 (PG)
- New Britain Friarbird *Philemon cockerelli*
2 at Walindi on 18/5/93 & 5/6/93; Kimbe on 8/6/93; single birds seen or heard Umboi on 10/9/93 & 11/9/93 and during February and December 1994 (particularly vocal after dark. CE)
- Manus Friarbird *Philemon albitorques*
Common on Manus during October 1994 (CE)
- Leaden Honeyeater *Ptiloprora plumbea* R & E
4 at Lake Wangbin 14/5/94 (PG), first reported by Burrows in January 94 and new for the Ok Tedi area.
- Spangled Honeyeater *Melipotes ater*
3 near Satop, Huon 19/1/94 and 6+ above Satop on 20/1/94 (PG)
- Rufous-banded Honeyeater *Conopophila albogularis*
Nadzab on 15/1/93 (CE)
- Torrent-lark *Grallina bruijni*
2 at Veimaui on 4/9/94 were along a stream at 300m altitude (PG)
- Grand Mannikin *Lonchura grandis*
Gain on 11/7/93; 10 + near Gain 24/1/94 (PG); Sogeri on 18/9/94 (CE)
- Hunstein's Mannikin *Lonchura hunsteini* R
Common at Kavieng Airport on 23/1/93 & 24/1/93 (CE)
- White-spotted Mannikin *Lonchura leucosticta* R & E
8 on 12/6/93 near Wando, Bensbach. 4 on 13/6/93 near the airstrip at Bensbach (PG). 1 at Rumgenai near Kiunga 1/4/94 represents a slight northward range extension from Kiunga (PG).
- Crimson Finch *Neochmia phaeton* E
2 in pit-pit grass at Rumgenai near Kiunga on 1/4/94 represent a large range extension from the middle Fly (PG).
- Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus* M
Bensbach on 7/10/94 (CE)
- Yellow Oriole *Oriolus flavocinctus*
Bensbach on 8/10/94 (CE)
- Paradise Drongo *Dicrurus megarhynchus*
Kavieng on 23/1/93 & 24/1/93 (CE)
- Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen* R
Bensbach on 8/10/94 & 10/10/94 (only two birds; CE). Not seen in September 93 (PG)
- White-eared Catbird *Ailuroedus buccoides*
Heard fairly regularly and seen occasionally on the Sankwep Road (northern race with brown cap); Varirata on 27/11/94 (CE)
- Flame Bowerbird *Sericulus aureus* R
1 male at the usual Magazine Road site, near Kiunga 3/4/93 (PG)
- Archbold's Bowerbird *Archboldia papuensis* R
Tari Gap on 27/3/93 (at bower; CE)
- Crested Bird-of-Paradise *Cnemophilus macgregoriae*
1 male near Bailey Bridge, Ambua 27/9/94 (PG)
- Loria's Bird-of-Paradise *Cnemophilus loriae*
1 imm. male Mt. Robinson 23/7/94 had orangey soles of the feet.
- Huon Astrapia *Astrapia rothschildi*
6+ above Satop, Huon 19/1/94 and 10+ there 20/1/94, all female/immature plumaged.
- Wahnes Parotia *Parotia wahnesi*
1 male near Satop 19/1/94, 1 female 20/1/94 and 1 male 21/1/94 (PG).
- Short-tailed Paradigalla *Paradigalla brevicauda*
2+ Lake Wangbin 19/9/93 (PG)
- Splendid Astrapia *Astrapia splendidissima* R & E
1 male and 1 female Ok Tit, southern slopes of Hindenburg Range at GR 362293 (Sheet 7187) on 28/3/93; 2 male and 1 female 29/3 and a single male on 30/3. (PG)
- Buff-tailed Sicklebill *Epimachus albertisi* R
Ambua on 20/2/93 (on path to Hydro scheme; CE); Heard calling there 28/9/94 (PG)

Pale-billed Sicklebill *Epimachus bruijnii* R
1 male Bewani Road (Km 14) near Vanimo on 11/6/94 (PG and CE)

Black Sicklebill *Epimachus fastuosus*
1 male seen and 2 heard Lake Wangbin 19/9/93 (PG). 3 heard there 14/5/94 (PG/CE)

Brown Sicklebill *Epimachus meyeri*
Ambua on 19/2/93 (CE); 1 female plumage Ok Tit, southern Hinderburg Range 29/3/93 (PG)

Magnificent Bird-of-Paradise *Diphyllodes magnificus*
Heard at Gain on 11/7/93 and at Sankwep Road on 24/10/93 (the Sankwep Road site is only about 500 metres above sea level); Sankwep Road on 23/1/94 & 27/3/94 (CE)

Emperor Bird-of-Paradise *Paradisaea guilielmi*
Heard daily below Satop, Huon 19-20/1/94 (PG); 1 male and 3 f/imm Gain 24/1/94 (PG); Gain on 11/7/93 (probably the most accessible site for birders; CE)

Greater Bird-of-Paradise *Paradisaea apoda*
2 males, 2 imm. males & 1 female plumage bird Ok Ma road 1.3.93. 1 female type at 800m at Dablin Creek Sept. 94 was at an unusually high altitude (PG). Female plumage birds are common in the Ok Tedi area but fully plumed males are sparse due to hunting pressure.

Contributed by Chris Eastwood (CE) and Phil Gregory (PG), with Harriet Whitehead (HW).

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Fig. 1 Location of places mentioned in this issue

