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MURUK



VOLUME 7 NUMBER 2 MAY 1995

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EDITORIAL

This issue, Volume 7 number 2 May 1995, contains a controversial and thought-provoking article from Clifford Frith. Responses to issues raised therein are welcome. Grammatical conventions are however the prerogative of the editor. We are again pleased to publish papers in this issue about the birds of little studied areas, and trip reports from Chris Eastwood, Allan Richards and Richard Rowland which document interesting sightings. The third and final issue for 1995 should be published before the end of the year, depending on how much material we receive.

Future issues will summarize major sightings over the past year, with some revised criteria applying to what is published:

E = Extension of range, records away from previously known range.

A = Altitudinal extension of range.

B = Breeding records, lacking for many quite common species.

R = Rare, scarce or seldom recorded species.

M = Migrants, with first and last dates of interest or numerical records of note.

G = General interest, may be behavioural, unusual numbers or localities, plumage abnormalities etc.

Records not fitting the above categories are usually from lesser known areas.

Contributors of sightings have been very few in recent years, and we encourage both residents and visitors to submit their records. Please use the above criteria as guidelines.

We particularly welcome copies of tour group reports, as many interesting sightings lie hidden in these inaccessible databases and it is a courtesy to the host country to make copies available to the PNGBS. Such reports form part of our archives, and excerpts would be used only if such permission is given. Feedback to notes and papers is welcomed, if you know better please write and tell us, we will be happy to publish, a major aim being to stimulate study and increase the knowledge of New Guinea birds.

Editor: Phil Gregory.

Please continue to send submissions (preferably on disk in the specified format) to:

Editor, *Muruk*, PO Box 69, Tabubil, Western Province, PNG.

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All contributions will be acknowledged.

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Cover: Dwarf Cassowary head study by Jones Hiaso

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RANGE EXTENSION OF THE SPLENDID ASTRAPIA *Astrapia splendidissima*, A SIGHTING OF AN *A. mayeri* x *A. stephaniae* HYBRID, OR AN UNIDENTIFIED *Astrapia* sp. (Paradisaeidae)?

by Clifford B. Frith

Peckover (1993) attempted to clarify the identification of an individual *Astrapia* sp. seen by Tolhurst (1989), and thought by him to be a Splendid *Astrapia* *A. splendidissima*, near the Bailey bridge immediately above Ambua Lodge on the Tari -Mt. Hagen highway, Southern Highland Province, Papua New Guinea. Both the Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia* *A. mayeri* and Stephanie's *Astrapia* *A. stephaniae* occur at this location but no hybrid between them (recorded elsewhere) has been confirmed there. Frith & Frith (1992, 1993a) noted that the altitude of this location is closer to c 2 200m than to the 3 600m asl indicated by Tolhurst.

Variability of white in the tail of some two-thirds of all female Ribbon-tailed *Astrapias* (Mayr & Gilliard 1952), from the smallest amount to completely male-like white and dark-tipped central tail feathers is known (Coates 1990). This left Tolhurst's sighting of a supposed Splendid *Astrapia* in serious doubt (Frith & Frith 1992, 1993a) as the Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia* frequents the Bailey bridge area and Tolhurst noted only that the "tail feathers were bi-coloured, white near the base and brown towards the end. The line of demarcation between the two colours was about half-way down the length of the tail". No further discussion of this isolated and brief sighting, at 25m distance, seemed warranted as the total length of the bird's tail relative to its body length, the possibility of moult, or other significant diagnostic plumage characters were not indicated or discussed. Indeed no evidence was presented to indicate why the bird concerned was not considered a female as opposed to an immature or moulting male. A subsequent discussion of this sighting by Peckover (1993), who had not seen Frith & Frith (1992, 1993a) demands the present response, however, as it not only fails to clarify the matter but confuses and complicates it.

Peckover states that the bird seen by Tolhurst is "most likely a typical example of young Barnes's (originally spelt Barnes', by Iredale in (1948) Long-tailed Bird of Paradise *Astrapia mayeri* x *Astrapia stephaniae*, probably a three to four year old male and there is a "less likely possibility" of it being an "immature female Ribbontail Bird of Paradise (sic) *A. mayeri*." He then states that the pigmented tail tip of an adult female Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia* photographed on the nest by myself is "black" and uses this interpretation to argue that the "brown" towards the end of the tail seen by Tolhurst indicates a young hybrid male individual rather than a female Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia*. The facts are, however, that whilst the tail tips of the presumed female Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia* I photographed often appeared blackish they also often appeared distinctly dark to mid brown as do those of any Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia* subject to light and distance. Contrary to Peckover, I would say that my photograph, reproduced in Coates (1990, plate 449), shows a dark brown tip to the entire central tail feather and not a black one. It is not clear why Peckover acknowledges only the possibility of an immature female, and not also an adult female, Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia*.

Peckover goes on to dismiss Tolhurst's suggestion that the bird he saw was a Splendid *Astrapia* because the latter's description of the tail feathers reads "the white on the base of the tail covered the full width of the tail feathers". Peckover cites Gilliard (1969), Cooper & Forshaw (1977) and Medland (in Iredale 1950) as providing support for his view by indicating that in the Splendid *Astrapia* "the white bases of the tail feathers are edged with brown or black". The facts are

that the illustrations and text in the former two, and the illustration in the last, of these three publications clearly indicates, correctly, that the pale basal area of at least the central pair of tail feathers in the Splendid *Astrapia* are white throughout (the width of the feathers). I cannot see that Peckover's approximation of the "about 22mm" width of the white central tail feathers of an otherwise female-plumaged Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia* in a printed photograph (in Coates 1990) is pertinent to his case. Peckover noted that the lack of the tip of one central tail feather of the photographed bird denied him knowledge of its appearance. As this bird's tail was complete prior to my photograph (Coates 1990) being taken I can confirm that the two central tail feathers were identical.

Tolhurst did not indicate which tail feathers he was referring to with respect to them being white across their full width. In view of the fact that it is the central pair that is most diagnostic in *Astrapia* spp., and because he wrote of a bird flying away from him 25m distant, with its tail closed or unfanned (Tolhurst *in litt.*) it is likely he noted the appearance of the central pair.

Thus, with respect to Tolhurst's record of range extension of the Splendid *Astrapia* it can only be concluded that he saw an unidentifiable *Astrapia* sp. There exists no more support for Peckover's view that the bird was more likely a hybrid, of any kind, than it was a female-plumaged *A. mayeri* (or an *A. splendidissima*). The complete lack of anything even approaching an adequate description leaves Peckover's view that the bird seen by Tolhurst was an *A. mayeri* x *A. stephaniae* hybrid "probably a three to four year old male" unjustified. I would emphasize here that whilst *A. mayeri* x *A. stephaniae* hybrids are known elsewhere they have not been confirmed in the Tari Gap area, where they may occur.

I must point out that common names are not usually acceptable for a wild hybrid individual or population. The name "Barnes' Long-tailed Bird" was originally given by Iredale (1948) to a male bird considered to represent a good new species (*Astrachia barnesi*) but which subsequently proved to be an *A. mayeri* x *A. stephaniae* hybrid. Iredale (1950) subsequently used the name "Barnes's Long-tailed Bird". Iredale's common name should then, theoretically, have appeared in **Muruk** (see editorial, vol. 6, 1993) as Barnes's *Astrapia* in order to conform with current accepted usage (Beehler et al. 1986). Clearly "Long-tailed" is less than useful as a qualification to a common name in this genus of long-tailed species. But, in any event, Iredale's supposed species is now acknowledged by all to be a wild hybrid for which a common name is inappropriate and undesirable. It would be confusing indeed to people unfamiliar with the esoteric history of bird of paradise names if authors were to persist in referring to the approximately 24 known hybrid birds of paradise (Fuller 1979) by common names given them when erroneously thought to be good species.

The use of accepted standard bird names is important, as noted by Hopkins (1986) and **Muruk** editorials, and that of many other recent ornithological journal editorials and/or correspondence. Peckover (1993) presents an illogical set of names in his brief note: Splendid *Astrapia* is the only name acceptable to **Muruk** for the species *A. splendidissima* and yet "Splendid *Astrapia* Bird of Paradise" appears in Peckover's note, where it lacks the scientific name after its first use (which is *A. splendidissima* and not *A. splendissima* as was given by Tolhurst, 1989). The acceptable name for *A. mayeri* is Ribbon-tailed *Astrapia* and not "Ribbon-tailed (sic) Bird of Paradise" of Peckover (1993) which is both contrary to and inconsistent with Peckover's use of "Splendid *Astrapia* Bird of Paradise" for *A. splendidissima*.

Many bird of paradise names used by Peckover (1990) are inconsistent with current ornithological

usage, are inconsistent within the work in question, and some appear inappropriate and undesirable at this time of relative, and long-sought, stability in New Guinea bird names. Peckover has pointed out to me (*in litt.*) that he uses the suffix Bird of Paradise as he feels the lack of it may lead people in Papua New Guinea to fail to appreciate some bird species are protected by law (as all birds of paradise are in that country). This would require, however, that the manucodes *Manucodia* spp., riflebirds *Ptiloris* spp. and (in Peckover's view) the melampittas *Melampitta* spp. also be referred to as "Birds of Paradise", but Peckover (1990) does not do so. Moreover, to be consistent, a Moluccan species presently known as the Paradise Crow *Lycocorax pyrrhopterus* would need to be known as the Paradise Crow Bird of Paradise. (*Editor's note: the nomenclature used in the journal is the responsibility of the editor at that time.*)

I hasten to acknowledge Bill Peckover's numerous valuable contributions to the ornithology, geography and other aspects of Papua New Guinea studies. I also acknowledge my own misgivings about one aspect of currently accepted common bird names. I personally disagree with and mistrust the use of the genus as part of a common name. Genera have traditionally been, and are now very much, unstable taxa and perhaps nowhere more so than in the Paradisaidae (Gilliard 1969, Diamond 1972, Beehler and Finch 1985, Coates 1990, Cracraft 1991 and numerous earlier references to be found therein).

A good New Guinean example is provided by four birds now known as Jewel-babblers *Ptilorrhoa* spp. (Coates 1990). These were long known as members of the genus *Eupetes* and three were therefore, unwisely, called Mid-mountain *Eupetes*, Lowland *Eupetes* and High Mountain *Eupetes*. When it was decided these birds were not members of the genus *Eupetes* their common names had to be changed but they are in fact now, ironically, stabilized as jewel-babbler which name can be applied no matter which genus the birds are attributed to. Thus, there are indeed grounds for a distrust and dislike of the use of the genus as part of a common name. Nevertheless I follow recently adopted usage (Frith and Frith 1992, 1993a, b and references therein) because most editors require it and to do otherwise without full discussion and justification is to invite pandemonium.

Muruk has become a fully-fledged, valuable and handsomely produced national ornithological journal and the editors are to be congratulated on the considerable, and often thankless, tasks involved. The observation cannot be avoided, however, that in the case of the Tolhurst and Peckover contributions discussed above it would appear that the authors and editor(s) have not availed themselves of the, usually all-too-readily-given, views and comments of fellow ornithologists prior to submission/acceptance/publication. As **Muruk** is a journal and not a newsletter (emphasized by the very fact that the Papua New Guinea Bird Society publishes both), contributions submitted to it should be peer-reviewed prior to acceptance. In the case of the above saga the apparent lack of such a review process has resulted in the doubtful nature of a 14 line note reporting an unusual species sighting (Tolhurst 1989) being pointed out within six brief lines of text in two subsequent contributions (Frith and Frith 1992, 1993a) and made into a somewhat confusing and misleading record of a supposed hybrid (Peckover 1993). It is hoped that this contribution puts all facts into objective perspective. This is: that Tolhurst's briefly sighted black-and-white tailed *Astrapia* must remain just that, an *Astrapia* sp., and no more or less can, or should have been, made of it.

Peckover's attractive book is a 1990 (not 1992) publication and in view of its cover and title page should be cited as "Papua New Guinea Birds of Paradise" and not as "Birds of Paradise".

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Brian Coates, Dawn Frith and Len Tolhurst provided constructive thoughts and comments on a first draft of this note and Bill Peckover kindly commented on the first two drafts sent him. The views expressed are entirely my own.

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MANUS - A TRIP REPORT

by Chris Eastwood

Last October, I spent 6 days on Manus with Liz Kerr. The first and last days were spent travelling to and from the island and making various arrangements, giving us 4 full days in the field. We stayed in Lorengau and hired a 4 wheel-drive utility, which although not strictly necessary, proved useful. We had heard that some villagers from Rossun (a 15 minute drive from town) knew of the Superb Pitta (*Pitta superba*) and might be able to help us find it. At Rossun, the villagers seemed to know the bird from our description but, somewhat disconcertingly, called it a "coucou".

They suggested we return to the village the next morning when someone would help us. We duly arrived and were introduced to Adam and his younger brother Luke, who both knew the bird well. As it transpired Luke was to keep us company almost our entire stay and proved invaluable. Luke also eventually got the assistance of a cousin of his, called Morgan, who lived in a satellite village of Rossun. Luke and Morgan were tireless in their efforts to help us find birds. We paid each of our guides K20 a day.

Most of our time was spent near Rossun, although we also made a couple of trips to the waterfall (which does not appear to have an official name) and spent time exploring along the road beyond Rossun. The waterfall is reached by taking a dirt track shortly after the end of the sealed road (the main dirt road veers left and the track to the waterfall goes straight ahead; the track ends at the waterfall where there is room to park and turn the vehicle). For our last full day, we arranged (through Luke and Morgan) to make a trip out to Tong Island. Luke and Morgan borrowed a boat and a 40HP engine and we bought 12 gallons of petrol (as it turned out we were a gallon short and had to row part of the way back!). The journey took just over two hours (but would have been quite a bit longer with a smaller engine). We spent a little over an hour on the island and were shown around by one of the villagers there.

We eventually saw all the Manus endemics with the exception of the Manus Boobook (*Ninox meeki*), which we only tried for on one night (although that night we did meet a villager out looking for cuscus who had just seen an owl!). It is likely that with a little more effort we would have seen this bird. (*Editor's note*: Some taxonomists also list the Manus Masked Owl *Tyto manusi* as a distinct species. Ref. Sibley and Monroe 1990.)

I list below the species seen during our trip making comments as appropriate. Species underlined are endemic to the Admiralty Islands group.

Brown Booby - *Sula leucogaster*

One or two birds seen during our trip out to Tong Island.

Rufous Night-heron - *Nycticorax caledonicus***Eastern Reef-Heron** - *Egretta sacra*

A dark phase bird regularly visited the shore outside our hotel; a white phase individual was seen on one of the off-shore islands during our return from Tong.

Brahminy Kite - *Haliastur indus***Grey Goshawk** - *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

Melanesian Scrubfowl - *Megapodius eremita*

We flushed two birds on our first afternoon in a small patch of forest beyond Rossun; we also heard them the next day in a small rubber plantation.

Pacific Golden Plover - *Pluvialis fulva*

Present on open areas of grass in Lorengau and at Manus airport.

Ruddy Turnstone - *Arenaria interpres*

One bird seen at Manus airport.

Common Sandpiper - *Actitis hypoleucos***Lesser Crested Tern** - *Sterna bengalensis***Brown Noddy** - *Anous stolidus***Spot-breasted Cuckoo-Dove** - *Macropygia mackinlayi*

Only one bird seen - on Tong Island.

Stephan's Ground-Dove - *Chalcophaps stephani***Yellow-bibbed Fruit-Dove** - *Ptilinopus solomonensis*

After some effort we eventually had good views of a pair on Tong (several had been seen flying over us (distinctive small size, about the size of a Rose-crowned). The birds do not fit the description and illustration given in Beehler; however, there is a good photograph in Coates. The male bird we saw had a yellow bib, with mauve below and yellow under the tail; the bird also had a purplish cap.

Claret-breasted Fruit-Dove - *Ptilinopus viridis*

Several birds perched in the afternoon by the waterfall.

Grey Imperial Pigeon - *Ducula pickeringii*

We were told by some villagers to go about 10 kilometres beyond Rossun where there was an open area around a single house with a number of large trees. The birds are often here in the afternoon and we saw several. The overall impression was of a large pale pigeon (with their green backs and wings only evident in good light). We also saw the birds on Tong.

Rainbow Lorikeet - *Trichoglossus haematodus***Meek's Pygmy-Parrot** - *Micropsitta meeki*

One bird seen well in a dead tree by the waterfall.

Eclectus Parrot - *Eclectus roratus***Moustached Tree-swift** - *Hemiprocne mystacea***Glossy Swiftlet** - *Collocalia esculenta*

Most of the birds had white rumps

White-rumped Swiftlet - *Collocalia spodiopygia***Beach Kingfisher** - *Halcyon saurophaga*

One bird seen on Tong Island.

Dwarf Kingfisher - *Ceyx lepidus*

One bird seen above waterfall (the Manus subspecies with red bill).

Superb Pitta - *Pitta superba*

It took some effort before we saw the bird properly, although we heard them every time we looked for them. The birds seemed fairly widespread and were present in areas of regrowth around village gardens as well as forest. The call sounded very similar to "coo coo", hence the local name.

Our guides, Luke and Morgan were able to imitate the call and birds nearly always responded and, eventually, came in to pause very briefly near us. Our guides saw them every time but we were not so lucky (and wanted perfect views!) On our final day we visited an area near the waterfall which was by some gardens belonging to Morgan's family. On this occasion we hid ourselves in the bush while Morgan stayed behind us and imitated the call - three birds responded. One came in after some 15 minutes and we were able to get excellent views. The bird continued to call, perching on a low branch. Each time it called it pushed its folded wing "elbows" down as if forcing the call out of its body.

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike - *Coracina papuensis***Cicadabird** - *Coracina tenuirostris***Manus Rufous Fantail** - *Rhipidura semirubra*

Common and confiding on Tong Island where we first saw them flitting amongst the houses. Very reminiscent of a thicket-fantail in patterning, but not in behaviour.

Island Monarch - *Monarcha cinerascens*

Several on Tong Island - a very washed out looking monarch.

Admiralty Pied Monarch - *Monarcha infelix*

Fairly common on Manus and single birds seen nearly every time we went into the bush.

Northern Fantail - *Rhipidura rufiventris***Golden Whistler** - *Pachycephala pectoralis*

A male seen was presumed to be this species.

Yellow-bellied Sunbird *Nectarinia jugularis***Black-headed White-eye** - *Zosterops hypoxantha*

This was quite a hard bird to see properly, being extremely active or keeping to the top of the canopy. We got mediocre views of just one bird.

Bismarck Black Myzomela - *Myzomela melanocephala*

Small groups of birds on Tong Island.

Manus Friarbird - *Philemon albitorques*

Common in most habitats including in Lorengau itself.

Metallic Starling - *Aplonis metallica*

We presume this was the species we saw.

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	1992												1993												1994		
	Nov	Nov	Nov	Dec	Dec	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	May	Jul	Jul	Aug	Aug	Sep	Sep	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Nov	Nov	Dec	Jan	Mar	Jun	
White-throated Needletail						S																					
Moustached Tree-swift											S							S									
Dwarf Kingfisher												S		S	S	S	S	S									
Rufous-bellied Kookaburra	S			S		S	S							S	S	S						S					
Forest Kingfisher															S												
Sacred Kingfisher												S															
Red-breasted Paradise-kingfisher												H															
Hook-billed Kingfisher			H	S								H	H			H			H	H	S	H	H	H	S		
Yellow-billed Kingfisher	S																										
Dollarbird									S	S									S								
Blyth's Hornbill	S	S			S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Blue-breasted Pitta					S	S	S	S	H	S	S	S	H	S		S		S	S		S	S	S	S	S		
Yellow-eyed Cuckoo-shrike																											
Boyer's Cuckoo-shrike						S	S	S	S						S												
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike																			S						S		
Black cuckoo-shrike	S									S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S										
Varied Triller		S																									
Fairy Gerygone											S	S			S						S						
Olive Flycatcher											S																
Torrent Flycatcher	S	S														S								S	S		
Black-sided Robin	S												S			S			S	S				S	S		
Spot-winged Monarch		S				S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Hooded Monarch						S	S	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Golden Monarch															S						S	S			S		
Frilled Monarch	S	S			S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Leaden Flycatcher										S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
White-bellied Thicket-fantail					S																				S		
Rufous-backed Fantail																									S		
Northern Fantail						S	S			S	S	S		S		S					S				S		
Rusty Whistler																									S		
Grey Whistler																			S						S		
Little Shrike-thrush															S		S				S				S		
Hooded Pitohui						S				S					S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Rusty Pitohui							S	S		S							S	S	S	S					S		
Black Berrypecker																									S		
Papuan Flowerpecker				S									S	S							S				S		
Black Sunbird											S														S		
Long-billed Honeyeater																									S		
Pygmy Honeyeater														S	S										S		
Red-throated Myzomela														S					S								
Red Myzomela																											
Graceful Meliphaga									S							S											

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	1992												1993												1994		
	Nov	Nov	Nov	Dec	Dec	Jan	Jan	Jan	Jan	May	Jul	Jul	Aug	Aug	Sep	Sep	Oct	Oct	Oct	Oct	Nov	Nov	Dec	Jan	Mar	Jun	
Tawny-breasted Honeyeater	S													S	S	S		S	S			S	S				
Plain Honeyeater																						S	S	S			
Helmeted Friarbird		S				S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S				S	S	S			
Streak-headed Mannikin		S				S	S	S			S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S				S	S	S	S		
Yellow-faced Myna	S	S	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Brown Oriole	S				S	S																			S		
Spangled Drongo					S	S																			S		
Hooded Butcherbird		S	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Black Butcherbird																									S		
White-eared Catbird	S	H				S				H	H							H									
Glossy-mantled Manucode																											
Magnificent Riflebird	H											S															
King Bird-of-paradise								H	H																		
Magnificent Bird-of-paradise						S			S	H	H	S	H	S		S	H	S	H	S	H		H	S	S		
Raggiana Bird-of-paradise	S	S	S		S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S		
Grey Crow			S		S																				S		
Torresian Crow																									S		

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BIRDS COLLECTED IN SOUTHERN SANDAUN PROVINCE, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

by Peter Rowland

Introduction

From 25 March to 15 May 1986 Dr. Tim Flannery, Australian Museum, Mammal Section, and Mr. Lester Seri, Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Wildlife, Papua New Guinea collected mammal specimens in several locations within southern Sandaun Province (formerly West Sepik Province), between 4 30'S and 5 15'S, and 141 06'E and 141 45'E (Fig. 1). This was part of an on going mammal survey conducted in the region between 1984 and 1987. During the course of the mammal collecting a number of bird specimens were opportunistically collected, some species from outside their known distributions. All of the specimens are now registered in the bird collection at the Australian Museum, Sydney.

Climate and Topography

Rainfall data are limited and discontinuous for this area. It appears that Yapsiei may receive slightly higher rainfall than Telefomin. In the Telefomin area, September is the wettest month, while November and December are the driest, however, rain may fall at any time of the year (Gilliard and LeCroy, 1961). There is little to suggest seasonality, although there may be a mid-year peak at Yapsiei. The topography is mainly mountainous, varying between 100 and 4,015 m in altitude.

Collecting Localities

Betavip Village

Situated in a broad area of riverflats near the junction of the Skonga and Usake Rivers, at an altitude of about 200 m. In undisturbed areas the alluvial flats support a climax Mixed Alluvial Forest, and there is climax forest on the floodplain margin and surrounding foothills.

Yominbip Village

Yominbip is situated on a steep ridge at 1,000 metres on the northern slopes of the Thurnwald Ranges. Climax Mixed Evergreen Forest is present close by. Miak, on the steep upper slopes of the Thurnwald Range (1,800-2,235 m), was also visited.

Munbil Settlement

Munbil is located at 900 m in the foothills of Star Mountains in climax Mixed Evergreen Forest on a large flat plateau between the Nong and Atem Rivers. The vegetation is far less mossy than at Yominbip and more typical of lowland forest.

Telefomin Valley

The Telefomin valley floor consists of a plateau lying between 1,400 and 1,500 m, with the Sepik River incising it to a depth of 400 m. In the centre of the valley is an anthropogenic grassland, while the small gullies support Secondary Mixed Evergreen Forest in various stages of disturbance.

Sol River Valley

The Sol River (local name Wara Sol) is a tributary that enters the Sepik east-south-east of Telefomin Station. The valley walls enclose a relatively flat-lying basin. The valley is clothed in climax Lower Montane Forest. The forest does not become very mossy until 2,600 to 2,800 m.

Yapsiei Station and the August/Sepik floodplain

Parts of the August River floodplain lie as low as 120 m, with the highest parts of the sampled region lying at about 240 m. This area is in variable states of disturbance from total forest destruction and maintenance of short, lawn-like grassland to forest that is being cut for building materials and firewood. Downstream from Yapsiei station is largely uninhabited and is only visited during occasional hunting trips. The station itself is located on the margin of the floodplain at 200 m.

Bell (1969), Gilliard and LeCroy (1961) and Murray (1988) are referenced throughout the following list. Both Bell and Murray worked on the south-eastern slopes of the Star Mountains and the south-western slopes of the Hindenburg Range (Fig. 1). Bell's work was confined to the drainage area of the Ok Tedi River between 110 and 1,600 m. Murray was based in Tabubil, situated at 600 m on a plateau in the Ok Tedi valley. Most of her observations were between 300 and 1,400 m, though several trips were made to nearby mountains. Gilliard and LeCroy were situated on the northern slopes of the Hindenburg Range and the eastern parts of the Victor Emanuel Mountains, with an altitude range of 1,050 and 2,500 m. This region overlaps with Flannery and Seri's collecting area in the Telefomin and Wara Sol areas.

Coates (1985, 1990), is used as a reference for previously known distributions for the bird species mentioned below. Species order follows Beehler & Finch (1985). The locality given here is for the nearest village or recognised landmark and, as such, the specimen may have been collected within a short distance of that point.

The Australian Museum registration number (e.g. O.59570) is included for each specimen.

SPECIES LIST

RALLIDAE

Rallus pectoralis Lewin's Rail

Telefolip (1,500 m) 26 March (O.59570)

Six specimen collected by Gilliard & LeCroy at Telefomin (1,450 m) between 26 March and 25 April 1954; described as "abundant". Not recorded by Bell or Murray.

COLUMBIDAE

Macropygia nigrirostris Black-billed Cuckoo-Dove

Wara Sol (2,200 m) 29 March (O.59569) Betavip (250 m) 22 April (O.59508)

Yominbip (1,050 m) 15 May (O.59509, O.59510)

Recorded by Bell and by Murray.

Reinwardtoena reinwardtii Great Cuckoo-Dove

Wara Sol (2,600 m) 1 April (O.59542).

Recorded by Bell and by Gilliard & LeCroy.

Chalcophaps indica Emerald Ground-Dove

Betavip (500 - 600 m) 23 April (O.59528)

Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray. Coates (1985) did not show this species occurring in the Betavip area, however, he included it in Additions and Corrections to Volume One (Coates 1990, p.567).

Gallicolumba rufigula Cinnamon Ground-Dove

Yominbip (950 m) 10 May (O.59520)

Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

Gallicolumba beccarii Bronze Ground-Dove

Wara Sol (2,600 m) 4 April (O.59568)

Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

PSITTACIDAE*Lorius lory* Western Black-capped Lory

Munbil (1,050 m) 7 April (O.59601) Betavip (c.200 m) 21 April (O.59600)

Recorded by Bell and by Murray.

Charmosyna papou Papuan Lorikeet

Wara Sol (2,200 m) 31 March (O.59603)

Wara Sol (2,200 - 2,300 m) 01 April (O.59602, O.59604)

Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

Neopsittacus musschenbroekii Yellow-billed Lorikeet

Wara Sol (2,200 m) 31 March (O.59607), 4 April (O.59606)

Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy.

Probosciger aterrimus Palm Cockatoo

Betavip(500 - 600 m) 24 April (O.59610)

Recorded by Bell and by Murray.

Psittacella madaraszi Madarasz's Tiger-Parrot

Wara Sol (2,600 m) 4 April (O.59605)

Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

Alisterus chloropterus Papuan King-Parrot

Wara Sol (2,300 m) 1 April (O.59608)

Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

PODARGIDAE*Podargus papuensis* Papuan Frogmouth

Yominbip (1,000 m) 12 May (O.59541)

Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy.

AEGOTHELIDAE*Aegothles insignis* Feline Owlet-nightjar

Wara Sol (2,500 m) 2 April (O.59593)

Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy .

CAPRIMULGIDAE*Caprimulgus macrurus* Large-tailed Nightjar

Telefolip (1,500 m) 26 March (O.59546)

Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

APODIDAE*Collocalia esculenta* Glossy Swiftlet

Wara Sol (2,500 m) 2 April (O.59572)

Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

ALCEDINIDAE*Tanysiptera sylvia* Australian Paradise-Kingfisher

Betavip (c.700 m) 22 April (O.59499, O.59500)

Not recorded by Bell or by Gilliard & LeCroy. Probable sighting reported to Murray, unconfirmed. Coates (1985) did not show this species occurring in the Betavip area, however, he included it in Additions and Corrections to Volume One (Coates 1990, p.567).

Melidora macrorrhina Hook-billed Kingfisher

Yominbip (1,100 m) 9 May (O.59496)

Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

Dacelo gaudichaud Rufous-bellied Kookaburra

Betavip (500 - 600 m) 24 April (O.59497) Yominbip (1,300 m) 12 May (O.59498)

Recorded by Bell and by Murray.

Halcyon sancta Sacred Kingfisher

Wara Sol (2,200 m) 29 March (O.59594)

Recorded by Bell and by Murray.

Halcyon megarhyncha Mountain Kingfisher

Wara Sol (2,200 m) 1 April (O.59595)

Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

Ceyx lepidus Dwarf Kingfisher

Yominbip (1,300 m) 12 May (O.59502)

Yominbip (950 m) 14 May (O.59503)

Betavip (250 m) 22 April (O.59504) Betavip (500 - 600 m) 23 April (O.59501)

Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

Alcedo azurea Azure Kingfisher
Betavip (200 m) 25 April (O.59505)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

CORACIIDAE

Eurystomus orientalis Dollarbird
Yapsiei Station (c.200 m) 28 April (O.59516)
Recorded by Bell and by Murray.

CAMPEPHAGIDAE

Coracina melaena Black Cuckoo-shrike
Betavip (500 - 600 m) 23 April (O.59522) Betavip (200 m) 25 April (O.59523)
Recorded by Murray.

Lalage atrovirens Black-browed Triller
Betavip (500 - 600 m) 24 April (O.59518, O.59519)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray. A north slope species.

LANIIDAE

Lanius schach Long-tailed Shrike
Wara Sol (2,300 m) 2 April (O.59609)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy.

POMATOSTOMATIDAE

Pomatostomus isidorei Rufous Babbler
Betavip (500 - 600 m) 23 April (O.59506, O.59507)
Recorded by Bell. Coates (1990) suggested that this species only occurred up to 300 m, Bell recorded that calls were heard up to 400 m. Not known from the Ok Tedi area.

SYLVIIDAE

Megalurus timoriensis Tawny Grassbird
Telefolip (1,500 m) 26 March (O.59492)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

MALURIDAE

Malurus grayi Broad-billed Fairy-wren
Munbil (1,050 m) 5 April (O.59493) Miak (1,600 m) 07 May (O.59494, O.59495)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.
(Editor's note: It would be useful to know to which race this record refers, *grayi* or *campbelli*)

ACANTHIZIDAE

Crateroscelis murina Rusty Mouse-Warbler
Yominbip (Altitude not recorded) 06 May (O.59534)
Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

Gerygone palpebrosa Fairy Gerygone
Munbil (1,050 m) 08 April (O.59529)
Yominbip (1,000 m) 09 May (O.59530), 12 May (O.59531)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

Gerygone magnirostris Large-billed Gerygone
Betavip (c.200 m) 20 April (O.59538), 21 April (O.59539)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

RHIPIDURIDAE

Rhipidura maculipectes Black Thicket-Fantail
Wara Sol (2,600 m) 04 April (O.59585)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray. Coates (1990) did not show this species present in the Sol River area. This species had previously only been recorded in the lowlands.

Rhipidura rufidorsa Rufous-backed Fantail
Munbil (1,050 m) 10 April (O.59583)
Recorded by Murray. Coates (1990) recorded this species occurring up to 850 m, Murray recorded calling up to 700 m.

Rhipidura atra Black Fantail
Wara Sol (2,300 m) 30 March (O.59582)
Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

Rhipidura rufiventris Northern Fantail
Munbil(1,050 m) 08 April (O.59584)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy, and Murray.

MYIAGRIDAE

Monarcha axillaris Black Monarch
Wara Sol (2,600 m) 04 April (O.59589)
Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray. Coates (1990) gave the altitudinal limits of this species as 800 m (rarely 700 m) to 2350 m. Other sightings were Bell - 1600 m, Gilliard & LeCroy - 1450 m and by Murray - 700 m.

Arses telescopthalmus Frilled Monarch
Munbil (1,050 m) 07 April (O.59587)
Betavip (200 m) 25 April (O.59590) Betavip (200 m) 26 April (O.59588)
Recorded by Bell. Coates (1990) does not show this species as occurring in the Munbil and Betavip area.

EOPSALTRIIDAE

Poecilodryas hypoleuca Black-sided Robin
Betavip (c.700 m) 22 April (O.59514) Betavip (200 m) 25 April (O.59515)
Recorded by Murray.

PACHYCEPHALIDAE

Pachycare flavogrisea Dwarf Whistler
Yominbip (1,000 m) 12 May (O.59532)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy.

Rhagologus leucostigma Mottled Whistler
Wara Sol (2,600 m) 4 April (O.59550)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

Pachycephala rufinucha Rufous-naped Whistler
Wara Sol (2,300 m) 4 April (O.59551)
Recorded by Bell and Gilliard & LeCroy.

Colluricincla megarhyncha Little Shrike-thrush
Yominbip (Altitude not recorded) 7 May (O.59552)
Miak (1,600 m) 08 May (O.59553, O.59555)
Recorded by Bell.

NEOSITTIDAE

Daphoenositta chrysoptera Varied Sittella
Wara Sol (2,300 m) 30 March (O.59586)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

DICAEIDAE

Melanocharis nigra Black Berrypecker
Munbil (1,050 m) 7 April (O.59581) Miak (1,600 m) 7 May (O.59580)
Recorded by Bell. Coates (1990) gave the upper altitudinal limit of this species at 1450 m, Bell observed it at about 600 m.

Melanocharis versteri Fan-tailed Berrypecker
Wara Sol (2,300 m) 30 March (O.59596)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy.

Melanocharis striativentris Streaked Berrypecker
Wara Sol (2,400 m) 29 March (O.59597) Wara Sol (2,200 m) 31 March (O.59598)
Wara Sol (2,300 m) 2 April (O.59599)
Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

NECTARINIIDAE

Nectarinia aspasia Black Sunbird
Betavip (c.200 m) 20 April (O.59482) Betavip(500 - 600 m) 24 April (O.59483)
Recorded by Murray.

Nectarinia jugularis Yellow-bellied Sunbird
Betavip (c.200 m) 20 April (O.59563)

Betavip (c.200 m) 21 April (O.59562)
Recorded in Murray (1988).

MELIPHAGIDAE

Melilestes megarhynchus Long-billed Honeyeater
Betavip (500 - 600 m) 23 April (O.59545)
Telefolip(1,400 m) 26 March (O.59543, O.59544)
Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

Oedistoma iliolophus Dwarf Honeyeater
Telefolip (1,500 m) 25 March (O.59564)
Telefolip (1,500 m) 26 March (O.59565, O.59566, O.59567)
Recorded by Murray.

Myzomela eques Red-throated Myzomela
Betavip (250 m) 22 April (O.59575) Yominbip (1,000 m) 13 May (O.59574)
Recorded by Murray.

Meliphaga montana Forest White-eared Meliphaga
Telefolip (1,400 m) 26 March (O.59560)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy.

Meliphaga aruensis Puff-backed Meliphaga
Munbil (1,050 m) 06 April (O.59466) Betavip (c.700 m) 22 April (O.59464)
Yominbip(1,000 m) 09 May (O.59469)
Recorded by Bell and as a probable in Murray (1988).

Meliphaga analoga Mimic Meliphaga
Munbil (1,050 m) 05 April (O.59465) Betavip (c.200 m) 20 April (O.59463)
Betavip(250 m) 22 April (O.59468)
Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and as a probable in Murray (1988). Coates (1990) recorded these specimens from Betavip and Munbil, occurring from 200 - 900 m.

Meliphaga flavirictus Yellow-gaped Meliphaga
Betavip (c.200 m) 21 April (O.59470)
Recorded by Bell and as a probable in Murray (1988).

Xanthotis flaviventer Tawny-breasted Honeyeater
Betavip (c.700 m) 22 April (O.59576)
Betavip (500 - 600 m) 23 April (O.59577)
Recorded by Murray.

Ptiloprora perstriata Grey-streaked Honeyeater
Wara Sol (2,200 m) 29 March (O.59559, O.59561)
Wara Sol (2,300 m) 30 March (O.59556)
Recorded by Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

Melidectes belfordi Belford's Melidectes
 Wara Sol (2,300 m) 30 March (O.59478) Wara Sol (2,200 m) 31 March (O.59479)
 Wara Sol (2,600 m) 1 April (O.59476, O.59477)
 Recorded by Bell and by Gilliard & LeCroy.

ESTRILDIDAE

Erythrura papuana Papuan Parrot-Finch
 Yominbip (1,000 m) 9 May (O.59537) Telefölip (1,400 m) 26 March (O.59536)
 Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

Lonchura tristissima Streak-headed Mannikin
 Munbil (1,050 m) 8 April (O.59511) Yominbip (1,000 m) 14 May (O.59512, O.59513)
 Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray.

ARTAMIDAE

Artamus maximus Great Wood-swallow
 Wara Sol (2,200 m) 31 March (O.59591, O.59592)
 Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

CRACTICIDAE

Peltops blainvillii Lowland Peltops
 Yominbip (1,000 m) 12 May (O.59517)
 Not recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray. Coates (1990) gave the upper limit of this species as 730 m. (*Editor's note: An unusually high altitude record, always assuming it to be correctly identified.*)

PARADISAEIDAE

Paradigalla brevicauda Short-tailed Paradigalla
 Wara Sol (2,300 m) 28 March (O.59547)
 Recorded by Bell and by Gilliard & LeCroy.

Lophorina superba Superb Bird of Paradise
 Wara Sol (2,200 m) 2 April (O.59548), 3 April (O.59549)
 Recorded by Bell and by Gilliard & LeCroy.

Cicinnurus magnificus Magnificent Bird of Paradise
 Yominbip (Altitude not recorded) 6 May (O.59521)
 Recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy and by Murray.

DISCUSSION

From the above species list there are 19 species that have not been recorded by Bell, Gilliard & LeCroy, or Murray and, as such, are either new records for Southern Sandaun Province, or have simply confirmed the expected occurrence of a species in the area. Many other species have previously been recorded merely a few times, some only once. In addition to this, there are four new

altitudinal records: (*Rufous Babbler, Black Thicket-fantail, Black Monarch and Black Berrypecker, and also the Lowland Peltops if confirmed as that species..Ed*)
 This collection has produced invaluable information on the avifauna of a little researched region of Papua New Guinea. Future work will continue to expand our knowledge of this area.

Acknowledgements

Much of the geographical data and locality maps given in this paper have been reproduced from Flannery & Seri (1990) with the kind permission of Dr Tim Flannery. I would also like to thank Mr Walter Boles, Division of Vertebrate Zoology, Australian Museum, and Dr. Tim Flannery, Mammal Section, Australian Museum, for their kind help in the preparation of this paper.

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 (Originally received July 94, revised version received April 95)*

Fig. 1. The study area, Sandaun Province, with collecting localities marked (stars), as well as major topographical features. The dotted line marks the north-south divide.

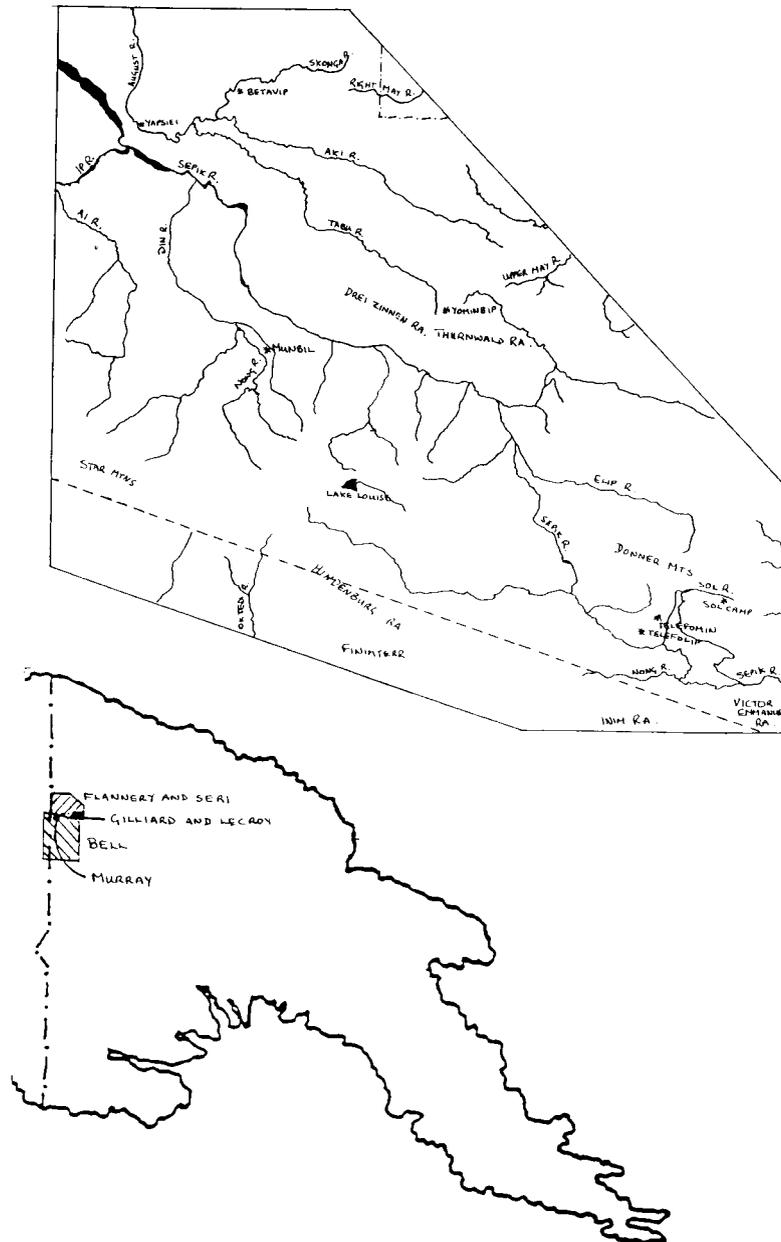


Fig. 2. Map showing Flannery and Seri's study area and other survey areas mentioned in text.

NOTES ON THE DISPLAY BEHAVIOUR OF A FULLY -PLUMED MALE BLUE BIRD OF PARADISE *Paradisaea rudolphi*

by Richard Whiteside

Introduction

A number of visits were made between September and December 1994 to a 50m square patch of dense secondary growth on a north-facing slope which served as the display territory for a male Blue Bird of Paradise *Paradisaea rudolphi*.

Preliminary observations provided information on behaviour and the display sequence, choice of display sites, times of display and daily routine. I hope to follow up these observations over an extended period, and particularly to investigate possible interaction with the Magnificent Bird of Paradise *Cicinnurus magnificus*.

Discussion

The study site is near Kaindan village, at an altitude of approximately 1,700m, 4km south-east of Kompam District Headquarters in the Enga Province. The display territory is roughly central in a foraging area which encompasses some primary forest, dense scrub and secondary growth, a coffee garden, grassland and some agricultural land.

The male Blue Bird of Paradise typically gave advertising calls from tall trees (frequently *Casuarina*) above the display territory. At least two other birds could be heard advertising on nearby slopes, but their foraging areas probably did not overlap. Display took place low down in thick vegetation.

The daily sequence of behaviour was very variable. Typically, display followed a period when the bird advertised its presence by calling from the tall trees, but this was not always the case. The peak time for display was in the morning between 0630 and 0930, with a second period of display in the afternoon between 1530 and 1830. Between 0930 and the afternoon display, the bird was often in the vicinity of the display territory, where it sometimes engaged in short periods of display. Frequently these were not preceded by any advertising, and on some occasions the bird engaged directly into the "intense phase" of display associated with an electrical-like buzzing sound (Coates 1990).

The morning advertising period typically began at about 0640, though sometimes not until much later. It would sometimes last for more than two hours, though was frequently of much shorter duration. The bird tended to be active in the display territory before advertising, and would sometimes enter the display sequence without any significant advertising period.

The display sequence tended to be shortest after a long morning advertising period. On other mornings the bird would display several times from a number of sites within the general display territory. These sites were always low down, sometimes within a metre of the ground and surrounded by dense vegetation, making it difficult to observe the display.

Before commencing its display, the plumed male would arrive at a perch near the display perch and make short vocalizations. It would then flutter to the display perch and commence chattering

from the inverted hanging position. The chattering would last for anything from a few seconds to fifteen minutes, sometimes culminating in the "intense phase" of display, but this "intense phase" was not always preceded by chattering, and the duration of chattering did not seem to affect whether or not the "intense phase" followed.

Display would proceed as described above whether or not females were present. After displaying from one site, the male would either fly off and advertise, or would fly to a nearby display site where it would recommence displaying. If females were present, then the male would draw them with him from one display site to the next, and he would display for short spells at each site. There seemed to be no fixed route that the male used when travelling between display sites, but there seemed to be favourite display sites and perches.

I never observed display leading to copulation, and I never heard the "intense phase" of display to go on for more than 30 seconds. However a local man told me that he heard the bird "become electric (*kisim pawa*) for some minutes in June 1994. Perhaps the "intense phase" of the display lasts longer if a female shows enough interest.

As with the morning display sequence, the afternoon display sequence did not have a definite routine. Sometimes the bird would advertise for two hours or more before displaying (perhaps not coming down from its advertising lookout until after 1730), whereas at other times it would begin displaying without any or only very little advertising. It would chatter to itself when preparing for roost.

Conclusion

It was easy to hear the bird advertising from some distance, but the chattering and buzzing sounds could only be heard from fairly close range. Because of this, it is possible that some display went unnoticed during my study.

Some particularly interesting observations are listed below:

1. This bird, and also another plumed male nearby, both chose to display in dense secondary growth, although their foraging areas included primary forest. Earlier records (Coates 1990) suggest that Blue Birds of Paradise generally display in primary forest. Both birds had a number of display sites, commonly amongst tictic (*Miscanthus floridulus*) grass stems very close to the ground. At least one branch from which a bird displayed was within a metre of the ground. Display may not have previously been recorded from so low down (This certainly would seem atypical amongst other members of the genus such as Raggiana *P. raggiana*, Lesser *P. minor* and Greater Birds of Paradise *P. apoda*... *Ed.*)

2. A female plumaged Blue Bird of Paradise with an uneven tail was seen advertising and heard chattering on 24 December, 1993. It was assumed that this was a mature male in eclipse plumage, as a plumed male was observed advertising from this territory several times earlier in 1993 and again in 1994. The bird seemed less wary without its plumes. (Immature male or even a visiting female also seem possible. *Ed.*)

3. The main period of display was in the early morning, with a second major period in the late afternoon. This is not surprising, given what is known about when other birds of paradise display, but Coates (1990) suggests otherwise.

4. On 18 September 1994 the plumed male was observed, after chattering obscured by tictic stems for about twelve minutes, to fly to a vertical sapling, hop down to 1.8m above ground and engage straight into the "intense phase" of display for about ten seconds, after which it hopped back up the sapling and flew off. This may be the first record of display from a vertical post. On closer inspection I found that the green leaves had recently been bitten off the sapling and were lying underneath, so that the sapling was almost devoid of leaves. A fresh dropping (almost certainly from the Blue Bird of Paradise) was also found there. The dropping was orange and resembled a fruit which the male bird was seen to consume.

It is hoped that further observations will add to the information presented in this paper.

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 (Received Feb. 1995)*

MANED DUCK (AUSTRALIAN WOOD DUCK) *Chenonetta jubata* NEAR PORT MORESBY: THE FIRST RECORD FOR THE NEW GUINEA REGION

by Brian Coates

On the afternoon of 13 February 1994 a single Maned Duck *Chenonetta jubata*, in female or immature male plumage, was observed in an area of flooded low-lying pasture land alongside the Sogeri road, Central Province, opposite the turn-off to the Pacific Adventist College. Although the bird was some distance away, good views were obtained through a telescope. Also present were Pacific Black Ducks *Anas superciliosa* and some Grey Teal *A. gibberifrons*.

Because I am so familiar with this species, which is an abundant resident in the Brisbane area in the vicinity of my home, I recognized it immediately (though almost with a feeling of disbelief!). The following description is from field notes taken at the time:

Slightly smaller than a Pacific Black Duck; bill notably short, and grey; head and neck brown; a darker line through the eye, a short whitish line above the eye and another below it; body generally grey with a prominent black stripe down the side of the back (on scapulars); breast and flanks thickly spotted with white; ventral area white; tail dark; upper surface of wing, observed when the bird stretched, showed extensive white secondaries with a black bar and green speculum.

In the New Guinea region the Maned Duck is to be confused only with the Spotted Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna guttata*. However, the combination of small bill, grey body and black scapular-stripe is diagnostic.

The Maned Duck is endemic to Australia including Tasmania, where it is fairly widespread; it is absent north of about 15° S, except as a vagrant. It has occurred as a vagrant on Badu Island, Torres Strait and New Zealand (see Marchant & Higgins 1990). This is a gregarious species,

rarely seen alone. Just how this solitary individual reached the Port Moresby district will probably never be known. There had, however, recently been a series of tropical cyclones off the NE coast of Queensland and it seemed likely that one of these resulted in its occurrence.

The other observers present when the bird was first sighted were Brad and Cassandra Warrick and John (Jay) Kistler, all visitors from the USA. Later that day the bird was shown to Len Tolhurst. The bird remained at this site for several months and was seen by many observers including Ian Burrows and Phil Gregory on 13 March. What was presumably the same individual reappeared on 20 November 1994 (L. Tolhurst *in litt.*).

Reference

Marchant, S. and Higgins P.J. 1990. **Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds, Volume 1, Part B.** Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

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JUVENILE PAPUAN HAWK-OWL *Uroglauca dimorpha* NEAR VANIMO

by Noam Shany

During the morning of 11 August 1992, Hector Gomes de Silva and I were searching for Pale-billed Sicklebills *Epimachus bruijnii* along the road from Passy to Waterstone. We noticed a noisy flock of Tawny-breasted Honeyeaters *Xanthotis flaviventer* voicing alarm calls and echoed by Variable Pitohuis *Pitohui kirhocephalus*. A short look for the cause of this excitement revealed a juvenile Papuan Hawk-owl roosting in a roadside bush at about 3.5m above the ground.

The road is located on the edge of a flood-plain; a second growth forest grows alongside the road. The escarpment is just 100m away so the elevation is about 50m above sea -level.

The Papuan Hawk-owl is a small-headed, slender-bodied and long-tailed owl. The bird had all white underparts and face, and was therefore determined to be a downy fledgling. The upperparts were all dark frosty grey, the head and forehead streaked and the back diffusely barred. The undertail was white and faintly barred with 3-4 narrow pale bars. The large eyes with yellow irides were located on a non-typical facial disc: the eyes were positioned a bit to the side of the head. The feet were yellow.

To our enjoyment the owl was motionless and ignored the activity around it. It was bothered only by some dust that had got into its eye, and which caused it to blink rapidly for a few minutes. We watched for about 40 minutes then continued our search for the sicklebill, which we never found. Instead, we observed Edward's Fig-parrot *Psittaculirostris edwardsii* and numerous fruit-doves *Ptilinopus* spp. foraging on a fruiting fig tree. On the way back, two hours later, we found the owl still present on the same branch.

(Editor's note: This record is the only reasonably recent Papuan Hawk-owl sighting of which the PNGBS is aware, which led to the species being listed as data deficient in "Birds To Watch 2" by Collar, N. J., Crosby, M. J. and Stattersfield A. 1994. BirdLife International. The bird concerned being a juvenile is particularly noteworthy as breeding data are almost non-existent.)

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LIST OF BIRDS RECORDED IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA DURING THE PERIOD 16 OCTOBER, 1992 TO 29 NOVEMBER, 1992

by Allan Richards and Richard Rowland

Richard Rowland and I spent six weeks on a bird-watching trip to Papua New Guinea during the period from 16 October, 1992 to 29 November, 1992.

AREAS VISITED

Port Moresby area

17/10/92

A day trip to Varirata National Park (N. P.) and to the area around the Monument at the beginning of the Kokoda Trail.

18/10/92

Moitaka settling ponds.

Ambua Lodge, Tari - 19/10/92 to 27/10/92.

Day trips along trails around the Lodge; to the Bailey bridge and Tari Gap; along Banari Road below the Lodge; and by coach to various sites in the Tari valley.

Tabubil - 27/10/92 to 1/11/92 and 5/11/92 to 6/11/92

Day trips to Mt. Binnie and Mt. Robinson near the Ok Tedi mine; along Dablin Creek Road just north of Tabubil township; to Ok Menga and along Ok Ma Road.

Kiunga - 1/11/92 to 5/11/92.

Two morning walks to an old logging area about 8 km north of Kiunga. One day trip by boat as far as possible along the Fly and Elevala Rivers. Another boat trip to an unknown village on the Elevala River, then by vehicle over 10 km along a road, walking back to the boat.

6/11/92

Flew from Tabubil to Vanimo, stopping at several villages on the way including Telefomin.

Vanimo - 6/11/92 to 12/11/92

We hitched rides as far as the Sossy logging camp along the Bewani Road west of Vanimo and generally walked most of the way back to Vanimo, sometimes hitching from the corner of the Bewani Road. Brief visits to airstrip verges to observe waders at a high-tide roost

Madang - 12/11/92 to 13/11/92 and 15/11/92 to 16/11/92

Two stop-overs on our way to and from Karkar Island.

Karkar Island - 13/11/92 to 15/11/92

Travelled by boat both ways between Madang and Karkar Island. Stayed at a village about an hour's drive east of the wharf and birdwatched in the plantations and forest above that village.

Wasu-Satop area, Huon Peninsula - 16/11/92 to 20/11/92

Travelled by boat from Madang to Wasu on 16/11/92. Stayed in Satop village for two nights and birded along the road above Satop as far as the Gap. Returned to Wasu for one night and then flew to Lae on 20/11/92 and to Port Moresby on 21/11/92.

22/11/92 and 23/11/92

Took it easy in Port Moresby.

Varirata National Park - 24/11/92 to 28/11/92

Stayed in the Park and birded along most of the trails although we concentrated on the Circuit Loop.

Brown River and Vanapa - 28/11/92

Visited these areas by vehicle but it was very hot and had difficulty finding the areas. Not a very productive day for bird-watching.

29/11/92. Flew out from Port Moresby for Sydney.

ANNOTATED SPECIES LIST

Below is a list of birds that we observed on our trip. Observations were generally made while walking along roads or trails or from boats. A total of 351 species were recorded.

Nomenclature generally follows Beehler B. M., Pratt T. K. and Zimmerman D. A. (1986) *Birds of New Guinea*, Princeton University Press, except where noted.

Dwarf Cassowary *Casuarius bennetti*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11, 1 there on 26/11

Tahiti Petrel *Pseudobulweria rostrata*

250+ from the boat from Madang to Wasu on 16/11

Australasian Little Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10

Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*

c.20 from boat from Madang to Karkar Island on 13/11, a single bird on return trip on 15/11

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10

Little Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

3 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 4 along Fly River on 3/11 and 3 there on 4/11

Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*

One at Vanapa on 28/11.

Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster*

c.20 from boat from Madang to Karkar Island on 13/11. 6 from boat from Madang to Wasu on 16/11

Great Egret *Egretta alba*

Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. A single bird along Fly River on 4/11.

Pied Heron *Egretta picata*

Abundant at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. Present on lily-ponds in Madang on 12/11 and 16/11.

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia*

Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 1 at Vanapa on 28/11.

Cattle Egret *Egretta ibis*

Several seen at Port Moresby airport on 16/10. 50+ from bus from Port Moresby to Varirata N.P. on 17/10.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Eastern Reef-Egret *Egretta sacra*

One from boat from Karkar Island to Madang on 15/11

Striated Heron *Ardeola striata*

One along the Fly River on 4/11

Rufous Night-Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

2 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10

Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*

One along the Fly River on 3/11.

Crested Hawk *Aviceda subcristata*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 2 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 2 along Fly River on 4/11.

Long-tailed Buzzard *Henicopernis longicauda*

One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 below Tari Gap on 24/10. 1 above Ambua Lodge on 26/10. 1 along Ok Tedi Road, Tabubil, on 27/10. 2 on Ok Ma Road on 29/10. 1 near Mt. Robinson on 31/10. 1 near Kiunga on 2/11. 1 along Fly River on 4/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11 and again on 10/11 and 11/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*

Only birds noted were those present around Madang Wharf on 13/11.

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*

One from bus from Port Moresby to Varirata N.P. on 17/10. Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 1 at Brown River on 28/11.

Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. A single bird along Ok Tedi Road, Tabubil, on 27/10. 1 on Dablin Creek Road, Tabubil on 29/10. 3 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 2 at Kiunga 2/11. Common along Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*

One along the Fly River on 4/11.

Brown Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus*

An immature bird in Tari valley on 22/10. 1 along the Fly River on 4/11. 1 at Wasu airstrip 19/11.

Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*

One in Tari valley on 22/10. 1 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 2 along Fly River on 4/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 9/11. 1 at Brown River 28/11.

Black-mantled Goshawk *Accipiter melanochlamys*

A sub-adult in Tari valley on 22/10.

Grey-headed Goshawk *Accipiter poliocephalus*

One near Mt. Robinson on 31/10. 1 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 9/11; 1 at Satop on 18/11.

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus*

One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 1 near Koki Market, Port Moresby on 18/10.

Little Eagle *Hieraetus morphnoides*

One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 1 dark-phase bird at Ok Menga on 30/10. 1 dark-phase at Dablin Creek Road, Tabubil on 29/10.

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*
One seen at Satop on 18/11.

Spotted Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna guttata*
c.30 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Wandering Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*
c.30 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. Present on lily-ponds in Madang on 12/11 and 16/11.

White-headed Shelduck *Tadorna radjah*
7 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Green Pygmy-goose *Nettapus pulchellus*
4 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Grey Teal *Anas gibberifrons*
One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*
3 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 2 in Tari valley on 22/10.

Common Scrub-fowl *Megapodius freycinet*
One on Karkar Island on 15/11. 2 seen near Wasu on 19/11.

Black-billed Brush-turkey *Talegalla fuscirostris*
2 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11; with 2 plus a chick there on 25/11; 1 on 26/11; 3 on 27/11.

Brown Quail *Coturnix australis*
One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

White-browed Crane *Porzana cinerea*
Common on lily-ponds in Madang on 12/11 and 16/11.

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa*
Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Purple Swampphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*
Abundant at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*
Very common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. Common on lily-ponds in Madang on 12/11 and 16/11.

White-headed Stilt *Himantopus leucocephalus*
Very common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*
3 seen from bus from Port Moresby to Varirata N.P. on 17/10; common at Moitaka ponds 18/10.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
Present at Vanimo on 7/11, not counted.

Lesser Golden Plover *Pluvialis dominica (fulva)*
Present at Telefomin airstrip on 6/11 and on Wasu airstrip on 19/11, no counts made.

Mongolian Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*
Several at high-tide roost on airfield at Vanimo on 7/11, not counted.

Large Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*
Several on Vanimo airfield on 7/11.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*
5 on Vanimo airfield on 7/11.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*
Present on Telefomin airstrip on 6/11. 3 on Vanimo airfield on 7/11. One on Wasu airstrip 19/11.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*
One on Vanimo Airstrip on 7/11.

Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes*
Present along beach and at Vanimo airstrip on 7/11, not counted.

Common Sandpiper *Tringa hypoleucos*
One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. Common along Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11. Present along creeks on Karkar Island from 13/11 to 15/11.

Swinhoe's Snipe *Gallinago megala*
Birds thought to be this species present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10 and at the Pacific Adventist College grounds on 22/11. Calls of c.10 birds on Vanimo airstrip were compared to pre-recorded calls of 3 snipe species and it was considered that the calls of these birds best matched those of Swinhoe's Snipe. The flight jizz also appeared to be different from that of Latham's Snipe (*G. hardwickii*)

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*
50+ at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*
50+ at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*
Present on Vanimo airfield on 7/11, number not noted.

Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus*
6 from boat from Madang to Wasu on 16/11.

Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus*
c.20 from boat from Madang to Wasu on 16/11.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*
Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. No counts made.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica*
Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. No counts made.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*
3 from boat from to Wasu on 16/11.

Bridled Tern *Sterna anaethetus*
100+ from boat from to Wasu on 16/11.

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*
3 from boat from Karkar Island to Madang on 15/11.

Crested-Tern *Sterna bergii*
c.15 from boat from Madang to Karkar Island on 13/11. Present but not counted on return journey on 15/11. Present from boat from Madang to Wasu on 16/11. No counts made.

Brown Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia amboinensis*
Fairly common at Varirata N.P. on each visit, no counts made. c.5 at Ok Tedi Road, Tabubil, on 27/10. Present on Mt. Robinson, Ok Tedi on 28/10, no counts made. 3 at Ok Menga on 30/10. Common at Mount Binnie, Ok Tedi on 31/10, no counts made. 3 at Mt. Robinson, Ok Tedi on 31/10. Common along Fly River on 3/11, no counts made. 2 near Sossy logging camp area on 10/11. Present between Satop and the Gap on 18/11, no counts made. Present at Vanapa on 28/11 but not counted.

Black-billed Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia nigrirostris*
2 feeding on *Homalanthus* berries above Ambua Lodge on 24/10. 6+ below Tari Gap on 26/10. 3 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 1 at Wasu on 17/11.

Great Cuckoo-Dove *Reinwardtoena reinwardtii*
3 along Fly River on 3/11. 1 displaying at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11 with 2 there on 9/11. 2 above Satop on 18/11.

Emerald Ground-Dove *Chalcophaps indica*
2 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 with one there on 25/11. 1 at Vanapa on 28/11.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia striata*
Common at Varirata N.P. on 17/10, no counts made. Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

- Bar-shouldered Dove** *Geopelia humeralis*
One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.
- White-bibbed Ground-Dove** *Gallicolumba jobiensis*
One on the Circuit Loop, Varirata N.P. on 17/10.
- Pheasant Pigeon** *Otidiphaps nobilis*
2 at Varirata Lookout, Varirata N.P. on 26/11 with a single bird there on 27/11.
- Southern Crowned-Pigeon** *Goura scheepmakeri*
3 on the bank of the Fly River on 4/11.
- Wompoo Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus magnificus*
One on Fly River on 3/11. 5 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11. Common on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11. No counts made. 3 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11. 1 at Vanapa on 28/11.
- Pink-spotted Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus perlatus*
One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. Several along the Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11. 3 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11. 2 at Brown River on 28/11.
- Ornate Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus ornatus*
c.20 in a flowering tree on Mount Binnie, Ok Tedi, on 31/10. 2 above Satop on 18/11.
- Superb Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus superbus*
3 at Dablin Creek Road, Ok Tedi, on 1/11. 3 on the Fly River on 3/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11. 1 on Karkar Island on 15/11. 2 at Varirata N.P. 24/11 with 3 there 25/11.
- Beautiful Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus pulchellus*
3 at Dablin Creek Road, Ok Tedi, on 1/11. 1 near Kiunga on 2/11. 3 along Fly River on 3/11. Present on Fly River on 4/11. No counts made.
- White-breasted Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus rivoli*
A pair in Ambua Lodge grounds on 21/10. 1 between Lodge and Tari Gap on 21/10. 3 at Bailey bridge below Tari Gap on 22/10. 5 at Ambua Lodge on 23/10. 1 on Mt. Robinson, Ok Tedi on 28/10. 1 at Satop on 18/11.
- Claret-breasted Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus viridis*
One at Sossy logging camp, Vanimo on 8/11 with 2 there on 9/11.
- Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus iozomus*
c.10 in Kiunga area on 2/11. 3 on Fly River on 3/11 and present on 4/11 but no counted. Common but not counted at Sossy logging camp, Vanimo on 8/11, 9/11 and 10/11. 4 at Brown River 28/11.
- Dwarf Fruit-Dove** *Ptilinopus nanus*
3 on Fly River on 3/11. 1 at Brown River on 28/11.
- Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula rufigaster*
One along Fly River on 4/11.
- Pinon Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula pinon*
20+ on Fly River on 4/11. 4 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11 and 6 there on 10/11.
- Zoe Imperial-Pigeon** *Ducula zoeae*
4 on Fly River on 3/11 with 3 there on 4/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo, on 9/11. 3 on Karkar Island on 15/11. 3 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11.
- Pied Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula bicolor*
One on Karkar Island on 14/11. 3 at Wasu on 17/11. 1 at Vanapa River on 28/11.
- Papuan Mountain Pigeon** *Gymnophaps albertisii*
2 perched above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap, on 21/10, with 1 there on 22/10 and at least 3, including displaying birds on 23/10. 1 above Helipad on Mount Robinson, Ok Tedi, on 28/10. c.10 on Mount Binnie, Ok Tedi, on 31/10. c.20 near Kiunga on 2/11. Present but not counted along Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11 and above Satop on 18/11. 20+ at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

- Brown Lory** *Chalcopsitta duivenbodei*
6+ at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11 with 3 there on 9/11.
- Greater Streaked Lory** *Chalcopsitta scintillata*
2 near Kiunga on 2/11. 3 on Fly River on 4/11.
- Dusky Lory** *Pseudeos fuscata*
10+ below Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 23/10, with 3 there on 25/10. Hundreds over Ok Ma Road, Tabubil, on evening of 29/10. c.30 at Ok Menga on 30/10. c.10 on Mt. Binnie on 31/10. 30+ along Fly River on 3/11, also present but not counted on 4/11. Present above Satop on 18/11.
- Rainbow Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus haematodus*
Abundant at Varirata N.P. Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. Common around Tabubil. 4 at Dablin Creek Road, Tabubil, on 29/10. 3 on Fly River on 4/11. 4 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 7/11, also present on 8/11 and 9/11. Common on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11. Present above Satop on 18/11.
- Goldie's Lorikeet** *Trichoglossus goldiei*
2 below Tari Gap on 20/10 and 2 at Mt. Binnie, Ok Tedi, on 31/10 were the only ones seen well.
- Western Black-capped Lory** *Lorius lory*
Fairly common at Varirata N.P. but no counts made. 2 at Dablin Creek Road, Tabubil, on 29/10. 2 at Ok Menga near Tabubil on 30/10. c.10 near Kiunga on 2/11. 3 on Fly River on 3/11 where present but not counted on 4/11. 3 at Sossy logging camp near Vanimo on 7/11 where present but not counted on 8/11. 3 at Satop on 18/11.
- Pygmy Lorikeet** *Charmosyna wilhelminae*
6+ on Mount Binnie, Ok Tedi on 31/10.
- Red-chinned Lorikeet** *Charmosyna rubrigularis*
Fairly common but elusive on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11, not counted.
- Red-fronted Lorikeet** *Charmosyna rubronotata*
Common at a fruiting tree at Km 17 near Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11, 9/11 and 10/11. No estimates of numbers made.
- Red-flanked Lorikeet** *Charmosyna placensis*
Several at a fruiting tree near Kiunga on 5/11. 4+ at the fruiting tree at Km 17 near Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 10/11.
- Papuan Lorikeet** *Charmosyna papou*
2 below Tari Gap on 20/10. 3 over Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 21/10. 6 on Mt. Binnie on 31/10. 1 at Satop on 18/11.
- Plum-faced Lorikeet** *Oreopsittacus arfaki*
2 below Tari Gap on 20/10, with 2 there on 21/10 and 2 on 22/10 and present but not counted on 23/10.
- Yellow-billed Lorikeet** *Neopsittacus musschenbroekii*
One seen well along the Waterfall Trail at Ambua Lodge on 19/10 with several parties seen 20/10, and 3 there on 21/10. 2 perched at Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 22/10 and present but not counted between Tari Gap and Ambua Lodge on 23/10 and 25/10.
- Orange-billed Lorikeet** *Neopsittacus pullicauda*
Present but not counted at Ambua Lodge on 23/10 and 25/10; this and the above species forming mixed flocks.
- Palm Cockatoo** *Probosciger aterrimus*
c.10 on Fly River on 3/11 with 3 there on 4/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 8/11. 2 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.
- Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** *Cacatua galerita*
One at Tabubil on 27/10. 1 at Ok Ma on 29/10. 2 on Fly River on 3/11 with 3 there on 4/11. 3 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 7/11 with 3 there on 8/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11.

Buff-faced Pygmy-Parrot *Micropsitta pusio*

6+ on Karkar Island on 14/11.

Yellow-capped Pygmy-Parrot *Micropsitta keiensis*

2 near Kiunga on 2/11.

Red-breasted Pygmy-Parrot *Micropsitta bruijnii*

A female on Mt. Binnie on 31/10. This bird differed from illustration in Beehler, Pratt and Zimmerman by having a more extensive powdery blue cap, a blackish line through the eye, and a more extensive yellowish-buff forehead. It also had a red spot on the vent as well as a red-tail tip. (ref. Gregory 1994... Ed.)

Orange-breasted Fig-Parrot *Cyclopsitta gulelmiterti*

2 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 8 at Dablin Creek Road, Ok Tedi on 29/10, with 2 there on 1/11. Common but not counted near Kiunga on 2/11 and along the Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11.

Double-eyed Fig-Parrot *Cyclopsitta diopthalma*

3 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 7/11.

Large Fig-Parrot *Psittaculirostris desmarestii*

2 near Kiunga on 2/11. 3 on Fly River on 4/11.

Edwards' Fig-Parrot *Psittaculirostris edwardsii*

6+ at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo on 7/11.

Brehm's Tiger-Parrot *Psittacella brehmii*

A male below Tari Gap on 20/10.

Modest Tiger-Parrot *Psittacella modesta*

A male below Bailey bridge on 25/10.

Red-cheeked Parrot *Geoffroyus geoffroyi*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. c.20 near Kiunga on 2/11. Common on Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11. 3 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo, on 7/11 and present but not counted on 8/11. 3 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11.

Eclectus Parrot *Eclectus roratus*

2 at Tabubil on 28/10. 2 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 4 at Dablin Creek Road, Tabubil on 1/11. 6 near Kiunga on 2/11. c.20 along Fly River on 3/11 where common but not counted on 4/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo, on 7/11 and present but not counted there on 8/11. 1 above Satop on 18/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11. 2 at Vanapa on 28/11.

Vulturine Parrot *Psittichas fulgidus*

One at Dablin Creek Road, Tabubil, on 29/10. 2 at Ok Ma Road, Tabubil. on 29/10. 2 above Satop on 18/11.

Papuan King-Parrot *Alisterus chloropterus*

3 near Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 25/10 with 1 there on 26/10.

Papuan Hanging-Parrot *Loriculus aurantiifrons*

3 at Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo. on 9/11.

Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus*

One on Ok Ma Road, Tabubil, on 29/10. 1 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 2 on Fly River on 3/11 and 1 there on 4/11.

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*

One seen near Kiunga on 2/11. Common on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11. Many others heard.

Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo *Cacomantis castaneiventris*

One at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10.

Rufous-throated Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx ruficollis*

One near Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 25/10.

Common Koel *Eudynamis scolopacea*

3 near Kiunga on 5/11.

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

c.8 along Fly River on 4/11.

Greater Black Coucal *Centropus menbeki*

One seen well near Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo, on 9/11 and 2 on 10/11. 1 at Vanapa 28/11.

Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*

Fairly common at Kokoda Monument on 17/10. Common at Varirata N.P. on each visit. Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 1 near Sossy logging camp area on 9/11 and 3 on 10/11. Present at Brown River and Vanapa on 28/11 but not counted.

Lesser Black Coucal *Centropus bernsteini*

One near Vanimo on 9/11 and a pair on 10/11. 2 at Wasu on 19/11.

Papuan Boobook *Ninox theomacha*

2 spotlighted in Ambua Lodge grounds on 21/10. One heard in Tabubil on 28/10.

Papuan Frogmouth *Podargus papuensis*

One spotlighted along river in Tabubil on 28/10.

Mountain Nightjar *Eurostopodus archboldi*

One incubating an egg near the Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 23 & 24/10 (Rowland 1994). (Editor's note: The first published record of breeding for this species).

Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus*

Heard at Varirata N.P. on 26/11.

Moustached Tree-swift *Hemiprocne mystacea*

2 at Tabubil on 28/10. 30+ at Ok Menga on 30/10. Common at Sossy logging camp area on 8/11, 9/11 and 10/11.

Uniform Swiftlet *Collocalia vanikorensis*

Present at Ok Tedi, Ok Menga, Tabubil area, and Kiunga/Fly River area but no counts made.

Mountain Swiftlet *Collocalia hirundinacea*

Present around Ambua Lodge but no counts made.

Glossy Swiftlet *Collocalia esculenta*

Present above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap; Dablin Creek Road, Ok Menga, Mt. Robinson area, Sossy logging camp area and Karkar Island.

Papuan Spine-tailed Swift *Mearnsia novaeguineae*

Fairly common around Kiunga and along the Fly River 2/11 to 5/11 but no counts made.

White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacautus*

20+ along Ok Ma Road, Tabubil, on 29/10.

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

Fairly common along Fly River and in Kiunga. Not counted.

Common Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera galatea*

One on Fly River on 4/11. Others heard. 1 at Vanapa on 28/11.

Little Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera hydrocharis*

Excellent views of 1 on 2/11 near Kiunga. (Editor's note: This may be the first reported sighting since one in 1988 (Palliser, unpublished trip report) also from the Kiunga area).

Australian Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera sylvia*

One near Kiunga on 2/11.

Brown-headed Paradise-Kingfisher *Tanysiptera danae*

One on Treehouse Trail, Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

Hook-billed Kingfisher *Melidora macrorrhina*

One juvenile spotlighted in a tree on the escarpment in Tabubil on 28/10. Others heard in Tabubil and at Kiunga.

- Rufous-bellied Kookaburra** *Dacelo gaudichaud*
One at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 2 along the Fly River on 4/11. 1 near Kiunga on 5/11. 2 in Sossy logging camp area on 8/11. 1 in Wasu on 17/11. 1 in Varirata N.P. on 24/11. Present but not counted at Vanapa and Brown River on 28/11.
- Blue-winged Kookaburra** *Dacelo leachii*
4 in Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 2 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11 and again on 27/11. Present but not counted at Vanapa and Brown River on 28/11.
- Forest Kingfisher** *Halcyon macleayii*
One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.
- Sacred Kingfisher** *Halcyon sancta*
One at Kokoda Monument on 17/10.
- Yellow-billed Kingfisher** *Halcyon torotoro*
Singletons seen at Varirata N.P. on 17/10, 25/11 and 26/11.
- Mountain Kingfisher** *Halcyon megarhyncha*
One in Tari valley on 22/10.
- Dwarf Kingfisher** *Ceyx lepidus*
One near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11.
- Azure Kingfisher** *Alcedo azurea*
One at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and again on 25/11.
- Blue-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops philippinus*
A small flock at Wasu airstrip on 19/11.
- Rainbow Bee-eater** *Merops ornatus*
One at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.
- Dollarbird** *Eurystomus orientalis*
One at Kokoda Monument and 1 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 3 along Fly River on 3/11 with 2 there on 4/11.
- Blyth's Hornbill** *Rhyticeros plicatus*
One at Ok Ma Road on 29/10. 10+ on Fly River on 3/11 with c.10 there on 4/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area on 7/11 with 20+ there on 8/11, present but numbers not noted on 10/11.
- Blue-breasted Pitta** *Pitta erythrogaster*
One at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.
- Hooded Pitta** *Pitta sordida*
2 on Fly River on 3/11 and one seen and others calling there on 4/11.
- Pacific Swallow** *Hirundo tahitica*
Common at Varirata N.P. 2 at Mt. Robinson on 28/10. Present at Ok Menga on 30/10, Mt. Binnie on 31/10, Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11.
- Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*
3 above Bailey bridge on 20/10 with 1 there on 21/10. 3 at Ok Menga on 30/10. Several on Mt. Binnie on 31/10. 1 along the Fly River on 4/11.
- Richard's Pipit** *Anthus novaeseelandiae*
One at Tari Gap on 21/10.
- Hooded Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina longicauda*
4+ near Bailey bridge on 25/10.
- White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina papuensis*
Fairly common at Varirata N.P. during our visits. Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.
- Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae*
Present at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.
- Stout-billed Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina caeruleogrisea*
2 below Ambua Lodge on 24/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 2 at Ok Menga on 30/10.

- Yellow-eyed Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina lineata*
One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10 with 2 there on 26/11.
- Boyer's Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina boyeri*
5 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 3 at Ok Menga on 30/10 including a pair feeding a chick in the nest. Present at Sossy logging camp area on 8/11. 3 at Sossy logging camp area on 7/11.
- Grey-headed Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina schisticeps*
3 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 1 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 1/11. Fairly common near Kiunga on 2/11. Present at Sossy logging camp area on 8/11.
- Black Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina melaena*
One at Ok Menga on 30/10. 1 at Sossy logging camp area on 9/11. 2 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and one there on 26/11. A pair at Vanapa on 28/11.
- Black-bellied Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina montana*
2 above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 21/10, with 1 there in 24/10 and a pair there on 25/10. 1 along Ok Tedi Road Tabubil on 27/10. 5 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10.
- Golden Cuckoo-shrike** *Campochaera sloetii*
2 at Ok Tedi Road, Tabubil, on 27/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 1/11. 2 near Kiunga on 2/11. 6+ on Fly River on 3/11. 1 at Sossy logging camp area on 7/11 with 4 there on 9/11.
- Black-browed Triller** *Lalage atrovirens*
A male at Sossy logging camp area on 7/11 with 1 there on 8/11 and 1 on 9/11.
- Varied Triller** *Lalage leucomela*
One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 at Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 1 on Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 1 near Kiunga on 2/11. A pair at Varirata N.P. on 27/11. Several at Brown River and Vanapa 28/11.
- Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach*
One above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 21/10. 3 around Telefomin airstrip on 6/11.
- Island Thrush** *Turdus poliocephalus*
3 above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 20/10 with 3 there on 23/10.
- Pied Chat** *Saxicola caprata*
3 above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap on 21/10 and 3 in Tari valley on 22/10. 1 below Mt. Robinson on 28/10 and 1 there on 31/10.
- Painted Quail-thrush** *Cinclosoma ajax*
Several birds flushed at Varirata N.P. but only one positively identified on 26/11.
- Chestnut-backed Jewel-babbler** *Ptilorrhoa castanonotus*
2 at Varirata N.P. on 27/11.
- Lesser Melampitta** *Melampitta lugubris*
One above Ambua Lodge on 26/10.
- Greater Melampitta** *Melampitta gigantea*
1+ on Mount Robinson on 31/10 by Richard Rowland and Phil Gregory.

Extract from Richard's notebook:- "We did the first part of the Mount Robinson trail principally to look for White-eyed Robin (*Pachyephalposis poliosoma*) which Phil Gregory had thought heard here but had never seen. At 1 p.m. we reached an altitude of c.1000 metres when the 'type' call was heard - a disyllabic or perhaps better described as a two note call run together with the second part slightly lower. I went into the forest and recorded this and then went a little further in and lower and played back my recording interspersed with myself trying to imitate the call. Responses were given, possibly more to my imitation than the playback. After a short while, I saw movement and lifted my binoculars to find, not a robin, but, to my astonishment, an all black, large (compared to a robin) bird with a posture not exactly horizontal but not erect. Immediately I thought that the initial call I'd recorded must be a Lesser Melampitta and that this is what had come in. However, immediately I saw that the bird had a dark iris (therefore not an

adult male Lesser Melampitta) and a fairly deep-based straight but thick bill. The general statue of the bird and jizz also ruled out Lesser Melampitta. A good view of the bird from the back on revealed a tail that was about one-third the body length of the bird (excluding the tail), fairly broad and held on a plain similar to the body - at no time did it suggest a pitta or dipper jizz. My next thought was a Black Pitohui (*Pitohui nigrescens*) but an excellent view of the bill showed no hooked tip and this bird was hopping about on the forest floor in a relatively skulking manner. The possibility of Lesser Black Coucal then arose but the habitat, altitude and tail size and structure negated this. The bird was seen to give a very thin, high pitched 'tsi' call and was obviously interested in the 'robin' call. At no time did I see it fly or leave the ground at all. A second bird was present but not seen besides a bit of movement. General colouration was a rather dull black without any gloss.

I returned to the path and voiced my suspicions to Phil Gregory that I'd been watching a Greater Melampitta. I took him down to the general site and left him there. He independently saw the bird on 3 occasions and was also of the opinion that it could be nothing else. The habitat was good forest (with many mossy root boles and much bushy ground cover, without karst...ed). The birds seemed to come up a little gully. A third vocalization in the area at the time was similar to the 'robin' call but the notes were shorter and quicker, and the general time between each rendition was shorter. This and the 'robin' call were thought to be attributable to the bird seen."

Blue-capped Ifrita *Ifrita kowaldi*

2 above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap, on 21/10. 2 groups above Ambua Lodge on 23/10. Several below Bailey bridge on 25/10.

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*

One at Tari Gap on 20/10. 3 above the Bailey bridge on 21/10. 2 above Satop on 18/11.

Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. Present at Wasu airstrip 19/11.

Island Leaf-Warbler *Phylloscopus trivirgatus*

Fairly common in Tari valley on 22/10. 2 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 3 at Satop on 17/11.

Emperor Fairy-wren *Malurus cyanocephalus*

6+ near Kiunga on 2/11 and common there on 5/11 when no counts were made. A pair at Vanapa River on 28/11.

White-shouldered Fairy-wren *Malurus alboscapulatus*

6 near Kokoda Monument on 17/10. Fairly common in Tari valley on 22/10. 3 above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap, on 23/10 and several seen again on 24/10. 2 at Ok Menga on 30/10. Present above Satop on 18/11.

Orange-crowned Fairy-wren *Clytomyias insignis*

One along access to Ambua Lodge on 21/10. 2 parties (exact number not counted) above Ambua Lodge on 23/10. 2 below Tari Gap on 24/10. 1 on Waterfall Trail below Ambua Lodge on 25/10.

Rusty Mouse-Warbler *Crateroscelis murina*

One on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 1 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 3 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11 and found to be fairly common there on 26/11.

Mountain Mouse-Warbler *Crateroscelis robusta*

2 at Ambua Lodge on 19/10 with 2 there on 25/10. 1 above Lodge on 26/10.

Pale-billed Scrubwren *Sericornis spilodera*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 with 4 there on 25/11.

Large Scrubwren *Sericornis nouhuysi*

3 on Waterfall trail at Ambua Lodge on 25/10.

Buff-faced Scrubwren *Sericornis perspicillatus*

5+ along the Waterfall Trail at Ambua Lodge 19/10. 3 above Bailey bridge, Tari Gap, on 23/10.

Papuan Scrubwren *Sericornis papuensis*

Several parties above the Bailey bridge, Tari Gap, on 20/10 and again on 21/10 but no counts made. 3 in Tari valley on 22/10.

Grey-green Scrubwren *Sericornis arfakianus*

3 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10.

Yellow-bellied Gerygone *Gerygone chrysogaster*

3 near Kiunga on 2/11. 5+ near Sossy logging camp area, Vanimo, on 8/11. Fairly common at Varirata N.P. on 25/11 but no counts made. 2 seen there on 24/11.

Fairy Gerygone *Gerygone palpebrosa*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11. 1 near Telefomin airstrip on 6/11.

Large-billed Gerygone *Gerygone magnirostris*

One at Wasu on 17/11.

Brown-breasted Gerygone *Gerygone ruficollis*

3 seen, many heard in Tari valley on 22/10. Present below Ambua Lodge but not counted on 24/10. 4 above Satop on 18/11.

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone olivacea*

6 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Sooty Thicket-Fantail *Rhipidura threnothorax*

One on Dablin Creek Road on 1/11. 1 near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11 and again on 10/11.

White-bellied Thicket-Fantail *Rhipidura leucothorax*

One on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 1 near Kiunga on 5/11. 2 near Sossy logging camp area on 9/11. 1 at Wasu on 17/11. 1 at Vanapa River on 28/11.

Rufous-backed Fantail *Rhipidura rufidorsa*

One near Kiunga on 2/11. 1 at Brown River on 28/11.

Dimorphic Fantail *Rhipidura brachyrhyncha*

2 above Bailey bridge on 21/10 with 1 there on 25/10.

Black Fantail *Rhipidura atra*

4 along the Waterfall Trail at Ambua Lodge on 19/10. 3 above Bailey bridge on 20/10 with 3 there on 21/10 and 2 on 23/10. 1 below Bailey bridge on 25/10.

Chestnut-bellied Fantail *Rhipidura hyperythra*

One near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11. 1 at Satop on 18/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and 3 there on 25/11.

Friendly Fantail *Rhipidura albolimbata*

3 along the Waterfall Trail at Ambua Lodge on 19/10. Fairly common above Bailey bridge on 20/10 and 21/10 and 23/10. 1 on Mt. Robinson on 31/10. Present at Satop on 18/11.

Northern Fantail *Rhipidura rufiventris*

One on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 2 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 2 at Satop on 18/11. Several at Brown River and Vanapa on 28/11.

Willie-wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. Common at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. Present in Tari valley on 22/10. c. 5 at Ok Menga on 30/10. Common around Vanimo. Recorded at Satop on 18/11.

Black Monarch *Monarcha axillaris*

One at the hydro near Ambua Lodge on 23/10. 1 near Satop on 18/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11 and again on 26/11.

Island Monarch *Monarcha cinerascens*

c. 10 on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11.

Black-winged Monarch *Monarcha frater*

One at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10.

Spot-winged Monarch *Monarcha guttula*

One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 on Fly River on 3/11. 1 near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11. 2 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and again but not counted on 25/11. Several at Brown River and Vanapa on 28/11.

Golden Monarch *Monarcha chrysomela*

2 near Kiunga on 2/11. 3 on Fly River on 3/11. 1 near Sossy logging camp on 7/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 28/11. Several at Brown River and Vanapa on 28/11.

Friiled Monarch *Arses telescopthalmus*

One near Kiunga on 2/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 with 1 there on 25/11. Several at Vanapa and Brown River on 28/11.

Ochre-collared Monarch *Arses insularis* (ref. Coates 1990)

2 near Sossy logging camp, Vanimo on 8/11 with 4 there on 9/11.

Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10 and 1 there on 26/11.

Shining Flycatcher *Myiagra alecto*

Common on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11. 2 on Fly River on 4/11.

Yellow-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer*

One near Sossy logging camp on 9/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and on 25/11.

Black-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus nigripectus*

One above Bailey bridge on 20/10 and again on 21/10. 1 below Bailey bridge on 25/10. 1 above Ambua Lodge on 26/10. 1 near Satop on 18/11.

Torrent Flycatcher *Monachella muelleriana*

4 in Tari valley on 22/10. c.10 at Ok Menga on 30/10.

Lemon-bellied Flycatcher *Microeca flavigaster*

One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Yellow-legged Flycatcher *Microeca griseocephala*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 at Mt. Robinson on 28/10.

Olive Flycatcher *Microeca flavovirescens*

2 at Brown River on 28/11.

Canary Flycatcher *Microeca papuana*

2 at Ambua Lodge on 20/10. 3 below Bailey bridge on 20/10, with 1 there on 21/10 and 3 there on 23/10. 1 at Mt. Robinson on 31/10. 1 above Satop on 19/11.

White-faced Robin *Tregellasia leucops*

One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 near Telefomin airstrip on 6/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and several seen there but numbers not recorded on 25/11.

Black-chinned Robin *Poecilodryas brachyura*

One near Sossy logging camp on 8/11 and 2 seen there on 10/11.

Black-throated Robin *Poecilodryas albonotata*

One at Ambua Lodge on 20/10. 1 at Tari Gap on 20/10. 1 at Ambua Lodge on 22/10.

Northern Scrub-Robin *Drymodes superciliaris*

One on Fly River on 3/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11. 1 at Brown River and 1 at Vanapa 28/11.

White-winged Robin *Peneothello sigillatus*

One above Bailey bridge on 21/10.

White-rumped Robin *Peneothello bimaculatus*

A pair at Ok Menga on 30/10.

Blue-grey Robin *Peneothello cyanus*

One above Bailey bridge on 20/10. 1 below Bailey bridge on 21/10 with 4+ near hydro at Ambua Lodge on same date. 1 at Ambua Lodge on 22/10. 1 near Satop on 18/11.

Dwarf Whistler *Pachycare flavogrisea*

2 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 1 at Satop on 18/11.

Mottled Whistler *Rhagologus leucostigma*

3 above Bailey bridge on 25/10. 1 at the hydro at Ambua Lodge on 27/10.

Slater's Whistler *Pachycephala soror*

2 along the Waterfall Trail at Ambua Lodge on 19/11. 1 along the Waterfall Trail, Ambua, on 25/10. 1 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 1 at Satop on 18/11.

Regent Whistler *Pachycephala schlegelii*

4 above Bailey bridge on 20/10. 1 above Bailey bridge on 23/10. 1 along Waterfall Trail, Ambua on 25/10. 1 at Satop on 18/11.

Grey Whistler *Pachycephala simplex*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 4 at Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 2 near Sossy logging camp on 9/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11, with 3 there on 25/11. Several at Vanapa on 28/11.

Rusty Whistler *Pachycephala hyperythra*

One by Dablin Creek Road on 1/11. Others heard. 1 in Satop village on 18/11.

Brown-backed Whistler *Pachycephala modesta*

2 above Bailey bridge on 20/10 with 2 there on 21/10 and 1 on 25/10. 1 above Satop on 19/11.

Black-headed Whistler *Pachycephala monacha*

2 in Tari valley on 22/10. 1 above Satop on 18/11.

Rufous-naped Whistler *Pachycephala rufinucha*

3 above Ambua Lodge on 25/10 and 1 on the Waterfall Trail near Ambua Lodge on the same date. 1 above Ambua Lodge on 26/10.

Little Shrike-Thrush *Colluricincla megarhyncha*

2 in Tari valley on 22/10. 1 on Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. Not uncommon around Sossy logging camp area on 8/11, 9/11, 10/11 and 11/11. 3 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11. Present but not counted at Vanapa and Brown River on 28/11.

Grey Shrike-Thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 2 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Variable Pitohui *Pitohui kirhocephalus*

One brown-headed race at Ok Menga on 30/10.

Hooded Pitohui *Pitohui dichrous*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 1/11. 2 near Satop on 18/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 with 3 there 25/11. Present but not counted at Vanapa and Brown River on 28/11.

Rusty Pitohui *Pitohui ferrugineus*

c.6 near Sossy logging camp area on 12/11. c.4 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and several parties seen there on 26/11. Present but not counted at Vanapa and Brown River on 28/11.

Crested Pitohui *Pitohui cristatus*

One at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

Black Pitohui *Pitohui nigrescens*

One along access road to Ambua Lodge on 20/10. 2 at hydro on 26/10 with 2 there on 27/10. [1 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11] *This would be a new species for the park if the identification is correct..ed*

Wattled Ploughbill *Eulacestoma nigropectus*

One at Ambua Lodge on 23/10. 1 on the Waterfall Trail near Ambua Lodge on 23/10. 1 below Bailey bridge on 25/10.

Papuan Tree-creeper *Cormobates placens*

One below Bailey bridge on 25/10.

Black Sittella *Daphoenositta miranda*

c.10 above Ambua Lodge on 23/10 and again on 25/10.

Black Berrypecker *Melanocharis nigra*

2 on Fly River on 3/11. 2 at Sossy logging camp area on 8/11 with 2 again on 9/11.

Mid-mountain Berrypecker *Melanocharis longicauda*

3 above Bailey bridge on 17/11. 2 females including 1 at nest feeding young. 3 below Bailey bridge on 23/10. 5 above Satop on 17/11 with 3 there on 18/11.

Fan-tailed Berrypecker *Melanocharis versteri*

One below Bailey bridge on 22/10. 2 below Bailey bridge on 23/10 with 1 there on 26/10. 1 on Mt. Robinson on 31/10.

Papuan Flowerpecker *Dicaeum pectorale*

A pair at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 2 around Bailey bridge on 23/10 with 1 there on 26/10. 1 between Bailey bridge and Ambua Lodge on 25/10. 1 in Tabubil on 27/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 3 on Fly River on 3/11. 1 near Telefomin airstrip on 6/11. 1 above Satop on 18/11. Several at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

Tit Berrypecker *Oreocharis arfaki*

3 above Bailey bridge on 21/10. c.10 below Bailey bridge on 23/10. Several between Bailey bridge and Ambua Lodge on 25/10. 10+ above Satop on 18/11.

Crested Berrypecker *Paramythia montium*

2 above Bailey bridge on 20/10 with 6 there on 21/10. 3 below Ambua Lodge on 22/10 with 2 there on 23/10.

Black Sunbird *Nectarinia aspasia*

2 males in Tabubil on 28/10. 1 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. Common on Fly River on 3/11, no counts made with same status on 4/11. 1 near Sossy logging camp on 8/11. Present on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11.

Yellow-bellied Sunbird *Nectarinia jugularis*

1 at Kokoda Monument on 17/10. 2 at Sossy logging camp area on 8/11 with 3 there on 9/11. Present on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11.

Black-fronted White-eye *Zosterops atrifrons*

8+ Tari valley on 22/10. Several above Satop on 18/11. 3 at Varirata N.P. on 24/11 and again on 25/11 but not counted.

Western Mountain White-eye *Zosterops fuscicapillus*

6+ on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. These birds had a complete, fairly bright, yellow underparts and extensive blackish forehead, forecrown and face.

New Guinea White-eye *Zosterops novaeguineae*

8+ in Tari valley on 22/10. Birds showed no black on forehead. Underparts not uniformly yellow underneath - showed some grey areas posteriorly on flanks. 3 along Banari Road below Ambua Lodge on 24/10.

Long-billed Honeyeater *Melilestes megarhynchus*

One at Ok Menga on 30/10. 1 on Dablin Creek Road on 31/10. 1 on Fly River on 3/11. 1 above Satop on 18/11.

Yellow-bellied Longbill *Toxorhamphus novaeguineae*

One along Fly River on 3/11. 1 near Sossy logging camp on 8/11 and several on 10/11. 1 above Satop on 18/11.

Slaty-chinned Longbill *Toxorhamphus poliopterus*

One at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 1 on Mt. Robinson on 31/10.

Dwarf Honeyeater *Oedistoma iliolophus*

One at Varirata N.P. on 25/11 and 27/11.

Pygmy Honeyeater *Oedistoma pygmaeum*

One at Sossy logging camp area on 9/11.

Red-throated Myzomela *Myzomela eques*

One at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 1 on Fly River on 3/11. 2 at Sossy logging camp area 9/11.

Red Myzomela *Myzomela cruentata*

2 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10.

Papuan Black Myzomela *Myzomela nigrita*

4 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10 with 1 there on 24/11 and 1 on 26/11.

Mountain Red-headed Myzomela *Myzomela adolphinae*

One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10.

Slater's Myzomela *Myzomela sclateri*

Common on Karkar Island on 13/11 to 15/11.

Red-collared Myzomela *Myzomela rosenbergii*

A pair along the Waterfall Trail at Ambua Lodge on 19/10. Common above Bailey bridge on 20/10 and on 21/10 and 23/10. Common on Mt. Robinson on 31/10.

Forest White-eared Honeyeater *Meliphaga montana*

3 above Satop on 18/11.

Mountain Meliphaga *Meliphaga orientalis*

3 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 1 above Satop on 18/11.

Scrub White-eared Honeyeater *Meliphaga albonotata*

2 in Tabubil on 27/10. 3 at lower levels on Mt. Robinson on 28/10.

Puff-backed Honeyeater *Meliphaga aruensis*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11 with 1 on 26/11 were the only ones positively identified.

Mimic Honeyeater *Meliphaga analoga*

The common meliphaga of roadside scrub and forest around Vanimo and Sossy logging camp area was thought to be this species. No counts were made. Several birds at Varirata N.P. on 25/11 were also thought to be this species.

Graceful Honeyeater *Meliphaga gracilis*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10 were the only ones noted.

Yellow-gaped Honeyeater *Meliphaga flavivictus*

One near Kiunga on 5/11.

Varied Honeyeater *Lichenostomus versicolor*

Common at Vanimo. Common in coastal scrub around Wasu on 11/11.

Black-throated Honeyeater *Lichenostomus subfrenatus*

Fairly common above Bailey bridge on 21/10 but not counted. Same status on Mt. Binnie on 31/10. c.10 near Satop on 18/11.

Spotted Honeyeater *Xanthotis polygramma*

2 on Fly River on 3/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

Tawny-breasted Honeyeater *Xanthotis flaviventer*

5+ at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 3 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 3 on Fly River on 3/11. 3 near Telefomin airstrip on 6/11.

White-throated Honeyeater *Melithreptus albobularis*

Common at Varirata N.P. on each visit.

Plain Honeyeater *Pycnopygius ixoides*

3 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 2 near Sossy logging camp area on 9/11.

Marbled Honeyeater *Pycnopygius cinereus*

5 in Tari valley on 22/10. 1 below Ambua Lodge on 24/10. 3 near Satop on 17/11 and 3 more there on 18/11.

Streak-headed Honeyeater *Pycnopygius stictocephalus*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11.

Meyer's Friarbird *Philemon meyeri*

c.10 on Fly River on 3/11. 3 near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11.

Helmeted Friarbird *Philemon buceroides*

Common at Kokoda Monument, at Varirata N.P., at Moitaka ponds on 18/10, at Ok Menga on 30/10, Kiunga on 2/11, on Fly River on 3/11 & 4/11 and at Sossy logging camp area on 8/11.

Rufous-backed Honeyeater *Ptiloprora guisei*

2 at Ambua Lodge on 20/10. 3 above Ambua Lodge on 21/10. Common above Satop on 17/11 to 19/11.

Grey-streaked Honeyeater *Ptiloprora perstriata*

Common above Ambua Lodge on 20/10. 3 there on 21/10. 3 on Mt. Binnie on 31/10.

The above three species were generally disregarded after initial identifications so these records cannot be regarded as true counts.

Cinnamon-browed Melidectes *Melidectes ochromelas*

4 above Satop on 18/11.

Belford's Melidectes *Melidectes belfordi*

Common above Bailey bridge and around Ambua Lodge on 20/10 to 27/10.

Yellow-browed Melidectes *Melidectes rufocrissalis*

3 around Ambua Lodge on 20/10 and 21/10. Hybrids with the above species were also present.

Ornate Melidectes *Melidectes torquatus*

2+ Tari valley on 22/10. 3 above Satop on 17/11 with 2 there on 18/11.

Common Smoky Honeyeater *Melipotes fumigatus*

One at Ambua Lodge on 19/10 where very common and uncounted during the remainder of our stay until 27/10.

Spangled Honeyeater *Melipotes ater*

Common above Satop on 17/11 to 19/11.

Brown-backed Honeyeater *Ramsayornis modestus*

3 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Rufous-banded Honeyeater *Conopophila albogularis*

Several in trees in Salvation Army Hostel grounds at Koki Market. c.10 at Moitaka ponds 18/10.

Blue-faced Parrot-finch *Erythrura trichroa*

2 in Ambua Lodge grounds on 21/10. 1 above Bailey bridge on 23/10.

Streak-headed Mannikin *Lonchura tristissima*

10+ near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11 with 4+ there on 9/11 and 10+ on 10/11. c.10 on Karkar Island on 14/11.

Grey-headed Mannikin *Lonchura caniceps*

20+ at Kokoda Monument on 17/10. 3 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Grand Mannikin *Lonchura grandis*

3 at Kokoda Monument on 17/10.

Hooded Mannikin *Lonchura spectabilis*

6 at Ambua Lodge on 20/10. 3 Tari valley on 22/10.

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura castaneothorax*

One at Kokoda Monument on 17/10. 3 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Mountain Firetail *Oreostruthus fuliginosus*

2 above Bailey bridge on 20/10 with 2 there on 21/10 and 2 on 23/10.

Singing Starling *Aplonis cantoroides*

Common around Vanimo and Sossy logging camp area.

Metallic Starling *Aplonis metallica*

Common on Fly River on 4/11.

Golden Myna *Mino anais*

One near Kiunga on 2/11. 1 on Fly River on 4/11. 2 near Sossy logging camp area on 7/11.

Yellow-faced Myna *Mino dumontii*

c.10 at Kokoda Monument and 4 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 3 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10. 2 at Ok Menga on 30/10. c.10 near Kiunga on 2/11. Fairly common on Fly River on 3/11 and 4/11 and near Sossy logging camp area on 7/11, 8/11 and 9/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. on 26/11.

Brown Oriole *Oriolus szalayi*

4 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 along Ok Tedi Road, Tabubil on 27/10. 3 at Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 1 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 3 near Telefomin airstrip on 6/11. Present near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11. Several at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

Figbird *Sphecotheres viridis*

2 at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Mountain Drongo *Chaetorhynchus papuensis*

2 at Varirata N.P. on 25/11.

Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus hottentotus*

2 at Varirata N.P. 17/10. 2 at Ok Menga 30/10. 3 Fly River 4/11. 1 at Varirata N.P. 25/11.

Torrent-lark *Grallina bruijni*

One at hydro at Ambua Lodge on 23/10 with 1 there on 26/10 and 27/10. 2 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10.

White-breasted Wood-swallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

Common around Kokoda Monument 17/10 and at Moitaka ponds 18/10. 3 on Fly River on 3/11.

Great Wood-swallow *Artamus maximus*

2 above Bailey bridge on 20/10 with 6 there on 21/10. c.10 below Ambua Lodge on 24/10. 1 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 2 at Ok Menga on 30/10. Fairly common above Satop on 18/11.

Hooded Butcherbird *Cracticus cassicus*

4 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 2 at Ok Ma Road on 29/10. 3 on Fly River on 3/11. A pair near Vanimo on 11/11. 1 at Satop on 18/11. Several at Varirata N.P. on 25/11

Black-backed Butcherbird *Cracticus mentalis*

Common at Varirata N.P. on each visit and at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Black Butcherbird *Cracticus quoyi*

One at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 1 below Ambua Lodge on 24/10.

Lowland Peltops *Peltops blainvillii*

3 on Fly River on 3/11. 1 near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11. 2 at Vanapa on 28/11.

Mountain Peltops *Peltops montanus*

2 at Ambua Lodge on 20/10 and again on 21/10, with 5 there on 27/10. 1 on Mt. Robinson on 28/10. 2 at Dablin Creek Road on 29/10. 1 at Ok Menga on 30/10. 2 above Satop on 18/11.

White-eared Catbird *Ailuroedus buccoides*

One at Dablin Creek Road on 1/11

Archbold's Bowerbird *Archboldia papuensis*

A male and 2 females at Tari Gap on 21/10 with 1 female there 22/10. 1 female above Bailey bridge on 23/10.

Macgregor's Bowerbird *Amblyornis macgregoriae*

A female below Bailey bridge on 26/10. 1 female on Hydro Trail, Ambua Lodge on 27/10.

Flame Bowerbird *Sericulus aureus*

2 male and 1 female over Fly River on 4/11.

Fawn-breasted Bowerbird *Chlamydera cerviniventris*

Common near Kokoda Monument and entrance road to Varirata N.P. on each visit and at Moitaka ponds on 18/10.

Crested Bird of Paradise *Cnemophilus macgregorii*

A female type at Tari Gap on 21/10 with 2 female types there on 22/10 and 1 female type there on 23/10.

Loria's Bird of Paradise *Cnemophilus loriae*

A male at Ambua Lodge on 20/10 and 21/10. 1 male near Bailey bridge on 21/10. 1 male below Bailey bridge on 22/10. 1 male above Bailey bridge on 22/10. 2 males near Tari Gap on 24/10.

Short-tailed Paradigalla *Paradigalla brevicauda*

A pair attending a nest in Ambua Lodge Grounds on during our visit from 19/10 to 27/10. 1 above Ambua Lodge on 23/10. 1 below Tari Gap on 24/10.

Magnificent Riflebird *Ptiloris magnificus*

A female on 24/11 at Varirata N.P. with 2 there on 25/11 and a male on 26/11. 1 female at Brown River on 28/11.

Twelve-wired Bird of Paradise *Seleucidis melanoleuca*

A male displaying in tree on Fly River on 4/11.

Black Sicklebill *Epimachus fastuosus*

A male displaying on 24/10 in a tree along Banari Road below Ambua Lodge.

Brown Sicklebill *Epimachus meyeri*

A male and 3 female types above Bailey bridge on 22/10. 1 female below Tari Gap on 24/10.

Ribbon-tailed Astrapia *Astrapia mayeri*

A male and 4 females above Bailey bridge on 20/10. 3 females below Bailey bridge on 21/10. 1 male and 3 females above Bailey bridge on 22/10.

Stephanie's Astrapia *Astrapia stephaniae*

A male below Bailey bridge on 21/10. 1 male above Bailey bridge on 22/10 with 2 males there on 23/10.

Huon Astrapia *Astrapia rothschildi*

A female above Satop on 18/11 and 3 female there on 19/11.

Superb Bird of Paradise *Lophorina superba*

A male and 3 females in Tari valley on 22/10. A male displaying in trees at the helipad, Ambua Lodge on 23/10.

Carola's Parotia *Parotia carolae*

3 female types on Mt. Robinson 28/10.

Lawes' Parotia *Parotia lawesii*

6+ in Tari valley on 22/10. A female at Hydro at Ambua Lodge on 23/10.

King-of-Saxony Bird of Paradise *Pteridophora alberti*

A male regularly seen displaying in tree above Bailey bridge. A male seen below Tari Gap on 21/10 & 22/10 and a male and 2 females were seen between the Bailey bridge and the Gap on 23/10.

King Bird of Paradise *Cicinnurus regius*

A male seen along the Fly River on 4/11. Others heard.

Magnificent Bird of Paradise *Cicinnurus magnificus*

A female at Varirata N.P. on 27/11.

Raggiana Bird of Paradise *Paradisaea raggiana*

A male and several female types at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. A female type there on 24/11 & 25/11.

Greater Bird of Paradise *Paradisaea apoda*

c. 10 female types near Kiunga on 2/11. 3 females on Fly River on 3/11.

Lesser Bird of Paradise *Paradisaea minor*

A female near Sossy logging Camp on 7/11. 6+ female types near Sossy logging camp area on 8/11. 2 males and 3 females there on 9/11 and several again on 10/11. A male and 2 females there on 11/11.

Emperor Bird of Paradise *Paradisaea guilielmi*

3 females and 1 male below Satop on 18/11. 2 female types below Satop on 19/11.

Blue Bird of Paradise *Paradisaea rudolphi*

A male and 2 females in Tari valley on 22/10.

Grey Crow *Corvus tristis*

4 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10. 10+ at Dablin Creek Road on 30/10 with 2 there on 1/11. 10+ at Ok Menga on 30/10. 10+ on 8/11 and several on 9/11 and 10/11 near Sossy logging camp area. 1 above Satop on 18/11.

Torresian Crow *Corvus orru*

3 at Varirata N.P. on 17/10 with 1 there on 24/11 and several on 25/11.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Samuel Kepukenai of Kiunga and Phil Gregory of Tabubil and their families, for their hospitality and assistance during our visits.

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Coates, B. J. 1990. "**Birds of Papua New Guinea Volume 11**". Dove Publications. Alderley.

Gregory P. 1994. Further Records of an Unidentified Pigmy-parrot *Micropsitta* sp. from the Ok Tedi Area. **Muruk** Vol 6:3 p.11

Rowland R. 1994. Mountain Nightjar *Eurostopodus archboldi* Breeding at Ambua **Muruk** Vol. 6: 3 p.11

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(Received Oct 94)

EDITORIAL : Additions and Corrections to Previous VolumesMuruk Vol. 7 :1 January 1995

Additions to Gregory "The Birds of the Ok Tedi Area, Western Province, Papua New Guinea : A Checklist and Status Guide" p.38.

322. **Black Pitohui** *Pitohui nigrescens*

A very uncommon species recorded from Mt. Robinson and Townsville drill site at 1600m.

323. **Grey-streaked Flycatcher** *Muscicapa griseosticta*

Vagrant. The third and fourth records for PNG of this Palearctic winter migrant were recorded at Ok Menga on 3 Nov. 1991 and 22 Nov. 1992. Perhaps commoner than currently realized as the species is quite frequent in western New Guinea.

324. **Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon** *Ducula rufigaster*

Discovered in March 1995 at Mt. Lusaka near Sawmill, in forest at about 250m. Probably a regular visitor to fruiting trees at the lower elevations of the study area.

Muruk Vol. 6 :3 June 1994

For *Colocallia* read *Collocalia* on p.10, which should read "A new Altitude and Range Extension for the Three-toed Swiftlet *Collocalia papuensis*" by Peter Rowland, also on the contents page on the back cover.

For *Rhagolagus* read *Rhagologus* on p.16, which should read "The Nest of the Mottled Whistler *Rhagologus leucostigma*" By George E. Clapp.

Bellchambers, Adams and Edwards "Observations of some birds of coastal and lowland Western Province, Papua New Guinea" p.35 and 37.

The records of Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hiraninaceum* quoted should be disregarded. The editor has been unable to obtain verification and details of the birds from the authors.

Brian Coates advises "In the southern Trans-Fly region the distinctive local form of the Papuan Flowerpecker *D. pectorale* has a larger and brighter area of red on the breast, which extends to the chin, as in Mistletoebird. I strongly suspect, therefore, given that the observers failed to find the Papuan Flowerpecker there (this species has been collected in all the areas they visited), and in the absence of a supporting description, that this record was a misidentification of that species and should be considered as such pending further information".

This also reinforces the need for peer review of the papers and notes submitted to **Muruk**, as argued convincingly by Clifford and Dawn Frith in this issue. Where possible and appropriate such should ideally be our policy in future, though not all material is suitable for this approach. Each new species for the Papua New Guinea (or New Guinea) list should have a supporting note published, as is standard practice in many countries. Bishop's note on Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes*: a new species for Papua New Guinea in issue 7:1 serves as a model, as does the note by Brian Coates on the first Maned Duck for New Guinea in this issue.

The Recent Reports section in **Muruk** summarizes observations as reported by observers, with anomalous records subject to query, and details quoted in support for reviewers to use as they deem fit.

Ideally a list committee for PNG should be established to vet prospective additions to the avifauna of the country, again a standard practice elsewhere. Species such as Grey-backed Tern *Sterna lunata* are in need of documentation as far as their occurrence in PNG waters is concerned, (particularly away from the Bismarck Archipelago in the case of the tern).

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Muruk welcomes any contributions which add to the body of knowledge about the birds of the New Guinea region. We welcome scientific papers, travelogues, regional lists and casual notes and observations, particularly from the less well known areas. Please send all contributions to:

Editor, **Muruk**, PNGBS PO Box 1598, Boroko, NCD, Papua New Guinea.

or Editor, **Muruk**, PO Box 69, Tabubil, Western Province, PNG Ph. 675 589310 or fax 589641

Please type all manuscripts, double spaced for easier proofreading. If you have a word processor then we welcome submissions on disk (compatible with IBM standard). We edit initially in Microsoft Word 6.0, and later compose the final version in Pagemaker 5.0. We can cope with most IBM programmes, but an ASC II version of the document is useful as a back-up.

In general please follow the stylistic conventions as used in *Emu* (or see earlier issues of *Muruk*). Please pay special attention to the correct citation of references. Note the guidelines for reporting records as outlined on the front page of this issue.

For English and scientific names use those in Beehler B.M. et al. 1986 *Birds of New Guinea*, Princeton University Press, or the checklist produced by the PNGBS (Hicks R. 1987 *Checklist of the Birds of Papua New Guinea*, PNGBS). With bird lists please follow the order used in these publications.

For place names kindly try to ensure that they can be located using standard maps. If they do not occur on the PNG 1:100,000 series maps then please give the nearest mapped locality. Always give the province after the name, and grid references are useful.

Illustrations should be neatly drawn in black ink and avoiding too much detail. For all maps please submit two copies, one without any annotation and another with the place names marked. Alternatively, mark the place names on a transparent overlay. Line drawings of birds are welcome. Again, use black ink and as few shades as possible. Drawings on the theme of cassowaries are always welcome as potential cover items. Black and white photographs may also be included for possible usage.

If you have special requirements for publications please advise us. The editors reserve the right to make such changes as they see fit, and we do not normally return manuscripts for proof checking unless this is specifically requested by authors. All submissions will be acknowledged.