

NATURAMA NATURAMA NATURAMA NATURAMA

Entries for Naturama will not be accepted after the 15th June — could you please let the Secretary know if you have or intend having slides entered in Naturama. If you require more information please contact the Secretary.

CLUB ELECTIONS

It is time once again to nominate and vote for a new Club committee. Please attend the March meeting so that you can vote for a new President,

- Two Vice Presidents,
- Honorary Secretary,
- Assistant Honorary Secretary,
- Honorary Treasurer, and
- Six Committee members.

These twelve committee members will have the task of organising and running the Club for the next twelve months. Who would be best for these positions? Now is your chance to help to elect the right candidates.

We nominate who is willing to be a candidate for the position of

Signed----Proposer:

Seconder :

Nominations must be in writing but may be on any piece of paper.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions were due on the 1st January. No future Bulletins or Naturalists will be sent if subscriptions for 1978 are not paid by the 1st May, 1978. Rates are \$8.00 family, \$6.00 adult, and \$ 3.00 for students and pensioners

Registered at the G.P.O. Hobart, for transmission by post as a periodical, Category B.

Meetings are held at the Tasmanian Environment Centre, corner of Bathurst and Criterion Streets, at 7.45p.m.

President: Mr. G. Van Munster, Hon. Sec. Mr. J. Berry.

Club's address: G.P.O. Box 68A, Hobart, 7001.

AGENDA

FEB. 16th (Thursday). Meeting: Mr. Nic Gellie, of the Forestry Commission, will give a talk on the effects of fire on buttongrass sedgelands, more commonly known as buttongrass plains.

FEB. 18th (Sunday). Outing: Mr. Gilbert Van Munster will lead an outing to Andersons Road, Longley. This will involve a walk through bushland towards Cathedral Rocks and should appeal to those of us who have a general interest in natural history as well as those who have a specialised interest such as botany or ornithology.

MARCH 16th (Thursday). Annual General Meeting. Election of nominated candidates. Presidential address: Mr. G. Van Munster will talk about Nature's landscape and its importance to man. Mr. Van Munster will illustrate his talk with slides taken in many different countries.

MARCH 19th (Sunday). Half day outing, depart 9.00a.m., return 1.00p.m. Mr. John Berry will lead an outing to Stringy Bark Gully, east of Flagstaff Hill, as an introduction to a long term study of the Crown Land in this area. It is hoped that interested persons will return to the area at regular intervals during the year to make an in depth study of any particular aspects of natural history they are interested in.

MARCH 24th-28th (Friday-Tuesday). Easter Campout. This year Mr. John Berry will lead an Easter

MARCH 24th-28th (cont.)

Campout. to Liena (c. 30 miles west of Deloraine).

ACCOMMODATION: the Liena Shack (one of Burnie Field Naturalists' Club's shacks), has 2 single beds, 2 double beds and plenty of room for lilos etc., as well as a patch of grass suitable for tents. Cost: 60 cents per person per night.

ATTRACTIONS: within easy driving distance of Cradle Valley, Lake Rowallan, Lake MacKenzie and the Walls of Jerusalem. The area is very interesting geologically, with numerous sink holes and caves in the area. Rocks in the area include Jurassic dolerite, Precambrian rocks, Devonian granite, Ordovician limestone and Tertiary basalt. The birds and botany of the area haven't been studied very much, at least not by our Club members, but will probably prove to be very interesting. If you intend going on this trip please contact Mr. John Berry as soon as possible so that details and transport can be arranged.

APRIL 20th (Thursday). Speaker: Dr. Mike Newman will talk about cormorants. His talk will include information gained from his 18 month study of comorants, especially those breeding in the Derwent Estuary.

APRIL 23rd (Sunday). Outing: depart 9.00a.m. Mr. Ken Harris will lead an outing to Brown Mountain (near Richmond). This should be a good trip for anyone interested in either botany or birds.

MAY 18th (Thursday). Speaker: Mr. A. Hower, an authority on Tasmania's reptiles and amphibians, will talk about Tasmania's frogs and lizards. Mr. Hower will play recordings of our local frogs' calls while illustrating the musicians with his colour slides.

MAY 21st (Sunday). Outing: depart 9.00a.m. This outing will be to Cunningham (near Snug) to visit a block of Crown Land to start a survey of its fauna and flora. Interested Club members will be encouraged to return to this block at regular intervals over the next year so that a reasonably comprehensive list of fauna and flora can be produced.

JUNE 15th (Thursday). Speaker: Mr. k. Aves will give us a talk on the general natural history of the Carlton area.

AUGUST 17th (Thursday). Members' night—what can you talk about? This is your chance to give a five or ten minute talk, so start thinking about it now.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUTINGS, PROJECTS AND CAMPS.

To save postage for circulars and improve communication
IMPORTANT

If you would like to attend outings or camps, or help with projects, and the New-letter does not give specific details, please ring the Secretary on 303255, 9.00-5.00, or the President, 296602, for final details.

Do not rely on members to tell you what is going to happen. They might have missed a meeting - or it might slip their memory to let you know. *Reminded 5/8*

Attendance at outings and camps, and help with projects is important and enjoyable and helps to make the Club into a group of likeminded friends. We rely on individual members to keep in touch— especially if they can not attend meetings.

HELP YOURSELF — and HELP THE CLUB

Miss M.L. Westbrook.

NEW MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members to our Club:

Miss Roberta Barnett, 5 McTavish Ave., North Hobart;
Miss Gaylene Marriott, P.O.Box 177, New Norfolk;
Mr. Norman Poynter, 15 Knocklofty Tce., West Hobart;
Mr. & Mrs. John & maria Grist, 11 Canning Court, Mt. Stuart;
and, Dr. D. A. & Mrs. A. V. Ratkowsky, c/- C.S.I.R.O.,
Battery Point.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

World Environment Day, June 5th, 1978 — could one of our members suggest a suitable way of participating in World Environment Day activities to show that the T.F.N.C. is concerned about the environment. If you have any ideas please contact the Secretary.

PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

Tasmanian plants in the genera Olearia, Ixodia, Xyris, Danthonia, Tetrarrhena " by D. I. Morris.

No. 56: "The Strigiphilus Cursitans Group (Phthiraptera Insecta)" by Theresa Clay.

No. 58: "The vertebrate fauna of Maggs Mountain Tasmania" by R.H. Green.

No. 59 "Pleistocene cave material of Tasmanian Native-hen Tribonyx noltierii and Sooty Shearwater Puffinus griseus in Tasmania" by G.F. Van Tets.

No. 60 "Pleistocene vertebrate remains from a cave near Montagu, N.W. Tasmania" by Peter Murray and Albert Goede.

WILDERNESS IN TASMANIA STUDY, 1978

A study of potential wilderness areas within Tasmania has commenced under the direction of Dr. R. Jones of the Centre for Environmental Studies of the University of Tasmania. This study is being carried out in close cooperation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service for the Australian Heritage Commission. The aim is to identify, describe, and nominate potential wilderness areas for the Register of the National Estate.

To date the study has completed a broad scale identification of potential wilderness areas in the state according to criteria set down by the Wilderness in Australia study of Eastern New South Wales and South-eastern Queensland. This report was compiled by the University of New England in 1976.

As the Tasmanian study is the second detailed study of wilderness within Australia and one which will undoubtedly cover unique and controversial areas, the study team is very interested in receiving views from all concerned individuals, conservation groups and other organisations.

The study team is anxious to receive the views of concerned individuals and organisations and would appreciate suggestions. It would be most useful if ideas reached the study team as soon as possible and no later than 30 June 1978. All correspondence should be addressed to: 'Wilderness in Tasmania', c/o Dr. Jones, Environmental Studies Centre, Box 252C, HOBART, 7001.

MAY 1978

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President: Mr. G. Van Munster, Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Berry.

Club's address: G.P.O. Box 68 A, Hobart, 7001.

AGENDA

MAY 18th (Thursday) Speaker: Mr. A. Hewer, an authority on Tasmania's reptiles and amphibians, will talk about Tasmania's frogs (10 species?). Mr. Hewer will play recordings of our local frogs' calls while illustrating the musicians with his colour slides.

MAY 21st (Sunday) Outing: depart from the Prince's Theatre at 10.00a.m., under the leadership of Mr. R. Shepherd and Mr. J. Berry, to visit the Cunningham Regional Park. It is hoped that Club members who are interested in working on a fauna and flora survey of this Crown Land area will make a special effort to attend this outing.

JUNE 5th (Monday)

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 5th JUNE

Meet outside the Prince's Theatre at 9.30 or at Granton Lagoon Reserve between 10.00-11.00a.m. Mr. K. Harris and Mr. J. Berry will be leading this rubbish collection outing. We will start by cleaning up the area in and around the Reserve. Members and friends should come prepared i.e. gloves, large plastic bags, rubbish bins, sacks etc. Don't forget your lunch. It is hoped that there will be some coverage by the media including either ABC TV or Channel 6.

- June 15th (Thursday) Speaker: Mr. K. Aves will give us a talk on "a field naturalist around the Carlton area".
- JUNE 17th (Saturday) Outing: depart from the Prince's Theatre at 9.30a.m. Mr. K. Aves will lead this outing to the Carlton area.
- JULY 20th (Thursday) Speaker: Dr. Guiler will talk to us about Native Mammals. His talk will include information on mammal trapping and mammal survey work in Tasmania.
- JULY 22nd (Saturday) Outing: Mr. M. Hurburgh will lead an outing to the Botanical Gardens (on the Domain). Meet at 10.30a.m. outside the Prince's Theatre. This outing should finish about 3.00p.m.
- AUGUST 17th (Thursday) Members' Night. Would members interested in giving a 5 or 10 minute talk please contact the Secretary before the end of June.
- AUGUST 19th (Saturday) Outing: Mr. G. Van Munster will lead this outing to Brown Mountain. Depart from the Prince's Theatre at 10.00a.m.

NEW MEMBER

We are very pleased to welcome Mr. Euan Moore, of 5 Park Road, Lindisfarne, to the Club. Mr. Moore is very interested in botany and is planning to do an M.Sc. on Nothofagus gunnii, a deciduous tree which is a Tasmanian endemic and commonly known as Tanglefoot. Mr. Moore would like to hear from anyone who knows of precise localities for this specie

T.F.N.C. COMMITTEE FOR 1978-1979

The following officers were elected:

President: Mr. G. Van Munster;
 Vice Presidents: Mr. M. Hurburgh & Mr. K. Harris;
 Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Berry;
 Assistant Sec.: Mrs. M. MacDonald;
 Treasurer: Miss A. Tagg;
 Committee Members: Mrs. M. Wall, Miss M. Westbrook, Mr. R. Shepherd and Mrs. Hoyle.

Mrs. MacDonald was re-elected to the position of Club Librarian, Mr. Shepherd was re-elected as Editor of the Tasmanian Naturalist and Miss R. Warren was accepted as Club auditor for the 1978-1979 accounts.

FEDERATION NEWS

Mr. K. Harris was recently elected to the position of President and Miss M. Westbrook was elected to the position of Secretary at the Federation of Field Naturalists' Clubs of Tasmania's Bi-Annual Meeting on 1st April, 1978. The two Vice Presidents elected were Mr. B. Dudman (Burnie F.N.C.) and Mrs. M. Cameron (Launceston F.N.C.).

BIRDS OF PREY

The National Parks and Wildlife is interested in collecting information on the biology of Tasmania's birds of prey.

A vital part of this work involves documenting the past and present breeding success of each species. The mapping of breeding sites is one of the best ways of establishing population size and fluctuation. Nigel Brothers, of the N.P.W.S. (Magnet Court), would be very pleased to hear from anyone who is willing and able to provide such information. Mr. Brothers is prepared to answer queries on the identification and biology of our birds of prey so don't hesitate to ask him for help.

Specially prepared bird of prey nest record cards are available from either Nigel Brothers or Mr. J. Berry (Hon. Sec. T.F.N.C.).

WILDERNESS AUSTRALIA

There will be a 4 day Symposium/Workshop concerned with the planning, management and uses of Australian Wilderness at the Canberra College of Advanced Education, 20-23 July, sponsored by the Royal Australian Institute of Parks and Recreation. Cost: \$110. For further information contact Mr. J. Berry.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CLUB LIBRARY

In addition to the usual periodicals the Club has received several issues of the Queen Victoria Museum Records: no. 55 "Miscellaneous notes on endemic

A POSTCARD FROM BARBARA GREENSTREET TO MEMBERS OF THE T.N.F.C.

"Dear All,
 Thought you might like this card. Had an interesting trip through Europe, weather fine in Greece and Cologne and for the Trooping of the Colour, but most of the time very cloudy and sometimes rather damp, which means most of my "Natural History" has come from museums, such as that at Tring and Colchester.
 Best wishes to everyone,
 Barbara."

4th July, 1978

BONESEED (Extract of article, by J. Kirkpatrick, taken from S.G.A.P. (Tas). June, 1978.)

The elimination of this plant from Tasmania must depend on the people whose interests it endangers - that is, all who love the natural Tasmanian bush. The Hobart City Parks and Recreation Department tries to keep boneseed down but its resources and jurisdiction are limited. Noxious weed status for boneseed in Victoria has not stopped the expansion of the plant although it has generated some research into possible agents for biological control. Boneseed has not the same grip on Tasmania as it has on the mainland. We can still eliminate it with relatively little effort on the part of interested individuals. Find out what it looks like (a written description follows and I will be happy to send specimens of it if you write or ring me at the Geograph Dept. University of Tasmania, or through the Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Box 684G, Hobart, or Ph. 345543) and walk and eliminate it, by yourself, with the family, or with others in an organisation. The worst infections at present are on the Domain, and in Sandy Bay and Tarooma, but plants are found sporadically in most areas around Hobart. It is also found along the Tamar and the Coast of the Northwest and the East Coast.

... Boneseed has a typical daisy flower which is yellow and which profusely covers the generally rounded 1-2m. tall bushes in Spring. Its leaves are large, 3-6 cm long, slightly fleshy, and their margins are irregularly toothed or lobed. They are generally lettucegreen, although younger leaves can have a loose covering of silvery hairs.

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AUGUST 1978

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President: Mr. G. Van Munster, Hon. Sec: Mr. J. Berry.

Club's address: G.P.O., Box 68A, Hobart 7001

AGENDA

- AUGUST 17th (Thursday) Members' Night, speakers will include:
 Mr. L. Wall: "Phases of the moon",
 Miss M. Westbrook: "Uses and abuses of the Federation of Field Naturalist Clubs of Tasmania",
 Mr. G. Van Munster: "Some aspects of conservation",
 Mr. K. Harris: "British vertebrates" and
 Miss A. Tagg: "Flower legends"
- AUGUST 19th (Saturday) Outing: Mr. G. Van Munster will lead this outing to Brown Mountain. Depart from Prince Theatre at 10.00 a.m.
- SEPTEMBER 21st (Thursday) Speaker: Dr. Richardson, University of Tasmania, will talk about crayfish.
- SEPTEMBER 23rd (Saturday) Outing: Mr. J. Berry will lead a geological outing to the Cygnet area to have a look at outcrops at Cretaceous syenite. Weather permitting, we will have a barbecue lunch. Depart from Prince Theatre at 10.00 a.m.
- OCTOBER 19th (Thursday) Speaker: Mr. A. Fletcher of the Bird Observers' Association of Tasmania, will give an illustrated talk on bird conservation.
- OCTOBER 21st (Saturday) Outing: Mr. A. Fletcher will lead this ornithological outing to Orielton lagoon to look for waders, and South Arm to study water fowl.
- NOVEMBER 16th (Thursday) Speaker: Mr. P. MacQuillan will talk on the insects of Tasmania.

NOVEMBER 18th (Saturday) Outing: Mr. P. MacQuillan will lead an entomological outing to the Arve Valley (c.50 miles from Hobart). Depart from Prince Theatre at 9.00 a.m.

FEDERATION NEWS

At the last T.F.N.C. Committee Meeting, the following motions, to be placed on the agenda for the next F.F.N.C.T. Meeting, were passed:

- (1) "That the Federation does something constructive towards arranging co-operative field work between the various Clubs in Tasmania, as suggested in the last amendment to the Constitution", and
- (2) "That the Federation show its concern for the spread of Boneseed by organising a State-wide 'Boneseed-Pulling Day'".

BIANNUAL MEETING OF THE F.F.N.C.T.

DATE: 30th September, 1978.

PLACE: Adult Education Building, North Terrace, BURNIE

TIME: 4.00 p.m.

The meeting is open to Club Delegates as well as Observers or members of affiliated Clubs. There will be a smorgasbord at 7.30 p.m. (30th) followed by a slide show at 8.30 p.m. (Trevor Waite will show some of his slides). On Sunday 1st October, Mrs. Melbourne will lead a field trip to the Asbestos Ranges, near Devonport, an area where the Cyathea fern may be found.

BILLETS: Burnie Field Naturalists will arrange billets for participants and families. Anyone needing billets, please contact, as soon as possible Ms. T. Moule, 6 Duke Street, Upper Burnie, Ph.313428.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CLUB LIBRARY

The Club has recently received complimentary copies of Gert Linder's "Seashells of the World", and, "The Collector's Encyclopedia of Shells", edited by S. Peter Dance from the Australia & New Zealand Book Company. These books have been reviewed by Miss E. Turner in the "Tasmanian Naturalist" No. 54, p. 12.

The latest issue of "Muelleria" Vol. 4, No. 1, July, 1978 contains a bibliography of the published works of Ferdinand J.H. Mueller (1825-1896). The

PUBLICATIONS (continued)

subject index indicates that 246 of these references are on Tasmanian plants.

A complimentary copy of "A Pocket List of Australian Birds" has been received from the Canberra Ornithologists' Group. Copies are available at 50cents each plus 25 cents postage from the Publications Officer, C.O.G., P.O., Box 301, Civic Square, A.C.T., 2608.

TASMANIAN MUSEUM'S NEEDS

Des. Barker, the Museum's preparator, is anxious to receive any complete carcasses of vertebrates which may be found on roadsides or elsewhere and which can be used to increase the present collections. He much prefers to use specimens which otherwise would be left to decay rather than to collect living specimens to build up the Museum's stocks which are used for display and for scientific studies.

Full specimens in good condition can be made into display or study skins: those in poor condition but complete will be used to build up a collection of skeletons, which has not been attempted so far. Help in making such collections will be gratefully acknowledged.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST:

Napier, J.R. 1978. "Further Notes on Fairy and Little Terns breeding on Tasmania's East Coast".
Banks, Maxwell R., Cosgriff, John W. and Kemp, Noel R. 1978. "A Tasmanian Triassic stream community" Australian Natural History 19 (5) : 150-157. This article gives a very good reconstruction of what was happening at Old Beach, near Hobart, some 230 million years ago.

FIELD KEY FOR IDENTIFICATION OF TASMANIAN EUCALYPTS.

Prepared by the T.F.N.C. and is available at 25 cents per copy or 45 cents per copy, mailed.

TASMANIAN BIRDS.

By the T.F.N.C. and published by O.B.M. Should be available by the end of August.

Mr. van Gessel, who operates under the auspices of the Australian Bird-Banding Scheme, is undertaking a study of the curlew sandpipers and other palaeartic waders which visit the Newcastle area.

...The curlew sandpiper breeds in the Arctic regions of Siberia during the northern summer, and each autumn makes the long trip to southern latitudes to escape the bitter Siberian winter. During the northern winter it is found along the coasts of Africa, India, south-east Asia and Australia.

PUBLICITY UNEARTHES BABY "MONSTER"

First live specimen of new insect family - Publicity in a Brisbane newspaper has resulted in the discovery of a live specimen of the so-called "Cooloola Monster" The Monster, identified by CSIRO entomologist, Dr. David Rentz earlier this year as representing a new family in the insect order Orthoptera, created considerable excitement when the first specimen, an adult male, was discovered in Queensland coastal rainforest. It is the first addition at family level to the Orthoptera for more than a century. The second specimen was found by a ranger who was digging in sandy heath on Fraser Island, which is adjacent to the site where Monster No. 1 was found. His first spadeful of sandy soil uncovered a lcm juvenile specimen of the Monster which, to his great credit, he recognised from the original CSIRO newspaper article despite differences in both size and appearance to the adult. The circumstances of the discovery lend weight to the theory that the creature lives an entirely subterranean existence, perhaps surfacing only during soil waterlogging. Buffalo-profiled and strikingly muscled, both juvenile and adult Monster are superbly adapted for digging. From observations of the juvenile, they do not construct tunnels like their distant cricket relatives - instead they bore through the soil, allowing it to close behind them.

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TASMANIAN FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB BULLETIN NOVEMBER 1978

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President: Mr. G. Van Munster, Hon. Sec.: Mr. J. Berry.
Club's address: G.P.O. Box 68A, Hobart, 7001.

AGENDA

NOVEMBER 16th (Thursday) Speaker: Mr. P. MacQuillan will talk on the insects of Tasmania.

NOVEMBER 18th (Saturday) Outing: Mr. P. MacQuillan will lead an outing to the Arve Valley to look for insects and other invertebrates. The Arve Valley is a few miles west of Geeveston. The outing will depart from the Prince Theatre at 9.00a.m.

DECEMBER: There will not be any Club outings or meetings this month.

JANUARY 18th (Thursday) 1979. Speaker: Dr. E. Williams, of the Tasmanian Geological Survey, will ^{show} slides and talk on the geology of Tasmania.

JANUARY 20th (Saturday) Outing to MT. Field National Park. Depart from the Prince Theatre at 9.00a.m. Please come prepared for a barbecue lunch.

PINE PLANTATION STUDY

A study is being conducted by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Forestry Commission and the Department of the Environment to determine the regional effects of pine planting on the flora and fauna of an extended West Tamar region. The region is enclosed by the Tamar and Rubicon Rivers and the Bass Highway. Information from the study will be used during the planning of new state forest plantations to reduce any harmful effects on regional populations of native plants and animals. Available information on the occurrence and habitat of birds, other animals and plants in the West Tamar region will be collated. Members of the T.F.N.C. who have any information to contribute are asked to contact Mr. D. Rounsevell, National Parks and Wildlife Services, P.O. Box 210, Sandy Bay, 7005, or telephone 302543.

ADULT EDUCATION WEEKEND SCHOOL ON THE TASMAN PENINSULA

On November 17-19th (Friday 8.30p.m. to Sunday 3.00p.m.) a panel of tutors from the University Zoology Department will be running an informal introduction to the animals of the rocky seashore and their ecology. Family groups welcome. No previous knowledge of biology is needed but we will try to cover peoples special interests. We will collect animals on the shore at low tide and examine them indoors in the laboratory. Fee \$10.00, married couples \$16.00, full time students and pensioners \$8.00.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Club President, Mr. Van Munster, the Hon. Sec. Mr. Berry and the Committee wish all T.F.N.C. Members a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

P.S. Don't forget to record any unusual holiday observations so that they may be reported at the January meeting or printed in the next Bulletin.

CSIRO BAND RECOVERED IN CHINA

History was made in June when the CSIRO administered Australian Bird-Banding Scheme received its first bird band back from the People's Republic of China. The return of the band from a curlew sandpiper, *Calidris ferruginea*, may be a prelude to the recovery of more bands from China, which lies in the migratory path of a number of species in which the bird-banding scheme has an interest.

The recovery of band No.040-71148 from China has elated the scheme's Officer-in-Charge, Mr. David Purchase, and his colleagues from the Division of Wildlife Research at Gungahlin. Mr. Purchase has been waiting a long time for the opportunity to place a coloured pin, representing a band recovery, inside the blank area of China on his large wall map of the world.

The breakthrough for the bird-banding scheme came with the receipt at Gungahlin of a letter bearing a Chinese stamp and written in Chinese. Translated it was found to be from a worker named Wu Kuei-Ch'uan, a member of the No. 10 production team in a rural commune in Kuangtung Province, not far from Canton. Mr. Wu said the curlew sandpiper had been caught in the fields along with several others. It was seriously injured, and he had attempted to nurse it back to health after finding the band on its leg. However, despite his efforts it had died. The bird was recovered on 14 May 1978, about 15 months after being banded on Kooragang Island near Newcastle NSW by Mr. Frederick van Gessel.

