



Wader Study Group Bulletin changes

HUMPHREY SITTERS (EDITOR)

Julianne Evans was re-elected as editor of the *Bulletin* at the last Annual General Meeting of the International Wader Study Group. It was announced at the time, however, that I had already agreed to take over this task during the ensuing year with a view to formal election at the 2001 AGM. Although the December 2000 and April 2001 issues indicated that I was already the editor, the transfer of duties did not actually take place until the spring. Therefore my first issue as editor is the current one for August 2001.

Julianne edited the *Wader Study Group Bulletin* with skill and dedication for five years and I am sure all members are grateful for her contribution. As I have quickly discovered, editing the *Bulletin* is an onerous, time-consuming task and I think it is admirable that Julianne managed for so long to combine it with the demands of her job at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and her family.

The Group also owes a special debt of gratitude to Rodney West who has, for the last eleven years, done all the desk-top publishing work on the *Bulletin*. He also has found it difficult to cope with the demands of that task as well as that of Membership Secretary and all his other activities. Therefore, as from the current issue, it has been all change and we are grateful that, through Les Underhill, the typesetting is now being done by Felicia Stoch at the Avian Demography Unit, University of Cape Town.

New people bring new ideas and new ways of doing things. First, we have taken the opportunity of redesigning the layout of the *Bulletin*. We hope that members will like what they see. Constructive comments about this or any other aspect of the *Bulletin* are always welcome.

Also, Rowena Langston and Robin Ward have been appointed assistant editors. Rowena will concentrate on soliciting new material. Robin will continue collating *Notes & News* as he has for some years as well as other "front end" material.

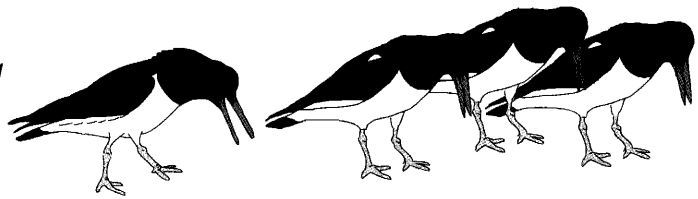
A special feature of this issue is the full-colour obituary and tribute to Pablo Canevari which appears on both sides of the centrespread (pages 33–36). Another innovation is the publication of abstracts from wader theses – bachelors' and masters' as well as doctoral. This will serve as a means of making new work widely known well in advance of formal publication. Authors of theses and supervisors are invited to submit abstracts to the editor. We also hope to include articles in future on a wide variety of subjects ranging from wader study methods to wader research groups, profiles of wader people, particular wetlands, particular flyways as well as review papers on areas of research or conservation concern. None of this, however, will happen without the whole-hearted support of members providing regular contributions in the form of news items, articles and papers. Keep up the flow!

Please let us know your e-mail address

As international postal services are so slow, we are hoping to make greater use of e-mail in future for communicating news and announcements to members. Please therefore let us know your e-mail address by sending it to the editor at hsitters@aol.com.



NOTES & NEWS



We are now on the World Wide Web!

In February 2001, the International Wader Study Group launched its own website which can be found at <http://www.waderstudygroup.org>.

The IWSG site was brought into being thanks to René Navarro and the Avian Demography Unit, University of Cape Town. Pages detail the IWSG's objectives, latest projects, conferences, recent wader publications and a list of contacts. The contents of the latest WSG Bulletin is also to be provided. Therefore, those in far flung places of the globe, yet to receive their issue, may whet their appetite for what is to come.

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The Australasian Wader Studies Group is also on the Web!

The Australasian Wader Studies Group have launched their new website at www.tasweb.com.au/awsg/index. *The Tattler*, the newsletter of the AWSG, is posted on this site, and also abstracts from the *Stilt*, the journal of the AWSG.

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Pablo Canevari Award for Shorebird Research and Conservation

On 4th December in Buenos Aires, Argentina, it was announced by Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN), that the first recipient of the Pablo Canevari Award would be Patricia González. Patricia lives at San Antonio Oeste, Argentina, and has been a leader of shorebird monitoring and research along the Atlantic Coast of Patagonia. Originally a student of Pablo Canevari, her many years of hard work have been vital to our understanding of the biology of shorebirds in South America and were the basis for identifying Bahía de San Antonio as a WHSRN site. Currently, Patricia is involved in intensive studies of shorebirds from Tierra del Fuego to Delaware Bay (USA) and the Canadian Arctic as a leading member of the International Shorebird Team coordinated by Dr Allan Baker of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, Canada. She has also successfully involved local schools in her projects and works tirelessly to educate the public about the importance and beauty of shorebirds.

Our congratulations go to Patricia who is also an Executive Committee member of the International Wader Study Group.

Pablo Canevari, who died in early 2000, was the first South American Coordinator of WHSRN and a major leader in wetlands research and conservation throughout the Americas (see the obituary by Theunis Piersma on pp. 33–36). The annual Award has been established by the Manomet Center

for Conservation Sciences and WHSRN to give recognition to Latin American biologists and conservationists who reflect the values and contributions of Pablo Canevari in their work.

[Source: WHSRN Website]

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2nd Workshop on Project "Tringa glareola 2000"

WRG KULING and the Dept. of Vertebrate Ecology and Zoology of the University of Gdansk (Poland) have pleasure in announcing that the 2nd International Workshop on the Project "Tringa glareola 2000" will be held on 9 December 2001 in Gdansk, Poland. We invite all persons interested in the migration of the Wood Sandpiper who took part in the Project, as well as others who would like to contribute, to take part. During the Workshop the present results of the project will be summed up and topic groups for planned publication will be established.

All persons interested in taking part in the meeting – please contact Magda Remisiewicz via e-mail at biomr@univ.gda.pl for further details.

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Latest Victoria Wader Study Group Bulletin

Volume no. 24 of the VWSG Bulletin was produced in April 2001. It was a record 114 pages and contains details of all banding and flagging results for the previous 18 months on waders and terns banded by the VWSG in Victoria as well as a range of articles. The VWSG banded a record 12,944 waders in the year 2000. Top species were 8,638 Red-necked Stints, 1,558 Curlew Sandpiper, 795 Sanderling, 408 Red Knot and 362 Bar-tailed Godwits. Of the 23 species banded, ten had totals of over 100.

Copies of the report can be obtained from the editor, Dr Ros Jessop (rjessop@penguins.org.au).

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Breeding success and recoveries in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway

Clive Minton reports having recently received Australia's first overseas flag sighting report of an Asian Dowitcher, banded in northwest Australia. It was seen on migration in Taiwan on 22nd April 2001. Only a few hundred Asian Dowitchers occur in Australia (all in NWA) and the world population is considered to be only about 10,000. Less than 100 have been banded and flagged.

Monitoring of the percentage of juvenile/first year birds in wader populations in Victoria and northwest Australia in the late November to early March period indicated that the year 2000 breeding season in the Siberian Arctic was gen-

