

FIRST BREEDING RECORDS FOR CORACIIFORMES AND PICIFORMES REARED IN THE UK

by Dave Coles

There has been an increase in recent years of the number of species of Coraciiformes and Piciformes being kept in both private and public collections in the UK. As I am occasionally asked if a particular species has been reared, I thought it might be a good idea to publish a list of species for which I have first breeding records.

KINGFISHERS *ALCEDINIDAE*

WOODLAND KINGFISHER *Halcyon senegalensis* - 1971 Winged World
A.M. 1971:193

KOOKABURRA *Dacelo novaeguineae* - 1905 London Zoo Repts.1905:35

MOTMOTS *MOMOTIDAE*

BLUE-CROWNED MOTMOT *Motmotus momota* - 1970 Winged World
A.M. 1970:188

BEE-EATERS *MEROPIDAE*

WHITE-FRONTED BEE-EATER *Merops bullockoides* - 1975 Winged World
A.S.B.R. 1975:26

LITTLE BEE-EATER *Merops pusillus* - 1970 Winged World
A.M. 1970:139

ROLLERS *CORACIIDAE*

EUROPEAN ROLLER *Coracias garrulus* - 1901 W.H. St. Quintin
A.M. 1901:217

LILAC-BREASTED ROLLER *Coracias caudata* - 1929 H. Whitley
A.M. 1931:244

INDIAN ROLLER *Coracias benghalensis* - 1984 Blackpool Zoo
T. Baxter, per. comm.

RACKET-TAILED ROLLER *Coracias spatulata* - 1991 R. Cattermole
A.M. 1992:22

HOOPOES *UPUPIDAE*

HOOPOE *Upupa epops* - 1911 M. Aronstein B.N. 1911:221

WOOD HOOPOES *PHOENICULIDAE*

GREEN WOOD HOOPOE *Phoeniculus purpureus* - 1968 Winged World
A.M. 1968:184

HORNBILLS *BUCEROTIDAE*

RED-BILLED HORNBILL *Tockus erythrorhynchus* - 1967 Winged World
A.M. 1968:144

VON DER DECKEN'S HORNBILL *Tockus deckeni* - 1990 Leeds Castle
A.M. 1992:44

HORNBILLS BUCEROTIDAE cont'd

GREY HORNBILL *Tockus nasutus* - 1988 Chester Zoo A.M. 1990:72

YELLOW-BILLED HORNBILL *Tockus flavirostris* - 1983 B. Marshall/J. Ridgeway
A.M. 1984:36

JACKSON'S HORNBILL *Tockus jacksoni* - 1974 London Zoo A.M. 1975:49

TARICTIC HORNBILL *Penelopides panini* - 1977 London Zoo I.Z.Y. 19:339

CASQUED HORNBILL *Bycanistes subcylindricus* - 1972 Birdworld
A.M. 1973:23

TRUMPETER HORNBILL *Bycanistes bucinator* - 1989 Chester Zoo
C.B. 26/8/1989:1

GIANT HORNBILL *Buceros bicornis* - 1983 Cotswold Wildlife Park
C.B. 21/4/1984:7

WRINKLED HORNBILL *Aceros corrugatus* - 1995 Chester Zoo
R. Wilkinson, per. comm.

MALABAR PIED HORNBILL *Anthracoceros coronatus convexus* - 1995
Chessington Zoo D. Vrettos, per. comm.

ABYSSINIAN GROUND HORNBILL *Bucorvus abyssinicus* - 1989 Birdworld
national media

BARBETS CAPITONIDAE

BLACK-SPOTTED BARBET *Capito niger* - 1971 Winged World
A.M. 1971:194

RED-HEADED BARBET *Eubucco bourcierii* - 1974 M.D. England
A.M. 1975:121

TOUCAN BARBET *Semnornis ramphastinus* - 1972 Winged World
A.M. 1972:197

FIRE-TUFTED BARBET *Ptilopogon pyrolophus* - 1984 Chester Zoo
A.M. 1984:193

SPOTTED-FLANKED BARBET *Tricholaema lacrymosum* - 1976 M.D. England
A.M. 1977:1

PIED BARBET *Tricholaema leucomelan* - 1983 B. Peck A.M. 1983:148

RED-FRONTED BARBET *Tricholaema diadematum* - 1972 M.D. England
A.M. 1973:9

BROWN-THROATED BARBET *Tricholaema melanocephalum* - 1970
Winged World A.M. 1970:145

BLACK-COLLARED BARBET *Lybius torquatus* - 1983 Harewood Bird Gardens
Z.F.N. Summer 1983

DOUBLE-TOOTHED BARBET *Lybius bidentatus* - 1975 M.D. England
A.M. 1976:191

LEVAILLANT'S BARBET *Trachyphonus vaillantii* - 1979 H. Bishop
C.B. 1/3/1980:3

RED AND YELLOW BARBET *Trachyphonus erythrocephalus* - 1973
M.D. England A.M. 1973:194

BARBETS CAPITONIDAE cont'd

D'ARNAUD'S BARBET *Trachyphonus darnaudii* - 1971 Winged World
A.M. 1972:52

YELLOW-BREASTED BARBET *Trachyphonus margaritatus* - 1927 J.S. Reeve
A.M. 1927:226

YELLOW-FRONTED TINKERBIRD *Pogoniulus chrysoconus* - 1995
M. & N. Curzon A.M. 1996:36

TOUCANS RAMPHASTIDAE

CRIMSON-RUMPED TOUCANET *Aulacorhynchus haematopygus* - 1982
Padstow Bird Gardens A.M. 1982:193

EMERALD TOUCANET *Aulacorhynchus prasinus* - 1988 N. Dorman
C.B. 17/12/1988:7

TOCO TOUCAN *Ramphastos toco* - 1987 Ocean World/Linton Zoo
C.B. 22/8/1987:2

CHANNEL-BILLED TOUCAN *Ramphastos vitellinus* - 1989 Chester Zoo
A.M. 1991:179

WOODPECKERS PICIDAE

WHITE-HEADED WOODPECKER *Leuconerpes candidus* - 1937
C.H. Macklin A.M. 1937:244

YELLOW-FRONTED WOODPECKER *Melanerpes flavifrons* - 1961 J.E. Collins
A.M. 1981:182

BLACK-CHEEKED WOODPECKER *Melanerpes pucherani* - 1992 R. Sawyer
C.B. 5/12/1992:9

LESSER SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Picoides minor* - 1977 L.J. Prior
A.M. 1977:125

FULVOUS-BREASTED WOODPECKER *Picoides macei* - 1995 Birdworld
A.M. 1996:18

Reference abbreviations

A.M.	Avicultural Magazine
A.S.B.R.	Avicultural Society Breeding Register
B.N.	Bird Notes
C.B.	Cage and Aviary Birds
I.Z.Y.	International Zoo Yearbook
Repts.	London Zoo Annual Reports
Z.F.N.	Zoo Federation News

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LONDON ZOO NOTES

by Simon Tonge

Three species have successfully reproduced for the first time at London Zoo in 1996. A White Woodpecker fledged in July, 2 Bali Mynahs have been reared from two pairs received from Jersey Wildlife Trust last year, and a Black-faced Ibis chick hatched in an incubator in early July after the adult female died on the nest of egg peritonitis. The second egg in the clutch was infertile.

The zoo's Red-billed Hornbill pair also bred, but the male died shortly before the eggs were due to hatch so the clutch was taken for artificial incubation. One egg hatched and the young bird was reared without problem.

Recent arrivals include 2 Yellow-fronted Tinkerbirds (both bred by M. & N. Curzon at Rode), 1 male Plumbeous Redstart (bred at Chester Zoo), 2 Magpie Robins, 2 Shama Thrushes, 2 Black-necked Aracaris, 1 Sulawesi Mynah, 1 Abdim's Stork, 2 female Hyacinth Macaws (from Birds International in the Philippines) and 3 Silver-throated Tanagers. Most of the Passerines are species that have been recommended for management by the Zoo Federation's Passerine Taxon Advisory Group. We are very keen to obtain more Silver-throated Tanagers, should anyone know of odd birds anywhere.

The zoo's last Tropic Hornbill, a male, has been sent to the West Country Wildlife Park at Cricket St Thomas to pair with one of their two females. A variety of waterfowl, including Eurasian Wigeon, Bahama Pintail and Eurasian Pintail have been donated to Paignton Zoo - and the zoo's last Silver-beaked Tanagers have been sent to Blackpool Zoo.

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THE PRESIDENT'S GARDEN PARTY 1996

by Stewart Pyper

On Sunday 19th May almost 90 members and their guests travelled from various parts of the country to view the marvellous collection of birds kept by our President, Miss Ruth Ezra, and Vice-President, Raymond Sawyer, at Cobham, Surrey. They must surely have one of the finest private collections. It includes not only birds, but tortoises and other reptiles, and various mammals, plus a wonderful collection of trees and plants, including a selection of succulents.

What gave us all particular pleasure was to see Raymond in fine spirits after his major operation last Autumn. It may not have been appreciated by all those present that it was our 21st annual visit. The first was in 1976. I wonder how many of us have attended all 21?

The weather in May was variable, being generally cooler than usual, and the afternoon mirrored this. During tea there was a tremendous downpour of rain, but there were also some sunny spells. Raymond believed that most plants were up to a month behind in flowering and this combined with an earlier than usual visit meant that it coincided with the rhododendrons being in full colour.

The walk around the garden was not as long as usual due to the fact that a Demoiselle Crane was sitting. However, we saw thicknees, Red-crested Touracos and Island Thrushes in the garden aviary. In the paddock range of four flights we saw Keas, Kookaburras, Satyr Tragopans, lutino Princess of Wales Parrakeets, and a Blue Whistling Thrush. The latter was separated from its mate as they had started fighting. For those of you who do not know them, these birds can be killers. Those who bypassed the 'Jewel Cage' missed seeing various Gouldian Finch mutations (not to everyone's taste), Red-headed Parrot Finches, Painted Finches and a pair of Quail Finches.

The flock of flamingos on the lake had not yet started nesting but various ducks and geese were sitting, 'Emma', Ruth and Raymond's tame female Stanley Crane was roaming free. The lakeside aviary houses Scarlet Ibis, Masked Plovers, Giant Spotted Laughing Thrushes and I counted at least four Azure-winged Magpies.

Most of the collection is housed in a variety of aviaries to the rear of the house. What is known as the 'Waterfall Aviary' contains a magnificent pair of Blue-bellied Rollers, and hopes are high that they will breed. Other birds in the aviary include Royal or Golden-breasted Starlings, Hoopoes, Grandalas, White-capped Redstarts, and Avocets which were nesting. As last summer was so hot, it presented problems for the Grandalas, as they disliked the long, hot, dry days. The adjacent flight contains Green Wood Hoopoes and a female Violaceous Touraco which will attack the female keeper, if she enters the aviary.

Blue-faced Honeyeaters have nested and hand-rearing was being attempted, because in the past eggs had disappeared. The pair of Choughs appear to be two females, as nine eggs have been laid but none have been fertile. A Magpie Tanager which has been at Cobham for sometime shares a flight with Red-winged and Red-tailed Laughing Thrushes, and a pair of lutino Princess of Wales Parrakeets.

The tropical house is always admired, as much for the plants as for the birds, which can sometimes be difficult to see. Among those I saw were a pitta, Long-tailed and Lesser Green Broadbills, Black-chinned Yuhinas, Splendid Sunbirds, and a Golden Bush Chat.

Three Carmine Bee-eaters occupy a flight which has a host of succulents tastefully arranged on the floor. The range of six heated indoor flights contain a flock of Red-headed Tits, Fukien and Greater Niltavas, Roulroul Partridges, a Banded Pitta, Paradise Tanagers which have hatched young, Blue-naped Chlorophonias which have also hatched young, White-throated Bee-eaters, Mrs Gould's and Scarlet-chested Sunbirds, various flycatchers, a Golden-headed Quetzal and a Rhodospingus Finch.

One of three flights which are covered over house a pair of Bartlett's Bleeding-heart Pigeons which have nested and a pair of Black-cheeked Woodpeckers, which may have had young in their nesting log at the time of our visit. The two main aviaries, as I call them, and the adjacent flights contain Splendid, Emerald and Violet-backed Starlings, pygmy geese, Livingstone's Touracos, more Avocets, Black-necked Stilts, various laughing thrushes, Philippine Hanging Parrots which were nesting, Stella's Lories, grosbeaks, Toco Toucans, a Rufous Motmot, and many more birds, including various fruit doves.

A pair of Cardinal Lories reminded me immediately of its near relative the Yellow-streaked Lory.

Following the usual delicious tea, taken inside by most people because the weather was changing, our Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Geoffrey Greed, thanked our hosts for their kind hospitality. Ruth and Raymond donated all the monies from the ticket sales, amounting to over £630.00, to the Society's funds, for which we are all most grateful. Whilst we were all together our President presented medals for first UK breedings to five members who were present:-

Ms. R. Wiseman	Desmarest's Fig Parrot <i>Psittaculirostris desmarestii</i>
J. Trollope	Cinereous Finch <i>Piezorhina cinerea</i>
P. Taplin	Siberian Blue Robin <i>Erithacus cyane</i>
P. Clear	Emerald Lorikeet <i>Neopsittacus pullicauda</i>
K. W. Dolton	Yellow-naped Amazon <i>A. ocreocephala auropalliata</i>

B. C. Sayers was not present to receive his medal for breeding the Boobook Owl *Ninox novaeseelandiae*.

All too soon it was time to say our farewells and to leave. If we could have chosen something to take back with us for our own collections, I would have chosen the Blue-bellied Rollers.

BOOK REVIEWS

Elliot's Monograph of the Hornbills

Dutchman Jan Gerard Keulemans (1842-1912) was undoubtedly one of the best bird artists of his era. In 1868 he came to England to illustrate such journals as *Ibis* and the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society*. His beautiful plates which adorned Elliot's *Monograph of the Bucerotidae or family of the Hornbills* must have created much interest when the book was published in 1882. At that time little was known of the natural history of this group of birds. Indeed, the information on some species in this book is exceeded in length by the list of synonyms for that species. Anyone today who needs solid information will refer to Alan Kemp's informative and readable *The Hornbills* (Oxford University Press, 1995).

A facsimile of Elliot's original book has been published in Germany by Fundace f Verlag. Additional pages at the end of the book provide scientific, German and English names in use today, distribution maps and a list of the names used by Elliot alongside recent nomenclature.

After waiting two years for its publication I have to admit to being disappointed. The small page size 8½in (21cm) x 10in (31cm) has resulted in some of the plates being slightly cropped. In a book which costs £170 this is not pleasing. Indeed, I complained to the bookseller and was told that I could return the book. I then realised that I could not bear to be parted from Keulemans' exquisite plates so I placed the book on a stand and open it at a different plate daily. I feast my eyes on the Red-billed Hornbill about to pick a beetle off a tree limb or on the pair of extraordinary Fantee White-crested Hornbills.

This is not an easy book to use as there are no page numbers. It is definitely for the lover of hornbills and of birds portrayed in fine art, rather than for the seeker of information. It can be ordered from specialist natural history booksellers, such as Wheldon & Wesley Ltd., Lytton Lodge, Codicote, Hitchin, Herts. SG4 8TE, England. Tel: 01438 820370/Fax: 01438 821478.

Rosemary Low

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A Guide to...Pigeons, Doves and Quail

The eighth in its *A Guide to...* series, *Pigeons, Doves and Quail* reinforces *Australian Birdkeeper's* aim to publish 'high quality, informative literature for birdlovers'. It is solid with information, and with useful and beautiful photographs. Immediately apparent from the text is the fact that the author, Danny Brown, has substantial practical experience. Indeed, he has kept 32 of the species described and consistently breeds 22 of them - and he is only in his mid-twenties!

As a veterinary nurse currently studying veterinary science, he can write with authority about every aspect of his subject. The text is weighty and impressive. It commences with detailed information on housing, feeding, handling, 'reproductive manipulation' (artificial incubation), hand-rearing, choosing stock, diseases and administration of medications. In the second part of the book the author discusses every species of pigeon and quail available in Australian aviculture. The detail is remarkable and extends over three to four pages for each species, and includes photographs of excellent quality - three or more for each species and almost all of them in colour. More than 160 colour photographs make this book a valuable identification guide as well as adding greatly to the readers' enjoyment.

The text includes valuable information on the natural food of each species and the correct diet for captive birds. Notes on breeding are also extensive. Concluding the information for each species, Danny Brown acknowledges the help of various aviculturists who have supplied information which has helped to form such a comprehensive text. However, the fact that he draws extensively on his own experience is very apparent. As an example, he recommends that Bobwhite Quail chicks which are being artificially reared should be kept on a floor covering of turkey starter crumbs. This is because they are apt to ingest sand, sawdust, newspaper or similar floor coverings.

Although this book was written primarily for Australian aviculturists, and some of the species of Australian pigeons are not available abroad, this in no way detracts from the usefulness of the book. No one with an interest in pigeons can fail to find much of value and interest within its 184 glossy pages.

It is available from Owl's Nest Bookshop, Birdworld, Farnham, Surrey GU10 4LD, England. UK price £16.95. In Australia it costs A\$29.95, plus postage, from *Australian Birdkeeper*.

Rosemary Low

Hybrid Ducks - A contribution towards an inventory

Thirty years ago, when I joined The Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge as a warden, one of the pens that most fascinated me was the one devoted to the trust's 'mistakes' or hybrids - the progeny of unintentional and certainly unwanted breedings. It was great fun trying to work out the respective parentages.

As I became involved in the more vital business of breeding rare species and keeping them pure (viz. the fate of the White-headed Duck in Spain through the invasion of Ruddy Duck genes) my interest dwindled. Hybrids are something of a freak show or of purely academic interest. To be fair, Eric and Barry Gillham, the authors of this attractive and well written little softback book (104 pages including 16 of colour photographs) do not claim otherwise.

'Trainspotters', waterfowl specialists and those interested in nature's oddities will find this a meticulous and useful contribution to their library.

This book is available from B.L. Gillham, P.O. Box 563, Wallington, Surrey SM6 9DX, England. It is priced £14.00 plus £1.00 p&p (£2.00 overseas).

Dr Richard Meyer

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NEWS & VIEWS

ANOTHER WORLD FIRST FOR SAN DIEGO ZOO

The world's first captive-bred Crowned Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus* has hatched at San Diego Zoo. The female is only four years old and it was thought she might have been too young to breed, while the male was believed to be possibly too old. To stimulate breeding activity, keepers built a nest before the birds were paired and additional nesting material was left in their aviary. Remarkably, they started building immediately upon being introduced. By Christmas they had completed a massive nest measuring some 2.4m (8ft) across. The female laid an egg in March and the pair took turns to sit. Incubation lasted 52 days and the eaglet hatched 22nd April 1996.

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NOT SO RARE TOURACO

Prince Ruspoli's Touraco *Tauraco ruspolii* is by no means as rare as it was thought to be. Recent surveys in Borana and Bale Provinces of southern Ethiopia have revealed that it is far more widespread than was thought. It has been found there in a number of localities where it had not been recorded before. Neither is it, as was thought, confined to juniper forests, but is found mainly in drier habitats including open woodland and is common even in areas subject to human disturbance.

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SECOND POPULATION OF LEAR'S MACAWS DISCOVERED

A team led by Dr Pedro Lima of CETREL, has confirmed the existence of a second smaller population of 22 Lear's Macaws *Anodorhynchus leari* and has found its roosting and nesting cliff in a remote valley in north-eastern Brazil. It is located far away from the well-publicised and considerably larger original population. The team also have as yet unconfirmed information about several other isolated and widely scattered populations of this spectacular blue macaw. On the down side, there is reliable information that during the last two to three years, approximately 20 of the original population of 117, may have been trapped illegally, mostly if not entirely near their roosting site.

PsittaScene

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TWENTY-FIVE MILKY STORKS REARED

San Diego Zoo has reared 25 Milky Storks *Mycteria cinerea* and hopes that in the future captive-hatched birds can be released back into the wild.

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SPECIALIST GALLIFORMES GROUPS

The World Pheasant Association, along with Birdlife International and the Species Survival Commission, run five specialist Galliformes groups covering pheasants, grouse, megapodes, partridge, quail and francolins. Each group aims to produce half-yearly newsletters to keep interested parties informed of the latest developments. Further details are available from the WPA, P.O. Box 5, Lower Basildon, Berkshire RG8 9PF, England.

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HOUBARA BUSTARDS BREED IN SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia's Houbara Bustard *Chlamydotis undulata macqueenii* reintroduction project has achieved a major step forward with the first recorded breeding of captive-bred reintroduced birds. Two nests and a brood of chicks were found in the Mahazat as-Sayd protected area where captive-bred birds were released. This is believed to be the first time in 30 years that Houbaras have bred in south-eastern Saudi Arabia.

Oryx

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ORIENTAL WHITE STORK REINTRODUCTION POSSIBLE

Plans are underway for the possible reintroduction of Oriental White Storks *Ciconia c. boyciana* into the wild in Japan. A site of some 90ha has been identified in Hyogo Province and the owners have agreed to make land available for the project. The last stork was removed from the wild in 1971 to form part of the captive-breeding programme. These storks are bred now in four Japanese collections.

Re-introduction News

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GOULDIAN FINCH AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Gouldian Finch *Chloebeia gouldiae* is now formally classified as an endangered species. The Australian Nature Conservation Agency has initiated a research programme to try to discover the reasons for its decline and to aid future conservation management. Copies of The Gouldian Finch Recovery Plan are available from the Wildlife Research Unit, CCNT, Box 496, Palmerston, Northern Territory, Australia.

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NEW HUMMINGBIRD DISCOVERED

A new species of hummingbird has been described from Colombia. The Chiribiquete Emerald *Chlorostilbon olivaresi* is reported to be a common inhabitant of the edaphic scrub and adjacent forests of the middle and upper levels of the Sierra de Chiribiquete, an isolated range of mountains rising from the flat Amazonian lowlands of south-eastern Colombia. A full account of its discovery and biology is to be found in *The Wilson Bulletin*, Vol. 108:1-27.

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GULF WAR CASUALTY

There continues to be concern about the future of the Socotra Cormorant *Phalacrocorax nigrogularis*, one of the main wildlife casualties of the Gulf War. It is endemic to the Arabian Gulf, where its population will continue to be carefully monitored.

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ONE OF THE WORLD'S RAREST BIRDS

The Christmas Island Hawk Owl *Ninox squamipila natalis*, believed to be one of the world's rarest birds, was the subject of an article in *Wingspan*, December 1995, the magazine of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union. It contains much information including nesting data.

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JUVENILE MALLEEFOWL FAIL TO SURVIVE

Captive-reared 3-5 months old Malleefowl *Leipoa ocellata* failed to survive beyond 104 days, when experimentally released into Yathong Nature Reserve, NSW. The principal cause of mortality was predation by the introduced Red Fox. It accounted for at least 50% and may have accounted for as high as 92%. Twelve older Malleefowl released into the reserve fared better - three of them survived beyond 15 months. Foxes, habitat clearance and fragmentation, habitat degeneration and changes to fire regimes are considered to be the main causes of the overall decline of this species. Details of the experiment were published in *Emu*, Vol. 96:32-41.

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DEALT A DEVASTATING BLOW

According to recent reports, 41 adult and young Northern Waldrapp Ibis *Geronticus eremita* have died from a mystery illness at two Moroccan breeding colonies. Fewer than 200 remain.

FORTY-THREE NENE REARED

This year no fewer than 43 Nene *Branta sandvicensis* goslings have been successfully parent-reared at the Wildfowl and Wetland Trust's Slimbridge headquarters in Gloucestershire. Five pairs of Freckled Ducks *Stictonetta naevosa* also reared at Slimbridge, are to be sent to the USA in an initiative organised by the Wildlife Conservation Society at Bronx Zoo, New York. They will be housed at Mike Lubbock's waterfowl collection in North Carolina, and will form a founder population for future breeding programmes.

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SECOND CLUTCH OF SCOPS OWLS

A second clutch of three White-faced Scops Owls *Otus leucotis* have hatched at the Cotswold Wildlife Park, Oxfordshire. A Maroon Tanager *Ramphocelus carbo*, the fifth this year, has fledged in the Tropical House. Other species bred there this year include Pileated Jay *Cyanocorax chrysops*, Violaceous Touraco *Musophaga violacea* and Nutmeg Pigeon *Ducula bicolor*.

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SALE OF WORK BY SIR PETER SCOTT

The Wildlife Art Gallery in Lavenham, Suffolk, is to hold an exhibition of work from the late Sir Peter Scott's studio at Slimbridge. The unique collection of 150 works being offered for sale includes oil paintings, pencil and watercolour works, etchings and sketchbook drawings. The exhibition opens 6th October. The catalogue, with a foreword by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, is available from the gallery (Tel: 01781 248562), priced £10.

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EXCELLENT BREEDING SEASON

Chester Zoo has been enjoying an excellent breeding season. By the end of July no fewer than 50 species had reared young. The long list includes Congo Peafowl *Afropavo congensis*, Pink Pigeon *Columba mayeri*, Lilacine Amazon *Amazona autumnalis lilacina*, Slender-billed Conure *Enicognathus leptorhynchus*, Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudata*, Wrinkled and Trumpeter Hornbills *Aceros corrugatus* and *Bycanistes bucinator*, Violaceous Touraco *Musophaga violacea* and Rothschild's Mynah *Leucopsar rothschildi*. An account of the Society's visit to Chester Zoo will appear in the next magazine.

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REMAINS FOUND OF FLIGHTLESS DUCK

Remains of an apparently flightless species of duck have been found on Amsterdam Island in the Indian Ocean. Some of the better preserved bones appear to be no more than a few hundred years old. The species has been named *Anas marecula*.

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NEWS FROM LORO PARQUE

By the beginning of July, more than 600 young had already been hatched successfully. It is pleased to report the successful rearing of 13 Red-browed Amazons *Amazona rhodocorytha* and four Blue-throated Macaws *Ara glaucogularis*. Other European Species Survival Scheme (EEP) species which have reared young are the Red-vented Cockatoo *Cacatua haematurgypia*, Citron-crested Cockatoo *C. sulphurea citrinocristata*, Moluccan Cockatoo *C. moluccensis*, Hyacinth Macaw *Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*, Red-fronted Macaw *A. rubrogenys* and Lilacine Amazon *A. autumnalis lilacina*.

Seven Red and Blue Lories *Eos histrio* and five Mount Apo Lorikeets *Trichoglossus johnstoniae*, two species for which Lore Parque has started new European regional studbooks, have been bred, and it is hoped more will be hatched before the end of the year.

As well as the Red and Blue Lory and Citron-crested Cockatoo, other important parrots which have bred at Loro Parque for the first time, include Golden-winged Parrakeet *Brotogeris chrysopterus*, Bernstein's Lory *Chalcopsitta atra bernsteini*, Bronze-winged Pionus *Pionus chalcopterus* and Yellow-lored Amazon *A. xantholora*.

New arrivals include Blue-headed Macaws *A. couloni*, of which one pair are on exhibition in the park, and a second more mature pair are housed in an off-exhibit breeding area. With the arrival of three pairs of Tui Parrakeets *B. sanctithomae*, Loro Parque now exhibits all the species of *Brotogeris* parrakeets .

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News & Views was compiled with the help of Dave Coles, Frank Woolham and others. If you have items for inclusion in the next magazine, please send them, as soon as possible, to:-

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