

## SWALLOWS SEEN AT SEA

I recently received reports from Mr T. King and Mr C. Rhodes of swallows seen at sea to the north of New Zealand. At the time, these men were taking part, in different boats, in the 1980 Auckland to Vila yacht race.

Three birds were seen from Mr King's boat when in position 173°E 30°S, on 7 May 1980 and one was seen the following day from Mr Rhodes' boat, at that stage about 80 km ahead of Mr King's. All the birds seen were apparently heading north.

A colour photograph taken by Mr Rhodes of one bird resting on his boat's rail enabled me to identify it as a Welcome Swallow (*Hirundo tahitica neoxena*). In Mr King's opinion the birds seen by him were the same species.

P. C. M. LATHAM, *c/o Papamoa Beach P.O., via Te Puke, Bay of Plenty.*

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## NOTICE

We regret that, through no fault of either editor, the short note by Teppen, Muse & Muse on a probable Common Sandpiper in Western Samoa was published in both *Notornis* (1981, 28 (1): 34) and *Elepaio* (1981, 41 (11): 115), the journal of the Hawaiian Audubon Society. During quite a correspondence with both editors, the authors made no mention of the article's having been submitted to both journals; they have since apologised for doing so. The original article was considerably condensed and rewritten by the editor of *Notornis*, and we have since found that this revised form was resubmitted to *Elepaio* without either editor being told, and published therein in the *Notornis* form, apart from a revamped final paragraph and two extra short paragraphs.

We would gladly accept the author's statement in explanation that they "held a misconception of the *Elepaio* readership" had not a second article, by Muse & Muse, about a possible Laughing Gull in Western Samoa, been submitted to *Notornis*, *Elepaio*, and also *American Birds* in New York. This article has now appeared in *Elepaio* (41 (12): 130-131) and in *American Birds* (34 (6): 848-849), and it would also have appeared in *Notornis* but for a chance meeting of the Hawaiian and New Zealand editors.