



FIGURE 1 — Course of *Derwent* during latter part of voyage New Caledonia to New Zealand, showing locations of swallow sightings.

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LETTER

The Editor,
Sir,

I note the increasing use of the absurd term "breeding strategy" in referring to the breeding biology or breeding behaviour of birds. I do not know where this term originates, but suspect the U.S.A.

Both Webster and the COD define strategy as "generalship, the art of war"; in other words, the planning stage of a military operation; are birds capable of planning, other than perhaps in the selection of a nest site? Tactics, i.e. behaviour or action, begin where strategy ends, in military parlance, and it is in the tactics or behaviour of breeding birds that we are interested. So please let us have decent English in our journal, and no jargon.

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