

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON 1975 INFLUX OF AUSTRALIAN SPECIES

During the late summer and autumn of 1975 a number of Australian birds appeared in New Zealand in unusually high numbers, including Little Egret, Cattle Egret, Glossy Ibis, White Ibis and Nankeen Kestrel. Hoary-headed Grebe, Nankeen Night Heron and Grass Whistleduck have also been reported. Finally, a Little Black Shag found dead at Lake Paringa on 20 June had been banded as a nestling at Lake Brewster, New South Wales, on 20/2/74 — the first recorded movement of a shag across the Tasman according to David Purchase of the Australian Banding Office.

An attempt is being made to collate all New Zealand records for 1975, so members who have seen these Australian species are asked to report them either to their Regional Representative or to the organiser:

Dr Ben D. Bell,  
P.O. Box 30466,  
Lower Hutt.

Records of White Heron are also being received, as well as Royal Spoonbill: although there is a resident population of both species in New Zealand, more may have crossed the Tasman this year. It is possible that some of the other species might colonise as a result of the present influx, so records through to the end of the year will be of value. Reports of Nankeen Kestrels will be passed on to Brian D. Bell who is examining this species separately.

