

# LANIOTURDUS

Volume 52 No 1

March 2019



Journal of the Namibia Bird Club  
<https://www.namibiabirdclub.org>

## **About the Namibia Bird Club**

The Namibia Bird Club was founded in 1962 and has been active since then. The club's mission is to contribute to Namibian ornithology by, amongst other things, arranging regular birding outings, conducting bird ringing and atlasing excursions and educating the public about the value of birds. To achieve this, we organise monthly visits to interesting birding sites around Windhoek as well as regular visits to Avis Dam and the Gammams Water Care Works and occasional weekend trips further afield. Bird club members also participate in the African Waterbird Census twice a year.

Experienced birders are more than happy to help beginners and novices on these outings. If you have a transport problem or would like to share transport please contact a committee member. Depending on the availability of speakers and suitable material we present occasional lecture or video evenings at the Namibia Scientific Society premises. Members receive the bird club's journal, *Lanioturdus* and outings and events are advertised on the club's website [www.namibiabirdclub.org](http://www.namibiabirdclub.org).

The Namibia Bird Club is not affiliated to any global or regional organisation and relies entirely on members' subscriptions and donations to fund its activities.

The opinions expressed in this journal are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Namibia Bird Club or its committee.



# LANIOTURDUS

Vol. 52 (1) 2019

March 2019

<https://www.namibiabirdclub.org>

## CONTENTS

LUDWIG DE	Obituary Heinz Stöck.....	1
DEMASIUS E	Obituary Richard Paul Niddrie .....	2
CHITTENDEN H	Namibian hardwood charcoal industry.....	3
THOMSON N and MIDDENDORFF G	Steinhausen atlasing bash 24 – 27 August 2018.....	6
KOLBERG H	Results from the first year of camera trapping at Namibwater and Tsamsvlei, Namib- Naukluft Park.....	9
THOMSON N	Old bird names.....	19
CUNNINGHAM P (SNR), CUNNINGHAM P (JNR) and CUNNINGHAM J	Some notes on Namaqua Sandgrouse ( <i>Pterocles namaqua</i> ) nests from southern Namibia.....	20
SACK J	Chicks, orange box, aardvark holes and a lot of fun .....	25
THOMSON N	Rarities and Interesting Observations .....	27
KOLBERG H	Bird Atlas Update .....	34
KOLBERG H	Tracked Vultures .....	35

Cover photo Southern Red Bishop © Beate Schwippert

## Old Bird Names

Neil Thomson  
batqs@afol.com.na

We are all very aware of the constant changes to the English common names of bird species and most of us get rather hot under the collar when we find that some have changed yet again.

In "A First Guide to South African Birds" Leonard Gill stated that the problem with common names was not so much that bird species did not have common names but that some species had too many common names. (As we all know there have recently been attempts to standardize common names).

I recently acquired access to a copy of this publication and had some fun trying to work out what some of the species therein are called today. Even using the illustrations (which are not of the quality of the illustrations in today's field guides) and the scientific names (many of which have changed since then) it was quite a challenging exercise.

I have selected an assortment of these common names or alternative common names from the second edition of Gill's book which was published in 1940.

How many of these are you able to name correctly in today's nomenclature? Some knowledge of Afrikaans names, German names and scientific names together with a bit of lateral thinking may help with some of these. (Answers elsewhere in this edition).

All these species occur in Namibia.

Pale Rock Bunting  
Mountain Canary  
Yellow-bellied Seedeater  
Icterine Canary  
Yellow-rumped Seedeater  
Diamond Sparrow  
Scaly Weaver  
Southern Pink-billed Weaver  
Taha Bishop  
Hooded Weaver Finch  
Rice Bird  
Bar-breasted Weaver Finch  
Little Ruddy Waxbill  
Zebra Waxbill  
Red-shouldered Starling  
Black and Crimson Shrike  
Brown-headed Bush Shrike  
Black Helmet Shrike  
Grey Tit-Babbler  
Brown Flycatcher  
White-flanked Flycatcher  
Stumptail  
Bush-Goat  
Cape Ground-Robin  
Smith's Scrub-Robin  
South African Sand Martin  
South African Nightjar  
Black-throated Honey-Guide or  
Sparrmann's Honey-Guide  
Levaillant's Barbet  
Angola Kingfisher  
Cinnamon Roller  
Black-and-White Cuckoo  
Sea-Eagle  
Crested Hawk-Eagle  
Kolbe's Griffon  
Smaller Lily-Trotter  
Vaal Korhaan  
Bush Partridge  
Cape Pheasant  
King Reed-Hen  
Malagas

Answers to “old bird names” (page 19)

Pale Rock Bunting - Lark-like Bunting  
Mountain Canary - Black-headed Canary  
Yellow-bellied Seedeater - Yellow Canary  
Icterine Canary - Yellow-fronted Canary  
Yellow-rumped Seedeater - Black-throated Canary  
Diamond Sparrow - Yellow-throated Petronia  
Scaly Weaver - Scaly-feathered Finch  
Southern Pink-billed Weaver - Red-billed Quelea  
Taha Bishop – Yellow-crowned Bishop  
Hooded Weaver Finch - Bronze Manikin  
Rice Bird - Red-headed Finch  
Bar-breasted Weaver Finch - Quailfinch  
Little Ruddy Waxbill - Red-billed Firefinch  
Zebra Waxbill - Orange-breasted Waxbill  
Red-shouldered Starling - Cape Glossy Starling  
Black and Crimson Shrike - Crimson-breasted Shrike  
Brown-headed Bush Shrike - Brown-crowned Tchagra  
Black Helmet Shrike - Retz’s Helmet-Shrike  
Grey Tit-Babbler – Grey Tit-Flycatcher  
Brown Flycatcher - Chat Flycatcher  
White-flanked Flycatcher - Chin-spot Batis  
Stumptail - Long-billed Crombec  
Bush-Goat - Grey-backed Camaroptera  
Cape Ground-Robin - Karoo Scrub-Robin  
Smith’s Scrub-Robin - Kalahari Scrub-Robin  
South African Sand Martin - Brown-throated Martin  
South African Nightjar - Fiery-necked Nightjar  
Black-throated Honey-Guide or Sparrmann’s Honey-Guide - Greater Honeyguide  
Levaillant’s Barbet - Crested Barbet  
Angola Kingfisher - Woodland Kingfisher  
Cinnamon Roller - Broad-billed Roller  
Black-and White Cuckoo - Jacobin Cuckoo  
Sea-Eagle - African Fish-Eagle  
Crested Hawk-Eagle - Long-crested Eagle  
Kolbe’s Griffon - Cape Vulture  
Smaller Lily-Trotter - Lesser Jacana  
Vaal Korhaan - Karoo Korhaan  
Bush Partridge - Crested Francolin  
Cape Pheasant - Cape Spurfowl  
King Reed-Hen - African Swamphen  
Malagas - Cape Gannet