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## Editorial

The trials of the Namibia Bird Club continue with it mainly being a Windhoek orientated organization. The number of articles submitted to its journal the *Lanioturdus* has withered to almost unacceptable levels. In 2006 only one issue of the *Lanioturdus* was published and here we are half way through 2007 and finally the editor has enough articles to publish what probably will be the only issue of 2007.

There is obviously an interest in birding within Namibia since there are now many subgroups specializing in aspects of birds. There is Raptors Namibia who publish an on line newsletter once a month. The Crane Working Group, Raptor Road Counts, Rare and Endangered Species Trust working on vultures, and the Wetland Bird Counts which enumerate all the wetlands twice per year.

I know that there are birders observing birds because of the rare birds which have been reported to the magazine *Birds and Birding* from Namibia.

Once again I appeal to all members to help the Namibia Bird Club. If you want to keep the club viable you must also do your part and try and get new members to join. We are currently down to fewer than 100 members.

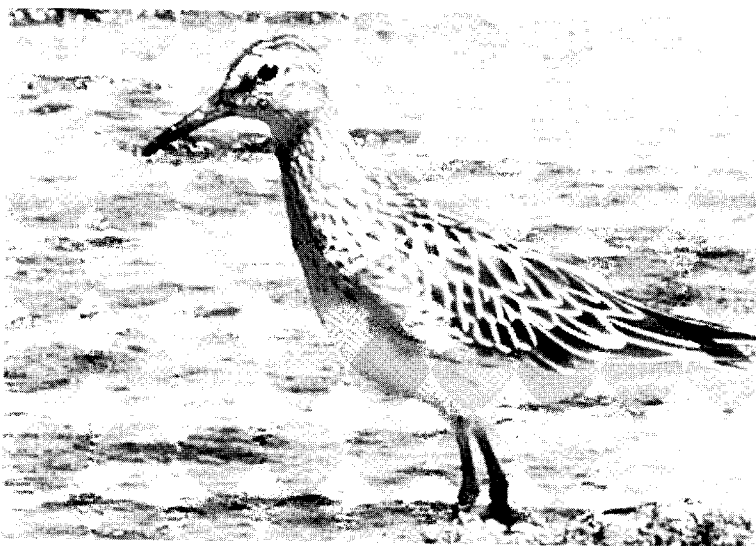
Fortunately there is good news and there has been a recent increase in the number of articles submitted and hopefully this trend will continue and we could see another issue published this year.

I hope readers will note the addition to the Namibia list of Ruppell's Vulture. There are probably more juvenile Ruppell's Vultures visiting Namibia than we realize. Observers should keep their eyes open when watching vultures at a kill, you may be able to add a new species to your list. If you do see one of these birds please try to photograph it.

## Request for assistance

The Trustees of the John Voelcker Bird Book Fund have approved the go-ahead for a new book project on the geographic variation (essentially sub-species) of southern Africa. I am keen to solicit the help from ringers who may be willing to take digital photos (or who may have digital photos) of birds from various regions around southern Africa. Low resolution jpegs of close-ups of birds in the hand (sent to me on a CD) would be fine. Origin (location) of the photographs would of course be essential. These, together with skins specimens from museums would be used to assist the artist in illustration of plates.

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Rarely seen at Swakopmund last summer (2006). a Pectoral Sandpiper  
(*Caladris melanotos*)

Photo: Neil Thomson

## NAMIBIA BIRD CLUB

### NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS

LANTIOTURDUS publishes articles and notes of broad birding interest to the membership of the Namibia Bird Club. Contributors should refer to Volumes 37-3 for author's guidelines or look at a recent issue of the magazine for guidance on presentation of material. The preferred medium for submission is an attachment to an email. The preferred word processing programme is Microsoft Word, any version. Other programmes are acceptable but authors should include an alternate version in either text only (.txt) or rich text format (.rtf) files. Handwritten or typed submissions are also acceptable.

The names of birds used in articles should conform to the names in Hockey, PAR, Dean, WRJ, Ryan PG (eds) 2005 *Roberts- Birds of Southern Africa*, VIIth edition. The trustees of the John Voelcker Bird Book Fund, Cape Town. Manuscripts in English, German or Afrikaans are accepted. If papers are submitted in German or Afrikaans a short English summary should accompany the article. Summaries in German or Afrikaans may also be submitted for papers in English. *LANIOTURDUS* is printed in black and white thus all tables and figures must use symbols and legends that will be readable when converted to black and white. Photographs may be submitted to illustrate articles but should be of good quality and clarity when converted to black and white. All submissions should include the author's postal and email addresses.

A single copy of the issue in which your article appeared will be sent to the senior author.

The editor is allowed wide latitude in choice of material, thus any views and opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the Namibia Bird Club. All material in *LANIOTURDUS* is copyright and permission to reproduce material should be negotiated with the Editor.

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