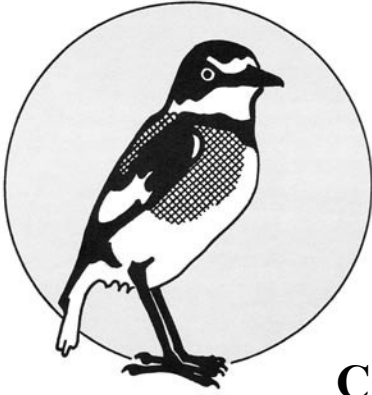


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Summary of the 2007 Ringing Season in Namibia

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The 30 June 2008 signaled the end of the 2007 ringing season and the following is a summary thereof. In total 9 637 birds of 270 species were ringed or re-trapped, controlled etc. this season. Out of this total 9 033 were newly ringed birds (i.e. SAFRING code 1). Data from 19 ringers was received and Dirk Heinrich once again is the “ringing king” of code 1 birds, followed by Tim Osborne and Mark Boorman but in the re-trap etc. category Tim pipped Dirk, followed by Ursula Franke. Dirk also held top spot in the number of different species ringed category. Lark-like Bunting once again is the top species ringed, followed by Common Tern and Red-headed Finch. Twenty-seven species of birds of prey were ringed and vultures account for more than half of the total of 329 birds ringed. In the waterbird category 1 662 birds of 36 species were ringed and three tern species top this list. It is pleasing to see that nine (out of 16) endemic species were ringed (319 birds in total).

It is heartening to see that all long-term projects are still on-going even though costs have sky-rocketed and support from the Ministry is all but non-existent. The lack of a Ministry ornithologist is severely hampering progress, as all work is still done on an *ad hoc* basis and ornithological work by Ministry staff has to be specially motivated and justified.

My sincere gratitude goes to all ringers for keeping Namibia on the top end of the pecking order in terms of ringing in southern Africa.

Table 1: Number of code 1 birds per ringer.

Ringer	Birds
Dirk Heinrich	2 940
Tim Osborne	2 285
Mark Boorman	1 362
Ursula Franke	661
Neil Thomson	367
Wilferd Versfeld	342
Holger Kolberg	262
Steve Braine	176
Mark Paxton	129
Dries Nel	111
Gabriel Shatumbu	85
Jessica Kemper	67
Gerrie Grobler	50
Sigi Braby	50
Peter Bridgeford	47
Marc Dürr	39
Liz Komen	36
Sandra Dantu	21
Bernd Brell	3
Total	9 033

Table 2: Number of re-traps, controls, cat-eaten birds etc. per ringer.

Ringer	Birds
Tim Osborne	250
Dirk Heinrich	140
Ursula Franke	78
Mark Boorman	53
Mark Paxton	41
Wilferd Versfeld	18
Gabriel Shatumbu	5
Gerrie Grobler	5
Holger Kolberg	4
Neil Thomson	4
Sigi Braby	4
Steve Braine	2
Total	604

Table 3: Number of species per ringer.

Ringer	Species
Dirk Heinrich	146
Ursula Franke	101
Tim Osborne	71
Wilferd Versfeld	61
Mark Paxton	38
Steve Braine	38
Mark Boorman	37
Holger Kolberg	35
Neil Thomson	33
Gerrie Grobler	24
Gabriel Shatumbu	23
Dries Nel	15
Liz Komen	13
Marc Dürr	9
Sandra Dantu	7
Sigi Braby	5
Peter Bridgeford	3
Jessica Kemper	1
Rod Braby	1
Total Species	270

Table 4: Top twenty species overall.

Species	Total
Lark-like Bunting	919
Common Tern	896
Red-headed Finch	859
Red-billed Quelea	697
Chestnut Weaver	429
Black-throated Canary	343
Black Tern	331
Southern Masked-Weaver	306
Common Waxbill	289
Laughing Dove	279
Violet-eared Waxbill	226
African Red-eyed Bulbul	225
Cape Sparrow	221
Namaqua Dove	144
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	142
House Sparrow	129
Monteiro's Hornbill	129
Damara Tern	117
Lappet-faced Vulture	114
Blue Waxbill	106

Table 5: Numbers of birds of prey ringed.

Species	Total
Lappet-faced Vulture	114
White-backed Vulture	87
Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk	36
Pearl-spotted Owlet	19
Shikra	13
African Hawk Eagle	7
Rock Kestrel	7
Gabar Goshawk	6
African Scops-Owl	4
Black-chested Snake-Eagle	4
Greater Kestrel	4
Red-necked Falcon	4
African Fish-Eagle	3
Southern White-faced Owl	3
Spotted Eagle-Owl	3
Barn Owl	2
Lanner Falcon	2
Pygmy Falcon	2
Augur Buzzard	1
Black-shouldered Kite	1
Brown Snake-Eagle	1

Species	Total
Little Sparrowhawk	1
Peregrine Falcon	1
Secretarybird	1
Tawny Eagle	1
Wahlberg's Eagle	1
White-headed Vulture	1
Total	329

Table 6: Numbers of endemic birds ringed.

Species	Total
Monteiro's Hornbill	129
Damara Tern	117
Damara Hornbill	30
Carp's Tit	11
Rüppell's Parrot	11
White-tailed Shrike	10
Rockrunner	6
Dune Lark	3
Hartlaub's Spurfowl	2
Total	319

Table 7: Numbers of waterbirds ringed, including kingfishers.

Species	Total
Common Tern	896
Black Tern	331
Damara Tern	117
Great White Pelican	96
Sandwich Tern	48
Curlew Sandpiper	27
White-fronted Plover	20
Crowned Lapwing	16
Chestnut-banded Plover	15
Ruddy Turnstone	15
Spotted Thick-knee	12
Little Stint	9
Arctic Tern	7
Kittlitz's Plover	5
Three-banded Plover	5
Blacksmith Lapwing	4
African Penguin	3
African Pied Wagtail	3
African Spoonbill	3
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	3

Species	Total
Greater Flamingo	3
Swift Tern	3
Whiskered Tern	3
African Jacana	2
African Pygmy-Kingfisher	2
Caspian Tern	2
Dwarf Bittern	2
Pied Avocet	2
Black Crake	1
Cape Cormorant	1
Common Moorhen	1
Grey Heron	1
Grey-headed Kingfisher	1
Hartlaub's Gull	1
Red-billed Teal	1
Wood Sandpiper	1
Total	1 662