

LANIOTURDUS

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Editorial

Pete Hancock, the editor of African Raptor News, commented in the first issue of that publication that it is sometimes easier as editor to write the newsletter yourself than to get contributions from others. Fortunately I have not been in this position during my first year or so of editing Lanioturdus but the one thing that I have found rather disconcerting is that of the 34 articles published in Lanioturdus 41 and Lanioturdus 42 (1-4) 26 have been written by only seven individuals. A very big thank you to those who have contributed but I am sure that many more of you have something to contribute. Remember – if it interests you it most likely interests other birders as well.

In anticipation of an influx of contributions I would like to offer the following guidelines to prospective authors:-

Editorial policy: Lanioturdus publishes articles and notes of broad birding interest for the membership of the Namibia Bird Club. Although preference is given to articles dealing with birds in Namibia, articles dealing with birds in southern Africa and beyond are also acceptable. The editor is allowed wide latitude in the choice of material; thus any views and opinions expressed 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 and the author.

Format of submission: Manuscripts are accepted in English, German or Afrikaans. If papers are submitted in German or Afrikaans a short English summary should accompany the article. For papers in English, summaries in German or Afrikaans may also be submitted.

The preferred method of submission is via an attachment to an email. The preferred word processing programme is MS Word. The editor has MS Word 2007 and can thus open files in earlier versions. Other programmes are accepted but the files must be submitted as text only (.txt) or rich text format (.rtf) files. Typed or hand written submissions are also acceptable but the editor does not accept any responsibility for mistakes occurring from indecipherable handwriting. Photographs accompanying the articles are desirable and as Lanioturdus is now distributed electronically digital colour photographs are preferred. The photographs should be sent as a separate attachment and not be embedded in text files. If photographs are to be used in a specific position in the text this should be indicated. Likewise tables and graphs should also be sent as separate attachments and not be embedded in the text. Authors should however indicate where in the text such tables and graphs should be placed in the article.

Bird Names: The common names of birds should follow the new edition of Roberts Birds of Southern Africa Edition 7. Papers on the biology of species should include the scientific name of the bird the first time it is mentioned in the text. For long lists of species observed scientific names are not required.

References: References should be in the following format:

Summary of the 2008 ringing season in Namibia

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The 2008 ringing season ended on 30 June 2009 and the following is a summary for the season.

The Namibian ringers once again excelled, ringing almost 13,000 birds of which 9785 were newly ringed (code 1) and 3059 were retraps, controls etc. Twenty-four ringers submitted records for the season and 244 different species were ringed. African Penguin top the list of birds ringed, followed by Southern Masked and Sociable Weavers (Table 1).

In terms of raptors, Lappet-faced Vultures just pip Southern Pale Chanting Goshawks, with White-backed Vultures in third place (Table 2).

In total 28 species of raptor were ringed including several rarities such as Amur Falcon, Brown Snake Eagle and White-headed Vulture. African Penguin heads the list of sea and waterbirds (Table 3).

This is mainly due to the effort Jessica Kemper and her team of island “guardians”. Common and Damara Tern are the next two species on the list, again due to the dedicated projects (and efforts) run by Mark Boorman and the Braby family respectively. Only eight species of endemic birds were ringed with Damara Tern topping that list (Table 4).

Birds were ringed at 506 localities and, not surprisingly, Namibia’s islands feature prominently in the list of top ringing localities (Table 5, Figure 1).

Neil Thomson is the top ringer in terms of code 1 birds, followed by Dirk Heinrich and Ursula Franke (Table 6) whereas Tony Delpont tops the list for retraps, controls etc. (Table 7).

In terms of different species ringed, Dirk Heinrich’s tally is almost twice that of the next person on the list (Table 8).

Table 1: Top 20 species of bird ringed¹.

Species	No
African Penguin	2394
Southern Masked-Weaver	661
Sociable Weaver	658
Lark-like Bunting	556
Black-throated Canary	537
Red-billed Quelea	476
African Red-eyed Bulbul	449
Laughing Dove	440

Red-headed Finch	424
Namaqua Dove	393
Chestnut Weaver	370
Common Waxbill	340
Cape Sparrow	315
White-browed Sparrow-Weaver	245
Common Tern	236
Banded Martin	224
Blue Waxbill	208
Damara Tern	158
House Sparrow	146
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	140

¹ The figure given is the total for both, newly ringed birds and retraps, controls etc.

Table 2: Numbers of raptors ringed.

Species	No
Lappet-faced Vulture	50
Southern Pale Chanting Goshawk	43
White-backed Vulture	38
Pearl-spotted Owlet	31
Rock Kestrel	18
African Scops-Owl	10
Black-chested Snake-Eagle	9
Spotted Eagle-Owl	8
Greater Kestrel	7
Barn Owl	5
Black Kite	5
Gabar Goshawk	4
Augur Buzzard	3
Jackal Buzzard	3
Lanner Falcon	3
Pygmy Falcon	3
Steppe Buzzard	3
African Hawk-Eagle	2
Black-shouldered Kite	2
Shikra	2
Tawny Eagle	2
Amur Falcon	1
Brown Snake-Eagle	1
Little Sparrowhawk	1
Red-footed Falcon	1
Secretarybird	1
White-headed Vulture	1
Yellow-billed Kite	1

Table 3: Top 20 species of sea and waterbirds ringed.

Species	No
African Penguin	2394
Common Tern	236
Damara Tern	158
Bank Cormorant	119
Cape Gannet	78
Sandwich Tern	44
Black-crowned Night-Heron	31
Crowned Lapwing	31
Cape Cormorant	29
Black Tern	25
Spotted Thick-knee	22
Kittlitz's Plover	21
Grey Heron	16
Double-banded Courser	15
Kelp Gull	14
White-fronted Plover	14
Bronze-winged Courser	13
Hartlaub's Gull	10
Chestnut-banded Plover	8
Blacksmith Lapwing	7

Table 4: Numbers of endemic birds ringed.

Species	No
Damara Tern	158
Monteiro's Hornbill	55
White-tailed Shrike	18
Rosy-faced Lovebird	13
Damara Hornbill	6
Dune Lark	4
Ruppell's Parrot	2
Hartlaub's Spurfowl	1

Table 5: Top 20 localities

Locality	No
Ichaboe	1087
Rykvoet St Klein Windhoek	1073
Mercury	836
Klein Windhoek	822

Wiese Farmhaus	575
Tandala Ridge, Windpoort Farm, Outjo Dist Possession	535
Tandala Ridge, Windpoort Farm	450
Wiese House	414
Nelsville Farmhouse	346
Mile 4 Salt Works	306
Middle of Nowhere	292
Halifax	268
Okaukuejo Rest Camp, Etosha Nat Park	266
Okaukuejo outside nest	256
Ehomba	224
Swakopmund Roonstr.	223
Wiese House, Farm Wiese, Rehoboth	219
Holog	195
Windpoort farm No 428, Outjo, House	184
	172

Table 6: Numbers of newly ringed birds per ringer.

Ringer	Birds
Neil Thomson	2221
Dirk Heinrich	2110
Ursula Franke	1371
Tim Osborne	1016
Wilferd Versfeld	700
Mark Boorman	443
Graham Grieve	318
Steve Braine	292
Holger Kolberg	253
Marc Dürr	227
Jessica Kemper	117
Sigi Braby	88
Gabriel Shatumbu	81
Peter Bridgeford	73
Sandra Dantu	69
Bernd Brell	57
Liz Komen	53
Justine/Rod Braby	52
Tony Delport	46
Pete Bartlett	45
Otto von Kaschke	42
Gail Schaum	41
Rian Jones	41
Hartmut Kolb	29

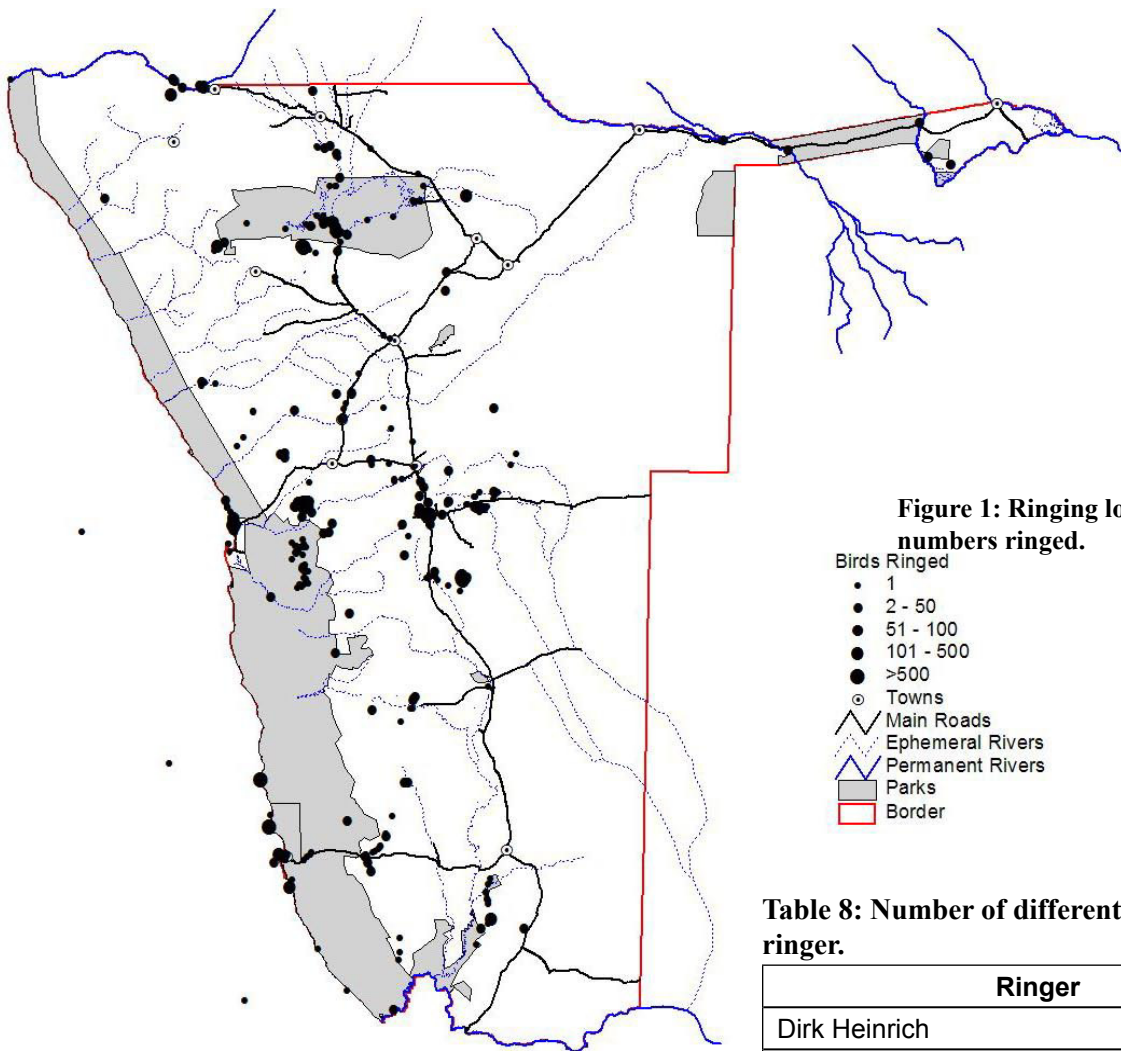


Figure 1: Ringing localities and numbers ringed.

- Birds Ringed**
- 1
 - 2 - 50
 - 51 - 100
 - 101 - 500
 - >500
 - ⊙ Towns
 - Main Roads
 - - - Ephemeral Rivers
 - Permanent Rivers
 - Parks
 - Border

Table 8: Number of different species ringed per ringer.

Ringer	Species
Dirk Heinrich	144
Neil Thomson	82
Wilferd Versfeld	66
Tim Osborne	58
Mark Boorman	48
Ursula Franke	47
Graham Grieve	45
Steve Braine	41
Holger Kolberg	40
Marc Dürr	32
Liz Komen	28
Sandra Dantu	23
Bernd Brell	19
Hartmut Kolb	18
Gabriel Shatumbu	15
Peter Bridgeford	14
Rian Jones	8
Otto von Kaschke	7
Jessica Kemper	6
Tony Delport	6
Pete Bartlett	3
Sigi Braby	3
Gail Schaum	1
Justine/Rod Braby	1

Table 7: Number of retraps, controls etc. per ringer.

Ringer	Birds
Tony Delport	980
Rian Jones	729
Pete Bartlett	450
Jessica Kemper	230
Neil Thomson	213
Dirk Heinrich	171
Ursula Franke	97
Tim Osborne	55
Wilferd Versfeld	41
Sigi Braby	32
Gail Schaum	23
Graham Grieve	12
Holger Kolberg	9
Steve Braine	7
Marc Dürr	5
Bernd Brell	2
Peter Bridgeford	2
Liz Komen	1