

# LANIOTURDUS

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## **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.



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Cover photo Bradfield's Hornbill © Holger Kolberg

### **Hildegard Becker**

It is with deep sorrow that we learned of the passing of bird club member Hildegard Becker.

She served on the Namibia Bird Club committee from 2005 until mid-2008, fulfilling the post of secretary. Her friendly and efficient manner was loved by everyone. She often helped with writing the *Bird Call* - an informal events calendar.

Hildegard was also a passionate botanist combining her enthusiasm for birdlife with Namibia's nature.

She had a good sense of humour and once told me that she employed a bunch of hornbills to dig up her garden - all was left was to sow the seeds.



## Tracked Vultures

Holger Kolberg

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Over the past years several Lappet-faced Vulture chicks, mainly in the Namib-Naukluft Park, were fitted with tracking devices. Some of the trackers take a position reading every half an hour, others only once an hour and then there are ones that

take a reading only every six hours. The distances given here are straight line measurements between the different points. The period covered in this article is from 1 September to 30 November 2023.

**L816** – male, Ganab, tracker fitted 13 December 2021. This tracker is sponsored by Elevate Uranium.

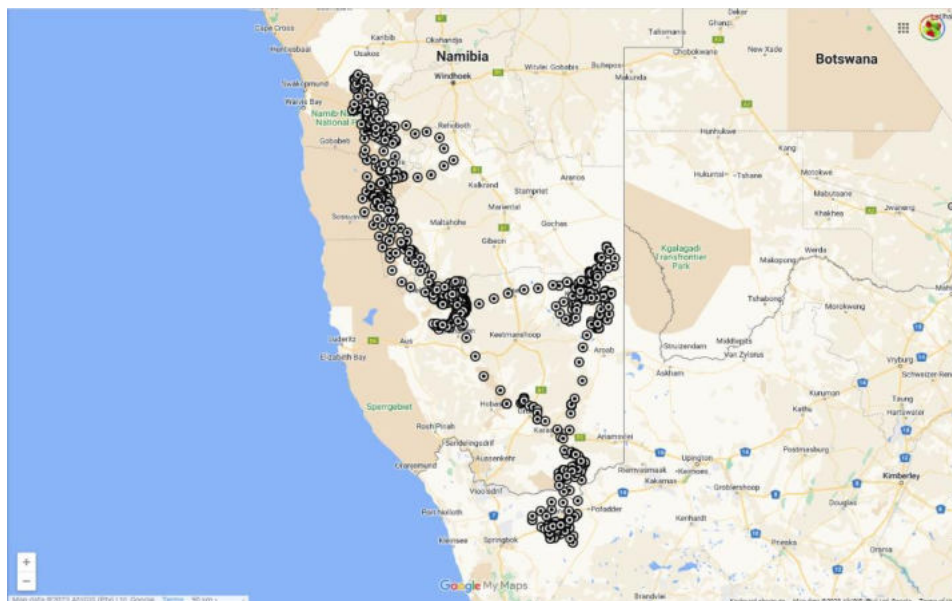
Total distance travelled since tracker was fitted: 52 634.2 km

Total distance travelled since 1 September 2023: 7 713.3 km

Largest daily movement: 297.8 km

Highest speed attained: 113 km/h

Highest altitude attained: 3 795 masl

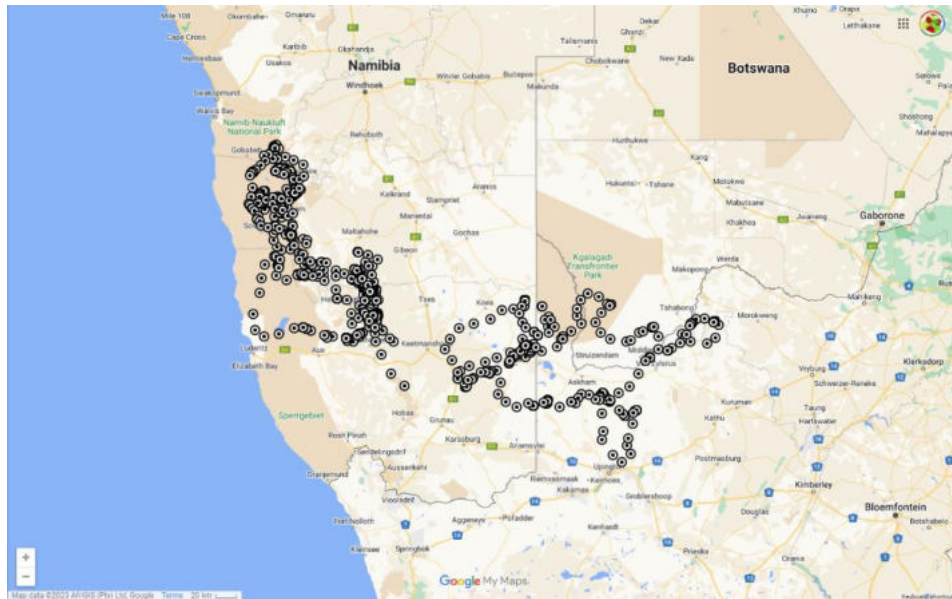


**L841** – female, Tsondabvlei, tracker fitted 6 December 2022. This tracker is sponsored by Matiti Safaris.

Total distance travelled since tracker was fitted: 13 291.2 km

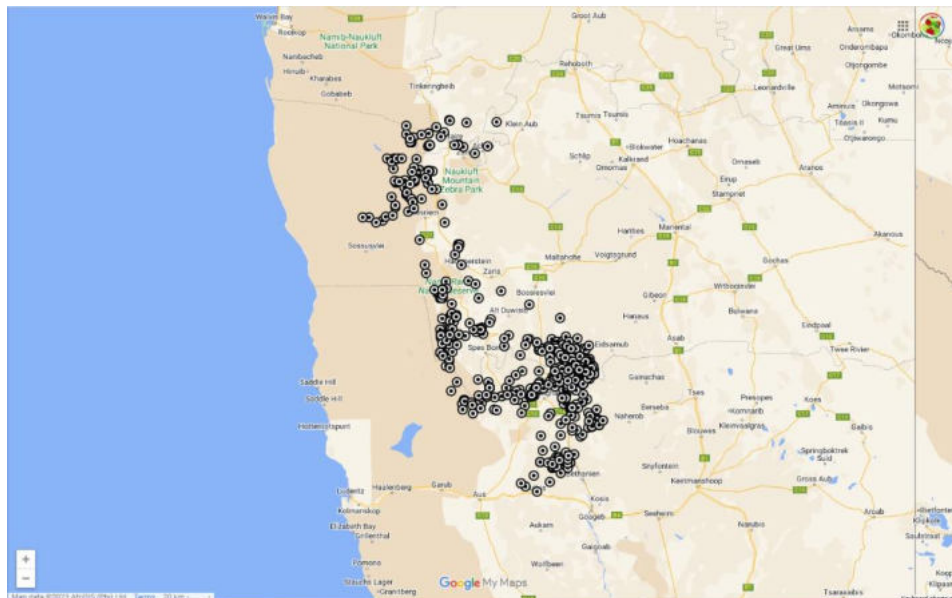
Total distance travelled since 1 September 2023: 7 325.2 km

Largest daily movement: 322.3 km  
 Highest speed attained: 91 km/h  
 Highest altitude attained: 3 322 masl



**L857 “Nelly”** – female, Vrede, ProNamib NR, tracker fitted 8 November 2022. This tracker is sponsored by ProNamib Nature Reserve.

Total distance travelled since tracker was fitted: 20 643.7 km  
 Total distance travelled since 1 September 2023: 6 563.9 km  
 Largest daily movement: 228 km  
 Highest speed attained: 112 km/h  
 Highest altitude attained: 3 856 masl



**V110 “Lucky”** – female, Hotsas, tracker fitted 14 December 2020. This tracker is sponsored by the Lates family.

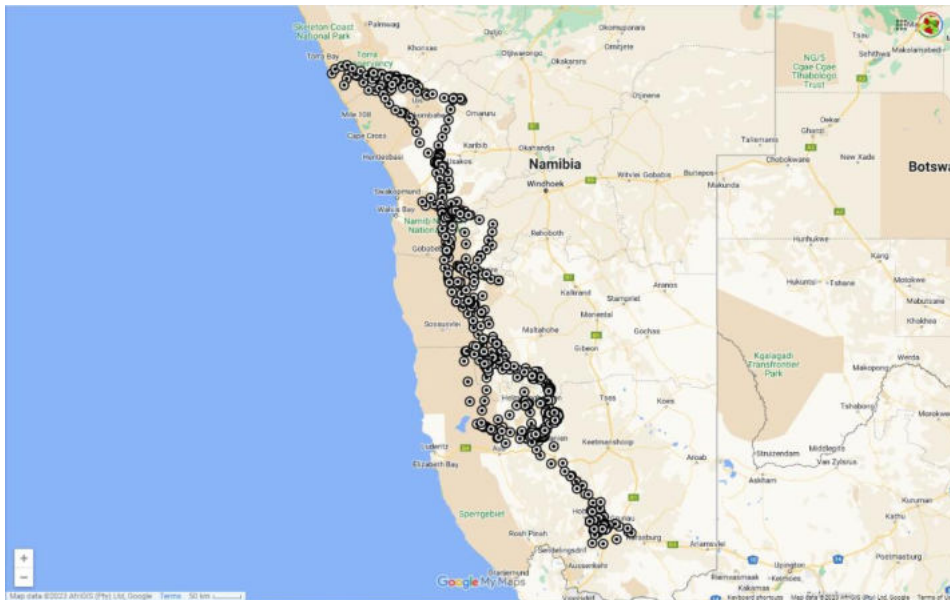
Total distance travelled since tracker was fitted: 110 179.4 km  
 Total distance travelled since 1 September 2023: 11 301 km

Largest daily movement: 384.8 km  
 Highest speed attained: 111 km/h  
 Highest altitude attained: 3 399 masl



**V126 “Rabia”** – female, Black Koppies, tracker fitted 10 January 2021. This tracker is sponsored by Ursula and Tom Bryson.

Total distance travelled since tracker was fitted: 84 087.5 km  
 Total distance travelled since 1 September 2023: 7 280.9 km  
 Largest daily movement: 287.9 km  
 Highest speed attained: 100 km/h  
 Highest altitude attained: 3 002 masl



**V139 “Aris Bohemia”** – not sexed, farm Aris, tracker fitted 16 October 2021. This tracker is sponsored by Hanjo Böhme.

Total distance travelled since tracker was fitted: 66 948.4 km  
 Total distance travelled since 1 September 2023: 12 132 km



Largest daily movement: 392.9 km  
Highest speed attained: 105 km/h  
Highest altitude attained: 6 157 masl (possibly a GPS error)



## Membership Fees 2024

*African Birdlife*, the magazine published by BirdLife South Africa can be ordered through the Namibia Bird Club. A year's subscription (6 issues) of *African Birdlife* currently costs N\$ 400.00 (if collected, for posted copies add an extra N\$145.00)

*Category (excluding African Birdlife subscription)*

Single member .....	N\$ 190
Family membership (husband, wife, children) .....	N\$ 250
Junior member (all scholars and students).....	N\$ 90
Pensioner .....	N\$ 150
Corporate membership.....	N\$ 700

## Namibia Bird Club Committee 2022/23

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## Advertising in *Lanioturdus*

We will accept advertisements to be published in *Lanioturdus* at the following rates:

Full page .....	N\$ 300
Half page .....	N\$ 150
Quarter page.....	N\$ 75
Small advertisement.....	N\$ 35