

White-winged Cough, *Corcorax melanorhamphus*. Fledging period recorded as 21, 22, 23, 27, 28 and 29 days. The Cough always leaves the nest before capable of flight, sometimes in the case of a crowded nest this departure appears unintended, but even so the young survive well, being gifted with a strong pair of running legs. About 28 days is probably the usual time for a normal departure.

Black-winged Currawong, *Strepera melanoptera*. Incubation period 20 days (1).

Black-backed Magpie, *Gymnorhina tibicen*. Incubation period 21 days (1). Fledging period 30 days (1), 31 days (1), 33 days (1).

Little Crow, *Corvus bennetti*. Incubation period 16 days (1), 17 days (3), 18 days (1). Fledging period 29 days (1), 30 days (4).

Little Raven, *Corvus mellori*. Fledging period 35 days (1).

J. N. Hobbs, Katoomba, New South Wales 9/3/1971

Incubation period of the eggs of the Brolga. During October and November, 1966, a pair of Brolgas, *Grus rubicundus*, nested in the Kerang district of the Murray Valley, in the northern part of Victoria.

These birds are rare in this area and seldom are recorded nesting.

They were kept under close observation, without interference, and a record was obtained of the dates of the laying and hatching of the two eggs.

The first egg was laid on October 8 and the second egg on October 10. Both birds brooded continuously from the laying of the full clutch.

Hatching began on November 7, when a chicken emerged from the first egg, and this was followed, the next day, by the second young bird.

The actual time of the incubation was 30 days for the first egg, and 29 days for the second egg. However, as the first egg was not brooded immediately after laying, the incubation period was between 28 and 29 days.

H. J. Frith, in *Birds in the Australian High Country*, states that "the incubation period is about thirty-two days".

V. T. Lowe, Mystic Park, Victoria, 26/9/1970.

Pink Robin in Queensland. On July 11, 1971, a group of Pittsworth naturalists came out to "Karinya V" farm ten miles from Pittsworth, and two miles from Irongate, to walk in the Belah, *Casuarina cristata* scrub, which has been fenced from stock.

With Mr. and Mrs. Keith Turpin and two of their children, I took a short cut home. At 2.30 p.m., near the edge of the scrub, we saw a male Pink Robin, *Petroica rodinogaster*, and watched it for several minutes, while it perched in Belah, flew down to pick up food on the ground and flew up into the branches again.

It was an all-black robin on the upper parts, except for the small white patch on its forehead. There was no sign of white on its

tail. It had white under tail coverts and vent feathers. The breast was pink.

On May 23, 1971, Stephen Temple Watts saw a pink robin which, from his description, I think was also a Pink Robin. This was on another edge of the same patch of scrub.

Betty Temple Watts (Mrs.), Pittsworth, Queensland, 5/8/1971.

Mrs. Betty Temple Watts is the artist who illustrated the *Birds in the Australian High Country*, and she is fully conversant with the plumage pattern of this species. In a separate letter to me she states "You can imagine it was a terrific surprise when I found a Pink Robin. It was so far out of its range that I thought it should be recorded." Ed.

REVIEW

The Fawn-breasted Bowerbird (*Chlamydera cerviniventris*), by William S. Peckover, published in the *Papua and New Guinea Scientific Society Proceedings*, 1969, Vol. 21, pp 23-35. This is a comprehensive account of one of our little known birds. On the mainland it occurs on parts of Cape York Peninsula, but in New Guinea it is found in all the coastal areas, up to an altitude of 1,000 m.

Regular inspections were made of 85 different bowers, at 40 different bower sites, over a period of four years. The result of this research is summarised in the opening paragraph of the paper. "Location and building of the bower by males is described as is the species' unique method and materials of decoration. The male habit of painting the insides of the walls of its bower is described in detail. Evolution of the species is discussed; display of the male and nesting habits of the female are described. The habit of this species in orientating its bower along an east-west axis is reported".

The paper is well illustrated with an aerial photograph of an area near Port Moresby, showing bower sites; a photo of the Bowerbird, and a series showing the construction of a bower. Two beautiful coloured photographs, each being 8 x 6 inches in size, adorn the centre pages. One presents a general view of a bower with the male bird displaying to the female, and the other plate is of a close-up of a male painting his bower.

Altogether a paper well worthy of a place in Australian ornithology.

Roy P. Cooper

XVI INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The International Ornithological Committee agreed at the end of the XV International Ornithological Congress in the Hague, Netherlands, that the next Congress would be held in Australia in 1974. Professor J. Dorst was appointed President. An Australian Advisory Committee has been formed, and Dr. H. J. Frith appointed as Secretary-General. After close examination of the possibilities the Australian Advisory Committee has decided that the XVI International Ornithological Congress should be held in the Australian National University in Canberra in the period 12