

Many thanks to D. Archer, K. Evans, R. Girdler and D. Uretos for help in the field. Thanks also to Dr Peter Garson for comments on an earlier draft and to all the sponsors of the expedition.

#### REFERENCES

- Diamond, A. W. (1974) Annual cycles in Jamaican forest birds. *J. Zool. London* 173: 277-301.
- du Pont, J. E. (1971) *Philippine birds*. Greenville, Delaware: Delaware Museum of Natural History.
- Fogden, M. P. L. (1972) The seasonality and population dynamics of equatorial forest birds in Sarawak. *Ibis* 114: 307-343.
- Foster, M. S. (1975) The overlap of molting and breeding in some tropical birds. *Condor* 77: 304-314.
- Gaston, A. J. (1981) Seasonal breeding, moulting and weight changes among birds of dry deciduous forest in North India. *J. Zool. London* 194: 219-243.
- Ginn, H. B. and Melville, D. S. (1983) *Moult in birds*. Tring: British Trust for Ornithology.
- Keast, A. (1968) Molt in birds of the Australian dry country relative to rainfall and breeding. *J. Zool. London* 155: 185-200.
- Mason, E. A. (1938) Determining sex in live birds. *Bird Banding* 9: 46-48.
- McGowan, P. J. K., Hartley, I. R., and Archer, D. (1989) Newcastle University Philippine Expedition 1987: Final report. Unpublished.
- Newton, I. (1967) Feather growth and moult in some captive finches. *Bird Study* 14: 10-24.
- Snow, D. W. (1967) *A guide to moult in British birds*. Tring: British Trust for Ornithology.
- Spencer, R. (1983) *The ringer's manual*. Third edition. Tring: British Trust for Ornithology.
- Svensson, L. (1984) *Identification guide to European passerines*. Third edition. Stockholm: published by the author.
- Ward, P. (1969) The annual cycle of the Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus goiavier* in a humid equatorial environment. *J. Zool. London* 157: 25-45.

Ian R. Hartley, Zoology Dept., Adrian Building, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, U.K.

Philip J. K. McGowan, Dept. of Biology, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes MK7 6AA, U.K.

## Sunda Frogmouth *Batrachostomus cornutus* carrying its young

CLIVE F. MANN

On 29 May 1990 a half-grown, well-feathered chick Sunda Frogmouth *Batrachostomus cornutus* and one of its parents were frightened from their nest when a photographer's hide blew over in the wind and hit the tree close to their nest. This was situated at a height of about 1.5 m in an exotic *Mimosa* tree in a suburban garden near Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei. After hearing of this incident, I managed to locate the birds, about three hours later, perching overhead, about 2.5 m above ground on a thin branch of a neighbouring tree of the same species. I momentarily glanced away, and when I looked back I saw the adult take flight and cross the narrow road on which I was standing,

and disappear into some dense secondary growth at a height of about 2 m. There appeared to be a bulge near the vent on the left side of the flying bird. I looked back to the perch for the chick, but it was not to be seen. All branches were inspected thoroughly, and an exhaustive search of the ground below the tree was made, but no sign could be found of the chick. It was then that I realised that the bulge I had seen was almost certainly the chick being carried away from 'danger' by the adult. Neither has been seen since.

Two and a half months earlier, what was presumably the same adult was misguidedly removed by the owners of the garden from a nearby tree to save it from being consumed by ants. The bird clung to the nest, which came away from the branch. The nest was not recognised as such; and when this was prised off, what they considered a half-grown chick fell to the ground. The nest and chick were replaced in the tree, but both disappeared shortly afterwards, and an exhaustive search for remains turned up nothing. Possibly in this case also the young was carried away by the parent.

Only one parent has so far been seen. This is of the grey phase. The British Museum (Natural History) has sexed specimens belonging to the rufous phase, the grey phase, and an intermediate rufous-grey phase. If the specimens are correctly sexed it would appear that this species is asexually dichromatic, a conclusion reached by Marshall (1978).

The carrying of young in flight has been recorded in the Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*, Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*, American Finfoot *Heliornis fulica*, Eurasian and American Woodcocks *Scolopax rustica* and *S. minor*, Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* and White-browed Coucal *Centropus superciliosus* (Campbell and Lack 1985).

#### REFERENCES

- Campbell, B. and Lack, E. eds. (1985) *A dictionary of birds*. Calton (Staffordshire, U.K.): T. and A. D. Poyser.
- Marshall, J. T. (1978) *Systematics of smaller Asian night birds based on voice*. American Ornithologists' Union (Orn. Monogr. no. 25).
- C. F. Mamm, P.O. Box 2359, Bandar Seri Begawan, 1923, Brunei Darussalam.

## Hook-billed Bulbul *Setornis criniger* and Grey-breasted Babbler *Malacopteron* *albogulare* at Barito Ulu, Kalimantan

GUY DUTSON, ROGER WILKINSON and BEN SHELDON

Sheldon (1987) and Holmes and Wall (1989) postulate that Hook-billed Bulbul *Setornis criniger* and Grey-breasted (White-throated) Babbler *Malacopteron albogulare* are species of nutrient-poor forest such as peat swamp