

not colour-banded (nestlings are not colour-banded). The difference in the internal measurements of metal and celluloid is insignificant, i.e. 2,3 mm and 2,4 mm respectively. Could the difference in depth, 6 mm and 4 mm, be a contributory factor?

The Reed Warbler only breeds here and it moults in its non-breeding habitat, which is unknown. Have ringers in southern African handled moulting Reed Warblers and if so is the species prone to a greater moult of the podotheca?

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MYSTERY RING

Early this year a ring was received from Natal bearing the following inscription:

(Z) $\frac{\infty}{z}$ 984 D50

It bears no address and no other clues to its origin. It was initially reported to be from a swallow but further inquiry brought the reply that it was from an African Black Swift *Apus barbatus*. The ring was a metal one but brittle, and broke into two pieces when attempts were made to open it out.

If any person can supply further information which will enable us to trace the origin of this ring, would they please contact SAFRING.

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