

## REFERENCES

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**Grey Falcon Records from northern Victoria.**—Victorian appearances of *Falco hypoleucus* from its inland range are few and always give pleasure to the fortunate observers. The two occurrences to come under our notice in the Kerang area, in northern Victoria, were in December 1954, and recently—on June 25, 1959. On the first occasion Tom Lowe and I were accompanied by Edgar Whitbourn travelling by car near Murrabit, 200 miles north-north-west of Melbourne. Our attention was drawn to several ducks disturbed to flight from a small lagoon near the road. Moments later a Grey Falcon was seen approaching right across the front of the car, to be joined by a second bird as we pulled up to a stop. It was a fair surmise that the presence of these hawks had caused the uneasiness of the ducks, for although the Grey Falcon is not regarded as a danger to the family Anatidae, to a vulnerable duck any falcon would be suspect. We stepped out on to the road and watched the pair fly slowly away, no more than thirty feet above the car.

On the more recent date a pair was in view for quite a time. From a distance of about a quarter of a mile Tom Lowe took them to be Brown Hawks (*Falco berigora*). A few minutes later, however, as they came closer, he remarked "That's a light-coloured pair of Browns," and then burst out with a yell, "Hey! They're Grey Falcons." The birds gave us beautiful views of typical grey backs and black wing-tips as they banked, swooped, and circled above us, finally moving away, with the same mode of flight, out of sight to the south-west into a wind that was gale force and gusty. One bird gave voice to a brief 'chittering' whistle whilst overhead.

These birds tamely disregarded our presence and appeared to enjoy the high wind aiding their graceful convolutions. There was no swift motion at all and what wing work was employed was of the 'high flapping above the back' type often used by the Brown Hawk.

Yet another recent Victorian record is that of Messrs. L. Robinson and E. Whitbourn contained in the March issue of *The Australian Bird Watcher*, where a description is given of a single bird seen at Glenalbyn, 136 miles north-north-west of Melbourne.—V. T. LOWE, Mystic Park, Vic., 1 8 59.