

Memorandum to: The Director of BirdLife Australia

From: Birds Australia Rarities Committee (BARC)

Date: 16 February 2013

Voting Members: Mike Carter Jamie Matthew
Rohan Clarke Chris Brandis
Jeff Davies David Bishop
Tony Palliser Andrew Silcocks

cc.

Submission No: 741. Chatham Albatross *Thalassarche eremita*, off Eaglehawk Neck, Tasmania. 3 September 2011. Submitted by: Nikolas Haass, Raja Stephenson & Dan Mantle.

Verdict: Accepted

This submission concerns a Chatham Albatross *Thalassarche eremita* sighted on the continental shelf break off Eaglehawk Neck, Tasmania on the 3rd September 2011.

Photographs were taken at close range and were provided within the submission along with a summary of the salient features that confirm the identity and eliminate all other albatross including Salvin's Albatross *T. salvini*

Members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance

Chatham Albatross remains a very rare bird in Australia. This record is the 5th to be confirmed by BARC. With all confirmed sightings so far being from Tasmania.

Selected Bibliography:

- BARC Case Nos. 709, 710, 713 & 714
- Enticott, J. & Tipling, D. (1997), Photographic Handbook of the Seabirds of the World, New Holland, London.
- Brothers, N.P. & Davis, G (1985), 'Bird observations on Albatross Island, 1981 to 1985', *Tas. Bird Rep.* 14, 3-9.
- Lindsay, T.R. (1986), 'The Seabirds of Australia' Angus & Robertson, Sydney. Australia',
- Marchant, S. & Higgins, P.J. (Eds) (1990), *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic Birds. Vol. 1, Ratites to Ducks*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
- Harrison, P. (1983), *Seabirds: an identification guide*, Croom Helm, Beckenham, Kent.
- Harrison, P. (1987), *Seabirds of the World: A Photographic Guide*, Christopher Helm, London.
- Onley, D. & Scofield, P. (2007), *Albatrosses, Petrels and Shearwaters of the World*, Christopher Helm, London.
- Reid, T. & James, D.J. (1997), 'The Chatham Island Mollymawk (*Diomedea eremita*) in Australia', *Notornis* 44: 125-128.
- Shirihai, H. (2007), *A Complete Guide to Antarctic Wildlife. The Birds & Marine Mammals of the Antarctic Continent and Southern Ocean*, A&C Black, London.

Tony Palliser
Chairman, BirdLife Australia Rarities Committee