Memorandum to: The Director of Birds Australia

From: Birds Australia Rarities Committee (BARC)

Date: 13th January 2012

Voting Members:

Andrew Silcocks	Mike Carter
Danny Rogers	Chris Brandis
Tony Palliser	Rohan Clarke
Jamie Matthew	Jeff Davies

Cc.

Submission No 687: Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* off Sydney, NSW. 9th April 2011. Submitted by: Nikolas Haass, Robert Hynson, David James & Raja Stephenson.

Verdict: Accepted

This submission concerns the sighting of a Great Shearwater *Puffinus gravis* on the Continental shelf break about 28NM ESE of Sydney Heads (S33° 59.978' E151° 44.904'), NSW on the 9th April 2011.

The description and photographs leave no doubt as to the birds identity. Members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance.

This is the 6th confirmed record for Australia. However, this sighting forms part of what is considered by many to be an invasion into Australian waters, with reported records throughout southern Australia.

References and Bibliography:

- Patterson, R.M. (1996), *RAOU Records Appraisal Committee: Opinions and Case Summaries 1992-1995:* RAOU Report No. 101. Case Number 165, p23.
- Harrison, P. (1987), *Seabirds of the world: A photographic guide*. Christopher Helm, London.
- Enticott, J. & Tipling, D. (1997), *Photographic Handbook of the Seabirds of the World*, New Holland, London.
- Lindsey, T. (1986), *The Seabirds of Australia, National Photographic Index of Australian Wildlife,* Angus and Robertson, Sydney.
- Marchant, S. & Higgins, P.J. (Eds) (1990), *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand & Antarctic Birds. Vol. 1, Ratites to Ducks,* Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Tony Palliser
Chairman, Birds Australia Rarities Committee