



## Birds Australia Rarities Committee Unusual Record Report Form

This form is intended to aid observers in the preparation of a submission for a major rarity in Australia. (It is not a mandatory requirement) Please complete all sections ensuring that you attach all relevant information including copies of your notes, photographs or other supportive material. (PLEASE USE BLACK INK).

<b>Full Name:</b> Original BARC submission by Chris Brandis Publication by Lindsay E. Smith Photographs by Lindsay E. Smith and Janice Jenkin-Smith	Office Use
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<b>Species Name:</b> <b>Westland Petrel</b>	<b>Scientific Name:</b> <b><i>Procellaria westlandica</i></b>
Date(s) and time(s) of observation:	Rescued 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec 2006
How long did you watch the bird(s)?	
First and last date of occurrence:	Rescued 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec 2006, released 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2007
Distance to bird:	

### Westland Petrel

#### Taronga Zoo to the rescue

A very rare (for Australia) Westland Petrel (*Procellaria westlandica*) was handed to the staff at Taronga Zoo on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December 2006. A nice Christmas present for some.

SOSSA was not aware of the bird's existence until approached by Amy Twentymen, from Taronga Zoo, to assist in the bird's release at sea.



Westland Petrel.  
Photograph L. E. Smith.

The bird was in fresh plumage, a fledgling from the recent breeding season.

The bird was taken to sea on the January 8<sup>th</sup> 2007 SOSSA trip, in the care of Annie Downing from Taronga Zoo. It was released in the company of a mixed flock of shearwaters and petrels, including 5 Black Petrels (*Procellaria parkinsoni*).



Lindsay Smith and Amy Twentymen measuring the Westland Petrel.  
Photograph Janice Jenkin-Smith.



Left, Black Petrel and right, Westland Petrel  
Photograph L. E. Smith.



Annie Downing releasing the Westland Petrel at sea, east of Wollongong. Photograph L. E. Smith.