

The paradise flycatcher (Paradysvlieëvanger)



This is the striking bird which is used as the icon for Oostvallei.

The male has a long orange tail, and the female has a shorter and broader orange tail. These birds migrate into warmer areas of Africa during our autumn, but return again in spring. They have a most appealing call which, once you've heard it, you don't forget.



However, they are common in some places on the Spruit, but very scarce here in the paradise of Oostvallei. Heiner once heard a male calling during the summer; last month I saw a female in the thorn tree by our cottage.



Look again at the icon, know what these lovely birds look like and be on the look out for them next spring. If you hear or see them, let me know!

Elizabeth Gevers (59)