

BITS and....

* **Many thanks** to Penny Potter for editing the November *News*. Much appreciated.

* **Vale Patricia Gordon**, 62, who died at Bundanoon a couple of months ago. Pat and her then husband Richard had an adventurous life, teaching in Kenya, Papua New Guinea, and Australia. Though Pat's primary interest was botany, in 1982, she and Richard established the Barren Grounds Bird Observatory for Birds Australia. They inspired many people with a love for birds and the natural world. The *SMH* published an obituary to her on 31.10.2006

Report on Smiths Lake Camp

Betty Hudson

This was a great camp in a wonderful environment. A total of 137 species of birds for the week including some unusual sightings, especially the Wandering Whistling Duck, Pale-yellow Robin, and Buff-banded Rail as well as a Latham's Snipe which stayed all day and let everyone have a good look at it. Besides the birds, there were two sightings of koalas, a carpet python in the kitchen, a tortoise playing chicken on the road, and many goannas both on the ground and in trees. Dolphins were also seen on Wallis Lake.

The Pied Butcherbird and the Magpies were dab hands at helping themselves to unattended breakfasts and the White-throated Gerygone tried everyone's patience in attempting to locate it. I never did find it despite it calling nearly all day every day close to camp.

My thanks to everyone who helped to make the week such a success, especially Tom for keeping the daily bird lists, Kevin & John for being keepers of the fire and Val and Faye for their housekeeping skills. Bruce made sure that no one got lost on the walks.

The bird list grew thanks to the keen eyesight and hearing of Joan, Pauline, Norma, Josh and Bruce, who shared their sightings with everyone, and Win who was assisting two research students and gave us the benefit of his many years accumulated knowledge of the area.

Camp Delights and some Nostalgia

JC

* Early morning wake-up calls. Da-da-da dah. We woke to the Brown Gerygone practising its scales, like a child doing piano practice: sweet and repetitious, but never a wrong note. It's tinkling scale was the start of another day of bird sightings and good company.

* Cooking together in the kitchen and juggling your turn around the stove. People ducking in and out of the pantry, 'You did bolt the door, didn't you?' (to keep any bush rats out!) Then carrying out the meals to eat together around tables in the huge open-sided dining shed.

* Washing up in another open-sided shed. Not the most sophisticated, but very effective and companionable. And on the last couple of days, asking, 'Is the diamond python about?'

* Sitting around the campfire at night, well, around the pot-bellied stove. Good company and talk of birds, birds, birds, and some jollification – jokes, poems, songs and stories.

* The Fishing Boats. The creek entrance beside the camp was the 'harbour' for several fishing boats – not trawlers, but big open boats filled with nets and floats, with outboard motors on the stern. It was easy to imagine that once such boats would have been rowed out to take their catches. Five fishermen are still licensed to fish the lake commercially. There were once several more, but fishing still continues.

* Not so other occupations. There were two old farmhouses, sadly vandalized now, a couple of km from the camp, now part of the National Park. On other walks we saw the remains of old fence posts and cattle yards, (the wood we burnt in our camp fire had been old fence posts), the left-overs of cattle and diary farming.

* A small bush cemetery, with the graves of pioneers to the area. Some with headstones, others lying below unmarked. Some were born 1820 - 40s and their deaths were mostly between the 1880s and 1920s. They probably established their farms in the latter half of the 19th century. And there were graves of young children too: 15 months, 2½, 12 years old, Medical help, such as it was then, was often far away. Grief had to be worked through in lonely distant farmhouses. We tread so easily where others, with much hard work and endurance, have trodden before.

Smiths Lake Camp Bird List 21-28.10.06

137 species recorded for the camp. A list breaking it up into days/venues is available from Betty on request. (Too big to put in newsletter)

Emu	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Tawny-crowned Honeyeater
Australian Brush-turkey	Galah	Eastern Spinebill
Brown Quail	Rainbow Lorikeet	Scarlet Honeyeater
Wandering Whistling-Duck	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	Pale-yellow Robin
Black Swan	Australian King-Parrot	Eastern Yellow Robin
Australian Wood Duck	Crimson Rosella	Logrunner
Pacific Black Duck	Eastern Rosella	Eastern Whipbird
Chestnut Teal	Pallid Cuckoo	Varied Sitella
Australasian Grebe	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Crested Shrike-tit
Australasian Gannet	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	Golden Whistler
Darter	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Rufous Whistler
Little Pied Cormorant	Common Koel	Grey Shrike-thrush
Pied Cormorant	Channel-billed Cuckoo	Black-faced Monarch
Little Black Cormorant	Pheasant Coucal	Spectacled Monarch
Great Cormorant	Tawny Frogmouth	Leaden Flycatcher
Australian Pelican	Azure Kingfisher	Magpie-lark
White-faced Heron	Laughing Kookaburra	Rufous Fantail
Eastern Reef Egret	Sacred Kingfisher	Grey Fantail
Great Egret	Rainbow Bee-eater	Willie Wagtail
Cattle Egret	Dollarbird	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Australian White Ibis	White-throated Treecreeper	Cicadabird
Osprey	Red-browed Treecreeper	White-winged Triller
Black-shouldered Kite	Superb Fairy-wren	Olive-backed Oriole
Whistling Kite	Variiegated Fairy-wren	Figbird
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Southern Emu-wren	White-breasted Woodswallow
Collared Sparrowhawk	Spotted Pardalote	Masked Woodswallow
Little Eagle	Yellow-throated Scrubwren	Dusky Woodswallow
Peregrine Falcon	White-browed Scrubwren	Grey Butcherbird
Buff-banded Rail	Large-billed Scrubwren	Pied Butcherbird
Purple Swamphen	Brown Gerygone	Australian Magpie
Eurasian Coot	White-throated Gerygone	Pied Currawong
Latham's Snipe	Brown Thornbill	Australian Raven
Bar-tailed Godwit	Buff-rumped Thornbill	Forest Raven
Pied Oystercatcher	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	Torresian Crow
Sooty Oystercatcher	Yellow Thornbill	Green Catbird
Masked Lapwing	Striated Thornbill	Regent Bowerbird
Silver Gull	Red Wattlebird	Satin Bowerbird
Caspian Tern	Little Wattlebird	Red-browed Finch
Crested Tern	Noisy Friarbird	Mistletoebird
White-headed Pigeon	Noisy Miner	Welcome Swallow
Spotted Turtle-Dove	Lewin's Honeyeater	Tree Martin
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Tawny Grassbird
Emerald Dove	White-eared Honeyeater	Golden-headed Cisticola
Crested Pigeon	White-naped Honeyeater	Silvereye
Bar-shouldered Dove	New Holland Honeyeater	Common Myna
Wonga Pigeon	White-cheeked Honeyeater	

Camp highlights for me, Val Dolan, were :

*the Seal Rocks walk with Regent Bowerbirds playing about in the top of a bare tree (not to mention the koala!)

*an unusual sighting of a Pheasant Coucal perched on electricity wires, and then, as we piled out of the cars, it flew into the only nearby tree

*being able to watch a pair of Bar-tailed Godwits feed on a sandbar with 12 apparently headless black swans providing a background as they, too, fed - then the arrival of a pod of dolphins behind these providing three rows of nature at work and play
*seeing a pair of brilliant Rainbow Bee-eaters while driving alone, after missing an earlier sighting by others in the group

*the variety of environments we explored: beaches, heath country, amazing forests, lake side walks and old farm sites

* the prolific bird life, plus the flowering native plants and brief encounters with goannas, pythons and other wildlife

*enjoying the early mornings, when I usually have absolutely NO reason to rise at 5am!

*last, but not least, the great company of the other members of IBOC

November Meeting Guest Speakers

Fae McGregor

It was with great pleasure that those present at our last meeting warmly welcomed fellow members Bruce & Josh Coyte as they presented " Memories of the IBOC October Camp at Smiths Lake" via Video and Photographs. Josh's great ability to photograph birds and animals has become well-known to our members over the past years and so this presentation was eagerly awaited and no one was disappointed.

Bruce showed a video he had taken at the Camp which showed the different aspects of the week at Smiths Lake. The camp was at the NSW UNI Field Station a lovely quiet property on the shores of Smiths Lake with resident Pelicans, a friendly butcherbird, kookaburras, magpies, a python, wallabies, an antechinus and bush rats .

The various habitats and the many species of birds on this property provided the "happy campers" with great opportunities to enjoy walks, view birds, animals, butterflies and wild flowers while Bruce and Josh captured these occasions and our offsite outings beautifully. We marvelled at the "gear" they lugged everywhere and at their patience in waiting...and ...waiting for the "right shot" But the results were an amazing collection of memories.

With the video we were able to both appreciate the birds and their "songs". Bruce showed the male and female Rufous Whistler courting, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Leaden Flycatcher, Mistletoebird, Tawny Frogmouth on a nest, Pallid Cuckoo invading a Kingfisher's home and Yellow-throated Scrubwren with nest (Bruce & Josh had to endure mosquito attacks to get these shots).

At Seal Rocks a koala enjoyed a \$ 2 million view from the foreign habitat of a banksia while whales and dolphins played offshore and seals lazed on the rocks. Bruce showed us views from Sugarloaf Lighthouse with long beach, rocky shoreline and huge sand drifts.

An outing to Booti Booti NP presented us all with a tremendous experience when we found a grove of red bottlebrush in the middle of the heath which housed a huge number of Tawny - crowned, New Holland, and White - cheeked Honeyeaters and Little Wattlebirds.

Eastern Yellow Robin, Figbird, Channel-billed Cuckoo, Rufous whistler, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Sacred Kingfisher, Pied Butcherbird, Olive-backed Oriole with nest, Figbird (Female with breeding patch), Superb Fairy-wren, Laughing Kookaburra, Spotted Pardalote, Golden Whistler, White-headed Pigeon, Dusky Woodswallow with nest, Green Catbird, Whistling Kite, goanna on a termite nest, bandicoot and Eastern Grey Kangaroo were some of the "stars" of the 500 photographs Josh took. We unfortunately saw only a part of that number (or we would have been there all night !)

Peter Nolan spoke for all present when he complimented Bruce and Josh on their wonderful presentation and thanked them for showing us their photographs. Peter also passed on some of his helpful photography tips to them. Over supper there were many who expressed their delight in the presentation and how it sparked an interest in future camps for them.

Notes from a Trip to NE Queensland, Spring 2006

Dave Thomson

* Camped at Yetman in NE NSW, “behind the tennis courts” and on the bank of the Macintyre River. Visited in the morning by a Pheasant Coucal and given a flypast by a Welcome Swallow being pursued by a creature the size of a bee which trailed it by half a metre, and was still there as they flew out of sight.

* Visited the new Mareeba Wetlands about 14 km N of Mareeba. Established and managed by a community group and they’ve done it well. Lagoons, many water-birds (both pygmy-geese), bush birds (Black-throated Finch), a smart visitors’ centre and they make a good cup of coffee. \$10/p and well worth a visit. Pity they don’t allow camping, though they do offer overnight tent-like accommodation for small groups.

* Discovered that, despite rumours to the contrary, camping is still allowed in the large rest area 2 km north of Mount Molloy. Good amenities (inc. cold shower) and asking only \$2/vehicle/night. A good base for Julatten/Mt.Lewis/Maryfarms etc.

* At Maryfarms, north of Mt Molloy, found 7 Australian Bustards over a few paddocks with several of the males in courtship display – full voice with head thrown back, throat filled with air and baggy and hanging almost to the ground, tail cocked up over the back touching the neck, raising the large white “feather duster” from under the tail. An impressive sight.

Maryfarms is an area renowned for raptors. A local farmer was recently bulldozing firebreaks, and for the several days he was at it, had a Red Goshawk sitting on each end of his ‘dozer blade feasting on mice, lizards, ‘hoppers etc. as they were exposed. HANZAB notes “attend fires or human activities where prey is flushed”.

* From near Julatten, drove up Mt Lewis to the walking track to the Golden Bowerbird hide (at 980m) and on the track a startled birdo came face to face with an equally startled Dingo – unusual to get that close to the wily Dingo. Also met there a cassowary. The hide can be accessed by a 2 hour walk from near Maryfarms.

* On The Esplanade at Cairns, a Peregrine Falcon appeared to drop from high among the accommodation towers to hawk over the area. It then rose to be greeted by its mate in a flower box on a balcony at the 14th level of a seafront unit-block.

* Drove “Jo’s road” through the Daintree NP rainforest from Cape Tribulation to Bloomfield – that’s the road pushed through years ago against very strong protest action. The road goes on past the corrugated-iron Lions Den Hotel (I think the name “hotel” gives the Lions Den more standing than it deserves) to Cooktown. The Club first met the Lions Den in 1981 when we camped nearby (and bathed in the creek behind, only to find later that there was a dead pig a hundred yards upstream). The drinkers of those times would be disappointed by the present day Den – a row of tourist vehicles, female backpacker barhands, a cappuccino machine, a mangy, life sized, stuffed lion (and giraffe) at the gate – lost its character. But it was an interesting drive, though probably not for 2wd’s or vans.

* One evening in Eungella NP, had a small party of fireflies around my caravan. Quite a sight. They’re beetle-like insects about 10mm long and emit flashes from under their abdomens. Reminded me of the Club outing to the Barren Grounds one evening in December, 1983 when we had our first experience with fireflies. And vehicle-camping is no longer allowed in Eungella NP. You can camp at Fern Flat near the Broken River visitors’ centre, but you leave your vehicle in the carpark and carry your camp gear about 300m to the rather small camp area. Really not practicable. There are still good toilets, but the showers have gone.

Wednesday Walk :Macquarie National Park 15 November 2006 Chris Brandis

11 members gathered in the small car park at the start of Clover Hill Road, part way up Macquarie Pass, after a little car pooling at the bottom. We could see the clouds racing across the sky and evidence of strong SW winds but we were fairly sheltered by the escarpment and were lucky that the promised storms were not due till later that afternoon. The rainforest appeared quite dry and the small streams were just trickles, which probably explained the scarcity of birds, but it was a nice easy walk through huge eucalypts and tunnels of rainforest trees.

More birds could be heard in the forest than were seen, and some small birds were high up in the canopy making identification difficult. A couple of Lyrebirds darted across the track giving only a few a glimpse. Through the gap in the trees over the track a Grey Goshawk was seen briefly: the only raptor for the day. We came out of the forest into a cleared area which has the remains of the house built by Mr Walker, who was evicted by the NPWS after they took over the area. This beautifully built house has now been vandalised and partly burnt. We stopped for morning tea at an old picnic table and watched a Grey Fantail building a nest a few meters away. Then before heading down to the Macquarie Rivulet at the top of the small falls, an echidna ambling across the track was spotted.



On the way back we had good views of Black-faced Monarchs and a Grey Shrike-thrush and some saw a Rufous Fantail but it was much the same as on the way in, and another Echidna digging in the track was seen. This is an easy enjoyable walk and can include the short walk at the bottom of the pass to make an enjoyable day.

‘And I’m watching you too.’ *Photo Tera Wheway*

Bird List

Grey Goshawk
Fan-tailed Cuckoo
Superb Lyrebird
Brown Gerygone
Little Wattlebird
Eastern Spinebill
Golden Whistler
Rufous Fantail
Pied Currawong
Mammals

Brown Cuckoo-Dove
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo
Spotted Pardalote
Brown Thornbill
Lewin’s Honeyeater
Eastern Yellow-Robin
Grey Shrike-Thrush
Grey Fantail
Satin Bowerbird
Short-beaked Echidna

Crimson Rosella
Laughing Kookaburra
White-browed Scrubwren
Striated Thornbill
Yellow-faced Honeyeater
Eastern Whipbird
Black-faced Monarch
Australian Magpie
Bassian Thrush
Black Wallaby

...and Pieces

Vale. Betty Ward, 26.11.0., after a comparatively short time of not being well. With her husband Horrie, they were long time members of the Club from its early days. Betty was in charge of the kitchen at Club meetings for many years, and was an enthusiastic supporter for Horrie's meticulous earlier records of bird sightings for the club

Birding Illawarra Brochure The Club is considering producing a brochure to promote birding in the Illawarra, as has been done by many towns and districts. However, we need the services of someone experienced in graphic design to assist putting the brochure together. Once a draft has been prepared we can go out and try to get some sponsorship to prepare and print enough for distribution around the Illawarra. If anyone can help contact Chris Brandis, 4296 2837, and we will see where to go from there.

The Annual General Meeting

This was held last month, and chaired with much aplomb, by Kevin McGregor Esq.

Club officers elected were

President: Roger Bogaert

Secretary: Elizabeth Hudson

Treasurer: Bronwyn Wilson

Committee members: Anne Cousins, Martin Crocker, Fae McGregor, Tom Wylie.

Appointed officers were

Vice President: Kevin McGregor

Publicity Officer: Chris Brandis

Records Officer: Chris Chafer

Librarians: Joan Wylie and Anne Cousins

Webmaster: Chris Cartledge

Editors: John Cashman / Penny Potter

A warm welcome to new committee members, Anne and Martin, and to Fae and Kevin who are rejoining the committee: both having served previously in different capacities. Special thanks to Val Dolan and Penny Potter who are 'resting' from the committee this year, after several years of service. 'Resting' might be an exaggeration, for Penny has volunteered to help out with the *News* when needed, and Val has offered to continue her good work related to the printing of the *News*, but now on a freelance basis. Thanks indeed. Special thanks also to Norma Almond and Peg McKinlay, our faithful *News* 'folders and mailer-outers.'

Roger on Report 2 ! I.B.O.C Annual Report, November, 2006

The IBOC club is now in its 29th year.

Thanks to the support of club members we are still able to provide a bird club, which provides a variety of activities including annual camps, bird walks each month, and often providing a professional speaker at club meetings. This is demonstrated by the high attendance of members each month.

Our major tasks for the club and committee in the coming year are to increase the current involvement with Bignet, the Lake Illawarra Authority, and the Scout Association, and finally to continue the high level of standards achieved by the club over the last 29 years.

Special thanks to Betty Hudson, Bronwyn Wilson, Chris Brandis, John Cashman & Penny Potter whom have supported me throughout the year. Finally, I can only reiterate my message from last year. That the success of the club has always been determined by its members.

The committee appreciates the support given by members and will seek to continue to provide a proactive and informative program for 2007. Thank you very much. Roger Bogaert

Committee Items

* **Fees.** With some reluctance the Committee decided to increase club membership fees. The fees have been the same for the last five years or so, and now for family membership, it will be \$30 for the 30th year. So in 2007 fees will be, \$30 Family Membership, \$25 Single membership and \$5 Junior membership. Please pay promptly, this month preferably, or first thing next year and be rewarded with the lovely Bronwyn smile.

* **Celebrations.** Next year will be the Club's 30th anniversary, and the ways to celebrate this will be discussed at our first meeting next year

* **Mt Keira Scout Camp.** Kevin McGregor reported that work is proceeding, within the overall upgrading of the Scout camp, to renovate a weather shed and convert it to a Bird Hide. As well as building viewing slits in the walls, it is planned to establish a library of bird books there, and a picture gallery of the 70 plus birds seen at the camp since 1977. The Committee has donated \$100 to the Scouts, towards the conversion of the old weather shed. Donations of old binoculars, and books for the library, especially Field Guides, would be much appreciated.

07 Plans Betty, our Secretary, presented a rough draft of the program for next year. Still has work to be done on it, but it includes camps at Wellington and the far North Coast

Shoalhaven Heads – Comerong Island Walk 19.11.06 Betty Hudson

13 members met at Shoalhaven heads on a fine still Sunday morning. Martin and Penny arrived much later, hoping to catch up with us. Even at the car park plenty of birds were heard and seen, including Bar-tailed Godwits at the edge of the water. As the tide was already high we set off along the foreshore to the sand flats, meeting the honorary ranger on the way. He informed us that there were few birds on the marshes, but that a pair of Pied Oystercatchers with two chicks was moving towards the edge of the water apparently preparing to take the chicks over to the island at low tide. We were fortunate to get good views of both parents and the chicks. Jill, meeting up with Penny and Martin on her way back, actually saw them cross the narrow channel at low tide, successfully gaining safety on the island

As the sand flats and marshes yielded nothing more, we decided to keep going onto the island forest. In the casuarinas we saw an echidna and many birds were heard but few seen. Once we got to the parking area birds became easier to see among them an Olive-backed Oriole . Jill left us here to return as she found it too hot in the forest. As we started along the track to the southern end of the island we came to a good bird area, Black-faced Monarch, both Rufous and Golden Whistlers, Crested Shrike-tit, several honeyeaters and the Shining Bronze-Cuckoo were seen. After lunch at the parking area at the start of the track over the dunes, we headed back to the sand flats at a rapid pace, as Jill had rung Nerida on her mobile to say that the tide was out and all the small waders had returned.

In the sandy vegetation just before we reached the sand flats we saw what was thought to be an albino echidna, however later research by Mike Morphett indicated that it was a "Blonde" echidna. Many of these are apparently found on Kangaroo Island in S.A.

As we entered the marsh vegetation at the start of the sand flats we flushed a Latham's Snipe, and Pacific Golden Plover were seen, so we proceeded slowly nearer to the water's edge as we could see many small birds feeding there. The wind had picked up until it was very strong, making viewing through Josh's scope difficult. We identified Red-necked Stint, Red-capped Plover, while Jill, Martin and Penny found Sanderling, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, and Curlew Sandpiper. After trying in vain to find a spot out of the wind it was agreed to call it a day.

All agreed it was a good days birding with a final total of 65 species. This is an area which always rewards in the summer months when the migrant waders are in the area. It appears that around high tide and as the tide falls are the best times to see them.

Bird List for Shoalhaven Heads – Comerong Island Walk 19.11.06 65 species

Black Swan	Pacific Golden Plover	Lewin's Honeyeater
Pacific Black Duck	Red-capped Plover	New Holland Honeyeater
Chestnut Teal	Masked Lapwing	Eastern Spinebill
Little Pied Cormorant	Silver Gull	White-fronted Chat
Pied Cormorant	Crested Tern	Eastern Yellow Robin
Little Black Cormorant	Little Tern	Eastern Whipbird
Australian Pelican	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Crested Shrike-tit
White-faced Heron	Galah	Golden Whistler
Little Egret	Rainbow Lorikeet	Rufous Whistler
Great Egret	Australian King-Parrot	Black-faced Monarch
Australian White Ibis	Crimson Rosella	Magpie-lark
Royal Spoonbill	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Grey Fantail
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Common Koel	Willie Wagtail
Swamp Harrier	Laughing Kookaburra	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Latham's Snipe	Sacred Kingfisher	Olive-backed Oriole
Bar-tailed Godwit	Dollarbird	Grey Butcherbird
Eastern Curlew	Superb Fairy-wren	Australian Magpie
Sanderling	Spotted Pardalote	Pied Currawong
Red-necked Stint	Brown Gerygone	Australian Raven
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Brown Thornbill	Satin Bowerbird
Curlew Sandpiper	Red Wattlebird	Silvereve
Pied Oystercatcher	Little Wattlebird	

Website www.iboc.org.au

Chris Cartledge

The statistics on the new IBOC web site are a surprise.

Oct 1 to 31 - 2006

Home page 'hits' = 2,241, and requests beyond the home page = 529

Files downloaded (eg, forms or newsletters) = 96

Nov 1 to 18 - 2006

Home page 'hits' = 880, and requests beyond the home page = 276

Files downloaded (eg, forms or newsletters) = 53

Daily average for November 1-18: Home Page hits 18pd, Requests 18pd, and Downloads 3pd

Good Grief !

Some years ago a chap asked his co-worker, "How do you tell an elephant from a bluebird?" Answer: Elephants are gray. The co-worker put the question on his daughter that evening. The next day he was driving her to school when a flock of gray birds flew across the road in front of them. "Hey, look" she said, "there goes a flock of elephants!"

Unusual Records for September-October 2006

Chris J. Chafer

Send your records to: email cchafer@speedlink.com.au

Species	#	Date	Location	Habitat	Observer
Australian Brush-turkey	1	21-Oct	Keiraville	garden	ME
Great Crested Grebe	6	16-Oct	Fitzroy Reservoir	wetland	JM
Nankeen Night Heron	1	20-Oct	Dunmore Lakes	wetland	DG

Little Bittern	1	19-Oct	Minnamurra R. Jamberoo	riverine	DG
Black Bittern	1	8-Oct	Ben's Walk, Nowra	creek	PT
Glossy Ibis	1	14-Oct	Comerong Is	wetland	NJ
Square-tailed Kite	1	31-Aug	Burradoo	overhead	DG
Spotted Harrier	1	27-Oct	Dunmore	rural	RF
Swamp Harrier	3	1-Sep	Willow Vale	overhead	DG
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	16-Sep	Croome Rd Park, Albion Park	woodland	GB
Brown Falcon	1	31-Aug	Burradoo	overhead	DG
Buff-banded Rail	1	22-Oct	Kanahooka	wetland	MC
Buff-banded Rail	2	29-Oct	Myimbarr wetland (Shellharbour)	wetland	CB
Baillon's Crake	1	12-Oct	Blackbutt	farm dam	CB
Grey-tailed Tattler	1	30-Oct	Comerong Is	sandflats	NJ
Ruddy Turnstone	10	28-Sep	Woonona Point	rocky shore	TW
Pectoral Sandpiper	1	29-Sep	Comerong Is	mudflats	NJ
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	77	7-Oct	Comerong Is	mudflats	EV
Pacific Golden Plover	240	7-Oct	Comerong Is	mudflats	EV
Lesser Sand Plover	1	30-Oct	Comerong Is	sandflats	NJ
Banded Lapwing	1juv	30-Oct	Shoalhaven Heads	parkland	NJ
Gull-billed Tern	2	22-Oct	Windang	sandflats	MC
Whiskered Tern	3	29-Sep	Windang	sandflats	MC
Whiskered Tern	6	14-Oct	Lake Wollumboola	wetland	CJC
Whiskered Tern	1	29-Oct	Albion Park Rail	lake shore	BO,KO
White-headed Pigeon	2	6-Oct	Jamberoo	rural	KM
Bar-shouldered Dove	2	15-Oct	Curramore	garden	KM
Bar-shouldered Dove	3	16-Oct	Maddens Plains	woodland	KM
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	2	14-Oct	Comerong Is	overhead	NJ
Musk Lorikeet	6	26-Oct	Brooks Point Rd, Appin	woodland	GB
Musk Lorikeet	20+	26-Oct	Elladale Rd, Appin	woodland	GB
Channel-billed Cuckoo	7	18-Oct	Albion Park	overhead	BC
Masked Owl	1	4-Oct	Kiama Beach	?	RB
Bell Miner	20+	29-Oct	Avondale	woodland	CB
Scarlet Honeyeater	1	16-Sep	Croome Rd Park, Albion Park	woodland	GB
Restless Flycatcher	1	14-Sep	Keiraville	garden	ME
White-winged Triller	1	15-Oct	Albion Park	rural	CB
White-winged Triller	1	22-Oct	Kanahooka	rural	MC
White-winged Triller	1	29-Oct	Oak Flats	parkland	BO,KO
White-winged Triller	2	29-Oct	Gwynville	garden	DW
White-winged Triller	1	29-Oct	Swamp Rd. Dunmore	rural	GB
Skylark	1	29-Oct	Swamp Rd. Dunmore	rural	GB
Chestnut-breasted Mannikin	20+	27-Sep	Dapto	garden	RF
Tawny Grassbird	1	10-Oct	Windang	reedland	NB
Rufous Songlark	2	29-Oct	Swamp Rd. Dunmore	rural	GB
Brown Songlark	6	31-Aug	Burradoo	rural	DG

Contributors: GB – Graham Barwell; RB – Roger Bogaert; CB – Chris Brandis; NB – Norma Burke; CJC – Chris Chafer; MC Martin Cocker; BC – Bruce Coyte; ME – Mary Eskdale; RF – Richard Fackender; DG – Darryl Goldrick; TE – Terri Edwell; NJ – Nigel Jacket; KM – Kevin Mills; JM – Jill Molan; BO – Bruce O'Brien; KO Kelsey O'Brien ; MR – Michelle Rower; MS – Mary Shaw; PT – Paul Taylor; EV – Edwin Vella; DW – David Winterbottom; TW - Tera Wheway.

Comment: Unprecedented numbers of White-winged Trillers on the coastal plain, with more records also in November (next newsletter). The drought will force many species to the coast so keep your eyes open.