



*"One Good Tern  
Deserves Another"*

The Newsletter of the ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB INC.  
POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 56 FAIRY MEADOW, N.S.W. 2519  
Founded in 1977. Website - [www.iboc.org.au](http://www.iboc.org.au)

# I.B.O.C. NEWS

**CLUB'S AIM: To join together people with a common interest who wish to further their knowledge and enjoyment of the birdlife around them.**

**ISSUE NUMBER 300 - February 2007**

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Black Cockatoo

*Photo: Chris Chafer*

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS due 1st January each year: FAMILY \$30, SINGLE \$25. JUNIOR \$5. Please pay Bronwyn Wilson, our Treasurer, by cash, cheque or mail order Don't delay, don't procrastinate! Pay Bronwyn now, at the club meeting or send it to her at 8 Wellington Drive, Balgownie 2519**

## **FORTHCOMING IBOC EVENTS February 2007**

**Wednesday Walk - Lake Illawarra Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2007.**

NOTE CHANGED VENUE. Meet at the Picnic area at the cnr Northcliffe Drive, & Holborn St, Berkeley, west of the Boat Harbour at 5.15pm. Parking is on the side of Northcliffe Drive. We will then visit the wetlands by the harbour and also walk east along the track round Wollamai Point. Bring a picnic tea to enjoy after our walk

**CLUB MEETING – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February - 7.30pm Fairy Meadow Community Hall.** Julie Clark will be our speaker and will speak about her work with the **Seabird Rescue Society.** And bring some goodies and your mug for supper.

**Monthly Outing Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2007. Bomaderry Creek**

Meet at the start of the walk in the car park at the end of Narang St Bomaderry. From Wollongong, turn right at the 2<sup>nd</sup> roundabout (to the Skateway), (the 1<sup>st</sup> after Moss Vale Rd). Meet at 8.00am. The early start is to miss the heat of the day. Bring a carry morning tea and lunch. We will aim to finish by 1pm.

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING - Tuesday 20th February 2007, 7.30pm, at Anne and Allan Cousins', 4 Adelaide Place, Tarrawanna. (4283 3917) All members are welcome**

**March 2007 NEWSLETTER** Deadline for articles for the next *IBOC News* is **Thursday 23rd February 2007.** Please send articles, news, and items of interest to the editor at 5 Madden Street, Fernhill 2519, or email to [cashmansjr@bigpond.com](mailto:cashmansjr@bigpond.com)

**BITS and....**

### ***Vale - Douglas ( Doug ) Rickers***

Our long standing member, Doug Rickers died in Wollongong Hospital on Christmas Eve 2006 after a short illness. Doug will be remembered for his gentle nature, interest in photography, wonderful sense of humour and his deep love of bird watching.

He was a regular midweek walker and with his mate Jimmy Grun added much to the enjoyment of these outings for fellow members. Doug was an original member of the team that bird-surveyed the Grevillea Gardens in the nineties along with the Botanic Gardens and Bellambi Point. These were some of his favourite and regularly visited places.

His love of bird watching was such that on being admitted to Hospital on 1st December he took his binoculars with him ...just in case! Doug was a thorough gentleman and will be sadly missed by the IBOC members who knew him. Our thoughts of sympathy and caring are with his wife Vera, daughter Janice and her family. *Kevin McGregor, Past President*

**Apologies** to Chris Chafer. At the IBOC AGM he was appointed as the Public as well as the Records Officer for the Club, not the Publicity Officer as misreported in the December News

**Thanks** to the **Committee** for agreeing, at some cost, to have two pages of colour in this 300<sup>th</sup> IBOC News. Thanks to Chris Chafer, Laurie Williams & Dave Thomson for the photos.

**Club Beginnings Laurie and Nola Williams reminisce.**

**JC**



‘We moved down here in 1966, and Laurie ran a hot water repairs, sales and installation service for 8 years, before he sold it to Dux. (We didn’t know that Dux was planning to take over our business, for, due to our hard work, it was very successful). So as well as bringing up our two daughters, I, Nola, was the Office Manager. Well, the office was our bedroom, & I was the total office staff! But after selling up, I was out of a job. One day I called in at the WEA office to see what courses they had on offer, and found there was a ‘Basic Ornithology’ course coming up.

**Nola and Laurie at the Murga Bird Camp October 1986**

I told Laurie I would like to go and he said, “OK, and could I also come too.’ We had had some contact with the Bird Observers Club in Sydney, but this course was right in our home town. As it was, I had a bad back and missed the first two meetings, but went to the rest of them.

‘Doug Gibson was the lecturer, and he was excellent. He was so enthusiastic, he knew so much, and loved imparting his knowledge of birds.

I don’t remember him using slides or pictures, but he was wonderful at giving you the sense and the feel of the birds. He took the class on two walks too, and they were real eye openers and ear openers.

‘The class was limited to 26 people. We knew some of them



**Doug Gibson showing some features on a Sacred Kingfisher Photo Dave Thomson**

a bit: Dave Thomson, the Almonds, Dave Walsh, but what really surprised the WEA was that no-one dropped out of the class. That must be something of a record. It was so good that we thought, “This has got to continue.” So Laurie asked Doug if he would help in the formation of a Bird Watching club. But Laurie’s request was met with a blunt “No.” Doug wasn’t into organizing. Laurie was taken aback, but then suggested, “If we were to form a club, would you act as advisor or mentor?” And Doug happily said, “Yes.” So Laurie formed a steering committee and they met frequently, and nussed out a program and guidelines, and we had our first meeting on 26 February, 1977 at the WEA rooms.

The pattern of club activities hasn't changed that much. We had our Monthly Outing, and Doug usually guided us, and later on, as we had more retirees, the Wednesday walks were introduced. We also had local camps in the first two years, to Coolandel, on the Shoalhaven River and to Bungonia. And there was the Newssheet virtually from the outset. Initially it was just a page or so, detailing what meetings and walks and camps were coming up. It was mimeographed at first, and Laurie and a volunteer would drive around hand delivering them. One of the volunteers said, "I think I can pick the next house. It will be a house with a lot of trees." He was usually right. The hand delivery system went on for a couple of years, but then with more club members and bigger newssheets the postman became our friend.

Laurie was President for the first 6 ½ years during which time the club grew from 26 to some 150 members. Dave Thomson followed Laurie as President, but when Dave's wife, Betty, became seriously ill, he resigned after some 18 months to look after her. Dave was followed by Jim and Gwen Robinson.

Laurie and Nola agreed, "The club was our life. We were completely involved." Not only were there the meetings and the walks, and the newssheet to organise, but we also had to look for new places to walk and other places to camp. Members often helped, and Richard Miller, our first Records Officer was very helpful. If we weren't at a club meeting or walk, Richard and Laurie seemed to be frequently out looking for and surveying future places. And under the tutelage of Doug Gibson, we were becoming better at recognizing birds, and at recognizing good birding habitats.

Laurie said, 'Doug was a bit of a perfectionist. He used to say, "Get it right!" He wanted us to properly identify the bird and it's habitat. "Good enough" wasn't good enough for Doug. I came to appreciate what he was doing and teaching, and tried to follow it. Sometimes this caused trouble, and there were some arguments. Others were more "flexible" in their attitudes and the way they described and recorded bird sightings. That worried me, and the arguments really hurt. But people are people, and it's like business, you learn to negotiate, while always striving to get the best you can for the club! We've lived through two major floods, in both of which we lost thousands. In the '75 flood, we got nothing from the insurance, and just \$200 from the State Government. In the '98 flood we were covered by insurance, but I still had to negotiate over different matters. Most of the time I got what I thought we were entitled too, but sometimes the Insurance Supervisor would say, "That's really pushing the friendship too much," and I backed off a bit. I think it's a bit like that in any group of people too.'

Since retiring from the club executive, and with their daughters married, Laurie and Nola have made time for other things too. Laurie has often had some business interests going on, and Nola has had time to devote to embroidery and to her interest helping young people to learn to embroider by Distance Education courses. This has involved both of them doing a lot of traveling, which they have enjoyed. Laurie said, "Nola completely supported me through the years at the club. She is one of the unsung heroes. So now I'm supporting her in her embroidery teaching." And always the interests of the club, of which they could be called the parents or grandparents, are very much in their hearts.

## **TREES and BIRDS**

**J D GIBSON**

Doug Gibson's WEA lectures on 'Basic Ornithology,' at the end of 1976 were the inspiration for the founding of our club. Doug also contributed a chapter to Leon Fuller's *Wollongong's Native Trees* 1980. The following except is from that chapter. The article was written before the current form of capitalization of bird species was adopted. Printed with permission

Birds have evolved numerous adaptations to utilise the many ecological niches in the various habitat types. Trees being the dominant component of so many environments, their importance in the economy of so many bird species is not surprising. Each is important to the other in a balanced ecosystem: trees provide essential requirements for birds and derive benefits from the relationship in return.

### **Birds and Blossoms**

The nectar supplied by the blossoms of eucalypts, banksias, grevillias, etc. is an important food source for many of the district's birds, notably the honeyeaters. Blackbutt, swamp mahogany, bloodwood, scribbly gum and Sydney blue gum are good nectar producing eucalypts. The intensity of flowering is variable from year to year, and different species flower in different months, thus spreading the nectar supply over much of the year. As a consequence, the principal nectar feeders are usually found to be nomadic or make regular seasonal movements. Usually heavy flowering can cause spectacular invasions of certain species.

Honeyeaters do not rely entirely on nectar for their sustenance, insects and pollen are also taken, supplemented in some species by fruits and berries – young in the nest are invariably fed on insects. The distinguishing characteristics of the group, however, is the brush tipped tongue, a striking adaptation for nectar feeding involving tube-like folds and a frayed tip. With this unique apparatus honey-eating birds are able to imbibe nectar from the open and diffuse eucalypt blossoms by a combined licking/sucking action. A similar modification appears in the hummingbirds (*Trochilidae*) of America, and the sunbirds (*Nectariniidae*) of Africa enabling them also to exploit the nectar of flowering plants.

Of the 18 or so honeyeaters that are known from the area, the following six are most commonly observed. Eastern spinebill (*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostis*) is common in gardens and forest country where a suitable shrub layer exists, often probing blossoms while briefly hovering in front of them. Yellow-faced honeyeater (*Lichenostomus chrysops*) inhabits eucalypt forests. The resident population of this species is augmented by migrating flocks traveling northward in April/May and southward in August/September. Lewin's Honeyeater (*Meliphaga lewinii*) the only rainforest honeyeater may also be found in wet sclerophyll forests and nearby gardens. Its diet also includes fruit and berries. New Holland honeyeater (*Philidonyris novaehollandiae*) favours banksias and melaleucas while little wattlebird (*Anthochaera chrysoptera*) and red wattlebird (*A. carunculata*) which are both large nomadic honeyeaters follow blossoming eucalypts and banksias, especially *Banksia ericifolia*.

Several species of honey-eating parrots share in the Australian nectar harvest, these are the lorikeets which first crush the blossoms in their bills, and then lick up the nectar and pollen with their brush tipped tongues. Noisy and gregarious, they are not however, very numerous or well-known in the area. The commonest is the little lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*). In earlier days nomadic movements of lorikeets on a large scale were a feature of the district, probably when food trees in the coastal dune forests provided an abundant seasonal attraction.

Blossom feeders provide an efficient means of pollination by transferring the pollen grains accidentally adhering to their head parts from tree to tree. Whereas insects and wind are the principal pollinating agencies considered on a world basis, many Australian eucalypts, banksias etc. depend on honeyeaters and lorikeets to perform this function.

### **Seed Dispersal**

Trees depend on various means for the dispersal of their seeds, such as wind, water and birds. Grain-eating (graminivorous) birds get protein from seeds themselves while fruit-eating

(frugivorous) birds seek the pulpy flesh in which the seeds are encased. Seeds consumed by fruit-eaters are later regurgitated with other indigestible matter and pass through the alimentary canal and voided intact, often with their hard covering softened sufficiently to increase the chances of germination. One wonders how seeds which are too heavy to be spread by the wind can germinate at a higher level than the parent tree. It is quite possible that the distribution of such trees would slowly contract to ever lower elevations if it were not for the assistance of fruit and seed-eating birds.

Trees in tropical climates are capable of providing a diet of various fruits throughout the year which is why specialist fruit-eating birds are mainly to be found in those areas. Fruit-eaters of temperate regions, as in this district, must either have the ability to forage over considerable distances or accept alternative foods when fruit is scarce. Topknot pigeons (*Lepholaimus antarcticus*) especially seek the fruit of our large native figs (*Ficus sp.*) and later the still viable seeds are voided, often in places remote from the parent tree. Other arboreal fruit-eaters which play their part in the dispersal of the seeds are the white-headed pigeon (*Columba leucomela*), pied currawong (*Strepera graculina*), satin bowerbird (*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*), green figbird (*Sphecotheres viridus*), olive-backed oriole (*Ooailus sagittatus*) king parrot (*Alisterus scapularis*), silvereye (*Zosterops lateralis*) and red-whiskered bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocosus*). Typical of the many trees whose seeds are mainly spread by birds are pittosporum, white cedar, bungalow and cabbage-tree palms, lillypilly and, regretfully, camphor laurel and privet, these two introduced 'weed' species whose proliferation is degrading our native forests in some areas.

*To be continued*

## **A POTPOURIE OF EDITORS**

**John Cashman**

Nola Williams typed the first Club circulars, which were roneoed and initially delivered by hand. Later, they were posted. These initial circulars were notices of walks and meetings, but reports, bird sightings and articles were soon added.

Some early editors were the spouses of Presidents, or were other Committee members, then at the 1980 AGM Tom and Joyce Barnes were co-opted as 'Editors of the Club circular.' Mary Shaw was the first editor to be named in the Newsheet, in 1988. She has been followed by Barbara Hales, Robyn Wilson, Kerri Lewis, Mike Morphet, Penny Potter & the current editor.

After the early mimeograph News, a couple of News were produced by the Gestetner process, and then we moved up to photo copying. Initially this was done in the offices of generous and sympathetic organizations and firms, before we moved to commercial printers.

Editing is frequently a solo process, but there has always been a team to get the News out. Barbara mentioned Daryl Goldrick and others who picked up her 'original' for the next stage. Kerri got Alan her husband to proof-read. 'That was essential.' Penny found Val Dolan was a great help in proof-reading and organizing the printing. I'm no computer buff, and make plenty of errors, but these would be far worse were it not for generous amounts of help from Penny and Chris Cartledge. And for many years we have great help from Norma Almond and Peg McKinlay in folding the News, putting in envelopes, and posting it out.

But problems are not unknown. There have been plenty of last minute rushes. Barbara recalled that you found yourself on a timetable, and Penny said that there was a relentlessness about it. You finish one News, and before you knew it, it was on to the next. You often had to organize trips and holidays around getting the News out. Barbara recalled one time when her original went astray in the post. Panic, panic, and she had to retype it. Kerri said it was enjoyable, but hard work fitting it in with a full-time job. Robyn said in her time as Editor, many articles were hand written. Some weren't easy to read. She rang one member about

9pm to check on the spelling of a name. She was told the right spelling but was also told by a somewhat peevish voice, "You know, we go to bed about 7.30!"

Having enough copy could be a problem. Barbara said, 'When it looked a bit thin, I would sometimes retype an earlier article, for our new members who hadn't read it.' Robyn recalls, 'As a pharmacist I was a "two fingers" typist, but it was such a pain if I made a mistake while typing the News and had to retype that whole page again.' Then sometimes there were complaints: spelling, errors, capitals, technicalities. Mary said, 'I was told off because I put in a nice bird poem, but didn't get permission to use it.' Barbara said, 'The complaints hurt. I really tried hard, proof read it, checked the spelling, did my best, but occasionally errors slipped in, and there would be a complaint. That hurt.'

Computers have given editors more flexibility. But neither they, nor their operators are foolproof. Computers seem to have a mind of their own! My computer completely froze last July, with 75% of the News done. Help! Chris Cartledge somehow managed to get a copy of the 75% and we finished that News on his computer, while mine was away at the doctors.

Generally editors have found the position quite interesting. Mike said, 'It was a chance to be creative, and I learnt much more about birds.' Some of Mike's creativity has also been seen in his occasional cartoons. Mary enjoyed the position, and Robyn found it interesting. Penny said that being Editor helped her get to know more people in the club and she appreciated that. It can be a consuming task, but it's rewarding when the News comes out well!

I appreciate having a small stable of regular and reliable writers who don't get into a tiz if you hold over their articles for a month or two. With newer writers, who are always welcome, it can be striking a balance between encouraging their enthusiasm, liveliness and verve, and at times correcting and editing (but not too much) their writing to enhance style and readability. Part of the job! Good writers, and we are fortunate to have quite a few, both report facts and stimulate the imagination to create an atmosphere enabling you to be there with the writer and emotionally respond to them.

## **The 300<sup>th</sup> IBOC News**

**Dave Thomson**

Our 300<sup>th</sup> IBOC News – what about that? I'd reckon about our millionth word. We've come some distance since those early hand-delivered circulars of about 20 lines on a quarto sheet.

And a thumb through some of those early papers reminds us of the great times we've had and the work that's been put in for us. And there are plenty of memories in the photos of early outings, camps and Christmas meetings.

For starters, we're now 30 years old. Our first meeting was on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February, 1977 in the WEA rooms. That meeting elected as our first office-bearers: Laurie Williams as President, Joy Appleby as Secretary/Treasurer and Richard Miller as Field Recording Officer. And our fees were set at \$5, \$8 and \$2 for adults, families and juniors.

Our first outing came the following Sunday on the properties of the Thomas and Voorwinden families at Calderwood. That outing produced our first report to the Australian Atlas – 56 species including a Black-faced Monarch – many of us hadn't even heard of one?

At our March '77 meeting, our first guest speaker, old-hand bird photographer Ellis McNamara from Mt Kembla showed his slides. We've seen a few slides since that first night.

And more "firsts".

Our first membership list, prepared in June '77, had 45 family names. While not as long as it would be today, not bad for a brand new club, and most were regulars at meetings.

Our first camp was at Coolendel, upstream from Nowra on the Shoalhaven in October '77. Some pretty raw campers at Coolendel, but we've since had enough camps to show some improvement.

Our first trip out of the district was to Pulletop NR, staying at the luxurious Rankins Springs Hotel in late Oct '77. Some of our party, standing after dinner at the rail of the darkened upstairs veranda waiting for IBOC stragglers, were entertained by locals tumbling out of the pub headed for home – sounded like “you’re too drunk to sing, you’d better drive”. That was after the locals had challenged us at the snooker table – slow matches with much drinking and walking between shots. And yes, we did see the Malleefowl, and close-up too.

In Dec '77 we had our first experience with bird banding when we watched Alan Leishman banding bush-birds at Appin. Birds in the hand look so much different to those in a tree and it’s great to touch them and understand how delicate and endearing some are, especially the wrens and robins. Currawongs and some others don’t meet the “delicate and endearing” rule.

In Feb '80 a small party went to Lord Howe Island on what was our first major trip away from “home” – what a great place. Cape York followed in July/Aug '81. The notion of a big trip every so often went down well and has become a regular part of our program.

Our regular Unusual Sightings list started in '83, prepared initially by Wal Emery, And how could we end the year without the “IBOC Logies” night, with members receiving awards for misdemeanors through the year. Christmas '78 saw Esme Gay take home a gold-painted cow pat, something to do with an exchange with a fresh cowpat on a Club outing. And in '81, Doug Gibson received tongs with metre-long handles for retrieving things out of reach – he’d dropped his precious notebook down our toilet on Cape York. And a few more, without explanation lest we embarrass those involved (we wouldn’t want to do that) and all from the '80’s ; a long singlet for Nola Williams; rubber gloves for BobMcKinlay; mouse trap for Gwen Robinson; kettle for Wal Emery; antifreeze for Haidee Hawken; motel guide for Hazel Emery; pink keytag for Dave Walsh. And as part of the festive frivolity, the elocution, dance, singing etc., like the pair of “wannabe baritones” in '82 with a rendition (that’s a kind way to put it) of the Gendarmes Duet, with IBOC modifications.

We’ve had a succession of birdos visiting from overseas too, and all seemed to enjoy our warm welcome and ready help. In our first year we had Malcolm Ford from the snakeless land of the kiwi, and he was lucky enough to witness a pair of snakes mating and to see the Malleefowl at Pulletop, both experiences denied most Aussies. And who could forget the visits from that ball of enthusiasm Tony Salvadori from Canada, his first in '80. And, among others, the quiet Canadian couple John and Dornacilla Peck who spent 2 years with us and so enjoyed our friendship that, at their last meeting in '85, John read some verse that he’d penned, saying in part

“And then you showed us how to camp,  
In weather which was bright or damp,  
With showers hot or sometimes cold,  
And privies wondrous to behold.”

From those early days we’ve always carried a toilet on trips and camps, so making life more comfortable for ourselves and setting an example for the better regarded and more upmarket clubs, like Sydney, who didn’t. Ask any of our busload who in '85 camped beside a busload from the Sydney club on the plains at Coorabulka Bore in western Queensland (for the Yellow Chat). Friendly trees were a long way off so IBOC’s toilet had a continuous and long queue.

We’ve had some wonderful experiences, and still working well is the pattern of meetings, outings, newsletter, camps, trips, record-keeping, atlasing, library, badges, tee-shirts, toilet, shower and so on established in the early years by those who set our club going, President Laurie and his team.



**...and Pieces** \***Jim and Gwen Robinson** (Jim was the 3<sup>rd</sup> President of the Club) were both active in the building of Towradgi pool some 50 or so years ago. Just before Christmas the pool was reopened after Wollongong Council put in a new concrete base. The pool was originally built by voluntary labour, with the volunteers often having to work late at night or very early in the morning to fit in with low tides.

Gwen also taught swimming at the pool, first to children and later to adults under the “Learn to Swim” campaign. She taught a lot of migrant women, from the Fairy Meadow Hostel. Some of the husbands weren’t keen to have their wives appear in swimsuits in public: not part of their culture. But the first couple of women who dared to learn to swim had so much fun, they soon persuaded other migrant wives to come and learn from Gwen. Wives forever !

**Autumn Camp 2007 Wellington NSW 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> April 2007.**

The Autumn camp is to be at the Wellington Caves Holiday Complex, Caves Rd Wellington. Ph (02) 6845 2970. The Caravan Park is about 9km south of Wellington just off the Mitchell Hwy. The way from Wollongong is via the Blue Mts, Bathhurst, and Orange. About 400k.

You are advised to book with the Caravan Park as soon as possible, especially if you want a cabin. At present they have plenty of all types of accommodation, but they are fully booked for the week before, and the week afterwards.

All cabins have ensuites and are air conditioned, Park & Deluxe units only have TV.

Charges are as follows:

Standard unit	\$57 per double	Sleeps 8
Deluxe Golf View Units	\$68 per double	sleep 4/5
Park Cabins	\$52 per double	sleep 5
Powered sites	\$21 for 2 people	
Unpowered sites	\$16 for 2 people	

Once you have booked please let Betty know either by email or phone 4236 0307

Further details and the map in next month’s newsletter

**Unusual Records for November - December 2006 Chris J. Chafer**

Send your records to: email [cchafer@speedlink.com.au](mailto:cchafer@speedlink.com.au)

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Species	#	Date	Location	Habitat	Observer
Emu	5	19-Nov	Sassafras	forest	KM
Brown Quail	1	12-Nov	Calderwood	roadside	NB
Brown Quail	1	18-Nov	Tallawarra	wetland	GB
Brown Quail	1	21-Dec	Myimbarr wetland (Shellharbour)	wetland	KM
Australian Shelduck	3	18-Nov	Tallawarra	wetland	GB,CB
Australian Shelduck	2	26-Dec	Comerong Is	saltmarsh	MC
Black Petrel	1	16-Dec	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Nankeen Night Heron	1	26-Nov	Windang	shore	TB
Nankeen Night Heron	1	9-Dec	Macquarie Rivulet, lower	riverine	LP
Glossy Ibis	28	11-Nov	Tallawarra	wetland	DG, GB
Glossy Ibis	26	28-Dec	Tallawarra	wetland	CB
Osprey	1	24-Nov	Tallawarra	overhead	CB, DG
Osprey	2	Nov	Lake Conjola	overhead	MJ
Square-tailed Kite	1	7-Nov	HMAS Albatross, sth Nowra	overhead	NJ, NW
Whistling Kite	2	11-Nov	Tallawarra	overhead	DG
Whistling Kite	1	19-Nov	Mt Kembla	overhead	DF
Swamp Harrier	1	9-Nov	Maddens Plains	overhead	JM
Swamp Harrier	1	11-Nov	Tallawarra	overhead	DG
Grey Goshawk	1	14-Nov	Bellambi Lagoon	woodland	AC
Grey Goshawk	1	6-Dec	Springhill, Cringilla	forest	DF
Wedge-tailed Eagle	1	9-Nov	Corrimal	overhead	AC

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Little Eagle	1	11-Nov	Tallawarra	overhead	DG
Little Eagle	1	25-Nov	Nowra Hill	overhead	GB
Little Eagle	1	10-Dec	Seven Mile Beach NP	overhead	BO,KO
Little Eagle	1	11-Dec	Kanahooka	overhead	MC
Peregrine Falcon	1	7-Nov	Forest Grove, Kanahooka	overhead	MC
Peregrine Falcon	1a, 1j	30-Dec	Thirroul	garden	MM
Lewin's Rail	1	22-Dec	Bulli escarpment track	forest	GB
Baillon's Crake	1	18-Nov	Tallawarra	wetland	GB
Australian Spotted Crake	2	18-Dec	Myimbarr wetland (Shellharbour)	wetland	KM
Latham's Snipe	4	13-Nov	Tallawarra	wetland	CB
Latham's Snipe	18	21-Dec	Myimbarr wetland (Shellharbour)	wetland	KM
Marsh Sandpiper	1	28-Dec	Tallawarra	wetland	CB
Common Sandpiper	1	11-Nov	Tallawarra	wetland	DG
Great Knot	1	21-Dec	Lake Wollumboola	mudflats	NW
Sanderling	1	18-Nov	Shoalhaven Heads	sandflats	MPP
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	50+	9-Dec	Haywoods Bay	shore	LP
Sooty Oystercatcher	1	9-Dec	Haywoods Bay	shore	LP
Red-kneed Dotterel	1	18-Nov	Tallawarra	wetland	GB
Sooty Tern	4	16-Dec	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
White-headed Pigeon	1	12-Dec	Bulli Pass	graden	RM
White-headed Pigeon	3	24-Dec	Curramore	garden	KM
Turquoise Parrot	2	14-Dec	Porter Creek Dam Road	woodland	MJ
Tawny Frogmouth	3	9-Dec	Mt Keira	garden	VD
Tawny Frogmouth	1	10-Dec	Keiraville	garden	ME
White-throated Needletail	25	29-Dec	Wilton	overhead	RI
Azure Kingfisher	1	30-Nov	Forest Grove, Kanahooka	wetland	MC
Azure Kingfisher	2	9-Dec	Macquarie Rivulet, lower	riverine	LP
Eastern Bristlebird	1	29-Dec	Carrington Falls	woodland	TB
Pilotbird	1	17-Nov	Mt. Kembla	forest	DF
Pilotbird	1	29-Dec	Carrington Falls	forest	TB
Logrunner	2	17-Dec	Bellawongarah	forest	BA
Crested Shrike-tit	1	15-Dec	Excelsior mine, Thirroul	forest	MM
Leaden Flycatcher	2	24-Nov	Tallawarra	woodland	CB
White-winged Triller	1	2-Nov	Dapto	garden	TW
White-winged Triller	1	5-Nov	Killalea State Park	grassland	CJC
White-winged Triller	1	19-Dec	Kiama blow hole	pine trees	MC
Pied Butcherbird	1	28-Nov	Unanderra	garden	JN
Grey Currawong	1	19-Nov	Sassafras	forest	KM
Tawny Grassbird	1	11-Nov	Tallawarra	reedland	DG
Rufous Songlark	1	12-Nov	Swamp Rd. Dunmore	rural	GB
Brown Songlark	1	7-Nov	Nowra	rural	NJ, NW

**Contributors:** BA - Bob Ashford; GB - Graham Barwell; CB - Chris Brandis; NB - Norma Burke; TB - Teresa du Bois; AC - Alan Cousins; CJC - Chris Chafer; MC Martin Cocker; BC - Bruce Coyte; VD - Val Dolan; ME - Mary Eskdale; DF - Damien Farine; DG - Darryl Goldrick; RI - Ron Imisisdes; NJ - Nigel Jacket; MJ - Michael Jarman; PM - Peter Milburn; KM – Kevin Mills; JM - Jill Molan; MM - Mike Morphet; JN - Jack Nowaczyk; BO - Bruce O'Brien; KO - Kelsey O'Brien; LP - Lorraine Pincus; MPP - Martin & Penny Potter; NW – Nathan Waugh; DW - David Winterbottom; TW - Terra Wheway.

**Comment:** Again numbers of White-winged Trillers on the coastal plain in unusual places. Lots of great raptor records, especially Little Eagle. Will the Osprey nest first at Tallawarra or Lake Conjola, it's only a matter of time I think. Sooty Oystercatcher has not previously been reported from western Lake Illawarra. The **Pied Butcherbird** record is very interesting, only the 9<sup>th</sup> regional record since 1839. One was observed near this location at Farmborough Heights in February 2004. The Glossy Ibis are the largest numbers ever recorded from the region. **Thanks for all your records through 2006. Please keep them coming for 2007.**