



THE IBOC

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No. 344

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB INC NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2011

PIED OYSTERCATCHER

Scientific name: *Haematopus longirostris*
Family: Haematopodidae
Order: Charadriiformes

Description

The Pied Oystercatcher is black with a white breast and belly. All oystercatchers have a bright orange-red bill, eye-rings and legs and a red eye. Young birds are similar in appearance to the adults, but lack the intense red-orange colours and are brown rather than black. The Pied Oystercatcher is shy of humans and seldom



photo by Charles Dove

allows close approach.

Similar species

The white breast and belly distinguish the Pied Oystercatcher from the closely related Sooty Oystercatcher, *H. fuliginosus*, which has all black plumage.

Distribution

The Pied Oystercatcher is found in coastal areas throughout the Australian continent except for areas of unbroken sea cliffs such as the Great Australian Bight. Pied Oystercatchers have probably declined throughout much of their range and the current population may be as low as 10,000. Closely related forms are found in almost every continent in the world.

Habitat

The Pied Oystercatcher prefers mudflats, sandbanks and sandy ocean beaches and is less common along rocky or shingle coastlines. Although rarely recorded far from the coast, the Pied Oystercatcher may occasionally be found in estuarine mudflats and short pasture.

Feeding

Oystercatchers feed on bivalve molluscs, which are prised apart with their specially adapted bills. Food is

found by sight, or by probing their long, chisel-shaped bills in the mud. Young Pied Oystercatchers are one of the few waders that are fed by their parents using this specialised feeding technique. Worms, crustaceans and insects are also eaten.

Breeding

The Pied Oystercatcher breeds in pairs. A breeding territory of some 200 m is formed and is defended by both birds. Nesting takes place on sand, shell grit or shingle just above high water mark on beaches, sandbars, margins of estuaries and lagoons. The eggs are well-camouflaged, being pale brown with darker brown and black blotches and streaks. Both sexes share parenting duties.

(Pied Oystercatcher information; supplied courtesy of Birds in backyards)

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'ONE GOOD TERN
DESERVES ANOTHER'

ILLAWARRA BIRD
OBSERVERS' CLUB INC.

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 56
FAIRY MEADOW, N.S.W. 2519
www.iboc.org.au

Founded in 1977

Club's Aim: To join together people with a common interest who wish to further their knowledge and enjoyment of the bird life around them.

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FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES 2011

New Year Outing- Wednesday 9th February 2011 at 5.00 p.m. Windang.

Meet under the pine trees on the north side of Windang estuary, east of the bridge. At Windang take Acacia Street east off Windang Road, then take the second right (south), Waratah Street. Ahead of you should be the combined entrance to Windang Caravan Park and Windang Surf Club. Follow the arrow towards the surf club and meet at the eastern end of the Norfolk Island Pines. This outing gives you a good chance to sort out the waders, terns and gulls that are usually around in good numbers at this time of the year. Bring along your cuppa and a bite to eat after the walk.

Club Meeting – Monday 14th February 2011

7.30pm Fairy Meadow Community Hall. Cnr. of Cambridge Avenue & Princes H'way Fairy Meadow
Guest speaker Inspector Michael Gray, NSW Rural Fire Service and his presentation will be 'Birding in the Bush'
Please bring a plate of goodies and a cup for supper after the meeting.

February 2011 Monthly Outing: Sunday 20th February 2011.

Huskisson Mangrove Board Walk & Jervis Bay Beaches.

Meet at the car park of the Lady Denman Reserve, off Dent Street, Huskisson at 8.30am.
Travel south via the Princes Hwy to the Jervis Bay turn off south of Nowra. Turn left and then after approx 8km take the Huskisson turn off to the left. Dent St is one of the first turnings on your left as you approach Huskisson. Look for the sign to the Lady Denman Museum.

We will walk along the Wirreecoo walking track and join the board walk to cross estuarine wetlands of sea grass beds, sand flats and mangroves rejoining the track through the Blackbutt Forest back to carpark. Depending on the weather we will make visits to the local beaches on our way to Greenfields Beach where we will walk along the beach or through the bush to Chinaman's Beach before returning to the cars. It is hoped that we will see a variety of birds in the various habitats (60species recorded on one visit)

Please make sure that you have plenty of insect repellent and sunscreen as well as water to drink.

Leader **Betty Hudson.**

Contact Betty on 4236 0307 or 0432 892 945.

Next Committee Meeting - Monday 21th February 2011

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 21st February 2011 at 7.30pm, at the home of Sue & Ken Brown, 12 Meads Avenue, Corrimal. Ph 4284 0525.

All members are welcome to attend and raise any issues with the committee

March 2011 Newsletter - Deadline for Articles and Photos in the next IBOC newsletter is **Sunday 20th February**

Email contributions to Charles Dove newsletter@iboc.org.au or post to 2/39 Purry Burry Ave. Primbee 2502. Ph: 4275 2383

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS IMPORTANT Renewal of IBOC Membership for 2011

In order for the club to check and verify the details for all members held in our records, we require that a membership form is completed and attached to your membership payment for 2011. This applies to all types of payments.

Please ensure that you tick the box for electronic newsletters if you wish to continue to have it sent this way or wish to change to electronic delivery. **You get to see the Newsletter in glorious colour!**

For your convenience a membership form is attached to this newsletter or it can be downloaded from the club

Website www.iboc.org.au

Please note that fees were due on the 1st January 2011.

There has been no change to the fees for each type of membership. Singles \$30, Family \$35 and Juniors \$10.

Please fill in and post the membership renewal form along with payment please.

Please complete this form and post together with your cheque or Money Order to:

I.B.O.C. PO Box 56 FAIRY MEADOW NSW 2519

Or bring completed form along with payment to the next meeting to give to treasurer

Title..... NameFamily Name.....

Other Family members.....

Address

Telephone Number..... E-mail address.....

I would like to save IBOC postage costs and the trees for the birds by having my Newsletter delivered by e-mail please....

Family \$35 Single \$30 Student \$10

Enclosed is a cheque or Money Order for \$35 \$30 \$10 Other amount \$.....

REPORTS

PRESIDENTS REPORT 2010

I hope that you have all enjoyed the varied and interesting programme that your committee has conducted throughout my year as President, a majority of which was organised by the 2009 committee members.

We had six speakers during the year:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| February John Rawsthorne | - Interaction between Birds and Mistletoe |
| March Holly Parsons | - Birds in Backyards |
| May Jack Baker | - Involvement with Ground Parrots and Eastern Bristlebirds |
| July Ron Imisides | - What to expect on Cairns to Cape York trip |
| August Kevin Mills | - Native Trees of the South Coast |
| October Mike Cannon | - Birds from a Vets Perspective |

Club members have attended three camps this year;

Easter Camp at Leeton. From all reports this was another successful camp - when is one not? Anne and I were unable to attend as we were on our way to the UK. It was very interesting to note the sighting of the Pacific Blue Whistler!!

Cairns to Cape York (August-September) A great adventure for two groups of members. 15 northbound and 12 southbound, you will have read some reports in the newsletter. Our sincere thanks go to Neil & Tera for the organisation and to Tera and Barbara for the pre-trip finance arrangements.

Spring Camp at Sandy Hollow, a lovely location in the outback of the Hunter Valley. My thanks and the thanks of all attending members to the Easter and Spring Camps must go to Betty for her tireless organizational skills and all the time she spends pre-camp and during to ensure that all is in order with the accommodation and walks etc.

The mid-week and weekend walks have all been varied and very well attended. We have been to some very interesting sites and seen many species of bird and again our thanks go to Betty for all the planning and execution and to the members who have led the midweek walks.

I think that you will all agree that our editor Charles Dove is doing a magnificent job with the newsletter which is of an exceptionally high standard each month. Please continue sending him articles and photo's for inclusion - it is your newsletter. Again I must thank Betty for all her help and support throughout the year and of course to Bronwyn for keeping our finances on an even keel for another year. This club could not operate without the efforts of your committee, they know who they are and I sincerely thank them for their support during 2010.

We are now well into the process of planning the 2011 programme and are open to suggestions from any member who feels that there is an event that they would wish us to persue or organise.

Christmas Bar-B-Q

Saturday 11th December, 2010

Robyn Cashman

Who put in a gentle request “No rain for the picnic please.”? It was duly noted, and under a blue sky in a green valley about 42 members of the Illawarra Bird Observers Club met to celebrate another excellent year enjoying and recording the birds of the district and far beyond.

While sausages sizzled under expert chef-man-ship, some members relaxed and caught up with friends old and new, while the rest wandered the borders of the mown area keeping a sharp look out for snakes. There was plenty of bird activity – raptors (Black-shouldered Kite, Brown Goshawk and Peregrine Falcon) and Australian Pelicans showing off above, quite untroubled by the threat of danger from the Big Boys of the animal kingdom. Wrens, Silveryeyes, Spotted Pardalotes, Grey Fantails, and Golden Whistlers teased from the thickets and Dollarbirds glinted from the tops of their specialty dead trees, their red beaks shining like Christmas decorations. A Common Blackbird sang carols and that other long-staying visitor, the European Goldfinch, also showed up.



The creeks were flowing free, and birds were spotted coming down to drink –particularly the New Holland Honeyeaters. The most exciting “unusual sighting” was the White Throated Gerygone

Linda did her own foray before the group assembled, and produced a great list. How fortunate we are to have such a well-informed and kindly group of birdos to share our adventures. May the Christmas Season give rest and peace of heart, and gear you all up for a great 2011.

42 Species Seen

Spotted Dove	Eastern Koel	Yellow Thornbill	Willie Wagtail
Bar-shouldered Dove	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Spotted Pardalote	Australian Raven
Australian Pelican	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Eastern Spinebill	Eastern Yellow Robin
White-faced Heron	Brush Cuckoo	Lewin’s Honeyeater	Silveryeye
Black-shouldered Kite	Sacred Kingfisher	Noisy Miner	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Brown Goshawk	Dollarbird	New Holland Honeyeater	Common Blackbird
Peregrine Falcon	Satin Bowerbird	Eastern Whipbird	Mistletoebird
Galah	Superb Fairy-wren	Golden Whistler	Red-browed Finch
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	White-browed Scrubwren	Grey Shrike-thrush	European Goldfinch
Rainbow Lorikeet	White-throated Gerygone	Australian Magpie	
Eastern Rosella	Striated Thornbill	Grey Fantail	

Illawarra Bird Observers Club Christmas Meeting 13th December 2010

by Alan Cousins

Our 2010 Christmas meeting was again arranged by Brian Hales ably assisted by Barbara (The Puffins). Over 45 members and guests attended a very interesting and pleasant evening. Again the talents and camaraderie of members of this great club were in evidence as the evening unfolded.

The evening commenced after a short presentation by the President. The first item was a bird jigsaw on each table that was quickly and humorously put together. We had a poem from Linda Cohen of Pacific Blue Whistler fame, a quiz from Sylvia and Tony Loader, an interesting talk by Sylvia Garlick on plants that attract birds and this year Robyn Cashman and Lyndall Dawson accompanied by John Cashman on his guitar (Segovia would be impressed) gave us another entertaining rendering.

Ken and Sue Brown entertained us with a very humorous and entertaining sketch of life with the bird club. Anne Cousins read a poem regarding the Christmas turkey and Alan Cousins told a few more of his Tommy Cooper one liners. We also had an interesting mechanical presentation by Neil McKinlay of an elaborate hands free (use your feet contraption) that imitated bird flight as paddles.

The evening's entertainment concluded with an amazing picture quiz from Charles Dove in which those who guessed the birds would eventually use the first letter of the species to form the message "MERRY CHRISTMAS".

Our sincere thanks go to the 'Puffins' for organising the presenters and many thanks to Norma Almond for another magnificent Christmas cake. I did ask her to cut it but her cool reply was "I made it, you are president, you cut it", followed by "if you make it next year, I will cut it" How can you argue with that? I did however convince Bronwyn to do the deed.

Thanks also to all who brought a 'plate'. There was enough food to feed an army and of course our thanks to Betty Hudson for getting the nibbles and soft drinks.

This club really is a team effort.

Thank you everybody for another great evening.



End of year message from the President

2010 was a fantastic year for Anne and I. We have seen and done many things with some amazing friends. I would like to record my sincere thanks to Tom Wylie and Neil Wheway for again organising the Christmas bar-b-q and also the cleaning up prior to and after the event and to the 42 members and one little guest who attended. There have been some funny moments that stick in our minds, one of them brought a bit of humour to the Leeton Camp, Anne and I could not attend as we were attempting to get to the UK. The report caused some controversy and I had to put an explanation in the next newsletter. The next event was unwittingly provided during our trip to Cape York when a certain participant forgot her memory pills!

Although I did mention our outgoing treasurer in my AGM report it would be remiss of me not to thank her again from all members of the club and to present her with a small token of our appreciation for 17 years of keeping us solvent and would like to thank Ken Brown for taking over the reins. We look forward to all the good things that your committee have arranged for 2011 and hope that you all enjoyed the events of 2010 that were mentioned in my AGM report.

Alan Cousins



includes Letters to the Editor

Letter to the Editor,

My wife and I have long been fans of that small rocky outcrop some two and a half hours flight from Sydney, called Norfolk Island.

Our first visit was in September some 10/12 years ago. We were fascinated to find a ground nesting Red Tailed Tropic Bird at the base of a very large Norfolk Island Pine. The bird was completely unafraid and allowed close up photographs. Our second visit to the island was much later in February 2010, and for old time's sake we revisited the nest site, we were surprised and pleased to find the nest again occupied, with a drowsy Mum (we think.)

The year 2010 was not kind to us for a variety of reasons, so we decided to begin it over again with a third visit to Norfolk for therapeutic reasons, in late November 2010. Naturally we continued our pilgrimage to the base of the giant Norfolk Pine and sure enough the nest was in use again!--Is this nest ever empty?

My only complaint is that with the time delay with my digital camera's shutter, I had trouble catching 'Mum' with her eyes open!

Should any reader happen to be going to Norfolk and wish to see this nest, It's very easy to find. As part of your usually free familiarisation half-day tour around the island, you will be taken to the "Bloody Bridge". Norfolk was one of the cruellest of penal settlements where convicts were required to work in harsh conditions for their meagre provisions.

If you stand on the bridge looking towards the nearby ocean, the Tropic Bird's huge nest tree cannot be mistaken as it is only about 15 metres from the roadway. If you are fortunate to find Mum or Dad in residence, say hello from us.

Doug Prosser



I took these amazing photos on our recent trip to Kangaroo Island. I have taken many photos of pelicans, but never seen a young being fed.



Marj Carvell

We've had a couple of Tawny Frogmouths around our gardens lately and my neighbour, Jenny Virgona, took the following photo of 2 youngsters in her Scarborough vegie garden on the afternoon of 2nd December 2010. They were very relaxed and just watched her - I worry that they are so low to the ground during the day. A Council Bushcare Officer, Tess Malady, also recently took a daytime photo of an adult and youngster in Mangerton Park on a log near a path - again very exposed. I hope they're not getting too careless!



Photo by Jenny Virgona

Cheers, Danie Ondinea

Just to personalise the loss caused by the Queensland floods here's a story that I know is true:

If, like me, you use a Slater Field Guide to Australian Birds you will know that many people are acknowledged as contributors in the productions of these books. Two such people are Ali and Clem Lloyd, a couple now in their eighties. They lived in a home with their treasured collection of bird books, including field guides from all over the world collected and studied on their birding trips abroad as well as original Peter Slater paintings of birds. Their home, between Brisbane and Ipswich, survived the 74 floods which meant they could not buy insurance. This time with the electricity cut off they were isolated for days and seemed forgotten. Like so many others we have seen on TV they have lost a lot from inside their home including many of their precious bird books. Fortunately they have a supportive family who are rallying to assist. However, there are some possessions that are just irreplaceable.

Val Dolan

Oh to be a Bird!

by Linda Cohen

As I gaze out of my window
Watching the birds fly by
I wonder what it would be like
If I could learn to fly.

I'd sing in the dawn of morning
To welcome each new day
Perhaps a duet like the Whipbird
Or the song of a Whistler at play.

I'd soar above the treetops
Like an Eagle on the wing
And I think of all the happiness
An aerial view could bring.

I'd create an elaborate bower
In the hope of attracting a mate
Or dance and perform like the Lyrebird
With perhaps not too long to wait!

I'd dive into the water
Like a Tern seeking a fish
I dream of flying in the sky
And other pleasures I have missed.

I'd build a nest for my family
In a tree hollow like a Lorikeet
Or a bed of reeds like a Swamphen
With no mortgage payments to meet!

I'd skim over the waves
Like a Shearwater out at sea
And glide on the wings of an Albatross
Such delights are not meant for me.

Perhaps I'd enlist some other birds
To help me raise my young
Like the Wrens or the Choughs or the Babblers
And others have already done.

I'd flit amongst the foliage
Darting in and out of sight
Like those LBJs we so often see
Before they all take flight.

Alas! I am still at my window
Watching the birds fly by
As I sit and dream of what it would be like
If I could learn to fly.

Some Birds from Windang

by Charles Dove



Sanderling



Injured Juvenile Pied Oystercatcher



Grey Plover

A Birdwatcher's Lament

By Lynn, John and Robin

Why do birds quickly disappear

Every time I draw near?

Can it be, they like to be
Spoil Sports!

Why do wrens blend into the blue
Pardalotes do it too

Could it be, they mean to be
Spoil Sports!

Swifts become invisible, and raptors they're not biddable
And water birds swim off upon the tide
Even Babblers and Bristlebirds and Owls
Conspire to hide !!

How come YOU saw that tiny finch
Gee your eyes I could pinch!
It isn't fair, birdies don't care
Spoil Sports!

Why do Quails exodus the scene
As for Rails – they've just been!
Can it be, they want to be
Spoil Sports!

Why do Larks scarpers to the sky
I can't see stuff that high
It must be they mean to be
Spoil Sports!

Dunlins dematerialize
Ruffs dissolve before my eyes
And Monarchs evanesce without a sound
Even Coots and Kestrels, Knots and Pallid Cuckoos
go to ground!

Why do birds always disappear
Any time I draw near
It must be they aim to be
Spoil Sports!

Digiscoping Course

Date: Saturday, March 12, 2011

Venue: Birds Australia Discovery Centre, The Armory, 1 Jamieson St, Sydney Olympic Park

Presented by: Hannes Nothdurfter from Swarovski International

Digiscoping is a term for the activity of using a digital camera to record distant images by coupling it with an optical telescope. The word "digiscoping" was coined in 1999 by French birdwatcher Alain Fossé.

DIGISCOPING COURSE OUTLINE

9.30am Introduction – What is digiscoping, potential of the system with examples of digiscoped images, etc.

Digiscoping Equipment

- Telescope
- Camera
- Tripod
- Adaptors
- Other equipment

Demonstration of digiscoping equipment

10.30am Morning tea

11.00am Digiscoping methods

Recommended camera settings

Advantages and disadvantages of the system

Additional information on the internet

12.30pm Lunch

1.30pm Hands on practice with digiscoping equipment

3.00pm Afternoon tea

3.30pm Downloading and manipulation of images using Photoshop

4.30pm Close and further discussion time if required

*Bring along your own digiscoping equipment (telescopes, cameras, tripod) and laptop if you have them. Also a flashdrive/thumbdrive may be handy for transferring info to you.

*A CD will be provided which includes most of the digiscoping info discussed during the course.

Cost: BA Members \$59 / Non-members \$69

For registration form, contact Pixie



For information on national parks, native plants and animals and a wide variety of conservation and environmental topics, including air quality, noise, pesticides, water, hazardous materials and waste disposal. Also contact us to report pollution, smoky and noisy vehicles, and littering from vehicles.

Phone: 131555 (pollution reporting, environment information and publication requests) for the cost of a local call within New South Wales (mobiles excluded) or (02) 9995 5555.

1300 361 967 (national parks information, annual passes, residential rebates and publication requests) for the cost of a local call within Australia (mobiles excluded) or (02) 9995 5550.

CLICK THE LINK FOR MORE INFO

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/contact/index.htm>

Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au



CLICK THE LINKS FOR MORE INFO

In New South Wales, 1074 native species, populations and ecological communities are listed as *threatened* with extinction. This website shows you what they look like, where and how they live, why they're threatened, and what we can do to help bring them back from the brink of extinction.

Species, populations and ecological communities

Detailed profiles on each threatened species, population and ecological community in NSW.

Information on what's living in a particular *type of habitat* or *region of NSW*.

A book entitled "Birds of America" containing 431 plates published in 1966 has come into the possession of Vinnies. It is apparently a valuable publication that they do not wish to put on sale in a shop. If anybody is interested they can contact Shona at Vinnies, Montague Street, Wollongong warehouse for details

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

The Gong Gang Strikes Again

Alison Foley

With eyeballs still steaming from our last Twitchathon in October 2009, we hapless creatures (Penny and Martin Potter, David Bourne and self) fell prone to the annual muster of bird-tragics and took up the baton for the Illawarra once again in an attempt to outdo our grand total of 105 species.

A reminder of the Champagne Race rules

Birding from 4pm Saturday 30th to 4pm Sunday 31st. No active birding between 10 pm and 5.30 am or for half an hour before 12 noon (deemed morning tea), one hour before 3pm (deemed lunch) and half an hour before 4pm (deemed afternoon tea). Laudable the way that Birds Australia insists on giving us opportunities to nourish ourselves!

The Ashes Series 2

Once again, we chose to start at Tallawarra Ash Ponds where last year we had scored what we thought was a whopping 47 species. With 3 extras at the close of play, we had retired for the day on 50 not out and had rested on our laurels most contentedly. This year, the Ashes total came to 54 and in a much shorter period of time. Some may say that the reason for this was that I myself was not present for most of it but that's something I would like to gloss over. Not being present, I can only report the gleams of contentment emanating from the rest of the team and tales of "every kind of Pardalote on the same bush" and "little grassbirds feeding from my very hand", resounded! Martin got some lovely photographs at the ponds on what proved to be a warm, dry spring evening. Running Total: 54

CROOME! CROOME! CROOME! CROOME! I Want to Go to Croome!

The Fab Four still had time for a quick walk along the cycle track at Croome where, in a short time and with the backdrop of the sun's dying embers, 18 beautiful birds which included an Azure Kingfisher and Satin Bowerbird, were lit up for us. Most lovely of all was a sizeable flock of Red-browed Finches supping on grass-seed just beside the track, their brows and tails blazing with that special luminescence only wrought by a setting sun. Running Total: 72

The Great Escarp

With the onset of darkness, we grabbed a quick Chinese takeaway (San Der Ling and Cur Ra Wong) and headed out to make the most use of the precious minutes left till 10pm. We chose to walk along the Clover Hill Road track and were rewarded with some very clear Southern Boobook calls and other distinctive but unrecognisable (possibly nightjarish) noises. Dave and I decided that we must make a point of listening to recordings of bird calls as we sleep. Surely this must be the height of the obsession! (Noooo, I hear you cry!) On the stroke of 10pm, we were feeling quite down in the frogmouth as none had been heard. Ne'ertheless, as we drifted off to Black Noddyland around midnight, we were very satisfied with our 73 species and eager for the morrow. Running Total: 73 Ticked Off!

The morrow, as it turned out, appeared far too soon as we struggled out from under cement-like blankets at 5am to a pre-dawn of mist and rain! Bleary-eyed and armed with 7000 sandwiches plus a gallon of tea, we set off at 6am for the oh-so-aptly-named Barren (at least, as far as I am

So to the final stats:

Grand total: 109 species
 Distance travelled: 130 km
 Biggest dip: Rock Dove
 Rarest bird: Pacific Gull
 Funds raised : \$400
 Penny's moment of glory: Tawny Frogmouth
 Martin's moment of glory: Little Tern
 Dave's moment of glory: Pacific Gull
 Ali's moment of glory: Green Catbird

Tallawarra Ash Ponds

Black Swan	Pied Cormorant	Purple Swamphen	Superb Fairy-wren	Australian Raven
Australasian Grebe	Australian Pelican	Dusky Moorhen	Variegated Fairy-wren	Magpie Lark
Australian Wood Duck	Eastern Great Egret	Eurasian Coot	White-browed Scrubwren	Golden-headed Cisticola
Grey Teal	Cattle Egret	Masked Lapwing	Spotted Pardalote	Australian Reed-Warbler
Chestnut Teal	White-faced Heron	Galah	Striated Pardalote	Little Grassbird

concerned) Grounds. On the drive there, we planned the rest of our morning: "Right, Ground Parrot and Eastern Bristlebird by 7.30, then on to Budderoo Fire Trail for the Gang Gang and Stubble Quail and then be at Minnamurra Rainforest when they open the gates at 9am for the Lyrebird Stampede. Everyone OK with that?" But the best laid plans.....

By 10am, we had only managed another 12 species. Surprisingly, we didn't have to go to Minnamurra for the Superb Lyrebird as a dozen or so played Russian Roulette with the car, intent on checking out the depth of our tyre treads from extremely close up. But all others had evaded us. Barren Grounds was a literal washout, with muddy tracks holding pools of water. The Budderoo Fire Trail proved extremely windy and Minnamurra, in contrast, was deathly quiet. This was definitely the low point in our day. We did get a smashing eye-level sighting of a Yellow-throated Scrubwren at Minnamurra as it tended to its surprisingly large nest, reminiscent of a Weaver-bird's. Running Total: 85

Better Lake than Never

We'd put it off for far too long. It was time to focus on waterbirds and we made a plethora of small stops before lunch which boosted our total somewhat. Memorable moments were a pair of Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo fluttering around in a small bush, making identification of their semi-barred chests very exciting (read, frustrating), and that old reliable, European Goldfinch at Pelican View Reserve just south west of the Windang Bridge. On the other side of the road, there were some wonderful sightings - a pair of Red-capped Plovers (I'd really never noticed what striking birds they are before) and later, Dave spotted a Skua-type bird coming in to land behind a sand dune. We made a dash for the beach and were rewarded with closer and closer AND CLOSER views of a juvenile Pacific Gull who must have thought he was well-camouflaged amongst his Silver cousins. I was entranced to the point where a small flock of Red-necked Stints were able to sneak up on me totally unawares to the point where they were practically tugging on my bootlaces though why they would wish to, I had no idea. Without the red at this time of year they blended in perfectly with the seashore. Just then, a rogue wave caught Penny and me as we were gazing fondly at Big Baby Gull, and as I clumped along the shore, looking down at soggy laces, I wryly saluted those stints: "Thanks for trying!" On the way back, Martin saw some Little Terns flying in to one of the small sand islands and that was a really good moment. They hadn't been there on the way in. Running Total: 101

After lunch at Windang (pitta bread and magpie washed down with fizzy Cisti Cola), and a windy blank at Purry Burry ("Hurry!") Point, we entered the final straight: Robertson's Lookout (our afternoon tea stop - warning: the champagne Twitchathon can be fattening) where, this year, the Peregrine Falcon did not let us down, though the sighting was nanoseconds long, A White-bellied Sea-Eagle's arching wingspan was unmistakable a mile high and those 'Topknotch' Pigeons were in evidence again. Running total: 105

4pm Bibbity-bobbity-boo!

A five-minute bushwalk along the Mt. Keira Ring Track brought us, in the closing moments, what we had thought was going to be our biggest dip of the 24 hours - a pair of matching Eastern Spinebills, looking glorious in the afternoon sun. Then the big push to 4 pm at the Botanic Gardens. Although we had located a Tawny Frogmouth here previously in the week, Penny managed to find us another one which promptly realised it was rumbled and comically shuffled sideways to merge with the tree-trunk. A Green Catbird in the rainforest section (my sole contribution) and an inauspicious ending (Mallard in the pond) brought us to a grand total of 109 species as the clock struck 4 pm and we all turned back into normal people! A celebratory glass of bubbly in the pergola, where swallows were stuffing the yellow gapes of their voracious offspring, made us very giddy, as much a response to the release from the 'birdcage' as it was to the alcoholic content. What about next year? Watch this space!

Pacific Black Duck	Royal Spoonbill	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Welcome Swallow
Crested Pigeon	Black-shouldered Kite	Rainbow Lorikeet	Noisy Miner	Common Blackbird
Australian Darter	Whistling Kite	Crimson Rosella	Grey Butcherbird	Common Starling
Little Pied Cormorant	Swamp Harrier	Eastern Rosella	Australian Magpie	Common Myna
Great Cormorant	Little Eagle	Laughing Kookaburra	Grey Fantail	House Sparrow
Little Black Cormorant	Nankeen Kestrel	Dollarbird	Willie Wagtail	

Croome

Spotted Dove	Eastern Koel	Yellow Thornbill	New Holland Honeyeater	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Australian White Ibis	Channel-billed Cuckoo	Brown Thornbill	Eastern Whipbird	Red-browed Finch
Silver Gull	Azure Kingfisher	Lewin's Honeyeater	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	
Long-billed Corella	Satin Bowerbird	Little Wattlebird	Silvereye	

Macquarie Pass

Southern Boobook				
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Barren Grounds, Jamberoo Mountain Road, Minnamurra Rainforest & Budderoo Fire Trail

Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	Superb Lyrebird	Brown Gerygone	Rufous Whistler	Pied Currawong
Australian King Parrot	White-throated Treecreeper	Golden Whistler	Grey Shrike-thrush	Eastern Yellow Robin
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Yellow-throated Scrubwren			

Whyjuck Bay & Windang

Little Egret	Eastern Curlew	Little Tern	Pacific Gull	Red Wattlebird
Pied Oystercatcher	Common Greenshank	Caspian Tern	Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo	Figbird
Red-capped Plover	Red-necked Stint	Crested Tern	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	European Goldfinch
Bar-tailed Godwit				

Botanic Gardens, Robertson's Lookout & Mt. Keira Ring Track

Northern Mallard	Topknot Pigeon	Peregrine Falcon	Green Catbird	Eastern Spinebill
Brown Cuckoo-dove	White-bellied Sea-eagle	Tawny Frogmouth		

Unique parrot needs protection: scientists

The West Australian November 23, 2010, 4:16 pm

A type of West Australian parrot has been found to be a distinct species from its eastern counterpart and needs special protection as one of the world's rarest birds, scientists say. Only about 110 of the western ground parrots are known to survive in the wild. An Australian research team used DNA from museum specimens up to 160 years old to reveal that populations of the parrots in eastern and western Australia were distinct from each other. The team, led by Australian Wildlife Conservancy's Stephen Murphy, has concluded that the western populations should be recognised as a new species, *Pezoporos flaviventris*. Dr Murphy said the western ground parrot had declined rapidly in the last 20 years and there were only about 110 birds surviving in the wild, most of them in one national park. It was now critically endangered and one of the world's rarest birds, he said. Allan Burbidge of WA's Department of Environment and Conservation said a single wildfire through the national park or an influx of introduced predators, such as cats, could rapidly push the species to extinction. "There is now an urgent need to prevent further population declines and to establish insurance populations into parts of the former range," he said in a statement. Director of CSIRO's Australian National Wildlife Collection, Leo Joseph, said that even after 200 years of study, scientists were still recognising new species of birds in Australia. The team's findings have been published this month in the international conservation research journal *Conservation Genetics*.

Rosalind Badgery

Barbara Hales

Sadly our dear friend Rosalind died peacefully after a short illness in Bowral Hospital 24th November, 2010. Illness had forced her to move into a Bowral retirement cottage earlier in the year but she soon physically required assisted care. When Brian and I visited her for the last time around August she was still the same old friendly, warm, witty and positive Rosalind we have always known and will remember. Obviously being in Bowral isn't what she would have chosen but she said she was resigned to it and seemed content and we spent a lovely afternoon together reminiscing before she walked us out to our car with the aid of her walking frame to wave us off in her usual companionable manner.

It must have been around 1981 when we first met Rosalind through IBOC after other members made enquiries of various property holders in the Wombeyan Caves area for permission to walk on their land to look for birds. Rosalind generously welcomed us to her property "Wanganderry" and so the friendship with IBOC began and since that time we have held various camps and walks with her. In addition to those outings a smaller group of us became involved in collecting data for the first edition of the Atlas of Australian Birds and Wanganderry was one of our survey sites and Rosalind would invariably join us. That was a twice a year five year exercise and when the official survey finished we didn't want to end our visits as they had become a highlight in our year and the friendship had blossomed. So we continued meeting, arriving early in the day to drive to various locations observing the birds and sharing morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and swapping stories and laughs along the way and Rosalind would share her vast knowledge of the flora with us too. We invariably strolled through the garden around the house being warned/welcome by Twinkle her dog and often finished up with a cuppa.

Rosalind was a very self sufficient, independent lady and had run the property on her own since 1975 but she still found time to be involved with the church, Red Cross, Wollondilly Fire Service, Throsby Park and various wildlife and nature groups

We count ourselves incredibly lucky to have met Rosalind and for her to have shared Wanganderry and Ben Har with us and we are going to miss our visits with her so very much but we do have lots of wonderful, lasting memories to keep of such a delightful, charming and admirable lady.

Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve – *Magnificence of the Mallee*

28th September to 1st October 2010

By Linda Cohen

Introduction

Gluepot Reserve is a 54,000 ha conservation reserve of intact mallee located near the River Murray about 64km north of Waikerie in South Australia. It was originally a station under pastoral leases for 120 years, and had a reputation as one of the best wool blocks in Australia (McDuike 2006). Gluepot was purchased by Birds Australia in 1997, (originally with the aim of protecting the habitat of the Black-eared Miner), and is managed by volunteers with the aim of “effectively managing a large, internationally significant area for biodiversity conservation” (Birds Australia 2010b). It is home to 18 nationally threatened species of birds (of a total of 197 bird species so far recorded) including the Black-eared Miner, Malleefowl, Red-lored Whistler, Regent Parrot, Scarlet-chested Parrot and Striated Grasswren. An additional 17 species of regionally threatened birds also live there, including the Major Mitchell Cockatoo and the Hooded Robin. The diverse vegetation at Gluepot also supports other important wildlife, including 53 species of reptile and 12 species of Bats, making it one of the “few areas of the world that support such a concentration of threatened species” (Birds Australia 2010a). This makes it quite an important area for our threatened species as well as a great place to see lots of birds.



Linda at the Gluepot



Entrance Road

I was lucky enough to spend a few days here as part of a recent holiday to Adelaide to see my family. I didn't really have any expectations except that I was hoping to see a few new birds (anything really!!) and enjoy a few days at one with nature. I knew it was in the middle of nowhere so I was expecting it to be nice and peaceful.

“Bush Camping”

I went with my parents (Graeme and Sylvia Cohen) and we took our Avan with us, and it was a bit of a trek just getting there – there is 50km of dirt road from the main highway to get to the entrance of the Reserve – so it is not recommended in wet weather! (hence the name “Gluepot”). At last I felt I was getting right into the bush and away from people and lots of traffic. There are several camping grounds spread out across the Reserve so you don't have many neighbours. We stayed in “Babbler” (Mum had stayed there before and really liked it) and I was hoping that there would be babbler hopping around the campsite ... actually the only bird I saw in the campsite was a Grey Butcherbird, but I did see both the White-browed Babbler and the Chestnut-crowned Babbler on nearby walks. These were both new birds for me so that was pretty exciting. The only facilities available for campers are drop toilets (no showers!) – so you need to bring your own food and water and be prepared to “rough it” for a few days. I figured almost anything was worth it to be alone in the bush and to see a few new birds.

Significant Sightings

One of my favourite sightings was the Splendid Fairy-wren. I have always wanted to see this bird as I'm really fond of Wrens and blue is my favourite colour – so I figured that to see an all-blue Wren would be pretty special. I convinced my mother Sylvia to come out on a quick “reconnaissance” walk in the late afternoon the day we arrived as I didn't want to waste any precious time. Actually it was a pretty good walk given the circumstances. It was the “Babbler North” walk (2.5km – right near the campsite) and early in the walk we identified several Chestnut-rumped Thornbills. This was really exciting as this was a new bird for both of us and usually I find the Thornbills very difficult to tell apart. (I tried to photograph them but they were too small and moved much too quickly). Later in that same walk we spotted the White-browed Treecreeper (another new bird!). By this stage, I was really stoked and happy to head for home – until I heard some noise in the bushes. “That sounds like Wrens” I told Mum and headed off, determined to stalk them down. Sometimes patience and perseverance do pay off – after a couple of false starts we finally found them hopping around some low bushes. Every time they dropped out of sight I crept a bit closer until I was just a couple of metres away. To see them so close was breathtaking. And they were very beautiful with the last rays of sun catching their brilliant blue feathers. The male was particularly cooperative (such a welcome change) and sat up on top of the bushes for ages.



Babbler walk country

I was determined to see as much as possible in the short time I had, so the following day we went on several walks, first the “Babbler South walk” (3km) and then the “Grasswren tank” walk (6km). We also checked out both “Picnic Dam” and “Froggy Dam”. My most exciting moment here was seeing several Brown-headed Honeyeaters feeding 3 immatures in a tree near Grasswren tank. This was a new bird, and seeing the immatures as well was doubly exciting. At Picnic Dam I was lucky enough to see the Splendid Fairy-wren once more. It is very satisfying to have several sightings of a new bird to imprint it on your mind. Other interesting birds from the day included the Rufous Whistler, Yellow-plumed Honeyeater, Jacky Winter (on a nest), Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater and Red-capped Robin. However the real thrill of the day was yet to come. We had driven out to see the remains of Old Gluepot Homestead and its underground cellar (built to escape the extreme heat) and were on our way home when I saw something interesting running through the bushes. We stopped and jumped out – and were rewarded with a beautifully clear sighting of a pair of Banded lapwings with 2 chicks. They were unmistakable and I never thought I would ever see them.



Birdhide with water trough

Spread out across the 14 marked walking trails are 5 bird hides overlooking elevated, shaded water troughs. In theory this sounds pretty good – just hang out in the hides for a while and wait for the birds to come to you. I was hoping to see lots of interesting birds at the water troughs – but things were pretty quiet at all of the hides we visited (maybe we weren't up early enough in the morning). However we did see a pair of Mulga Parrots come in to feed on the ground at the bird hide on “Whistler walk” (6km) the following day. This was lovely, and it was one of the few times I was able to get a



Mulga Parrot m

photo so I've included it here. Not long after that, we went wandering around trying to track down the owner of a beautiful bell-like call that we had been hearing for 2 days. We couldn't believe it when we finally saw a smallish bird with a raised crest calling from a dead branch at the top of a tall tree. Mum knew instantly what it was: "That's a Crested Bellbird!" she exclaimed, "I've always wanted to see one and I never thought I would". (It was a pretty little bird – I have always been very attached to birds with crests and I still get excited when I see the Red-whiskered Bulbul in my garden). Fate must have smiled on us as the next day we saw a pair of them building a nest in a tall tree ...

We saw several other memorable birds on the "Whistler walk", including the Red-lored Whistler (one of the 18 nationally threatened birds at Gluepot so this was a real highlight), Australian Ringneck (Mallee form), White-browed Babbler, White-eared Honeyeater, Chestnut-rumped Thornbill and Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo (I had previously seen the Shining but not the Horsfield's). I also had 2 unidentified birds – I think the first was a kingfisher (it was calling from up high in a tree a long way away with the light behind it, so all I had was the silhouette!) and the other was a patterned bird running along the ground hiding in the bushes. I followed it for about 15 minutes until I had to give up. Looking back, I think it might have been the Chestnut-backed Quail-thrush but I didn't really get a good look at it. I guess you win some and you lose some!

On the last morning, when we were due to depart, I begged and pleaded for "Just one more last walk – please". (I knew that if we went out I could stretch the walk out into a decent length, but the important thing was to get out in the first place!).

Actually it turned into our most exciting walk all week! As there "wasn't time" to go on an official walk, we just wandered along the dirt track east of the Babbler campsite. Some fellow birdwatching campers had told us that they had seen a Chestnut-backed quail thrush along there yesterday – so naturally I wanted to see it too! This was really the main reason for heading out ... Mum warned me that it's quite unlikely to actually find the bird you're looking for – I think she was trying to let me down lightly for when we returned disgruntled and disappointed back to camp ☹ Anyway we walked on and on, looking everywhere for this bird. They're very hard to find as they often walk around on the ground, and if startled they hide in the bushes rather than fly off. Well, we heard the Crested Bellbird calling and Mum wanted to see it again so we followed it into the bush. You know what they say – a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush! After finding a pair of them, we spotted something rather interesting sitting on a low dead branch. When I looked through the binoculars I couldn't believe it as it was the bird we had been searching for! It was the male Chestnut-backed Quail-thrush. We managed to sneak up on him, and then we saw the female on the ground. We watched them for quite a while and it was so special to see something so beautiful and so unexpected on our last day. I was now quite happy to go home as I felt there wasn't anything else that I could expect to see – and then we saw a pair of Hooded Robins sitting up singing on a dead bush. What a breathtaking end to a wonderful holiday.



Typical Vegetation

General Reflections

I was very impressed with how well everything was laid out. All of the walks are very clearly signposted, with distances and approximate walking times given. The campsite was also very easy to find. The rangers were very helpful and welcoming and the visitor information centre had lots of great information, merchandise, and a whiteboard of recent interesting (bird) sightings. It was a good feeling to be able to share some of our sightings (such as the Crested Bellbird and the Chestnut-backed Quail-thrush).

I was amazed at the diverse vegetation at the Reserve, which included over 264 plant species, of which 12% have a conservation rating in the Murray Mallee (Birds Australia 2010a). The mallee is very different to the lush rainforest of the east coast. It is a very dry area receiving a low rainfall, but the contrasting colours of the blue sky, green spinifex and red soil are very beautiful. The spinifex really amazed me as I have never seen anything like it. It is a low growing, prickly, grass-like plant growing in clumps in the sandy soil. Older plants form "rings" as the centre dies away, and some plants form a ring with a diameter over 1m! Apparently some spinifex plants can be 40 years old or more. They provide great habitat for wildlife, including the nationally threatened Striated Grasswren who nests in them (or so I believe – this was one of the birds I "dipped" out on). There's always next time!



Spinifex

It was absolutely magical and I would highly recommend it to anyone wanting to increase their bird list and/or to spend some time relaxing in the bush. Go there with an open mind and surrender to the serenity and beauty of your surroundings. Like anything, if you go somewhere expecting to see a particular species of bird you can end up disappointed – but if you have an open mind you appreciate everything that you see. I had a very memorable week and I'm already counting down until I can return – and yes, I even have the T-shirt!!

Bird Count

Even though I didn't see the Black-eared Miner, the Regent Parrot, the Malleefowl or the Striated Grasswren, I was really happy to see a couple of threatened species – such as the Red-lored Whistler and the Hooded Robin. My total bird count was 38 birds, which included 15 new birds. This wildly exceeded my expectations so I was really happy. My full bird list follows.

Gluepot Reserve - September/October 2010

Emu	Striated Pardalote	Crested Bellbird * - pair at nest
Common Bronzewing	White-eared Honeyeater	Grey Butcherbird
Banded Lapwing * - pair and 2 immatures	Yellow-plumed Honeyeater *	Australian Magpie
Galah	Grey-fronted Honeyeater *	Grey Currawong
Yellow Rosella (Crimson)	White-plumed Honeyeater	Willie Wagtail
Australian Ringneck (mallee form) *	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	Australian Raven
Mulga Parrot - pair	Brown-headed Honeyeater * - adult pair feeding 3 imm	Little Raven *
Horsfield's Bronze cuckoo *	White-browed babbler *	White-winged Chough
White-browed Treecreeper *	Chestnut-crowned Babbler *	Jacky Winter
Brown Treecreeper	Chestnut Quail-thrush * - pair building nest	Red-capped Robin - pair
Splendid Fairy-wren *	Red-lored Whistler *	Hooded Robin * - pair
Variegated Fairy-wren	Rufous Whistler	Tree Martin
Chestnut-rumped Thornbill *	Grey Shrike-thrush	* denotes a new bird sighting

References

Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve (2010a). "About Gluepot Reserve", *Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve* (brochure).
 Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve (2010b). "Biodiversity – Protection", *Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve website*, accessed 21/11/2010 at <http://www.riverland.net.au/gluepot/biodiv.html>
 McDuie, Marian F. (2006). *Gluepot* (DVD), Flinders University: Bedford Park, S. Aust.

Additional resources

Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve (2010c). *Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve website*, <http://www.riverland.net.au/gluepot/index.html>
 Gobbett, John (2006). *Gluepot remembered : From sheep paddock to conservation reserve*. Wakefield Press: Kent Town, S. Aust.
 Holly, Doug [n.d.]. *Sounds of Gluepot Reserve* (CD of birdcalls from 73 birds commonly found at Gluepot Reserve).

I am pleased to advise that Shellharbour Council is offering a range of free biodiversity events to residents from January to May this year. These will include guided bushwalks, workshops on attracting native wildlife to your garden and 'DIY' planting days.

We have also launched a [backyard wildlife photo competition](#) (click for further info) with some great prizes on offer - why not send in an entry?

Kind regards

Jane Lewis Environment and Recreation Officer (part time)
 Shellharbour City Council
 Phone 4221 6043 Email jane.lewis@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au
 'Building a frog pond' workshop (Venue TBC)

Find out how to build your own garden frog pond in this hands-on workshop led by a local frog expert.

Bookings for all events are essential - please call Shellharbour Council on 4221 6111 or email biodiversitycorridorinfo@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

Bird Calls of the Greater Sydney Region

with Fred Van Gessel.

If you would like to be able to identify those bird calls in your garden, in the bush or even in a dawn chorus then you won't want to miss **Bird Calls of the Greater Sydney Region** brought to you by the Birds Australia Discovery Centre.

Saturday February 5th 1.00 - 5.00pm: at the Birds Australia Discovery Centre, Newington Armory, 1 Jamieson St, Sydney Olympic Park.

Sunday February 6th 7.30am - 12.00pm: field trip to Mitchell Park

Fred is the current president of the Australian Wildlife Sound Recording Group (AWSRG), a past president and founder member of the Hunter Bird Observers Club, a member of Birding NSW and over the past 35 years has recorded over 25,000 calls of 547 species of birds. He is the producer of *Bird Calls of the Greater Sydney Region*, *Bird Calls of NE Queensland* and *Bird Calls of the Northern Territory*.

There is a maximum of 14 people so book early by returning a registration form to our Sydney office. To request a registration form, email: basna@birdsaustralia.com.au or call Pixie on 02 9647 1033. The cost is \$69 for Birds Australia members and \$79 for non-members (incl. GST).

What to bring:

- Notebook and pen (Saturday)
- Lunch, snacks, refreshments (Sat & Sun)
- Binoculars (Sun)
- Water (Sun)
- Sunblock & hat (recommended) Sun
- Wet weather gear (if wet on Sunday)
- Field Guide (Sun)
- Wear appropriate shoes for Sunday's field trip

Pixie Maloney | Administration Assistant

basna@birdsaustralia.com.au

Birds Australia Discovery Centre, Newington Armory, 1 Jamieson St, Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127

Tel: (+61 2) 9647 1033 Fax: (+61 2) 9647 2030

MEMBER'S SIGHTINGS - December 2010 January 2011

Compiled by Betty Hudson

SPECIES	NUMBER	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	1	11.12.10	Dunmore	Rubbish Dump	Peter Fackender
Peregrine Falcon	1	11.12.10	Integral Park West Dapto	Parkland	IBOC
Australian Pied Oystercatchers	2 + 2 chicks	6.12.10	Windang Lake Illawarra Entrance	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Pacific Golden Plover	30+	14.01.11	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	C Dove, B. Hales, A. Cousins
Grey Plover	1	23.12.10	Windang Lake Illawarra Entrance	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Red-capped Plover	5 + 1 chick	6.12.10	Windang Lake Illawarra Entrance	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Greater Sand Plover	1	7.12.10	Windang Lake Illawarra Entrance	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Whimbrel	1	07.01.11	Hennegar Bay Oak Flats	Estuarine	Garlicks & Hales
Eastern Curlew	6	11.12.10	Off Picnic Island Windang	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Eastern Curlew	7	14.01.11	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	C Dove, B. Hales, A. Cousins
Eastern Curlew	1	07.01.11	Hennegar Bay Oak Flats	Estuarine	Garlicks & Hales
Grey-tailed Tattler	9	16.01.11	Windang Lake Illawarra Entrance	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Ruddy Turnstone	6	14.01.11	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Sanderling	1	6.12.10	Windang Lake Illawarra Entrance	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Red-necked Stint	6	6.12.10	Windang Lake Illawarra Entrance	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Red-necked Stint	5	14.01.11	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	C Dove, B. Hales, A. Cousins
Curlew Sandpiper	3	14.01.11	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	C Dove, B. Hales, A. Cousins
Little Tern	20+	15.01.11	Purry Burry Point Primbee	Estuarine	Charlie Dove
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	6	Nov-10	Tarrawanna	Overhead	Anne & Alan Cousins
Red-rumped Parrot	6	9.11.10	Dapto	Garden	Neil Wheway
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	1	11.12.10	Integral Park West Dapto	Parkland	IBOC
Brush Cuckoo	1	11.12.10	Integral Park West Dapto	Parkland	IBOC
Sacred Kingfisher	1	13.12.10	Dapto	Garden	Neil Wheway
Dollarbird	3	11.12.10	Integral Park West Dapto	Parkland	IBOC
Dollarbird	1	18&20.11.10	Jamberoo	Garden	Betty Hudson
White-throated Gerygone	1	11.12.10	Integral Park West Dapto	Parkland	IBOC
White-throated Gerygone	1	09.11.10	Integral Park West Dapto	Parkland	IBOC
Noisy Miner	1	13.12.10	Fairy Meadow Park	Parkland	Tom Wylie
Mistletoebird	1m	25.11.10	Jamberoo	Garden	Betty Hudson
Blue Indian Ringneck	1 *	01.12.10	Kiama Downs	Garden	Judy Baker
Blue Indian Ringneck	3 *	20.12.10	Jamberoo	Garden	Betty Hudson
* these are most likely to be escapees from Aviaries					
Please keep your sightings coming in, everything you consider unusual or interesting.					Compiled By Betty Hudson

Grey Tailed Tattler - Windang



Little Tern – Primbee



By Charles Dove

I.B.O.C. 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS Continually being updated on the IBOC website

Month	Action	Date	Speaker/Leader	Venue
February	Mid week outing	9.02.11	5.00pm	Entrance Lake Illawarra Windang & Picnic Island
	Meeting	14.02.11	Michael Grey	Birding in the Bush
	Outing	Sunday 20.02.11	Betty Hudson	Huskisson Board Walk & Jervis Bay NP
March	Meeting	14.03.11		
	Mid week walk	16.03.11	Ted Simpson	Greenhouse Park Wollongong
	Outing	Saturday 19.03.11	Betty Hudson	Thirlmere Lakes & Caves Creek
April	Meeting	11.04.11		
	Mid Week Walk	13.04.11	Ted Simpson	Balgownie Escarpment
	Autumn Camp	16.04 – 23.04.11	Betty Hudson	Lake Cargellico CVP
	Outing	Sunday 17.04.11	Leader Required	Mt Pleasant section Mt Keira Ring Track
May	Meeting	9.05.11	Jodie Dunn	TBA re/waders
	Mid week Walk	11.05.11	Ted Simpson	Wollongong Botanic Garden
	Outing	Sunday 15.05.11	Charlie Dove & Jim Dixon	Bents Basin & Cobbitty
June	Meeting	13.06.11 nb Public Holiday		
	Mid Week Walk	15.06.11	Ted Simpson	Mt Nebo Kembla Heights
	Outing	Saturday 18.06.11		Heathcote N.P.
July	Meeting	11.07.11		
	Mid Week Walk	13.07.11		Spring Creek Kiama
	Outing	Sunday 17.07.11	Charlie Dove	Primbee Dune Forest
August	Meeting	8.08.11		
	Mid Week Walk	10.8.11		
	Outing	Saturday 13.08.11	Betty Hudson	Stingray Swamp Nature Reserve Penrose
September	Meeting	12.09.11		
	Mid Week Walk	14.09.11		
	Outing	Sunday 18.09.11	TBA	Tallawarra Ash Ponds
October	Meeting	10.10.11		
	Mid Week Walk	12.10.11		
	Outing	Saturday 15.10.11	Betty Hudson	Shoalhaven Heads Comerong Island
	Spring Camp	22.10.11- 29.10.11	Betty Hudson	Sawtell near Coffs Harbour
November	Meeting/ AGM	14.11.11		
	Mid Week Walk	16.11.11		
	Outing	Sunday 20.11.11	Betty Hudson	Either Drawing Room Rocks (if accessible) or Bangalee Reserve Nowra
December	Christmas Picnic	Saturday 10.12.11	TBA	
	Christmas Meeting	12.12.11		