



*"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

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 No. 290 March 2006

**ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS due 1st January each year: FAMILY \$25 SINGLE \$20 JUNIOR \$5
Bronwyn Wilson, our Treasurer, would be delighted to see you, and take a load off your mind!**

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CLUB CONTACTS

PRESIDENT: Roger Bogaert, tel: 02 4237 8742
SECRETARY: Betty Hudson, tel: 02 4236 0307
Work email: bettyhudson@menziesgroup.com.au
TREASURER: Bronwyn Wilson, tel: 02 4283 4744
EDITORS: John Cashman, tel: 02 4284 0538
email: cashmansjr@bigpond.com
Val Dolan, tel: 02 4229 6737
RECORDS OFFICER .Chris Chafer
email: cchafer@speedlink.com.a

FORTHCOMING IBOC EVENTS March 2006

CLUB

MEETING – Monday 13th March - 7.30pm Fairy Meadow Community Hall. Teresa du Bois for Jamie Harris 'Pygmy Possums et al in the forests of Tasmania.' Don't forget to bring a mug and a small plate for supper afterwards.

MID-WEEK WALK – Wednesday 15th March 5.30pm – Balgownie. Leader – Teresa du Bois. Meet at the corner of Duncan St and Brokers Rd. From Princes Highway turn left (West) into Balgownie Rd at the first lights north of the Community Hall. After 2k approx turn right at a roundabout into Foothills Rd, then turn left into Margaret St, and 1st right into Duncan St. Follow Duncan St until the tee junction with Brokers Rd. We will be walking in the bush near the power lines.

FEBRUARY MONTHLY OUTING – Sunday 18th March –Yarrawarra State Forest Robertson Leader -Betty Hudson Meet in the main street of Robertson alongside the Showground & opposite the school at **8.00am**. From here we will drive to the start of the walk. Bring a carry lunch and morning tea. Also bring a warm top layer in case it is a little cool.
Please note the early meeting time & the walk will finish around 1.30pm.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING - Tuesday 21st March 2006, at 7.30pm at the home of Tom and Joan Wylie, 5 Daphne St, Corrimal (4229 6737). All members welcome.

April 2006 NEWSLETTER Deadline for articles for the next *IBOC News* is **Friday 24th March**. Please submit your contributions early and if possible, by email, otherwise to 5 Madden St, Fernhill 2519. Special consideration for publication will be given to any contributor who wishes to take the scribe and his wife out to tea! And come to think of it, there are a couple of shows we would like to see...

From Your Committee

1. Finance Closing balance for 31.12.05 was \$1,529.22, Receipts \$200.00, Expenses Nil Closing Balance @ 31.1.06 \$1,729.22
2. The 2006 program is now being finalised and will be in the April Newsletter.
3. Agreement has been reached with SOSSA for IBOC to use their digital projector paying a small fee each time. A lap top is also available on the same basis. SOSSA has first call on the equipment.
4. 2006 camps. Venues in the Myall Lakes area or the Far South Coast of NSW are being looked at for the

Spring Camp. It is hoped to have this finalised by May. The dates are 21st to 28th October 2006.

5. We are still working to get the web site back up and running again.
6. The committee thanked Joan & Tom Wylie and Tera & Neil Wheway for the work they put in over the break compiling an electronic catalogue of all the library items, as well as sorting out the cupboards at the hall.

7. Chris Brandis is to represent IBOC on the Lake Illawarra Authority Community Forum for the northern breakwater.

Wednesday's Annual Windang Outing, 8.2.06

Chris Brandis

Some of the early birds to the meeting area found an Illawarra Mercury reporter there to do an article on the Club, photographs of members peering through their bins into the Lake yonder were taken. Hope we see how it turns out. Then there seemed to be more interest in the pair of Australian Hobbys performing aerial manoeuvres over the pines giving most great views as they perched on the top open branches before darting off again.

Some 29 wader enthusiasts finally headed off past the boulder storage area while a New Holland Honeyeater flew through and some Superb Fairywrens skulked in the vegetation, down to the sandy area. The fenced off area for the Little Terns to nest in was now occupied by Silver Gulls and a couple of Masked Lapwings while a number of small waders were noted sheltering from the strong on-shore wind near the shore line. The first group were all Red-capped Plovers but the next group also had the first Double-banded Plovers of the winter season, exhausted from their flight from New Zealand. There were also many Red-necked Stints, one carrying an orange flag on the upper right leg indicating it had been banded in Victoria, and a few Little Terns that still remained after their fairly successful breeding on the beach.

Some keen eyes sighted a White-bellied Sea-Eagle over the sea and a Nankeen Kestrel hovering motionless over Windang Island. On the walk back a few obliging Bar-tailed Godwits posed, one just changing into the reddish breeding colours and, on cue, some Caspian Terns landed on a sand island while a Grey-tailed Tattler potted around the edges.

Many then settled for the picnic tea under the pines in perfect conditions catching up on the news after the Christmas break while the Hobbys came in chattering away giving more great views.

Bird List :

Australian Gannet	Little Pied Cormorant	Little Black Cormorant
Great Cormorant	Australian Pelican	White-faced Heron

Australian Gannet	Little Pied Cormorant	Little Black Cormorant
Great Egret	Australian White Ibis	White-bellied Sea Eagle
Australian Hobby	Nankeen Kestrel	Bar-tailed Godwit
Common Greenshank	Grey-tailed Tattler	Red-necked Stint
Red-capped Plover	Double-banded Plover	Masked Lapwing
Kelp Gull	Silver Gull	Caspian Tern
Crested Tern	Little Tern	Superb Fairy-wren
New Holland Honeyeater	Willie Wagtail	House Sparrow



Bar-tailed Godwits Photo: Mike Morphett

How they brought the good News from Gents (& Ladies) to Vous.

*'I sprang for the binocs, and Joris and he
I binoced, Dirk binoced, we binoced all three...'*

While my computer skills are still up the pole, though I have been helped by Penny Potter and Chris Brandis, I am surprised and gratified at the amount of voluntary work that goes into getting the NEWS to you. The process is like this. Contributors send in their articles, lists, photos et al, and I edit, arrange them, and hopefully eventually produce a good 'copy.'

Val Dolan then proof read the 'copy' and when corrected, takes it to a printer in Wollongong, who prints, collates and staples the NEWS. Val hunted round and found a printer who is cheaper than a large firm whose last word rhymes with 'perks.' Val then takes the printed copies to our Dispatch Ladies.

Meanwhile Chris Brandis has printed an up to date list of labels of Club members and he takes these to our Dispatch Ladies too.

Norma Almond, whose husband was the first Treasurer of the Club, and long time member, Peg McKinlay meet, have a chat and a cup of tea, fold all the copies, put them in envelopes, and put on the labels. Norma then takes these to the Post Office, and the postman delivers them to you.

Three cheers for Penny, Val, Norma, Peg and Chris...Hip Pip..

At present Penny is also looking after the email NEWS and there are still some computer problems or scribe compkukterk Ahh! operating problems to be sorted out, but..

Book Review. "What to do about Wild Neighbours?"

Danie Ondinea

There's a great new book around which many bush habitat managers and restorers may find very helpful. Ian Temby's *Wild Neighbours: the humane approach to living with wildlife* (2005) published by Citrus Press has a really clear, accessible, scientific take on some of the problems, and solutions, to community/wildlife interactions. Many species or groups are listed, with some natural history information,

public health issues, problems and solutions such as tolerance, exclusion, habitat modification, repellents, scaring devices and trapping.

As well as other wildlife, there are short sections on Birds of Prey, Brush Turkeys, Butcherbirds, Cockatoos, Crows and Ravens, Currawongs, Ducks, Ibis, Koels, Kookaburras, Lyrebirds, Magpies, Magpie-larks, Mynas, Noisy Miners and Bell Miners, Parrots, Pigeons and Doves, Plovers or Masked Lapwings, Seagulls or Silver Gulls, Sparrows, Starlings, Swallows and Martins, Wattlebirds and Other Large Honeyeaters.

It answers many of the tricky questions and would seem a great reference for Council bushland managers and others who are frequently asked how to deal with perceived problem introduced and native wildlife. It's scientifically-based, really well set out, full of interesting information, thoughtful and respectful of the wildlife.

It can be ordered from Florilegium in Glebe on (02) 9571 8222 or email Florilegium@tpg.com.au
Ian Temby has done impressive work on living with wildlife for Victorian natural resources departments over many years and has recently been working on his PhD looking at the management of Silver Gulls."

Baby Elephant Walk

At the February meeting Nic and Daphne Van Oudshoorn talked about their trip to South Africa and the birds and animals they saw.

They started their journey in Addo to observe and document the elephants in this region. By the 1800's there were about 400 elephants remaining in Addo and this number continued to decline until only 11 elephants remained. Thankfully this herd is increasing in numbers due to the purchase of land and the breeding program. Quite a few of the female elephants in this area are missing tusks due to inbreeding.

Apparently dung beetles have right of way on the roads in this area. I suppose if they were squashed it would give new meaning to: "eat s!*t and die".

Nancy Urban



Nic and Daphne then travelled to the Kruger National Park. This Park is as large as Wales. Some of the birds and animals spotted were: Green-backed Heron, Ox Peckers that spend most of their time on the back of animals, Bee Eaters, Blue Wazbills, Burchills Starlings, Pied Kingfisher, Golden-tailed Woodpecker and the African Paradise Flycatcher that has an impressively long tail. Nic and Daphne saw some amazing animals in the wild. A few they saw were elephants, lions and a leopard that went to all the trouble to kill an animal and drag it up a tree, only for the dead animal to slide back down and get eaten by hyenas.

Nic and Daphne then travelled to Johannesburg and stayed on a property that has the largest collection of fowl. The owner travels the world buying fowl to add to his collection. Some of the birds on the property they saw were: Flamingos, Ross's Goose, Pelicans and ducks. Visiting a place like South Africa, and viewing the landscape and animals in the wild would be exciting and awe inspiring. It was also great to see a video on computer of the elephants and their behaviour, and of ducklings. It was a great talk.

Can't Sleep! Worried! Is it that you haven't paid the Club Subscription yet? See Bronwyn Wilson or send your cheque to her at 8 Wellington Drive, Balgownie. 2519. Then, Ahh! Blessed sleep!

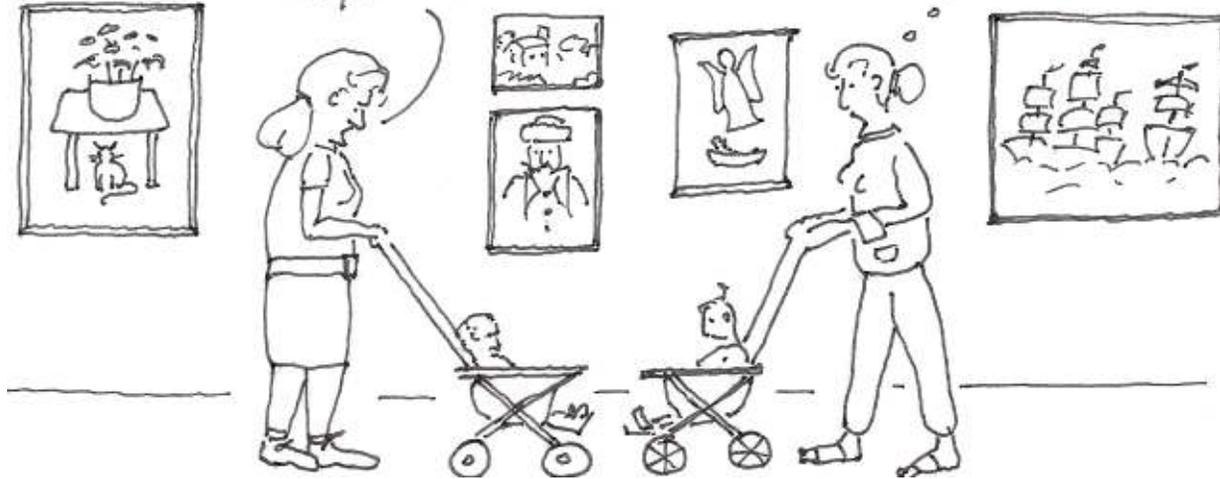
ILLAWARRA'S EPONYMOUS BIRDS

Mike MORPHETT

When engrossed in your pursuit of birds, have you at times wondered how some species or races have been named after certain people and about the identities of those individuals behind the eponyms? Could you imagine your surname being given – probably posthumously, so you didn't have much choice in the matter – to a particular species that you had formed a very close attachment to through your extensive studies and conservation efforts or that you had discovered and verified as new? Here's a challenge for IBOC readers: Which club member would you match with a particular bird, giving it that person's name and why? One example that immediately came to my mind was Hales's Puffin or *Fratercula arctica halesi*. From their research, Bo Beolens and Mike Watkins concluded that the best way to gain such honour is through discovery (though bird extinctions are now outstripping new findings), by being "a Victorian British gentleman with leisure time to spend in quiet study or world exploration, or a Victorian British doctor – either devoting your spare time to natural history or taking paid employment as a ship's surgeon". According to their findings, hummingbirds and antbirds are clearly the bird families that have attracted the most eponyms, whilst John Gould, Charles Darwin, and the two Sclaters, father and son, feature most among the personages, sharing some 66 bird varieties. Worldwide, Boelens and Watkins have catalogued over 2000 bird species and over 1000 individual people whose names have been given to birds. In our geographical region I've traced just 19 recorded bird species, though some of which we'd be lucky to see, and the eponyms of 17 people, one of whom has special significance to IBOC. Of the avians, seabirds comprise the clear majority, whilst there are only two passerines.

We decided to name ours after the famous 15th century Flemish painter

Sounds like eponymous bosh to me!



Audubon's Shearwater: Breeding on tropical islands in the Pacific, it's a rare visitor in our region. Known as the father of American ornithology, John James Audubon (1785-1851) was a notable artist, collector and author. He was born illegitimately to a French naval captain and a French girl who worked at the latter's San Domingo sugar plantation in Haiti and died shortly after his birth. Adopted by Captain Audubon and his wife in France, he was later sent as a teenager to manage the family's plantation near Philadelphia. There he met and married Lucy, who was a pillar of support to him. They moved to England, where he gained much success, especially in the publication of his four-volume *Birds of America 1827-1838*, containing life-size avian illustrations.

Baillon's Crake: Here it is scarce and nomadic, frequenting reedy freshwater wetlands. Jean Francois Emmanuel Baillon (1744-1802) was a French lawyer, collector and naturalist from Abbeville, like his son, Louis. The adoption of his name was recommended by the RAOU in 1978 because of its general use elsewhere.

Buller's Albatross (a rare winter visitor and named Mollymawk in New Zealand, where they are divided into northern and southern varieties) & **Buller's Shearwater** (a scarce summer visitor): Both species breed on islands off New Zealand, the latter confined to Poor Knights Island. The son of a Wesleyan missionary and magistrate in the Bay of Islands, Sir Walter Lawry Buller (1838-1906) became a magistrate himself in Wellington in 1862 and, ten years after his knighthood in 1886, served as a government minister for three years. Besides being much involved in Maori affairs, he became the country's foremost ornithological scholar, publishing his *Essay on the Ornithology of New Zealand* (1865) and *History of the Birds of New Zealand* (1871) before being elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Cook's Petrel: another New Zealand islands breeder, where it has the Maori name of Titi. Much has been written about the English navigator and explorer, Captain James Cook (1728-1779), who, accompanied by a group of scientists, including Joseph Banks, discovered our east coast in 1770 after circumnavigating North and South Islands. It was the first of his three South Pacific expeditions for the British Admiralty and en route took in observations in Tahiti of the transit of Venus at the request of the Royal Society.

Gibson's Albatross: This bird is the most abundant of the 'wanderers' in our region and is generally smaller and paler. It was given special status by Robertson and Nunn from *Diomedea exulans* race to *gibsoni*, whilst some consider it conspecific with the Antipodes Albatross. Endemic to the Auckland Islands of New Zealand, it is thought to range across the South Pacific in the non-breeding season. Known to us as Doug, John Douglas Gibson (1925*-1984) had a deep interest in seabirds, their ecology and distribution. His project of banding wanderers off our coastline far from their breeding islands, begun in 1956, was the first successful attempt of its kind with pelagic birds. Together with the NSW Albatross Study Group (out of which grew SOSSA in 1994), he proposed a unified system for describing the plumage of the larger varieties, thus aiding field identification, which became known generally in 1967 as the 'Gibson Plumage Index' (GPI) or 'Gibson Code'. Numerical values were given to particular degrees of coloration on the back, head, inner wing, and tail: 1=solid brown whilst 6=all white. Illawarra's premier ornithologist, skilled in taxidermy and photography, he was the founder member of IBOC in 1977, the same year his *Birds of the County of Camden (including the Illawarra District)* was published; the second edition came out in 1989. [*Beolens and Watkins evidently couldn't ascertain details of Doug's birth year and inserted a question mark

in their book. I will put their records straight!] a later NEWS

To Be Continued in

Bird List for Abrahams Bosom Walk 18.02.06

Pacific Black Duck	Little Pied Cormorant	Great Cormorant
Eastern Reef Egret	White-bellied Sea eagle	Silver Gull
Crested Tern	Rainbow Lorikeet	Australian King Parrot
White Throated Needletail	Laughing Kookaburra	Superb Fairy Wren
Spotted Pardalote	Striated Pardalote	White Browed Scrub Wren
Brown Gerygone	Brown Thornbill	Yellow Thornbill
Red Wattlebird	Little Wattlebird	Lewin's Honeyeater
Eastern Spinebill	Eastern Yellow Robin	Eastern Whipbird
Golden Whistler	Grey Shrike-thrust	Black-faced Monarch
Leaden Flycatcher	Grey Fantail	Grey Butcherbird
Pied Currawong	Satin Bowerbird	Red-Browed Finch
Fairy Martin	Red-whisked Bulbul	Bassian Thrush

Bits and ...

Metal bands used by the US Government to tag migratory birds have been changed. The bands used to bear the Washington Biological Survey address, abbreviated to 'Wash. Biol. Surv' until the agency received a letter.....'Dear Sirs: While camping, I shot one of your birds. I think it was a crow. I followed the cooking instructions on the leg tag and want to tell you that it tasted horrible.'

Readers Digest June 05 , as reported in the Sunraisia B O C The Rainbow Bird Feb 06

Flies, flies and more flies, a trip to Birdsville.

Chris Brandis

Chris Chafer and I set off for a trip to Birdsville on the last day of September, last year, and noted how lush the land appeared through Cowra and on to Cobar where we had a quick look around. There were White-winged Trillers every where, Crimson Chats on the ground and a Pied and a Painted Honeyeater moved through. After a quiet night in the caravan park we headed off through White Cliffs with the country getting drier and drier looking to an overnight stop at Mt Wood, which we remembered from 1988 as a great spot but it was now almost desolate and the flies were becoming a nuisance.

Next day we drove through Sturt NP, sighting Gibberbirds in some larger rocky gibber with some vegetation and had lunch at Fort Grey, where the flies had now forced us to wear nets. Ever tried eating lunch through a net ? The eucalypts at Fort Grey were extremely stressed and virtually the only birds were Yellow-throated Miners who scrounged for tit bits. We carried on through Cameron's Corner to the large dunes past Bollards Lagoon and soon had sightings of Eyrean Grasswrens, thanks to Chris's great hearing, and Banded Whiteface, but the flies had reached plague proportions. We camped on a clay pan by the dunes that night but the threat of a thunder storm had us packing up in the dark at 2 am and then sleeping in the car by the road till day break. A walk around the dunes gave more great views of Eyrean Grasswrens although flies trying to get into your eyes behind your bins, ears and mouth were very aggravating. We spotted the first of many Cinnamon Quail-thrushes at the base of a dune as we made our way past Merti Merti on the Strzelecki Track, now really a road suitable for 2 wheel drives. A brief stop at the Strzelecki Creek crossing indicated how stressed the area was as this was well vegetated when I went through in 1991 and full of bird life. At the Monticollina Bore there were a few water birds such as Black-winged Stilts and Australian Spotted Crake as well as some Sharp-tailed Sandpipers and a Common Greenshank and out in the small sand hummocks a brief view of Eyrean Grasswrens. We settled in for

what we thought would be a peaceful night with a few other travellers until a bash arrived with over 40 cars. They set up a marquee and, to our surprise, had a band with an MC that went till nearly midnight with fire works at the interval. Bleary eyed we set off in the morning, stopping at Mt Lyndhurst Station to get permission to enter the property, cost a mere \$20, and then entered at the T&T site. As we entered we noted 2 Thick-billed Grasswrens perched in a low bush for a minute or so before bounding off and then a quick search of the rocky area to the south produced a family of Chestnut-breasted Whiteface, a striking bird with pastel shades of chestnut and grey and some Rufous Fieldwrens along the dry creek. Several more sightings of Thick-billed Grasswrens were glimpses of the birds bounding at high speed between blue bush clumps. As camping here is not permitted on the site we moved on to Marree checking out the ochre pits and the Farina ruins on the way, then booking into the caravan park and, instead of waiting till the sun went down and the flies went to bed before preparing dinner, we had a meal in the fly free hotel.

Heading up the Birdsville Track, again a wide smooth road, visiting some interesting sites besides the road including the Clayton Wetlands where Clamorous Reed-Warblers, Little Grassbirds and a Brolga had found this oasis. They also had a large warm spring water fed bath set up for hot weary travellers, a great way to get relief from the flies. Further on we crossed the 5 Km wide flood plain of the Cooper Creek and latter sighted numerous Gibberbirds beside the road as well as pair of striking Inland Dotterels and numerous Australian Pratincoles but little else. We set up camp at Mungerannie besides the lagoon where Avocets and Black-winged Stilts appeared to be breeding. In the sand dunes behind Mungerannie we sighted more Eyrean Grasswrens in the afternoon but the wind in the morning kept them out of sight but the White-winged Fairy-wrens were still obvious. The kids of the family camped nearby had breakfast in the toilet block to get away from the flies while the parents sat in the van with the motor running and the air conditioner on.

To be continued in a later NEWS

April School Holiday Camp 22nd to 29th April 2006 **Tumut Riverglade Caravan Park,**

The caravan park is situated on the banks of the Tumut River on Snowy Mtns Hwy 1 km west of Tumut Post Office, on the Main Road. Tumut is best accessed from Wollongong via the Hume Hwy to Yass and then Gundagai. For cars leave the Hwy at Gundagai and take the minor road from Gundagai to Tumut 34km, or for those with caravans the best access is to continue a few km further south along the Hume Hwy to the Snowy Mts Hwy turn off to Tumut. Time approx 4hrs from southern Wollongong. Both roads are well signposted.

Bookings need to be made direct to Riverglade on 02 6947 2528, mentioning that you are with I.B.O.C. The last remaining 3 cabins have been provisionally booked in Betty Hudson's name and you will need to mention this. **These cabins are only reserved until 10th March**, so get in quickly. Please advise Betty H when you book a cabin so that the ones not booked by 10th March can be cancelled.

Powered sites	\$20 per night for 2	\$8 for each extra person (7 th night free)
Unpowered sites	\$16 per night for 2	\$8 for each extra person (7 th night free)
Cabins with ensuite	\$60 per night for 2	\$8 for each extra person
	NOTE cabins largest sleeps up to 6 people	

All members intending to go to the camp are responsible for making their own bookings and payment arrangements with Riverglades. All members intending to attend are requested to put their names on the list at meetings or to notify Betty on 4236 0307 or by email.

If Caravan Park cabins do not appeal there is a great variety of accommodation available in Tumut. Contact Betty or visit Tumut's web site for more information.

BIRDING ABROAD

David and Elizabeth Winterbottom have been going overseas to look at birds and other things. Here is a vignette from a voyage in October 2003.

Skeleton Coast

Driving to the coast through arid country from Windhoek, the capital of Namibia, we frequently saw the enchanting Pale Chanting Goshawks, as well as many other raptors – Rock and Greater Kestrels, Black-chested Snake-eagles and a magnificent Martial Eagle. Small herds of Springbok and Oryx grazed near the road, and Ostriches stalked away. A party of Meerkats, always a joy to see, moved quickly out of harm's way.

Once we got to Walvis Bay we found, to our surprise, that it was crammed with birds. There were tens of thousands of Flamingos, both Greater and Lesser, some nearby and others away in pink lines as far as the eye could see. In and among were a few Red-necked Phalaropes and, around the edges of the lagoons, waders. We saw Ruff, Curlew Sandpipers, Little Stints, Greenshank, Sanderlings, Three Banded Plovers and Bar-tailed Godwits. There were also heaps of African Black Oystercatchers and a single European Oystercatcher for good measure.

In the water were Black-necked and Great Crested Grebes with Cape Kelp, Grey-headed and Hautlaub's Gulls overhead. Out to sea were skeins of Cape Gannets and multitudes of Cape Cormorants with the odd Petrel or Shearwater further out. To our delight, an African Penguin and a pod of Dolphins passed by close to the shore.

On a disused pier we found another mass of Cape Cormorants with a few Crowned Cormorants in and among. Over the sea were hundreds of little Black Terns. The land may be a desert, but the sea is super-abundant.

Travelling north we stopped by lichen fields set in a featureless stony desert. Apparently fog drifts inland sufficiently often to keep them alive. A few drops of water brought "dead" plants to life in minutes. Gray's Lark is the common bird, but there were not many about.

We visited the nearby Cape Cross seal colony with animals so close one could almost touch them. It was a hot day and soon most seals were in the water, floating close inshore with their tails out, looking for all the world like a mass of kelp swaying in the swell. Ruddy Turnstones and a White-fronted Plover scavenged through the colony, and with the Black-backed Jackals helping with the cleaning up, the stench was almost tolerable!

What Birdo is that ?

1. This man had a workshop three k in the escarpment, or is he stringing us a line ?
2. This couple celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary at the Cowra Camp ?
3. This lady is studying the brains of rats. Good grief ! What for ?
4. This lady celebrated her 21st by 3.333 birthday at the Styx River camp ?

1 T Wylie Esq. Fisherman, handyman, good friend and the life of the party 2 Tera and Neil Wheway, and Neil knows he is still in seventh heaven. 3 Teresa du Bois is studying possible medical effects of schizophrenia at UOW, for her Ph D 4 Our capable and efficient Secretary, Betty Hudson

Unusual Records for January 2006

Chris J. Chafer

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

Species	#	Date	Location	Habitat	Observer
Australian Brush-turkey	2juv	12-Jan	Balgownie	garden	TE
Brown Quail	1	29-Jan	sth Lake Wollumboola	rank grassland	CJC
Pink-eared Duck	2	28-Jan	Tallawarra	wetland	CB
Black Petrel	1	28-Jan	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Buller's Shearwater	1	28-Jan	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Pacific Baza	5	24-Jan	Kangaroo Valley	overhead	NJ
Square-tailed Kite	1	21-Jan	Bomaderry	overhead	NJ
White-bellied Sea-eagle	2	9-Jan	Tongara	overhead	CJC
Swamp Harrier	1	29-Jan	Point Perpendicular	heathland	CJC
Grey Goshawk	1	22-Jan	Comerong Is	forest	SB
Buff-banded Rail	1	29-Jan	sth Lake Wollumboola	rank grassland	CJC
Whimbrel	5	2-Jan	Green Point, Jervis Bay	mudflats	NW
Grey-tailed Tattler	1	10-Jan	Windang	sandflats	CJC
Red-necked Stint	250	22-Jan	Comerong Is	sandflats	SB
Pacific Golden Plover	300	22-Jan	Comerong Is	sandflats	SB
Long-tailed Jaeger	3	28-Jan	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Sooty Tern	29	28-Jan	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Common Noddy	2	28-Jan	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
White Tern	1	28-Jan	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
White-headed Pigeon	2	26-Jan	Little Forest Plateaux	forest	MZ
White-headed Pigeon	2	29-Jan	Bomaderry	overhead	CJC
Powerful Owl	1	2-Jan	Green Point, Jervis Bay	forest	NW
Tawny Frogmouth	3	15-Jan	Keiraville	garden	ME
Azure Kingfisher	1	9-Jan	Macquarie Pass NP	riverine	CJC
Azure Kingfisher	1	30-Jan	Douglas Park weir	riverine	CJC
Large-billed Scrubwren	2	9-Jan	Macquarie Pass NP	rainforest	CJC
Crescent Honeyeater	1	26-Jan	Little Forest Plateaux	heathland	MZ
Tawny-crowned Honeyeater	6	29-Jan	Point Perpendicular	heathland	CJC
Crested Shrike-tit	2	30-Jan	Minnamurra Spit	forest	CB
Double-barred Finch	20	22-Jan	Menangle Park weir	woodland	CJC
Beautiful Firetail	2	26-Jan	Little Forest Plateaux	heathland	MZ
Bassian Thrush	4	9-Jan	Macquarie Pass NP	rainforest	CJC

Contributors: GB – Graham Barwell; SB – Simon Blanchfellow; CB – Chris Brandis; CJC – Chris Chafer; TE – Terri Edwell; ME – Mary Eskdale; NJ – Nigel Jacket; PM – Peter Milburn; NW – Nathan Waugh; MZ - Marnix Zwankhuizen.

Comment: Some good shorebird numbers at Comerong Is and few interesting species on the Wollongong pelagic trip and the Powerful Owl at Green Point were the only outstanding observations for an otherwise quiet start to the year. The juvenile Brush-turkeys demonstrates that at least some are surviving predation by cats.