

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER Deadline for articles for the next *IBOC News* is Thursday 24th November. Please send items to the editor, cashman5@bigpond.com (Please note our NEW email address, from mid November) or mail them to 5 Madden Street, Fernhill 2519

Black Tailed Native Hen- A First for the Illawarra

Seen at Why Juck Bay on the southern shore of Lake Illawarra on Sunday 14 October. Normally a bird of the inland with its stronghold in the Murray-Darling Basin. A bird that is strongly influenced by the boom and bust of drought and rain and that can travel long distances, appear in vast numbers and then disperse not to be seen again in the area for years. In this respect it has similar habits to Grey Teal

Martin Cocker

and both species can be good indicators of the other's presence. On the day in question there were a flock of 200+ Grey Teal in the Bay as well as 3 Marsh Sandpipers.

Look out for this bird at the margins of lakes and associated cover. Send in all your sightings. Good Birding!

Martin is our new Records Officer

Email cocker@speedlink.com.au



Black-tailed Native Hen

Photo: Martin Cocker

CROOME ROAD WALK - 10.10.07

Twentyone members gathered for a leisurely mid-week walk around Croome Road Sporting Complex: a pleasant walk as it is almost all flat easy walking on fairly wide tracks. We were fortunate to have lovely weather, overcast, then sunny but not too hot. This was the first walk Terry Edwell and I have led for the club and we were pleased we did not get anyone lost.

Michelle Rower

Croome is a large area so it was only possible to cover a small section of the complex in a morning. We were also attracted by the numbers of nesting birds we discovered along the way. There seemed to be a large number of lorikeets in gum trees close to Croome Road itself. We all got good views of Musk Lorikeets and a male Spotted Pardalote sat obligingly for us before darting into his nest hole.

During the walk we startled two hares, and enjoyed looking at two things Terry had discovered here: a Crested Pigeon sitting on the nest and the beautiful bower created by a male Satin Bowerbird – someone is missing quite a few new blue pegs. He had collected a wide variety of blue and creamy yellow items – straws, blue milk bottle plastic lids and the tamper proof rings that go with them, flowers and other small water bottle caps.

After checking out the dam and admiring the Long-billed and Little Corellas feeding on the horse training paddock a Red Wattlebird was discovered sitting on the nest at eye level close to the track. This bird sat tight and just pretended we weren't there, or maybe hoped we'd go away and leave him alone.

There seemed to be a small area where there were several nesting birds in close proximity. Two Magpie-lark's mud nests, a Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike who sat and

looked down on us as we looked up at him, a Willie Wagtail guarded his nest close by and an Olive-backed Oriole was busy nest building – a beautiful nest of fine slivers of bark woven together.

A Satin Bowerbird's nest was under construction in the fork of a tree. Several of us saw the female sitting close to the nest. We finally made it back to the oval where we had parked the cars for morning tea. After morning tea we had a wander by a creek and a Brown Goshawk flew over our heads. We also had a small flock of Topknot Pigeons circle above us.

When we returned for the reading of the morning's list, Joan at last got to see one of the Mistletoebirds she had been hearing all morning. He sat at the edge of a tree so that we all got a good view of him in the sunlight – just lovely. He and his mate entertained some of us with a game of chasings – zipping across the road and between trees with amazing speed. Overall we saw forty two species of birds.

Australian Pelican	Eastern Rosella	Willie Wagtail
White-faced Heron	Channel-billed Cuckoo	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Brown Goshawk	Laughing Kookaburra	Olive-backed Oriole
Spotted Turtle- Dove	Superb Fairy-wren	Grey Butcherbird
Crested Pigeon	Spotted Pardalote	Australian Magpie
Topknot Pigeon	Yellow Thornbill	Australian Raven
Galah	Red Wattlebird	Satin Bowerbird
Long-billed Corella	Noisy Miner	Red-browed Finch
Little Corella	Lewin's Honeyeater	Mistletoebird
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	New Holland Honeyeater	Welcome Swallow
Rainbow Lorikeet	Eastern Spinebill	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Musk Lorikeet	Rufous Whistler	Silvereye
Little Lorikeet	Magpie-lark	Common Starling
Crimson Rosella	Grey Fantail	Common Myna

Nesting Birds seen at or on nests: Crested Pigeon, Magpie-lark, Red Wattlebird, Willie Wagtail, Black faced Cuckoo-shrike (2), Olive-backed Oriole, Satin Bowerbird nest and we saw it's bower.

BITS and....

*Apologies to Betty Hudson for getting her phone number wrong in the last IBOC News, and to those to whom this caused much inconvenience (*The wrong number given was something to do with a Methodist church in Perth! Was this a spiritual intervention?*)

* Please note that from early November (in time for the December IBOC News) the editor's email address will change to cashman5@bigpond.com

Kingfisher Park Julatten

Early in the year Tom and Joan Wylie, Tera and I discussed going to Kingfisher Park after reading Shaun Dooley's book *The Big Twitch*. We flew to Cairns in early August for an eight night stay hoping to see different birds. We picked the hire car up at the airport, loaded it up with groceries and set off up the mountain, in the warmth of tropical North Queensland.

Arriving at the lodge we were warmly greeted by Lindsey Fisher. After settling in we headed off for a walk to check out the local birdlife, nearly wandering into the nearby retirement home (we weren't looking for rooms) and after being redirected, wandered into a sugar cane paddock where we spotted a Bush Stone Curlew. On returning we decided happy hour should be on the huge veranda in front of the units and so it was. Watching the honeyeaters and robins having their happy hour of home-made nectar was a good way to finish the day. We organized our stay similar to a bird camp, our routine was after the evening meal we met up to plan the next day and have a bird count. Betty, you would have been proud of us! We were given valuable information by our hosts, the Fishers, where we should be able find birds in the area. Our first morning we set off full of confidence armed with the knowledge on which track among the cane fields we should see the Blue-faced Parrot-Finch. Of course we found the wrong track and no finches. Later we found the correct one and after four trips we saw the finches. That is all except Tom (Sad! Sad! Tom)

On the way to the Mareeba Wetlands we stopped off at Lake Mitchell: what a birding paradise! It was a short drive between two gates but water birds on either side of the track. Where to look first! Jabiru, Jacana, and Magpie Geese etc. At the wetlands we paid to walk around one of the lakes; however the afternoon was quite warm, so the walk fee was transferred into a boat ride. Luckily we did because our boat driver "Chook" was a fountain of knowledge on birds and said we should see

Neil & Tera Wheway

a White-browed Crake. It was found among the water lily pads. Chook's exclamation was "we got the sucker:" he was a colourful character and loved hamming it up. Another day we had a good viewing of the White-browed Robin exactly where we had been told to look. Some road workers gave us directions where to find pardalotes and again, there they were. Very obedient birds in North Queensland! A 5am get up got us on the road for the Daintree River and an early morning bird cruise. I found it wonderful that from a boat it's possible to get really close to the birds. We had close encounters with kingfishers and Shining Fly-catchers. We heard a terrible noise sounding like a cat or person being murdered, but Chris, our guide, said it was a frog being caught and eaten. Sure enough, we saw a Nankeen Night Heron enjoying breakfast. Next day was spent up in the Daintree National Park exploring all the board walks, seeing a juvenile Cassowary and to Joan's delight, a Black Butcherbird.

After long days out it was a comfort to arrive back home at Kingfisher Park for the peace and serenity and watch the honeyeaters and robins having happy hour. Noisy Pittas wandered around along with the Brush Turkeys and Orange-footed Scrubfowl. Keith told us about the Papuan Frogmouth. We were unable find it until it was pointed out. We then saw them several times in the orchard and on the river trip. Victoria's Riflebird and the Spotted Catbird were frequent visitors to Kingfisher Park.

Our hosts took us spot lighting one night to see the Masked Owls and also spotted were three Kookaburras cuddled up on a branch. We remembered the seven that were seen at the Cowra camp a couple of years ago. Our eight days passed very quickly and were thoroughly enjoyed with 148 birds seen some with help from our friendly hosts and others. We thank Tom and Joan for their company Tera and I had many "lifers"- even Tom and Joan had "lifers" to add to their extensive bird count.

North Island of New Zealand, Travels - Tiritiri Matangi, Part 3 Val Dolan

The island of Tiritiri Matangi, 4k off the mainland in Auckland Harbour, was the site of a Maori pa before European settlement. The island was then farmed continuously until 1970. A regeneration program began in 1984 with the support of thousands of volunteers under the supervision of the Department of Conservation. In ten short years over a quarter of a million native trees were planted. Fast growing trees formed a canopy and the droppings of seed-eating birds helped to spread seed and contribute to the natural growth of the forest. Only the most resilient of native species of birds remained and the rarer ones had to be reintroduced onto Tiritiri Matangi.

Auckland is built on a series of volcanic hills... some exceptionally steep... so we were glad that the ferry operator will collect passengers from their accommodation. A scenic 50 minute cruise had us at Gulf Harbour where we collected Wendy, a local New Zealander. She had kindly agreed to provide lunch for two travellers as no food is available on the island. Wendy had participated in some of the original revegetation work and was looking forward to seeing the latest developments. Another short cruise and we were there. On disembarking we were divided into two groups, those who were confident enough to wander alone and others who had paid an extra \$6 to be taken on a guided walk. We all had shoe inspection as the good work could be quickly ruined by introduced seeds. After role call we were divided into groups of 8 and our volunteer guide told us we would be taking the Wattle Track to the lighthouse.

An excellent sighting of a dishevelled Red-Crowned Parakeet drinking at a waterhole took place less than one minute along the track. Shortly after this my travelling companion, Sally, spotted a pair of Brown Quail with several fluffy young foraging through the undergrowth, well hidden in

the deep shadows. On a more open part of the track we caught a glimpse of a N.Z. Fantail. A young boy, who had asked for this trip for his 10th birthday present, knew enough about the habits of birds to entice it back by stirring up insects from the undergrowth with a long stick then instructing the rest of us to stand still and be quiet. A bit of role reversal for many of us! We were rewarded with a perfect viewing of a North Island Fantail, typically grey and white. I'd love to say I also saw the North Island Kokako (others did!) but I was looking in the wrong direction the only time one flew across the track.

During lunch, on the tiny lawn at the lighthouse, we were able to observe a couple of very special Takahe. These birds have a bill designed for grazing and demonstrated their liking for tiny flowers that come up amongst the grass. We were warned not to feed or touch these rare and precious birds, but they were very intrusive. Our guide told us how these birds were thought to be extinct until they were rediscovered in 1948. Wendy told the story of how, as a child, she cut the photo of the discovery out of the newspaper because one of the people who found the Murchison Mountains birds was her Sunday School Teacher. In spite of the best efforts since 1948 to place Takahe on islands without predators they are proving to be slow breeders and poor parents with a high chick mortality. There are probably less than 200 individuals in existence. Superficially similar to the Pukeko (Swamp Hen) they are heavier and longer with shorter, thick legs and a massive bright red bill for grazing on herbs, ferns etc.

After lunch Sally, Wendy and I walked down Wharf Road with the assistance of a map of the island purchased at the well stocked volunteer run shop ... no food but a very welcome free tea or coffee. We easily found the Hobbs Beach Track and a short way along the track there were

nesting boxes with glass tops for viewing penguin chicks. These didn't look or smell too inviting so we moved on in time to see a glorious Saddleback alight on a flax flower in full sunlight. As this is a bird that prefers the forest our view was very special with its chestnut and black feathers glowing spectacularly. It belongs to the endemic family of NZ wattlebirds and is 25 cm long. There were many waterbirds around the beach but the only ferry was making its way to the wharf so no time for close inspection. As we returned past the nesting boxes two young volunteers were lifting one bundle of pale blue down out for weighing and inspection and it instantly

sprang into life like any infant disturbed from a nap. Due to great timing we were all able to add a Blue Penguin chick to our memorable bird list.

Back at the wharf yet another curious Takahe distracted us from the flock of Indian Myna birds who unfortunately seemed most familiar with the surroundings. However, a wonderful day in native NZ bush with native NZ birds had been made possible by the NZ Department of Conservation and a dedicated bunch of volunteers who support this open sanctuary.

TOP END TOUR

During the second half of I went on a camping trip from Darwin to Alice Springs. The tour was organised by Outback Track Tours and endorsed by Birds Australia, who provided a bird leader, Phil Brook. Seeing the Top End had long been an ambition of mine and I thought this would be an ideal way to see parts of Australia that I had not seen and a great opportunity to see new birds and learn from experts.

On the flight to Darwin I was amazed to see how much of the Top End was being burned. I knew that the traditional aboriginal people used fire management during the dry season but the scale of burning was immense. It seemed that half the land was covered by smoke.

I spent three days in Darwin having a look around. (quite an impressive city, but in summer it would be vastly different) before meeting the other passengers and crew for dinner the night before we left. There were 14 passengers (all but two were birdos) plus the bird leader, the driver and the cook.

We left Darwin on Saturday, July 14th in a 16 seat 4-wheel drive bus with trailer. The first stop was Fogg dam, a marvelous wetland area about an hour out of Darwin. We saw the first of many crocodiles on the

Graham Meany

bank of the South Alligator River as we drove into Kakadu to our first campsite at Cooina. The mosquitoes were not as bad as we had been told, but there were a few about. The main features of our stay at Cooina were Ubirr and Nourlangie with their aboriginal art and, probably the highlight of the entire trip, the Yellow Waters sunrise cruise. (absolutely brilliant!) From Cooina we traveled to Gunlom in the southern part of Kakadu, where we spent the third night.



Azure Kingfisher *Photo Graham Meany*

From there a long day's trip to Timber Creek where we embarked on a Victoria River sunset cruise and watched the boat captain feed a group of Whistling Kites and a sea eagle (a daily occurrence which was

somewhat disturbing to the birds but was applauded by other passengers who may not have realized the implications of wildlife becoming dependant on people for their food.)

From Timber Creek we crossed the WA border to Kununurra where we stayed for two days. Hoping to see Gouldian Finches we were disappointed to find that they were at Wyndham rather than Kununurra. However, we did see bustards, Sandstone Shrike-thrush and White-quilled Rock-pigeons as well as a variety of finches and a Yellow-rumped Mannikin. A cruise on the Ord River to the Argyle Dam wall was another highlight.

After Kununurra we moved on to the Bungle Bungles where we spent two nights and encountered the only really cold weather of the whole trip (night time temperatures were down to zero). Some of the travellers took a helicopter flight over the Bungles but I chickened out (I like to think that it was the \$230 that put me off, but I noticed the chopper had no doors). Those who went on the flights said it was a tremendous experience. The Bungles themselves can only be accessed by four-wheel drive vehicles or plane, which is their way of limiting tourist numbers.

Hall's Creek was our next stop and the last of 'civilisation' until Alice Springs. It was a very noisy night and what we thought was a football game turned out to be a normal Monday night at the local pub.

On our way to Lake Gregory, we diverted to have a look at Wolfe Creek meteorite

crater (apparently the second largest in the world). We then left the 'main' road and passed through a couple of Aboriginal communities before arriving at Lake Gregory where our support vehicle was waiting for us. We had been expecting it for about five days as the alternator on the bus had packed it in. Our two night stay was extended to three by popular demand because of the great birding (huge numbers of water birds, plus Yellow Chat, Brolgas, Ground Cuckoo-shrike, Diamond Dove, Budgerigars and many more).

After leaving Lake Gregory we traveled down the Tanami Track (minus air-conditioning) and camped at Rabbit Flat before moving on to our last two nights of bush camping at Newhaven Station (no Ground Parrot or Grey Falcon but we did manage to bog both bus and support vehicle about 30km from camp – I did not know that one person could know so many swear words and put them all into one sentence!) We got out eventually and spent the last day traveling to Alice Springs. We sighted two small herds of camels on the way out of Newhaven and Black-breasted Buzzards at our lunch stop at Tilmouth Wells Roadhouse.

Two days in Alice Springs – a much nicer place than I had been led to believe – included a visit to Desert Park (a must if you are in the area).

Despite a few hiccups with the vehicle it was a memorable experience with a total of about 170 species seen and about 40 new birds for me. I am saving up for the next trip.

....and Pieces

* With the back page of Unusual Sightings in this News, Chris Chafer is signing off as our Records Officer. Chris has held this position in two stints lasting more than 15 years: half of the Club's existence. Many thanks Chris. We really appreciate all your work for us and, as the records are passed on to Birds Australia, for all the birding community.

And welcome to Martin Cocker who is taking over the position ..cocker@speedlink.com.au

* Writings and Sightings from another great camp at Nymboida in the December News.

* A Plea. Some great photos are coming in. Pity we can't fit in more or have them in colour. But please 'compress' your photos before you send them ! Thanks !

The Bird Discovery Centre -

Later this year Birds Australia NSW and ACT, BASNA, are to open a centre in the Newington Armory, Sydney Olympic Park, which has recently been opened to the public on week ends. This is a fascinating heritage area and an initial orientation day was held on Sunday 16th September to familiarise prospective centre volunteers with the site and formulate some ideas in how the centre can be managed to get maximum exposure of the birding world to the many visitors and promoting our hobby. The area has some original woodlands, restored salt marsh and mangrove areas with quite an impressive bird list although many of the areas are off limits to visitors because of missing live ordinance.

Chris Brandis

Buildings 133, 132 and 131 are planned to hold the BASNA office, a library and discovery centre, (was to be “educational” but that sounded too formal) with posters specimens and prospective activities. Volunteers can opt for a 3 or 6 hour stint and further training opportunities will be made available for any one interested in promoting birding. We had a trip around the area by the small train that was used to carry the armaments to the various buildings for storage, repair, building and dismantling with a very interesting commentary on the most interesting history of the area and the small museum sites. If interested in promoting birding I can put you in touch with BASNA.

BARREN GROUNDS RESERVE 13 October 2007

Lorraine Pincus



Natural sandstone ‘bridge over untroubled water.’

Photo: Mike Morphet

Arrived at the car park, temperature read 14C, stepped out of the car and the wind was icy. Thankfully all 16 of us had plenty of layers of clothing to keep warm. The sights and sounds in the car park were

encouraging, the Eastern Whipbird was seen and heard, the friendly Grey Fantail was there to greet us, and Tom’s list was half way down the page.

We started the Griffith track past the vacant "Lodge," the ground was soft and puddles remained from the recent rain storm, and the wild flowers were giving a lovely array of colour. Just before the turn off to the "Stone Bridge" we could hear the familiar loud noise of Black Cockatoos. Three or four were seen feeding on the ground. When disturbed a flock of 20 Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos gave us a wonderful demonstration of their slow buoyant flight into nearby banksias and casuarinas to continue feeding.

The track is well marked but very overgrown. In some areas the bush grows as high as 3 metres. Many calls were heard but the bush being so dense birds were not easily seen. And they were elusive and shy too. But Brown Thornbills were seen frequently: a pair showed us their nest deep in the leaf matter at the base of a tree. Morning tea was had at the "Stone Bridge" a warm sunny spot out of the wind which

was now less intense. The temperature had improved too. It was decided to walk the full track and lunch at the picnic tables where we started. The list of birds had not increased very much, but we were all enjoying the botanical side of the walk. Most abundant was Woolsia a carpet of small white flowers interspersed with large shrubs of pink Boronia and Banksia. I saw a beautiful Waratah amongst the dark green foliage of the bush. Small specimens of 'egg and bacon', Bauera - pink bell (dog rose) grew beside the track, and small blue flowers of Dampiera and Patisonia were everywhere. Black boys, Isopogon (drum sticks) and Christmas Bells also appearing along the track.

A Black-faced Monarch was clearly seen by all who ventured the 100m to the Illawarra Lookout. Mary and I had missed the sighting, so it visited us while we ate lunch. It was an enjoyable day as always, with a mixture of wild flowers and birds. Thank you Betty for a great day.

Sightings at Barren Grounds

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Spotted Pardalote	Eastern Whipbird
Gang-gang Cockatoo	White-browed Scrubwren	Golden Whistler
Crimson Rosella	Brown Gerygone	Rufous Whistler
Eastern Rosella	Brown Thornbill	Grey Shrike-thrush
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Striated Thornbill	Black-faced Monarch
Laughing Kookaburra	Lewin's Honeyeater	Grey Fantail
Superb Lyrebird	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
White-throated Treecreeper	New Holland Honeyeater	Pied Currawong
Red-browed Treecreeper	Eastern Spinebill	Satin Bowerbird
Superb Fairy-wren	Eastern Yellow Robin	

Unusual Records for August - October 2007

Chris J. Chafer

Species	#	Date	Location	Habitat	Observer
Brown Quail	1	7-Oct	Croome Rd, Albion Park	grassland	MR,TE
Northern Giant-Petrel	1	21-Sep	Berrara	dead on beach	MM
Cape Petrel	20+	8-Sep	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
White-headed Petrel	2	8-Sep	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
White-chinned Petrel	1	8-Sep	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Buller's Albatross	1	26-Aug	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Buller's Albatross	1	15-Sep	Black Head, Geroa	inshore	BA
Osprey	1	23-Sep	Shoalhaven Heads	overhead	MPP
Pacific Baza	2	23-Sep	Balgownie	overhead	RT
Square-tailed Kite	2	21-Oct	Bargo	woodland	GB
Whistling Kite	1	2-Sep	Macquarie Rivulet, Albion Park Rail	overhead	GB
Grey Goshawk	1	30-Sep	Thirroul	garden	MM
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	7-Sep	Brownsville	urban	BOB
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	24-Sep	Regal Heights	urban	JC

Australian Hobby	1	8-Oct	Berkeley	urban	JC
Peregrine Falcon	1	4-Sep	Warrawong	urban	PN
Peregrine Falcon	1	6-Oct	Hooka Point	forest	TJW
Baillon's Crake	1	10-Oct	Blackbutt Reserve	farm dam	MR,TE
Black-tailed Native Hen	1	15-Oct	Why Juck Bay	lake edge	MC
Marsh Sandpiper	3	15-Oct	Why Juck Bay	lake edge	MC
Pied Oystercatcher	5	24-Sep	Karoo Pt. Ballarang	lake edge	LP
Red-kneed Dotterel	2	6-Oct	Hooka Point	lake edge	TJW
Red-kneed Dotterel	1	14-Oct	Comerong Island	mud flats	GB
Arctic Tern	2	22-Sep	off Wollongong	pelagic	PM
Whiskered Tern	1	29-Sep	Tallawarra	wetland	BA
Bar-shouldered Dove	5	2-Jan	Darks Forest	woodland	NM
Topknot Pigeon	26	19-Aug	Thirroul	garden	MM
Topknot Pigeon	20	1-Sep	Bulli	overhead	RM
Topknot Pigeon	50+	3-Sep	Balgownie	rainforest	RT
Topknot Pigeon	30	4-Sep	Woonona Heights	rainforest	MD
Topknot Pigeon	7	10-Oct	Croome Rd, Albion Park	overhead	MR,TE
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	3	21-Sep	Bomaderry Creek Reserve	woodland	CJC
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	2	26-Sep	North Nowra	woodland	SE
Long-billed Corella	300+	9-Jul	Albion Park, St. Joseph High	urban	BC
Musk Lorikeet	10+	7-Oct	Croome Rd, Albion Park	woodland	MR,TE
Superb Parrot	1	1-Jul	Albion Park	urban	BC
Powerful Owl	1	2-Oct	Mt Kembla	forest	RB
Sooty Owl	1	7-Oct	Macquarie Pass NP	forest	JC
Azure Kingfisher	2	2-Sep	Macquarie Rivulet, Albion Park Rail	riparian	GB
Azure Kingfisher	2	20-Oct	Lake Yarrunga Bendeela area	riparian	LP
Rainbow Bee-eater	4	24-Sep	Thirlmere Lakes NP	overhead	CJC
Large-billed Scrubwren	1	20-Sep	Bellawongarah	rainforest	BA
White-plumed Honeyeater	5	2-Sep	Macquarie Rivulet, Albion Park Rail	riparian	GB
Crescent Honeyeater	few	7-Aug	Barren Grounds NR	woodland	JM
Flame Robin	2	23-Sep	Barren Grounds NR	woodland	JM
Rose Robin	2	16-Sep	Mt. Keira	forest	RT
Logrunner	2	2-Sep	Bellawongarah	rainforest	BA
Crested Shrike-tit	2	23-Sep	Killalea State Park	forest	CJC
White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike	1	21-Oct	Bargo	woodland	GB
White-winged Triller	1	16-Sep	Cambewarra west	paddock	GD
Masked Woodswallow	few	21-Oct	Bargo	woodland	GB
White-browed Woodswallow	50+	21-Oct	Bargo	woodland	GB

Grey Currawong	3	6-Oct	Bellanglo State Forest	woodland	BA
Mistletoebird	6	6-Oct	Hooka Point	forest	TJW
Rufous Songlark	1	14-Oct	Numbaa	rural	GB

Contributors: BA - Bob Ashford; GB Graham Barwell; RB – Roger Bogaert; CB – Chris Brandis; CJC – Chris Chafer; MC - Martin Cocker; BC – Bruce Coyte; JC – Josh Coyte; GD – Gary Daly; MD – Mike Deacon; TE – Terri Edwell; SE – Sheila Emery; ME – Mary Eskdale; NM – Neil McKinlay; PM - Peter Milburn; RM – Richard Miller; KM – Kevin Mills; JM – Jill Molan; MM – Mike Morphett; PN – Peter Nolan; BOB – Bruce O'Brien; LP – Lorraine Pincus; MR – Michelle Rower; RT – Roger Truscott; TJW – Joan and Tom Wylie.

Comment: The big highlight is the first record of Black-tailed Native Hen from the region. Well done Martin Cocker for finding and reporting it. This is the 426th species recorded from the region since John Gould visited our shores in 1840.

This is my last back page after 15 years of recording. It's been a labour of love. Thanks to everyone for contributing over the years. I hope you will all support Martin who is taking over the job.