



I.B.O.C. NEWS

The Newsletter of the ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB INC.
 POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 56 FAIRY MEADOW, N.S.W. 2519

<http://www.iboc.org.au>

Founded in 1977

*" One Good Tern
 Deserves Another"*

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

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Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Photo Charles Dove

WADER COUNT – Sunday 8th November 8.30 am. at Windang. Leader – Martin Cocker.
Meet in the carpark under the pines. All welcome. Come and hone your wader identification skills. Bring your morning tea.

CLUB MEETING Monday 9th November - 7.30pm, Fairy Meadow Community Hall – IBOC's Annual General Meeting Reports, Finances, Elections etc . Long time club member **Ron Imisides** will be the Presenter for the evening. You are also invited to bring a plate of goodies for supper, and your cup too.

MID-WEEK WALK Wednesday 11th November Mt Keira Scout Camp – Leader: Joan Wylie
Meet at the Scout Camp off Mt Keira Road at **8.30am**. Bring your morning tea. Contact Joan and Tom on 4284 2051 or mobile 0407 268 279.

MONTHLY OUTING: Saturday 14th November - Various Locations Botany Bay National Park – Leader: Betty Hudson

Meet in the car park of Solander Playing Fields, immediately west of Cronulla-Sutherland Leagues Club, Captain Cook Drive Woolooware **at 8.00am**.

From Wollongong travel along the Princes Hwy towards Sydney from Sutherland, turn right at The Boulevard, Kirrawee, which then becomes Captain Cook Drive. After a roundabout at the junction with South Gammons Road, pass the next traffic lights and the entrance and parking area is immediately on the left. Bring a morning tea, and lunch which will be eaten by the cars

Contact Betty Hudson on 4236 0307 or 0432 892 945.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 19th November at 7.30pm at Tom and Joan Wylie's home, 4 Daphne Street, Bellambi. Phone 4284 2051

December 2009 Newsletter Deadline for articles for the next IBOC News is **Friday 23rd November**
Email your contributions to the editor: cashman5@bigpond.com. or post them to 5 Madden Street, Fernhill 2519

ADDITIONAL OUTING Tallawarra Ash Ponds - Sunday 29th November Leader: Chris Brandis
Meet at the small car park about 300m down the road to Tallawarra from the old highway at **8.30am sharp**.. We may have to move the cars into the ash ponds area, so those who are late will be locked out. This is a half day walk around the ash pond area and the new service track by Duck Creek. Bring morning tea.
Contact Chris Brandis on 4296 2837

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS due 1st January each year: Family \$35, Single \$30, Junior \$10.
Please pay Bronwyn Wilson, our Treasurer, by cash, cheque or mail order.

WELCOME to **Wendy Nielsen** and **Meryl Bradford** who joined the club recently: Nice to have you.

BASNA Waders Identification Workshop - Saturday 7 November at Birds Australia Discovery Centre 8.45am to 3pm **Free** Contact Pixie on 9647 1033 or at basna@birdsaustralia.com.au

Bendy Beaks !

As a variation to the Bird of the Month talks, Martin Cocker spoke and showed pictures of an unusual phenomenon called *Rhynchokinesis*. *Rhynchokinesis* is only known in cranes, shorebirds, swifts and hummingbirds. It is the ability possessed by some birds to flex or bend their upper beak or mandible. Weird ! These birds can either bend their upper mandible upwards at the tip end, or downwards so

John Cashman

that while the tips of each mandible touch, a gap opens around midpoint between the mandibles. How the birds use this ability is not known, though it has been suggested that it may have something to do with helping the bird's radar/hearing when seeking food. More common than *Rhynchokinesis* is *Prokinesis* in which the upper mandible moves at a point where it is hinged to the bird's skull.

Birds in Spring around Berry

Bob Ashford

“What are we stopping for?” asked one of the kids in the back seat. I pointed to the ginger horse in the paddock. On its back stood an Australian Raven sporting what appeared to be a large bushy ginger moustache. Seemingly oblivious to the abuse its body was receiving the horse grazed happily on while the Raven systematically tugged hair from its mane and tail. By the time he had a beakful the Raven did indeed sport a very fetching moustache! Watching the birds antics kept us all amused for several minutes until one of the kids asked “Where are we going now?”

As we drove off and climbed the bends of Berry Mountain I was asked another question “Are we there yet?” To entertain the kids I told them why October was such a great month for birdwatching. “It’s spring and birds are easy to see and hear because they are busy and too distracted to worry about us birders as they go about their courting, collecting nesting material and looking after demanding kids!”

At Cambewarra Lookout the kids ran around exploring while I gratefully sipped a latte. Almost immediately a magnificent Wedge-tailed Eagle ‘whooshed’ into view. Another slowly circled in the sky not so far away. The first one gave us patrons a reckless impersonation of one of those stomach-churning fun-fair roller coasters. Intent on impressing its mate it climbed high in the sky where it tucked in its wings and hurtled earthwards until just before the tree canopy when it would pull back the flaps and shoot skyward again. As it reached the point where gravity finally conquered motion it would tip, briefly hang in the air and then hurtle earthward again. Utterly entranced I returned to my cold latte to be interrupted by one of the kids asking ‘Can we go to Maccas?’

As they munched their way through their ‘Maccas’ I told them about the Bush Stone Curlew that Alan Henigan had emailed me about earlier. He had heard

the birds calling just above his house in Sabal Close. Bush Stone Curlews used to be found in the Shoalhaven but are now virtually extinct. Feigning great interest one of the kids asked “Can we get an ice cream?”

Pushing on I explained that the birds live and breed in woodlands where foxes find them easily and had virtually wiped them out so that in the last 50 years only a handful of them had been reported in the Shoalhaven. Phil Craven, of National Parks and Wildlife in Nowra, had called me to find out the exact location Alan had heard them. He explained that Alan had probably heard the bird’s courting calls and he wanted to play back a tape of these calls to check if they were still there. He was very excited about the possibilities of Bush Stone Curlews being back near Berry. Between chips one of kids asked “Can we go to the beach?”

On the beach at Shoalhaven Heads each kid peered in turn through my telescope as I pointed out the different species of waders that could be seen. The little Red-capped Plovers chased hoppers and flies on the surface and the large long-billed Bar-tailed Godwits probed deep in the sand for worms. I told them that the Bar-tailed Godwits breed in the Russian Arctic and Alaska and come here to rest and fatten up ready for their next breeding season. To get here some undertake the longest single-flight over-water migration in the bird world. Some fly direct from Alaska to New Zealand, a distance of 11,000 kilometres non-stop. The ones on the beach fly non-stop from the Yellow Sea in China, over 7,000 kilometres. If the winds were kind they could cover the distance in 6 – 7 days and they would lose half their body weight by the time they arrived. No Stop, Revive, Survive. No MacDonald’s. Just 7,000 kilometres in one unbelievable effort!

A voice from the back seat called as we pulled away from the beach ‘Can we get a drink?’

October Meeting :Graham Barwell and Albatrosses

John Cashman

Graham gave members at the October meeting an interesting, historical and thoughtful presentation on ‘The Albatross through the Ages.’ Graham gave us plenty of information and images of albatrosses, the different types, breeding areas, distribution, and problems that human beings can cause them. Yet in many ways the focus of Graham’s presentation was on the way human’s have reacted to albatrosses.

while the first drawing of an albatross appeared in George Edward’s Natural History of Birds in 1747. Sydney Parkinson drew an albatross on James Cook’s first voyage. Cook’s company caught, cooked and ate an albatross, boiling it in seawater, then fresh water and served with a savoury sauce. Joseph Banks noted that the NZ Maori women often wore items of albatross down, and the men wore their feathers. The albatross became part of Maori folklore and also part of Maori decoration.

The English privateer, Sir Richard Hawkins was one of the first to describe an albatross in the late 1500s,

Some were wonderfully impressed by these mighty birds. Herman Melville, of Moby Dick fame, wrote of them in 1851, as 'a regal feathery thing, unspotted, as Abraham before the angels. I bow....' but for others the bird was for sport. They shot and blasted away at every albatross that ventured near. Indeed hunting albatrosses grew in the late 19th Century. A large trade developed in albatross down, and other body parts. The Sabroan, an immigrant vessel (later moored off Balmain as a training vessel for delinquent boys) carried taxidermists to stuff the shot albatrosses. Hunting the birds grew so much that some species were in danger of extinction. From initial interest, appreciation and food, man turned to use them for sport and exploitation.

There were protests. Samuel Coleridge's 'Rime of the Ancient Mariner' was published in 1798 and an illustrated edition with the shot albatross hanging

round the gunman's neck was published in 1837. Graham thinks this poem greatly helped to present another view of the albatross. By the early 20th Century several laws and treaties were passed to protect albatrosses, but then new threats emerged from long line fishing.

Doug Gibson, the inspiration for our club, was also very active on behalf of albatrosses, and study groups to monitor and protect them were formed. Wollongong is important to the birds, as squid mate just offshore and provide food for them. The NSW Albatross study group (formed in 1954), SOSSA, a big poster, stamps commemorating them, an International Treaty in 2004, some recent books published on albatrosses, and pelagic tours have all contributed to a growing awareness of these wonderful birds. Thanks to Graham's presentation, he also did that for us.

Robertson Lookout Walk Report - 14 October 09

Wal Emery

Eleven participants assembled at the start of Queen Elizabeth Drive, Mt Keira on an overcast, slightly windy morning. A few regular faces were absent, probably on school holidays child minding duties.

Two Topnot Pigeons feeding on cabbage tree palm berries gave reason to pause, and respite from the steep climb to the top of the escarpment. As we proceeded along the level track the first bird to attract attention was the Shining Bronze Cuckoo followed up by the Black-faced Monarch and the Leaden Flycatcher, all heralding the arrival of the summer migrants, although the cooler weather did not support this. A variety of flowers were evident along the way, with a clump of a dozen or so waratahs drawing special interest.

The lookout provided a panoramic view to the east and south, with the relatively calm seas around the Five Islands showing no evidence of the tragic drama which had unfolded there a few days earlier.

Morning tea was taken at the picnic table, unfortunately in full view of the graffiti covered National Parks information board. Off again to the point of no return where the track descends 100 steps to the rainforest. A group decision was made at this point to walk out to the road and make our way back to the cars. Superb Fairy-wrens and Rufous Whistlers were sighted along the way but in general the birds seemed to be keeping their heads down in the shelter of the heath. Nerida's keen eyes discovered a Grey Fantail's nest as we descended the steps. This explained why the birds had been hanging around the spot both coming and going. In total 29 species were recorded despite the adverse conditions.

Thanks to Chris Cartledge for compiling the bird list and to all those whose company added to the enjoyment of the morning.

Sightings Robertson Lookout Mt Keira – Mid-week Walk 14 Oct 2009

Wonga Pigeon	Superb Lyrebird	Golden Whistler
Topknot Pigeon	Superb Fairy-wren	Rufous Whistler
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	White-browed Scrubwren	Grey Shrike-thrush
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Brown Thornbill	Pied Currawong
Rainbow Lorikeet	Eastern Spinebill	Grey Fantail
Australian King-Parrot	Lewin's Honeyeater	Leaden Flycatcher
Crimson Rosella	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Black-faced Monarch
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Little Wattlebird	Eastern Yellow Robin
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Eastern Whipbird	Red-browed Finch
Laughing Kookaburra	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	

Outing to Bent's Basin and Cobbity - 10th October 2009

Jill Molan

After days of gale force winds and rain, the morning dawned sunny and almost windless, if cold, on the outing to Bent's Basin and Cobbity. When we arrived at Bent's Basin, which one member described as a 'birding paradise', our leader Jim Dixon from the Cumberland Bird Observers Club was ready to take us around this unusual basin-shaped water hole in the Nepean River and introduce us to the myriad birds there. We were regaled from the time we parked our cars with the song of Scarlet Honeyeaters feeding on the eucalypt blossom, while a pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles wheeled low overhead. Later on the walk, Azure Kingfishers showed themselves in full view, and fished in front of us. Sacred Kingfishers were also busy nearby and Bell Miners called incessantly.

We moved on to the farm in Cobbity, a private property that Jim had organised access to, where we had lunch before walking around the property. Here a colony of Bell Miners were also calling. We enjoyed fine views of Double-barred Finches, more

Azure Kingfishers and also Dollarbirds. Satisfied with our day's birding, we did a bird list for the day, but Jim then also offered to take us to one more private property, a retirement complex with large grounds, if we were interested. We were eager.

Here, in addition to more Bell Miners, we had the excitement of seeing two Great Crested Grebes quite close and in wonderful breeding plumage, a first for some. Two Black Swans were feeding with seven cygnets in tow, while an Australian Hobby chased a Welcome Swallow over the lake again and again without success. While the Hobby looked faster, the Swallow had the better manoeuvrability and eluded it each time. At the end of a wonderful day we had toted up some great sightings and 88 species. Of interest, we did not see a Jacky Winter which had been there last winter. Thanks to Jim for leading the club on this terrific outing. We hope we can have a winter walk in this area and see the difference in the species that occur in the different season.

Bird Sightings at Bent's Basin, a Farm in Cobbity and Carrington Retirement Complex

Brown Quail	B	Little Corella	F	Noisy Friarbird	B
Black Swan	C+7 young	Rainbow Lorikeet	B	Eastern Whipbird	B
Hardhead	F	Crimson Rosella	F	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	BF
Australian Wood Duck	B	Eastern Rosella	BFC	Golden Whistler	B
Pacific Black Duck	BF	Red-rumped Parrot	B C	Rufous Whistler	BF
Australasian Grebe	FC	Channel-billed Cuckoo	BF	Grey Shrike-thrush	C
Great Crested Grebe	C	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	B	Grey Butcherbird	BF
Spotted Dove	C	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	B	Magpie-lark	BF
Crested Pigeon	FC	Azure Kingfisher	BFC	Australian Magpie	BF
Peaceful Dove	F	Laughing Kookaburra	BFC	Grey Fantail	BF
Wonga Pigeon	B	Sacred Kingfisher	BF	Willie Wagtail	BF
Australasian Darter	FC	Dollarbird	F	Australian Raven	BF
Little Pied Cormorant	B C	White-throated Treecreeper	B	Leaden Flycatcher	B
Great Cormorant	B	Superb Fairy-wren	BFC	Restless Flycatcher	F
Little Black Cormorant	BFC	Weebill	B	Eastern Yellow Robin	B
Australian Pelican	C	White-throated Gerygone	BF	Golden-headed Cisticola	C
Eastern Great Egret	FC	Striated Thornbill	B	Little Grassbird	C
Cattle Egret	B	Yellow Thornbill	F	Clamorous Reed-Warbler	C
White-faced Heron	F	Brown Thornbill	BF	Silvereye	B
Masked Lapwing	BF	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	BF	Welcome Swallow	FC
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	B	Spotted Pardalote	BF	Fairy Martin	B
Grey Goshawk	F	Striated Pardalote	F	Red-whiskered Bulbul	B C
Wedge-tailed Eagle	B	Eastern Spinebill	B	Common Blackbird	C
Nankeen Kestrel	BF	Lewin's Honeyeater	B	Common Starling	BFC
Australian Hobby	B C	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	B	Common Myna	FC
Purple Swamphen	C	White-plumed Honeyeater	F	Zebra Finch	F
Dusky Moorhen	nesting FC	Bell Miner	BFC	Double-barred Finch	F
Galah	BFC	Noisy Miner	BFC	Red-browed Finch	BF
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	F	Little wattlebird	C		
Long-billed Corella	BF	Scarlet Honeyeater	BF		

B=Bent's Basin F=Farm in Cobbity C=Carrington Retirement Complex

Report for Mt Kembla Walk - 18.October

Betty Hudson

On a wet cloudy morning eight hardy members arrived at Mount Kembla Lookout to find themselves in the clouds. It was decided that taking the steps down on the ring track was not a good option, so instead we walked back along the road to the start of Windy Gully. There was plenty of bird activity along with a Rufous Fantail sighted. Along Windy Gully a Green Catbird was seen as well as Bassian Thrushes, a Black-faced Monarch and Wonga Pigeon. Part way along the track we met Charles walking back towards us. He had seen very little and reported a large tree down further along. By now the rain

seemed to have settled in so a decision was taken to make our way back to the cars, with Martin & Alistair going on to the dam. Bassian Thrushes must enjoy the damp as two more were seen on the road back. Arriving at the cars a Superb Lyrebird was spotted scurrying across the grassy area by the car park before crossing the road in a great rush of feet and wings, just as Alistair reappeared having come up the steps. At 10.30 pm we left for home having had a good walk, plenty of fresh, if wet, air and seen 26 species of birds.

Bird List 26 species sighted

Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Satin Bowerbird	Grey Shrike-thrush
Wonga Pigeon	Superb Fairy-wren	Australian Magpie
Galah	White-browed Scrubwren	Pied Currawong
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Large-billed Scrubwren	Rufous Fantail
Crimson Rosella	Brown Thornbill	Grey Fantail
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Lewin's Honeyeater	Black-faced Monarch
White-throated Treecreeper	Little Wattlebird	Eastern Yellow Robin
Superb Lyrebird	Eastern Whipbird	Bassian Thrush
Green Catbird	Golden Whistler	

Report on the September 2009 BIGnet meeting at Mittagong Chris Brandis

The meeting was hosted by the newly formed Southern HiBOC club, which has now about 20 members in the Southern Highlands area, and attended by Club members Jill Molan, Martin Cocker and myself being held in the Mittagong RSL Club. BOCA's John Barkla, a successful business manager, gave an update on the situation at BOCA to reduce losses and modernise the business without affecting services, some of which will affect IBOC who are affiliated for PL Insurance cover. As Birds Australia are also feeling the economic down turn it is pleasing to hear that both groups are looking to prevent duplication and improve collaboration on projects such as a joint data base project based on the Bird Atlas. Some of the conservation concerns of some of the other clubs were discussed as well as some of the proposed NSW legislation that may affect birding.

The new manager of the Important Bird Areas, Cheryl Gole from WA, reported on the next stage of the project including the promotion and monitoring of the IBA specific species or the habitat in the IBA. It was expected that this monitoring would be picked

up by clubs so that even areas in the far west would be covered by a consistent program methodology that is acceptable to Bird Life International. Volunteers welcome.

On Sunday some attended breakfast with the birds on the Box Vale track before the Sunday morning session which discussed invasive or over abundant bird species, trying to improve the cooperation between clubs on common conservation issues, the proposed allocation of twitchathon monies to the IBA monitoring project so that clubs or individuals can get some financial assistance to carry out the monitoring as well as a few other concerns affecting clubs.

It is always interesting to see how other clubs operate and how they have overcome their problems and to meet those in the birding fraternity around the state. There is always an open invitation for those interested in representing our Club at these biannual meetings that are held around the state, the next one being in Sydney and the one after that could be in the Baradine area.

The 2011 BA Campout will be held at the heritage property, Scotsdale, and hosted by the Canberra Ornithologist Group.

Launch of 'Birds of the Illawarra' brochure

Penny Potter



James Cook - Tourism Wollongong, Martin Cocker - IBOC, Jason Welsh - IMB

Photo Charles Dove

Thirty-two club members attended the launch of the 'Birds of the Illawarra' brochure at the new Altitude 1148 Restaurant, Southern Gateway Information Centre on Saturday 17 October. We were joined by our sponsor Mr Jason Welsh of Fairy Meadow IMB and also by Mr James Cook of Tourism Wollongong. A bright sunny day allowed spectacular views across the Illawarra from this excellent new tourist facility which most of us were seeing for the first time; it really does the Illawarra proud and is well worth a visit if you haven't seen it already.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement in producing the brochure and in particular Chris Brandis for his technical expertise, Charles Dove for the beautiful design, and all the

IBOC Newsletter

As mentioned previously, your Committee has been looking at the various options to enhance the look of the IBOC Newsletter. Various suggestions and formats have been considered. The Newsletter is an important part of the benefits that members receive and for members, who may not be able to play an active part in Club activities, it is a key resource in keeping up to date with birding matters and club activities. The Newsletter is also the public face of

proof readers and photographers. Also thanks are due to Martin Cocker who gave an excellent speech befitting the occasion. It was a great team effort and we can be proud of the result.

Finally, many members have kindly taken copies of the brochure for distribution to local community organisations and libraries etc. If you are doing this could you please let me know who you have distributed them to so that I can cross them off my mailing list.

We Club members wish to heartily thank Penny for all her work from the first application for a grant from IMB right through until now when we have an excellent finished brochure to enjoy and distribute.

Martin Cocker

our Club and is an important promotional tool for the Club and promoting interest in birding. In my view we can be justifiably proud of the quality and frequency of the publication. However, like all publications, taste and expectations change and the appearance and layout can become dated and less appealing to current and potential members.

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With this in mind that the Committee is considering alternative layouts and presentation styles. We are very fortunate to have members who have a lifetime of skills and experience in print and graphic design who are providing suggestions and encouragement.

One question remains, what should we call our Newsletter? Birds Australia, for example, call their newsletter 'Wingspan.' So we will soon ask you to submit titles and vote on the alternatives provided. *Some suggestions based on the terms in the club logo are 'Tern Tales' or 'Ternaround' Another suggestion is 'Five Feathers.'* So thinking caps on please and come armed with your suggestions.

Weekend Campout 23 - 26 Januray:

This will be a combined camp with Birding NSW, Cumberland Bird Observers Club and Illawarra Bird Observers Club on a private property "Paringa" at Captains Flat.

Jill Molan

Directions - Turn-off at Goulburn to go through Tarago and Bungendore. From Bungendore, travel 41 kilometres to Captains Flat. Go over the bridge, past the post office and continue on for about 18 kilometres along the Jerangle- Bredbo Road over Balanfard and Sherlock Creeks. Alternatively you can travel via Queanbeyan to Captains Flat.

You are welcome to arrive before the camp and stay on afterwards. A pit-toilet will be provided. Bring warm clothing as the nights can be very cold. Our hosts are well-known birdwatchers Graham and Helen Stephinson 6230-8237 Enquiries: Allan Richards 9660-8062

Birding Abroad in Uganda

Here is a vignette of a voyage in August 2005 David and Elizabeth Winterbottom made four years ago.

The Shoebill, with its grotesque bill, must surely be one of the most extraordinary storks in the world. It may be endangered but we saw six, including one which seemed to supervise us eating lunch in a small canoe in the middle of a Papyrus swamp on the shores of Lake Victoria. Our target bird, the Papyrus Goneyk (an exotic variation of the Crimson Shrike of southern Africa) showed up early as did the Swamp Flycatcher and several kingfishers.

Exciting though this was, it did not give us as much of a buzz as walking in the forest with wild gorillas in the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park. That was a mind blowing experience and even more of a thrill than peering at a large family of chimpanzees feeding at the top of tall trees. On the open plains, the animals are only just beginning to recover from being nearly wiped out during the Idi Amin years. Numbers are increasing, but, for instance, elephants are smaller and have smaller tusks after having been selectively culled for their ivory.

Nevertheless, bird life is abundant. There are over 1000 species in the country of which we saw a mere 260 during our short visit. A boat trip on the Nile,

Situations Vacant

Our current Editor, John Cashman, has announced his intention to retire at the end of this year. John has held the position now for four years and has made a fine contribution to the quality of our Newsletter. The Club owes John much for his commitment and dedication. Now a replacement is required. Speak to John about the job, regarding skills and time commitment, and then speak with a Committee member. This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to our members and the future of IBOC.

David Winterbottom

quite a river despite being so far from its mouth, was fascinating with heaps of birds. Skimmers, with their huge lower mandibles probing the water, half a dozen species of heron, and four or five of storks, along the shore taking no notice of the basking crocodiles or wallowing hippos.

Black and African Crakes skulk along the reeds, masses of Pied Kingfishers nest in sandbanks, whilst Wire-tailed and other swallows (Africa seems to have many similar swallow/martins to be unscrambled) help to keep the insect population in check. Near the Owen Falls close ups of the Rock Pratincoles were delicious.

Barbets are woodland birds which look easy to identify but prove harder when all are new. We saw Black-billed, Double-toothed, Grey-throated, Spot-flanked and Yellow-billed Barbets. Apart from the Double-toothed, which we saw in Ethiopia, more homework is required before our next African trip. Hornbills are little easier despite their huge casques. Crowned, White-thighed, Black-and-white-casqued and Black-casqued were identified but not without some difficulty.

The Sunbirds rival the Hummingbirds of the Americas. The Blue-headed, Bronze, Collared,

Copper, Green-headed, Green-throated, Olive, Red-chested and Superb Sunbirds may take your breath away, but the Scarlet-chested is absolutely stunning.

MEMBER'S SIGHTINGS-OCTOBER2009

Compiled by Martin Cocker

SPECIES	No	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
Brush-turkey	1	16-Sep	Mangerton Park	Parkland	IBOC
Brown Quail	2	27-Sep	Korrungulla Swamp	Bush	Martin Cocker
Brown Quail	1	03-Oct	Purrah Bay, Kanahooka	Estuarine	Martin Cocker
Brown Quail	3	29-Sep	Sandon Point	Wetland	Jill Molan
Great Crested Grebe	6	12-Sep	Wingecarribee Dam	Lake	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Great Crested Grebe	6	12-Sep	Wingecarribee Dam	Open Water	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Tawny Frogmouth	1	12-Oct	Urban	Urban	Terrill Nordstrom
Southern Giant Petrel	1	11-Sep	Off Wollongong	Pelagic	Chris Brandis
Northern Giant Petrel	3	11-Sep	Off Wollongong	Pelagic	Chris Brandis
Striated Heron	1	17-Oct	Purry Burry Point, Primbee	Estuarine	Martin Cocker
Striated Heron	1	04-Oct	Mullet Creek	Creek	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Eastern Reef Egret	1	05-Oct	South Head, Sydney	Shore	Bruce and Kelsey O'Brien
Nankeen Night Heron	1	28-Sep	Purry Burry Point, Primbee	Acacia	Charles Dove
Whistling Kite	1	19-Sep	Crookhaven Heads/Lake Wollumboola		IBOC
Brown Goshawk	1	16-Sep	Mangerton Park	Parkland	IBOC
Brown Goshawk	1	19-Sep	Crookhaven Heads/Lake Wollumboola		IBOC
Brown Goshawk	1	10-Oct	Kanahooka Point	Suburban	Martin Cocker
Grey Goshawk	1	09-Sep	Killalea SRA	Lagoon/Park	Bruce and Josh Coyte
Grey Goshawk	1	08-Oct	Mt. Keira	Overhead	Wal Emery
Swamp Harrier	1	19-Sep	Crookhaven Heads/Lake Wollumboola		IBOC
Swamp Harrier	2	14-Sep	Killalea SRA	Lagoon/Park	Bruce and Josh Coyte
Swamp Harrier	1	27-Sep	Gerringong	Estuarine	Martin and Penny Potter
Brown Falcon	1	14-Sep	Killalea SRA	Lagoon/Park	Bruce and Josh Coyte
Hobby	1	09-Sep	Killalea SRA	Lagoon/Park	Bruce and Josh Coyte
Peregrine Falcon	1	12-Sep	Nattai NP	Open country	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Baillon's Crake	2	09-Sep	Killalea SRA	Lake	Bruce and Josh Coyte
Baillon's Crake	1	01-Sep	Primbee Wetlands	Lagoon	Terrill Nordstrom
Pacific Golden Plover	1	25-Sep	Bass Point	Estuarine	Michelle Rower

Pacific Golden Plover	8	18-Sep	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Carlos Sanchez/Martin Potter
Grey Plover	1	08-Oct	Windang	Estuarine	Terrill Nordstrom
Grey Plover	4	11-Oct	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin and Penny Potter
Black-fronted Dotterel	1	09-Sep	Killalea SRA	Lake	Bruce and Josh Coyte
Red-kneed Dotterel	1	11-Sep	Towradgi Berach	Shore	Terry Edwell
Grey-tailed Tattler	1	04-Oct	Purry Burry Point, Primbee	Estuarine	IBOC
Red Knot	1	19-Sep	Crookhaven Heads/Lake Wollumboola		IBOC
Whiskered Tern	3	27-Sep	Purry Burry Point, Primbee	Estuarine	Martin Cocker
Whiskered Tern	6	03-Oct	Purry Burry Point, Primbee	Estuarine	Martin Cocker
Whiskered Tern	5	04-Oct	Purry Burry Point, Primbee	Estuarine	IBOC
White-winged Tern	1	04-Oct	Purry Burry Point, Primbee	Estuarine	IBOC
Common Tern	1	19-Sep	Crookhaven Heads/Lake Wollumboola		IBOC
Musk Lorikeet	1	19-Sep	Crookhaven Heads/Lake Wollumboola		IBOC
Eastern Barn Owl	1	09-Sep	Killalea SRA	Lagoon/Park	Bruce and Josh Coyte
Azure Kingfisher	1	01-Sep	Primbee Wetlands	Lagoon	Terrill Nordstrom
Azure Kingfisher	1	04-Oct	Korungulla Swamp	Swamp	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Azure Kingfisher	1	19-Sep	Blue Angle Creek	Creek	Carlos Sanchez/Martin Potter
Noisy Pitta	2	25/08/09-13/09/10	Mt. Pleasant Track, Mt. Keira	Rainforest	Wal Emery
Pilotbird	1-heard	18-Oct	Mt. Kembla Ringtrack	Forest	Martin Cocker
Pilotbird	1	12-Sep	Barren Grounds Nature Reserve	wet sclerophyll forest	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Scarlet Honeyeater	1	08-Sep	Balgownie	Garden	Terry Edwell
Logrunner	2	09-Aug	Bulli Escarpment	Rainforest	Wal Emery
Logrunner	1	22-Aug	Staffords Farm Track	Rainforest	Wal Emery
Logrunner	2	27-Sep	Bulli Escarpment	Forest	IBOC
Leaden Flycatcher	1	10-Oct	Balgownie	Garden	Wal Emery
Flame Robin	2	12-Sep	Buderoo NP	Heath	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Flame Robin	2	12-Sep	Buderoo Fire Trail	Heath	Carlos Sanchez/Jill Molan
Rufous Songlark	1	13-Oct	Wollongong TAFE	Sportsground	Carlos Sanchez

Many thanks for all your records! Please send in your sightings to cocker@speedlink.com.au and don't forget that these lists are on our website www.iboc.org.au. Good Birding!