

# Illawarra Bird Observers Club Inc MEMBERS' MONTHLY SIGHTINGS

**March 2008**

**Compiled By Martin Cocker**

Those of you who attended our camp last November will remember our collective excitement at seeing a Wompoo Fruit Dove, a lifer for many of us. This bird has a range that extends from Cape York to the lower Hunter valley and formerly to the Illawarra. In the Illawarra it was moderately common in the 1840's but was last recorded from Mont Cambewarra in 1890 and Mount Keira in 1920, Since then there have been several unconfirmed sightings in 1977, 1982, 1986 and 1994. The current observation is based entirely on the identification of the call that came from a "massive old fruiting fig tree located in a small deep valley surrounded by warm temperate rain forest". This habitat is of course not unknown in our area so some extra vigilance and tuning of hearing skills may be appropriate!

Other news from the grape vine is the presence of a House Crow in Dee Why a species from India and Sri Lanka that sometimes finds its way to Australia by ship assisted passages. According to Pizzey and Knight, "Should immediately be reported and destroyed wherever identified". Those of you still hoping to see the Canada Geese at Killalea have left it too late as the four birds have met the same fate as recommended for the House Crow!

However there seem to be plenty of action in our own neck of the woods judging from the volume and content of the records I have received. Sorry I have not been able to send out any interim reports this month, the domestic move has limited my free time. However things are returning to "normal" in the Cocker household!

If you would like to join the 40+ members who have given me their email address and so receive more regular updates than is possible through the Newsletter then please advise me: [cocker@speedlink.com.au](mailto:cocker@speedlink.com.au).

Good Birding!



Species	Number	Date	Location	Habitat	Observer
Black Swan	76	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Canada Goose	4	04-Mar-08	Killalea Lagoon	lakeside	Chris Brandis
Australian Shelduck	11	03-Mar-08	Joadja	farm dam	Darryl Goldrick
Darter	3 Juv	17-Feb-08	Primbee Wetlands	swamp	Chas Burke
Little Egret	1	19-Feb-08	Fred Finch Park	Channel	David Winterbottom
Little Egret	up to 4	31-Mar-08	Fred Finch Park, several	mudflats	David Winterbottom

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			birds over March		
Eastern Reef Egret	1	01-Mar-08	Nth Port Kembla Beach	Rocky Shore	Chris Chafer
Striated Heron	2	19-Feb-08	Fred Finch Park	Channel	David Winterbottom
Striated Heron	1	02-Mar-08	Shoalhaven River, Nowra	riverine	Martin & Penny Potter
Striated Heron	2	03-Mar-08	Windang Estuary	estuarine	Lorraine Pincus
Striated Heron	1	05-Mar-08	Macquarie Rivulet	riverine	Lorraine Pincus
Striated Heron	1 and 2	31-Mar-08	Fred Finch Park, several birds over March	mudflats	David Winterbottom
Striated Heron	1 and 2	31-Mar-08	Puckey's Lagoon	mudflats	David Winterbottom
Black-shouldered Kite	2	15-Feb-08	Primbee Oval	overhead	Ron Imisides
Square-tailed Kite	1	02-Mar-08	Shoalhaven River, Nowra	riverine	Martin & Penny Potter
Whistling Kite	1	07-Mar-08	Albion Park Rail	urban	Peter Fackender
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	1	27-Feb-08	Bulli, Sandon Point	Overhead	Jill Molan
Swamp Harrier	1	17-Feb-08	Austimer Sublime Point	overhead	Jill Molan
Brown Goshawk	2	17-Feb-08	Perkins Beach		Chas Burke
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	08-Mar-08	Barren Grounds NR	bush	Jean Clarke
Wedge-tailed Eagle	2	09-Mar-08	Mt. Kembla Ring Track	overhead	Michelle Rower
Wedge-tailed Eagle	1	19-Feb-08	Balgownie	Overhead	David Winterbottom
Brown Falcon	1	02-Mar-08	Menangle	Rural	Chris Chafer
Australian Hobby	1	18-Feb-08	Coniston	Golf Course	David Winterbottom
Peregrine Falcon	1	02-Mar-08	Shoalhaven River, Nowra	riverine	Martin & Penny Potter
Peregrine Falcon	1	25-Feb-08	Puckey's Lagoon	overhead	David Winterbottom
Nankeen Kestrel	1	07-Mar-08	Bombo	overhead	Roger Bogaert
Nankeen Kestrel	1	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Bar-tailed Godwit	100+	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Bar-tailed Godwit	55	03-Mar-08	Windang Estuary	estuarine	Lorraine Pincus
Eastern Curlew	19	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Ruddy Turnstone	1	15-Feb-08	Barrack Pont	coastal	Michelle Rower
Red-necked Stint	60	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Curlew Sandpiper	1	28-Feb-08	Comerong Island	Estuarine	David Marshall
Pied Oystercatcher	5	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Pied Oystercatcher	16	03-Mar-08	Windang Estuary	estuarine	Lorraine Pincus
Sooty Oystercatcher	6	02-Mar-08	Coalcliff Road bridge	rocky shore	Glennis Wellings
Grey Plover	1	23-Feb-08	Comerong Island	Estuarine	David Marshall
Red-capped Plover	12	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Red-capped Plover	30, 9Juv	03-Mar-08	Windang Estuary	estuarine	Lorraine Pincus
Double-banded Plover	1	03-Mar-08	Windang Estuary	estuarine	Lorraine Pincus
Black-fronted Dotterel	2	31-Mar-08	Fred Finch Park, several birds over March	mudflats	David Winterbottom
Kelp Gull	2	03-Mar-08	Windang Estuary	estuarine	Lorraine Pincus
Caspian Tern	3	24-Feb-08	Shoalhaven Heads	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Crested Tern	32	03-Mar-08	Windang Estuary	estuarine	Lorraine Pincus
White-headed Pigeon	1	27-Feb-08	Jamberoo 3 separate sightings	Rural	Betty Hudson

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Bar-shouldered Dove	2	17-Feb-08	Perkins Beach		Chas Burke
Bar-shouldered Dove	1 and 2	31-Mar-08	Windang, frequent sightings over March	scrub	David Winterbottom
Wompoo Fruit-Dove	1	09-Mar-08	Yattheyattah NR This record is with the BA Rarities Committee and if confirmed is the first sighting in our area for many years.	rainforest	Marnix Zwankhuizen
Topknot Pigeon	1	16-Feb-08	Mt. Ousley	Garden	Jim Robinson
Topknot Pigeon	6	15-Feb-08	Thirroul	Garden	Mike Morphett
Topknot Pigeon	1	20-Feb-08	Figtree	suburban garden	Melissa Markham
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	2	24-Feb-08	Boxvale Track Mittagong	Forest	Chris Chafer
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	2	10-Mar-08	Albion Park Rail	overhead	Brian Hales
Little Corella	100+	10-Mar-08	Bellambi	urban	Tom and Joan Wylie
Little Corella	100	05-Mar-08	Windang Park	urban park	Margaret P.
Musk Lorikeet	20	02-Mar-08	Shoalhaven River, Nowra	riverine	Martin & Penny Potter
Musk Lorikeet	30+	18-Mar-08	Albion Park Rail	garden	Peter Fackender
Powerful Owl	1	11-Mar-08	Excelsior Coalmine	forest	Mike Morphett
Southern Boobook	1	03-Mar-08	Mittagong, dead bird collision with fence	rural	Darryl Goldrick
Azure Kingfisher	1	05-Mar-08	Macquarie Rivulet	riverine	Lorraine Pincus
Sacred Kingfisher	1	02-Mar-08	Budderoo Plateau	forest	Betty Hudson
Rainbow Bee-eater	2	02-Mar-08	Nepean River, Wallacia	riverine	Chris Chafer
Rockwarbler	2	02-Mar-08	Shoalhaven River, Nowra	riverine	Martin & Penny Potter
Noisy Friarbird	1	09-Mar-08	Avondale	garden	Alan Lewis
Logrunner	1	08-Mar-08	Excelsior Coalmine	forest	Mike Morphett
Spotted Quail-thrush	5	15-Feb-08	Bangadilly NP Canyon Leigh		Chris Brandis
Black-faced Monarch	2 M&F	05-Mar-08	Macquarie Pass	Rainforest	Neil Wheway
Black-faced Monarch	1	02-Mar-08	Shoalhaven River, Nowra	riverine	Martin & Penny Potter
Black-faced Monarch	1	17-Feb-08	Perkins Beach		Chas Burke
Leaden Flycatcher	1	01-Mar-08	Bulli	Rainforest	Roger Truscott
Leaden Flycatcher	1	03-Mar-08	Bulli	rainforest	Roger Truscott
Restless Flycatcher	1	14-Mar-08	Thirroul, "the first record in 28years of local observations"	garden	Mike Morphett
Rufous Fantail	12+	09-Mar-08	Mt. Kembla Ring Track	rainforest	Michelle Rower
Rufous Fantail	1	05-Mar-08	Jamberoo	garden	Betty Hudson
Rufous Fantail	1	05-Mar-08	Macquarie Pass	Rainforest	Neil Wheway
Rufous Fantail	1	03-Mar-08	Bulli, evidence of successful breeding	rainforest	Roger Truscott
Bassian Thrush	1	17-Mar-08	Scarborough	rainforest/garden	Danie Ondinea
Indian Ringneck	1	27-Feb-08	Albion Park	Playing field	Bruce Coyte