

Illawarra Bird Observers Club Inc
MEMBERS' MONTHLY SIGHTINGS

May 2008

Compiled By Martin Cocker

An interesting month as we slide into winter! Many birds are flocking and there have been reported large congregations of several species including such diversities as Little Corella, White-faced Heron and White Headed Pigeon.

The month's sighting has to be of the Wompoo Fruit-Dove seen at Thirroul by Mike Morphett. Mike has been working a regular patch for over twenty years and consequently must have an intimate knowledge of the birds in his area so it must have been a heart stopping experience! The other rarity must be the Pink Robin found by Roger Truscott in his Bulli Garden. Our Illawarra Handbook describes this species as rare and nomadic and lists seven sightings between 1981 and 1996.

As announced by Jill Molan at our last meeting this time of the year is the annual Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater survey time. Swift Parrots are classified as a rare, nomadic winter visitor that frequents open eucalypt forest and Banksia woodlands especially along the coast. Past locations for sightings are in areas with flowering eucalypts such as Primbee Dunes, Bass Point, Mt. Warrigal, Lake Heights and Warrawong. So please keep a look out in favourable locations and send in your records.

The other regional news of note is that an Osprey's nest has been found on a mobile phone tower in the Ulladulla area. This must be the most southern breeding record for NSW. Funny, but I have a hazy recollection of a member suggesting a tower be provided at Shoalhaven Heads to attract these birds, a suggestion that was received with much cynicism. Perhaps this idea has merit or we contact the phone companies who may be more "receptive" than the wildlife authorities!!

The Unusual/Interesting listing for the month is below. Other records were received from: Lorraine Pincus, Alan Lowis, Martin and Penny Potter, Anne Cousins, Tera Wheway, and Jane Kinsella. Many thanks to you all for your records. Good Birding!!

Species	Number	Date	Location	Habitat	Observer
White-Headed Pigeon	14	02-May-08	Jamberoo	Parkland	Betty Hudson
Wompoo Fruit-Dove	1	05-May-08	Excelsior Mine Thirroul	Forest	Mike Morphett
Buller's Albatross	1	26-Apr-08	Off Wollongong	Pelagic	Graham Barwell
Striated Heron	1	04-May-08	Crooked River Gerroa	Estuarine	Martin & Penny Potter
Striated Heron	1	20-Apr-08	Little Lake, Barrack Pnt	Estuarine	Graham Barwell
Nankeen Night Heron	1	24-Apr-08	Huskisson, Lady Denman Reserve	Estuarine	Marnix Zwankhuizen
Eastern Osprey	1	27-Apr-08	Hayward's Bay	Estuarine	Martin Cocker
Eastern Osprey	1	18-May-08	Hayward's Bay	Estuarine	Martin Cocker
Pacific Baza	3	04-May-08	Bulli	Rainforest	Roger Truscott
Whistling Kite	1	18-May-08	Hayward's Bay	Estuarine	Martin Cocker

Illawarra Bird Observers Club Inc
MEMBERS' MONTHLY SIGHTINGS

Brown Goshawk	1	13-May-08	Tallowarra	Bush/forest	Martin Cocker
Grey Goshawk	1	29-Apr-08	Bellambi Dunes	Overhead	Alan Cousins
Grey Goshawk	1	23-May-08	Barren Gnds-Griffiths T	Heath/Forest	Jill Molan
Swamp Harrier	1	06-Apr-08	Croome Rd, Albion PR	Bush	Graham Barwell
Swamp Harrier	1	10-May-08	Reed Park, Dapto	Sportsfield	Bruce O'Brien
Wedge-tailed Eagle	2	20-Apr-08	Hayward's Bay	overhead	Martin Cocker
Hobby	1	30-Mar-08	Little Lake, Barrack Pnt	Estuarine	Graham Barwell
Hobby	1	08-Apr-08	Dapto	Suburban	Bruce and Kelsey O'Brien
Peregrine Falcon	1	23-May-08	Barren Gnds-Griffiths T	Heath/Forest	Jill Molan
Grey-Tailed Tattler	3	24-Apr-08	Crookhaven Heads	Estuarine	Marnix Zwankhuizen
Grey-Tailed Tattler	1	06-Apr-08	Little Lake, Barrack Pnt	Estuarine	Graham Barwell
Musk Lorikeet	1	09-May-08	University of Wollngng	Park	Jill Molan
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	1	10-May-08	Berry.(Possible NZ sub species)	Garden	Bob Ashford
Eastern Bristlebird	1	23-Apr-08	Hyam's Beach Jervis Bay	Heath/Woodland	Marnix Zwankhuizen
Large-billed Scrubwren	1	05-May-08	Excelsior Mine Thirroul	Forest	Mike Morphett
Large-billed Scrubwren	1	30-Mar-08	Ldy Fuller Pk, Austinmr	Parkland	Graham Barwell
Fuscous Honeyeater	1	25-Apr-08	Hyam's Beach Jervis Bay	Heath/Woodland	Marnix Zwankhuizen
Tawny-Crowned Honeyeater	1	25-Apr-08	Hyam's Beach Jervis Bay	Heath/Woodland	Marnix Zwankhuizen
Crescent Honeyeater	Num.	23-May-08	Barren Gnds-Griffiths T	Heath/Forest	Jill Molan
Crescent Honeyeater	Sevrl	15-Apr-08	Barren Grounds	Heath	Chris Brandis
White-cheeked Honeyeater	Sevrl	15-Apr-08	Barren Grounds	Heath	Chris Brandis
Logrunner	1	10-May-08	Balgownie (Dead specimen)		
Dusky Woodswallow	1	27-Mar-08	Towradgi Park	Parkland	Jean Clarke
Spangled Drongo	1	11-May-08	Primbee Dunes	Heath/Woodland	Jill Molan
Leaden Flycatcher	2 Imm	06-Apr-08	Croome Rd, Albion PR	Bush	Graham Barwell
Rose Robin	1 M	09-May-08	Thirroul	Garden	Mike Morphett
Rose Robin	1	30-Mar-08	Ldy Fuller Pk, Austinmr	Parkland	Graham Barwell
Pink Robin	1 M	03-May-08	Bulli	Garden	Roger Truscott
Bassian Thrush	1	1 & 2 May 08	Excelsior Mine Thirroul	Forest	Mike Morphett