President’s Report

At a Special General Meeting of the club on 2 May 2017, the new club Constitution was adopted without dissent. This document will be submitted to the Office of Fair Trading for approval in the near future.

Members will recall that the club has supported Matt Herring in his research project “Bitterns in Rice”, centred in the Riverina. We were offered the privilege of naming one of the radio-tracked bitterns this year, and we chose the name Arnold in memory of our late patron, Arnold McGill. Matt has recently tagged a bittern who now bears the name “Arnold”. We look forward to hearing more about Arnold the bittern in coming months.

The South-West Slopes Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) survey in March at Grenfell went very well, with a record 36 surveyors and major interaction with the local community. The club had almost a full page spread in the local paper, and landowners in the Grenfell area were generous with their time in supporting the project. Thanks to Elisabeth Karplus for organising the surveys, and to Michael Edwards for preparing the data.

Elisabeth, who is the NSW KBA co-ordinator, will attend KBA events in Melbourne in May and in the Shoalhaven in August.

Our speaker list for 2017 is now complete, with Tim Low talking about bird song in October and Professor Penny Olsen giving the Arnold McGill Memorial Address on her current project, the Night Parrot, at the December club meeting.

The recent BIGnet meeting at Mt Keira was well attended, and BirdLife Australia Head of Conservation Sam Vine chaired a productive Conservation Forum. There was a change in the signatories of the BIGnet account at this meeting. Some of the speakers at the BIGnet Saturday seminar have agreed to talk at our club meetings early next year, and I am sure that you will enjoy their presentations. The next BIGnet meeting will be held at Urunga (Coffs Harbour area) in September.

Our Activities Officer, Allan Richards has organised a campout in the Tuncurry area for the June Long Weekend. This is modelled on the successful campout that Alan Morris has run in the past. It is based in a caravan park, so if you wish to attend, book a cabin early! For further details, look at this issue of the newsletter or the Birding Bulletin.

Club members Camila de Gregorio and Chris Macaluso were successful in a City of Sydney art competition to decorate the city. Their bird art can be seen at a construction site hoarding in Kent Street, Sydney. It should be there for a while, since the site will host a 20-storey building. An example of their work is shown below.

Tom Karplus
President, Birding NSW

Street Art with a Difference! A hoarding decoration in Kent Street between Erskine and King St. By Camila de Gregorio and Chris Macaluso.
FIELD OUTINGS
Bring a snack, lunch and a chair. Please check the websites on the evening proceeding the activity to ensure that there are not any changes.

NATIONAL PARK USE FEES
Club Outings are sometimes held in National Parks. A valid day pass or annual pass is necessary for 46 national parks in NSW and that includes most in the Sydney and Central Coast Regions. The pass must be displayed on your vehicle at all times while you are in the park.

TOTAL FIRE BANS
Members are reminded that no Central Coast outings are held on days when Total Fire Bans are in force. For Sydney outings in times of a Total Fire Ban, check with the outing leader.

SECURITY
Members are reminded not to leave anything of value visible in unattended vehicles while bird watching.

CENTRAL COAST OUTINGS
Sydney Members should advise the leader in advance if they are coming to an outing so that they don’t leave without you!

FEES AT CAMPOUTS
A camping fee may be applicable at some campsites.

PETS
Members are reminded that pets including dogs are not allowed on any Club activity including campouts.

HEALTH AND SAFETY
When attending field outings ensure you are wearing appropriate clothing, including wet weather gear in inclement weather, and suitable footwear. It is advisable to bring a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and to carry water.

Please sign the attendance register at field outings and also at the meetings.

If you leave the outing early please let the leader know before you go.

Participants attend at their own risk and should refrain from any behaviour that might put themselves or others at risk. That includes assessing whether they have a level of fitness required for the advertised outing. If in doubt contact the outing leader beforehand.

000 EMERGENCY NUMBER: HANDY APP FOR YOUR PHONE IF YOU ARE GOING BUSH
The Emergency + App offers callers the ability to verbally provide emergency operators with their location. It is free. It works with only one phone tower available.

For more information see the Home Page at www.birdingnsw.org.au or download free at the itunes App Store or at Google Play.

JUNE 2017

Tuesday 6 June Club Meeting: The Mitchell Theatre, Level 1, The Sydney Mechanics’ School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney at 7.30 pm. “Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos Research Project”. Speaker: Jessica Rooke

Saturday 10 June Club Outing: Wolli Creek and Barton Park. Meet at the end of Finlays Avenue, Earlwood at 8.30 am. We will walk from Turrella Reserve to Girrahween Park and back to cars for morning tea. If time permits, we will drive across to Barton Park wetlands. Finish about 12.00 pm. Leader: Ian Bailey 0412 251 337 or 9821 4284 prior

Long Weekend Campout 10-12 June. Wallamba River Holiday Park, 99 Aquatic Road, North Tuncurry about 14 km north of Tuncurry. Tel: 6554 3123 or 1800 268 176. Meet at 8:30 am at entrance to the caravan park. Lunch at cars. Birding in nearby areas including Cattai Wetlands. Leader: Allan Richards 9660 8062; 0432 064 660

Wednesday 14 June Central Coast Half Day Outing: Saratoga and Davistown. Meet at 8:30 am at Saratoga Wetlands, Willaroo Street, Saratoga. Lunch at cars. Leader: Doug Hocking 0427 800 428

Tuesday 27 June Central Coast Meeting: Meet at the Progress Hall in Anzac Street Tuggerah opposite McDonalds at 7.30 pm. “Birding in Norway”. Speaker: Greg Miles

Wednesday 28 June Midweek Outing: Chiltern Track, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, Ingleside. Meet at 8.30 am at the end of Chiltern Road, off Mona Vale Road, Ingleside. Lunch at cars. Gradient: Easy with bush tracks. Leader: Elisabeth Karplus 0421 665 553

Tuesday 4 July Club Meeting: The Mitchell Theatre, Level 1, The Sydney Mechanics’ School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney at 7.30 pm. “Water Management in the Murray-Darling Basin”. Speaker: Terry Korodaj to explain water management and a colleague to talk birds

Saturday 8 July Club Outing: Royal National Park. Meet 8.30 am at Wattle Forest Picnic Area near Audley. Turn into Lady Carrington Drive at Audley, then right over the timber bridge to the western side of the river. Turn left and meet at the last car park. Lunch at cars. Leader: Margaret Pointer 4374 1163

Wednesday 9 August Central Coast Half-day Outing: Meet at 8.30 am at Central Coast Wetlands Carpark, access off South Tacoma Road Tuggerah. Lunch at cars. Leader: Alan Morris 0418 269 482. A joint outing with Cumberland BOC

Saturday 12 August Club Outing: Scheyville National Park and Hawkesbury area. Meet at 8.30 am at the car park for Scheyville National Park Headquarters off Scheyville Road. Lunch at cars. Leader: Trevor Waller 0467 977 508

Tuesday 22 August Central Coast Meeting: Meet at the Progress Hall in Anzac Street Tuggerah opposite McDonalds at 7.30 pm.” Birding in South Africa”. Speaker: Mike Kuhl

Saturday 26 August Central Coast Outing: Nords Wharf and Galgabba Point, Swansea. Meet at 8.30 am at Cams Wharf Car Park, at the end of Cams Wharf Road. Lunch at cars. Leader: Andrew Melville 0416 162 297

AUGUST 2017

Tuesday 1 August Club Meeting: The Mitchell Theatre, Level 1, The Sydney Mechanics’ School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney at 7.30 pm. “The Plains-wanderer”. Speaker: David Parker

Saturday 5 August Club Outing: Chiltern Track, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, Ingleside. Meet at 8.30 am at the end of Chiltern Road, off Mona Vale Road, Ingleside. Lunch at cars. Gradient: Easy with bush tracks. Leader: Coleen Southall 9982 5453; 0410 549 321

Wednesday 9 August Central Coast Half-day Outing: Meet at 8.30 am at Central Coast Wetlands Carpark, access off South Tacoma Road Tuggerah. Lunch at cars. Leader: Alan Morris 0418 269 482. A joint outing with Cumberland BOC

Saturday 12 August Club Outing: Scheyville National Park and Hawkesbury area. Meet at 8.30 am at the car park for Scheyville National Park Headquarters off Scheyville Road. Lunch at cars. Leader: Trevor Waller 0467 977 508

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DEAR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Birding NSW needs your pictures of birds!

Ideally, sharp images of any Australian bird or group of birds showing clearly that the birds were in the wild.
Hi Elisabeth and Tom,

Here's some photos of Arnold, who was caught and released at Coleambally yesterday. He's only about three months old and was presumably born in this rice field. He flew strongly on release, moving about 60 metres into the crop. There's a good chance we'll see a big movement from him in the next few weeks. Many thanks for your support, and please pass on our appreciation to the club from the Bitterns in Rice Project.

Kind regards, Matt.

Matt Herring
Wildlife Ecologist
mherring@murraywildlife.com.au
0428 236 563
@Matt_HerringOz
www.murraywildlife.com.au
www.bitternsinrice.com.au
Weather patterns had been fairly benign in the days leading up to this trip and, with light breezes and a gentle sea of less than a metre all day, we were anticipating an interesting and pleasant autumn trip. It certainly was a very pleasant day to be on the ocean but, unfortunately, the interest level in terms of birds and cetaceans was extremely low. Water temperatures out at the shelf were in the 26°C range which is very high for April and an examination of the sea surface temperature map showed that we were on the edge of a rapid drop off in temperature to the south of Sydney – as much as four degrees cooler within less than 100km.

Astoundingly, we saw no albatross at all on the trip, the first time that this has ever been recorded on a Sydney pelagic in April, and we could only assume that they had headed a little south in search of cooler water. Although we always had birds around the boat with the shearwaters appreciating our berley throughout the trip, we saw no rarities of any sort and our species count of eleven for the day was disappointing.

New Members
A warm welcome is extended to:

Sunil Kulkarni of Artarmon
Georgina McDonald of Hurlstone Park

The next trip will be on Saturday 10 June, 2017 and all details of our trips and contact details can be found on our website at www.sydneypelagics.info and on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/sydneypelagics

New Members

A warm welcome is extended to:

Sunil Kulkarni of Artarmon
Georgina McDonald of Hurlstone Park
When I first heard about this book, I wasn’t sure I would need another bird guide. But I took a copy home and spread out my Slaters, Pizzey & Knight, and Simpson & Day and started comparing features. The Bird Guide does not follow the usual taxonomic sequence which ignores preferred habitats, but instead is divided into marine/coastal, freshwater and land birds and then follows a taxonomic structure. Text is on the left hand page, divided into two columns with distribution maps at the foot of the page, and illustrations are on the right hand page.

The species accounts cover wing and bill measurements, weight, description, voice and notes that cover habitat and miscellaneous features, but the most salient identifying features are italicised for convenience.

The illustrators take care to show any subspecies, adult, immature and juvenile forms, or breeding plumage; and almost every bird is depicted in flight, as well as its standard pose (on the water, standing, perched). There are fieldmarks when necessary, or other useful identifying features (comparisons of bill shape/length for example, or relative size comparisons). There is a scale bar at the bottom of each page to help with estimating size, and a symbol indicating likelihood of encountering the bird.

Vagrants are identified as such over their illustrations.

Once I got used to the layout, I found it very easy to use. The distribution maps were a little hard to figure out at first, but read the introductory pages and all the shadings are explained. As with every guide I know, sometimes the colour reproductions are at the mercy of the printing process, but on the whole they are fine, if erring towards the duller edge rather than hypercoloured. The book is properly stitched and the binding sturdy. The major drawback is the weight - nearly 1.5 kg! That aside, it would be a wonderful and worthwhile addition to your collection, and if you do carry it with you when out birding, it will be the best guide for determining those trickier birds. I certainly won’t be without it!

Lindyj@abbeys.com.au
Editor’s Inbox...

Dear Members,

As I draw together the copy for this newsletter, a number of correspondents have added to the information and records we have. Recording the observations at any particular place and bird life-cycles will be a key to preservation of the places where they live.

See especially the report from the Murray-Darling Basin.

Jenny Johnstone continues with her Masters of Architecture project and would love to hear your views on her ideas. A key to the project is briefly described by the question: “what do birders want when they are out and about?” She asks you for comment on:

- My experience would be improved if I could stop and sit when I want.
- Do I prefer local birding or travelling to different places.
- Are there enough bird-hides provided.
- What facilities do I need.

Call Jenny on 0406 802 108 or email jejohnstone@hotmail.com

Caroline Wilson of BirdLife Australia has called us to order with the 2017 surveys of Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot. The note I have was too late to organise the May surveys for you (check out the website) but please check your diary and book for 5 and 6 August. Call Caroline on 0408 668 070 or email caroline.wilson@birdlife.org.au

Alex Wnorowski and Ted are providing all the latest avenues for birders to obtain their new volume, Australian Good Birding Guide: NSW-ACT. It is available online from various booksellers and now in print. I will be buying a book to add to my library. At 530 pages it is not a book to carry in your pocket but many places to find and check out will be very close to home. The book and postage will be about $90. A digital copy less. For details of how best to access the Guide, call Alex on 0432 422 862 or email awnorowski100@gmail.com

Mike Newman kindly answered my question about the rights and wrongs of a waterbird hunting season in eastern states. His opinion is that:

There is no scientific reason for closing the season on sustainability grounds. 2. The conduct of the season is a disgrace which has no place in current society and should be banned for ethical reasons. Mike’s conclusion was that “the decisions are political”.

Ted and Sue Ratcliff spent a memorable two weeks in Sri Lanka during February-March 17. A few things mentioned in the report they sent in, are extraordinary. Each park visited was different. A great diversity of large mammals as well as birds can be seen. The guide who showed them around, drove the hire-car and spoke fluent English. He was a highly experienced birder as well. We may be able to publish the story in full later in the year.

Thinking about it: do we have a bird guide in Australia who can speak Sinhala? Or Mandarin?

Ted and Sue are happy to talk about the experience: ratclifffamily@aapt.net.au

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Australian Good Birding Guide: NSW-ACT by Ted and Alex Wnorowski.

A new birdwatchers site guidebook is now available:

This comprehensive book will help the reader select and navigate through the State’s best birdwatching sites, whether well-known or less frequently visited, with some newly discovered by the authors.

For each site, at the minimum, the access details, habitat description, key bird species, and facilities are addressed. This is further augmented with personal birding records and travel experiences of the authors. Our data has been cross-checked and supplemented with the verified sightings reported online.

The ebook (in the ePub format) is available from several retailers. For links to the retailers go to the authors’ website: https://www.australian-good-birding-guide.com/. There is also a printed version that may be purchased directly from that website. Alex, mobile: 0432 422 862

This is the first publication of a planned series of travel guides describing good birdwatching sites in Australia.
Birding NSW’s 11th bird survey around Grenfell took place on Saturday March 25, 2017. Grenfell is within the South West Slopes Key Biodiversity Area (KBA). This huge KBA extends from Orange to Wagga Wagga and east to Canberra so we only survey in a small area of it. The target species in this KBA are Superb Parrots, Swift Parrots, Painted Honeyeaters and Diamond Firetails. Although the area is now a KBA and therefore other taxa (mammals, reptiles, amphibians etc) are potentially of concern in the KBA, we continue to concentrate just on birds. As well as the target species defined on the basis of their global conservation status, we record bird species listed as vulnerable under current NSW legislation. Our surveys began in 2011. The September 2016 survey was cancelled because of floods.

Thirty six people took part in the surveys including nine new surveyors and six surveyors from Grenfell and Young. This is the largest number of surveyors we have had. Everyone came to dinner on Friday night at the Railway Hotel – not a problem for Carol, the cook, who produced a roast dinner for us. We increased the number of survey groups to eight and we surveyed on 31 sites including two new sites. I would like to thank Allan Richards, Ted Nixon, Jill Molan, Richard Webber, Graham Fry, Russell Beardmore and Paul Johnstone for leading groups; I led the eighth group. Superb Parrots were seen on five survey sites (three on private properties) and incidentally in four other places over the weekend; the maximum number seen at any place was 19 birds. Two Diamond Firetails were seen on one survey site in Bimbi State Forest. Once again we did not see the other two target species. Of other threatened species, two Brown Treecreepers were seen in Warraderry State Forest, five Turquoise Parrots were seen in Weddin State Forest, two Speckled Warblers were seen in Weddin State Forest (not on a survey site) and Grey-crowned Babblers were seen in nine places; the maximum number on any place was 15 birds. We did not see any Hooded Robins on this survey. Other interesting species were an Australian Hobby, a Brown Goshawk, two Swamp Harriers, a White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike, a Southern Whiteface, two Painted Button-quails, Australian Ringnecks, Blue Bonnets and Rainbow Bee-eaters. For surveyors in the forests, Red-capped Robins were common being seen in seven sites with the maximum number seen on any site being seven. Outside of the survey, people saw Plumed Whistling-Ducks and Pink-eared Ducks at the sewage ponds.

Once again we were blessed with good weather for the barbecue on Saturday night at “Rosemont”, the home of Mikla and Wayne. This provided an opportunity for Allan to present Mikla with a picture of her favourite bird, a Spotted Harrier, painted by Norma Ikin. This gift is a present from all of us to thank Mikla for all her hard work in supporting and promoting the bird surveys around Grenfell. Tom provided two chocolate cakes to celebrate three birthdays including Mikla’s. On Sunday morning we met at Company Dam for a walk in fine weather around the tracks. I recorded 38 species including six Varied Sittellas, two Crested Shrike-tits and two Speckled Warblers.

During this survey weekend we recorded 64 species with 61 species seen on survey sites. Since commencing the Grenfell surveys in 2011, we have seen 134 bird species on survey sites with several other species seen on non-survey sites during the survey weekends.
Below are shown the bird species with bird numbers seen during the survey on Saturday March 25, 2017. This table does not include birds seen outside survey periods or at other places during the weekend. The only new bird species seen on a survey site was a White-bellied Cuckooshrike. My thanks go to Michael Edwards, who has provided the data included in the two tables.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Number of birds seen</th>
<th>Number of sites at which seen</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Number of birds seen</th>
<th>Number of sites at which seen</th>
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<td>Rainbow Bee-eater</td>
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<td>Rainbow Lorikeet</td>
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<td>Red Wattlebird</td>
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<td>Pied Currawong</td>
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</table>

Total # Species seen       | 61                   |                                | Total # birds seen           | 971                  |                                |

** Species seen for the first time this survey italicised

The next survey will be held on the weekend of September 15-17, 2017. We hope that our existing volunteers and new volunteers will take part in the next survey. Everyone is encouraged to book accommodation as soon as possible as there are always events in Grenfell in Spring. Please contact Allan Richards (activities@birdingnsw.org.au) or me (emhodson@exemail.com.au) if you are not already on our contact list and would like details of the next survey.
Arnhem Land

September 2016

Leigh Hall

Arnhem Land Bird Week has been held since 2008. In 2016 there were two consecutive weeks in September and October. In prior years, the location was the Arnhem Land Barramundi Nature Lodge outside Maningrida, which operates as a high end fishing camp throughout the dry season. We only stayed one night there, and the recently opened Murwangi Safari Camp was the location for most of the week. It is a luxury camp having air-conditioned tents with modern en-suites. The food was excellent. The Traditional Owner, Johnny Pascoe, who starred in the movie, Ten Canoes, owns the former cattle property. He has leased the site to Outback Spirit, who are the operators of the facility, and who now organise the bird week.

The birding was also pretty good! We had several most experienced and enthusiastic guides [Richard Noske, John Estbergs, and Chris Brady] who took small groups of five or six to a variety of distinct habitats. Some 180 species were recorded.

The first day was spent on the river, as weather prevented us from going out to the off-shore islands, where the previous group made many great sightings of shore birds. Flocks of Brolgas and groups of buffalo graced the land. Excellent sightings were made of Chestnut Rails foraging on the muddy shores, Red-headed Honeyeaters, Black-necked Storks, as well as a Great-billed Heron. Closer to Barra Camp there were Long-tailed and Masked Finches, Black-tailed Treecreepers, and White-winged Trillers. Along the road we saw a pair of Red Goshawks feeding their chick.

A highlight at Murwangi was the billabong adjoining the camp. This enabled close-up birding from the comfort of a boat in the shady inlets. Apart from the Plumed Whistling-Ducks, Comb-crested Jacanas, Magpie Geese, Whistling Kites, Blue-winged Kookaburras, Nankeen Night-Herons, Torresian Imperial Pigeons, Australasian Darters and Egrets, we saw White-browed Crake, Crimson Finches, Paperbark Flycatchers, Mangrove Robins, Mangrove Golden Whistlers, Azure Kingfishers, Forest Kingfishers, Arafura Fantails, and the ubiquitous Lemon-bellied Flycatchers. The Lemon-bellied Flycatcher reputedly have the smallest nest in Australia, and they certainly looked tiny. The camp airstrip had its resident Oriental Plovers. The nearby paperbark forests had Bar-breasted, Rufous-banded and Rufous-throated Honeyeaters, as well as Varied Lorikeets.

Our excursion into the nearby settlement of Ramingining provided opportunities to observe indigenous culture as well as to explore additional habitats. Australian Bustards, Helmeted Friarbirds, Large-billed Gerygones, Yellow White-eyes, and large numbers of Little Curlews were recorded.

Arnhem Land Bird Week was a very enjoyable and productive birding experience.
Camp-out West Wyalong

24-26 March 2016

Alan Morris

Twenty-seven members and friends of the Central Coast Group of Birding NSW took part in the first of four camps for 2017, having spent from 23-27/3/17 staying at the Ace Caravan Park, West Wyalong. From here we visited State Forests, Nature Reserves, Travelling Stock Reserves, wetlands and farmlands within a 50 km radius of the Town. The purpose of the visit was to survey the birds in the Box Woodlands, Mugga Ironbark & Cypress Pine Forests, wetlands and farmlands of the area, for both the NSW Bird Atlas Data Base and to contribute to Birdlife Australia’s Birddata Project and the South West Slopes Key Biodiversity Area surveys, at the same time learning about the birds of the woodlands and plains generally. All up we saw 112 species. Within the camp ground we had a list 38 species including up to five Pink Cockatoos each day, a flock of 21 Superb Parrots, many Little Friarbirds, Blue-faced and Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters, many Choughs & Apostlebirds and Grey-crowned Babblers. Overall Choughs, Apostlebirds and Red-capped Robins seem to be the commonest bush birds in the District, where we visited over 28 different locations and will submit about 50 Birddata surveys!

On the Thursday before the camp, up to 50mm rain fell across the District, and while it had dried out by Friday, the day remained dull & overcast. In the morning we visited an area of mallee in the Charcoal Tank Nature Reserve and the box woodland habitats of the Buddigower Section of the South West Woodlands Nature Reserve. At the former the highlights were Inland Thornbills, the first of many Red-capped Robins, Common Bronzewings and the inland NSW form of the Varied Sittella, while at the latter were Peaceful Doves, Spotted and Striated Pardalotes, Rufous Whistlers, Brown-headed Honeyeater, Western Gerygone and Ringneck Parrots. On the way we passed the Alleena Silo and former village, where we saw a Wedge-tailed Eagle, a Brown Falcon, three Banded Lapwings, an adult male Superb Parrot, Jacky Winter and 2 Pink Cockatoos. In the afternoon we first visited Wyrra SF, a Cypress Pine/Box Woodland site, where a flock of eight Zebra Finches were seen, more Sittellas, Red-capped Robins and Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters. At nearby Back Creek SF being mostly Cypress Pine/ Belah habitats, there were Dusky Woodswallows, Striped Honeyeaters and Yellow Robins, and the final stop for the day was at the Wyalong Wetlands and WWTP. Great views here of a female Musk Duck, and immature Great Crested Grebe, many Pink-ears, Hardheads, White-plumed Honeyeaters, White-breasted Woodswallows, Black-fronted Dotterels, all the usual waterbirds and a Whistling Kite.

Saturday came up sunny and later hot, the temp rising 30C, so we spent the morning firstly in Wyalong SF (a mallee site), just on the northern edge of the town and had great views of Variegated Fairy-wrens, four Pink Cockatoos, Crested Shrike-tit, Collared Sparrowhawk, Weebills, Inland & Yellow Thornbills and White-eared Honeyeaters, and then moved onto the former Hiawatha SF, nowadays a part of South West Woodlands NR, an area of Mugga Ironbark and Box Woodland habitats. The highlights here were Thornbills including Yellow-rumped Thornbills, Western Gerygones and Red-capped Robins, while at the adjoining Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR), there were 2 Wedge-tailed Eagles, Double-barred Finch, Chestnut-rumped Thornbill, a Noisy Friarbird and many Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters. In the afternoon we visited the village of Barmedman and then onto Curraburrama SF. On route to and from the SF we passed through open cropping country and saw Brown Falcons, Kestrels, a Hobby, Blue Bonnet Parrots, White-necked Herons, our only flock of Cockatiel for the trip, Grey-crowned Babblers, Yellow-throated Miners and two more Pink Cockatoos. At the Forest was a pair of Brown Goshawks, Singing, Striped & Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters, Rufous Whistlers, Yellow & Red-capped Robins and yet another Wedge-tailed Eagle.

Our planned visit to the Nerang Cowal Section of Lake Cowal was on the Sunday which was a hot sunny day and good light for bird watching. Our first stop was a TSR on the Clear Ridge Road, an area of Box Woodland where we had our first sightings of Brown Treecreepers, up to this stage only White-throated Treecreepers had been seen! At Clear Ridge SF there were Blue Bonnets, Brown Falcon, Little Friarbirds and Common Bronzewings, plus the usual robins, and in the open country enroute to Lake Cowal there were Grey-crowned Babblers, Black-shouldered Kites, Pipits, Yellow-throated Miners, Whistling Kites, Kestrels and Ringnecks. We lunched in the little village of Burcher, finding the usual collections of Grey Fantails, thornbills and robins.

We drove down the Burcher-Forbes road into the Lake, parking just before where the lake waters have flooded across the road. The highlights here were a Freckled Duck, a pair of Australian Shelduck, many Pink-ear and Grey Teal, Royal and Yellow-billed Spoonbills, Great Egret White-necked Herons, Black-fronted Dotterel, three Sacred Kingfishers, Variegated Fairy-wrens in the Lignum, Darters, many Pelicans, four species of Cormorants and Wood Ducks, Black Ducks etc. On
our way back to Wyalong, we stopped at Lake View and Corringle SFs, the highlights being two Emus at the former and Blue Bonnet Parrots at the latter. After a coffee and rest at the camp, we paid our final visit to the Wyalong Wetlands where more Double-barred Finches were seen, and Tree and Fairy Martins, and Reedwarblers were added to our list.

Overall we saw Major Mitchell’s (Pink) Cockatoos at 6 sites including repeat sightings in the camp, Superb Parrots at three sites, saw many Red-capped Robins & Rufous Whistlers, Inland, Chestnut-rumped & Yellow-rumped Thornbills, had great views of Blue Bonnets and Mallee Ringneck Parrots; Peaceful Doves, Weebills and Western Gerygones, and nine species of raptors including Wedge-tailed Eagles at seven sites! Everyone agreed that it was a very successful camp, as it was a great time of socialising, photography, checking out the tourist highlights and enjoying the outdoors, particularly in this part of the Central West Slopes and Plains of NSW.

**Sydney Olympic Park**

29 March, 2017

Judy Clark

After the run of wet weather, Wednesday dawned fine and sunny. Nine keen birders including one visitor from England met near Lake Belvedere for our March midweek outing.

We began by heading to the belvedere lookout where we observed plenty of activity on the island. All four cormorants and darters were nesting, feeding young and some were in the process of building new nests. There were also Great Egrets feeding in the water and we found others nesting on the island. The best sighting and probably the highlight of the day were two juvenile Nankeen Night-Herons perched in one of the paperbarks adjacent to the lookout only a couple of metres from us, and very photogenic!

We walked around the lake and located many duck species, now returning to city waterways. We found New Holland Honeyeaters then four or five pairs of Royal Spoonbill nesting at the top of the casuarinas.

After morning tea we headed to the bird hide where we found Black-fronted Dotterel, Red-necked Avocet, Hardhead, Black Swan and Black-winged Stilt all in good numbers plus two Caspian Tern, one adult and one juvenile.

We lunched in the picnic shelter and chatted about recent sightings in Sydney and around New South Wales. By the end of lunch it had become quite hot so we decided to call it a day. In total 42 species were seen.

Thanks to all those who attended.

**Bucketty, Mogo Camp and Wollombi/Murrays Run**

1 April 2017

John and Carole Carpenter.

25 keen birders met at the Letter “A” cnr of George Downs Drive and Walkers Ridge Rd Bucketty, on a pleasant autumn day. We had several Sydney visitors, our UK visitor Jay Nicholson, while Tony Yates was joining us for the first time. Gang-gang Cockatoos were heard calling but waited to make their appearance when everyone had arrived and they were much admired and photographed! Before we moved off we had recorded 15 species including Pied Butcherbird, Noisy Friarbird, Grey Shrike-thrush and Scarlet Honeyeater, The friarbirds and honeyeaters were feeding on the flowering Red Bloodwoods, which were in heavy flower at Bucketty Wall & Waterhole and Mogo Camp as well.

We made our way to the convict wall at the corner of Settlers Rd/Great North Road where we had good views of the Crested Shrike-tit. Also seen were Variegated Fairy-wrens, White-cheeked and White-eared Honeyeaters. We continued along the Great North Road (Settlers Rd) to the Bucketty waterhole where we found the usually present Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters. A Dusky Woodswallow was sighted briefly overhead and a Fan-tailed Cuckoo called from a roadside tree in clear sight! Our next stop was the Mogo Camp, in Yengo NP where a large flowering Forest Red Gum *Euc. tereticornis* was alive with birds. There were White-naped, Yellow-faced, Scarlet, New Holland, White-naped and Fuscous Honeyeaters feeding on the nectar. The latter species was a new bird for some people. We reluctantly left the honeyeaters to walk around the Camp track where the dominant bird was the Eastern Yellow Robin. Morning tea was taken, again watching the honeyeaters and Little Lorikeets were passing overhead. To our great delight a pair of
Spotted Quail-thrush walked round the grassed area in view of everyone. After a short look at the Quarry across the road, we returned to the Camp where Mark spotted a bird with red on its head and everyone was quickly motivated to see this Red-browed Tree-creeper. The pair of treecreepers, quite oblivious to the excited birders, continued their foraging while photographers tried to catch this pair of busy birds. This was another lifer for some of the group. Top morning tea stop of the year!

We then drove to Wollombi via the Yango Creek Road, stopping to look in the waterholes where we added Black-fronted Dotterels, Grey Teal, a Swamp hen working at a nest in the reeds, Yellow-rumped Thornbills and Superb Fairy-wrens. Lunch was had at Wollombi making full use of the upgraded Picnic Area. Blue-faced Honeyeaters were seen and a Wedge-tailed Eagle soared high in the clouds. We then drove to the Wollombi Cemetery to check out the nearby waterhole but only found Grey Teal, Black Duck and a row of Cattle Egrets roosting on the old fence in the water. The surprise find was sighting a Jacky Winter roosting on the tallest tombstone. From here some of our group returned to the Letter “A” via George Downs Drive and the rest of us drove back via Murrays Run. Here we saw Galahs and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, Australian White Ibis, Australasian Grebe and Striated Thornbills. A really great day, 65 species were seen, many of them specials and new birds for some especially Jay! Thanks for everyone’s support.

Scheyville NP Outing
8 April 2017
Trevor Waller

A small group of members met at Scheyville National Park Headquarters under clear sunny skies. The first bird for the day was an Australian Hobby. We had good close scope views as it perched in a nearby tree. On our walk here we also found Fuscous and Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Eastern Rosella and Noisy Friarbird. Towards the end of the walk we found a large active flock of Silvereye including many Tasmanian birds.

After morning tea we moved to Cattai National Park where we stopped along the entry road a few times. Along the way we saw Restless Flycatcher, Wedge-tailed Eagle, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Brown Goshawk, Black-shouldered Kite and Nankeen Kestrel. Other birds seen included White-necked Heron and Red-browed Finch. We had lunch in one of the pavilions on new tables and benches.

After lunch we moved on to Mitchell Park which was very wet after all the recent rain, so we stayed on the bitumen. Here we found Azure Kingfisher, Golden Whistler and Brown Gerygone. After a good day out we all went our separate ways.

Katandra Reserve, St John’s Lookout (Mount Elliott) and Maidens Brush Fire Trail
12 April 2017
Doug Hocking

After a month of wet and humid weather 18 Birders visited the Katandra Reserve, Maidens Brush Fire Trail and St John’s Lookout (near Mount Elliott). It was a chance to have a look at bird populations in the temperate rain forest surrounding the man-made Seymour Pond and the ridge lines of Mount Elliott with St John’s Lookout rising 208 metres above sea level. The Sydney CBD can clearly be seen from the lookout. The habitat was in prime condition after the rain. In short, the birds were scarce in the rain forest and even fewer on the Maidens Brush Fire Trail. However, we managed to see 36 species. The highlights for me were four female Regent Bowerbirds, a Rufous Fantail and two Topknot Pigeons at Katandra Reserve while at Maidens Brush Road and St John’s Lookout, the Striated and Buff-rumped Thornbills, and a Mistletoebird were the highlights.

Most of the activity at Katandra was around Seymour Pond, a relic of farming days when the pond was the farm dam, there were large areas of cleared rough grazing for cattle and beans were grown on the flatter areas using some irrigation from the dam. There has been much revegetation of the rainforest since then! The birds seen and heard at Katandra Reserve/Seymour Pond were: Bell Miner, Laughing Kookaburra, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Rainbow...

Birds seen and heard at Maidens Brush Fire Trail and St John’s Lookout were: Grey Shrike-thrush, Australian Magpie, Magpie-lark, Lewin’s Honeyeater, Little Wattlebird, Eastern Spinebill, one Mistletoebird, Variegated Fairy-wren, Bell Miner, Grey Fantail, White-throated Treecreeper, Australian Pelican, Golden Whistler, Rainbow Lorikeet, Eastern Yellow Robin, Eastern Whipbird, Grey Butcherbird, Noisy Miner, Brown, Yellow and Striated Thornbills, and another Brown Cuckoo-Dove

2017 Easter camp at Nangar National Park

14 – 17 April 2017

Elisabeth Karplus

The 2016 Easter camp at Nangar National Park was so successful that Allan Richards decided to take club members there again in 2017. Nangar National Park is about five hours drive from Sydney and is 70 km west of Orange and 10 km east of Eugowra. This national park is within the South West Slopes Key Biodiversity Area and is 90 km north east of Grenfell, where the Club does twice yearly surveys. Once again we camped at the Terrara Creek Camping Ground. This time Easter occurred in the middle of the school holidays so there were many families camping in the area. Luckily the kids go to sleep quite early! The single toilet coped very well with the large number of visits – periodically an adult would lead a group of 4 or 5 children up to the toilet. It was generally not very smart to be queuing behind them if you were in a hurry! Our group of 16 campers split into two groups and settled in good sites on opposite sides of the road and the creek. This year there was water in the creek and plenty of water in other sites so we saw few Macropods close to the road. Each day Coleen and Gabrielle, who were staying in Forbes, joined us for walks in the park.

Once again the best birding was close to the entrance to the National Park and particularly along the creek among White Cypress Pine with various eucalypt species. Allan looked for the Owlet-nightjar we had seen last year – no luck and we watched a Monitor Lizard emerging from the tree hollow! There were good numbers of Turquoise Parrots. Frequently we were alerted to their presence by their high pitched call as they flew over us but we also had good views of perched birds. Greg got close enough to watch some Turquoise Parrots bathing in the creek. One evening Nigel, Greg and I came upon a group of 14 Turquoise Parrots feeding with two Red-rumped Parrots on the edge of the road. Of other threatened woodland birds, during the weekend we saw a pair of Hooded Robins, many Speckled Warblers, a few Dusky Woodswallows, two Diamond Firetails and several groups of Grey-crowned Babblers. On a visit to the lookout from which we could see Mount Canobolas near Orange and on a nearby track, there were Red-capped, Scarlet and Eastern Yellow Robins as well as several honeyeaters – Yellow-tufted, White-eared, Brown-headed and White-plumed. Generally there was little blossom except for a few flowering Ironbarks so honeyeaters were uncommon. We were surprised to find large numbers of Grey Fantails – at least 5 feeding near the lookout. We presumed that they were migrating north. Other birds seen in the park included Inland Thornbills, Chestnut-rumped Thornbills, a Horsfield’s Bronze-Cuckoo, White-browed Babblers and many Southern Whiteface and Yellow-rumped Thornbills. Alas we failed to see any Glossy Black-Cockatoos this year.
As well as birding in the National Park, we made trips to Gum Swamp in Forbes and to the Parkes Sewage Treatment Works. At Gum Swamp there were few ducks but we saw large numbers of Australasian and Hoary-headed Grebes. The Hoary-headed Grebes were swimming in lines up and down the swamp. As well as both species of Spoonbill, there were three Nankeen Night-Herons perched on the dead trees. A White-bellied Sea-eagle was sitting beside its nest and a Whistling Kite flew around the wetland. A flyby by a Peregrine Falcon had all the Rock Doves scattering. Overhead were many White-breasted Woodswallows while we saw a Pallid Cuckoo on a drive round the end of the swamp. I regretted not joining the group that went to Parkes Sewage Treatment Works, where nine species of duck were seen including Freckled, Pink-eared, Musk, Australasian Shoveler and Australian Shelduck. Alas they did not see any Blue-billed Ducks there.

Overall 118 species were seen over the weekend with Greg adding the 118th – a Brown Goshawk - as he left the park. Our thanks go to Allan Richards for organising the camp and for leading the bird walks and also for showing us so many species of birds.

Surveying Site 2! The Perils of Bird Surveys

14 - 17 April 2017.

Rae Lister

We had no mobile reception and were unable to contact Heather on the Saturday morning of the Grenfell bird survey to give an estimate of our arrival time. We later heard the Optus Network was down for some hours in the Grenfell area. As we drove into the private property we found Heather outside anticipating our arrival and hurriedly finishing her breakfast. She had arrived back late the night before after twelve months in Brisbane. We drove around the back and Heather opened the passenger door to her vehicle for the two dogs to jump in and then got in herself and we followed her as she drove to the site. Paul wondered aloud how many birds we might see with two boisterous dogs in tow.

On arrival at the site a mob of beautiful Belted Galloways were right beside the entry gate and they began to moo. I saw that each had an ear tag with their name written on it. Personally I thought how sweet that they were greeting us and particularly noted Amber. She was a big girl. As Heather opened the gate for us we walked through and the dogs Jessie and Ziggy romped in too. Heather said she would lead us around the site so we set off with me noting the time at 9:10. We had not gone very far when the mooing became bellowing and we turned to see Amber leading a charge for us. I turned to look at the others and particularly Heather seeking guidance in this situation. It was then that I saw the excited dogs were safely ensconced behind us for protection and that the mooing and bellowing had nothing to do with us. Heather made a swift decision to remove the dogs from the site and closed the gate.

We returned to the task at hand which was to scan and listen out for birds. The cows walked alongside us. Were they hoping for protection? There was a sense of relative calm, which I judged by Daisy allowing her calf to suckle. Still it was impossible to hear any birds, should there be any remaining on our side of the mountain, as some cows would not let the matter drop. They continued to moo their outrage albeit a few decibels below the bellowing! Nigel spoke harshly to them to no avail.
Heather led us down an incline and I noted aloud that the cows were no longer accompanying us as perhaps they preferred walking only on the flat. Soon after that we heard bellowing again and spun around to see Amber leading the charge down the hill. At the same time we saw Ziggy was behind us and Jessie was on the other side of the charging herd. Heather shouted doggy commands like stay, sit, etc to Jessica which she only partially obeyed as it was obvious she wanted to cross the void to relative safety behind us. Dogs being dogs they had run around the fence until they found a weakness they could exploit and get back in to the action.

Being the timekeeper I called time up and we moved purposefully towards Jessie and the gate. Amber and co ceased their descent and we made our way safely out the gate. As we left the enclosure Heather told us that they recently had a wild dog attack which had killed some sheep and also some goats and the remainder of the goat herd had bolted and none have returned. On the other hand the Belted Galloway herd remained intact. They had protected their calves and themselves from the attack.

I am afraid to say my contribution to the bird count was nil. Other team members (Paul, Nigel and Stephen) said they had seen three species and heard three more, which was impressive. Stephen continuing to take photographs under the circumstances was no less impressive.

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The Murray-Darling Basin

Ian Bailey, the Office of Conservation, Birding NSW

What is Environmental Water?

All the water available in the Murray-Darling Basin is shared by a number of “stakeholders”. Humans need it for personal consumption, irrigation, recreation, fishing and tourism. The environment obviously needs the ancient, but variable, levels and patterns of water flows to survive. Rivers were dammed to secure water for human use and it was realised that too much was being extracted and the patterns of water delivery didn’t suit the aquatic freshwater ecosystems. Governments are now addressing that situation and studies continue. Water “justice” is the objective.

More efficient use of water has resulted, such as a move away from overhead boom sprays used by winegrowers to a drip irrigation system keeping soils just moist enough. Pumping water by pipeline over distances avoids evaporation. Water losses or wastage has been high with huge irrigation properties such as Cubbie Station having the largest allocation of water in Australia at 460,000 mega-litres per annum to grow cotton. That is changing, meaning it is believed that the government have bought back some water rights. The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage work together to decide where Environmental Water is needed, how it is managed and the results are measured. We will have the benefit of hearing up-to-date news of the environmental water usage and bird populations from Terry Korodaj the Community Engagement & Communications Manager, NSW OEH, and one of his colleagues, on Tuesday 4th July at 7.30 pm at the Club Meeting.

SOME MURRAY-DARLING BASIN FACTS:

Note: The figures quoted are largely from one source. Data such as the average annual rainfall at 530,618 Giga-litres is debatable and probably should be quoted as “approximate”. Even so, the statistics show evidence of the fragile nature of the area.

Land area: 1,058,800 square kilometres.

Population: around 2 million people with another million reliant on the MDB water supply.

Rainfall: average annual 530,618 Giga-litres (one GL = 1 billion litres; Syd. Harbour = 500 GL)

Annual Water Flow: 32,500 GL. (94% of rainfall evaporates, 2% seeps down, 4% flows).

Public Dams: 31 with a capacity of around 22,500 GL. Current holding: 14,700 GL. (66%). (private dams-unknown).

River valleys: 23; Wetlands: 30,000; 350 species of birds; 100 sp. of lizards; 53 sp. frogs; 46 sp. snakes; 60 sp. fish; world’s largest stands of River Red Gum. Over 55 species of flora and fauna are endangered.

Other threats: salinity, blue-green algae, carp and cane toads. And – overpopulation!

The Murray-Darling Basin is mostly arid or semi-arid country and drought recurs every 10 years or so, making it one of the driest large river systems on earth.
The first is from Mal:

**Lake Cowal: (SW of Forbes)**

Commencing in late June 2016, flooding rains over much of inland NSW through to the end of October 2016 saw the Lachlan River and Bland Creek fill Lake Cowal to a flood peak equivalent to that of 1990. Once full, water flows from the north of Lake Cowal near Bogies Island into Nerang Cowal. From here, the Manna and Bogandillon Creeks flow into the Bogandillon Swamp and ultimately back into the Lachlan River.

When full, Lake Cowal covers an area of approximately 13,000 hectares with a length of 21 kilometres by 9.5 kilometres at its widest point, having a maximum depth of 3.5 metres, and taking a period of up to three years to dry mostly through evaporation, provided no significant inflows occur.

During the Spring/Summer/Autumn of 2016/17 a variety of waterbirds took the opportunity to breed in both the lignum areas and fringing river red gums of the lake. Species feeding and/or breeding in the various habitats of the lake included:

- Royal Spoonbill and Yellow-billed Spoonbill;
- White-necked Heron and White-faced Heron;
- Nankeen Night Heron;
- Great Egret;
- Little Black Cormorant, Little Pied Cormorant and Pied Cormorant;
- Australasian Darter;
- Eurasian Coot;
- Australasian Grebe and Great Crested Grebe;
- Red-necked Avocet;
- Black Swan;
- White-headed Stilt;
- Whiskered Tern;
- Sacred Kingfisher;
- Plumed Whistling Duck, Pink-eared Duck, Blue-billed Duck, Chestnut Teal and Pacific Black Duck;
- Australian White Ibis, Straw-necked Ibis and Glossy Ibis;
- Magpie Goose observed and breeding for the first time since 1990.

Presently approximately 2,000 Australian Pelicans are fishing the shallower northern sections of Lake Cowal with the water level presently relatively stable through the winter months. With no further inflows, the lake is expected to have water in it through to the 2018/19 Summer.

And from Jennifer with information about pelican breeding colonies:

**Lower Murrumbidgee Valley**

An estimated 5,000-6,000 pairs of Australian pelicans nested in the lower Murrumbidgee valley over January-May 2017 for the first time in recorded history. The pelicans nested on an exposed bank in the middle of Kieta Swamp, near Balranald in south-western NSW. This event followed a large flood in the Murrumbidgee over spring-summer 2016. The breeding site is located within the Nimmie Caira – a floodplain wetland system with numerous flow paths which can deliver...
water to key wetlands throughout the lower Murrumbidgee floodplain. The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has been working with the local water and land managers to co-ordinate the delivery of 10,000 megalitres of Commonwealth and NSW environmental water to the site to provide protection and food for the pelicans. The Murrumbidgee valley pelicans are a separate colony to another large pelican colony (estimated at more than 5,000 nests) at Lake Brewster, in the Lachlan Valley some 350km away. Water levels are being managed at the lake to ensure nests are not inundated.

More details can be found here:

UNUSUAL REPORTS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES, MARCH - APRIL 2017

ALAN MORRIS

Region Abbreviations: NC – North Coast; H – Hunter, CC – Central Coast; S – Sydney Region; I – Illawarra; SC – South Coast; NT – Northern Tablelands; CT – Central Tablelands; ST – Southern Tablelands; NS – North-west Slopes; CS – Central-west Slopes; SS – South-west Slopes; NP – North-west Plains; CP – Central-west Plains; R – Riverina; UW – Upper Western; LW – Lower Western. Other abbreviations used include A – adult, F – female, M – male, J – juvenile, DY – dependent young, N – nest, E – Eggs, RA - rest area, rk – road kill, hw – hit window, ba – blown ashore, hc – heard calling be – beachcast and pr – pair., Im – immature

**=First Return; ** Last Date; CWBS= Cowra Woodland Bird Survey.

Bold – On the Review list of the NSW Ornithological Records Appraisal Committee – submission required.
(Bird names used and the order in which they occur are in accord with Christidis L and W Boles ‘Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds’2008)

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<td>Bomaderry WWTP</td>
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<td>Bushells Lagoon Wilberforce</td>
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<td>M. Rutkowski</td>
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<td>Wandering Whistling-Duck</td>
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<td>Alan Coates</td>
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<td>Musk Duck</td>
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<td>2/3/17</td>
<td>Centennial Park, Sydney</td>
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<td>Alan Coates</td>
</tr>
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<td>Musk Duck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freckled Duck</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Fivebough Swp, Leeton</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Keith Hutton</td>
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<tr>
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<td>28/3-30/4</td>
<td>Dairy Swamp, CCW, Tuggerah</td>
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<td>Alan Morris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue-billed Duck</td>
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<td>11/3/17</td>
<td>Pitt Town Lagoon, Windsor</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Edwin Vella</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pink-eared Duck</td>
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<td>25/2/17</td>
<td>Morpeth WWTW</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>Terry Kendall</td>
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<td>Pink-eared Duck</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15/4/17</td>
<td>Pitt Town lagoon</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Tom Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Great Crested Grebe</td>
<td>3 Im</td>
<td>24-26/3/17</td>
<td>West Wyalong STW Wetlands</td>
<td>SS</td>
<td>Andrew Melville</td>
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<td>30/4/17</td>
<td>Triangle Lane Pond, Richmond</td>
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<td>Greg McLachlan</td>
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<td>Emerald Dove</td>
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<td>7/3/17</td>
<td>Irawong Res Warriewood</td>
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<td>Jayden Walsh</td>
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<td>Brush Bronzewing</td>
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<td>30/4/17</td>
<td>Riverside Park, Chipping Norton</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Brenda Parkinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peaceful Dove</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18/2/17</td>
<td>Tathra taila HSD Mangrove Mtmb</td>
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<td>Margaret Pointer</td>
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<td>Diamond Dove</td>
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<td>17/2/17</td>
<td>Rankins Springs</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Nella Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Superb Fruit-Dove</td>
<td>1DY</td>
<td>22/4/17</td>
<td>Mackeral Bch Ku-ring-gai Chase NP</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Andrew Mowat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Birding NSW Newsletter

#### Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove
- **1DY**
- **4/4/17**
- Avalon Beach
- **S** per Jayden Walsh

#### Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove
- **hc**
- **22/4/17**
- Oaks Rd Matcham
- **CC** James Panetta

#### Topknot Pigeon
- **50**
- **5/4/17**
- Scenic Hwy Terrigal
- **CC** Doug Hocking

#### Topknot Pigeon
- **106**
- **25/4/17**
- Garden World Ourimbah
- **CC** Alan Morris

#### White-throated Nightjar
- **hc**
- **25/3/17**
- The Sculptures, Pilliga NP
- **NP** Michael Dahlem

#### White-throated Nightjar
- **3**
- **12/3/17**
- Shoplands Rd Annangrove
- **S** Darryl Smedley

#### White-throated Nightjar
- **3**
- **23/4/17**
- Old Bagotville Rd Wardell
- **NC** David Charley

#### White-throated Needletail
- **1000**
- **15/3/17**
- Brothersons Swamp, Coutts Crossing
- **NC** Greg Clancy

#### Pacific Swift **(Fork-tailed)**
- **3**
- **5/3/17**
- Cape Byron Lighthouse
- **NC** A MORRIS

#### Pacific Swift **(Fork-tailed)**
- **30+**
- **12/3/17**
- Bullaburra-Hazelbrook
- **CT** Carol Probets

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- **12/3/17**
- Bullaburra-Hazelbrook
- **CT** Carol Probets
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Subspecies</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Osprey</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Candalan Ck Pedro Point</td>
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<td>Eastern Osprey</td>
<td>2+N</td>
<td>27-30/4/17</td>
<td>Budd Island, Batemans Bay</td>
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<td>Mount Hay Rd Leura</td>
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<td>Sydney Park, St Peters</td>
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<td>Square-tailed Kite</td>
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<td>2/3 &amp; 9/4</td>
<td>St Clair, Western Sydney</td>
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<td>St Ives Chase</td>
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<td>Bensons Lane Richmond</td>
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<td>Eastlakes Golf Course</td>
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<td>White-bellied Sea-Eagle</td>
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<td>Spotted Harrier</td>
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<td>Bobbin Head Rd Nth Turramurra</td>
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<td>Little Eagle</td>
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<td>Terek Sandpiper **</td>
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<td>Stockton Sandspit</td>
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<td>Stockton Sandspit</td>
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<td>Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *</td>
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<td>Sanderling</td>
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<td>Brou Lake</td>
<td>M. Griffith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red-backed Button-quail</td>
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<td>2-4/4/17</td>
<td>Tathra Taila HSD Mangrove Mtn</td>
<td>Kaye Pointer</td>
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<td>Painted Button-quail</td>
<td>AM</td>
<td>4/3/17</td>
<td>Chiltern Trail, Ingleside</td>
<td>Jayden Walsh</td>
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<td>Pomerine Jaeger</td>
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<td>Tacking Pt Light House Pt Macquarie</td>
<td>Liam Murphy</td>
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<td>South Polar Jaeger</td>
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<td>Kiama pelagic</td>
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<td>Pacific Gull</td>
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<td>Tura Beach, Merimbula</td>
<td>L. Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelp Gull</td>
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<td>19/4/17</td>
<td>Sandringham Bay</td>
<td>Brian Deans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common Noddy</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>5/3/17</td>
<td>Point Plommer, Limeburners Ck NR</td>
<td>Tim Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>Warden head, Ulladulla</td>
<td>Charles Dove</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>19/3/17</td>
<td>Mistral Point Maroubra</td>
<td>Robert Griffin</td>
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<tr>
<td>White Tern</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14, 16, 17/3</td>
<td>6 on 19/3 Mistral Point Maroubra</td>
<td>David Mitford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roseate Tern</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24/3/17</td>
<td>Flat Rock Ballina</td>
<td>Steve McBride</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little Tern</td>
<td>30pr</td>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>Many juvs. Brou Lake colony</td>
<td>Mandy Anderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairy Tern</td>
<td>2 pr</td>
<td>January 17</td>
<td>2J fledged, Brou Lake colony</td>
<td>Charles Dove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gull-billed Tern</td>
<td>7,8J</td>
<td>7/2-7/3/17</td>
<td>A+3 downy juvs Fivebough Swp</td>
<td>Keith Hutton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>100+</td>
<td>10-12/2/17</td>
<td>Rankins Springs District</td>
<td>Rex Schmidt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glossy Black-Cockatoo</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>21/3/17</td>
<td>Spring Hill, Cocoparra NP Yenda</td>
<td>Max O’Sullivan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glossy Black-Cockatoo</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25/3/17</td>
<td>The Sculptures Pilliga NP</td>
<td>David Johnston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gang-gang Cockatoo</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>11/3/17</td>
<td>Littleton, Lithgow</td>
<td>Grant Brosie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gang-gang Cockatoo</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10/3/17</td>
<td>West Kameruka Rd Candelto</td>
<td>I. Elsey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major Mitchell’s Cockatoo</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21/2/17</td>
<td>Bilul via Griffith</td>
<td>Meredith Billington</td>
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<td>Major Mitchell’s Cockatoo</td>
<td>Max5</td>
<td>23-26/3/17</td>
<td>15 at 5 sites, West Wyalong,</td>
<td>Alan Morris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Musk Lorikeet</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2/4/17</td>
<td>Ulladulla Shops Car Park</td>
<td>Charles Dove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Lorikeet</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>25/3-1/4</td>
<td>Mogo Camp, Yengo NP Bucketty</td>
<td>Allan Benson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Lorikeet</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25/3/17</td>
<td>The Sculptures, Pilliga NR</td>
<td>Paul Stair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Parrot</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>25-26/3/17</td>
<td>8 sites Grenfell District</td>
<td>Grenfell KBA Surveys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Parrot</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24-25/3/17</td>
<td>3 sites, max 21 West Wyalong</td>
<td>CCGBNWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Parrot</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2/4/17</td>
<td>Leeton</td>
<td>Max O’Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swift Parrot</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>27/4/17</td>
<td>Narrowneck Plateau, Katoomba</td>
<td>John French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swift Parrot</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30/4/17</td>
<td>Tathra Taila HSD Mangrove Mtn</td>
<td>Kaye Pointer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turquoise Parrot</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17/2/17</td>
<td>Cruikshanks Dam, Rankin Springs</td>
<td>Virginia Tarr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turquoise Parrot</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18/2/17</td>
<td>14 on 15/4, Wattle Dam, Binya SF</td>
<td>Virginia Tarr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel-billed Cuckoo **</td>
<td>2J</td>
<td>2/3/17</td>
<td>Forest Siding Rd Middle Arm</td>
<td>Clyde Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Channel-billed Cuckoo **</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18/4/17</td>
<td>Centennial Park, Sydney</td>
<td>Graeme Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Koel **</td>
<td>hc</td>
<td>31/3/17</td>
<td>Warriewood</td>
<td>Jayden Walsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pallid Cuckoo</td>
<td>Im</td>
<td>9-10/2/17</td>
<td>Commerang</td>
<td>J. Collett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pallid Cuckoo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17/2/17</td>
<td>Koonanan Rd Leeton</td>
<td>Max O’Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental Cuckoo (hepatic m.)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8-14/3/17</td>
<td>Eastlakes GC,</td>
<td>Corey Callaghan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental Cuckoo</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14-16/3/17</td>
<td>Barrington Tops NP</td>
<td>HBOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental Cuckoo (hepatic)</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>4-6/4/17</td>
<td>Scotts Point, Koorangag Island</td>
<td>Peter Weinstock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shining Bronze-Cuckoo (NZ)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24/4/17</td>
<td>Neds Beach, Lord Howe Island</td>
<td>Martin Schulz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerful Owl</td>
<td>2A,J</td>
<td>Jan-Feb 17</td>
<td>Pedro Swamp</td>
<td>S. Gokay Gul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerful Owl</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12/3/17</td>
<td>Sydney Park, St. Peters</td>
<td>S. Gokay Gul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Count</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Curator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerful Owl</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25/4/17</td>
<td>Sea Acres NR Port Macquarie</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barking Owl</td>
<td>1hc</td>
<td>13/02/17</td>
<td>Tarrawanna Escarpment</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barking Owl</td>
<td>1hc</td>
<td>28/3/17</td>
<td>Acacia Gardens</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collared Kingfisher</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14/3/17</td>
<td>Riverside mangroves, Fingal Head</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollarbird</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>29/1/7</td>
<td>Mystery Bay, Narooma</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollarbird **</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29/3/17</td>
<td>Round Mountain Rd Hastings Point</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollarbird **</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3/4/17</td>
<td>Loftus Rd Crescent Head</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noisy Pitta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18/4/17</td>
<td>Castle Hill, hit window</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noisy Pitta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20/4/17</td>
<td>Maroubra</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noisy Pitta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18/4/17</td>
<td>Oaks Rd Matcham</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Lyrebird</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18/3/17</td>
<td>Warners Park, Northbridge</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Lyrebird</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18/3/17</td>
<td>Harold Reid Reserve, Middle Cove</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superb Lyrebird</td>
<td>1hc</td>
<td>4/4/17</td>
<td>Press Park, Castle Cove</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Bowerbird</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18/3/17</td>
<td>Rankins Springs Caravan Park</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Bowerbird</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18/3/17</td>
<td>Goulburn River NP</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chestnut-rumped Heathwren</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11/3 &amp; 8/4</td>
<td>Mogo Camp, Yengo NP Bucketty</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singing Honeyeater</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>21/3/17</td>
<td>Duirridgerie Rd Turrill</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-plumed Honeyeater</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18/2/17</td>
<td>Whitshire Rd Rankin Springs</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuscous Honeyeater</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>26/3-1/4</td>
<td>Mogo Camp, Yengo NP, Bucketty</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-plumed Honeyeater **</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18/2/17</td>
<td>Whiristier Rd Rankin Springs</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Honeyeater</td>
<td>40+</td>
<td>26/2/17</td>
<td>Eight Mile Tank Rd Rankins Springs</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-naped Honeyeater</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20/4/17</td>
<td>On summit cairn at Mt Kosciusko</td>
<td>ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-fronted Chat</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18/4/17</td>
<td>Long Swamp Rd Towrang</td>
<td>ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-fronted Chat</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>28/4/17</td>
<td>Brou Lake, Bodalla</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-naped Honeyeater</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2/4/17</td>
<td>Conjurong Point, St Georges Basin</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-fronted Honeyeater</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24/4/17</td>
<td>Manna SF, SW of Forbes</td>
<td>CS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-faced Honeyeater</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22/3/17</td>
<td>Parkes Drive, Centennial Park</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue-faced Honeyeater</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15/4/17</td>
<td>Dolphin St Coogee Beach</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noisy Friebird</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10/4/17</td>
<td>Marrickville</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spotted Quail-thrush</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>24/3-30/4</td>
<td>Mogo Camp, Yengo NP Bucketty</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crested Shrike-tit</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18/3/17</td>
<td>Darling River Block Dam, Menindee</td>
<td>LW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crested Bellbird</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21/3/17</td>
<td>Spring Hill, Cocoparra NP Yenda</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olive Whistler</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29/4/17</td>
<td>Porters Ck Dam Rd, Lake Conjola</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground Cuckoo-shrike</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23/3/17</td>
<td>Koonadan Rd Leeton</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-breasted Woodswallow</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5/3/17</td>
<td>Narrawallee Creek,</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-browed W’swallow</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6/3/17</td>
<td>Evan Smiles Rd Leeton</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-browed W’swallow</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>26/3-13/4</td>
<td>Seales Rd Swamp, Belmore River</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masked Woodswallow</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26/3-2/4/17</td>
<td>Seales Rd Swamp, Belmore River</td>
<td>NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dusky Woodswallow **</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17/4/17</td>
<td>Tathra Taila HSD Mangrove Mtn</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spangled Drongo *</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12/3/17</td>
<td>Randwick Environment Park</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spangled Drongo *</td>
<td>1,1</td>
<td>29/3/17</td>
<td>Singles Wattanobbi &amp; Budgewoi</td>
<td>CC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous Fantail **</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17/4/17</td>
<td>Newington NR Sydney Olympic Pk</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rufous Fantail **</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>19/4/17</td>
<td>Greenwich</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pied Butcherbird</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>20/4/17</td>
<td>Kangaroo Swamp, Cattai</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Indicates a new record for the species.
Little Raven | 65 | 19/3/17 | Exeter | I | Lorne Johnson
Black-faced Monarch ** | J | 19/3/17 | Cleveland Rd Riverstone | S | Edwin Vella
Spectacled Monarch | Injure | 10/4/17 | Carrington | H | HBOC
Spectacled Monarch ** | 2 | 17/4/17 | Busbys Flat, Rappville | NC | David Charley
Leaden Flycatcher ** | 1 | 8/4/17 | Randwick Environment Park | S | Anne Brophy
Leaden Flycatcher ** | 1 | 13/4/17 | Budgewoi | CC | Steve Merrett
Restless Flycatcher | A, DY | February 17 | Commerang | SC | N. Montgomery
Restless Flycatcher | 1 | 4/4/17 | Popondetta Pk Emerton | S | Robert Coveny
White-winged Chough | A+Js | 11/4/17 | Adults with DY Kemps Creek | S | Michael Miller
White-winged Chough | 4A, J | 13/4/17 | Avondale GC West Pymble | S | Andrew Robinson
Jacky Winter | 1 | 30/4/17 | Edwards Rd Richmond | S | Greg McLachlan
Rose Robin * | 1 | 17/4/17 | Newington NR Sydney Olympic Park | S | Dion Hobcroft
Rose Robin * | 5 | 19/4/17 | Deep Creek Reserve Narrabeen | S | Jayden Walsh
White-backed Swallow | 4 | 8/4/17 | Martindale | H | Liam Murphy
White-backed Swallow | 24 | 14/4/17 | Bobadeen Rd Turrill | H | Mick Roderick
Mistletoebird | F, lm | 6/4/17 | Centennial Park, Sydney | S | Graeme Robinson
Diamond Firetail | 2 | 25/3/17 | Bimbi SF Grenfell | SS | Grenfell KBA Surveys
Diamond Firetail | 2 | 17/4/17 | Yarrowich, Upper Macleay Valley | NC | Liam Murphy
Diamond Firetail | 4 | 18/4/17 | Long Swamp, Towrang | ST | Fred Young
Beautiful Firetail | 5, 4 | 29/4/17 | Barren Grounds & Budderoo NP | I | Martin Snowball
Double-barred Finch | 3 | 1/4/17 | Grose River Junct Yarramundi | S | Martin Snowball
Double-barred Finch | 1 | 25/4/17 | Barton Park Sth wetlands | S | Brian Deans
Chestnut Mannikin | 3A3J | 15/4/17 | Pitt Town Lagoon | S | Tom Wilson

COMMENT

After heavy rains in March, finally the rains stopped in April along the Coast and it is obvious that many of the inland wetlands dried back during February & March because there has been a movement towards the coast of inland breeding birds like **Freckled Ducks, Pink-eared Ducks, White-necked Herons** and **Straw-necked Ibis**. These birds have been returning to the Coastal wetland in good numbers and the flocks include many juvenile birds. **Oriental Cuckoos** perhaps were the most unusual birds seen in the last two months, although the 2 **Red-footed Boobies** seen on the Forster pelagic, and the **Leaden Petrel**, first record for Australia (if accepted by BARC), along with **South Polar Skua** seen from the Kiama pelagic, and the clutch of **White-necked**, **Black-winged** and **Kermadec Petrels** seen from the Coast were also of great interest. The **Red-backed Button-quails** at Mangrove Mountain are the sixth occasion that the birds have been seen at this site since 1995. Lord Howe Island has had some great records of late, particularly the **Semi-palmated Plover** and the **Royal Spoonbill**! The Inland **Dotterel** at Shoalhaven Heads appears to have now moved away! **Australian Brush-turkeys** continue to extend their range into Sydney’s Eastern and Western Suburbs with many records. A **Maggie Goose** seen at Pitt Town Lagoon is the first for the County of Cumberland, other records are 20 Tamworth STW Westdale 13/2, 3 Barraba 19/2 (NS), 4 Campbells Swp Griffith 7/3 (R) & 1 Pitt Town Lagoon 25/4 (S) & Other **Freckled Duck** records include 1 Hobart Beh, Bournnda 3/2 (SC), 1 roadside Pond, Kidman Way, Cobar 11/4 (UW), 2 Moss Vale Sale yards Ponds 12/4 (I), 2 Warriewood Wtl Ms 20/3-10/4 (S), 1 Nerang Cowal, Burcher 26/3 (CS), 2 Emerald Downs GC Pt Macquarie 10-14/4 (NC); Coastal records for **Pink-eared Duck** include 6 Teven Rd Swp, West Ballina (NC), 2 Waterbird Refuge Sydney Olympic Park 27/4 (S); Other **Black Bittern** 1 Warriewood Wetlands 8/4 (S); **Eastern Osprey**: 1 Yarramundi, Hawksworth River 8/4 (S) while both pairs around Brisbane Water are refurbishing their nests (CC); **Square-tailed Kite**: 1 Chiltern Trail, Ingleside 23/4 (STW) & 3 Central Coast reports Mar-Apr (CC); **Black Kite** 1 Hexham Swamp 8/4 (H); 1 Clarence STW Sth Grafton 11/4 (NC); **Grey Goshawk** 1 Eastlakes GC 14/3 and regular Centennial Pk Sydney Mar-Apr (S); **Broglia**: 2 Teven Swp Ballina 5/3 (NCI), 5 Fivebough Wetlands, Leeton 1/4 (R), 2 Plummers Lane Clybucca 13/4 (NC); **Hooded Plover**: 2 Termeil Beh Bawley Pt 12/3, 2 Racecourse Bch Kiola 20-30/4 (I); Other **Common Noddy** records include 1 Bar Beach Newcastle 28/2 (H), Js at Tacking Pt Light House Pt Macquarie 7/3 (NC), Red Point, Pt Kembla 8/3 (I), Shelley Beh Pt Macquarie 10-11/3, 1 Southies Beh Sawtell 14/4 (NC); Other **Powerful Owl**; HC Woodfield Ave Bundenia 12/3, 1 Miner St Wollstonecraft 14 & 17/3, 2 Linley Pt Lane Cove 1/4 (S), 1 Katandra Res Holgate 18/4 (CC), 2 Sea Acres NR Pt Macquarie 25/4 (NC), HC Bellevue Hill 27/4 (S), hc Hazelbrook & Winmalee 29-30/3 (CT); **Noisy Pitta**: 1 Bellawongarah 24/4 (I); **Rock Warbler**: 9 birds seen at 7 sites in the Blue Mtns Lapstone-Blackheath Mar (CT); Another late **Rufous Fantail**: 1 Uni of Sydney 1/4 (S); Good Birding!
Postal address:
Birding NSW, PO Box Q277,
QVB Post Shop, NSW 1230
Email: info@birdingnsw.org.au
Website: www.birdingnsw.org.au

Sydney Club Meetings:
The Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month, February to December at 7.30 pm on Level 1, Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. There is an illustrated talk followed by Club business and unusual sighting reports. Visitors are welcome.

Central Coast Club Meetings
Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Anzac Street, Tuggerah at 7.30 pm. Convenor: Alan Morris 4334 2776

Annual membership fees:
Single Adult - Mailed Newsletter $45.00
Single Adult - Online Newsletter $40.00
Family - Mailed Newsletter $50.00
Family - Online Newsletter $45.00
Junior (under 18 years) $15.00
Fees are due on 1 October.
Membership includes six newsletters per year.

Email for Club Activities:
activities@birdingnsw.org.au

Newsletter contributions:
Email articles, trip reports etc to newsletter@birdingnsw.org.au

AUGUST Newsletter Deadline:
Friday 7 July 2017

Newsletter advertising rates, and bookings contact Ian Bailey:
Email: newsletter@birdingnsw.org.au

The opinions expressed by authors are their own and not necessarily the views or goals of Birding NSW or its Committee.

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CLUB COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Dr Tom Karplus
Thomas.Karplus@health.nsw.gov.au | 9816 2285
SECRETARY: Barbara Dundas
barbaradundas@bigpond.com | 9645 1826
TREASURER: Leigh Hall | 9449 8370
PUBLIC OFFICER: Dick Dallimore | 9953 7562
MEMBERS SECRETARY: Adrian Nieuwenhuizen
ban.an@bigpond.com | 8920 2935
ACTIVITIES OFFICER: Allan Richards
activities@birdingnsw.org.au
RECORDS OFFICER: Alan Morris | 4334 2776
OFFICE of CONSERVATION: Ian Bailey
ibails@bigpond.net.au | M: 0412 251 337
ACTIVITIES OFFICER: Allan Richards
activities@birdingnsw.org.au

REGENT HONEYEATER SURVEYS,
CAPERTEE and GRENFELL:
Elisabeth Karplus
emhodson@exemail.com.au

CLUB OFFICERS

SPEAKERS COORDINATOR: Graham Walters
9584 8412
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