Pebruary 1982

THE CIRCULAR OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION (CATEGORY "B")

THE CLUB'S AIM: TO JOIN TOGETHER PROPER WITH A COMMON INTEREST

THE CLUB'S MOTTO: ONE GOOD TERM DESERVES ANOTHER.

The first meeting of this year will be held on Monday the 8th of February 1982 at the Fairy Meadow Senior Citizens Centre (formally the North Wollongong Council Chambers) on the corner of Collary Avenue and Princes Highway, Pairy Meadow.

The meeting is timed to start at 7-30pm and our Guest Speaker will be Mr Kevin Mills talking to the club on the comparison of bird life in a State Pine Forest as against bird life in a State Eucalyptus Forest

Our nest outing will be on Saturday the 13th of Pebruary, 1982 when we will visit a State Pine Forest and a State Eucalyptus Forest west of Moss Vale. We will be meeting at the foot of Macquarie Pass on the right hand side at 86m.

Tuesday night the 16th of February the committee meeting will be held at 18 Achilles Avenue, North Wollongong at 8pm.

1981 committee members plus prospective 1982 members are asked to attend plus any other interested members of the club.

PEES FOR 1982 ARE NOW DUE.

\$5-00 family membership \$5-00 single membership \$2-00 student membership.

A SPECIAL GUTING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY EVENING THE 10th OF FEBRUARY MEETING AT 5-30pm AT WINDANG CAMPING GROUND TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE WADERS.
Bring along a sandwich and a cuppa-

Library Books We still have a number of library books out on loan which have not been returned, would members please assist us by returning all outstanding books to our February meeting.

March Meeting Monday 8th, members night .

March excursion to Pitzroy Falls area.

Any further enquiries please phone Laurie Williams, 296637.

THE CIRCULAR OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION (CATEGORY 'B')

THE CLUB'S AIM: TO JOIN TOGETHER PEOPLE WITH A COMMON INTEREST TO FURTHER THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIRDLIFE AROUND THEM.

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The meeting is timed to start at 7.30 p.m. and our guest speaker will be Mr. Kevin Mills and his subject will be the comparison of bird life in a Pine Forest as against a Eucalyptus Forest.

Our next outing will be en Saturday the 13th of March to Elmwood School on the Fitzroy Falls Road, between Fitzroy Falls and Meryla Pass Road, and we will meet at the school at 8.30 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: Our April Meeting and Outing are later in the month due to Easter.

FEES ARE NOW DUE and if you wish to be included in this year's directory it ;will be pecessary for your fees to be paid prior to the 15th March.

CAMELS, SEALS, PENGUINS & BEARS

Our package to Kangaroo Island in early January included all these; but not in the order mentioned. Our first daylight stop-over was at Mannum on the Murray River, S.A.

Between swims, we took the opportunity of exploring some nearby Mallee scrubs. How those beautiful Crested Bellbirds, Mallee Ringnecks, Owlet Nightjars, Singing Honeyesters and Mulga Parrots survive in such barren country remains a mystery.

The vehicular ferry and freighter "Troubridge" took us to Kangaroo Island from Adelaide in 64 hours. Our car and camping equipment was stored on the lower deck.

Upon arrival at Kingscote we had to drive about 100 km to the opposite (western) end of the island to our accommodation in cabins at Rex Ellis' property "The Ravine". Rex is himself a very keen naturalist, regularly conducting camel safaris to Central Australia (and Land Rover Safaris to Cape York). He keeps some of his camels on Kangaroo Island in the summer for 1 and 3 day safaries. My sons became very familiar with the camels; that familiarity culminating in a special one day trekabout with Rex, "Rajah", "Gidgee" and "Sam".

My pre-breakfast walks from "The Ravine" always revealed Bush Curlews, Brush Bronzewings, Shy Hylacolas and Purple-gaped Honeyeaters. The little (but speedy) Purple-crowned Lorikeets were a common sight during the day.

Flinders Chase N.P. adjoins "The Ravine". We were fortunate to be hosted on a birdwatching trip by Chris Baxter, Ranger and Ornithologist. On that memorable day we added Rock Parrots (30+), Hooded Dotterils (4) and Pacific Gulls to our bag. Chris also gave us information on a Fairy Penguin rookery in a marine cave close to our cabins.

One afternoon we undertook that 5 km hike to the cave and awaited the Pemguin exodus from the waves. It was a most natural but eerie experience, especially as those adult Penguins began entering the cave right before our eyes. The 5 km hike out of that desolate cave in pitch black darkness at 11 p.m. was an "untold" joy???

On our next day we took off for Seal Bay. Here we literally romped with the bulk and cows and pups on the beach. On a few occasions we touched their rear flippers and nearly lost an arm. Some of the pups were still suckling; others were playing with people swimming in the surf. About 150 sea lions were counted along with Ospreys, Sea Eagles and Oystercatchers. About 10 snap shots later we said goodbye to Seal Bay.

Plinders Chase N.P. is also unique in that it supports the Island's endemic Kangaroo and Dama Wallaby. Many of these were seen at night around our cabin. The introduced Koala and Cape Barren Goose was also plentiful throughout "The Chase".

One never gets tired of cuddling Koalas! (Quote: my sons).

After some 6 days at "The Ravine" it was time to say goodbye.

At Kingscote while waiting to rejoin the "Troubridge" we decided to check the local waders. Excellent views were enjoyed of the Grey Plover, Black Faced Cormorant and Fairy Tern. That white rump and black axilliary really separates the Grey from Golden Plover in flight!

Upon disembarkation at Adelaide a free day allowed a visit to the illustrious I.C.I. salt fields. Whiskered Tern, Banded Stilt and Avocet were literally everywhere; along with the common waders; Red-necked Stint, Curlew and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, etc. Six Mountain Duck were seen at close quarters and also a single Ruff (another lifer). We enjoyed our scenic view of Adelaide from the Lofty Ranges in company with the Adelaide Rosella.

On our return overland trip we took the opportunity to bush camp at some notable bird watching spots. The first was Comet Bore in the heart of the Mallee Desert near the South Australian border. Here the temperature was 45°C+ in the shade, but it did; not stop us fossiking out the Black-backed Wren (1M & 4F), Field Wren (calamanthus) 4, Southern Scrub-robin (5) and Spotted Nightjar (2). Luckily, a very good tape of both calls of the Scrub Robin was obtained. At Hattah Lakes, Regent Parrots, Pink-eared Ducks, Yellow Rosellas and Black-tailed Native Hens were plentiful, whilst at Darlington on the Murrumbidgee (near Hay) were wakened by the cheerful song of the Western Warbler. To conclude our observations, John Hobbs took us for an impromptu 90 minute search for birds at Narrandera, and found for us the beautiful Orange Chat (10), Red-backed Kingfisher (2) and Little Quail (3).

Some three weeks after leaving Wollongong I was pleased to record 40 new birds for life - a very pleasing aside; to a lovely holiday on Kangaroo Island. There were a few species I searched hard for and missed; such as the Western Whipbird, Mallee Emu Wren, Freckled Duck and Pink Cockatoo, but its lovely to know there are still a few left for next time.

KEVIN WOOD

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB 1982 AGENDA

		4.		
8th	February	Monday		Nancy Dryden & Kevin Woods
13th	February	Saturday		Belanglo State Forest
8th	March	Monday		Kevin Mills
13th	March	Saturday		"Elmwood" Fitzroy Falls
9th t	to 18th Marc	Ch APRIL		Narrandera - Camp Out
19th	April	Monday		Members Night
25th	April.	Sunday		Berry District
8th	May	Saturday		Film Night Williams
lOth	May	Monday .		A.B.Strachan - Subject Binoculars
15th	May	Saturday		Pejar Track Goulbourn
22nd	May	Saturday		Skinning Night
29th	May	Saturday		Autumn Bird Count
14th	June	Monday		To be advised.
19th	June	Saturday		Natai
loth	July	Saturday		Film Night Thompsons
12th	July	Monday		To be advised
17th	July	Saturday		Royal National Park
9th	August	Monday		Arnold McGill - Migration of Birds
15th	August	Sunday		Camden
llth	September	Saturday		Film Night Almonds
13th	September	Monday	`	Doug Gibsen - Attracting Birds to Your Garden
18th	September	Saturday		Wirrimbirra
2nd,	3rd & 4th (October		Family Camp - Spring Valley Wingello
23rd	& 24th Octo	ober		Weekend Camp - Grenfell
	October	Saturday		Spring Bird Count
8th	detenser October	Monday		To be advised.
13th	November	Saturday		Calderwood Area
llth	December	Saturday		Bulli Pass Reserve, Austinmer
13th	December	Monday		Christmas Night

Any Inquiries:

Ring LAURIE WILLIAMS 29.6637



ANOTHER"

THE CIRCULAR OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB

RECISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION (CATEGORY 'B')

THE CLUB'S AIM: TO JOIN TOGETHER PEOPLE WITH A COMMON INTEREST TO FURTHER THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIRDLIFE AROUND THEM.

PLEASE NOTE

The next meeting will be held on Monday evening 19 April 1982 at the Fairy Meadow Senior Citizens Centre, corner of Princes Highway and Collaery Avenue, Fairy Meadow.

The meeting is timed to start at 7.30 pm. The meeting will take the form of a members night, so we are asking our members to bring along six to ten slides of any of our past activities which they feel would be interesting to the audience.

Don't forget the change of date for our next meeting because of the Easter Holidays.

FIELD OUTING

Our nect Excursion is on Sunday 25 April 1982 when we will be meeting at Shoalhaven Heads at 8.30am. Travel south through Geroa and Seven Mile Beach till you reach the Shoalhaven Heads area. Then proceed to the River and follow it around past the entrance to the main Council Camping Ground till you come to the end of the road between the River and the Eastern end of the Camping ground.

Please add to your 1982 Programme:~

Monday 14 June

Our speaker will be Mr Chris Pavich, Manager of the Illawarra State Recreation Reserve.

Monday 12 July

Mrs Anne Clarke, Secretary Lake Illawarra Management Committee. Subject: - Lake Illawarra.

Please alter 1982 Agenda

Narranderra Campout is 9th to 18th April, not March.

The next Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday evening 18 May 1982 at the "Emerys" home at 7.30pm.

At the latter end of May 1982 Laurie and Nola Williams will be heading off on a trip which will keep them away for several months,

Dave Thompson will take over as Acting President as from that date. Would you please direct all enquiries and correspondence to:-

> Mr Dave Thomson 84 New Mt Pleasant Road BALGOWNIE 2519

84 2876 Phone: Home 28 2211 Work

The establishment and spread of the Red-Whiskered Bulbul Pycnonotus Jocosus to as far as Coff's Harbour on the north coast of New South Wales has been documented previously. Further sightings have been made at Korara Bay five kilometres north of Coff's Harbour and, as far as literature goes, is the northern most record the writer has found to date.

To the south of Sydney Tarr (1950) made mention of "one lone report from Mt Kembia district" Gibson (1977, 1979) summarised its distribution in the County of Camden and Illawarra District to it extending to Camden in the west and Kiama in the south.

The above comments indicate the spread of the Red-Whiskered Bulbul to be a slow but deliberate one - especially when compared to that of the common Mynah Acridotheras Tristis (Marvis et al 1981)

It would thus seem appropriate to place on record two further range extensions of the Red-Whiskered Sulbut in the Illawarta region.

The first record concerns three specimens observed in Lantana Scrub in the residential portion of Geroa on 19 November 1981. Although this location is only sixteen kilometres from Kiama the southerly movement was understandable since the birds have shown a preference for the temperate climate of the coastal lowlands and foothills of the escarpment range. However, the writer would not be surprised to learn of the apecies being recorded even further south than Geroa as sixteen kilometres in four years is not much. On the other hand there is much suitable habitat for the species to exploit and it is only when the habitat becomes discontinous that a quickening of range would eventuate.

The second, and more important record, concerns a solitary specimen at the Barren Grounds Faunal Reserve on 19 November 1981. This specimen was only located after a long and bewildering search for the unfamiliar call of a ventriloquial nature. Finally the caller was located perched atop a near vertical dead twig of a large messante tree. It was sunning and preening between calls and it was when the preening took place that another and similar call was heard. This then accounted for the ventriloquial-type call. Although the bird under view made short flights to other perches high in the adjoining trees I failed to sight the other caller. Clearly, two birds were present in the Barren Grounds at that time.

Not only was this a new addition to the bird-list of the Barren Grounds but a significant extension of range from the coastal lowlands to the harshness of the escarpment plateau even though the preferred habitat law but a few hundred metres away below the escarpment edge. Perhaps we will not see a deep penetration into the plateau area by the Red-Whiskered bulbul but it does indicate that individuals will enter new areas in search of suitable habitat.

Fortunately for this species there does not appear any real threat to the native birdlife as there is no direct competition for nest-sites or food as is the case of the common mynah and common starling Stvinus volgaris where mass usurpation of potential tree-hollows is carried out.

Whether we like it or not, the Red-Whiskered Bulbul is here to stay so let us make the most of this interesting species by following its slow but sure opread in the Illawarra district.

CHRIS SONTER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTED FOR 1982 ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

PRESIDENT	Lourie Williams	FECHNICAL OFFICER:	Doug Gibson
SECRETARY:	hagel Emery	RALL SUPERVISOR:	Wal Emery
TREASURER:	Bon Almond	CULTNERY SUPERVISOR:	Karen Hansen
LIBRARIAN?	Sob Green	RECORDING OFFICER:	Horace Ward
EDITOR OF THE NEWSLETTER:		SALES OFFICER:	Berbera Hale

BULIO REPORT

WANGANDERRY nr. MITTAGONG, N.S.W.

Latitude 340 18'

Longtitude 150° 16'

Saturday, 14 November 1981

For the November outing the Group met at the junction of Hume Highway and Wombeyan Caves Road. Turning off the Wombeyan Caves Road to Mount Wanganderry the cars were parked at the end of the air strip. The Group was joined by Miss Badgery, owner of an adjoining property, who related some of the local history and pointed out the panoramic views to Mt Jellore in the east and south towards Goulburn.

It was a sunny morning for the 29 who made the walk further along the road, through open grassland, to 'Ben Har', a property owned by Mr Ian Sampson. The first sighting was a Brown Songlark giving a fine display and shortly afterwards, 7 Wood Duck were put up from a small dam. Following the ridge the road gave beautiful views across surrounding valleys. A pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles glided high and a Nankeen Kestral flew overhead.

The latter part of the morning became gradually more cloudy though the weather stayed fine all day. At 'Ben Har' farmhouse, presently unoccupied, nearby trees sheltered a pair of White-winged Trillers and a Sacred Kingfisher was seen. Most of the Group had a chance to watch a Flame Robin feeding young in the orchard, though not everyone was lucky enough to see the Spotted Quail Thrush. The Group spread out to explore the area around 'Ben Har' before returning for lunch. The habitat was excellent, grassy areas with scatterd trees surrounded by open forest going down into the gullies. At one of the latter several of the Group observed Rock Warblers and also recorded Crimson Rosella, Rufous Whistler, Brown Thornbill, Grey Fantail, Varied Sittella and the beautiful White-eared Honeyeater.

Over lungh the Group exchanged notes on the mornings observations, the most unusual Club sighting being of Southern Whiteface.

After lunch, the Group took a semi-circular walk back to the cars, initially through the forest and down into one of the steep gullies before crossing the creek and back up onto the open grasslands to the air strip. It was a strenuous but very pleasant walk. Not many birds were seen, most notable was the Yellow-tufted Honeyeater, and some quail were flushed but an identification was not made.

One of the main reasons for an excursion to the Bullio district was to try and boost the rather low atlas recordings for this square. Prior to the Club's visits, recordings were for 44 species and with our observations, this has been boosted to 67.

Total species for outing 79. Some observed just outside atlas square.



CHOB B MOTTO

"One Good Tern Deserves Another"

I.B.O.C NEWS

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JUNE 1982

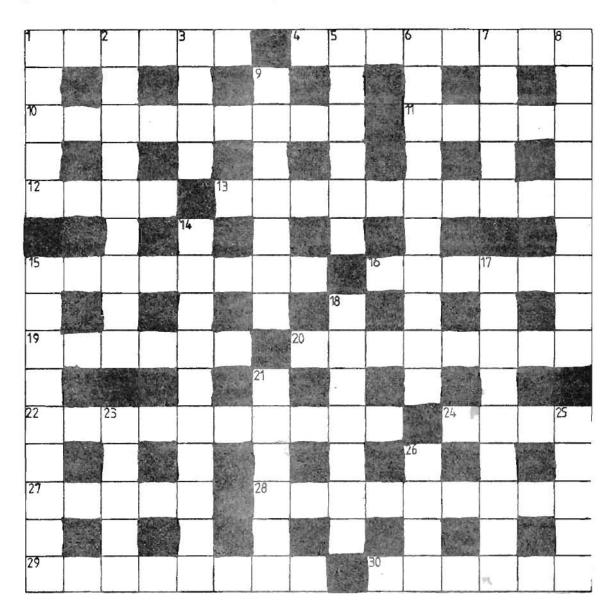
THE NEXT MEETING

Will be held on Monday evening 14 June 1982 at the Fairy Meadow Senior Citizens Centre cnr of Princes Highway and Collaery Avenue Fairy Meadow.

The meeting is timed to start at 7.30pm and our guest speaker will be Mr Chris Pavich and his subject will be "Illawarra State Recreation Area".

FIELD OUTING

Is to the Natai Area on Saturday 19 June 1982.



40. 4

12 DECEMBER 1981

As previously arranged, we all met at my house at 8.30am: Leanne and Stan Kozak, Larry Hubble, Bryan Wyatt and I. It was a beautiful clear day with a bright sun shining in the sky. The brighter the sky, the colder it would be. Presently it was -5°C but luckily there was no wind. We would be warm in our felt lined boots, two pairs of socks, longjohns, big parkas, hats end gloves.

It was quickly decided to go in one car to save petrol. Bryan volunteered to drive. He is a local high school biology teacher who has been banding birds with me for over five years. Armed with two telescopes and a wide variety of binoculars, we were off. Our first stop was to be for petrol at s local station. Star, who is also a biology teacher, had no sooner jumped out than Starling, House Spatrow and Common Crow began our list. While Bryan Filler up, we noticed a flock of Gulls in the sky... we counted their wingbeats; fourteen, fifteen, sixteen... must be Herring as Ring-billed have a much faster flight. As we were about to leave, Larry, who works in the local fiberglass factory, noticed a large flock of birds in the distance near some houses. "House sparrows no doubt, they are just about everywhere." They looked too pale and small to me. We drove over to take another look and it turned out to be a large flock of Pine Siskins. Their yellow appearence and wing bars stood out as they flew off into the distance. Our first good bird. Siskins visit us every now and then in winter but are uncommon.

We leave Guelph behind us and drive south (not far enough for me!) down one of the backroads. Soon we spot a blob on top of a lone tree in the middle of a snow covered field. The car comes to a grinding halt as we all jump out ... a Northern Shrike. These vicious birds of prey cause havor in winter by killing, and then impaling, small birds on tree branches. One got into my traps and by the time I was able to get him out, he had killed eleven small goldfinches.

Our next destination was at a small county dump. We were cold although at 5 below zero it could hardly be called cold - to us anyway! Some Gulls and Crows were rummaging through the garbage as were the abiquitous starlings. However, we could hear twittering and see movement in the trees. "Siskins - no Redpolls - no ???" The telescopes were soon focussing on the tiny birds ... Redpolls. These little birds with their bright red heads visit us during their expolsion years in the far North. I remember when I visited Greenland in 1976, they were one of the commonest birds. Soon we are scalded by a flock of Black Capped Chickadees. These are very common sedentary birds that remain with us the year round. We are slowly freezing; we must return to the car but Leanne sees a small bird hugging a tree in the distance - a Hairy Woodpecker and by the bright tuft of red feathers, we make it out to be a male. We're off!

We spot a bunch of bullrushes and weeds on the side of the road; we stop. Another little bird for our list - the Tree Sparrow. A large flock of them crosses the road. We search for a lone Song Sparrow but in vain. We

drive onto Puslinch Lake. To our amazement it is frozen over. I venture onto the ice. We estimate that it is three to four inches thick. A cry suddenly echoes - no I haven't fallen in - but in the air we see a beautiful Rough Legged Hawk, another winter visitor from the Arctic regions. Bryan is scanning the lake - 3000 acres of frozen waste - with his telescope to see if there may be any open water in which waterfowl can congregate. He is jubilant. A small patch is indeed open but too far away to get a good look. However, they are birds and hence we must go and investigate. With no skis to walk along a trail. Good, clouds slowly are appearing in the sky and we are getting warmer - now it is -2°C. We park the car and begin to walk. We hear a strange call. What is it? No one knows. Stan and Larry, two of the best birders around, are excited. Something good is around. We slowly walk in single file. Stan, me, Leanne, Bryan and Larry in the rear. A Blue Jay crosses our path; no one even blinks as they are common the year round. Suddenly we stop. A flock of birds have landed in a bare tree 40 feet up. Are they ... yes they are ... White-winged Crossbills ... the sun is perfect ... they glow ... beautiful red plumage with black wings which have two prominent white wingbars. No doubt the bird of the day! Leanne is ecstatic; a new bird for To the rest of us only the second time we have seen them and what a treat ... "A perfect look." I say. "Just like I used to see the birds in Australia ... perfect." Larry informs me that he has bought an Australian field guide ... As the birds fly away, we resume our walk. On a small Scotch Pine beside the trail, we notice some Pine Grosbeaks. A flock of immature birds. They are eating the buds at the end of the branches. Poor tree, it will be slightly stunted next year. In silence we reach the

The opening is far away but with telescopes we count: thirteen Herring Gulls, one immature Great Black Backed Gull (the fifth county record), one American Coot (by now it should have been far south), one female Common Goldeneye, four Mallards. Not bad at all. We are now positively roasting; it is 0°C. We decide to walk back through the woods to see if we can get an owl or two. We flush several Ruffed Grouse but they move so fast that we barely get a glimpse of them and only experience tells us what they are. Stan sees a little bird. We rush over. He has found a little Kinglet, but what species? Now we see him, now we don't. I get a look at it. It is gone. No one has positive identification. These are tiny birds smaller than Thornbills and twice as flighty - or so it seems. We leave disappointed as a winter record of these would have been good.

We return to the car and have a cup of hot chocolate. We slowly start driving back. I slowly ponder. A year ago I was in the steaming desert of Victoria and New South Wales with Lindsay Smith looking for the Lineated Kite and other desert species. We stop. A majestic hawk is circling above. Our most common bird of prey, the Red Tailed Hawk is putting on a fine show. It is 12.30 and time to go home. As we speed along we notice a male American Kestrel on the side of the road but they are too common to even stop. Twenty-two species - not too bad. We speculate that up to sixty species could be present in the county at this time of year. Next week we have the Christmas bird count - we are each in charge of an area. Till then we bid one another a happy farewell.

ACROSS

- Useful for recording birds and birdos
- 4. You alone
- 10. Mound builders
- 11. Thrown
- 12. Generic name of a high diver
- 13. Genus of birds who glue their nests
- 15. Keenly sought by birdos
- 16. You'll see it better from here
- 19. Nidified
- 20. Honey Parrot
- 22. Not a Percher
- 24. N.Z. Rail in the disturbed water behind a ship
- 27. Mirth provoking
- 28. 10 across build their own
- 29. Song bird
- 30. Eat your veggies and forget it

DOWN

- 1. Thoroughly searches for integumentary structures on chooks
- 2. Little or tawny, what genus?
- Often necessary for getting to a Peregrine's nest
- 5. For dippers, add water
- 6. A specific stint
- Peer
- 8. Like 20 across but prefers fruit
- 9. Unevenly found amongst birds (and birdos 3, 4)
- Sayings
- Wide spread Pheasants
- 17. Graminivorous bird
- 18. Right
- 21. Desire earnestly an angry snake
- Latin name (ladies only)
- 25. Swimming backwards in Melbourne is a good arrangement
- 26. A fine body of people who rarely have a cross word

D. GIBSON

PLEASE ALTER

Your membership list for 1982 to read:-

Mr Wal Emery, Mrs Hazel and Family 63 Dymock Street BALGOWNIE

Mrs Kay Lloyd 34 Georges Avenue, BULLI Phone: 67 4453

FIL. HI HT 10th July, 1982.

mirds of the FIDE colour 15 minutes

Features the birds which live in and around the Nit and Rhyll Swamp on Phillip Island in Victoria.

THE BLACK SHA. colour 7 minutes

Shows Black Swans on the nest, defending the nest from intruders, cygnets at various ages and a number of other aspects of the lives of these birds.

skOlGA colour 18 minutes

An account of the life and nabits of the Brolga, also known as the native companion. Includes scenes of their unique courting dance.

COMMUNITIES colour I7 minutes

The structure and composition of a rain forest.

EUDYPTULA MILOR colour 15 minutes

Features the Fairy Penguins of South-eastern Australia.

To be held at the home of Lorma and Aon Almond, 2 Shoobert Cres. (.ot at the Thomson's.)



LAMINGTON NATIONAL PARK.

ELMWOOD SCHOOL NEAR MOSS VALE N.S.W.

SATURDAY 13 MARCH 1982

The club outing for March began with thirty Four members meeting at the "Elmwood School" at 8.30am. The school is situated on the Fitzroy Falls road between Fitzroy Falls and Meryla Pass Road.

The "Elmwood School", borders the property of Mr Max Parker, an undulating area with Eucalypt covered hills to the east and open grassland for grazing cattle.

Our walk began at 8.45em in fine but overcast conditions with light southerly winds making walking a pleasure, ideal conditions for bird observing. Later some light rain fell lasting only a short time.

Our first sightings were the Yellow-faced Honeyeater, White-throated Treecreeper, and Eastern Rosella.

Leaving the School grounds, a wallaby in haste to escape crashed into the school fence and had to have another attempt to clear it and escape into the long grass.

The wooded areas beyond the school were very extensive, with a large number and variety of birdlife.

Yellow-rumped Thornbills, Scarlet Robin, Grey Fantail to name just a few. A Dusky Woodswallow was sighted among the branches of the tall trees.

Then a sleepy possum was observed in a hollow of a tree about five metres from the ground. Going a little deeper into the tree covered slopes we came upon more birds in this beautiful portion of tall Eucalypt bushland where the Yellow Robin, Crested Shrike-tit, Rufous Fantail and Grey Shrike-thrush were observed.

Our walk continued for the remainder of the day on the same note, there were so many birds to see. Just before lunch as we were walking through some long grass four Painted Button Quail were flushed out and flew into some nearby trees.

Forty Seven species were observed.

To name a few:-

Yollow-faced Honeyeater
White-threated Treecreeper
Eastern Rosella
Yellow-rumped Thornbill
Scarlet Robin
Grey Fantail
Red-browed Firetail
Superb Blue Wren
Dusky Woodswallow

Yellow Robin Crested Shrike-tit Rufous Fantail Grey Shrike-thrush Painted Button Quail

AN ILLAWARRA CENTURY

Having been away for Xmas and out of local touch, we thought it time to revisit the local scene. We set ourselves the magical Illawarra century.

Our first stop was Mt Keira Scout Camp amid overcast skies and most unsettled weather. The pigeons, however, were really out in force; Wongas, Topknots, Browns and even a pair of Baldies. A Black-faced Monarch, Flame Robin, Rufous Fantail and the other usual starters saw us leave for Darkes Forest with a healthy 25 so far.

Arriving at the Boomerang Golf Course we flushed a Japanese Snipe from a reed pond containing a pair of Little Grebe. Brown-headed Honeyeaters were active and Tree Martins circled overhead. Near the mine the Dusky Woodswallow was astonished with our presence, as we puzzled a while over a juvenile bird. Was it a Red Wattlebird or Olive-backed Oriole? Pizzey again came to the rescue. Before leaving we identified a Brush Bronzewing by its rich brown flight feathers as it disappeared into the dry sclerophyll forest. A quick tally please - 25 plus 24 equals 49; almost half way.

At Cataract Dam, the Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos were having a feast on the pine cones. Leaden Flycatchers were feeding young and as we watched, a Spotted Quail-Thrush scurried over the sandstone floaters. Lunch time gave us a break to take stock at 54.

Still low on woodland species we headed for West Dapto. We were elated when a further 15 rather common species, including Whistling Kite, Goldfinch, Yellow-faced Honeyeater and Little Thornbill were recorded. At Kanahooka Lagoon our first, real batch of water birds was viewed together with the Musk Duck. That additional 10 species was just the boost we needed.

With the aid of the telescope, Chestnut Teal, Grey Teal, the two Black Cormorants and Caspian Tern were seen from Hooka Point. "Another tally please". Only the entrance to the lake remained and we were still 13 short of our goal.

Then the waders obliged - Red-necked Stint, Red-capped Dotterel, Greenshank Little Egret, Eastern Curlew as well as Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and a Gannet - but if only we could see one of the oyster catchers or the Kelp gull. Luckily we worked out a pair of Double-banded Dotterels among the stints, probably the first arrivals for the year. "That's 99 I reckon.....", and then at last our goal. Just as we arrived home at Primbee, a Red-whiskered Bulbul was perched on the power line.

Both of us agreed it was a beaut way to spend a day. But was that juvenile cuckoo being fed by the Yellow-faced Honeyeater a Fantail or Pallid?

NEAR THE HUT AT BULLIO

Near the hut at Bullio
The 'Warra Birdo's had their lunch
On green, green grass, neath shady trees,
They were a happy bunch.
At the cry of "Move it out", our
President's decree
Did stir them all to action, from their
reverie.
Lennie Klumpes from the north, a strong and
sturdy lad
Heard the call, to seek more birds, in
vivid colours clad.

Up and down the gullies the band of Birdo's walked
Till down they sat exhausted, no one even talked.
Someone cried a "Rainbow Bird" their tiredness went away.
To many eyes their glasses went.
This sight had made their day.

"Over the next hill" Someone said the cars
Were waiting there.
To reach them proved quite a climb.
O'er rocks and thistles bare.
Till at last they saw a sight which gladdened
Every heart.
A Brown Songlark its call so clear
Made them reluctant to depart:

This is a wondrous place in which we live today. The green, green hills 'gainst skies of blue how Can we turn away.

Lets stop and look and listen

And somehow learn to say
"This is my Father's world" - He's with me
On life's way.

R. HANKS

I.O.B.C. AUTUMN BIRD COUNT - 29TH MAY, 1982.

RELAWARRA GEO GESERVERS CEUB

Weather: Cold & overcast, occasionally gusty, few misty showers.

Area I - North

Horace Ward (leader), Ron Almond, Esme Gay, Jack Hyslop, Jim & Gwen Neilson. One (1) Team, $8\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., 47 km., 52 species. Listed only in area 1: Little Eagle, Catbird, Double Barred Finch.

Area 2 - Thirroul

Doug Gibson (leader), Len Klumpes, Ian Rowles, Jeff Smeaton. One (1) Team, 8 hrs, 50 kms., 63 species. Listed only in Area 2: Sea Eagle, Grey Goshawk, Rainbow Lorikeet, Tawny Crowned Honeyeater, Grey Currawong.

Area 3 - Corrimal

Wal Emery (leader), Hazel Emery, Wendy Hanks, Val Mills. One (1) Team, $10\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., 42 kms., 83 species. Listed only in area 3: Collared Sparrow Hawk, Brown Goshawk, Blackbird, Logrunner, Large Billed Scrub Wren, Rose Robin, Red Browed Tree Creeper, White Plumed Honeyeater.

Area 4 - Mt. Keira

Kevin Mills (leader), Richard Miller, Sigi Freund. One (1) Team, 6½ hrs., 96 kms., 60 species. Listed only in Area 4: Topknot Pigeon, Noisy Friar Bird, Chestnut Rumped Heath Wren, Darter.

Area 5 - Wollongong

Dave Thomson (leader), Ron Imisides, Bob and Dina Green. One (1)Team,7hrs, 38 kms., 61 species. Listed only in Area 5: Mangrove Heron, Pink Cockatoo. Count performed on Sunday 30/5 in this area.

Area 6 - Dapto

Bon Imisides (leader), Brian James, Peter Ewin, Andy and Anna Knowlson. One (1) Team, $8\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., 60 kms, 78 species. Listed only in Area 6: Wedge Tailed Eagle, Tree Martin.

Area 7 - Lake

Kevin Wood (leader), Peter and Mark Fackender.
One (1) Team, 8½ hrs., 100 kms., 68 species.
Listed only in Area 7: Eastern Curlew, Greenshank, Bar Tailed
Godwit, Red Capped Dotterel, Double Banded Dotterel, Pied Oystercatcher, Red Necked Stint, Caspian Tern, Great Crested Grabe, Nankeen Night
Heron, Whistling Kite, White Fronted Chat.

Cumulatively: 7 Teams, $57\frac{1}{2}$ hrs., 433kms., 141 species.

Continued.

COMMENTARY

Our seventh bird count (third Autumn) produced the most satisfying result to date with a total of I4I species. Our previous tallies were 89, 75, 107, 128, 102 and 100. This is almost certainly due to a "change in rules" and a "change of heart". I sincerely thank the leaders and twenty (20) odd helpers for their co-operation and diligence.

We have achieved, more than anything else, a true ornithological representation of the Illawarra area with its diversity of habitat. The rainforest, dry schlerophyl forest, heath, woodland, lake and off-shore environments were all kind to us.

The rarer species are shown above, seen only in the various areas listed. The most "universal" species were the Kookaburra, Raven and BFCS. Only twelve (12) species were seen in all areas. Whilst the seagull is one such species, its uneven distribution is manifested in 2320 seen in the Wollongong Area and only 3 seen in our Mt. Keira area.

All expected Robins, Thornbills and Ducks were found. In the parrot species the rainbow lorikeet was an interesting sighting. It is not often seen south of the Parramatter River.

For sheer numbers, the Silver Gull tops the bill at 5227, followed by the starling 1736, Grey Teal 518 then, unexpectedly, Hoary Headed Grebe 951. Some 8 or 9 rafts were seen, often with 100+ birds per raft. A telescope was necessary for the accuracy required in both identification and tally.

The rarest bird was the Pink Cockatoo, but we can only really count it as an escapee. However the Mangrove Heron was a creditable substitute for rarity from the same area.

The Corrimal area was most heavily endowed, with a total of 83 species.

Birds of Prey, generally hard to find in Illawarra, were obliging. Ten (10) different species were seen. The Peregrine and Little Falcons were noticably retiring (and absent). Sparrows were common with 390 yet it is interesting to note that more Red Browed Finch were recorded viz 423. Wal Emery had one such Finch physically stuck to the Bird-lime tree, a member of the infamous Pisonia species. It was tenderly removed before it flew safely away.

Thank you all again for your contribution - I feel the statistics speak for yourselves.

KEVIN WOOD, Organiser.

P.S. 1 Apologies for non-taxonomic order overleaf.

P.S. 2 Format by courtesy of A.R. McGill.

20 - 6 - 7	North	THIRROUL	Cotrima	M KEIRA	WGONG	DAPTO	AKE	TUTAL
29-5-82 Little Grebe	Z	1/=	Ü	3	Z	A		ILL
Hoary H Grebe			-		1	11	950	951
Blk B Albatros			2		-	1	100	3
GR CRESTED GREE	-		1		-	-	3	3
MANGROVE HERON	1	-	-	11.00	1	1		1
WH NECKED HERON	-	1				13	·	4
Aust Gannet	22	10	3		27	-	1	62
Pelican	-				3	1	180	184
Lge Blk Cormorant		2	1	5	6	1	25	40
Little Blk Corm		2				1	164	167
Lge Pied Cormorant			3				2	5
Little Pied Corm		2-	17	14.	10	3	350	396
Wh Paced Heron		3	e.l.	2	2	1/3	12	36
Cattle Egret		2_	24	7		115	7	155
Large Egret				-	2	3	13	18
Little Egret			1				6	7
Straw Neck Ibis			1	2		87		90
White Ibis			3		5	40	40	88
Royal S/B					2.	.5	31	38
PIED STILT	1				6		3	9
Black Swan				2		4	270	276
Black Duck			13	3	32	190	100	338
Mallard (I)			4			1	2	7
Grey Teal	2		42		100	84	1290	1518
Chestnut Teal						2/	172	193
Wood Duck	30		2			1316		348
Musk Duck				4			6	10
Wh Eyed Duck					4	20	20	44
Black Sh Kite		2_)	1	1		4
Nankeen Kestrel	1	2			1	2		5
Dusky Moorhen			6	4	5	32_	20	5
SHOVELLER DUCK						5	30	35
NANKEEN NIGHT HE	RON						13	13
RED BROWED T/C			3					3
LOGRUNNER			2					2
DARTER				1				- 1

K.A. WOOD - ORGANISER.

ILLAWARRA BIRD COUNT 29-5-82 East Swamphen	Norta	N THIRROUL	A CORRIMAL	MTKEIRA	Meong	0 % DAPTO	O LAKE	TOTAL 116
Coot Pied O/C			-	42	13	- 80	20	
		7_			2		7	10
Sooty O/C Spur W Plover			/3		11	37	29	90
Spur w Plover			-			3/	61	
Red Capped Dot							6	6
D Banded Dot	$-\parallel$		-				20	20
Blk Fronted Dot		1			14		63.45	15
Bar T Godwit			 		7		14	14
Eastern Curlew			 				1	1
Greenshank							2_	2
WA BR SEA EAG	=	2						Ç/a
WEDGE T EAGLE						2		2
LITTLE ENGLE	1			i				1
WHISTLING KITE							1	1
Red Necked Stint				23			10	10
Dominican Gull		4	2		19		2	27
Silver Gull	26	900	970	3	2320	78	930	5227
Caspian Tern							26	26
Crested Tern			2		4		6	12-
GREY GO-HAWK								1
Topknot Pigeon				60				60
Domestic Pigeon	/3		1		100	22	64	200
Brown Pigeon		_ /	1					¥
Wonga Pigeon	#		1	4		<u> </u>		6
Sp Turtledove	2		32		6	17	10	67
Y T Blk Cockatoo	80			50		6		136
	32		1			6		39
PINK COCKATOO (1
Galah	3	25	12		_5	63	3	111
COLLARED SIP HAN	<u> </u>							
BROWN GOSH	#		1					
BROWN FALCON			400	- LANCE	-	-		2
ROSE ROBIN			3					3 .
FLAME ROBIN		2				2.		4
SCARLET HORN		5		2				7

ILLAWARRA BIRD COUNT 29-5-82	NORTH	1 THIRROUL	CORRIMA	MT KEIRA	WGONG	DAPTO	LAKE	TOTAL
King Parrot	-,,	5	22	22		52		27
Crimson Rosella -	15	29	20	33	2	_		151
Eastern Rosella			-5-		-	40	-	4!
Fan T Cuckoo AZJRE K/F	_2_	3 _	2	-	4	-		2
Kookaburra	8	-;-	6	5	4	120	3	47
Sup Lyrebird	2	3	6	7	7	1	-	18
Welcome Swallow	24	5	120	2	34	124	60	369
Tree Martin	-7		120	-	27	40	~	40
YELLOW TH SLAUB WA	EN		3	1	-	70		4
Pipit	-		4	-	,	20	22	47
Blk F Cuckoo Shr	2	-7-	- 7	2	3	2	1	12
Red Wh Bulbul			14	3	50	4	3	78
East Whipbird	7	6	30	9	2	7	-	61
White BR. Se WREN	9	2	25	8	3	3		47
Golden H Cisticola	/		12		29	5	7	53
LGE BILLED SC WOEN			3		-/		/	3
Sup Blue Wren	2	- 12	12	38	-85	32	11	192
Variegated Wren	8		4	20	8	34	-11-	20
Yellow T/B	2	-	6	-	11	22		41
Striated T/B			25	11		6		42
Brown T/B	14	4	8	13		24	-	- 63
Y Rumped T/B	7			,_		6	3	9
Buff Rumped T/B	3- 4	.19		13				. 32
Brown Warbler	8	7	16	8 -		6	-	47
CHESTAUT R HEATH	WREN			Ĭ		-		1
Wh Pronted Chat							8	8
Grey Fantail	12	4	30	9	9	46	1	110
Willie Wagtail		2	7	3	7	44	8	71
EMU WREN	3	2	1	6	'	-		11
Yellow Robin	7	2	11	3	5	.2		30
RAINBON LORIKEET		2						2
BLACKEIRD	1		1					
SHRIKE TIT			11	2		1100		/3
JACKY WHITER				3		3		6

	L L	1 1		. 4	ī	5	1	(P4
ILLAWARRA	NORTH	201	CORRIMAL	M KFIRA	WGONG	1 0	1,,	
BIRD COUNT	O.R.	RRC	88	1 5	105	F	LAKE	
29-5-82	Z	臣	(8)	上	3	A	15	TOTAL
Golden Whistler	2	W THIRROUL	14	9	2	9 DAPTO		36
GROUND THRUSH			1	1		1		3
Grey Thrush		4	1	12		1		18
Wh Throated T/C	2	4	11	14	1	2		33
Mistletoe Bird		1	3	2	12			7
Spotted Pardalote	2	14_	16	10	11	24		77
E Striated Pard	2			10		6		8
Silvereye	140	40	170	7	65	50	2	474
E Spinebill	4	40	8	16	1	21		63
Lewin H/E	17	24	47	23	4	53		168
Y Faced H/E	100	85	11	31	4	27		258
TAWAY CROWNED H/E		20						20
New Holland H/E	9	3	11	5	45		9	8~
Noisy Miner			2			99	12	113
Little Wattlebird	35	4	2	4				45
Red Wattlebird	2	42					拉斯	44
Goldfinch (I)			/3		10		5	28
Red Browed Finch	80	12	140	44	8	135	4	423
Sparrow (I)	12	20	93	7	27	101	130	390 1736
Starling (I)	80	50	94	42	240	1090	140	1736
Indian Myna (I)	45	55	112	6	6	120	33	377
Magpie Lark	10	6	4	4	3	86	21	134
MA PLUMED HE			5					5
Grey Butcherbird	2	2_	2	1		6	1	14
Magpie	15	4	11	25		106	25	176
Pied Currawong	25	12	53	70		60	17	237
Catbird			ļ	120				
Satin Bowerbird	3_	10	3	10	-	4		30
- Aust Raven	20	9	58	24	35	117	54	317
WH NAPED H/E		<u></u>	44					45
NOISY FRIAR BIRD				3				3_
OLIVE ORIOLE			4			7		17
GREY CURRAWONG				,		-		/
D. BARRED FINCH	2							2
SPECIES	6	12	0.3	,,	11	70	10	,,,,
TOTALS	52	63	83	61	61	78	68	141

BIRDS

18 646



CLUB'S HOTTO

"One Good Tern Deserves Another"

THE CIRCULAR OF THE STEAKARDA READ OBSERVERS' CLUB

REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION (CATEGORY 'B')

THE CLUBE THE STATE OF STATE OF THE STREET A COMMON INTERPRETATION FORTHER THESE ENGINEERS OF THE STREET, AND COMMON THESE.

NEXT MEETING

Will be held on Monnay evening 10.5.82 at the Fairy Mundow Senior Citizens Contro, Car Princess Righter and Collary Avenue Fairy Meadow.

It is timed to start at 1.30 ym and on. Count Speaker Will be A. B. Strachan - Subject "Sinocularu"

FIELD OUTING

Our next excursion is on Saturday 15.5.82 when we will be visiting the Bungonia area with a walk down to the Shoalhaven River. Our guide will be Neville Burkett.

SPECIAL EVENTS DURING MAY

Saturday evening 8.3.84 a film night to be held at the home of Laurie and Nola Williams, 18 Achilles Avenue North Wollongong. There will be two sessions, the first commencing at 6.00 pm, second at 8.00 pm. Bring along a place and enjoy high ten with up.

The second Special event during May will be a "Skinning Night" on Saturday 22.5.82 at mose of Doug and Betty Gibson, 10 Tree Top Gles Thiroul, timed to stact at 7.30 pm.

28.6778

PLEASE ADD TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP LIST

- Hr Michael Gallen, Mrs Rath, Michael Jor and Danny. 108 Panorama Drive Farmborough Height 2526 Phone: 74 2944
- Mr Sigt Freund, Mrs Lile and Horman I Cope Place Bulli Heights
- Mr Tony Sulvadori, Mrw Hary and Family
 Colburn Street, Guciph Oncario Canada MIG2NF
- 4. Phone number of the Geency Family to 28 1653,
- Please alter the address of the Nellonald Family to:-.
 Pearson Street, Bairpadale Victoria 3875.

THE CLUB IS STILL COLLECTING USED STAMPS

To make up a second parcel to send to ralbourne to assist with the coat of making natural bistory tapes for the handicapped.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Don't forget after 20 hay 1982 Nole and Laurie will be away for three to four months. Dave Thousand will be Acting President during this time. His address and phone Number's are: 84 New Mt Pleasant Road, Balgownie. Phone Number: Home 84 2876

Work 28 2211



CLUB'S MOTTO

I.B.O.C NEWS

THE CIRCULAR OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB

"One Good Tern Deserves Another" REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION (CATEGORY 'B')

THE CLUB'S AIM: TO JOIN TOGETHER PEOPLE WITH A COMMON INTEREST TO FURTHER THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIRDLIFE AROUND THEM.

July 1982

Mext meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Monday 12 July 1982 in the Fairy Meadow Senior Citizens' Centre, Corner of Princes Highway & Collacry Road.

Our Speaker will be Mrs Anne Clarke, Secretary of the Lake Illawarra Management Committee.

Next Field Outing will be on Saturday 17 July 1982 at the Royal National Park. Starting time, meeting point will be discussed at the meeting on the 12th.

A Film Night will be held on Saturday 10 July at the home of Norma & Ron Almond, 2 Shoobert Crescent, Kelraville (not at the Thomson's as shown in the program).

It will take the usual form of a showing of several nature films at 6.00 pm and again at 8.00 pm. Bring a plate and enjoy a nibble and a cup of tea.



Atlassing

Just a snippet about the recently completed survey of the distribution of Australian Birds. In the 80km square area around Wollongong the bird most frequently recorded was the Magpie, closely followed by the Kookaburra, Superb Blue Wren, Australian Raven, Grey Fantail and so on with the Starling coming in 11th and the House Sparrow 19th. In all 973 Record Sheets were sent in with the Magpie recorded on 740 of them (the House Sparrow on 494).

Reminder

President Laurie Williams is away for a few months and Dave Thomson is filling in, home Phone No.84 2875.

Membership Lint

Please add to your list:

Mr Dave Burgen 43 O'Donnell Street PORT KEMBLA NSW 2505

Mr Wal Nuske, Mrs Val & Family 81 Jacaranda Avenue FIGTRZE NSW 2525 Phone: 28 6758

Mr Gordon Pavne, Mrs Dorothy & Family 126 Farmborough Boad UNANDERRA NSW 2526 Phone: 71 1069

I.B.O.C. Meeting. Monday, 14th June, 1982.

Out guest speaker was Chris Pavich, Manager, Illawarra State Recreation Area. Chris spoke of his efforts to clean up the area, erect signs, and prevent vandalism. The Recreation Area extends from Bulli to Wongawilli, and the final Plan of Management should be available at the end of '83. We look forward to seeing Chris again in the near future, and thanks to Mary Eskdale and family for hosting Chris.

Field Outing. Saturday, 19th June, 1982.

Great to see so many new members at our outing in the Oakdale area, which 36 members attended. 40 species were seen. The habitat was wet sclerophyll with some Banksia on the slopes leading up to the sandstone ridges. Mose members had good sightings of the Rock Warbler. Eastern Shrike-tit, Rose Robin, Red-browed Treecreeper, Gang-gang Cockatoo were seen, also heard was Pilotbird, and the Superb Lyrebird imitating at least 8 other species.

Please Note -

The Club has decided to restrict lending of Library Books to a one month period renewable after that time. This will enable a wider circulation to Club Members.

Solution to last month's Crossword

	Across		Down
1.	Camera	1.	Combs
4.	Yourself	2.	Megalurus
10.	Megapodes	3.	Rope
11.	Flung	5.	Ousels
12.	Sula	6.	Ruficollis
13.	Collocalia	7.	Equal
15.	Rarities	8.	Figparrot
16.	Closer	9.	Oddones
19.	Nested	14.	Utterances
20.	Lorikeet	15.	Ringnecks
22.	Nonpassere	17.	Seedeater
24.	Weka	18.	Correct
27.	Comic	21.	Aspire
28.	Incubator	23.	Nomen
29.	Songster	25.	Array
30.	Scurvy	26.	I.B.O.C.

Hope you got some clues right, I didn't.

Thirty club members journeyed to Narrandera over Easter. What a successful Camp, in all one hundred and seven different species of birds were sighted.

We camped on a property, along the Square Nob Track, owned by Mr Holmes and what a great place to camp. Nearby was a farm dam where we were able to draw water for showers, most of us took our own drinking water. At night we sat around the camp fire, one of the members brought along a tape recording of some of the Poems of "Banjo" Patterson which was a delight to hear. The weather was perfect, sunny days, the only time we got a few drops of rain was on the Friday when we were breaking camp.

Most of us arrived on the Thursday evening to set up camp. Unfortunately we had a mishap with the bush shower as the branches of a nearby tree snapped under the weight of the canvas water bucket. Our President, who in his working days was a Hot Water Engineer managed to do a workmanlike job on the shower so everything was under control.

Many thanks go to John Hobbs, who incidently is the local Police Sergeant, and in taking us around the area in search of birds. He knew that various places to go where we were likely to see a variety of birds, as he had explored the area many times.

Red-rumped Parrots were in abundance along the roads leading to our campsite.

We spent most of the time on field trips going as far as Pulley top Tank between Yenda and Rankin Springs to sight a Mallee Fowl. We saw the mound that had been built, but no bird, even though we sat waiting $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Kangaroo's were in abundance around the property. We disturbed a group of sixteen as we drove the car along the track to the Camp. On Easter Sunday we had a visit from the "Easter Bunny" who left each camper a chocolate egg. To this day we are still trying to work out whether the "Bunny" had a grey beard.

We also saw a field of rice at Leeton, and a trip to an orchard to pick some very juicy oranges, was a pleasant way to spend an hour, on our trip to the Murrumbridgee River.

A sighting of the Glossy Black Cockatoo below the Square Nob Track was great. In all we had a wonderful time at Narrandera. We very reluctantly broke camp on Friday morning just a week after we arrived. John Hobbs came to see us before we left to bid us a safe journey home.

SOME OF 107 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF BIRDS SEEN WERE:-

Little Raven
White Ibis
Welcome Swallow
Little Grebe
White Eyed Duck
Blue Bonnet Parrot
Banded Plover
Singing Bushlark
Peaceful Dove

Red-rumped Parrot
Glossy Black Cockatoo
Dusky Woodswallow
Zebra Finch
Coot
PeregrineFalcon
Red-capped Robin
Spotted Owl

Galah
White-plumed Honeyeater
Tree Martin
Yellow Robin
Nankeen Kestrel
Cockatiel
Hooded Robin
Spiney Cheeked Honeyeater
Yellow Rosella

BUNGONIA STATE RECREATION AREA NR MARULAN NSW

Saturday 5 May 1982

We travelled through Bungonia to the entrance of Bungonia State Recreation Area where at 9.00 am. 36 club members met and journeyed a further 5 km to a spot overlooking a most beautiful gorge along which the upper reaches of the Shoalhaven River flows, a most glorious sight in perfect calm sunny weather. On the tip of this spur is the remains of a flying fox, used to transport supplies to the now derelict tin Smelter in the valley below. Still remaining are parts of the Smelter, a large stack, flues, kilns all built of brick. The Smelter was in operation approximately 70 years ago.

About 33 members of the party set out in single file down the very steep track to descend 1300 ft into the valley below.

A sighting of a flock of Red Wattlebirds, white-throated treecreeper. Fuscous Honeyeater, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, White-eared Honeyeater was made on the lower slopes.

Red Stringybark trees predominated on the upper slopes, whilst wattles and pines lined the banks of the river.

To reach the remains of the old tin Smelter on the opposite side of the river, we waded across without shoes, which was a little bit hard on soft feet not conditioned to such punishment.

Nevertheless, we enjoyed our lunch in peaceful surroundings before the climb back to the flying fox, of which our President stated would "sort out the men from the boys". At the top many admired the wonderful view of the gorge from the lookout in beautiful sunlight before beginning the journey home. Arriving back at the entrance to Bungonia State Recrention Area a sighting of the Scarlet Robin, the Hooded Robin, Diamond Firetail, a flock of white-winged cloughs flew by. Although it was considered one of the most difficult walks, we all enjoyed the day.

In all, 38 species were sighted during the day, of which some are recorded below:

Red Wattlebird White-throated Treecreeper Fuscous Honeyeater Yellow-faced Honeyeater White-eared Honeveater Red-browed Firetail Mistletoebird Superb Blue Wren Brown & Striated Thornbill Yellow-tufted Honeyeater Yellow Robin White-browed Scrub-wren Little Pied Cormorant



I.B.O.C NEWS

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CLUB'S MOTTO

ESIDENT:

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"One Good Tern

Deserves Another"

Laurie Williams

SECRETARY: Hazel Emery (Ph. 84-0139)

AUGUST 1982

NEXT MEETING will be held at the Senior Citizen's Centre Cnr. Collacry Avenue and Princes Highway, Fairy Meadow at 7.30 pm. Our Guest Speaker will be Arnold McGill. his subject "Bird Migration". Arnold is a Life Member of our Club, an Author of many fine books on Birds and one of the most knowledgeable of men who have made a study of Bird life. It should be a good night. 9th August.

NEXT FIELD OUTING will be to Kangaroo Valley on Sunday August 15, meeting at 8.30am at the northern end of the Hampden Bridge (over the Kangaroo River) in Kangaroo Valley. Driving about 10 KM West and leaving our cars for a walk down to Yarunga Creek. We will take time for a "Cuppa", but a carry lunch and a drink will have be taken with us on the walk down to the Creek. We should arrive back at the ears about 4.00 pm. Wal. Emery is the Leader.

OUR JULY MEETING was well attended, Mrs Anne Clarke, Secretary Lake Illawarra Management Committee was our Speaker. Anne holds a B A Degree in Geography from Wollongong University. The Committee, of which she is Secretary, is an advisory one. Both Wollongong and Shellharbour Councils look to the Committee for advice on all matters dealing with the welfare of the Lake and its catchment. She spoke of the urgent need to preserve the beauty of the Lake and through public awareness, try to lessen the threat to the Lake's existence and of the fish and bird life that abounds: Many thanks to Anne who through her talk and slides gave us an insight into the work of the Committee of which she is Secretary.

THE FILM NIGHT on July 10th, at the Almonds brought together probably the best set of films on wildlife we've had - a good mixture with an emphasis on birds. Thanks go to Richard Miller for keeping up this good work of organising the films and anks also to Norma and Ron for their hospitality.

A WARM WELCOME to Tony Salvadori, our Canadian "Birdo" friend, on his return to Wollongong. We'll again enjoy his company and his enjoyment of Bird observing.

STOP PRESS - Compouts - our family camp will be held over the October long weekend this year at Wingello. ALSO the "End-Of-October" Camp on 23rd to 24th at the Weddin Mountains at Grenfell.

LIBRARY BOOKS Don't forget to return them so that yourself and others can make best use of our well stocked Library.

A FIELD GUIDE to the "Birds of Australia" by Craham Pizzey is for sale at the remarkable price of \$17.00.

LAURIE AND NOLA WILLIAMS are by all accounts enjoying their holiday, last report was that they were in the Darwin, Katherine Gorge area. To quote from their letter -"we saw a Tawny Grassbird, five Rose-crowned Pigeons, Yellow Fighirds, and much to our excitement we sighted a very rare bird the Chestnut Quilled Rock Pigcon." -They were on their way to the Alice Springs, Ayers Rock area a few days after this letter was written

STOP PRESS

The items listed below are for sale to Club members:-

Check Lists	*	.30	
Spoons - Forks - Knives	\$	3.00	
Cards Christmas		. 50	
Cards Plain		.40	
Car Stickers	s	1.00	
Cloth Badges	S	2.20	
Metal Badges - Tie or Pin Fix -	5	1.20	

See Barbara and Brian Hale our Sales Officers.

WELCOME to these New Members:-

Bormann Gerry & Lydia

20 Kialoa Avenue, Woonona NSW 2517 Home Phone: 84-3565

Dixon Graham, Mrs Noreen, Joseph, Kerensa, Jannine & Shireen

174 O'Briens Road, Figtree. NSW 2526 Home Phone: 29-7027

Simcock Ron & Alicia

3 Evelyn Avenue, Figtree NSW 2526 Home Phone: 71-3746

LIBRARY BOOKS

Our Librarian Bob Green has had a good response to the appeal to return books, however, two books are still outstanding:-

"Learning About Australian Birds"

"How to Attract House & Feed Birds"

if you have these books on loan, could you return them as soon as possible, so as to enable other club members to borrow them,

SEPTEMBER FILM NIGHT

Will be at the Thompson's, not at the Almond's.

SWIFTS AND SWALLOWS

Two sorts of Swift visit this district in Summertime and their incredible capabilities place them amongst the most remarkable birds on our list - indeed, in the World.

IDENTIFICATION -

The <u>Spine-Tailed Swift</u> (Hirundapus Caudacutus) is 20cm long, superfically swallowlike, all dark except for white throat and under tail coverts. The tail is squarecut. Though not normally seen, each tail feather projects in a short spine to assist in clinging to vertical cliffs when nesting.

The Fork-Tailed Swift (Apus Pacificus) differs in being slimmer, having a white lump patch (lower back), and having a longer tail, deeply forked. The forked tail is only seen when it is spread during sharp manouvers.

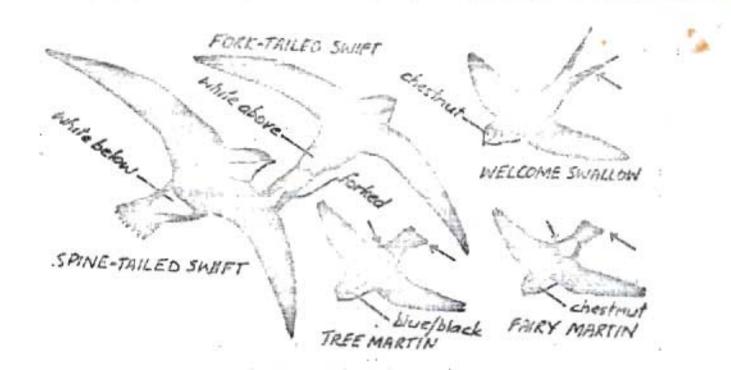
The maximum airspeed of birds in level flight is an arguable subject authentic measurements being difficult to obtain, but the Spine-tailed Swift, at 120km/hr is about the fastest thing in feathers after the Racing Pigeon, (Columba Livia) which can achieve 150 km/hr. But here is the most amazing thing, in the ornithological history of Australia, nobody has ever seen Swifts perched or resting. They are the most aerial of all birds and after leaving their nesting areas in Japan and Eastern Siberia in August, apparently remain airborne until they return in May, eating, drinking, sleeping in the air. At home they gather nest material in flight by snapping off twigs with their feet, and even mate on the wing.

Look for Swifts between September and March on humid days when thunderstorm activity is building up. They follow these conditions all over the country to snap up the beetles and termites etc. drawn up by the rising air. They may be racing low over the treetops or circling hundreds of metres up, always in loose flocks and alternating 8 or 10 rapid wingbeats with long glides. Look for them perched on your T.V. antenna, in which case you will become immediately famous.

The familiar Welcome Swallow (Hirundo Neoxena) is mainly Sedentary in Illawarta though the numbers, do build up somewhat in Spring and Summer. There is a Southward migration in the latter part of August of passage birds heading towards Tasmania where they usually arrive about September 1st. Some years this is quite spectacular as group follows group skimming low along the beaches and over the sea. Completely insectivorous, they build their mud-cup nests almost invariably on man-made structures.

The Fairy Martin (Petrochelidon Ariel) and the Tree Martin (P Nigricans) are both distinguished from the Swallow by a whitish patch on the lower back, smaller size, and tail not deeply forked, and from each other by the Fairy having the whole Head Chestnut brown and the Tree having a blue/black crown. The former builds bottle shaped mud nests under bridges and culverts, the latter nests in tree - hollows. Both migrate North in Winter.

DOUG GIBSON



FIELD OUTING - NATIONAL PARK ON SATURDAY, 17 ALGUNA 1982

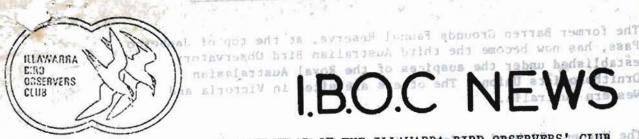
Forty five club members met at the top of Bald Hill, Stanwell Tops at 8,30am. It was a beautiful clear sunny day, ideal for bird observing. Leaving the cars further on at Otford Gap, using only half a dezen cars we drove through the National Park to the Langer Station at Gawafra where we enjoyed a cup of tea. In all we sighted 53 different species of birds, some of which are listed at the and of this report. From the Ranger Station we walked along the track to the beach at Burning Palms where we stopped for lunch, but being bird observers it took us two hours to get from point "A" to point "B". On the way down the track we sighted some deer, which I we never seen in the National Park before. A number of weekend cottages dotted the hillside, a surf club is being built at Burning Palms as a great number of people camp there over the Christmas-New Year period. Most of the building material has to be a stried to the building site down a very steep slope.

The track back to Otford took us through Palm Jungle and along the cliffs overlooking the sea. A sighting was made of 25 Pelicans flying in formation, also of a white-breasted sea eagle which flew low overhead.

What a marvellous place this National Park is, a heritage, to be kept for Inture generations. Arriving back at the cars around 4.30pm at Offerd the drivers were taken back to Gawarra Ranger Station to pick up the cars, which were left there at the start of the walk along the track.

Some of the species of birds sighted were:-

White-breasted Sea Eagle Verigoted Wren Superb Blue Wren Fort Lincoln Pattot Vellow Tail Cockatoo Lyrobird Rock Warbler Yellow Faced Boneyeater
Yellow Robin
Spotted Pardalote
White Throated Treecrespor
Black Browed Albatross
Emu Wren



Page, has now become the third Australian Bird Observator

CLUB'S MOTTO somebrest of THE CIRCULAR OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS'SCLUB and box box selections and box selections and box selections are box

"One Good Tern REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION (CATEGORY 'B')

Deserves Another arranged action for twelve people. The party rentrance should like the property of the party rentrance and the property of the party rentrance and the party THE CLUB'S AIM: TO JOIN TOGETHER PEOPLE WITH A COMMON I W INTEREST TO FURTHER THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIRDLIFE conjunction with universities and other bird of Matt GNUONA, birdbanding projects etc. and casual stays by bird watchers and other

Laurie Williams PRESIDENT:

SECRETARY: Hazel Emery 84-0139

VIOINVIGADO DAL TO INSMERSANAM LIATOVO DAL TOT DISTENDED 1982 is confred by Ted Carchew (R.A.D. NEXT MEETING will be at 7.30 pm on Monday 13 September 1982 at the Fairy Meadow Senior Citizens Centre Cnr. Princess Highway and Collaery Avenue, Fairy Meadow.

AND RIBLD STUDIES CENTER

OUR SPEAKER will be Richard Jordan, Warden of the newly formed R.A.O.U. Barren Grounds Bird Observatory.

Doug Gibson was to be the speaker, but as this Observatory is to be opened shortly, it was decided to ask Richard to tell us about this exciting new project.

FIELD OUTING will be on Saturday 18 September 1982 at the Stead Wildlife Foundation and Wirrimbirra Sanctuary Hume Highway Bargo Meeting at 9.00am at the car park just inside the gates your mand and not bould latitud ame of the most state of the same state of the s

voluntary help will be appreclated from anyone willing to assist with FILM NIGHT will be held at the home of Dave and Betty Thomson, 84 Mt Pleasant Road, Balgownie on Saturday 11 September 1982. articles may be donated to the project

It will take the form of a showing of nature films at 6.00 pm and again at 8.00pm. Bring a plate and enjoy a nibble and a cup of tea. Bonnord Barried tol babasa

DON'T FORGET our family camps at Spring Valley, Wingelo 2nd to 4th October, also 23rd to 24th October at the Weddin Mountains Grenfell. god many-mark oliveria. S

So get all your camping gear ready for an enjoyable weekend, firstly, at Wingelo then to "Henry Lawson Country" at Grenfell.

We usually have a great time at these camps, so BOOK EARLY. 'int soup, sweets etc., glasses.

Those members who wish to go to any of these camps and will not be at the September meeting, please phone Dave Thomson on 84-2876. Serving dishes.

Please add to your Membership List: (apad to tool) agur .aspansid

David Winterbottom 16 Mountview Avenue GWYNNEVILLE NSW 2500 Copies of relevant Natural History books. Arthur Mothersdill 24 Organs Road BULLI NSW 2516

Egg cups, jugs.

Tea-towels.

A. Dedments of paint

Conoral kirchen utensits.

Richard 0608-48 : smeeting on the project ter the benefit of we.

BARREN GROUNDS BIRD OBSERVATORY AND FIELD STUDIES CENTRE

The former Barren Grounds Faunal Reserve, at the top of Jamberoo Pass, has now become the third Australian Bird Observatory established under the auspices of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union. The others are sited in Victoria and Western Australia.

The Warden, Richard Jordan, and his wife Pat are now in residence and are busily organising the future programme of activities and supervising repairs and extensions to the necessary facilities which will include accommodation for twelve people. The programme will include special-interest courses for groups, in-service courses for teachers, day visits for schools, research projects in conjunction with universities and other bird observatories, birdbanding projects etc. and casual stays by bird watchers and other interested groups.

The Committee responsible for the overall management of the Observatory is chaired by Ted Carthew (R.A.O.U. Council Member) and has representatives from Canberra Ornithological Group, I.B.O.C. (D. Gibson), N.S.W. Field Ornithologists Club, National Parks and Wildlife Service and Education Department. BUR SPEAKER will be Richard borden, Warden of the newly formed R.A.C.U. Barren

Frounds Birg Observatory. The Official Opening Ceremony will take place on Sunday 26 September and all IBOC members are invited to come along and bring a picnic lunch and anitions and the contract

PISED OUTING will we was arday 18 September It will be some time before the Observatory becomes financially selfsupporting, meanwhile some initial funding has been provided by the blant law! R.A.O.U., the National Parks Foundation etc. When required, some voluntary help will be appreciated from anyone willing to assist with nature trail work, painting etc. The following list has been prepared for circulation to bird clubs in the hope that any such available articles may be donated to the project. It will take the form of it showing of tations of fig. on and again at 8.00

Needed for Barren Grounds

1. Cushions, pillows, foam mattresses (any condition), pieces of foam.

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meeting, ciesso shone Day

D. C.d. Winterrotta

- 2. Plastic ice-cream containers, plastic margarine containers.
- Lengths of material suitable for covering cushions and mattresses, curtains, bedspreads. Henry Lawson Country" at Grenfell.
- Oddments of paint any colour.
- usually nave a great time as those 5. Cutlery, plates, mugs, small bowls (for soup, sweets etc.) glasses.
- 6. Large saucepans, kettle, frying pans, baking tins.
- 7. Serving dishes, casseroles etc.
- General kitchen utensils. 8.
- 9. Egg cups, jugs.
- 10. Tea-towels.
- Blankets, rugs (for floor or beds) 1811 questodes toby of bon sensit 11.
- 12. Copies of relevant Natural History books.
- 13. Cleaning rags
- Chairs.

Richard Jordan will be the speaker at this month's meeting and will provide more information on the project for the benefit of our members.

BIRD MIGRATION

"Migration is immense in its manifestations, highly complicated in its performance and yet on the whole remarkably regular in its annual repetition" - So began one of the most interesting talks given to our club over the past months. Arnold McGill, an amateur ornithologist and writer of many papers on Bird life was the Guest Speaker at our August Meeting.

Arnold who is a life member of our club, backed his talk with some very wonderful slides. The subject of bird migration, the study of which is a very complicated one. It is very rewarding to those who take the time and effort to look at it.

Arnold is a very able and knowledgeable speaker, having made a lifetime study of Birds, one who was great to listen to. He spoke of a Knot ringed in England and eight days later taken in Liberia, 3,500 miles away.

Our thanks once again go to him for a very informative and interesting talk.

A velcome was also given to Jim Dixon, Vice Chairman of the Cumberland Bird Observers Club, and organiser of many Bird Counts over the years. He is also a member of the NSW Ornithologist Club.

NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Remember: In October there will be no club meeting or Field Outing as we are holding our Family Camps.

During the November Meeting, we elect our office bearers for the next 12 months. If you feel you could assist the club in any of the positions on the Committee, would you let our Secretary, Hazel Emery know before the November Meeting.

Bird Banding: Here are a few rather special cases of banded birds recaptured.

The March Edition of Corella, the Bird Banding Magazine states:

Masked Booby

banded as an adult at Werribee in Victoria 8.3.80 recovered at Chegdomyn, U.S.S.R. 25.5.80, 9.500KM away (longest recorded movement for species).

Silver Gull

banded at Geelong Victoria in October, 1962 and recovered (alive and healthy later released) at Belmont Victoria, July 1981, only 5KM away but 18 years 9 months later (oldest record for this species).

Rainbow Lorrikeet

banded at Currumbin Sanctuary, Queensland in May 1980 and recovered at Park Ridge, Queensland in June 1980, 61KM away (although only 61KM, its the longest movement recorded for the species).

Eastern Yellow Robin

banded at Iluka NSW in April 1974 recaptured at the banding place 8 times, the most recent being October 1981.

EVERYTHING THAT DRAWS BREATH

God, our wonderful God, you make everything that delights the eye; Yours is the gift of everything that draws breath.

Yours is the energy that vibrates the wing of a bee,
The gracefullness of black swans skimming over still lakes,
The joy of a puppy bounding to greet its owner,
The courage of a shelduck leading ducklings to safe waters,
The song of a magpie on a soft spring morning,
The beauty of pink galahs wheeling over trees at sunset,
The purpose in mutton birds returning to southern sand-hills,
The warmth surrounding the joey in a kangaroo's pouch.

Yours, Creator God, is the skill of the wedge-tailed eagle,
The play of the bandicoot on warm summer nights,
The strength of the baby koala clinging to its mother,
The authority of seagulls riding salty winds,
The games of the dolphin surfing among swimmers.
The communal chatter of colourful parrots,
The vigour of the trout leaping in quiet waters,
The persistence of fairy penguins wadding up sandy slopes.

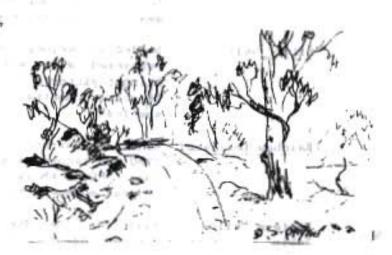
Yours, wonderful God, is the dance of the slender brolga,
The industry of the ant through long summer days,
The power of the buffalo breaking through thickets,
The glory on the radiant wings of a beetle,
The excitement of the platypus hunting for yabbies,
The agility of mountain minnows darting between shaded rocks,
The wariness of the wallaby peeping from among bushes,
The confidence of the sparrow winning crusts from pigeons.

to go from data on so it -

Yours, Lord, truly yours, is the laughter of the kookaburra,
The speed of an emu striding through mallee scrub,
The commedy of the crab side-scurrying over wet sand.
The searching of the cockatoo for a place to nest.
The effortless padding of a dingo over saltbush plains,
The conversation of the blackbirds at early morning,
The vision of the wombat as it rummages through long dark nights,
The display of the lyre bird as he shares in creation's joy.

God, our wonderful God, you make everything that delights the eye; Yours is the gift of everything that draws breath!

From the book "Australian Psalms" Written by Bruce D Prewer.



PARADISE AND BUSH

During the month of May, Kerry and myself undertook a four week journey to the central Queensland Gemfield area. Along the way we made a six day stopover at Carnavon Gorge National Park before continuing north to the Emerald Clermont Area.

Our first night was spent in a rest area near Narrabri where next morning, we were awakened by the songs of many birds. More than fifteen species, were found in the rest area, which was surrounded by fields of wheat. Amongst the Species of birds, were Red-rumped Parrots, Blue Bonnets, Cockatiels, Budgerigars, Zebra Finches and Dusky Woodswallows. The second night was at Bindle in Southern Queensland. Again, a huge array of birds greeted us in the morning. Included in these were Spiny-Cheeked Honeyesters, Squatter Pigeon, Black-faced Woodswallows and Fork-tailed Kite.

Our next stop was at Carnarvon Gorge, set aside to preserve some important Aboriginal Artwork and the unique vegetation of the gorge system. Although we visited the area at the wrong time of year, (September is best according to the Ranger) more than forty species were seen. To name a few, Pheasant Coucal, Blue-faced Honeyeaters, White-Naped Honeyeater, Pale-headed Rosella, Azure Kingfisher, Olive-backed Oriole, White-eared Honeyeater, Red-backed Wren, and a pair of Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters feeding three chicks.

Another first for us was being able to watch a busy Platypus on several occasions in the nearby creek.

From here we went to my cousin's Saphire lease at Rubyvale about 50Km west of Emerald. Apart from our not so successful attempt to find a Saphire, we had fun feeding some Rainbow Lorikeets which were regular visitors to the house. Some of the birds we found in the area included the beautiful Crested Hawk, Red-Winged Parrot, White-rumped Miner, Grey Goshawk, Tawny Frogmouth, Fork-tailed Kite, White-headed Sitella and the Grey-Crowned Babbler.

From here we went to Clermont where my other cousin owns a gold mine.

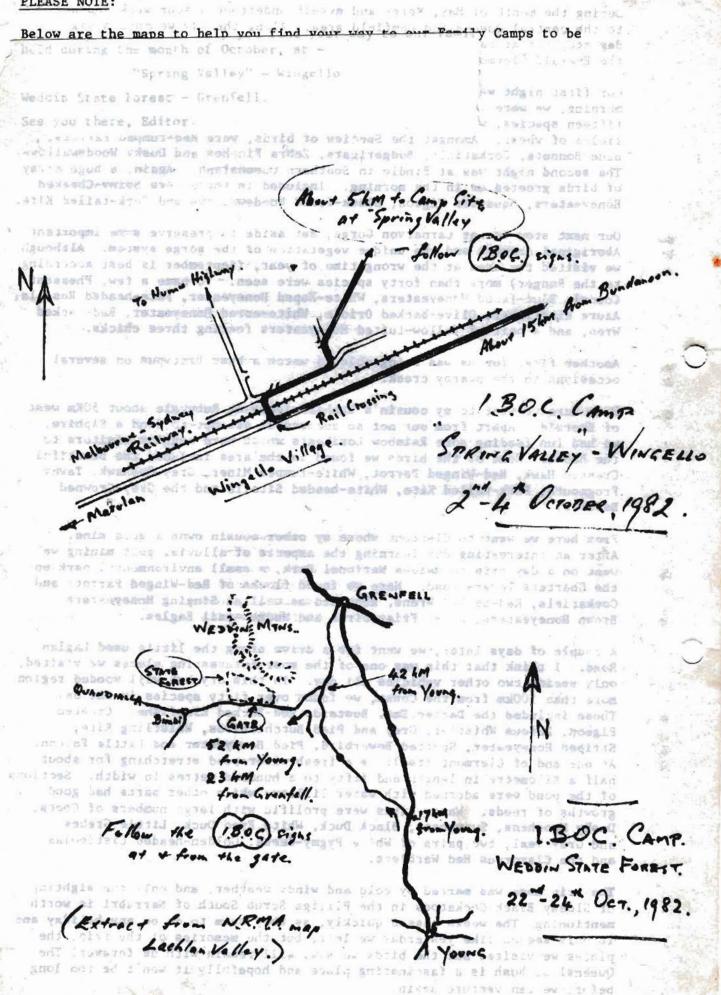
After an interesting day learning the aspects of alluvial gold mining we went on a day trip to Mazepa National Park, a small environmental park on the Charters Towers road. Here we found flocks of Red-Winged Parrots and Cockatiels, Red-backed Wrens, abounded as well as Singing Honeyeaters, Brown Honeyeaters, Noisy Friar birds and Wedge -tail Eagles.

A couple of days later, we went for a drive along the little used Laglan Road. I think that this was one of the most interesting places we visited, only seeing two other vehicles all day. In this dry but well wooded region more than 500km from the Coast, we found over fifty species in one day. Those included the Darter, Emu, Bustard, Red-Backed Kingfisher, Crested Pigeon, Rufous Whistler, Grey and Pied Butcherbirds, Whistling Kite, Striped Honeyeater, Spotted Bowerbird, Pied Honeyeater and Little Falcon. At one end of Clermont itself is a fresh water pond stretching for about half a Kilometre in length and fifty to a hundred metres in width. Sections of the pond were adorned with water lillies, while other parts had good growths of reeds. Water birds were prolific with large numbers of Coots, Dusky Moorhens, Swamphens, Black Duck, White Eyed Duck, Little Grebes and Grey Teal, two pairs of White Pygmy-Geese, Golden-headed Cisticolss and the Clamorous Red Warblers.

The trip home was marred by cold and windy weather, and only the sighting of Glossy Black Cockatoos in the Pilliga Scrub South of Narrabri is worth mentioning. The weeks passed quickly, as they seem to do on any holiday and it only seemed like yesterday we left, but the memories of the trip, the places we visited and the birds we saw, will remain with us forever. The Queensland bush is a fascinating place and hopefully it won't be too long before we can venture again.

PARTE OF RESERVE

PLEASE NOTE:





. CLUB'S MOTTO

"One Good Tern Deserves Another"

President

Laurie Williams 29-6637

I.B.O.C NEWS

THE CIRCULAR OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB

REGISTERED FOR POSTING AS A PUBLICATION (CATEGORY 'B')

THE CLUB'S AIM: TO JOIN TOGETHER PEOPLE WITH A COMMON INTEREST TO FURTHER THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE BIRDLIFE AROUND THEM.

Registration number NBH3848

Secretary

Hazel Emery 84-0139

Next Meeting - will be held on Monday, 8 November 1982 at 7.30pm in the Senior Citizens Centre, Cnr Collaery Ave and Princes Highway, Fairy Meadow.

Guest Speaker - Dr Antonio Salvadori, whose subject will be "Birding on Top of the World".

Field Outing - Saturday, 13 November at Calderwood, Meeting at the Cnr of Calderwood Pd and Marshall Mt. Rd at 8.00am

The meeting on the 8th November will be the Annual Meeting where the Election of Officers for 1983 will take place. Voting will be for President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Please Note

At this meeting an alteration to the Club's Guidelines will be submitted to allow for a fourth position on the Committee, that of Vice President.



GUIDELINES OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB

Aim of the Club

- To join together people with a common interest who wish to further their knowledge and enjoyment of the Bird Life around them.
- The Club to hold an annual meeting at the November meeting, where three officers will be elected, namely:-

President, Secretary, Treasurer

- (a) Meetings to be held monthly.
 - (b) Field outings to be held monthly.
 - (c) Yearly Fees due on January 1st.
 - (d) And where possible, supper to be served at the close of each meeting.
- 4. A Bank Account to be opened in the name of the Club and to have the three executives' signatures of which two of the three must sign all cheques.
- 5. A Statement of Account to be presented at the end of each year.
- 6. The Club to be made up of three types of membership -

Junior Membership - \$2

Single Membership - \$5

Family Membership - \$8

A Junior Member is a person who attends school or college on a full time basis.

At our <u>December</u> meeting our theme will be "An Aid for Birding". More details in our next newsletter.

We are still looking for items for our Christmas meeting - if you would like to take part, please contact Laurie.

"Readers' Digest Complete Book of Australian Birds" is now available at \$29 for members or \$32 for non-members.

Please note change of address:-

Mr Chris Chafer 149 Central Avenue OAK FLATS 2527

Iris Nichols 25 Dempster St WEST WOLLONGONG (29-1207)

Two <u>successful camps</u> were held during October at Wingello and Grenfell - details in December Newsletter.

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			A THREATER TO SEE THAT
2010	the state of the s		The state of the s
800017	Dates	Cost	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
8814	Dec 31st - Jan 3rd	\$55	Ground Parrots & Christmas Bells
12.00		to the same of	Led by Richard & Pat Jordan.
	Jan 8th - 15th	\$135	Nature Week
1 117	- 1100 - 1100	E-IN A PL	A week of varied natural history activities, led by the Wardens, with the assistance of visiting experts.
	and an Present of East	- The br no 2	for young children).
71	Jan 22nd - 29th	\$120	Junior Nature Week
42.5	no begins it status any a		Another week of natural history activities for unaccompanied children aged 11-16. Led and supervised by experienced professional educators and naturalists.
		\$45	A Weekend of Birds with John Dengate
	A TO THE RESERVE TO T	Abbre and a first	A personal introduction to the world of birds by a well-known broadcaster. Mainly for beginners.
	Feb 25th - 27th	\$45	Introduction to Bird Study
		the set has a	identification, calls, behaviour and banding. Led by Alan Leishman.
1	March 11th - 13th	\$45	The Sounds Birds Make
	Land Commence Carlo Company		recording. Led by Michard Jordan.
	March 18th - 20th	\$45	Bats of Barren Grounds Nature Reserve
1.0		41-9-6	A close look at fascinating mammals to include trapping by an expert. Led by Chris Tidimass.

All courses include full board accommodation.

For further details contact the Wardens, Richard and Pat Jordan, Barren Grounds Bird Observatory PO Box 3 JAMBEROO 2533 (Phone 360 195)

NOTES FROM A TRAVELLER'S DIARY

During our travels in Central Australia, we were driving along a sandy road between Wallara Ranch and the Stuart Highway, and decided to look for a nice spot to stop and have a cuppa. The countryside was flat, with very few trees and certainly none beside the roadway. After a while we noticed some trees set well back and a flock of Red-tailed Black Cockatoos flying toward them, and then to our delight, we saw the trees were backing a large expanse of water - so this was the spot we'd been looking for:

As we walked towards the water, across a very gravelly expanse of ground with sparse, dried tufts of grass and a little blue grass, we marvelled at the courage of some clumps of tiny white paper daisies growing amongst the gravel. Then we noticed some Orange Chats wandering between the clumps and saw the beautiful male, along with some Pipits.

Coming closer to the water we watched the Zebra Finches flying in to drink on the edge of a puddle and then a flock of Budgerigars wheeled in for a quick drink. Bobbing along the edge of the water were Australian Dotterels with their cousins, the Red-kneed Dotterels nearby and a large flock of Pied Stilts in the water, and as we got closer, some of the ducks took to the sky and circled round before coming back to settle on the water again.

A Little Falcon flew in and scattered the flock of Finches that were drinking and gave chase to one poor little bird before it dodged out of the Falcon's reach and saved its life, and the Falcon flew off to try somewhere else to get its lunch.

A Willy Wagtail was hopping around chattering to itself and a few small Cockatails flew in for a quick drink while some Diamond Doves sat contentedly in a tree, sunning themselves.

As we moved to the back of the dam, the Wood Ducks took off and flew to a deeper dam behind and we noticed a tight group of Black-tailed Native Hens gathering nervously in a corner of the water in some reeds.

Then a Dingo showed itself in the long grass, behind the dam, and turned and slinked away, interrupted from its close watch on the activity and as we walked further, we noticed the ground was strewn with feathers, probably remnants of previous meals. A flock of White-eyed Ducks rose into the air and circled round before coming to settle back on the deeper water, and a Brown Falcon appeared from nowhere and scattered a large flock of Finches that were roosting in some shrubs, before it clumsily flew away.

In the furthest edge of the water a Pink-eared Duck swam to the water's edge and waddled along the bank calling and trying to distract us, did it have a nest somewhere?

As we slowly wandered back to the car, the Pink-eared Duck took to the water and paddled away. A White-necked Heron resumed its activities by the edge of the water and life settled down again on the beautiful expanse of water in the middle of a very harsh and dry part of the country.

NOLA AND LAURIE WILLIAMS

1983

ALL ALL 1.B.O.C MEMBERS







CLUB MOTTO

"One Good Tern Deserves Another"

I.B.O.C NEWS

THE CIRCULAR OF THE ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB

DECEMBER 1982

REGISTERED BY AUST. POST PUBLICATION NO. NBH 3848.

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY

Laurie Williams 18 Achilles Avenue

Hazel Emery
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CLUB'S AIM:

To join together people with a common interest to further their knowledge of the Birdlife around them.

NEXT MEETING

Monday evening 13th December timed to Start at 7.30pm. This will be our Christmas meeting and our last meeting for 1982.

PROGRAM

(a) Presidents Welcome.

(b) Musical Item by the 'Ornithologist's Delight

or day to be ad

(c) Recovery Round Up.

(d) An Aid to Birding.

(e) A Bird by any other Name.

(f) A Film "Moonbird".

(g) Father Christmas.

(h) Supper and Fellowship.

Item (d) "An Aid to Birding". We will accept working models or working diagrams, ie. 1. Windscreen wipers for Binoculars.

2. A Fly Deterrent

3. Fence Scaling Apparatus. (Barbwire fences).

These are just some of the examples we are looking for.

We will have a <u>Panel of Experts</u>, (of course you would know that the definition of a expert is a drip under pressure) to analyse, criticize and look at the potential of the working model or drawing to be sold on the world market.

Item (c) "A Bird by any other Name". To successfully participate in this item it will be necessary for you to study the "Readers Digest Complete Book of Birds." So make sure you do your Homework by checking on the alternate names of our Australian Birds.

FIELD OUTING

Saturday 11th December at Bulli Pass Reserve meeting at 2.00pm for a walk returning to the Reserve for a Bar-be-que then Spot Lighting after dark. There are no Barbeque facilities available at the Reserve so please bring along a portable barbeque if possible. To reach the Reserve you enter by crossing the Railway Track at Austinmer Station then proceed up Hill St. to Foothills Road, proceed to the far end.

The <u>Annual Meeting</u> was held on 8 November 1982, when the Election of Officers took place for 1983.

The outgoing <u>President</u>, Laurie Williams, thanked all members of the Committee for the help given to the Club over the past 12 months.

Kevin Woods chaired the meeting and called for nominations for the positions of <u>President</u>, <u>Secretary</u>, <u>Treasurer</u> and for a new position of <u>Vice President</u>.

Those elected were:

President:

Laurie Williams

Vice President:

Dave Thomson

Secretary:

Hazel Emery

Treasurer:

Ron Almond

Congratulations to these members, who have accepted these Offices, and will lead the Club during 1983.

The Speaker at last month's meeting was Dr Antonio Salvadori, who spoke of his love of nature and his interest in Bird Banding. He took us on a very interesting trip to the Arctic Circle by means of slides. He spoke of the wildlife seen and especially the birds sighted on the way.

The Arctic Circle has great extremes of temperature which has a great bearing on the bird and wildlife population.

Some of the birds he mentioned were the Arctic Tern, Woodpecker, White-Throated Sparrow to name just a few. Our thanks go to Tony for a very interesting talk and wish him well as he goes back to his family in Canada in a few weeks time.

Change of Address:

Anna & Andy Knowlson 4 Highwiew Close Princes Highway

DAPTO

Phone: 61 6214

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Guest Speaker - for our February 1983 meeting will be Arnold McGill.

Field Outing - will be to Towra Point Botany Bay.

Please Note - There is no meeting for January - next meeting 14 February 1983.

Library Books - are available for your reading over the Christmas Vacation.

A New Bird Club - has been formed in Mildura, Information and application forms are available from our Secretary.

We are looking at the feasability of running a bus for a day trip to Canberra Botanical Gardens in August 1983.

Those members who are interested and are not able to attend the Christmas Meeting would you please contact Laurie.

Fees for 1983 fall due on January 1st 1983.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 1983 ARE AS FOLLOWS:-

EDITOR - RON HANKS
ATLASSER - DAVE THOMSON
FIELD RECORDER - HORACE WARD

SALES OFFICER - BARBARA HALE AND FAMILY
LIBRARIAN - BOB AND DINA GREEN

TECHNICAL OFFICER - DOUGLAS GIBSON
HALL SUPERVISOR - WALLY EMERY

CULINARY OFFICERS - WENDY HANKS, VAL SHURLEY

From the President and Committee we wish you all a Very, Very Happy Christmas and Very Prosperous New Year - and Good Birding in 1983.

FIELD TRIP -

Forty club members met at the Cnr. Calderwood and Marshall Mt Roads for our November outing. Continuing on for a few kilometres we left some of the cars and drove up a steep road to the start of the walk through the bush. PresidentLauriewilliams left a copy of Graham Pizzey's "Field Guide of Australian Birds" outside the home of Mr Col Levy, whose property was on part of the Field Outing, as a "thank-you" on behalf of the Club. It was unfortunate that Col was away at the time as he has a keen interest in Bird observing himself, we would have liked to have spoken to him.

Many species of birds were observed during the walk - Eastern Rosella, Striated Pardalote, Yellow Robin, Brown Warbler, Whipbird to name just a few. A sighting was made of the lovely Golden Whistler.

We stopped for lunch under an old Moreton Bay Figtree, which gave plenty of shade from the hot sun. Arriving back at the cars about 2.30pm, we then decided to drive to a lake near Albion Park Showground to look at some ducks. A sighting was made of the Freckled Duck and the Mountain Duck which was rather good. It was a most enjoyable day even though the weather was very warm. In all 52 birds were recorded.

Our family camp was held on the property of the Boag's - "Paddy's River"
What a lovely place to stay, we camped on the banks of the Paddy's River.
We shared the campsite with a couple of Red-Bellied Black Snakes. Most
of the members arrived on the Friday night and settled in for a good
weekend of bird-watching.

The nights were cold but a good campfire kept us warm. Saturday saw us walking along the river to find a place to cross to the other side.

Once across we walked along a path around a rocky outcrop above the river.

96 species of birds were sighted over the weekend:

Rufous Songlark, White-bellied Cuckoo Shrike, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, Stubble Quail, Masked Plover, Flame Robin, Diamond Firetail to name a few. Sunday saw us headed in another direction across this vast property sighting a Chinese Oven built out of rocks found on the property. However, we couldn't find out much about this oven, which is still in good condition.

During the afternoon we had a visit from Bob and Mrs Boag who told us of the history of the property. A presentation of a plate and the Readers' Digest Book of Australian Birds, was made to the Boag's on behalf of the Club. Bob took us on a visit to a cave on the property to show us some aboriginal paintings. Monday morning we walked across a ploughed field to the other end of the property where we sighted some Kangaroos.

By mid afternoon we packed all the gear ready for the journey home. Our thanks go to Mr & Mrs Bob Boag for allowing us to camp on their property.



THE BIRDS OF COOTAMUNDRA

On the weekand of 25 & 26 September, Kerry, her cousin, Geoff and myself undertook a very exciting trip to Cootamundra. Geoff, who once lived in the town, spoke of the abundance of the Superb Parrot in the area.

Making our base at the Cootamundra Caravan Park, I went out to the Jindalee State Forest early on the Saturday morning. Sightings of the Blue-faced Honeyeater, Red Wattlebird, White-plumed Honeyeater, Eastern Rosella, (both very common in the area), Little Friarbird, and White-winged Choughs were made.

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BELLIN SHALL

Picking up Geoff from the Caravan Park, we went to meet Alex Hanson, himself a keen birdwatcher. Whilst talking to him several Superb Parrots flew overhead and a pair of Red-rumped Parrots landed in a tree near where we were standing. Noting some of the places he spoke of in the area we decided to explore them for ourselves. The first was Greenhills farm, consisting of lightly timbered, gently indulating hills and a few running creeks. Many varieties of birds abounded in the area, to name a few; Restless Flycatcher, Diamond Firetails, Tree Martins, Southern Whiteface, Red-Capped Robin. Due mainly to the large number of rabbits in the area many birds of prey flew overhead. We sighted a pair of Little Eagles, Whistling Kite, several Brown Goshawks and three Nankeen Kestrels. The second spot was the Cowcumbla Dam where we observed some Superb Parrots, and a huge flock of White-Browed Woodswallows. Many species were seen at the Dam itself. Amonth them, Goldfinches, Darters, Black-fronted Dotterels to name some of them.

Arriving back in town towards evening, I saw my first Blackbird which is common in the town gardens

Next day saw us at the Bethungra Resevoir , sighting Dusky Woodswallows and a Brown Falcon.

At the Dam were Musk Ducks, Hoary-headed Grebes, and a group of Fairy Martins building nests under a ledge on the Dam wall.

Moving on to Gardeners Lookout, noting several huge boulders sitting precariously on top of a hill said to be the former haunt of a bushranger. As it was quite hot when we arrived, not many birds were seen but a sighting of the Crested Shrike-tit, Golden-bronze Cuckoo, and a Wedge-tailed eagle made our day. Both the Black-backed and White-backed Magpie are in the area, the former is more predominant.

Eighty-one species of birds were sighted in the area over the weekend, one place which is well worth a visit for the birdwatcher even if only for a weekend.

Chris and Kerry Chafer.

WEDDIN MOUNTAINS STATE FOREST - NEAR GRENFELL - 22 & 23 OCTOBER

A small group arrivedat Weddin Mts. State Forest on Thursday, 21 October 1982 to set up Camp in a cleared area adjacent to a dam which provided some water for us, about 1 km inside the forest, for the rest of the group to follow.

The weather was hot and sunny each day with cool nights, except for early to mid Saturday morning when the wind blew very strongly.

The area covered was in the South-East section of the forest and extended into the nearby Weddin Mts.Natl.Park. What a difference the place was when we saw it last at Easter time.Grass has become very poor due to a long dry spell. The lovely Red-Capped Robin and Rainbow Bee-eaters were found in many areas, as was the White-Browed Babbler.

A Dam six km.from the campsite was a very popular place for many birds and Kangaroos that came in to drink.

Many of the Club members went to this dam on many occasions to spot a great variety of birds some of which were: Black Honeyeater, Turquoise Parrot, Eastern Rosella, Peaceful Dove, MalleeRingneck to name a few and just before we left a White-backed Swallow appeared. In all, 108 species were recorded for the weekend. The camp broke up on Monday, and by lunchtime most had left after a very enjoyable camp.

T.B.O.C. SPRING BIRD COUNT - 30TH OCTOBER, 1982

Weather: Fine, mild calm morning, very hot and windy afternoon

AREA 1 - NORTH

Horace Ward and David Winterbottom (co-leaders in different areas)
Ron Almond, Hendy Hanks, Esme Gay, Andy Knowlson.
Two (2) Teams, 20 hrs., 90 km, 75 species.
Listed only in Area 1: Swamp Harrier, Chestnut Tailed Heath Wren,
Red Wattlebird, Masked Moodswallow, White Browed Woodswallow, Black
Faced Woodswallow.

AREA 2 - THIRROUL

Doug Gibson, Len Klumpes, Jan Rowles, Jeff Smeaton. One (1) Team, 9 hrs, 80 km, 65 species, Listed only in Area 2: Grey Goshawk, Hock Warbler, Rainbow Lorikeet, Golden Bronze Cuckoo, Ground Thrush.

AREA 3 - CORRINAL

Wal Emery (leader) Hazel Emery, Chris Chafer, Alan Brown. One (1) Team, 12 hrs., 43 km, 89 species. Listed only in Area 3: Collared Sparrowhawk, Boobook Owl, Mistletoe Bird, White Plumed Honeyeater, White Naped Honeyeater.

APEA 4 - MT. KEIRA

Kevin Mills (leader), Val Mills.
One (1) Team, 94 hrs., 81 kms, 73 species.
Listed only in Area 4: Gang Gang, Crested Pigeon, Sitella, White Eared Honeyealor, Scarlet Robin.

AREA 5 - WOLLONGONG

Davo Thomson (Leader), Nola & Laurie Williams, Bob & Dina Green. One (1) Team, 7 hrs., 38 kms, 62 species. Listed only in Area 5: Chestnut Brested Finch.

AREA 6 - DAPTO

Brian James (leader), Tony Salvadori, Lindsay Smith. One (1) team, 94 hrs., 60 kms, 96 species. Listed only in Area 6: Brown Goshawk, Glossy Ibis, Freckled Duck, Skylark.

AREA 7 - LAKE

Kevin Wood (leader), Peter and Mark Fackender.
One (1) Team, 91 hrs., 100 kms, 82 species.
Listed only in Area 7: Fluttering Shearwater, Wedge Tailed Shearwater,
Brown Falcon, Bar Tailed Godvit, Eastern Curlew, Greenshank, Tattler,
Red Necked Stint, Caspian Tern, Whiskered Tern, Red Knot.

Cumulatively: 8 teams 76.25 hrs, 492 kms., 164 species.

COMMENTARY

Once again, thank you to those participating and returning such praiseworthy tailites. The importance of a number of teams performing independently is well shown by many species found only in particular areas (and habitats). For example, the second group working in the Darkes Forest area made a valuable contribution to the northern and overall total and I believe had a most

interesting day's birding in the process.

Inspection of the list indicates that very few relatively common spring birds were missed. But pardon se for sentioning the two dystercatchers and Brown Headed Honeyeater. The Fied Dystercatcher was seen on the Lake about a week before the count, the Sooty is simost always found on one of the rocky headlands on the coast, and the Brown Headed Honeyeater is pearly always found in the Darkes Forest area.

The Black Faced, Masked and White Browed Wood Swallows and Freckled Duck were perhaps the greatest surprise packets. Who would have thought we would be honoured by the presence of Freckled Ducks for two years in succession! The very dry inland has probably forced the Woodswallow "trifects" further east than normal in search of food during their nesting season. Last year was also a dry year and the White Browed Woodswallows nested near Warragamba. The Black Faced Woodswallow is a very rare bird in the County of Cumberland some six (6) having been seen previously in the extreme west of the County in 1975 (Refer "Birds of County of Cumberland", J.D. Gibson). My find of 30 Whiskered Tern in Kully Bay, almost all in breeding plumage, was most exciting. I guess we could all go on in this manner.

Many thanks to all again. We have now really given ourselves something to aim for next year.

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K. A. WOOD

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