

FAIRY MARTIN

Scientific Name: *Petrochelidon ariel*
Atlas Number: 360

DESCRIPTION:

The Fairy Martin is a small bird, with dark wings, a white underbody and a pinkish-red head. The short, slightly forked tail appears square in flight. It is gregarious, feeding in large flocks and nesting in



colonies.

SIMILAR SPECIES:

The related Tree Martin, *H. nigricans*, has a black head and a 'dirty' white rump. Martins are generally smaller and 'dumplier' than swallows, and have a shorter, squared rather than forked tail in flight.

DISTRIBUTION:

The Fairy Martin is found across Australia.

HABITAT:

The Fairy Martin prefers open country near water, and is usually seen near its nest sites, in cliffs, culverts or bridges.

SEASONAL MOVEMENTS:

Seasonally migratory, moving north for winter, with some birds flying to New Guinea.

FEEDING:

The Fairy Martin feeds high in the air on flying insects, usually in large flocks.

BREEDING:

A colonial nester, the Fairy Martin builds bottle-shaped mudnests that are packed closely together on the ceilings of caves, and under bridges or other similar structures. Both sexes build the nest and share incubation and care of the young.

LIVING WITH US

The Fairy Martin readily uses artificial structures such as bridges to attach its nests to, and will also use inhabited buildings to make its nests on.

Cover text courtesy of <https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/>

CONTENTS:

Club Activities	Page	2
Club Reports	Page	3 - 6
Notices	Page	8 - 13
Monthly Bird Sightings	Page	14



Founded in 1977

Club's Aim:

To join together people with a common interest who wish to further their knowledge and enjoyment of the bird life around them.

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB INC.

POSTAL ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 56 FAIRY MEADOW, N.S.W. 2519
www.iboc.com.au

CLUB CONTACTS

Address All Email Correspondence to
info@iboc.org.au

PRESIDENT:	Ross Gowans
VICE PRESIDENT	Pam Hazelwood
SECRETARY:	Andy Knowlson
TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP:	Ken Brown
EDITORS:	Charles Dove, Janina Dove
RECORDS OFFICER:	Darryl Goldrick

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

GENERAL MEETING - AGM

Club Meeting 7.30pm Monday 13th November 2023

At Fairy Meadow Community Hall, Cnr. Cambridge Ave and Princes Hwy. Fairy Meadow.

The first item for discussion will be "THE FUTURE OF IBOC" so attendance by as many Members as possible would be appreciated.

We will then be having the AGM followed by a Members Night.

Interested members to contact a committee member
to let them know their availability for the night.

Please bring a plate of 'goodies' and a mug for supper after the meeting.

MIDWEEK OUTING

Midweek Walk Wednesday 15th November 2023

Leader Ross Gowans

Mangerton Brush

Meet at 9am at Mangerton Park 114 Heaslip Street (*map etc Page 7*)

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/WEMrcYSrSeFdGsA38> link to entrance

From the traffic lights at the Figtree Shopping Centre on the Princes Highway turn left onto The Avenue towards Cleverdon Crescent. After 400m Turn left onto St Johns Ave then turn right onto Heaslip St.

The walk can be a little wet. Bring morning tea and be sure to bring plenty of insect repellent.

In the event of hot or inclement weather call Ross

MONTHLY OUTING

Saturday 18th November 2023

Leaders Alan & Anne Cousins

BARREN GROUNDS NATURE RESERVE 9am

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DAY OF THE OUTING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO SATURDAY

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/yatGX74yTTeHFXpr9> link to entrance

Travel towards Jamberoo via Albion Park and turn right to Jamberoo Mountain Road passing the road to Minnamurra Falls. Continue up the road for about 9Km's. the turning into Barren Grounds is on the left. Follow the track to the carpark and picnic area.

Bring morning tea and lunch. We will carry morning tea and return to the picnic area for lunch.

In the event of inclement weather contact Alan on 0413869534

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Next Committee Meeting

Monday 20th November 2023 7.00pm

Committee Meeting via Zoom

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE 24th November

For all articles & photos in the next IBOC newsletter PLEASE E-mail contributions:

To Charles Dove Email newsletter@iboc.org.au

or post to 55/303 Spring St, Kearney's Spring, Toowoomba QLD 4350.

CLUB REPORTS

NOVEMBER

Monday 09th October

More confusion as to the meeting program.

By Ross Gowans

The Gowans fresh back from our trip to Glue Pot and beyond had a thought to show a DVD we had acquired. Thank you, Pam, for providing the technical backup required, but after a short time the DVD started to break up and shortly after died entirely.

Pam quickly swapped to a video she had previously selected about IDing marks to

discern between Welcome Swallows and Martins. I sure most people picked up identifying marks to help them separate these two individuals.

Hopefully the future will see an improvement in the conduct of meetings mainly due to my retirement from the president's position.

MIDWEEK OUTING

Wednesday 11th October 2023

Williams Beach

By Joan Zealey

A beautiful morning saw 17 members assemble at William Beach Park. Wood ducks and Masked Lapwings wandered across the grass. There were large numbers of small birds darting in and out of the bushes beside the creek, including a surprise sighting of two Australian Ringnecks by Ross and Pam. The rest of us managed to catch a glimpse of one of them in a distant silky oak. There were several ducks in the creek, including some dubious

mallard crosses, and a Darter and a Striated Heron beyond the bridge.

After spotting 50 species in the park, we went off to Passionate Palate. After enjoying coffee and delicious cakes, we walked round the lake. As well as the resident pair of Magpie Geese, there were a large number of Royal Spoonbills, and in the reedbeds, to everyone's delight we got excellent view of three Ballion's Crakes, as well as Australian Reed Warblers, and the mournful call of a Little Grassbird.

Bird List

William Beach Memorial Park 11 th October 2023 16 members 51 species			
Australian Wood Duck	Little Pied Cormorant	Crimson Rosella	Olive-backed Oriole
Pacific Black Duck	Great Cormorant	Eastern Rosella	Grey Butcherbird
Mallard	Little Black Cormorant	Rainbow Lorikeet	Australian Magpie
Mallard x Pacific Black Duck	Australian Pelican	Satin Bowerbird	Willie Wagtail
Chestnut Teal	Great Egret	Superb Fairywren	Grey Fantail
Spotted Dove	White-faced Heron	Lewin's Honeyeater	Magpie-lark
Crested Pigeon	Striated Heron	Noisy Miner	Australian Raven
Topknot Pigeon	Australian White Ibis	Little Wattlebird	Eastern Yellow Robin
Dusky Moorhen	Laughing Kookaburra	Spotted Pardalote	Welcome Swallow
Eurasian Coot	Galah	White-browed Scrubwren	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Masked Lapwing	Little Corella	Yellow Thornbill	Common Starling
Silver Gull	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Common Myna
Australasian Darter	Australian Ringneck	Eastern Whipbird	Common Blackbird

eBird checklist – S151986126

Passionate Palate/Forest Grove 14 members/1 visitor 26 species			
Magpie Goose	Dusky Moorhen	Galah	Australian Magpie
Black Swan	Eurasian Coot	Noisy Miner	Willie Wagtail
Pacific Black Duck	Australasian Swamphen	New Holland Honeyeater	Magpie-lark
Chestnut Teal	Baillon's Crake	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Australian Reed Warbler
Hardhead	Little Black Cormorant	Australasian Figbird	Little Grassbird
Australasian Grebe	Royal Spoonbill	Grey Butcherbird	Welcome Swallow
Spotted Dove	Brown Goshawk		

eBird checklist – S151986123

A total of 64 species were recorded for the day (+1 other taxa)

A couple of Pics by Bill Zealey from Wednesday Walk in October



Magpie Geese



Baillons Crake

Ken Brown was also in amongst getting some great pics as well from the William beach outing in October



Golden Whistler



Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo



Variegated Fairy-wren



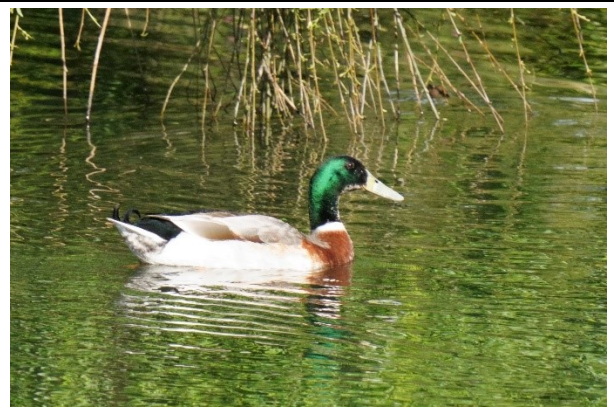
Yellow Thornbill

It is great to see such a variety of species and Photos from our members to include in the Newsletter.

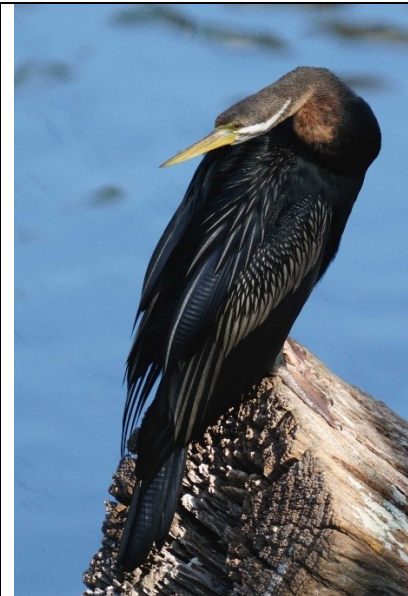
Pam Hazelwood has continued the theme from Williams Park as well with more great photos.



Pacific Black Duck



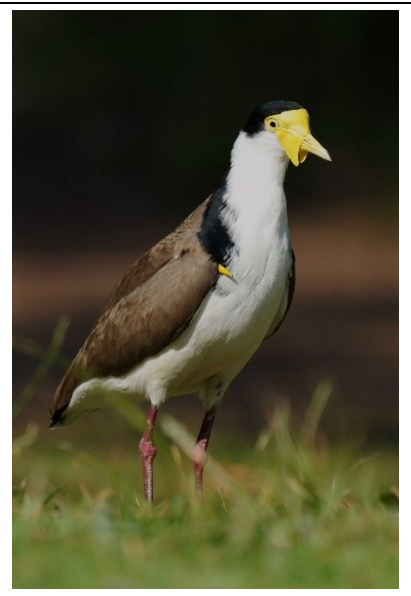
Mallard



Australasian Darter



Nankeen Night Heron



Masked Lapwing



Baillon's Crake

WEEKEND WALK

Saturday 14th October 2023

WOLLONGONG BOTANIC GARDENS WALK

Early voting done for the doomed Referendum we met 14 members at the western gate to the Botanic Gardens off Murphys Avenue. Before we even got through the gate, we had a good sighting of a Topknot Pigeon and also some Musk Lorikeets possibly nesting in the nearby gums. Then we made our way through the Woodland Garden into the Rainforest Collection. A large male Brush Turkey came over to greet us no doubt hoping for some tidbits. We were trying to track down the call of a Black-faced Monarch but it gave us only a brief glimpse. However, the Eastern Yellow Robins were very friendly popping down onto the pathway for a good sighting. Made our way towards the verandah of the Towri Centre for morning tea seeing Rainbow and Musk Lorikeets feeding on the Grass Tree flower spikes. Crimson Rosellas and King Parrots were also feeding here in shrubs and Figbirds were heard and seen as the figs were fruiting. The spring flowers in the gardens were lovely as we wandered down toward the pond.



Topknot Pigeon – by Pam Hazelwood

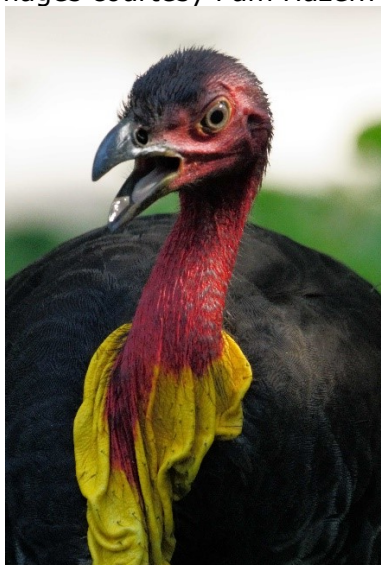
A Satin Bowerbirds bower was found on the way. The pond was busy as there was several families feeding the Coots, Ducks and Moorhens. A family of Wood Ducks with 16 ducklings gave some delight on our return to the picnic tables for lunch while a hopeful Silver Gull and Crested Pigeons joined us.

Bird List

Wollongong Botanic Gardens 14 th October 2023		13 Members/1 Guest	38 Species + 1 feral
Domestic goose sp.	Australasian Swamphen	Satin Bowerbird	Australian Magpie
Australian Wood Duck	Masked Lapwing	Lewin's Honeyeater	Willie Wagtail
Pacific Black Duck	Silver Gull	Noisy Miner	Grey Fantail
Chestnut Teal	Little Pied Cormorant	Little Wattlebird	Black-faced Monarch
Hardhead	Laughing Kookaburra	Red Wattlebird	Magpie-lark
Australian Brush Turkey	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	White-browed Scrubwren	Australian Raven
Crested Pigeon	Australian King-Parrot	Brown Thornbill	Eastern Yellow Robin
Topknot Pigeon	Crimson Rosella	Black-faced Cuckoo shrike	Welcome Swallow
Dusky Moorhen	Musk Lorikeet	Australasian Figbird	Common Myna
Eurasian Coot	Rainbow Lorikeet	Grey Butcherbird	

eBird checklist number S152355893.

Images courtesy Pam Hazelwood



Brush Turkey

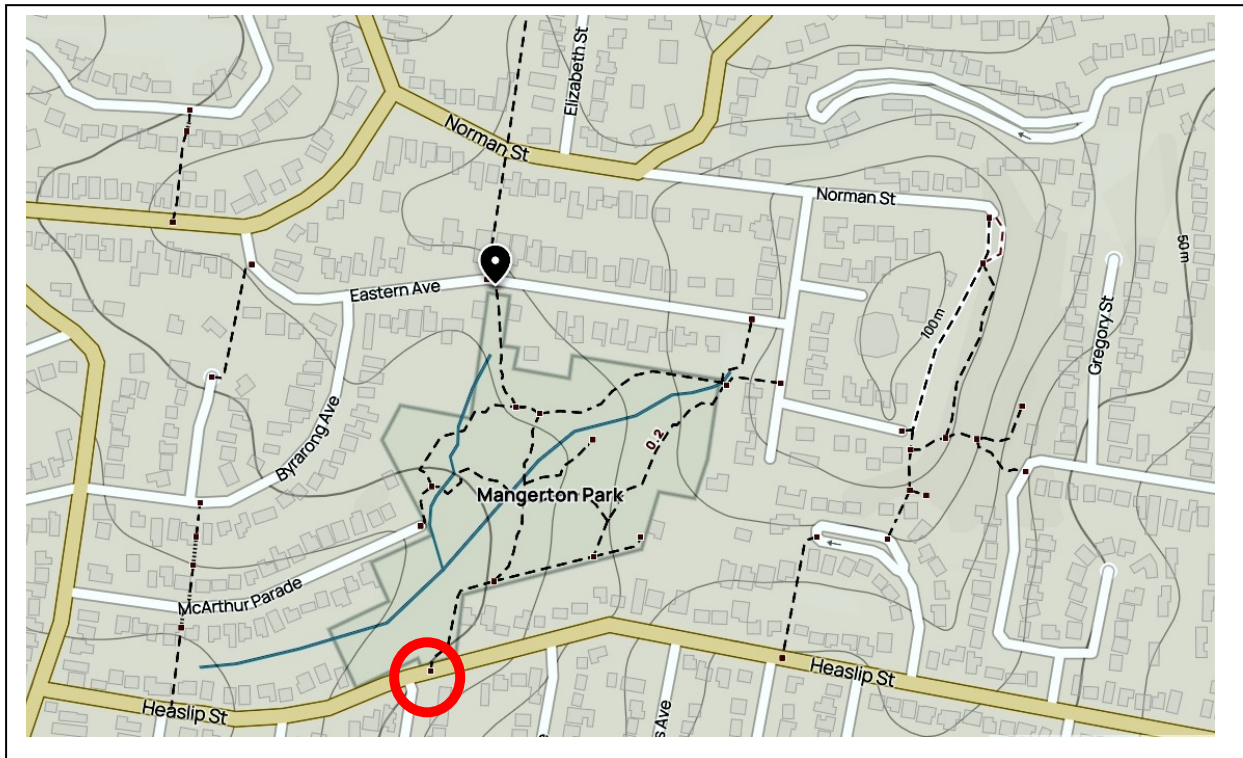


Musk Lorikeet



Rainbow Lorikeet

Meet at 9am at Mangerton Park 114, Heaslip Street - 15th November 2023



From the traffic lights at the Figtree Shopping Centre on the Princes Highway turn left onto The Avenue towards Cleverdon Crescent. After 400m Turn left onto St Johns Ave then turn right onto Heaslip St.

Links

ABC News: Artificial intelligence technology to analyse status of 'cryptic' bird, bilby and kowari on outback station Shared from [ABC app](#)
The search for the plains-wanderer will involve AI and bio-acoustic recorders to detect it and other highly vulnerable species.
[Read the full story](#)

This tiny bird has just flown 10,000km. Getting it on camera was a miracle
Rangers and scientists capture the moment a bird no bigger than a walnut completes a migration from the Arabian Sea to a coastal town in WA's south-west. [Read the full story](#) Shared from [ABC app](#)

'We can't stop it': Bird flu strain that has devastated seabirds worldwide will likely reach Antarctica this year
A deadly strain of bird flu that has already killed millions of seabirds across the world is likely to land on Antarctic shores this summer, threatening already struggling penguin colonies and marine mammals. [Read the full story](#) Shared from [ABC app](#)

At least 1,000 birds died from colliding with one Chicago building in one day
https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/oct/07/chicago-mccormick-place-building-bird-deaths-windows?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other

Brush turkeys possibly 'poisoned' at Allan Border oval
<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/fowl-play-who-s-poisoning-brush-turkeys-on-sydney-s-lower-north-shore-20230926-p5e7ot.html>

How to identify birds by sight — Weekend Birder
<https://www.weekendbirder.com/how-to-guides/how-to-identify-birds-by-sight>

Orange-bellied parrots - ScienceDirect
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0960982223008618>

Study Species — DIFFICULT BIRD RESEARCH GROUP
<https://www.difficultbirds.com/study-species>

NOTICES

The Future of IBOC **Some thoughts to consider**

After an approach by some IBOC members last year following our AGM, Andrew Knowlson (Secretary) spoke to members about a possible approach to Illawarra Birders (IB) with a view to merge. At that time there was no objection to an approach being made to Illawarra Birders to gauge their thoughts on the matter.

Andrew informally raised the matter with Ralph Stadius, IB President. This resulted in a comprehensive response from IB which is included in this newsletter for your consideration.

As a group, the members of IBOC are aging and less able to engage in activities once enjoyed. As a consequence, we do not have renewal through younger members joining and stepping up to take on the responsibilities of office bearers and committee members etc. We must consider that in the near future IBOC will no longer be able to function and may cease to operate.

The meeting, walks and camps program for 2024 will be decided by the new committee. Not all current committee members will be seeking re-election. It is obvious, however, that a smaller committee will most likely present a shorter program. The program should be tuned to better meet the needs of members. After many years of adhering to the format of hall meetings, mid-week and weekend walks with Spring and Autumn Camps some change is needed. Your current Committee has discussed the possibility of daytime meetings either at the hall or at a location like Integral Energy Park or a combination of the two, eliminating weekend walks and having a second mid-week walk at a fixed location like Integral Energy Park.

At our AGM in November members will be asked to share their views so the incoming Committee has guidance from members on how to proceed. Those members unable to attend may submit their thoughts in writing.

The choices your Committee currently would like members to consider are:-

- 1) Accept the offer of IB for a period of membership and join in their program and keep IBOC on a reduced program.
- 2) Accept the offer of IB and proceed to cancel our registration as an incorporated association.
- 3) Refuse the offer of IB and run a reduced program.
- 4) Refuse the offer of IB and proceed to cancel our registration as an incorporated association.

If we were to decide to cancel our registration a special general meeting would need to be held and all members would have a vote on any proposal.

Pam Hazelwood
On behalf of IBOC Committee



Illawarra Birders position in relation to IBOC. May 2023

Here are some positional statements which should be useful for IBOC in understanding Illawarra Birders current thinking following your approach regarding a possible joining of the clubs.

1. Illawarra Birders believes a single strong active club in the Illawarra would be advantageous for the education about, and conservation of birds.
2. Illawarra Birders aim is to inspire the enjoyment, education, research and conservation of birds. Our mission is to build and encourage cooperation and partnerships between birding clubs and all levels of Government to ensure the conservation of bird species and their habitat.
3. We are active and affiliated with Birdlife Australia.
4. Our extensive program of events and camps is constantly evolving to meet the needs of members. More socially focused activity can be accommodated in our program without distracting from our core mission above.
5. We welcome existing members of IBOC to Illawarra Birders meetings or events.
6. We would extend free membership for the first year to IBOC members should they wish to join Illawarra Birders.
7. We will retain the name Illawarra Birders and our existing operational methods.
8. We are always looking for people to deploy their skills in the operation of the club, either on the committee or as a coordinator of specific activities.
9. In the event IBOC decided to close; wind up matters including any funds you hold would be a matter solely for IBOC to consider.

ALTERNATIVE OPTION

As all members know by now, IBOC is in danger of disbanding. The future of this wonderful club will be discussed at the November AGM.

After presenting an idea to the committee, at their request I have prepared a proposal that can be put to members and discussed on the night of the AGM..

Currently, IBOC faces several major obstacles to continuing: Dwindling and aging membership, not enough members to serve on the committee and fill other positions, and lack of speakers.

I believe all these can be overcome by broadening the scope of the club from only involving birds to encompassing other fields of natural history.

Under the auspices of the Jamberoo CWA, Daphne and I have been presenting a series of Nature and Environment Talks for almost two years.

We have featured speakers as diverse as IBOC's Bill Zeely on "Our place in the universe" to Lyndal Dawson on "Megafauna of Australia" and Peter Fackender on nesting birds.

Speakers have also covered, among others: ants and termites, monsters and marvels of the backyard garden, bioluminescence, lyrebirds, trees of the Illawarra, tornados, protecting local endangered wildlife ... even starting and running Western Plains Zoo!

Jamberoo has only about 1500 residents yet these talks **attract audiences of between 35 and 75 who each pay \$5 to attend**. And that when the only publicity for the talks is through a local Facebook site and with a few posters.

Now imagine offering something similar under the auspices of IBOC with all of Wollongong and surrounding areas to draw attendance from. The scope is enormous and could lead to a substantial increase in membership, particularly of younger people. This in turn will provide members to fill positions on the committee and in other roles.

I personally can connect with speakers to keep us busy for the next few years with monthly talks that will appeal to a much larger audience than talks only on birds will do.

That is not to say birds will be neglected, but by diversifying to include other aspects of nature we will have much more to offer prospective members. Walks and camps can continue but can also be diversified to take in more than just birds. Again, that should boost attendance at these events.

By calling and publicising this as the "IBOC Nature Group" there will be no need to change the name or constitution. But a group by that name in our publicity will appeal to a much wider audience than just IBOC.

Nic van Oudtshoorn

Illawarra Bird Observers' Club Incorporated
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held on 14 November 2022 at Fairy Meadow Hall

Opening: The meeting was opened and members & guests welcomed at 7:30pm by the President Ross Gowans

Attendance: Number of Members attending 18.

Apologies – Neil McKinlay and Terry Edwell.

Minutes of the 2021 AGM: Returning Officer Chris Cartledge presented the Minutes of the IBOC 2021 AGM.

Moved and Seconded Alan Cousins and Ross Gowans “that the Minutes of the IBOC 2021 AGM be adopted” Carried.

Reports: Treasurer Ken Brown presented the Annual Financial and Membership Report for 2021 - 2022

Moved & seconded Andrew Knowlson and Chris Cartledge “that the Annual Financial and Membership Reports for 2020 and 2021 be adopted” – Carried.

Annual Elections: Moved & seconded “that Chris. Cartledge act as returning Officer for the AGM” - Carried.

The following office holders and committee members were elected:

President: Ross Gowans

Vice President: Pam Hazelwood

Treasurer: Ken Brown

Secretary: Andrew Knowlson

Committee: Darryl Goldrick, Anna Knowlson & Alan Cousins

The following non-elected positions were filled:

Records Officer: Darryl Goldrick

Activities Officer – Monthly walks:

Activities Officer – Mid-week walks: Joan and Bill Zealey

Activities Officer – Camps: Anna Knowlson

Newsletter Editor: Charles Dove

Webmaster: Charles Dove

Hall Management: Ken Brown

Club Librarians: Anne Cousins & Terry Edwell

Badges & Attendance Officer: Lyndal Dawson

Kitchen Volunteers: Joan Wylie & Tera Wheway

Public Officer: Chris. Cartledge

General Business: Nil

Closure: There being no further business of an annual nature the President closed the meeting at 8.10pm.

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB INC.**Financial Statement for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023**

Balances	30/6/23	30/6/22	Difference
- ANZ Cheque account	-0.00	833.88	-833.88
- IMB account	5,450.63	4,235.54	1,215.09
- Petty Cash	99.20	231.35	-132.15
	<u>5,549.83</u>	<u>5,300.77</u>	<u>249.06</u>

INCOME	2023 Fin Year	EXPENDITURE	2023 Fin Year
Subscriptions	1,930.00	Postage	0.00
Book sales	15.00	Post Box	153.00
Birds Of Illawarra - Sales	40.00	Printing - Newsletter	116.15
Grants & Donations	60.00	Rent	594.00
Badges	12.00	Insurance	862.08
Interest	0.41	Corporation costs (DFT)	50.22
Sundry Receipts	130.41	Banking	0.00
Biggest Morning Tea receipts	400.00	External subscriptions	0.00
		Web	32.90
		Equipment	0.00
		Sundry Expenses	130.41
		Biggest Morning Tea donation	400.00
TOTAL	<u>2,587.82</u>	TOTAL	<u>2,338.76</u>
Net Profit	<u>249.06</u>		

Membership	2023	2022	2021
- Single memberships	19	21	18
- Family memberships	21	26	25
- Life memberships	5	5	5
Total memberships	45	52	48
Members	2023	2022	2021
- Single members	19	21	18
- Family members	40	50	50
- Life members and family members	8	9	10
Total members	67	80	78

I.B.O.C. 2023 Annual General Meeting Notice

Monday 13th November 2023

The I.B.O.C. Inc. 2023 Annual General Meeting will be held Monday 13th Nov 23 at Fairy Meadow Community Hall, corner of Cambridge Ave & Princes Highway Fairy Meadow commencing at 7:30pm, the ordinary monthly meeting will follow the AGM.

Business of the AGM:

- Confirmation of the minutes of the 2022 AGM
- Committee activity reports for 2023
- Receive and consider annual financial statements for 2023
- Election of IBOC office bearers and ordinary committee members for 2024
- General Business – Future of IBOC

The official positions to be filled are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to six (6) Ordinary Committee Members.

Nomination for the above positions close with the Secretary at 5pm Monday, 6th November 2023. Please use the nomination form below.

Please note that all nominations must be signed and dated by the Nominee, the Nominator, and the Seconder, as well as clearly indicating the position sought.

If any of these are missing the nomination will be invalid.

Completed Nomination Forms should be posted to P.O. Box 56 Fairy Meadow 2519 or handed to the Secretary prior to the closing date.

If insufficient valid nominations are received for the official positions prior to the closing date, nominations will be called at the meeting by the Returning Officer.

In addition to the above official positions the following non-elected positions need to be filled: Records Officer, Activities Officer (Monthly Walks), Activities Officer (Mid-Week Walks), Activities Officer (Camps), Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Librarian(s), Hall Manager, Badges & Attendance Officer, Kitchen Volunteers and Public Officer. If you are interested in assisting in any of these important roles, please advise the Secretary prior to the meeting.



NOMINATION FORM FOR IBOC OFFICE BEARERS & COMMITTEE – 2023

POSITIONS

President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and up to six (6) Ordinary Committee Members

****Nominations are required to reach the Secretary by 5pm Monday 6th November 2023****

Position nominated: _____

Members Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nominated by: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Seconded by: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: Nomination forms are not required for the non-elected positions

Monthly Sightings: September/October 2023

compiled by Darryl Goldrick

SPECIES	Qty	Date	Location	HABITAT	OBSERVER
Hardhead	4	24/08/2023	East Woonona lagoon	in lagoon	IMc
Australasian Darter	1	24/08/2023	East Woonona lagoon	in lagoon	IMc
Kelp Gull	1	24/08/2023	Bellambi Pool	rocky shore	IMc
Satin Bowerbird	1	24/08/2023	Bellambi Dunes	forest	IMc
Olive-backed Oriole	2	29/08/2023	Bellambi Dunes	forest	IMc
Australian Magpie	2	29/08/2023	Thirroul, George St	nest near traffic lights.	IMc
Red-browed Finch	3+	30/08/2023	Cycleway, McCauleys Beach, Thirroul	grassland	IMc
White-winged Triller	1m	22/09/2023	Farmborough Heights	Opp Primary Sc.	JZ
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1 H	23/09/2023	Balgownie	Residential	JZ
Eastern Koel	1 H	24/09/2023	Balgownie	Residential	JZ
White-faced Heron	1	25/09/2023	Balgownie	Backyard lawn	PH
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	25/09/2023	Balgownie	Overhead – 1 st sighting	PH
Green Catbird	1	25/09/2023	Balgownie	Residential	JZ
Eastern Yellow Robin	1	25/09/2023	Illawarra Grevillea Park,	casuarina	MM
Masked Lapwing	2	29/09/2023	Thirroul Bowling Club	bowling green	MM
White-faced Heron	1	29/09/2023	Thirroul residential	rooftop of block of flats	MM
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	29/09/2023	Woonona Popes Road	eucalypt canopy	MM
Eastern Koel	1 H1	1/10/2023	Thirroul	residential	MM
Eastern Koel	1	4/10/2023	Balgownie	Garden 1 st in season	PH
Nankeen Kestrel	1	6/10/2023	Kiama	Overhead Garden Centre	AAB
Australasian Figbird	2	6/10/2023	Warrawong CBD	backyard European Fig	IMc
Peregrine Falcon	1	7/10/2023	Mount Warrigal	O'head, residential	DG
Australian Magpie	1	7/10/2023	Thirroul	hunting Scrubwrens	IMc
Purple Swampphen	2A+2J	8/10/2023	Wollongong Innovation Campus	roadside nature strip	MM
Eastern Yellow Robin	1	8/10/2023	Coast Street, Thirroul	creek vegetation	MM
Eastern Koel	1m	10/10/2023	Lake Illawarra South	Yard	DG
Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike	5	10/10/2023	Lake Illawarra South	Powerlines	DG
White-necked Heron	1	11/10/2023	Russell Vale Golf/C	dam edge	IMc
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	1	11/10/2023	Lake South Bevans Isl	O'head	DG
Wonga Pigeon	3	12/10/2023	Thirroul escarpment	rainforest	IMc
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	22	12/10/2023	Fairy Meadow	Flying overhead	PH
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	1	12/10/2023	Thirroul escarpment	rainforest	IMc
Black-faced Monarch	3+	12/10/2023	Thirroul escarpment	forest & rainforest	IMc
Black Swan	~ 250	16/10/2023	Lake Illawarra South	Whyjuck Bay	DG
Topknot Pigeon	40+	16/10/2023	Excelsior, Thirroul	Eucalypt canopies	MM
Oriental Dollarbird	2	20/10/2023	Tarrawanna	Overhead along creek	KB
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	1	21/10/2023	Kiama	Overhead	AC
Wedge-tailed Eagle	1	21/10/2023	Balgownie	Overhead	PH
Green Catbird	1	21/10/2023	Lower Farmborough Rd., Unanderra	Shrubbery in backyard	SS
Eastern Whipbird	1	21/10/2023	Lower Farmborough Rd., Unanderra	Shrubbery in backyard	SS
Eastern Great Egret	1	23/10/2023	Hewitts Ck estuary	in forest & water	IMc
Black-Shouldered Kite	1	23/10/2023	Over Tramway Ck lagoon, Thirroul	patrolling Casuarina treetops & lagoon	IMc
Eastern Koel	1	23/10/2023	Lower Farmborough Rd., Unanderra	Backyard tree	SS
Variiegated Fairy-wren	1 H	23/10/2023	Edge of Hewitts Ck lagoon	Creekside vegetation	IMc
Topknot Pigeon	2	24/10/2023	Tarrawanna Oval	Feeding in fig tree	KB
White-faced Heron	1	24/10/2023	Lower Farmborough Rd., Unanderra	Back yard	DT
Bassian Thrush	1	25/10/2023	Tarrawanna escarpment	On fire trail	KB
Square-tailed Kite	1	10/11/2023	North Austinmer	low flying east of railway	LTD

IMc : Ian McKinlay, JZ : Joan Zealy, PH : Pam Hazelwood, MM : Mike Morphett, AAB : Anne & Alan Cousins & Brian Hales, DG : Darryl Goldrick, KB: Ken Brown, AC: Anne Cousins, SS; Shane Spence, DT : Deb Thomas, LTD : Lyndall & Terry Dawson

Email all your bird sightings to Darryl Goldrick at [to email click this sightings](mailto:darryl@iboc.com.au)

<https://www.iboc.com.au/> Pleased to see so many sightings this month. Bird numbers and species plentiful with the change of season and the return of migrants. This year's migrant returns have been several weeks earlier than has been normal in the past given the fluctuating weather pattern. Keep an eye out for the unexpected as it is probable that normally resident inland spp may appear with the onset of drought conditions as Summer progresses.

I had to make numerous spelling and bird name corrections before sending this months list to the Editor and entry into the database. It would be helpful if you could please check your bird guide publications for correct nomenclature titles/spellings before posting your lists. Thank you for your support and happy birding. Darryl