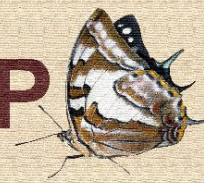




ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB

INCLUDING

IBOC NATURE GROUP



Issue No 500

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVER CLUB INC NEWSLETTER

April 2025

BLACK-FACED MONARCH

Scientific Name: [Monarcha melanopsis](#)

Featured bird groups: [Small insect-eating birds](#)

Atlas Number: 373

Description

The Black-faced Monarch has a distinctive black face that does not extend across the eyes, grey upperparts, wings and upper breast, contrasting with a rufous (red-orange) belly. The dark eye has a thin black eye ring and a lighter area of pale grey around it. The blue-grey bill has a hooked tip. Young birds are similar but lack the black face, have a black bill and tend to have a brownish body and wings.



Black-faced Monarch (Charles Dove)

Similar species:

The Black-faced Monarch resembles the Black-winged Monarch, *M. frater*, but this species is paler grey and has mostly black wings and a black tail, and is restricted to far northern Queensland,

Distribution:

The Black-faced Monarch is found along the coast of eastern Australia, becoming less common further south.

Habitat:

The Black-faced Monarch is found in rainforests, eucalypt woodlands, coastal scrub and damp gullies. It may be found in more open woodland when migrating.

Feeding:

The Black-faced Monarch forages for insects among foliage, or catches flying insects on the wing.

Breeding:

The Black-faced Monarch builds a deep cup nest of casuarina needles, bark, roots, moss and spider web in the fork of a tree, about 3 m to 6 m above the ground. Only the female builds the nest, but both sexes incubate the eggs and feed the young, being a summer breeding migrant from New Guinea.

Text courtesy:

[Black-faced Monarch](#) | [BIRDS in BACKYARDS](#)



Founded in 1977

Club's Aim:

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

Postal Address:
PO Box 8 Keiraville 2500
www.iboc.com.au

Address all email correspondence to
contactiboc@gmail.com

OFFICE HOLDERS

President: Nic Van Oudtshoorn
Vice President: Lyndall Dawson
Secretary: Mavis Robinson
Treasurer: Ken Brown
Editor: Chris. Cartledge
Web & Facebook: Ken Brown
Records Officer: Darryl Goldrick

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CLUB MEETING

Monday, 14th April 2025, commencing at 7.30pm

Snakes & Reptiles of the Illawarra - Hugh Marriott

Ready to hear about close encounters of a reptilian kind? Then prepare yourself for an exciting evening with Hugh Marriot, a Jamberoo-based reptile expert with Wires Illawarra.

Hugh is the guest speaker at our April meeting with the topic "Snakes and Reptiles of the Illawarra".

"Many people are frightened of snakes," says Hugh. "But treated with respect, they are fascinating creatures who perform a valuable ecological role."

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



*Red-bellied Black Snake
(Nic Van Oudtshoorn)*

MIDWEEK WALK

Wednesday 16th April 2025, starts at 9.00am

Blackbutt Forest Reserve

Leaders Bill & Joan Zealey

Meet in the Blackbutt Forest Way Car Park at 9:00am. To get there: turn west off Shellharbour Rd between Barrack Heights and Shellharbour at the traffic lights into Woodlands Drive, then left into Blackbutt Drive and follow the road up the hill into the reserve.

Link <https://maps.app.goo.gl/qVMBkQ9jbe54hJB46>

We will walk through the middle of the forest and down to the dam then back to the cars. We will carry morning tea and have it "en route". Be sure to bring plenty of insect repellent and sunscreen.

In the event of inclement weather telephone Bill: 0414 747 644

MONTHLY OUTING

 There will be no normal 'Monthly Outing' in April 2025 due to Easter.

SPECIAL OUTING <<<

Thursday 17th April 2025, starts around 12:30pm

At Integral Energy Park, 88 Darkes Rd, Stream Hill (Kembla Grange)

Neil and Tera Wheway will be celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary on 17th April. Our birding family are invited to join with them on that day (Thursday) at Integral Energy Park 12.30 ish for lunch and a walk (if weather permits). Please bring your picnic lunch and good cheer and join in on this occasion. Neil and Tera will be playing cards on the morning as usual and will join us after that finishes.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 21st April 2025 – The next Committee meeting will be held at **2.00pm** at Nic & Daphne Van Oudtshoorn's home cnr Sproule & Gibson Cres Jamberoo.

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE is Friday 25th April 2025. Please send contributions to newsletteriboc@gmail.com or Chris. Cartledge PO Box 8 Keiraville NSW 2500. In your email, please include a caption for each picture submitted. *Feedback on the newsletter welcomed!*

Contributors this month: Anna & Andrew Knowlson, Pam Hazelwood, Nic Van Oudtshoorn, Ken Brown, Trish MacHugh, Lyndall Dawson, Robyn Cashman, Bill Zealey, Alan Cousins, Jann Gowans and Darryl Goldrick.

Proofreader: Ken Brown

Thanks to all! – Editor

REPORTS

IBOC Club Meeting 10th March 2025

'Orchids in the Bush-House & Garden' presentation by Richard Korber.

By Alan Cousins

Orchids are the largest group of plants on the Planet. Around 30,000 species in the wild and 130,000 man-made (hybrids).

Orchids are Mono Symmetrical (both halves mirror each other) and have thick and fleshy roots.

Richard showed us a video of orchids in the wild and their pollinators. Each species has its own pollinator of wasps etc. There are wild hybrids and man-made crosses.



*One of the many colourful orchids
Richard discussed (pic supplied)*

This was followed by some brilliant photos of many types of orchids which he explained.

If you wish to grow orchids it is very difficult from seed but growers mainly use Orchid bark.

The main orchid pests are Scale, Thrips, Mealybugs and Spider Mites etc. They can be treated with horticulture oil sprays, insecticidal soap but always ensure good hygiene and regular inspection for early detection.

Richard brought along a good selection of his orchids which he explained to complete his presentation.

This was a very interesting and informative talk which generated good questions at the end.

Midweek Walk

Wednesday 12th March 2025

Mount Kembla Memorial Pathway

By Robyn Cashman

It was long-time member Richard Miller, and his wife Emily, who introduced us to the Mt Kembla Memorial Walkway, and its charm has drawn us back over and over. Who could complain about wandering a well-sealed path surrounded by native vegetation, and with a burbling creek running down below. Along

the way, signs tell of the awful disaster which claimed 96 miners' lives in the explosion of the mine up on Mt Nebo. Thirteen walkers, including new member Trish MacHugh joined in, and it was good to have Life Member Bronwyn Wilson with us again. Her brother was part of the busy bush care team we met along the way.



A great spot for morning tea! (Chris. Cartledge)

Initial excitement was sparked when a White-headed Pigeon gave plenty of opportunities for a good look (see picture page 12), and as the walk progressed, 31 species were counted, including an Eastern Spinebill, an Eastern Rosella, a Fan-tailed Cuckoo, two White-faced Herons, a Spotted Pardalote, a Brown Gerygone and a White-browed Scrubwren.

Time didn't allow for the keener walkers to try the ascent towards the end of the track - perhaps next time? We adjourned to the pub to meet Tera and Neil, and to discuss what had been a very pleasant walk.

Bird List – 31 Species

White-headed Pigeon	Noisy Miner
Crested Pigeon	Spotted Pardalote
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	White-browed Scrubwren
Masked Lapwing	Yellow Thornbill
White-faced Heron	Brown Thornbill
Laughing Kookaburra	Brown Gerygone
Galah	Eastern Whipbird
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Grey Butcherbird
Australian King-Parrot	Australian Magpie
Crimson Rosella	Grey Fantail
Eastern Rosella	Black-faced Monarch
Rainbow Lorikeet	Magpie-lark
Satin Bowerbird	Australian Raven
Superb Fairywren	Eastern Yellow Robin
Eastern Spinebill	Common Myna
Lewin's Honeyeater	Domestic goose sp.

eBird checklist S218000025

Autumn Camp in the Canberra Area

22 – 29 March 2025

Report by Anna & Andrew Knowlson

Autumn camp kicked off at Capital Country Holiday Park at Eaglehawk on the northern outskirts of Canberra on Saturday evening 22nd of March 2025. As usual we gathered to get a briefing from Ken and Sue Brown on the program for the upcoming week. To kick off on Sunday some headed out to Cooma Cottage at Yass for a guided tour of the National Trust property which was settled originally by Hamilton Hume. Lunch was held in the park at the river in Yass and then we had a leisurely walk along the river path seeing about 25 species of mainly urban birds.

The next day on Monday we headed out to the Jerrabomberra Wetlands near Fyshwick. It was a fairly warm day but we still managed to see 56 species with the highlight being 5 Freckled Ducks and 4 Australian Shovelers. After a circumnavigation of the wetland morning tea was had in the shade. Then we headed across the bridge for a walk in the bushland area trying to stay in the shade and dodge the push bike riders. Some smaller birds were found there and then everyone was content to stay at the wetlands for lunch in the shade again. After lunch we made our way to Callum Brae Nature Reserve nearby. Most opted to sit in the shade of the large pine trees opposite while some hardy ones did a circular walk through the woodland past a couple of dams but only 13 species were observed as it was quite hot by then.



The "hardy ones" plus photographer Ross Gowans

Tuesday, we headed south and spent the whole day at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve with a total of 57 species being seen. Highlights here were one Rufous Fantail amongst many Grey Fantails. Also, most of us enjoyed seeing the male Musk Duck even if it was considered captive. White-eared Honeyeaters and a female Scarlet Robin were also a nice encounter. After morning tea/brunch we checked out the adorable sleepy Koalas then some headed in different directions up to the highest lookout. Most stopped for an ice-cream at the

visitors' centre on the way out. That evening after the necessary briefing we all helped Tera and Neil Wheway celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary, which is in April, with a lovely cake supplied by Pam.



Cutting the cake (Pam Hazelwood)

For Wednesday we all eventually gathered at the National Botanical Garden despite some traffic congestion and direction issues. Strolling through the gardens was lovely and overall, 31 species were seen. The highlight being the sighting of a family of Gang Gang Cockatoos able to be observed easily as they were in a branch hanging low down over a pathway. After we gathered in the cafe for a late morning tea some continued to stroll the gardens while others went off to pursue other cultural activities on offer in our national capital. We all gathered at the Tradies Club in Dickson for dinner that evening.

Thursday, we gathered at the National Arboretum which was mainly planted following the devastation of the bushfires in 2003. Most took a leisurely walk near the Himalayan Pine forest and checked out some of the sculptures around the grounds before heading to the cafe for morning tea. While others went off for a walk through adjoining bushland to find more birds with 40 species observed. We then headed west out to Casuarina Sands Reserve for a picnic lunch and afterwards moved over to Cotter Dam reserve. We walked along the river trail to see the dam wall and also birdwatch of course seeing 30 species overall.

The highlight being eventually getting great views of a very co-operative Azure Kingfisher which sat on a branch by the river for so long that we had to leave it there in the afternoon sun.

On Friday, the last day of camp, the group went to Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve in Throsby on the very northern edge of Canberra. The reserve has been fenced to protect some species from feral predators and has a very well set up Visitors Centre. We walked out along a good low-level boardwalk to the wetlands where we all had good sightings of lots of water birds such as Pink-eared Duck, Black-fronted Dotterel and Royal Spoonbills to name a few. Andrew and Ross were upfront and disturbed a

Brown Quail which sped off at a great rate flying low and dropping into the grassland, a total of 35 species seen here.

We had a late morning tea back at the cafe then some headed over to Lake Ginninderra for a final walk with the highlight being Rose and Joan seeing a Superb Parrot. By the end of the week there had been 28 species seen around the campsite. Total species for the week of camp was 103.

Thanks to Ken & Sue Brown for putting the time in to investigate the sites and organising a great camp.

Report by Lyndall Dawson

For this year's autumn camp over 30 IBOC members explored the birdlife of the Canberra region. Most participants arrived at the comfortable Capital Country Holiday Park on Saturday afternoon and gathered at 5pm for our first briefing of the meticulously planned, highly varied program, from organiser *par excellence*, Ken Brown.

On Sunday morning, in warm sunny weather, we set off on our first excursion with a 45-minute drive to Cooma Cottage, near Yass. A guided tour of this historic home of explorer Hamilton Hume impressed us all. The interesting architecture, fine furniture and some ancient trees of this property reflected the fortitude, foresight and prosperity of its owners nearly 200 years ago. We moved on from there to meet in the park on the banks of the Yass River to enjoy our first afternoon of birding.

On Monday we started much more serious birding with a drive to the Jerrabomberra Wetlands, Canberra's best birding 'hotspot'. In very warm, but peaceful conditions we had a longish walk around the wetland. Because of the heat some of us retreated to the cars for late morning tea/early lunch, while others ventured further into surrounding woodlands. Birds were abundant.



Azure Kingfisher (Pam Hazelwood)

After lunch we had a short drive to Callum Brae Nature Reserve, where once again some walked a woodland trail, while others enjoyed sitting in the shade, letting the birds come to them.

Tuesday was another hot day for this time of year – up to 30°. We headed southwest to the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and it was wonderful to be in the cool elevation of the Brindabella Ranges. The group first walked the Sanctuary Loop with a good list of water birds as well as many forest inhabitants. After morning tea at the cars, a short walk took us to the koala enclosure where we could conveniently and easily observe these cuties! The group then split up for the afternoon, some to one of the great lookouts with lovely views of the mountains. After returning to camp, at our evening briefing we celebrated a special anniversary for Neil and Tiera, followed by a film show arranged by Nic.

More variety on Day 4, this time to the National Botanic Gardens. On arrival the group split up, each of us choosing our own path around the extensive grounds, assembling later for morning tea at the Café. Many of the lucky ones among us were rewarded by a close-up view of a pair of Gang-gang cockatoos.



*Gang Gang Cockatoo
(Charles Dove 2015)*

But all enjoyed spending the morning among the magnificent trees and plants of the gardens. Wednesday afternoon was designated 'free time' to visit other attractions of Canberra – some choosing the special Pompeii exhibition at the Museum of Australia, while others visited the Art Gallery etc. The group dinner that night at the Dixson Tradies Club was well attended.

Thursday's birding was different once again! This time to the National Arboretum, an extensive area planted out with large groups of mostly exotic, endangered trees. Such monocultures made for unusual birding, some of us struggling to see more than a handful of species, while others (particularly some who stared earlier) came up with a goodly list! After morning tea in the impressive main building (lovely views) we headed to Casuarina Sands for lunch on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River, followed by a short drive to Cotter Dam where we walked the Discovery Trail. A highlight was a 'best ever' view of a magnificent Azure Kingfisher that obligingly sat still for ages glowing in the afternoon light.

Back at camp for our evening meeting, then a fun diversion from the usual – a happy 'sing-along' was organised by Florence and Graham!

Our last day, Friday began with a 15-minute drive to Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve, where we assembled first at the interesting Wildbark Café. This very large area has been set aside as Australia's largest feral-free Box-gum Grassy Woodland area managed for conservation. A 2.5 km walk from the café proved the success of this venture, at least as indicated by the abundance of woodland birds, especially parrots. The inclusion of a wetland added good sightings of many ducks, swans, spoonbills etc.

All in all, it was another great Camp thanks to all those who contributed, especially Ken and Sue Brown.

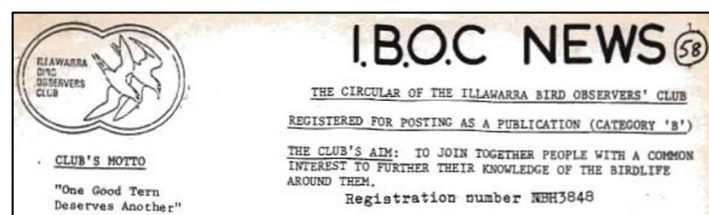
CLUB NEWS

IBOC Newsletter 500th Edition

Yes, this is 500th edition of the Illawarra Bird Observers Club newsletter. The first meeting of the Club was held on 1st Feb 1977 at the WEA rooms 79 Corrimal St Wollongong as a result of an ornithology course run by the WEA.

The first circular from the Club followed later that month and advertised a meeting on 14th March 1977 at St Michaels Church Hall with Doug Gibson giving a report on the last outing and notice that Ellis McNamara will be showing a collection of bird slides at the meeting.

Over the past 48 years there have been numerous editors, the longest serving by far, being Charles Dove, the creator of the current newsletter template.



Newsletter banner from Nov 1982

Previous Newsletter Editors

For various reasons, up until 1983, it is not always clear who the Newsletter Editor was.

Ron Hanks (1983–1985), Wal Emery (1986–1987), May Shaw (1988–1989), Barbara Hales (1990–1992), Robyn Wilson (1993–1997), Kerri Lewis (1998–1999, 2001), Mike Morphett (2000, 2002–2003), Penny Potter (2004–2005), John Cashman (2006–2009), Charles Dove (2010–7/2024).

Before the internet (remember that?), hard copies were posted out to all members. These days, because of the cost of printing and postage, only

about half a dozen copies are posted each month, with members paying an additional fee for this service.

Due to the good work of Pam Hazelwood and Charles Dove, all of IBOC's and newsletters are now available online at <https://www.iboc.com.au/current-and-past-newsletters.html> as well as [Trove: Illawarra Bird Observers Club inc. newsletter.](#)

A reminder from the Committee...

Members taking part in walks are reminded to wear suitable shoes and clothing.

Q & A (SMH 13 Dec 24)

Q=What animals were the Canary Islands named for?
A=Page 12

From new member Trish MacHugh



Lots of galahs at this 70th birthday party and I don't just mean the patty cakes. I think they're brilliant and the beaks are an absolute triumph. Also love the placement of the various ferns on the white plate. Shame to eat them really!

eBird Australia announces new collaboration with BirdLife Australia

A new collaboration between two of Australia's leading online bird observation databases, eBird Australia and [Birdata](#) has been announced.

Both eBird Australia and BirdLife Australia are committed to collecting the scientific data needed to better understand and protect Australia's birds. With this shared purpose, both organisations have joined forces to share knowledge and inform Australian bird conservation efforts.

A statement of collaboration has been released which includes the following statement:

"By enhancing information sharing and highlighting the strengths of each platform, our goal is to continue delivering the highest quality data possible for important science and conservation work. Over the next year or so, we hope to devise specific recommendations and arrangements to build this cooperative relationship. Thanks to Birdata and eBird Australia, every birder can help save the birds that we love."

[Read the full story](#)

LINKS TO ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Molly the magpie to remain with Gold Coast carers indefinitely

After months of uncertainty, Queensland's environment minister says Molly the magpie will be allowed to stay in the same home as its "best friend", Peggy the Staffordshire terrier. [Read the full story](#)

'Clear' evidence critically endangered birds use site of proposed wind farm, expert says

A critically endangered species of parrot migrates through the Tasmanian site where a wind farm is planned with data proving it, a bird expert says — contradicting previous claims made by the company. That should be enough to stop the proposal, the ecologist says. [Read the full story](#)

Mystery illness paralysing magpies concerns carers as cases increase

WA wildlife carers say they are yet to fully understand a disease that is mostly impacting and killing magpies but other bird species as well. [Read the full story](#)

Rising seas smash habitat of endangered beach-nesting bird

The endangered hooded plover is facing "death by a thousand cuts" as rising sea levels and weeds originally planted to stop erosion reduce traditional nesting areas. [Read the full story](#)

'Rarely seen froglets – the length of a grain of rice – released into small patch of Victorian wilds

More than 3,000 critically endangered Baw Baw frogs set free in a high-altitude forest to bolster dwindling population. [Read the full story](#)

Superb Parrots on 'Back Roads' - ABC iView (Originally screened on ABC TV, 6 Mar 2025)

"Back Roads presenter Lisa Millar heads to the Hilltops Region of NSW for the "shear" excitement and chaos of The Running of the Sheep - a unique event that could only happen in rural Australia"

At 14 mins there is an article on Superb Parrots with excellent close-up footage and views of a flock of about 50 of the species – watch here [Duration: 28 minutes](#)

Tasmanian devil gives woman on toilet a big surprise

A snake catcher uses tactics usually reserved for unwanted reptiles after a Tasmanian devil took shelter from pursuing dogs behind a toilet — while a woman was sitting down. [Read the full story](#)

Meet the century-old cockatoo keeping country golfers on the straight and narrow

Believed by some to be 115 years old, Charlie the cockatoo is partial to heckling Geraldton's golfers. [Read the full story](#)

'Another record' expected as more captive-bred, orange-bellied parrots released

Almost 30 of the critically endangered birds have been released from captivity, buoying expectations for a record-breaking winter migration this year. [Read the full story](#)

Plastic pollution leaves seabirds with brain damage similar to Alzheimer's, study shows

Blood tests on migratory chicks fed plastics by their parents show neurodegeneration, as well as cell rupture and stomach lining decay. [Read the full story](#)



Pigeon Heels

Japanese designer creates "pigeon heels" that look like the real thing – so she could be popular amongst the pigeons

(Pam Hazelwood)



Royal Spoonbill
(Charles Dove 2023)

Canberra - 22/03/2025 to 29/03/2025			SITES (Names are abbreviated. See "Sites" sheet for site details)											
Total Species Count	Species in group	Sites per species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			Camp List	Cooma Cottage	Yass Riverbank	Jerrabomberra	Callum Brae	Tidbinbilla	Botanic Gardens	Arboretum	Cotter	Mulligans Flat Wetlands	Mulligans Flat Woodlands	Lake Ginninderra
103			28	17	25	56	13	57	31	41	30	35	17	26
Waterfowl	9													
Freckled Duck	1				5									
Black Swan	4				2		2 ON					3		2
Maned Duck (Wood Duck)	7		2		3		1	10		9	2	24		
Australasian Shoveler	1				6									
Pacific Black Duck	7		2		2	3		45		6	4			12
Grey Teal	4				6			3		5		4		
Pink-eared Duck	1											6		
Hardhead	1									1				
Musk Duck	1							1						
Grouse, Quail and Allies	1													
Brown Quail	1											1		
Pigeons and Doves	2													
Rock Pigeon	1									40				
Crested Pigeon	9		2	2	2	6		1		3		12	3	2
Rails, Gallinules and Allies	3													
Dusky Moorhen	4		2			3		2						12
Eurasian Coot	7		6		1	25		2		7		25		20
Australasian Swamphen	5				1	12		3				3		10
Shorebirds	2													
Black-fronted Dotterel	1											5		
Masked Lapwing	4		3			1		4				2		
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers	1													
Silver Gull	3									2		5		15
Grebes	1													
Australasian Grebe	4					8		1		8		2		
Cormorants and Anhingas	4													
Australasian Darter	1					7								
Little Pied Cormorant	5		2			3		1		6				1
Great Cormorant	1					1								
Little Black Cormorant	4		1	1		32								70
Hérons, Ibis and Allies	6													
Australian White Ibis	4		1			20						3		5
Straw-necked Ibis	2					2						2		
Royal Spoonbill	2					1						4 FY		
White-faced Heron	4					2		1				3		1
Eastern Cattle Egret	1					12								
White-necked Heron	1							2						
Pelicans	1													
Australian Pelican	2					6				1				
Vultures, Hawks and Allies	4													
Black-shouldered Kite	2									1		2		
Little Eagle	1				1									
Wedge-tailed Eagle	2							2			2			
Whistling Kite	2			1		1								
Kingfishers	2													
Azure Kingfisher	1										1			
Laughing Kookaburra	4		2			3		1					2	
Falcons and Caracaras	2													
Nankeen Kestrel	2			1						1				
Australian Hobby	2			1		1								
Cockatoos	5													
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	1							4						
Gang-gang Cockatoo	1								6					
Galah	6		4					4	2	6		14	4	
Little Corella	4				150	2				2				6
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	9		5			2		6	1	200	2	100	5	10
Parrots, Parakeets and Allies	5													

103		Species in group	Sites per species	Camp List	Cooma Cottage	Yass Riverbank	Jerrabomberra	Callum Brae	Tidbinbilla	Botanic Gardens	Arboretum	Cotter	Mulligans Flat Wetlands	Mulligans Flat Woodlands	Lake	Ginninderra
Superb Parrot		1														1
Australian King-Parrot		6	2						1	12	4	2	2			
Crimson Rosella		9	6	2		2	2	10	8	15	2		4			
Eastern Rosella		7		5			3	20			2	8	4	2		
Red-rumped Parrot		5		5		12				2	10		15			
Lyrebirds	1															
Superb Lyrebird		1							1							
Scrub-birds and Bowerbirds	1															
Satin Bowerbird		2								2		1				
Australian Treecreepers	1															
White-throated Treecreeper		5	1					4	1		2		1			
Fairywrens	1															
Superb Fairy-wren		10	3	4	4	8		8	20	11	6	2				12
Honeyeaters	9															
Eastern Spinebill		3	1							4	6					
Yellow-faced Honeyeater		8			1	6	1	5	1	1	8					1
Noisy Miner		8				3	3	4	1		1	4	2	4		
Red Wattlebird		6	1	1	3				4	4						2
White-plumed Honeyeater		5	1	1	4								1			12
New Holland Honeyeater		2								16		1				
White-eared Honeyeater		1						4								
Blue-faced Honeyeater		1			2											
White-naped Honeyeater		1						1								
Pardalotes	2															
Spotted Pardalote		7	1		2	4	1	4	2				1			
Striated Pardalote		6			1	3	1		2	3			7			
Thornbills and Allies	9															
Weebill		6				1	2	2	2	2	1					
White-browed Scrubwren		5			1	1		1	1		1					
Yellow-rumped Thornbill		4		5		12		6		8						
Yellow Thornbill		3	3		3	4 FY										
Striated Thornbill		2			1				2							
Brown Thornbill		6	2		10				12	6		6		12		
Brown Gerygone		1							1							
White-throated Gerygone		2				1			1							
Western Gerygone		1						1								
Quail-thrushes and Jewel-babblers	1															
Spotted Quail-thrush		1							1							
Cuckooshrikes	1															
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike		4	1				1	4						3		
Shrike-tits	1															
Eastern Shrike-tit		1						1								
Whistlers and Allies	3															
Grey Shrike-thrush		1						4								
Golden Whistler		3				1		1	2							
Rufous Whistler		4				1		2	1	1						
Old World Orioles	1															
Olive-backed Oriole		2									1	2				
Woodswallows	1															
Dusky Woodswallow		2				1					5					
Bellmagpies and Allies	5															
Grey Butcherbird		6				1		2	1	3	3		1			
Pied Butcherbird		1		2												
Australian Magpie		12	4	4	1	2	3	10	6	22	4	10	25	4		
Pied Currawong		10	1		2	10	1	3	5	25	2		3	2		
Grey Currawong		3						1		3	2					
Fantails	3															
Willie Wagtail		7		2		4		1		7	3	1				1
Australian Rufous Fantail		1						1								
Grey Fantail		7			1	2		23	1	2	6		6			
Monarch Flycatchers	1															
Magpie-lark		11	1	2	2	5	1	2		22	4	3	8	2		
White-winged Chough and Apostleb	1															

103	Species in group	Sites per species	Camp List	Cooma Cottage	Yass Riverbank	Jerrabomberra	Callum Brae	Tidbinbilla	Botanic Gardens	Arboretum	Cotter	Mulligans Flat Wetlands	Mulligans Flat Woodlands	Lake	Ginninderra
White-winged Chough		4	6						8	7			2		
Jays, Magpies, Crows and Ravens	1														
Australian Raven		7			6	2	5		10	5	2	6			
Australasian Robins	2														
Scarlet Robin		2					1		1						
Eastern Yellow Robin		2					4	1							
Cisticolas and Allies	1														
Golden-headed Cisticola		1			2										
Reed Warblers and Allies	1														
Australian Reed-Warbler		2			1		1								
Martins and Swallows	2														
Welcome Swallow		7	12	1	5		3		2		2			1	
Tree Martin		1									1				
White-eyes, Yuhinas and Allies	1														
Silveryeye		5	2	2	2			6		4					
Starlings and Mynas	2														
Common Starling		4			100		3		10		2				
Common Myna		3	2							1	2				
Estrildids	1														
Red-browed Finch		6		6	12		1	5		6				8	
Old World Sparrows	1														
House Sparrow		1	6												
Finches, Euphonias and Allies	1														
European Goldfinch		1							1						

CANBERRA CANVAS



Rufous Whistler
(Pam Hazelwood)



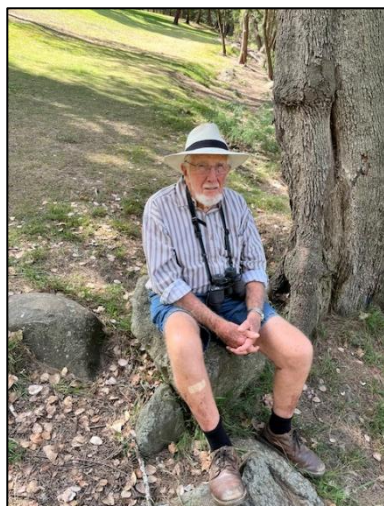
Tailed Emperor
(Pam Hazelwood)



Koala - Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve
(Pam Hazelwood)



Canberra Vagrant
(Alan Cousins)



John Cashman having a hard-earned rest
(Alan Cousins)



Freckled Duck
(Pam Hazelwood)

SIGHTINGS BY SITE

Num	Date	Time start	Time end	Sites		Area	Number observers	Number species	Recorded by/ Entered by	Conditions
				Short name	Full name					
1	22/3/25 - 29/3/2025			Camp List	Capital Country Caravan Park, Sutton NSW	About 500 m diameter	32	28	AK KB	
2	23-03-25	10:00	11:30	Cooma Cottage	Cooma Cottage, Yass Valley Way	300 m square	24	17	KB KB	Warm and sunny
3	23-03-25	12:00	14:00	Yass Riverbank	Riverbank Park, Yass	1 km on north side of river and back on south side	22	25	AK KB	Warm and sunny
4	24-03-25	9:30	12:30	Jerrabomberra	Jerrabomberra Wetlands. Wetlands loop and walk into bushland track.	3.86 km walk	27	56	AK KB	Hot and sunny
5	24-03-25	2:15	3:15	Callum Brae	Callum Brae Nature Reserve	1.64 km loop	19	13	AK KB	Hot and sunny
6	25-03-25	9:15	14:45	Tidbinbilla	Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve	15 km, from visitor centre around ring road and side tracks	28	57	AK KB	Cooler and overcast early, then sunny from mid-day.
7	26-03-25	9:30	12:10	Botanic Gardens	Australian National Botanic Gardens	2.4 km loop	28	31	AK KB	Overcast early, then sunny.
8	27-03-25	9:20	11:45	Arboretum	National Arboretum	2.3 km	25	41	AK KB	Sunny & warm
9	27-03-25	12:30	13:00	Cotter	Casuarina Sands Nature Reserve and Cotter River, below dam	3 km	23	30	AK KB	Sunny & warm
10	28-03-25	9:20	11:30	Mulligans Flat Wetlands	Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve - Wetlands walk	800 m to wetland and back, plus 800 m loop around wetland	20	35	AK KB	Overcast
11	28-03-25	7:20	8:45	Mulligans Flat Woodlands	Mulligans Flat Nature Reserve - Woodlands walk	1.3 km out and then return	1	17	PS KB	Overcast
12	28-03-25	12:00	14:15	Lake Ginninderra	John Holmes Memorial Park and shore of Lake Ginninderra north from the park	600 m along shoreline	15	26	PS KB	Overcast

Monthly Sightings February/March 2025

Compiled by Darryl Goldrick

SPECIES	N ^o	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
White-faced Heron	1	17-03-25	Thirroul, Coast Street	Roadside nature strip	Mike Morphett
Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos	5	20-03-25	McCauleys Hill, Thirroul	In & above suburban trees	Ian McKinlay
Australasian Darter	1	21-03-25	Macquarie Rivulet Walk	Roosting on dead tree over water	Ian McKinlay
Grey Goshawk	2 grey morph	03-03-25	West of McCauleys Beach, Thirroul	On powerlines over mixed grassland & shrubs	Reported to Ian McKinlay
Peregrine Falcon	1	08-03-25	McCauleys Hill, Thirroul	Top of tallest Norfolk Pine	Ian McKinlay
Australian King-Parrot	1m	03-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra	Calling in backyard tree.	Shane Spence
Eastern Koel	1 juv	29-03-25	Thirroul	backyard Robinia - fed by Little Wattlebirds	Mike Morphett
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	1	21-03-25	Macquarie Rivulet walk	Waters edge forested area	Ian McKinlay
Sacred Kingfisher	1	21-03-25	Macquarie Rivulet walk	Perching above waters edge	Ian McKinlay
Satin Bowerbird	1	03-06-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Backyard Loquat tree.	Shane Spence
White-browed Scrubwren	2 ad + 2 imm	14-03-25	Thirroul	Front garden shrubs	Mike Morphett
Spotted Pardalote	1	20-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Calling in backyard shrubbery.	Shane Spence
Lewin's Honeyeater.	1	24-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Calling in backyard.	Shane Spence
Eastern Whipbird	1	03-07-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Calling in shrubbery in backyard.	Shane Spence
Eastern Whipbird	1	26-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Calling in backyard shrubbery.	Shane Spence
Golden Whistler	1	15-03-25	Thirroul	Front garden paperbark	Mike Morphett
Grey Butcherbird	1	24-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Backyard tree , calling.	Shane Spence
Grey Butcherbird	1	15-Mar-25	Lake Illawarra South	High School ground casuarinas	Darryl Goldrick
Pied Currawong	1	03-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Calling in backyard tree -, rain coming !!	Shane Spence
Pied Currawong	2	03-07-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Backyard calling , distant one replying.	Shane Spence
Spangled Drongo	1	04-03-25	Thirroul	Backyard Robinia & casuarina-1st Time ever!	Mike Morphett
Willie Wagtail	3	16-03-25	Warrawong laneway off Cowper St	Open industrial bin! (must have been some flies about)	Mike Morphett
Willie Wagtail	1	24-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Calling in backyard.	Shane Spence
Magpie-Lark	2	03-03-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Backyard - regular daily visitors.	Shane Spence
Eastern Yellow Robin	1	21-03-25	Thirroul	Front garden grevillea	Mike Morphett

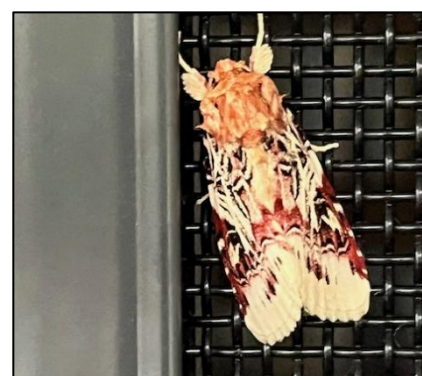
Email all your bird sightings to Darryl Goldrick [click here](#)

BACK PAGE

White-headed Pigeon
Mt Kembla
(Peter Fackender)



Southern Emu-wren
Gloucester
(Pam Hazelwood)



Lily Caterpillar moth on fly screen
Kiama
(Alan Cousins)

Q & A = Dogs (from the Latin canaria)

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