



ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB

INCLUDING

IBOC NATURE GROUP



Issue No 499

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVER CLUB INC NEWSLETTER

March 2025

BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE

Scientific Name: *Coracina novaehollandiae*

Alternative names: Shuffling, Blue Jay

Bird family Cuckoo-shrikes and trillers

Status Least Concern (LC)

Bird Overview

Cuckoo-shrikes are neither cuckoos nor shrikes, but are called so because their feathers have similar patterns to those of cuckoos and their beak shape resembles that of shrikes.

Songs and Calls

The call most often heard is a soft churring, often being described as a warbling "creearck".

[Listen to the bird call](#) - recorded by: Marc Anderson



Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike (Charles Dove)

Identification

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes have a black face and throat, blue-grey back, wings and tail, and white underparts. They are slender, attractive birds. They have a curious habit of shuffling their wings upon landing, a practice that gave rise to the name "Shuffling", which is often used for this species.

This shuffling is also carried out by most other species in this family. Young birds resemble the adults, except the black facial mask is reduced to an eye stripe.

Location

The Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike is widespread and common. Outside the breeding season, large family groups and flocks of up to a hundred birds form.

Habitat

The Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike is found in almost any wooded habitat, except for rainforests. It is also familiar in many suburbs, where birds are often seen perched on overhead wires or television aerials.

Text courtesy:

[Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike - BirdLife Australia](#)



'ONE GOOD TERN
DESERVES ANOTHER'

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.

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CLUB MEETING

Monday, 10th March 2025, commencing at 7.30pm

Orchids for Everybody – Richard Korber

Our next speaker is Kiama-based orchid expert Richard Korber, whose topic is "Orchids for the Bushouse and Garden". Richard will be bringing along a variety of orchids, from the most colourful to the most unusual.

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



*One of the many colourful orchids
Richard will discuss (Pic supplied)*

MIDWEEK WALK & LUNCH AT THE PUB

Wednesday 12th March 2025, starts at 9.30am

Mount Kembla Memorial Pathway

Leader Robyn & John Cashman

Coming from the north, at Figtree, leave the Princes Highway and turn right up Gibsons Road, then right onto Cordeaux Rd.

Coming from the south, at Figtree, leave the Princes Highway and turn left into Cordeaux Rd. After a couple of kilometres turn right down Stones Road to the parking area.

Link <https://maps.app.goo.gl/YUHxRAAN8kE4N11c9>

Easy walk east along the pathway, back for morning tea, then slightly steep walk up the hill to a lookout for the keen ones. Suggest the historic [Mt Kembla Village Hotel](#) for lunch.

In the event of inclement weather telephone Robyn: 0429 408 207

MONTHLY OUTING

There will be no Monthly Outing in March because of the Spring Camp in Canberra

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 (Later this month because of the Canberra Camp) **is Friday 28th March 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: Pam Hazelwood, Mike Morphett, Nic Van Oudtshoorn, Ken Brown, Robyn Cashman, Ross Gowans, Anne Cousins and Darryl Goldrick.

Proofreader: Ken Brown

Thanks to all! – Editor



A family of four Tawny frogmouths have taken up residence in a tree in Jamberoo, almost invisible because of the dense foliage and deep shade. Using a flash, I managed to capture these photos early one morning recently.

Nic van Oudtshoorn



REPORTS

IBOC Club Meeting 10th February 2025

Secrets of the deep: Underwater life at Bass Point

At the February meeting we were introduced to Bob McKee, a well-known Underwater Photographer and Diving Instructor with over 40 years' experience.

He spoke to us about the abundant marine life to be found in and around Bass Point at sites such as Bushrangers Bay, The Gutter and The Gravel Loader.

He illustrated his talk with amazing photos of marine life such as the Giant Cuttlefish, Butterfly Fish, Eastern Blue Groper and Eastern Frogfish. Alien looking Underwater Spiders, Humpback Whales and tiny Amphipods helped illustrate the wide diversity of marine animals found there.



Bob shows a Banded Coral Shrimp (Chris. Cartledge)

Of particular note was the variety of Corals found at Bass Point, far to the south of their traditionally accepted range.

Bob also recounted how he was able to dive and swim among (but not touch) Grey Nurse Sharks that inhabit the area. These sharks are listed federally and locally as Critically Endangered but the Bushrangers Bay Marine Reserve at Bass Point seems to be a gathering place for up to 20 of these rare creatures.

A vote of thanks was extended to Bob for sharing his amazing underwater photography and knowledge of the area.

See Robyn Cashman's poem page 5

Early Midweek Walk and Picnic

Wednesday 5th February 2025

Pelican Park and Picnic Island

by Alan Cousins

Our first outing for 2025 was to Pelican Park, Lake Illawarra.

15 members attended and the weather was kind to us considering that it had rained around midday in the area.

We took the circular walk over the wooden footbridge and followed the pathway alongside the lake. The waders were a bit scarce but we did see 4 Eastern Curlews with their long downturned bills (18cm for male and 20cm for female). A Pied Cormorant was spotted trying to swallow a large fish which it had snagged from a fisherman's line! The fish disappeared before a Pelican could reach it. The fisherman was not amused. The larger species included White Ibis, Little Egret, Great Egret, Royal Spoonbill, White-faced Heron and of course Pelican. We returned via the inland pathway and saw a reasonable number of species e.g. Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, Long-billed Corella and some of the usual sightings.

We returned to the picnic area and enjoyed a picnic and chat with our friends. The total species list for the evening was a reasonable 30.

Thank you to all who attended the evening to commence our 2025 activities.

Cheeky Pied Cormorant at Pelican Park

Peter Fackender took some photos of a very cheeky Pied Cormorant that stole a fisherman's catch. Many on the Pelican Park/Picnic Island walk observed this and spoke to the narked fisherman afterwards. Note the fish still had the hook and length of fishing line attached when the bird swallowed it.



Down the hatch!



Look closely to see the fishing line

Pelican Park Bird List – 30 Species

Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)	Galah
Spotted Dove	Long-billed Corella
Masked Lapwing	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Eastern Curlew	Rainbow Lorikeet
Silver Gull	Superb Fairywren
Crested Tern	Little Wattlebird
Little Pied Cormorant	New Holland Honeyeater
Pied Cormorant	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Australian White Ibis	Australasian Figbird
Royal Spoonbill	Grey Butcherbird
Little Egret	Australian Magpie
White-faced Heron	Willie Wagtail
Great Egret	Magpie-lark
Australian Pelican	Australian Raven
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	Silvereye

eBird checklist S212142429

Weekend Walk

Saturday 15th February 2025

Killalea

By Ken Brown

A storm and a good drop of rain the night before did not deter a good number of us from heading down to Killalea on Saturday morning. While Mavis and Anne looked after our lunch spot near the café, the rest headed down to the car park at the southern end of the road. It was nice to see Eleanor and Ron Thompson come to re-join the club and see us off. With the walkers all assembled there were 14 of us heading off across the open area to the west of the carpark and down the grassy track. The track is wide and mown, but bordered on both sides by thick lantana, wattle and taller trees. A good habitat for the birds because we immediately had good sightings of a variety of species, including the Black-faced Monarch, Leaden Flycatcher, Fairy-wrens and many others. The Eastern Whipbirds could be heard in the undergrowth. Halfway down the hill a White-bellied Sea-Eagle circled low above us, returning a number of times as it soared higher. The grassy descent stopped at the fire trail, still well above the river, and we turned left heading towards the spit below car park headland.

The track continues level for some distance before dropping down to the sandy soils of the spit. There were plenty more birds along the track and the group spread out as some lingered more than others to add to the count. At the centre of the spit the track splits – left to the beach and morning tea, right to the river. Peter was the only one keen enough to take the river option while the rest headed to the beach and claimed their seating positions on the one big log on the beach. Very pleasant with the sun

mostly out but not too hot and a gentle breeze. There were several large flocks of Silver Gulls along the beach. Several hundred, but impossible to count exactly. As far as we could see there did not appear to be any Terns in amongst them.



Morning Tea on the Beach (Ken Brown)

After morning tea most of the group felt sufficiently fortified to tackle the steep rocky steps directly up to the car park. Four of us took the more cautious approach and returned the way we had come via the fire trail and the grassy slope. Back at the cars we climbed aboard and drove back to the car park near the café to join Mavis and Anne for lunch in the shade of a large pine. It was warm but with a soft breeze to make for a very pleasant break. Before we left Andrew read the bird list which included 38 species. A good day with the weather greatly improved on the previous day and a good number of birds.

Bird List – 38 Species

Channel-billed Cuckoo	Red Wattlebird
Silver Gull	New Holland Honeyeater
Australian White Ibis	Spotted Pardalote
Osprey	White-browed Scrubwren
Black-shouldered Kite	Yellow Thornbill
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Brown Thornbill
Nankeen Kestrel	Brown Gerygone
Galah	Eastern Whipbird
Little Corella	Grey Shrike-thrush
Crimson Rosella	Golden Whistler
Rainbow Lorikeet	Australian Magpie
Satin Bowerbird	Grey Fantail
Variiegated Fairywren	Black-faced Monarch
Superb Fairywren	Magpie-lark
Eastern Spinebill	Leaden Flycatcher
Lewin's Honeyeater	Australian Raven
Noisy Miner	Eastern Yellow Robin
Little Wattlebird	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Silvereye	Red-browed Finch

eBird checklist S213646925

CLUB NEWS

New and Re-New...

A warm welcome to new members **Liudmyla Tymoshenko & Trish McHugh.**

Welcome back to **Eleanor and Ron Thompson** from Kiama Downs.

New IBOC Email Addresses

Because of technical difficulties with our email forwarders IBOC have converted to the ever-reliable Gmail. Here are the new email addresses:

membershipiboc@gmail.com

newsletteriboc@gmail.com

contactiboc@gmail.com

secretaryiboc@gmail.com

Milestones

As Anne Cousins points out, the 25th of February 2025 marked the 48th year since IBOC was founded.

The next IBOC Newsletter will be the 500th!

Robyn's Poem

This is timely and apt following Bob McKee's wonderful presentation on Bass Point at the February 2025 Club meeting (see page 3).

Consider the fishes of the sea
They spin not, nor do they reap
Yet neither Ken Done nor Christian Dior
Have dressed a lady in such attire
As could make the angels weep.

Zampatti's rich hues are just gorgeous!
Schiaparelli weaves dreams in brocade.
The smart Vauclose ladies parade their couture
Unaware just how second-rate their allure
While the Great Spangled Emperor
Escorts Madame Wrasse
In a gown labelled "Heavenly-Made".

More from Robyn...

I found this when looking through old cards etc with my daughter. I had thought it lost after writing it on a holiday at Lord Howe Island years ago.

PS: the under-sea world we explored with snorkels was awe-inspiring. We will never forget the colours and the variety of life. Robyn Cashman

PPS: IBOC Members may remember the wonderful 'camp' the Club organised on Lord Howe Island in February 2008. We should do it again!



*Relaxing on Lord Howe Island 2008
(Chris. Cartledge)*

Read the 2008 Lord Howe Island Camp write-ups in the IBOC Newsletter from March 2008 page 15 here - [IBOC News February 08.doc](#)

Chris. Cartledge

A Prayer for Birds

Michael Leunig

Dear God,
We pray for birds. All types of birds. Small birds and large birds. Domestic fowls, migratory birds and birds of prey, hooting birds, whistling birds, shrikes, coloured parrots and dark darting wrens. Birds too numerous to mention. We praise them all.

We mourn the loss of certain species and pray for the deliverance of endangered ones. We pray too for farm birds, that they may be released from cruelty and suffering.



We give thanks for eggs and feathers, for cheerful songs in the morning and the wonderful haunting, night prayers of owls, mopokes, and all nocturnal fowls.

We praise the character of birds, their constancy, their desire for freedom, their flair for music and their talent for flying. May we always marvel at their ability to fly. Especially we praise their disregard for human hierarchy and the ease with which they leave their droppings on the heads of commoners and kings regardless. Grant them fair weather, fresh food and abundant materials for building their nests in spring. Provide them too, with perches and roosts with pleasant aspects. Dear God, guide our thoughts to the joy and beauty of birds. Feathered angels. May they always be above us. Amen

*From Michael Leunig's A Common Prayer
(Reprinted from IBOC Newsletter March 2008)*

Michael Leunig, the renowned Australian cartoonist and poet, passed away on December 19, 2024.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Birdwatching and twitchers pump billions into Australia's tourism industry

ABC News 15 Feb 2025 - by national tourism reporter [Kristy Sexton-McGrath](#)

Birdwatching is pouring billions into Australia's tourism industry and prompting calls for more to be done to promote the "undervalued" sector.

Twitchers — birdwatchers who tally sightings or collect images of rare birds — are big business.

International visitors spent \$2.6 billion on travel that involved birdwatching in the year to June 2024, according to data from Tourism Research Australia, while domestic overnight travellers spent \$636 million over the same period, up from \$414 million in 2021 — a 53 per cent increase, national visitor survey data showed.



Those figures include money spent on transport, accommodation, food, and activities by birdwatchers, as they chase rare species across the country, with many travelling long distances and spending thousands of dollars in pursuit of rare birds.

Conservation scientist Dr Rochelle Steven from Murdoch University said Australia was considered the "holy grail" of birding.

Australia is home to the second-highest number of endemic bird species in the world, attracting birdwatching enthusiasts from across the globe.

"For someone from the other side of the world, seeing a common rainbow lorikeet is a huge thrill." (Picture Charles Dove)

"It's easy for us to underestimate how valuable that experience is to international visitors," Dr Steven said.

Despite its economic contribution, she said birdwatching remained largely overlooked in Australia, with little infrastructure or strategic focus compared to other nature-based tourism industries like whale watching.

"In places like the UK, they have state-of-the-art bird hides and facilities because they understand the economic value of birdwatching sites," she said.

Dr Steven said birders tend to be high-spending travellers.

"Many are at a stage in life where they're not roughing it — they take holidays doing what they love, staying in nice accommodation, dining out, and supporting local tourism operators."

Read the full story - [Birdwatching and twitchers pump billions into Australia's tourism industry - ABC News](#)

Cryptic Crossbird

Mike Morphett

I find identification of a bird exhibiting cryptic plumage or behaviour to be as much of a frustrating challenge as the solution of a cryptic crossword. Take this clue for example: 'You and I definitely say it's a bird (6 letters)'. After discounting anagrams of 'you and' and 'say it's', my brain computer scanned several bird names, but to no avail. I was baffled, and more so when I turned to the answer: 'Weaver'. I thought there's no such bird in this country, so why a member of the Old-World Ploceidae family? I knew overseas weavers build intricate nests (probably on a par with cryptic crossword clues), with cleverly interwoven pieces of vegetation. Thought #2: Would I have succeeded in solving the puzzle, had the clue been reframed? Such as, 'This bird is looming'. Groanworthy, I know. Then the light bulb moment: separate the first two letters — clever; and I apologise for the spoiler.

There followed a search in some of my bird reference books and on the net. My 1979 *Readers Digest Complete Book of Australian Birds* told me of the introduction of the red bishop bird (aka grenadier weaver) ninety-plus years ago, settling along the Murray River south of Adelaide. The red colour was a diagnostic feature only on a breeding male. *Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds* (2008) by L. Christidis & W.E. Boles, however, included the red bishop in their supplementary list of 34 introduced species that "have now been extirpated". The same fate befell the Asian golden weaver. I've been unable to trace when and where it reached our shores. Decreasing in numbers in its East Asia range owing to habitat loss and capture,

it's classified as near threatened. There's much, and more optimistic, literature about the village, or black-headed, weaver of the sub-Saharan region and, on account of its adaptive and gregarious behaviour, has spread successfully in some islands in the Indian Ocean and the Caribbean Sea; in the IUCN Red List it's deemed of least concern. Often suspended from a branch and with the entrance hole in the base, the nest holds some breeding protection from predatory snakes and raptors, but is not foolproof. I assume neither egg nor chick ever fall out.



Village weaver nestbuilding



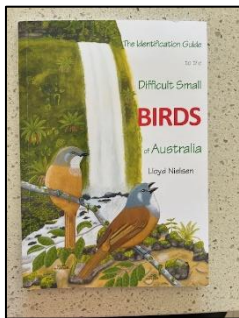
Yellow-throated Scrubwren in backyard



YTSW's nest with chicks in Excelsior

The siting and construction of the village weaver's nest made me think of that of a different passerine architect much closer to home, the yellow-throated scrubwren (aka devil-bird). Its taxonomic name *Sericornis citreogularis* means lemon-throated silk bird. For a very brief period in May 2017, I had the privilege of having a sole representative male (with black 'mask', not the female's brown) scouring my Thirroul backyard. But over the years I've enjoyed many a sighting in the neighbouring Excelsior bushland. Nests have been built in gloomy parts of the forest and more often suspended over a watercourse and with an entrance hole usually well above the base. Many years ago, a local butcher told me that in his youth he and his bush-adventuring mates used to call them hanging dickies. If this vernacular is accepted birding parlance, how might a compiler word the clue (7-7 letters) for such an answer in a cryptic crossword?

The Identification Guide to the Difficult Small Birds of Australia



A new book by Nielsen, Lloyd

Is it a thornbill? Is it a gerygone? Is it a scrubwren? This book tells you how to properly identify it.

Award-winning field ornithologist Lloyd Nielsen has gained a reputation for presenting information about birds that is authoritative, comprehensive, straightforward and easily understood. Now he goes one step further, showing how to more easily separate those difficult small birds.

RRP \$44 available at various online bookshops.

From Club member **Pam Hazelwood**: "I have found it very useful to ID those difficult small birds that (husband) Neil says are too small to worry about!"

Prelude to philandering

Mike Morphet



Each February Bluey, my resident satin bowerbird, undergoes his moult, which starts on his crown and then gradually spreads around his head. Far from looking at his best, he doesn't indulge in much activity at his bower, which seems to be confined to shooing off any trespassing males and adding a few embellishments. Visiting females haven't been in evidence lately. Maybe it's not a coincidence that this quiet period is happening during the prolonged hot and humid weather conditions. I guess this period of temporary dowdiness gives Bluey the opportunity to replenish his energy cassettes to prepare for further philandering in a resplendent new blue-black coat. For presumably

a senior male of I'd say at least 16 years of age I take my hat off to his stamina in pursuing his Casanova capers.

Q & A (SMH 13 Jan 25) What collective noun for a group of finches is also a trinket on a bracelet? A=Pp 10

LINKS TO ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Victorian duck shooting to last almost three months

Duck hunters will be able to shoot for almost three months this year, and the government has increased bag limits in a move set to please the hunting lobby. [Read the full story](#)

Scientists left questioning how a corella turned pink

You've probably heard of the Pink Panther, but have you heard of the pink corella? This bird has caused academics to ponder how it became the bright colour. [Read the full story](#)

Town goes quiet as hundreds of birds killed or injured in hailstorm

Community volunteers have set up a hospital in a country New South Wales showground to triage and treat hundreds of birds injured during a hailstorm earlier this week. [Read the full story](#)

Endangered finch not seen in four years in buffer zone made to protect them

The WA government is under investigation over alleged noncompliance in buffer areas designed to conserve the endangered Gouldian finch in the state's north. [Read the full story](#)

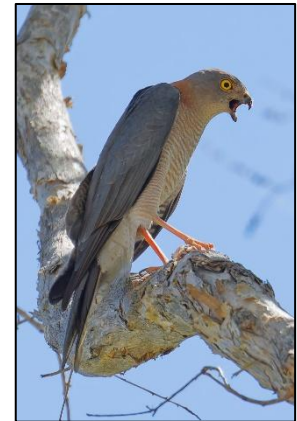
GALLERY



*Juvenile Black Bittern (1/3)
Macquarie Rivulet (24/2/25)
Pam Hazelwood*



*Striated Heron
Hamilton Island Marina
Pam Hazelwood*



*Brown Goshawk
Harriet Creek N.T.
Pam Hazelwood*



*Azure Kingfisher at Woko N.P.
Pam Hazelwood*



An entomologist's version of St Luke's 2,7 account.

...because there was no place for the long-horned katydid in the Bondi Beach Hut.

Mike Morphett

IBOC PROGRAM 2025

Date	Type	Where, What & Who	
February			
Wed 05.02.25	Mid-Week	Pelican Park	Alan & Anne Cousins
Mon 10.02.25	Hall Meeting	Robert McKee – <i>Underwater life at Bass Point</i>	
Sat 15.02.25	Weekend	Killalea, south end	Ken & Sue Brown
March			
Mon 10.03.25	Hall Meeting	Richard Korber – <i>Orchids for everyone</i>	
Wed 12.03.25	Mid-Week	Mt Kembla Memorial Pathway	Robyn & John Cashman
15-16.03.25	Weekend	No walk due to camp	
22-29.03.25	Camp	Canberra	Ken & Sue Brown
April			
Mon 14.04.25	Hall Meeting	Hugh Marriott – <i>Snakes & reptiles of the Illawarra</i>	
Wed 16.04.25	Mid-Week	Blackbutt Reserve	Bill & Joan Zealey
19-20.04.25	Weekend	No walk due to Easter	
May			
Mon 12.05.25	Hall Meeting	Bill Zealey – <i>Astronomy topic, to be advised</i>	
Wed 14.05.25	Mid-Week	Croome Park	Bill & Joan Zealey
Sat 17.05.25	Weekend	Bundanoon	Lyndall & Terry Dawson
June			
Mon 09.06.25	Hall Meeting	Peter Fackender – <i>Cockatoos and Parrots</i>	
Wed 11.06.25	Mid-Week	Bellambi Lagoon	Bill & Joan Zealey
Sat 14.06.25	Weekend	Booderee Botanic Gardens	Ken & Sue Brown
July			
Mon 14.07.25	Hall Meeting	David Butcher – <i>How to start a zoo</i>	
Wed 16.07.25	Mid-Week	Wattamolla	Bill & Joan Zealey
Sat 19.07.25	Weekend	Bangalee Nature Reserve	Alan & Anne Cousins
August			
Mon 11.08.25	Hall Meeting		
Wed 13.08.25	Mid-Week	Mangerton Park	Bill & Joan Zealey
Sun 17.08.25	Weekend	Darkes Forest / Sublime Point	Lyndall & Terry Dawson
September			
Mon 08.09.25	Hall Meeting		
Wed 10.09.25	Mid-Week	Brokers Nose or Madden Plains	Bill & Joan Zealey
Sat 13.09.25	Weekend	Box Vale Track & Lake Alexandra	Ken & Sue Brown
October			
Mon 13.10.25	Hall Meeting		
Wed 15.10.25	Mid-Week	Windang	Bill & Joan Zealey
Sun 19.10.25	Weekend	Tallawarra Ash Ponds	Darryl Goldrick
25.10-01.11.25	Camp	Howlong	??
November			
Mon 10.11.25	Hall Meeting	AGM and Members' Night	
Wed 12.11.25	Mid-Week	Jerrara Dam	Bill & Joan Zealey
Sat 15.11.25	Weekend	Wilton & Cordeaux	Ken & Sue Brown
December			
Mon 08.12.25	Walk	Christmas Picnic at Integral Energy Park	

Note: Program is likely to change. Final details of activities will be published in this newsletter prior to the activity.

Monthly Sightings January/February 2025

Compiled by Darryl Goldrick

SPECIES	N ^o	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
Black Swan	1	29-01-25	Flanagans Ck estuary, Thirroul	on water	Reported to Ian McKinlay
Black Swan	~80	20-Feb-24	Wyjuck Bay, Lake Illawarra	Feeding on seagrass bed	Darryl Goldrick
Topknot Pigeon	3	08-02-25	Pole track, Thirroul escarpment	top of eucalypt forest	Ian McKinlay
Wonga Pigeon	2	08-02-25	Gibson Track, Thirroul escarpment	heavy forest	Ian McKinlay
Dollarbird	1	03-Feb-25	Killalea Park- Minnamurra Spit Headland	Forested area	Ken-Sue Brown
Whistling Kite	1	25-Feb-25	Oak Flats Interchange Roundabout	O'head heading south-west	Darryl Goldrick
Australian Brush-turkey	3	11-01-25	new Wodi Wodi Track, Coalcliff	forest	reported to Ian McKinlay
Australian Brush-turkey	1	08-02-25	above "Scout Camp", Thirroul escarpment	heavy forest	Ian McKinlay
Kelp Gull	1 imm	09-Feb-25	Bellambi	at sea-offshore	Joan Zealey
Eastern Osprey	1	10-02-25	landed above us on "stink pipe", Hewitts Ck bridge, Thirroul	observation post	Ian McKinlay
Eastern Osprey	1	4+9/02/2025	Austinmer	Beach Front Light Pole	Lyndall & Terry Dawson
Square-tailed Kite	1	09-Feb-25	Balgownie- Judy Masters Oval	Overhead	Pam Hazleton Neil McKinlay
Brown Goshawk	1	19-02-25	Thirroul	backyard Robinia	Mike Morphett
Nankeen Kestrel	1	25-Feb-25	Windang	Roosting on light pole	Darryl Goldrick
Buff-banded Rail	1	10-01-25	Near Woodlands Ck cycleway, Thirroul	Blady grass	Ian McKinlay
Buff-banded Rail	1	27-01-25	Woodlands Ck, East Thirroul	tracking along water's edge, below vegetation	Ian McKinlay
Buff-banded Rail	1	07-02-25	Hewitts Ck lagoon, Thirroul	tracking along water's edge, in the open	Ian McKinlay
Rainbow Lorikeet	2	12-02-24	Kiama	Back yard (feeding on Lillypilly berries)	Alan & Anne Cousins
Australian King-Parrot	1	03-02-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra	Calling in tree in backyard.	Shane Spence
Australian King-Parrot	1	02-11-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Calling from tree in yard. Regular visitor.	Shane Spence
Australian King-Parrot	1 m	19-02-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra	Backyard tree, then flew away , calling.	Shane Spence
Eastern Koel	2 (m + f)	04-02-25	Thirroul	backyard casuarina canopy	Mike Morphett
Eastern Koel	1 fem	29-Jan-25	Lake Illawarra South	Calling in yard tree	Darryl Goldrick
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	29-01-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra	Calling in back yard	Shane Spence
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	29-01-25	Thirroul	backyard Robinia with adopted Pied Currawong	Mike Morphett
Sacred Kingfisher	1	23-01-25	south of Hewitts Ck, Thirroul	Powerlines above low vegetation	Ian McKinlay
Sacred Kingfisher	1	27-01-25	Corbett Ave, East Thirroul	Powerlines above lawns	Ian McKinlay
Dollarbird	3	23-01-25	south of Hewitts Ck, Thirroul	Powerlines above low vegetation	Ian McKinlay
Dollarbird	7+	07-02-25	Powerlines west of cycleway, East Thirroul	over low vegetation	Ian McKinlay
Dollarbird	1	06-Feb-25	Albion Park Rail	Power pole backyard	Peter Fackender
Green Catbird	1	06-02-25	Thirroul	backyard	Mike Morphett
Satin Bowerbird	1 fem	11-02-25	Kiama	Yard	Anne Cousins
Satin Bowerbird	1	15-02-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra.	Tree in backyard	Shane Spence
Variiegated Fairy-wren	6+	07-02-25	back of McCauleys Beach, Thirroul	low shrub thicket	Ian McKinlay
White-browed Scrubwren	1 ad	07-02-25	Thirroul	beside backyard aviary feeding juvenile	Mike Morphett
Eastern Spinebill	1	20-02-25	Lower Farmborough Rd, Unanderra.	Calling in shrubbery in backyard.	Shane Spence
Olive-backed Oriole	1	05-02-25	Thirroul	backyard Robinia	Mike Morphett
Pied Currawong	1	30-01-24	Kiama	Eating pink berries on Lillypilly	Anne Cousins
Pied Currawong	1	10-Feb-25	Kiama	Yard eating Lillypilly berries	Alan Cousins
Rufous Fantail	2 ?	08-02-25	below Fire trail, Austinmer end	regrowth forest	Ian McKinlay
Australian Raven	1	02-12-25	Lower Farmborough Road, Unanderra	Calling in tree in backyard - local identity !	Shane Spence
Black-faced Monarch	several	08-02-25	Thirroul escarpment	various rainforest sites	Ian McKinlay
Black-faced Monarch	1	19-02-25	Mt Kembla Memorial Pathway	In tree beside path	Ken & Sue Brown
Red-whiskered Bulbul	2	16-02-25	Blue Lagoon, East Woonona	waterside vegetation	Mike Morphett

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

Q & A = Charm

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