

Azure Kingfisher

Scientific Name: Ceyx azureus

Atlas Number: 319

Description:

The Azure Kingfisher is a small kingfisher with a long slender black bill and a short tail. The head, neck, upper parts and breast sides are deep azure blue with a violet (purplish) sheen. The neck has a distinctive orange stripe on each side and there is a small orange spot before each eye. The throat is pale orange-white, grading to orange-reddish on belly and



photo by Charles Dove

undertail. The flanks and sides of the breast are washed purple to violet. The legs and feet are red. The sexes are similar. Young birds have a darker cap and are generally duller.

Similar species:

The Azure Kingfisher has a similar shape to the Little Kingfisher, *A. pusilla*, but is much bigger and is distinguished by its orange underparts and violet sheen. It is much smaller and has a shorter tail than most of the Todiramphus kingfishers, which have white underparts and black legs, and differs in particular from the similarly sized Forest Kingfisher, *T. macleayi*, which has white underparts and a turquoise/green tint rather than violet/purple.

Distribution:

The Azure Kingfisher is found across northern and eastern Australia, as well as in the Moluccas and Lesser Sundas (Indonesia), New Guinea and surrounding islands. In Australia, it is found from the Kimberley region, Western Australia, across the Top End to Queensland, and is widespread east of the Great Dividing Range to the Victorian border and south into Victoria.

Habitat:

The Azure Kingfisher is never far from water, preferring freshwater rivers and creeks as well as billabongs, lakes, swamps and dams, usually in shady overhanging vegetation. It is sometimes seen in parks on rivers, as well as duck or goldfish ponds in urban areas.

Seasonal movements:

Sedentary

Feeding:

The Azure Kingfisher plunges from overhanging perches into water to catch prey. Prey items include: fish, crustaceans, aquatic insects and other invertebrates, and, sometimes, frogs. They will often bash their prey against the perch before swallowing it head first. Often watch Platypuses foraging underwater and catch any food items that are disturbed.

Breeding:

Azure Kingfishers form monogamous pairs that defend a breeding territory. Both parents incubate and feed the chicks. The nest is at the end of a burrow dug out of soil in a riverbank. The tunnel slopes upwards to the nesting chamber and can be 80 cm - 130 cm long. Flooding can destroy low-lying burrows.

Living with us

Stock trampling vegetation around waterholes affects the Azure Kingfisher. Human activities that cause artificial flooding of waterways can drown nests. Water that is turbid (not clear) and the introduction of European Carp (which competes for food resources) can also adversely affect local populations.

Text courtesy of <http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/>

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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.

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AUGUST ACTIVITIES

Club Meeting:

Monday 11th

7.30pm at Fairy Meadow Community Hall, Cnr. of Cambridge Avenue & Princes H'way Fairy Meadow.
'Rainforest - The secret of life' DVD presented by Alan Cousins. It has amazing birds including the Alberts' Lyrebird, which is found nowhere else on earth.

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

Midweek Walk:

Wednesday 13th

Leader Rupert Jarvis

Byarong Creek, Figtree

Meet at 9.00 am in the carpark at the end of Wallawa Street. Turn off the Princes Highway by Crinis into Bellevue Road. Wallawa Street is the 2nd street on the right.

Bring morning tea. This is a foray into a new area. A quick reccie produced 24 species.

Contact Rupert on 0403 932 635

If the weather is bad a decision to cancel is made by 7.15am to enable people to travel to the venue. It is your responsibility to contact the Leader or Alan on 0413 869 534 after 7.15am to check if the walk is still on.

Weekend Walk:

Saturday 16th

Leader Betty Hudson

Bangadilly National Park, Canyonleigh

Meet at 9.30am at the access track to the park on Tugalong Road Canyonleigh. Bring a carry morning tea and lunch to be eaten near the cars - chairs &/or stools would be handy as there are NO facilities.

To reach Canyonleigh travel along the Illawarra Hwy or the Hume Hwy to Hoddles Cross Roads, near Sutton Forest. From the Hume Hwy take the Illawarra Hwy exit and turn right into Canyonleigh Road (if you reach the service centre you have passed the cross roads!). From the Illawarra Hwy continue over the Hume Hwy where the road now becomes Canyonleigh Road. After approx 9km, turn right into Tugalong Road. There is a street sign as well as a bus shelter & advertising sign board at the intersection. Proceed along Tugalong Road for a further 21km passing a small green sign for Bangadilly NP and park, shortly afterwards, beside the 2nd sign. Attunga Station entrance is almost opposite across the road. (NB do not put Hoddles Cross Roads Sutton Forest into your GPS otherwise you will end up in Sutton Forest Village!)

In the morning we will walk 1.50km to Mt Penang Trig which is 795m above sea level with the last short stretch a rocky scramble, both up & returning back down the same way. Well worth it for the views. The afternoon walk will be an easy one through dry forest in a loop back to the road.

Contact Betty on 42360307 or text 0432 892 945.

If the weather is bad a decision to cancel is made by 7.15am to enable people to travel to the venue. It is your responsibility to contact the Leader or Alan on 0413 869 534 after 7.15am to check if the walk is still on.

Committee Meeting -

Monday 18th

The next IBOC Committee Meeting will be held on Monday 18th August 2014 at 7.30pm at Sue & Ken Brown's home, 12 Meads Avenue Tarrawanna 2518.

Any members with anything they wish to raise are welcome to attend the meeting.

Newsletter:

Deadline for articles and photos in the next IBOC newsletter is **20th August**.

Email contributions to Charles Dove newsletter@iboc.org.au or post to 32 Martin Avenue Ulladulla 2539. Ph: 0417 422 302.

IBOC has pleasure in welcoming all our New Members



CLUB REPORTS

Report for Club Meeting 14th July 2014

Alan Cousins

24 members braved a chilly evening to be entertained on an entirely different subject than birds – **REPTILES!** Our July speaker was Garth Rankin from The Illawarra Reptile Society who incidentally met the Monday prior to us in the Community Hall.

He showed us six dragon/lizards, a turtle and a Red-bellied Black Snake secured in a glass tank and a Diamond Python. The first specimen was an Eastern Blue-tongued Lizard which occurs throughout much of New South Wales west to about Cobar. It is a silvery-grey with broad, dark brown or blackish bands across the back and tail. It can grow up to almost 600mm in total length. They eat a wide variety of plants and animals and they have strong jaw muscles so they can crush snail shells and beetles, they can live for 8-10 years in the wild but maybe 15 years in captivity. Next up was the Western Blue-tongued Lizard which as its name suggests also has a blue tongue and can grow to about 450mm. It has a brown banded pattern across the body and feeds much the same as the Eastern. Next was the Shingleback Lizard which is in fact a Blue-tongue and is the bulkiest of them. The New South Wales Shinglebacks are usually dark brown all over, with or without yellow spots and can grow up to 410mm. They are common in New South Wales but do not occur naturally in Sydney, they eat more plant food than other Blue-tongues but can still crush snail shells and beetles. Then followed an Eastern Bearded Dragon which can grow to between 500-600mm, it feeds on a variety of small animals including mice, smaller reptiles and insects, in captivity it will eat leaf vegetables and fruit etc. Our next encounter was with a Central Bearded Dragon which is found mostly west of Cobar and is actually the second most popular kept pet in the United States. It can grow between 330-610mm and has a beard that is expandable with spikey scales. They are found throughout the interior of the Eastern States and the eastern half of South Australia and south east of the Northern Territory. They eat plants, insects, spiders, small rodents and lizards. The next specimen, the Red-bellied Black Snake was explained but not removed from its tank as it against the law unless the handler has a very expensive license. As we are all aware it occurs throughout New South Wales. Males can grow between 1.5-2m and are slightly larger than females which give birth to live young. They eat mainly frogs and have been known to eat the occasional lizard and smaller snakes. Next we saw a Water Dragon which is found in Eastern Australia and range in size from 800-900mm. The Eastern Water Dragon has a vertebral crest extending down the length of its body to its tail. The belly of a mature male is bright red. Mature dragons eat 50-50 vegetable matter and insects. Our next specimen was an Eastern Long-neck Turtle which lives in fresh water habitats in which it spends most of its time and can grow up to 260mm. It feeds on aquatic vertebrates, tadpoles and small fish. It is sometimes known as 'Stinker' because it can eject pungent liquid gland secretions from its 'armpits' and groin when handled or disturbed. Garth mentioned that the difference between a turtle and a tortoise is that turtles in Australia live mainly in water whereas tortoise live on land. Our final exhibit was a Diamond Python which Garth produced from a bag. It was a beautiful specimen with rosettes on its skin. They can be found in coastal areas of New South Wales and feed on small mammals and lizards; it kills its prey by wrapping itself around its victim and suffocating it. It can grow between 2-3m, in fact one was found in Bomaderry to be 9ft 1in (in old money) and they can have a lifespan of up to 30 years.

It is most important for reptiles to have a temperature of 30-35 Centigrade and they normally have a small territory. Every six weeks reptiles shed their skin as they outgrow it and not grow with it, this takes about 20 minutes.

Many questions followed and members were invited to hold the Python. Two brave souls accepted the offer and had their photo's taken with it wrapped around them. This report cannot do justice to this fascinating subject presented by Garth who has been involved with reptiles for over 30 years. In addition to his presentation he has joined IBOC so we will see a lot more of him.



Neil McKinley and John Cashman enjoyed the company of the Diamond Python



Midweek Walk - Mt. Kembla Wednesday 16th July

by Neil Wheway

It was a bleak morning with rain threatening but five hardy souls turned up and braved the elements for the walk. Two people set off before us with five dogs luckily they were on their way back before we had ventured far up the track. One of the first sightings was a Bassian Thrush, giving us an excellent look it wasn't long before we were tripping over them. Other good views were of Whipbirds and Yellow Robins of which there was no shortage. There was some discussion whether it was a White-browed or Yellow-throated Scrubwren but it didn't matter because we did see both of them in the

end (otherwise it would have been called a Yellow-browed Scrubwren). Large flocks of Topknot Pigeons were flying around us we counted twenty-four in the first flock arriving back at the car a much larger flock overhead, maybe forty odd birds. At one stage we were standing under a tree with small branches raining down on us it was a Topknot crashing about over our heads. Mercifully the rain held off so umbrellas were not needed. Also sighted was a deer and a large wallaby or kangaroo. It was a good morning I'm pleased I didn't renege and not go. Thanks Rupert.

Mt Kembla Bird list 16 th July		23 Species	5 members attended
Wonga Pigeon	Satin Bowerbird	Spotted Pardalote	Grey Fantail
Topknot Pigeon	Superb Fairy-wren	Eastern Spinebill	Australian Raven
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Yellow-throated Scrubwren	Lewin's Honeyeater	Eastern Yellow Robin
Crimson Rosella	White-browed Scrubwren	Eastern Whipbird	Silvereye
Laughing Kookaburra	Brown Gerygone	Golden Whistler	Bassian Thrush
Superb Lyrebird	Brown Thornbill	Grey Shrike-thrush	

Monthly Outing – Sunday 20th July: Bass Point - Shellcove

by Ken Brown

The day started windy and rather cool as 12 of us gathered in the car park at Bass Point while Betty laid out the plans for the morning. Plenty of little Fairy-wrens hopping around on the grass and as we started off we noticed one Variegated Fairy-wren showing off his colours in the bushes.

From the car park we headed east around the northern shore of the point where the Silvergulls were watching the fishermen on the rocks while the fishermen were watching the waves from the large swell. In amongst the Silvergulls were a few Crested Terns and a bit further round a pair of Sooty Oystercatchers were dodging the waves as they foraged around on the rocks. After a few hundred metres the rocks were getting a bit rough and the wind was getting a bit keen so we headed back to a sheltered hollow among the rocks and enjoyed some sun and morning tea while watching a Black-browed Albatross gliding along the shoreline.

After the break we returned past the car park and then headed south across the point towards Bushrangers Bay. There were sightings of bush birds now we were back in the trees, including Lewin's Honeyeater, New Holland Honeyeater, Grey Fantail, Golden Whistler, etc. Also the calls of Eastern Whipbird and the Spotted Pardalote. We were greeted by a Red Wattlebird at the lookout overlooking the bay and then we took the Fisherman's Walk along the ridge on the southern side of the bay. Towards the end the bush opened out to give us a view down to the water where four Black-browed Albatross were bobbing around and appeared to be feasting on cuttlefish. Further along on the exposed rocks at the mouth of the bay there were good views of the Albatross flying parallel to the shore.

A bit too windy to linger too long, so we made our way back along the track and back to the car park, watching a Wattlebird giving a Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike a hard time through the trees. The north facing picnic area near the car park was catching plenty of sun and was sheltered from the wind, so it was a good spot for lunch with the Swallows swooping around us and occasional views of the Albatross and Gannets out at sea. While John Cashman stretched out for his post-lunch nap, some sat and chatted, others wandered to seek out the local birds and the magpies cleaned up the scraps.

After lunch we drove around to the Shell Cove wetlands. We parked the cars in Shallows Drive beside the pond and got out to be immediately greeted by a group of seven Brown Quail who provided one of the highlights of the day. They seemed totally unconcerned by our presence and

gave us an excellent view as they slowly made their way around the border between the mown grass area and the scrub. Eventually they moved on, so we moved on too to the larger pond to view the Swampheens, Moorhens, Coots and a few smaller birds in the surrounding trees.

Then back across the road to the larger reserve on the upstream side. Lots of birds on the flat and surrounding trees, including Fairy Wrens, White-browed Scrubwrens, Grey Fantails, a Bassian Thrush, a Goldfinch, Spotted Pardalote, Lewin's Honeyeater, Silvereyes, Brown Thornbills and Brown Gerygone. Also several Yellow Robins, including one Robin struggling with a worm nearly as long as himself. At the end of the flat most turned for home and a couple of us went further up the recreation area to a larger pond which had some larger water birds, including Hardheads, Pacific Black Ducks, Cattle Egrets and White-faced Herons. Then back to the car, for us too, catching the first Galah for the day on the way.



Brown Quail by Ken Brown



Variegated Fairy-wren by Ken Brown



Crested Tern by Ken Brown



Sooty Oystercatcher by Ken Brown

Overall a thoroughly enjoyable day with 33 species seen at Bass Point and 27 at Shell Cove. 47 species overall for the day. Thank you Betty

Bird List for Bass Point Walk 20.07.14		33 Species	12 Members attended
Black-browed Albatross	Crimson Rosella	Lewin's Honeyeater	Willie Wagtail
Australasian Gannet	Laughing Kookaburra	Red Wattlebird	Australian Raven
Little Pied Cormorant	Satin Bowerbird	New Holland Honeyeater	Magpie-lark
Great Cormorant	Superb Fairy-wren	Eastern Whipbird	Eastern Yellow Robin
White-faced Heron	Variegated Fairy-wren	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Silvereye
Sooty Oystercatcher	Yellow Thornbill	Golden Whistler	Welcome Swallow
Crested Tern	Brown Thornbill	Australian Magpie	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Silver Gull	Spotted Pardalote	Grey Fantail	Red-browed Finch
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo			

Bird List for Shell Cove Walk 20.07.14		27 Species	10 Members attended
Brown Quail	Eurasian Coot	Spotted Pardalote	Silvereye
Pacific Black Duck	Galah	Lewin's Honeyeater	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Hardhead	Satin Bowerbird	Australian Magpie	Bassian Thrush
Cattle Egret	Superb Fairy-wren	Pied Currawong	Common Blackbird
White-faced Heron	White-browed Scrubwren	Grey Fantail	Red-browed Finch
Purple Swamphean	Brown Gerygone	Australian Raven	European Goldfinch
Dusky Moorhen	Brown Thornbill	Eastern Yellow Robin	

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

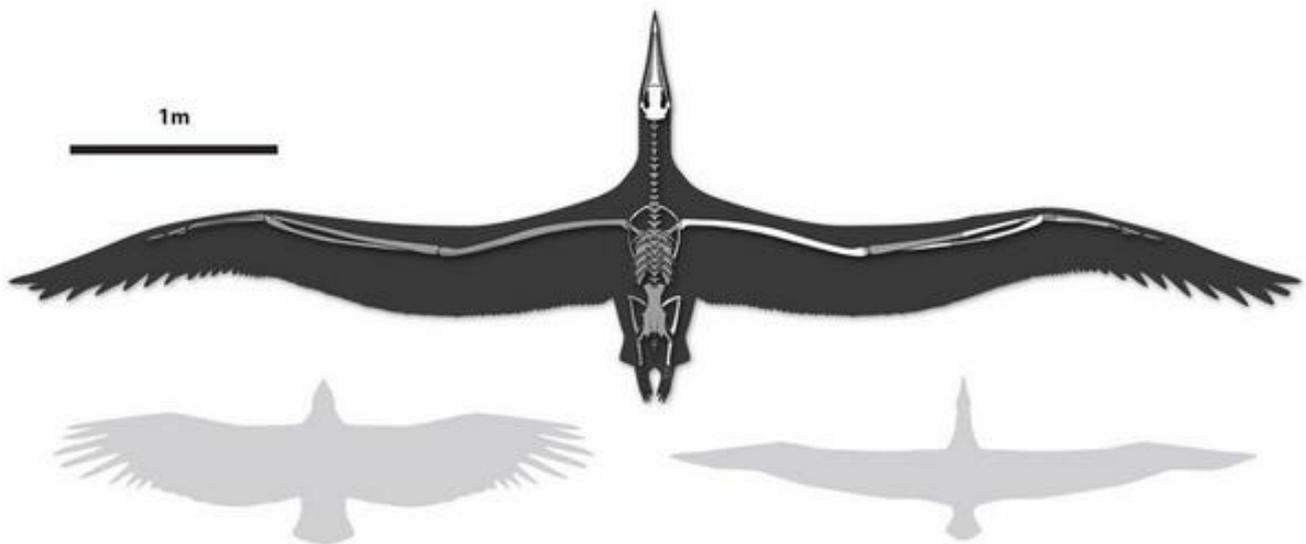
The largest seabird ever found

Soaring above the world's oceans some 25 million years ago, the largest seabird ever to fly boasted a 21-foot (6.4-meter) wingspan, paleontologists reported.

The ancient bird, dubbed *Pelagornis sandersi*, belonged to a family of now-extinct "toothed" birds. The discovery also shows that, for some ancient flying birds, bigger may have been better. (Related: "Largest Flying Bird Could Barely Get Off Ground, Fossils Show.")

Described for the first time in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, the fossil bones of the big bird were uncovered just outside an airport in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1983.

"A giant bird lands at an airport 25 million years too soon—it's kind of amusing," says study author Daniel Ksepka of North Carolina State University in Raleigh. "Maybe he should have just waited and landed on the new runway."



Birds of a Feather

The wingspan of *Pelagornis sandersi* dwarfs that of today's biggest flier, the royal albatross, whose span measures a "mere" 11.5 feet (3.5 meters). And it rivals that of the largest flying bird on record: *Argentavis magnificens*—a South American condor with a 23-foot (7-meter) wingspan that glided among the mountaintops of the Andes six million years ago.

"*Pelagornis* was certainly much lighter and a better 'flier'" than the vanished giant condor, says paleontologist Antoine Louchart of France's Institute of Functional Genomics in Lyon, who was not involved with the study.

The most interesting finding in the new study, says Louchart, is that the ancient seabird may have soared just above the ocean waves for long distances, rather than ascending air currents to maintain high altitudes, as some large birds do today.

A model of *Pelagornis sandersi*'s flight suggests that larger wings actually meant less drag from wingtip turbulence once the flier was aloft. The challenge for this seabird would have come during takeoff.

At 48 pounds (21.8 kilograms), *Pelagornis sandersi* was not as heavy as a flightless ostrich—which can weigh 320 pounds (145 kilograms)—but it was still likely too heavy (and had feet too tiny) to run on the water and take off like a goose or other waterfowl.

Tracing the Roots of Beautiful Bird Hues

by Brian Switek

Baby flamingos are fluffy and adorably awkward. But they're not pink. The fuzzy infants start off as white or grey, only later earning a distinctive rosy hue. That's because these beautifully dorky birds don't make their own colour, but co-opt it from their microscopic meals.

Flamingo pink is created by carotenoids – organic pigments present in the algae and tiny crustaceans flamingos sieve from the water. Rather than breaking down in the birds' stomachs, though, the pigments enter the bloodstream and get sucked up into feathers as they form. How pink a flamingo is depends on what the bird is eating.

This biological borrowing isn't unique to flamingos. Many other birds have carotenoid-created colours in shades of red, orange, yellow, pink, and purple. But when did such dazzlingly-daubed feathers evolve?

The fossil record is only of limited help here. Even though a surfeit of gorgeous fossils has shown that feathers go back deep into the dinosaur family tree – 160 million years at the very least – palaeontologists have so far only been able to reconstruct the colours of preserved feathers on the basis of microscopic organelles called melanosomes. These itty bitty bodies are related to colours like black, grey, brown, and rust, but the brighter carotenoid colours left no such structural trace in prehistoric plumage. Nevertheless, by looking at modern birds a team of researchers has outlined when they expect carotenoids to have become an important part of the avian palette.

The first step was looking for how many modern birds have carotenoid-consistent colours. This, as detailed in a new *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* study, involved a great deal of poring over plumage patterns.

Using the *Hanbook of the Birds of the World* and internet resources, Smithsonian scientist Daniel B. Thomas looked at image after image of 9,993 species of living birds for feather colours that could have been created by carotenoids. This wasn't always straightforward. Ornithologists know that some birds – such as turacos, parrots, and penguins – have red, orange, or yellow feathers that aren't actually created by carotenoids. Leaving out these possibly-confounding cases, Thomas eventually came up with a count of 2,956 bird species that could have carotenoid coloration.

Did non-avian dinosaurs – like this *Lambeosaurus* – have carotenoid-created colours? Art by Dmitry Bogdanov. To check if his identifications were on the mark, Thomas and colleagues ran a pair of tests on previously-collected bird feathers. A technique called high-performance liquid chromatography showed the presence of carotenoids based on light-absorption patterns, while another known as Raman spectroscopy gave away the pigments through spectral bands. Running these tests on feathers from every bird species wasn't possible, but the scientists picked examples representing all known families of living bird to get an idea of how widely this form of coloration is spread. The researchers even investigated feathers of 124 bird species without apparent carotenoids, just to be sure that they weren't missing any.

The researchers found that 95 of the 236 living bird families had species with carotenoid-created colors. That figure more than doubles the previous count, and suggests that the ability to express these brilliant pigments evolved multiple times through bird evolutionary history. And to find out when birds started wearing these particular colours, Thomas and coauthors traced the colour patterns back through the [A Global Phylogeny of Birds](#) supertree.

Drawing backwards from modern species, Thomas and colleagues hypothesize that the first birds to have carotenoid-created colours lived around 56 million years ago. They were likely passeriforms, or "perching birds", related to the majority of bird species living today. This is 94 million years **after** *Archaeopteryx*, the first bird. But even at it's avian origin, carotenoid coloration wasn't especially widespread. Gradually, as birds proliferated, more and more lineages independently evolved to use carotenoids in their plumage, with most carotenoid-carrying lineages evolving the ability after 23 million years ago. Starting at the Miocene, at least, avian have displayed a rainbow of colours comparable to the brilliant birds we see around us today.

So should we avoid colouring feathery, non-avian dinosaurs in pink and yellow? There isn't yet any direct evidence for such color. A pink *Triceratops* or purple *Brachiosaurus* is entirely speculative. Then again, in addition to the many bird lineages that use carotenoids for their colours, there are lizards and snakes that evolved to do the same. If the transfer of carotenoids from food to feather or scale has happened so many times, then perhaps there were non-avian dinosaurs that were decked in red, orange, yellow, and purple. We just need to find a way to see what has been obscured through the lens of hundreds of millions of years.

Biologist have discovered Wedge-tailed Eagles can fly more than six kilometres off the ground

It has been recorded that the eagles can soar at "mind-boggling" altitudes of up to 6.5 kilometres in Western Australia. "A number of pilots have flown light aircraft through the region and they have said it isn't unusual at all to hit a thermal air current and suddenly rocket up 5,000 to 10,000 feet in a relatively short space of time. So the eagles probably get that happening to them occasionally as well.



A few birding highlights from Joan & Bill Zealey on another month away from home.

In early July we went to Eromanga to help free megafauna bones from their encasing mud, and label dinosaur bones. En route from Quilpie to 30Km past Eromanga, we counted 41 Wedge-tailed Eagles, in family groups of three or four on roadkill. Locals said that trucks from the oil and gas fields provide a regular source, and the eagles have grown so confident they don't fly away when vehicles approach, but merely shuffle a few metres off the asphalt.

We then headed north, and have so far seen about 120 species in the Northern Territory, including twenty new to our year's list, and two (Flock Bronzewing, and Bar Breasted Honeyeater) to our life list. For about 40km as we travelled north from Barkly Roadhouse, Australian Pratincoles took wing on either side of the road, and we saw our first two Flock Bronzewing at our night camp, and twenty more the next day.

Caranbirini Conservation Reserve, east of Cape Crawford was a delightful spot where an Azure Kingfisher and Crimson and Double barred Finches flew around the lagoon and we counted six species of honeyeater (White-gaped, White-throated, Bar-breasted, Brown, Rufous-throated and Yellow-tinted) in a small patch of Grevillea beneath its sandstone cliffs.

Fogg Dam won't let you walk across the dam wall because of a large resident crocodile, but there were Pied Herons, Ibises and all sorts of Egrets as we drove across, and in the adjacent rainforest we got a Pacific Baza, Rainbow Pittas and Grey Whistlers. On to WA next month.



- 1: Bar Breasted Honey Eaters, Caranbirini CR
- 2: Wedge Tailed Eagles, Eromanga
- 3: Pacific Baza, Fogg Dam



Bill and Joan Zealey

The Cassowary below we seen these in the Daintree. Must be used to people. Judy Baker



I think it is a Masked Owl that we saw over our back fence at Mt Ousley



Judy Baker

Terry Edwell and Michelle Rower were lucky enough to come across a Scarlet Robin recently at Croome recreational area. Pics by Terry



Off celebrating their 50th Wedding anniversary Barbara and Brian Hales still managed to take in a bit of Birding



Osprey

Another Pic from the Bass Point outing by Ken Brown



Hardhead

MONTHLY SIGHTINGS: June/July 2014

compiled by Darryl Goldrick

SPECIES	No	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
Brown Quail	7	20-Jul-14	Shellcove	Grassland adj to creek	IBOC
Magpie Goose	2	28-Jul-14	Forest Grove' Kanahooka	Village Lake	Darryl Goldrick
Freckled Duck	35	01-Jul-14	Burrill lake	Dam	Charles Dove
Pink-eared Duck	1	21-Jun-14	Towradgi	Creek	Tom/Joan Wylie
Hardhead	5	15-Jun-14	Bellambi	Lagoon	Tom/Joan Wylie
Topknot Pigeon	2	13-Jul-14	Grevillea Park, Bulli	Rainforest	Tom/Joan Wylie
Black-browed Albatross	5	02-Jul-14	Lighthouse Ulladulla	Over Ocean	Charles Dove
Black-browed Albatross	6	20-Jul-14	Bass Point	Offshore	IBOC
Australasian Gannet	5+	02-Jul-14	Lighthouse Ulladulla	Over Ocean	Charles Dove
Australasian Darter	1m +1f	28-Jul-14	Tallawarra Powers Station	Outlet Channel	Darryl Goldrick
Striated Heron	1	28-Jul-14	Tallawarra Powers Station	Outlet Channel	Darryl Goldrick
Little Egret	8	01-Jul-14	Narrawallee	Shoreline	Charles Dove
Little Egret	1	28-Jul-14	Tallawarra Powers Station	Outlet Channel	Darryl Goldrick
Eastern Reef Egret	1	05-Jul-14	Ulladulla	Tidal Rocks	Charles Dove
Nankeen Night-heron	3	12-Jul-14	Burrill lake	Casuarina	Charles Dove
Nankeen Night-heron	1	21-Jun-14	Towradgi	Creek	Tom/Joan Wylie
Nankeen Night-heron	1	28-Jul-14	Tallawarra Powers Station	Outlet Channel	Darryl Goldrick
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	3	02-Jul-14	Ulladulla	overhead	Charles Dove
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	2	13-Jul-14	Balgownie	O'head & Ponds	J & R Cashman
Brown Goshawk	1	13-Jul-14	Thirroul	Back Yard	Mike Morphett
Swamp Harrier	1	15-Jul-14	Lake Conjola	overhead	Charles Dove
Lewin's Rail	1	03-Jul-14	Burrill Lake	Creek	Charles Dove
Sooty Oystercatcher	17	03-Jul-14	Ulladulla	Tidal Rocks	Charles Dove
Hooded Plover	8	03-Jul-14	Ulladulla	Tidal Rocks	Charles Dove
Musk Lorikeet	50+	18-Jul-14	Fisherman,s Paradise	Ironbark	Charles Dove
Musk Lorikeet	5	03-Jul-14	Wollongong	Botanic Gardens	Alan/Anne Cousins
Southern Boobook	1	02-Jul-14	Windang	Lakeside-boat ramp	Neil Wheway
Variegated Fairy-wren	1m	20-Jul-14	Bass Point	Picnic area	IBOC
White-naped Honeyeater	20+	5-Jul-14	Milton	Flowering Gum	Charles Dove
Olive Whistler	1 Imm	10-Jul-14	Porters Dam Rd.	Road	Charles Dove
Bassian Thrush	1	01-Jul-14	Ulladulla	Bush Path	Charles Dove
Bassian Thrush	1	20-Jul-14	Shellcove	Walking track adj to creek	IBOC
Bassian Thrush	1	13-Jul-14	Thirroul	Residential-crossing on the St.	Mike Morphett
Common Blackbird	1m + 1f	28-Jul-14	Forest Grove' Kanahooka	Village Lake	Darryl Goldrick

The number of local sightings throughout the Illawarra seems substantially down over the last few months. Any sightings of unusual or rarely seen, out of season, nesting or not usually seen in that particular area. Please assist by reporting these sightings.

Darryl Goldrick



Lewin's Rail Lions Park Burrill Lake

Buff-banded Rail Lions Park Burrill Lake

By Charles Dove

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