

## PACIFIC GULL

Scientific Name: *Larus pacificus*  
Atlas Number: 126

### Description:

The Pacific Gull is a very large black-backed gull with a massive yellow bill, broadly tipped with scarlet. The upper wings and wingtips are wholly black with a narrow white inner trailing edge, the tail is white with a broad black band near the end. The legs are yellow to orange-yellow. Juvenile Pacific Gulls are mottled dark brown with pale face and the bill is pink with a black tip. The immatures have dark brown



photo by Charles Dove

wings, whitish mottled body and a black-tipped yellow bill. There are two forms of the Pacific Gull: the eastern form (race *pacificus*) has a white eye and a complete red tip to the bill while the western form (race *gergii*) has a red eye and an incomplete red tip to the bill.

### Similar species:

The Pacific Gull can be confused with the Kelp Gull, *Larus dominicanus*, which has a much smaller bill, as well as being much smaller and less bulky.

### Distribution:

The Pacific Gull is endemic to southern Australia and occurs mostly on south and west coasts, Tasmania and infrequently on the east coast.

### Habitat:

The Pacific Gull prefers sandy, or less often, rocky coasts and sandy beaches. In eastern Australia, the Pacific Gull prefers areas that are protected from ocean swells such as estuaries, bays and harbours. In Western Australia, it occurs occasionally in harbours but mostly on exposed coasts and offshore islands. It usually avoids human habitation but is occasionally seen on farmland and rubbish tips near the coast but rarely inland. It can be found roosting or loafing in elevated situations such as rocky headlands or on structures such as wharves and jetties.

### Seasonal movements:

The adult Pacific Gull is mainly sedentary while the young are dispersive.

### Feeding:

The Pacific Gull forages along the coasts between the high-water mark and shallow water on sandy beaches, feeding mainly on molluscs, fish, birds and other marine animals.

### Breeding:

The Pacific Gull breeds in scattered single pairs or small, loose colonies on high points on headlands or islands. Two types of nests are built: one a scrape or depression in the ground, either unlined or lined with small stones or gravel, the other is a neatly constructed shallow bowl made of sticks, grass, seaweed or feathers. Both sexes build the nest with the female doing most of the incubation while the male forages for food and stands guard near the nest.

### Living with us

The Pacific Gull is easily disturbed by human activities at breeding sites and roosting areas, and have occasionally become entangled in fishing lines. However, they do scavenge on human refuse at rubbish tips, abattoirs, picnic areas and on fish scraps near wharves.

Bird species cover text courtesy of <http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/>

### CONTENTS:

Club Activities	Page	2
Club Reports	Pages	3 - 4
Articles of Interest	Pages	5 - 9
Monthly Bird Sightings	Page	10



'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 bird life

### ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB INC.

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# AUGUST ACTIVITIES

## CLUB MEETING:

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm**

Fairy Meadow Community Hall - Corner of Cambridge Avenue & Princes H'way Fairy Meadow.

**Evolving Hawaian Birdlife** - Bill Zealey

Hawaii gives a new meaning to the word "remote". If you sailed due west of Honolulu, the next thing you'd hit would be Taiwan: almost 6000 miles away. Hawaii is anything but lonely boasting thousands of species of birds, animals and plants. As in the Galapagos, many of the endemic honeyeaters evolved special feeding habits and a correspondingly special beak shape to fill a different niche found on the specific island within the Hawaiian archipelago.

The arrival of humans from 400AD to the present brought with them jungle fowl, finches and parrots.

Bill & Joan recently revisited Hawaii where they had lived and worked in the the early 1980s. This talk is the result of the followup to the many changes in the bird population they noted.

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

## MIDWEEK WALK

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August at 8.00am**

**Bass Point Coast walk**

Meet at 8.00am at the parking area near the entrance archway-gate. This is about 150m from the start of the dirt road. About 4km return. Easy walking, but the track and rock platforms are slightly uneven, so wear proper footwear. Bring morning tea with you. A surprising diversity of habitat and birds in this small 70 ha reserve. Access from Shellharbour via Boollwarroo Parade.

Leader Bill Zealey



In the event of inclement weather Contact Bill on 0414 747 644.

## MONTHLY OUTING

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August at 9am**

**Meryla Rd – Gun Rock Creek Fire Trail**

The August Monthly walk will be on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2016. Meet in the main street of Moss Vale at 9.00am opposite the park beside the station. Roadside parking should be available. If not turn left at the lights to access off street parking on the left. Toilets are available in the park as there are no facilities on the walk. (Leaving here we will be turning left into Arthur St immediately before the railway bridge).

From Arthur St fork right into Throsby St which then becomes Yarrawa Rd.

Travelling approx. 6km along Yarrawa Road take the 2<sup>nd</sup> turn on the right Meryla Rd. Park immediately after the 2<sup>nd</sup> creek bridge – Gun Rock Creek approx. 12 km from the intersection. From here we will access Gun Rock Creek Fire Trail to Gun Rock Creek Falls and return a different way approx. 2km walk. The fire trail could be rough & wet due to the amount of rain recently as well as possible usage by trail bikes but is relatively flat walking. The walk is through eucalyptus forest with wetter areas along the creeks with the potential for a good variety of birds. **Bring a carry** morning tea. **Lunch** will be by the cars on Meryla Rd followed by a visit to Cecil Hoskins Reserve Moss Vale with a short walk to the wetland.

*If the weather is doubtful contact Betty on 4236 0307 before 7.30am or text mobile 0432 892 945*

Leader Betty Hudson

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm**

Next Meeting will be held at Pam Hazelwood's 34 Hunter Street, Balgownie at 2 pm, 4284 6140.

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

## Newsletter:

**DEADLINE 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

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

To Charles Dove [newsletter@iboc.org.au](mailto:newsletter@iboc.org.au) or post to 3/15 Shepherd Avenue, Mollymook 2539.

Ph: 0417 422 302

**IBOC WISHES TO WELCOME ALL OF ITS NEW MEMBER**

## **CLUB MEETING REPORT**

### **July Club Meeting – by Ken Brown**

#### **Guest speaker – Pam Hazelwood, “Japan Travels”**

Pam gave us a very interesting talk and slideshow that went beyond just the Japanese birds to give us a good overview of many aspects of Japanese life, culture, landscape, engineering and architecture. Pam and Neil’s trip last year ranged over the islands of Hokkaido and Honshu and covered urban, rural and natural environments. Pam structured her talk to concentrate on different aspects in turn so we had a very thorough

appreciation of the friendly people, the history and the beautiful countryside before we looked at the birds. I had not realised before that only 11% of the country was arable and how much land is mountains and rugged hills.

Thanks Pam, your insights and photos made for a very interesting evening and probably have a few of us thinking about including Japan in our future holiday plans.

## **REPORT FOR MIDWEEK WALK**

### **Report for July Midweek Walk - by Ken Brown**

#### **Wollongong Botanical Gardens, 13<sup>th</sup> July**

Well the morning lived up to the forecast – very cold and windy, so it was a pleasant surprise to see a good turn up with 17 hardy souls (or 34 soles) gathering in the Discovery Centre car park at 9:30. After rugging up with several layers and packing the morning tea we headed down the hill on the University side and up along the northern side of the gardens. The open areas and wooded paths revealed the expected birds with Cockatoos, a Figbird, Magpies, Crimson and Eastern Rosellas and an abundance of Rainbow Lorikeets and Noisy Miners. When the path swung south we diverted into the dry lands area where the cacti were in good flower and the Lorikeets and Miners were having a good feed.

Over in the garden behind the Discovery Centre a male Satin Bowerbird hopped out of his bower when we arrived, leaving a good view of his collection of blue bottle tops and other bits and pieces. We then wound down the southern side of the hill through the trees to the edge of the lake and made our way into the rose garden which provided some shelter from the wind and a good place to have our morning tea.

After morning tea we skirted around the southern side of the lake, picking up the usual Swampheens, Moorheens and Coots, but not the Spoonbill and Cormorants that had been there on our recce a few days before. Heading up the path beside the creek a Bantam rooster was scratching away in the dirt beside the creek. When we came out on the main path we turned left and found a pair of Grey Butcherbirds in a Turpentine before we swung west through the gardens and then across the lawn to the top section of the rainforest. Coming down through the rainforest we picked up Yellow Robins and Scrubwrens before the wind picked up intensity and the creaking of the branches encouraged us to get out before they came down. We came back onto the main path at a tree with some small birds, including Yellow Thornbills and Grey Fantails. Then back across the top of the hill to the shelter of the cars. To end the morning a couple of Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos flew over us as we reviewed the list. A delightful end to the morning before some of us retreated to the café’s of Kieraville for a warming lunch.

<b>Wollongong Botanical Gardens, 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>		<b>17 members</b>	<b>32 species</b>
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Australasian Figbird	Noisy Miner	
Australian Wood Duck	Rainbow Lorikeet	Spotted Dove	
Australian Magpie	Common Myna	Satin Bowerbird	
Crimson Rosella	Crested Pigeon	White-faced Heron	
Eastern Rosella	Australian Raven	King Parrot	
Magpie-lark	Masked Lapwing	Silver Gull	
Purple Swampheens	Eurasian Coot	Dusky Moorhen	
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Grey Butcherbird	Welcome Swallow	
Australia Brush-turkey	Grey Fantail	Eastern Yellow Robin	
White-browed Scrubwren	Yellow Thornbill	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	
Galah	Australian White Ibis		

# REPORT FOR WEEKEND WALK

## Windang Dunes - Windang Estuary, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2016 – by Robyn Cashman

A dozen plus one birders met at a nicely set out car park giving easy access to the route northward along the track beside the tree-covered dunes. As we walked, it surprised me that the dunes stretched quite a distance towards the ocean, much deeper than at places like Puckey’s Estate.

“Early birds” spotted a number of species before we began to wander along, (as usual!) Betty told us that the derelict area we were walking on had been the site of fill from the copper smelter, and so could never be built on – yet the birds didn’t know that and we saw plenty on both sides of the track – Eastern Yellow Robins were in abundance, Red-browed Finches, New Holland Honeyeaters, White-browed Scrubwren, Yellow and Brown Thornbills, Little Wattlebirds, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Grey Shrike-thrush, and the lovely Spotted Pardalote. Red-whiskered Bulbuls were feasting on berries in a weedy plant, and a large shape flying at a distance was identified as a Royal Spoonbill.

A figure glided from the shadows and crossed the track – a fox! Mike said that he could smell them around.

Morning tea was taken on a sandy spot in the sun, and sometime later Joan and Tom turned

back – it was good to have Joan back on her feet after a long, frustrating recuperation from her leg injury.

We continued as far as the steep fall to the edge of the ocean, but Alan had warned that the huge seas had created a cliff of sand which would be difficult to climb, so, after taking delight in the sight of the glassy emerald green waves, we retraced our steps, seeing a European Goldfinch, a Bassian Thrush, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Eastern Spinebill and a Common Blackbird.

Somebody was asked, “would you be likely to see a Drongo in this sort of area?” and you will guess his reply –“Yes, they are all right here!” but in fact, a fine specimen sat high on a dead branch for everyone to study.

34 species and one fox were seen during the morning walk.

At the end of the walk, most people drove the short distance to the picnic area at the lake for lunch, and then walked to the end of the peninsular beside the estuary, seeing the usual Cormorants, Little, Great, and Little Black, Black-shouldered Kite, Caspian Tern, Crested Tern, Silvereye, Superb Fairy-wrens, and a White-faced Heron. In all, 21 species were seen on this second walk.

Windang Sand Dunes 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2016 34 Species and 1 fox 13 Members Attended			
Bar-shouldered Dove	White-browed Scrubwren	Golden Whistler	Silvereye
Australian Pelican	Yellow Thornbill	Grey Shrike-thrush	Red-whiskered Bulbul
Australian White Ibis	Brown Thornbill	Grey Butcherbird	Bassian Thrush
Royal Spoonbill	Spotted Pardalote	Australian Magpie	Common Blackbird
Masked Lapwing	Eastern Spinebill	Spangled Drongo	Common Myna
Silver Gull	Little Wattlebird	Grey Fantail	Red-browed Finch
Rainbow Lorikeet	New Holland Honeyeater	Australian Raven	European Goldfinch
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Eastern Whipbird	Magpie-lark	
Superb Fairy-wren	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Eastern Yellow Robin	

Windang Estuary N E shore 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2016 21 Species 12 Members Attended			
Spotted Dove	White-faced Heron	Silver Gull	Pied Currawong
Crested Pigeon	Black-shouldered Kite	Superb Fairy-wren	Australian Magpie
Little Pied Cormorant	Masked Lapwing	Little Wattlebird	Willie Wagtail
Great Cormorant	Caspian Tern	Red Wattlebird	Australian Raven
Little Black Cormorant	Crested tern	New Holland Honeyeater	Silvereye
Australian Pelican			



Pics by Mike Morphett Windang Sand Dunes and Estuary

## ARTICLES OF INTEREST

### Rare birds: project tracks wild yellow-tailed black cockatoos for the first time

Kim Arlington July 9, 2016, 12:15 a.m.

Yellow-tailed black cockatoos are a little flighty around humans, which can make it difficult for scientists to capture them. But if you cruise up to one in a car, it won't be particularly bothered.

"They don't associate it with threat, so we can sneak up in the car and launch the net onto them," wildlife ecologist John Martin said.

Dr Martin, who works with the Botanic Gardens and Centennial Parklands, is part of the first study to track yellow-tailed black-cockatoos in the wild, which in Sydney includes the eastern suburbs and industrial areas such as Port Botany.

Dr Martin and Jessica Rooke, an honours student at the University of NSW, have fitted 11 of the birds with solar-powered GPS tracking devices. With the help of members of the public, who are encouraged to report sightings, they will collect new data on the species.

There has been little research published on yellow-tailed black cockatoos, Ms Rooke said. "A lot of people are under the false impression that the population is doing quite well," she said. "But some of the recent research has shown they've significantly declined along the east coast, so now more than ever we need to find out as much as we can about them."

The cockatoos often forage in Centennial Park but tend to roost elsewhere. Ms Rooke said people who encountered them could play a vital role in the project by reporting their observations through [an online survey](#).

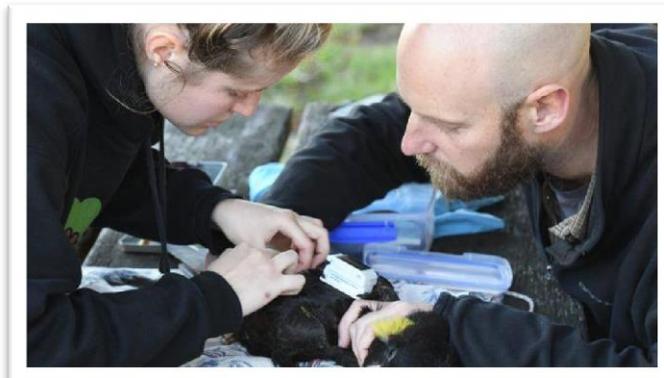
"There's people out there who have observed these birds for 20 years in their backyards," Ms Rooke said. "People do have an appreciation for these birds and hopefully the more people know about them, the more they'll want to conserve the species."

The yellow-tailed black cockatoo is found from central Queensland to South Australia's Eyre Peninsula. It eats the seeds of native trees and pine cones but in urbanised areas is foraging on introduced pine cones in parks and on golf courses.

Unlike the smaller sulphur-crested cockatoo, whose screech is like the sound of fingernails on a chalkboard, the yellow-tailed black cockatoo has a distinctive, almost mournful, cry. They are beautiful to watch in flight, Dr Martin said. "It's like they're falling and they catch themselves; they really float along," he said.

The project will study the birds' foraging behaviour, habitat preferences and roosting locations, and examine how well they have adapted to the urban environment. The findings will be used to determine whether there is a need for a conservation program.

For more information go to [ecosystem.unsw.edu.au/list-program-projects/threatened-species](http://ecosystem.unsw.edu.au/list-program-projects/threatened-species)



### Tasmanian dog owner prosecuted for fatal penguin attacks

By Laura Beavis

The owner of two dogs is being prosecuted after the deaths of 18 little penguins at Stanley on Tasmania's north-west coast. The dead penguins were discovered near a rookery on Friday, in the same place [14 little penguins were killed by dogs in June](#). Parks and Wildlife state compliance coordinator Justin Helmich said forensic examination of the dead penguins indicated dogs were again involved. "While there is no evidence to link this attack to other recent attacks on the north-west coast, it is extremely disturbing that it appears once again, that dogs have been responsible for a large number of penguin deaths," he said. "As a result of that investigation, a number of people have been interviewed and an infringement notice has been issued in respect of a number of dog control related offences." Two dogs are understood to have been involved and their owner has been charged with having a dog at large. The Circular Head Council was considering further proceedings in relation to the dogs. Mr Helmich urged dog owners to be vigilant and prevent their animals from roaming on the beach.

"We are asking the community to ensure their dogs are kept in secure yards and not allowed to roam unsupervised," he said. "If dogs are found to be harming penguins, dogs may be seized, impounded and declared a dangerous dog." Penguin deaths ongoing problem in region. Following the penguin deaths at Stanley last month, Greens senator Peter Whish-Wilson [suggested an army sniper be station on the beach](#) to protect the animals.

## Riddle solved: Russian birds arrive at secret destination

Australian researchers have been eagerly following the progress of a handful of Grey Plovers on a marathon migration from Australia back to their secret breeding grounds somewhere in the wilds of Siberia. And now we know exactly where they go.

A handful of these long-legged shorebirds from Broome were fitted with tiny satellite tracking devices that allowed scientists from the Australasian Wader Studies Group, a special interest group of BirdLife Australia, to follow their every move. Some additional Grey Plovers—this time from Adelaide—were also fitted with tracking devices by other bird enthusiasts from Friends of Shorebirds South East, in collaboration with the VWSG and the Adelaide Mt Lofty NRM.



"The trackers are so light that they don't impede the birds' movements at all," said Dr Clive Minton, from the AWSG, "but their signal is powerful enough to provide us with regular information about where they are."

"Every detail of their journey that we can learn is important, as almost nothing is known about these birds' private lives after they leave Australia."

With the trackers beaming a signal back every couple of days, the Grey Plovers' migration route—including crucial and previously unknown stop-over sites where the birds pause to 'refuel'—was soon revealed, and eventually, so were their breeding grounds.

"After weeks of nail-biting as the Grey Plovers migrated northwards from Australia, through the Yellow Sea, we finally have the answers we wanted," Dr Minton said.

The birds all took different routes after they left Australia in March, as they migrated north along the East Asian–Australasian Flyway. The birds from Broome headed straight across South East Asia, while the South Australian birds first had to fly across Australia's arid centre before reaching Asia. Each bird stopped on the shores of the Yellow Sea, then headed further north for another 3000 kilometres or so to the coast of Yakutia in north-eastern Siberia.

The birds from Broome are now nesting in Yakutia, while the two birds from Adelaide flew even further to nest on Wrangel Island in the Arctic Ocean, leap-frogging the birds from Broome in the process. The two South Australian birds flew 13,000 kilometres in 3 months.

"It is interesting that the South Australian birds, with the most southerly non-breeding area, finished up at the northernmost breeding locations [on Wrangel Island]," said Dr Minton. "These are the first birds of any species from Australia which are known to visit this remote arctic island." The findings are particularly satisfying for Dr Minton, who had previously predicted that some Grey Plovers wintering in Australia might originate from Wrangel Island.

With the riddle of their breeding grounds now solved, Dr Minton and his fellow researchers are keen to monitor the plovers' return flight to Australia in a few weeks' time, hoping to solve another mystery—the route of their southward migration.

Hi

I am a research fellow working with Prof Don Driscoll and Dr Kelly Miller at Deakin University and Prof Darryl Jones at Griffith University, investigating the complex and controversial issue of bird feeding through the **Australian Bird Feeding and Watering Study**.

We are recruiting for people to take part in this study which starts August 1st and would appreciate if you would circulate this email to people you feel would be interested in getting involved in the study.

### **Why is research into bird feeding needed?**

We estimate that over 40% of Australian households provide food for birds with more providing water. However despite their good intentions of wanting to help native birds people end up attracting undesirable visitors, including introduced species and hyper aggressive birds such as Noisy Miners. Bird feeding is a major issue that we cannot ignore and the absence of any real

evidence based research means we don't know the affect bird feeding is having on the environment. Our study will help fill this information gap to inform principles around bird feeding.

#### How will we investigate bird feeding?

We are currently recruiting citizen scientists to participate in the study. We have developed a customised online web portal ([www.feedingbirds.org.au](http://www.feedingbirds.org.au)) that allows participants to enter information about their bird feeding and watering activities. We will work closely with our participants to understand what people are feeding birds, how often and why specific food and/or water is provided. We will also examine the motivations behind these activities and what are felt to be the benefits to themselves and to the birds.

#### How to get involved in the study?

If you provide food or water for birds we would love you to get involved in the study by registering at [www.feedingbirds.org.au](http://www.feedingbirds.org.au). The study starts Aug 1<sup>st</sup> and will run for four weeks and during this time we would like you to record what birds are visiting your bath or feeder for 20 minutes, once a day and 3 times a week. We know that you may not be able to commit to the full survey period so just do what you can as all the data helps!

*If you have any questions about the study please feel free to contact me at [g.cleary@deakin.edu.au](mailto:g.cleary@deakin.edu.au)*

Dr Gráinne Cleary

Research Fellow

School of Life and Environmental Sciences,

Faculty of Science, Engineering & Built Environment

**Deakin University**

Melbourne Burwood Campus, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood, VIC 3125

## Back to 'Bungles Bird Week'

23rd to 26th September 2016

The Warrumbungle bird count is on again! Come and join other enthusiastic volunteers to count birds at Warrumbungle National Park. We are monitoring the Park's recovery from fire in 2013.

It'll be breeding season, with heaps of activity and some beauties, including Turquoise Parrots and Diamond Firetails (we see at least 65 species over four days, last time we saw 89!). A beautiful location, with great camping in the park, or accommodation nearby. **For more information about the park, see <http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/visit-a-park/parks/Warrumbungle-National-Park>**



We'll go out counting birds each morning from 23 to 26 September 2016. Leaves you plenty of time for other bird-watching! For information about the bird count, see <https://engage.environment.nsw.gov.au/back-to-bungles-bird-week>

Please contact Gillian Dunkerley at [Gillian.dunkerley@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Gillian.dunkerley@environment.nsw.gov.au) for more information and to register your interest.



## Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Inc

This is the preliminary notice and invitation to the forthcoming BIGnet meeting to be held in on the 3rd & 4th of September 2016 and hosted by the Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists in Leeton.

Theme: Threatened Species in the Riverina.

The location: The Blue Room, Madonna Place, Wade Ave, Leeton NSW.

The program is as follows

Saturday 3rd

Morning tea and Greet 10.00 - 10.30

Conservation Forum 10:30 - 12.30

Lunch 12.30 - 13:15

Afternoon Session

Registration at 13:15 - 13:30

Afternoon session 13:30 - 15:30: Threatened Species talks at this stage by:

David Egan NPWS on his continuing Red-lored Whistler surveys at Nombinnie Nature Reserve.

David Parker NPWS on his long-term study of the Plains Wanderer in the Riverina.

Afternoon tea 15:30 - 16:00

16:00 - 17:00:

Matt Herring to talk on his Bitterns in Rice Project.

Sunday 4th BIGnet general meeting

7:30 - 9:15 Early morning bird walk around Fivebough Wetlands with Keith Hutton followed by a BBQ breakfast at the Wetlands' Information Centre.

Registration at 9:30 at the conference venue.

Second session 9:45 – 13:00

Lunch 13:00 – 14:00

Dinner will be arranged for Saturday evening. The venue at this stage is planned for The Village (Italian) Restaurant near the conference centre – Numbers will be required 2 weeks before the meeting.

Accommodation suggestions: For those not familiar with Leeton the following might help.

Caravan Parks:

Oasis Caravan Park Corbie Hill Rd Leeton ( Ph: 69533882).

Leeton Caravan Park Yanco Ave Leeton (Ph: 69533323)

Motels:

Motel Riverina, Yanco Ave Leeton. (Ph: 69532955)

Heritage Motor Inn, Yanco Ave Leeton. (Ph: 69534100)

The Historic Hydro Motor Inn, Chelmsford Place Leeton. (Ph: 69531555)

BJ'S Accommodation, Acacia Ave Leeton. (Ph: 0404382542)

Registration, please complete the attached form and return this to Phil Tenison (MFN Treasurer) with your payment for meals by **12<sup>th</sup> August** - payments made out to MFN or by direct debit into the club's CBA account BSB 062564, A/c 10039396 leaving your name and the reason as BIGnet for your deposit.

Agenda, please forward your agenda items for inclusion by the **5<sup>th</sup> of August** along with your registration form. A final agenda will be sent prior to the meeting.

Club's Reports. Please forward these by **19<sup>th</sup> August** to Pixie Maloney [bignet1@bigpond.com](mailto:bignet1@bigpond.com) so that they can be circulated before the meeting

Any queries to: Pixie [bignet1@bigpond.com](mailto:bignet1@bigpond.com)

Any Leeton queries can be directed to either Nella Smith on [nella.smith0@gmail.com](mailto:nella.smith0@gmail.com) or Max O'Sullivan on [maxosul@hotmail.com](mailto:maxosul@hotmail.com) .

18 July 2016

### Allan Sefton Memorial Lecture – Friday 19 August 2016

I have much pleasure in inviting you to the Allan Sefton Memorial Lecture to be held on Friday 19 August 2016. This year's event is from 5:30-6:30pm in Building 43, Sciences Teaching Facility and you are most welcome to attend. The 2016 Guest Speaker is Professor Tim Flannery and the enclosed flyer has all the details. More information is also online at: <https://smah.uow.edu.au/sees/index.html>

Also on this evening is the student prize night which will also be held in the main foyer of Building 43, Sciences Teaching Facility commencing at 6.30pm with light refreshments and you are most welcome to attend. The presentation of prizes will conclude at approximately 8.45pm followed by light refreshments.

Please confirm your attendance and the number of people coming with you by 12 August 2016 by emailing Denise via [sees-administration@uow.edu.au](mailto:sees-administration@uow.edu.au) or phoning (02) 4221 3721.

*We look forward to seeing you on Friday 19 August.*

Yours sincerely,

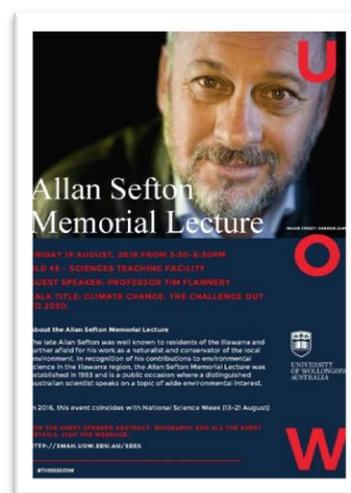
Professor Allen Nutman

Head of School

School of Earth and Environmental Sciences,

Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health

University of Wollongong



## Horace Ward *IBOC Life Member*

Sadly we have to tell you of the peaceful passing of our IBOC Life Member, Horace Ward, on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, aged 95. Horrie joined our club in 1978 shortly after it was formed and he was an active member until about 10 years ago when he handed his final job, the setting up of the hall for meeting nights, over to Tom Wylie. He was a valued committee member for many years and he and his lovely late wife Betty hosted many meetings in their home and Betty also served us well serving supper at club meetings.

Horrie was very proud of compiling and producing his three volumes of records, covering club walks, camps and bird sightings during the years spanning 1977 – 1998, printed in 1999. (These can be found in the Club library and are definitely well worth a read) That was no mean feat for someone who was not particularly computer savvy at the outset but with some technical support from his very good friend Eddy Visser he did a grand job.

Horrie was generally a quiet man, a straight talker when needed and an honest, loyal, caring and supportive friend. He was a fixture on nearly all of all our camps and walks and he diligently wrote reports and bird lists for each one building up our club records. It was Horrie who showed us our first White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike (didn't that cause some discussion on the day, no sharp shooting digital cameras to capture the evidence and settle the point immediately) and a Hooded Robin at Plumthorpe Reserve on our Upper Horton Camp. We shared many cuppas and conversations on outings, camps and in his Cabbage Tree Lane home and in later years at the retirement village.

Another of our valued long standing members laid to rest. R.I.P. Horrie.

*Barbara & Brian Hales*



I love this casual photo taken at Upper Horton Camp 1988

*left to right*

Bob McKinlay, Betty Ward, Brian Hales, Russell Hales and Horrie Ward checking out I think a Weebill's nest



Horrie Ward 2012

# MONTHLY SIGHTINGS: June - July 2016

compiled by Darryl Goldrick

SPECIES	No	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
Black Swan	100+	May	Shoalhaven Heads	River shallows	Max Davies
Topknot Pigeon	8	14/07/2016	Highway to Nowra	O'head - battling strong winds	Bruce Coyte
White-necked Heron	1	22/06/2016	Jamberoo	Rural	Alan/Anne Cousins
Eastern Reef Egret	1	28/06/2016	Dolphin Point	Tidal Rocks	C Dove C Brandis
Royal Spoonbill	10	8/07/2016	Jamberoo	Swamp Rd	Karen Eddington
Black-shouldered Kite	1	17/07/2016	Memorial Dr, W'gong	O'head	Mike Morphet
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	1	12/07/2016	Bellambi Dunes-Lagoon	O'head	Ian McKinlay
Wedge-tailed Eagle	1	9/07/2016	Saddleback Lookout	O'head	Ian McKinlay
Buff-banded Rail	1	July	Jamberoo	Minnamurra River	Karen Eddington
Australian Pied Oystercatcher	2	22/07/2016	Lake Illawarra South	Sand Bar	Darryl Goldrick
Sooty Oystercatcher	2	08-Jul-16	Bellambi	Rockshelf	Tom Wylie
Double-banded Plover	4	7/07/2016	Dolphin Point	Tidal Rocks	Charles Dove
Hooded Plover	8	28/06/2016	Dolphin Point	Tidal Rocks	C Dove C Brandis
White-fronted Tern	2	3/07/2016	Wardens Head Ulladulla	Tidal Rocks	Charles Dove
Pacific Gull	1imm	4/07/2016	Ulladulla Harbour	Shoreline	Charles Dove
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	1	23/06/2016	Jamberoo - Betty Hudson's home	Yard	Alan/Anne Cousins
Gang-gang Cockatoo	1	2/07/2016	Balgownie	Bush-'head +calling	Terry Edwell
Eastern Rosella	2	9/07/2016	Dapto	Yard	Tera Wheway
Eastern Rosella	4	10/07/2016	Tate Pl. Jamberoo	Nature strip	Betty Hudson
Powerful Owl	1heard	10/07/2016	Woonona	Bushland	Jann Gowans
Laughing Kookaburra	2ad + 1 fled	18-Jul-16	Lake Illawarra South	Bred-nested in Res. Palm	Darryl Goldrick
Superb Lyrebird	1	9/07/2016	Saddleback Mtn-Nuninuna Dr	Crossing road	Ian McKinlay
Large-billed Scrubwren	1	09-Jul-16	Thirroul	Yard	Mike Morphet
Brown Gerygone	2	10/07/2016	Thirroul	Yard	Mike Morphet
Yellow Thornbill	2	23/06/2016	Jamberoo	Bridge	Alan/Anne Cousins
Brown Thornbill	2	24/06/2016	Tarrawanna	Garden	Alan/Anne Cousins
Striated Pardalote	7	4/07/2016	Bendalong	Mixed Forest	C Dove C Brandis
Golden Whistler	1	29/06/2016	Thirroul	Garden	Mike Morphet
Grey Shrike-thrush	1	10/07/2016	Thirroul	Yard	Mike Morphet
Grey Fantail	1	6/07/2016	Thirroul	Garden	Richard Miller
White-winged Chough	6	30/06/2016	Appin Rd - C/belltown side Appin	Roadside	Joan Zealey
Bassian Thrush	1	19/07/2016	Thirroul	Residential gardens	Mike Morphet

## REMINDER

For all your bird sightings please remember to send to  
Darryl Goldrick

[sightings@iboc.org.au](mailto:sightings@iboc.org.au)

or post to 149 Reddall Parade, Lake Illawarra South 2528.



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