



THE IBOC

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 391

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB INC NEWSLETTER

May 2015

Olive-backed Oriole

Scientific Name: Oriolus sagittatus
Atlas Number: 671

Description:

The Olive-backed Oriole is part of a worldwide family, of which Australia has two other members (the Yellow Oriole and the Figbird). Males and females have an olive-green head and back, grey wings and tail, and cream underparts, streaked with brown. They both have a bright red eye and reddish beak. Females can be



photo by Charles Dove

distinguished from males by a paler bill, duller-green back, and an extension of the streaked underparts up to the chin.

Similar species:

Olive-backed Orioles have a reddish bill, which easily distinguishes the species from the similar Figbird *Sphecotheres viridis*, which has a blackish bill. It also lacks the Figbird's bare eye skin and has red rather than dark eyes. The Yellow Oriole (*O. flavocinctus*) is generally more yellow overall.

Distribution:

The Olive-backed Oriole occurs across coastal regions of northern and eastern Australia from the Kimberley region in Western Australia, right around the east coast to Adelaide in South Australia.

Habitat:

The Olive-backed Oriole lives in forests, woodlands and rainforests, as well as well-treed urban areas, particularly parks and golf courses.

Seasonal movements:

Sedentary in the north of its range, but appears to be a summer migrant to the more southern part of its range. Small groups undertake nomadic movements, following fruiting trees during the autumn and winter.

Feeding:

Olive-backed Orioles are less gregarious than Figbirds, with which they are often seen foraging. Although they are sometimes seen in small groups, particularly in autumn and winter, they more often occur alone or in pairs, feeding on insects and fruit in canopy trees.

Breeding:

The female Olive-backed Oriole builds a cup-shaped nest which is attached by its rim to a horizontal fork on the outer-edge of the foliage of a tree or tall shrub. Nests are usually around 10 m above the ground, and built of strips of bark and grass, bound with spider web. The male does not build the nest, or incubate the eggs, but he feeds the young after the eggs hatch.

Living with us

Olive-backed Orioles are commonly encountered in urban parks and golf-courses, particularly those that have fruit-bearing trees. As fruit form a major part of the diet of this species, Olive-backed Orioles are attracted to parks and gardens that have trees that produce abundant berries.

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

CONTENTS:

Club Activities	Page	2
Club Reports Nil		
Articles of Interest	Pages	3 - 8
Spring Camp info	Page	8
Feather Tales - Gloucester	Page	9
Monthly Bird Sightings	Page	10



ILLAWARRA
BIRD
OBSERVERS
CLUB Inc

'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 around them.

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB INC.

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MAY ACTIVITIES



Club Meeting:

Monday 11th at 7.30pm

Fairy Meadow Community Hall, Cnr. of Cambridge Avenue & Princes H'way Fairy Meadow. Our guest speaker for May will be **Heather Milroy** Education & Training Officer, **Illawarra W.I.R.E.S.** We probably all come across injured birds or mammals and wondered how best to help them. WIRES are one of the more common providers of such help. The talk will be about how WIRES works, what volunteers do and some interesting case histories. A gold coin donation is asked from each member, to support WIRES, in providing animal food, medication, enclosures and travel.

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

Midweek Walk:

Wednesday 13th at 9am

Leaders Brian & Barbara Hales

Koona Bay and Macquarie Rivulet.

Meet at 9am at the Hales' home, 32 Shearwater Boulevard, Albion Park Rail. Phone for directions if needed **4257 4431** or **0409 574 439**. You can park outside the house or there is extra parking at the end of the Boulevard, not far beyond the Hales' place. Bring morning tea.

*In the event of inclement weather
phone Brian or Barbara 4257 4431 or 0409 574 439 7am or after*

Monthly Outing:

Saturday 16th at 9am

Leader Alan Cousins

Tallawarra Ash Ponds:

Meet at 9am by Gate 37 on Yallah Bay Road (marked in Gregory's Street Directory as Private Road) off Princes Highway Dapto. Bring morning tea and lunch.

In the event of inclement weather phone Alan 0413 869534 before 7.30am

CHILDRENS DAY

Sunday 17th at 9.30am

Illawarra Bird Observers Club is holding a walk for children aged between 5 to 11 years accompanied by a parent or guardian to find Bush Birds at Integral Park - Darkes Road Dapto (past Motor Museum) at 9.30 to 11.30 on Sunday 17th May 2015 meet at Covered Area at end of park. Binoculars provided and a Telescope will be available. Morning Tea (Fruit Juice Biscuits and Fruit) and Coloring in Sheets will be given to the children. Please bring Water Bottle Sunscreen Hat and wear covered in shoes.

Contact Sylvia 42579750 or Alan 0413869534 by 15th May.

At the next meeting Sylvia will recruit volunteers to assist. If you won't be at the meeting and are available to assist please phone Sylvia.

Next Committee Meeting:

Monday 18th at 2.00pm

The meeting will be at Terry Edwell's home 28 Blanchard Crescent, Balgownie. Ph: 4284 8230.

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

Newsletter:

Deadline for articles & photos in the next IBOC newsletter is the **26th May 2015**

PLEASE E-mail contributions: to Charles Dove newsletter@iboc.org.au

or post to 8 Carroll Avenue, Lake Conjola 2539. Ph: 0417 422 302.

IBOC WISHES TO WELCOME ALL OF ITS NEW MEMBERS

NO CLUB REPORTS



As we had not meetings or outings in April we have no reports

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Sunday Species Snapshot: Swift Parrot

By John R. Platt | March 29, 2015 |

The views expressed are those of the author and are not necessarily those of Scientific American.

Swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*)

The beautiful bird known as the swift parrot may be on the fast track to extinction.

Description: A small bird, just 25 centimetres long, with bright features and a particularly showy attitude.

Where found: Small portions of Tasmania. The birds also migrate to mainland Australia after their breeding season. Their migration can take them as much as 5,000 kilometres—more than any other parrot species.

Population: Currently estimated at 1,000 pairs or fewer, but that count is a few years old.

Major threats: Swift parrots face a one-two punch of deforestation and predation. The logging industry has already eliminated much of the birds' traditional habitat. The parrots still fly to those areas, but without large trees they become vulnerable to predators, specifically an arboreal, nocturnal possum called the sugar glider (*Petaurus breviceps*). Sugar gliders didn't live on Tasmania until humans brought them there in 1835. Research published this past week suggests that sugar gliders are eating so many swift parrots that the birds' population will halve every four years and could be virtually gone 16 years from now.

Oddly enough, the deforestation that threatens the birds similarly threatens the very logging industry that's causing the problem. Swift parrots are one of the major pollinators for valuable Tasmanian blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*) and black gum (*E. ovata*) trees. Without the birds, the trees may soon fade away as well.

BirdLife Red List status: Endangered. Conservationists this week began a push for Australia to consider the species "critically endangered."

Notable conservation programs: The Nature Conservation Trust helps protect some of the parrot's habitat.



To feed or not to feed?

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net>

Many people enjoy feeding birds in their garden, on their balcony or even at their window sill, but this creates many unseen problems such as malnutrition, disease, and imbalanced populations of some species. Find out how to minimise these problems or, even better, avoid them altogether by providing more natural food resources for birds in your garden

Malnutrition and disease

Feeding birds too much artificial food may not provide adequate nutrition which can lead to health problems. An example is the feeding of mince or processed meats to Kookaburras. This might seem like a treat but it lacks nutrients that they would normally obtain from their natural diet of insects and the fur and bone of small mammals. Anecdotal reports have been made of mince sticking to the beaks of Kookaburras and Tawny Frogmouths, leading to infection. Mince is also very high in protein, so a little will go a long way for a Kookaburra, and malnutrition could result. Huge problems can arise if the adult birds raise their young on this diet as the juvenile birds can suffer from brittle bones. Feeding bread to birds (even ducks!) can cause problems with their digestive systems as the bread ferments in their stomachs and honey/water mixes do not provide the complex sugars that a bird would get from the nectar of a flower. Further, processed meats are high in salts, fats and preservatives. Magpies fed items like devon have been shown to have high cholesterol!

Diseases can also be spread inadvertently at feeding areas so, if you must feed birds, ensure that you keep the area where they are fed very clean and well scrubbed. Our parrots in particular can spread Psittacine beak and feather disease at unhygienic feed stations, particularly where large numbers of birds gather. This virus attacks the feather follicles and the cells that grow beaks and claws. Feathers become malformed and eventually fall out whilst beaks and claws grow uncontrollably and can crack and break, leading to infections and potentially stop the bird from being able to feed. The virus also suppresses the immune system, opening the bird up to a range of secondary infections. Those mangy, balding Sulphur-crested Cockatoos that you may occasionally see are infected with this disease.

Imbalanced populations

Think about the birds that we feed - they are the ones doing well anyway, the omnivorous (eat anything) opportunists such as Currawongs, Kookaburras and Magpies. Increased numbers of these larger, more aggressive birds in many urban areas can be attributed to artificial feeding. For example, Pied Currawongs and Magpies have increased dramatically in numbers over time, forcing out smaller species from many areas. Currawongs eat the eggs and chicks of small birds. The quantity of food available also helps those being artificially fed to become very successful breeders, increasing their numbers further, which puts even more pressure on the smaller birds.

Is feeding birds good for people?

Yes, many people really enjoy the contact they have with the birds and regard them as friends. Often it is the only contact they have with wild animals and it helps them to feel more connected to the world.

So what is the best answer?

Birds in Backyards recommends that you don't feed birds artificially but preferably plants for birds, as it is much healthier for birds to clean natural food from your garden. Use our plant and garden information to help you choose a range of bird-attracting plants suitable for your garden. Research shows that birds will not starve if you stop feeding them, even whilst being fed, they also continue to hunt for food naturally - birds do not become dependent on us for food. Still, if you are concerned, wean yourself off feeding by cutting down the frequency with which you do so until you are only feeding very infrequently or not at all and follow the guidelines below:

Ensure that:

- Stations are placed out of the reach of cats and other predators.
- Stations are cleaned daily and food removed after an hour. Vary the time of day in which you provide the food.
- Good quality food is used such as commercial nectar mixes or seed mixes. The cheaper supermarket seed does not contain sufficient nutrition for birds.

If feeding meat eating birds then

1. consider the impact they may have by hunting smaller birds and
2. use sliced meats rather than mince or processed meats.

Even better if it can be supplemented with an insectivore mix (like Wombaroo).

You cease feeding if large flocks (20+) birds begin feeding at the same time.

Pets are fed indoors or remaining food is removed. Common Mynas and other birds regularly eat pet food so we should limit their access to it.

You get out in your garden and create habitat for your bird life.

You make it an occasional treat (for you and the birds), not a daily event. Think of it as a Tim Tam and a cup of tea... A garden that provides natural food for birds such as one with native grasses to provide seed & mulch to encourage insects and small-flowering locally native shrubs to feed honeyeaters is much better for our whole bird community than one that feeds only a few potentially problem birds.

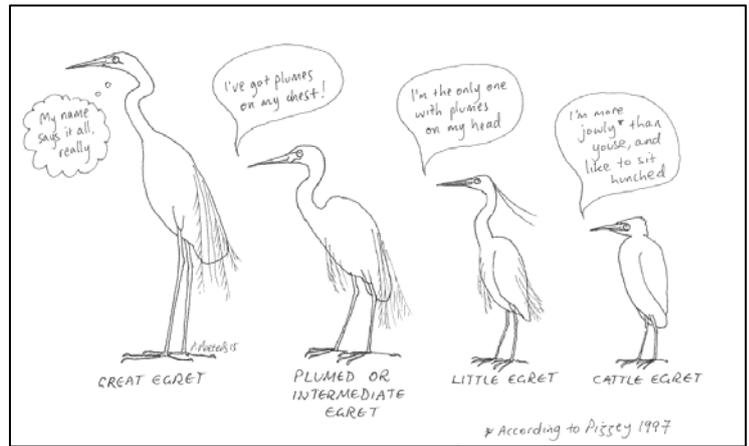
Egrets?

I've had a few...

Published on April 22, 2015 by Paula Peeters

Four of the five egret species found in Australia (the reef egret is missing). The first three are in breeding plumage.

Over the last couple of months there have been four species of egret frequenting Dowse Lagoon. Sometimes I see them together in the same muddy corner near the bird-hide. They are the great egret *Ardea alba*, plumed or intermediate egret *Ardea plumifera*, little egret *Ardea garzetta* and the cattle egret *Ardea ibis*. And I've been wondering, how can four species of egret coexist like this? An underlying tenet of evolution is that species can't coexist – at least for very long – if they are too alike. The best competitor is supposed to out-perform the others and fill the available niche¹. So what makes these four birds different enough that they are all here, peering beadily at me, and flawless white with dagger-like beaks?



The most obvious difference between them is size. The cattle egret is about 50 cm high and barely reaches the belly of the great egret (about 1 m tall). And leg length influences where they feed, as egrets don't like to get their feathery nether regions wet. So the larger egrets can hunt in deeper water, while the shorter ones stick to shallower water or moist (but not inundated) places like marshlands, grasslands and the shores of lakes. Great egrets have also been known to dive into deeper water to catch a fish, just for a lark.

I've noticed that the great egret doesn't seem to do much. It stands around, looking down its beak at the water. Its main mode of hunting is to stand still and grab whatever comes within reach. It often wades into deeper water and some studies indicate that it prefers fish.

Extensive beds of dense plant life have grown out of the shallow waters and swampy edges of the lagoon. It's easy to spot the bright white plumed egrets foraging here. These birds walk slowly, sometimes peering over the tallish plants, and sneak up on their prey. They'll take frogs, fish and insects, and whatever else looks tasty. Like the other egrets, the proportions of different foodstuffs in their diet vary from place to place, and probably reflect availability as well as preference.

Plumed egret hunting in emergent vegetation.

The little egret doesn't wade as deep as the great egret, but also has a preference for fish. It will actively run after fish, rather than standing and waiting. It also stirs the water with its feet, which have yellow soles that might scare the underwater critters. The other day I filmed one of these egrets doing some chasing and foot-stirring, although its yellow feet remained hidden. You can also hear a variety of birds calling in the background, including Torresian crows, a willy wagtail, figbirds and an Australasian darter.

The little egret also feeds with cormorants and pelicans and benefits when these birds drive small fish into shallow water. I'm not sure why the cattle egrets are here, as there are no cows (but they also eat small cane toads, and there's no shortage of them). Cattle egrets are found in groups, mostly in grassy and marshy areas, and hang around large animals or birds, snapping up the small animals that are disturbed. The alpha cattle egret gets the head of the cow, while those of lower rank have to make do with the rear.

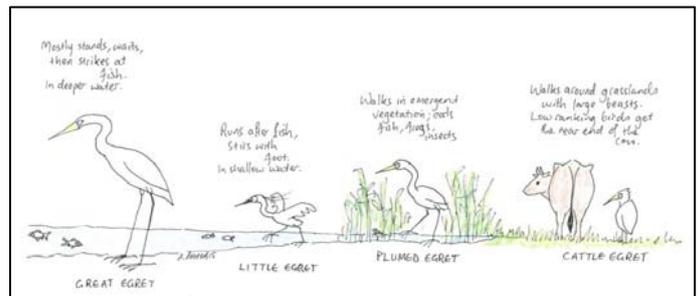
So it would seem that there are enough differences in the sizes, feeding styles, habitats and preferred diets of these egrets to allow their coexistence.

But the cattle egret is a fairly recent immigrant – first known in northern Australia in 1948. Unlike other egrets, these birds are closely associated with cattle, and have benefited from the land use changes associated with cattle farming in Australia. But what happens during long and extensive droughts like the one now affecting much of Queensland? The pastoralists reduce the size of their herds, and the grasslands become mostly bare and dusty paddocks. Does this mean the cattle egrets go elsewhere for food, and end up competing with other egrets?

But that's another story, for another day.

Feeding habits of four egret species.

1. Defining a niche is actually much more complex than first thought, as species interact as fluctuating populations, and as different life-stages, in space and time. This article just scratches the surface of why these egrets can coexist by comparing their feeding behaviour. Species may also be prevented from performing at their best by other forces, so that competitive exclusion is delayed indefinitely. This can allow the coexistence of many similar species (Hubbell 2006).



References: Hubbell (2006) *Neutral theory and the evolution of ecological equivalence*; McKilligan (2005) *Hérons, egrets and bitterns: their biology and conservation in Australia*; Morcombe (2000) *Field guide to Australian birds*; Pizzey & Knight (2013) *The field guide to the birds of Australia (a later edition of Pizzey 1997)*; Recher et al. (1983) *Foraging behaviour of Australian herons*.

Explore the Atlas of Living Australia

<http://www.ala.org.au/>

The Atlas of Living Australia is a collaborative, national project that aggregates biodiversity data from multiple sources and makes it available and usable online.

Search for Australian flora and fauna species by common, scientific name or search by category.

Search by pre-defined region, or enter an address or location to find the recorded species nearby.

There is a link to this website on the IBOC 'Links' webpage. Search for bird (and other) species recorded in your area or areas you are about to visit.

THE CURIOUS PLIGHT OF AUSTRALIA'S GREY PLOVER

A shorebird that migrates 12,000km to reach our shores, not only have grey plover numbers been dwindling in recent years, the majority that make it here all tend to be female.

Australia's grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) population is not only declining, but there's also a mysterious gender imbalance with far more females than males arriving on our shores.

The grey plover is Australia's largest plover (group of wading shorebirds) and is believed to migrate around 12,000 kilometres in order to breed in northern Siberia and Alaska before returning to Australia for the summer (from September to March).

A decreasing number of these migratory birds have been arriving on our shores each year, and the majority are female – a strange quirk that researchers would like to understand.

Sean Dooley, editor of *Australian Birdlife* magazine described this "segregated migration strategy" as "rather unique".

"The gender imbalance is still a mystery. We don't really know for sure where the majority of the males spend the non-breeding season. Presumably somewhere further north in the flyway such as Indonesia or beyond," he told *Wild*."

The migratory path that these and many other migratory birds take to arrive in Australia is known as the East Asian-Australasian Flyway, and Dooley reports that many species using this route have been in decline for years.

BirdLife Australia, the non-profit organisation behind the magazine, is currently seeking to raise money to track a few specimens of Australia's grey plovers in a bid to identify the most significant threats this species face over the course of their migration.

\$17,000 has been estimated at the base level of funding required to dedicate satellite resources to tracking the birds. The crowdsourcing campaign that is hoped to raise these funds – via online fundraising platform, Pozible – is being run in partnership with the Australasian Wader Studies Group.

"Ideally we would like to be able to attach transmitters on both male and female birds but given that it appears that 98 per cent of grey plovers that come to Australia are female, this is a long shot," Dooley said. "Obviously the more birds we can track the clearer the picture will become."

And it's not only the interesting nature of this bird's migration and quirky gender bias that makes this species an important shorebird to discover more about. According to Dooley, they may well be performing critical ecosystem services that have direct implications for local fishing and marine tourism industries.

"Not only are these birds indicators of the health of our coastal ecosystems, but there is the possibility that if particular species of shorebirds are lost, it could create an imbalance in the ecosystem as it will have an impact across different prey species and potentially upset the food chain."

At the time of writing, BirdLife Australia's Pozible campaign had raised over \$4,400 with a total target of \$17,680 to reach before June 9.



Myna reduction encourages return of native bird species

There are just wars and unjust ones and one of the just ones is the ongoing war here in the ACT against the Common Myna (aka the Flying Cane Toad), an introduced brute introduced to the ACT in 1968.

Successful massacres of the species (the Canberra Indian Myna Action Group reported 3551 captures in 2012-2013 alone) have been waged not out of malice but on behalf of native species, like the Australian Owlet-nightjar.

Reader Ric Hingee reports "I am one of the early members of CIMAG) and have assisted in reducing the number of these birds to a point where they are now down from being Canberra's third most prevalent bird to being the 19th. I myself have dispatched around 500 of them from my backyard and have not seen any for many years now. This has resulted in many native birds returning to my garden ... The most recent to make its presence felt is the Australian Owlet-nightjar which I have found sitting in a tree in my backyard and on the TransACT wires on various days."

'Wonder dog' sniffing out endangered birds

A one-of-a-kind dog has been specially trained to help conservationists find and protect endangered birdlife on the Gold Coast.

Penny the English springer spaniel is the first of a new breed of conservation detection dogs. Dogs work in a wide range of detecting roles: explosives, drugs, and quarantine. But Penny has been trained to specifically sniff out the endangered Eastern Bristlebird.

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary trainer Shannon Maguire says it is a new field of conservation research.

Swift parrot rapidly winging towards extinction

The swift parrot, Australia's fastest nectar-eater, is suffering such a catastrophic population decline that conservationist biologists are pushing for the brightly-coloured bird to be urgently listed as critically endangered.

The parrot lives much of the year in Victoria and New South Wales where it feasts on the nectar of flowering gums. But when it migrates to Tasmania to breed, it comes under attack from predatory sugar gliders, research shows.

With an already slim population of less than 2000 birds, conservationists have warned that numbers could halve in just four years – and crash by as much as 87 per cent in three generations, according to findings outlined in a paper published in the journal *Biological Conservation*.

Scrunchies saving wildlife from being killed by cats: study

A fashion relic of the late eighties and nineties, the humble scrunchie has found a new lease on life preventing the slaughter of wildlife by domestic cats.

In a new study, West Australian researchers found putting a scrunchie-like collar on cats reduced the amount of native wildlife killed by more than half.

Murdoch University PhD student Catherine Hall spearheaded the research which observed the behaviour of 114 cats for two years.

Rescued Magpie Becomes Lifelong Friend With The Family That Saved Her Life.

"Little baby magpie came into our lives when she fell from a tree at about 3 weeks old"

After being rescued and nursed back to health by a young family in Newport, Australia, a magpie named Penguin has become a regular visitor and friend at the Bloom family's home, playing with them and coming in to hide when it rains.

Penguin was discovered flying on the ground near a tree in 2013 by Noah, who is now 11. After being nursed back to health by husband and wife Cameron and Sam and their children (Reuben, 13, Noah, 11, Oli, 9), Penguin was allowed to fly free, but still returned often to spend time with the family. She plays catch, saunters through their home and even perches on their shoulders – all while Cameron Bloom takes beautiful pictures.

The bird waits for the family to leave their home before flying on her own way in the morning, and greets the kids when they get home from school; "*It's like a dog wagging its tail – she sits there in the tree and flaps her wings like she's excited,*" Noah's father told ABC News.

Spring 2015 Camp Eden 17th – 24th October 2015

The IBOC Spring 2015 Camp will be held at Eden Tourist Park, Aslings Beach Road, Eden (PO Box 124) 2551 from **Saturday 17th October to Saturday 24th October 2015.**

The park is situated between Lake Curalo and Aslings Beach 2km north of Eden. There are plenty of powered & unpowered sites as well as 16 cabins and a cottage. In Eden after 1st October is considered "Shoulder Season" with consequent slightly higher prices for accommodation.

There are 2 new, well equipped camp kitchens as well as new amenities blocks. All cabins have linen supplied for the main beds but for the other beds only in Sandpiper, Lakeview, Beachcomber & Twofold Cottage, All cabins are air-conditioned. Twofold Cottage is the only accommodation suitable for 2 couples to share, while the two Banksia Cabins are budget with a single room with a double bed. The 2 Sandpiper Cabins are in a duplex with an insulating dividing wall which has a door which can be opened if 2 families are sharing and both so wish.

To contact the park ph 02 6496 1139 or use web site www.edentouristpark.com.au or email eden@southcostparks.com.au

Accommodation with rates per night & weekly rates

2 x Sandpiper	\$132 ea per night or \$832 per week for 2 persons Queen Bed & bunks
4 x Lakeview	\$135 per night or \$851 per week for 1-4 persons Queen Bed & Double bunk
2 x beachcomber	\$135 /night or \$851 /week for 1-4 persons Queen Bed & Double bunk
3 x Driftwood Cabin	\$120 per night or \$756 per week for 2 persons 2 b/r Q Bed & 2 d bunks
5 x Cedar Cabins	\$105 /night or \$662 /week for 2 persons Q Bed (main rm) d bunk own rm
2 x Banksia Cabins	\$90 per night or \$567 per week for 2 persons Double Bed (all in 1 room)
Twofold Cottage	\$125 per night or \$788 per wk (old managers house) QB & 2 d bunks 2 b/rs
Powered Sites with Ensuite	\$41 per night or \$258 per week
Powered Sites	\$35 per night or \$221 per week
Unpowered Sites	\$26 per night or 176 per week
Additional adults	\$10 per night or \$60 per week

A deposit is required to secure your booking which can be made on line or by phoning the office Office hours are 8.30am to 6.30pm.

Once you have booked please advise Betty as usual, on 42360307 or by email elizabethjHUDSON@bigpond.com

Bathing Birds

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/>

A huge thank you to all who participated in our second Bathing Birds project, the summer survey. We had 1115 citizen scientists recording birds at birdbaths and submitting a total of 7449 surveys with 226 species of birds recorded. Keep an eye out for the report which will be made available on the Birds in Backyards website, but here are a few early results:

When we compared the top 20 birds recorded in the summer study to what was recorded in the winter study, we discovered that there were changes in what bird species were using birdbaths.

The rank of the top 20 birds recorded at birdbaths and the percentage of surveys they occurred in are presented below. **Change from Winter Survey** represents bird movement in rank from 2014 Winter Study. Arrows indicate whether the bird increased or decreased and numbers represent how many ranks the bird moved. Dots represent that the bird did not change between the winter and summer survey. * indicates that the bird is an introduced species.

Rank	Common Name	% of Surveys	Change from Winter Survey
1	Noisy Miner	13.86%	▲ 1
2	Australian Magpie	11.20%	▲ 1
3	New Holland Honeyeater	10.13%	▲ 6
4	Red Wattlebird	8.59%	▲ 6
5	House Sparrow*	8.40%	▲ 8
6	Superb Fairy-wren	8.06%	▲ 5
7	Rainbow Lorikeet	7.58%	▼ 6
8	Magpie-lark	6.75%	▲ 6
9	Red-browed Finch	6.63%	▲ 15
10	Willie Wagtail	6.36%	▲ 9
11	Grey Fantail	6.07%	▲ 5
12	Spotted Dove*	5.74%	●
13	Eastern Spinebill	5.43%	▼ 8
14	Crimson Rosella	4.92%	▼ 8
15	Brown Thornbill	4.74%	▲ 8
16	Satin Bowerbird	4.45%	▼ 8
17	Silvereye	4.39%	▲ 11
18	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	4.34%	▲ 4
19	Little Wattlebird	4.23%	▲ 2
20	Common Blackbird*	4.13%	▼ 5



NEWS OUT OF GLOUCESTER CAMP

Some of the adventures and a misadventure on field trips made during the IBOC camp based at Gloucester April 2015 Mike Morphett



Sharpes Creek crossing Gloucester Tops



Barrington River crossing Rawdon



Bullen Bullen Creek crossing calamity Gloucester



Bullen Bullen Creek crossing Gloucester



Creek crossing The Glen Nature Reserve



Misnamed in last edition as Plumed Whistling & should have been Wandering Whistling Ducks from Bettys Pics

Helping hands, views and campfire – Barbara Hales



We walked up through the trees and back down the open part to the right of the pic hard slog



MONTHLY SIGHTINGS: March/April 2015

compiled by Darryl Goldrick

SPECIES	No.	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
Nankeen Night-heron	2	12/04/2015	Burrill lake	Creek	Charles Dove
Peregrine Falcon	1	12/04/2015	Burrill lake	Overhead	Charles Dove
Lewin's Rail	1	12/04/2015	Burrill lake	Creek	Charles Dove
Buff-banded Rail	5	12/04/2015	Burrill lake	Creek	Charles Dove
Black-fronted Dotterel	15	8/04/2015	Wilton Lane Milton	Wetland	C Dove C Brandis
Red-kneed Dotterel	4	8/04/2015	Wilton Lane Milton	Wetland	C Dove C Brandis
Ground Parrot	1	2/03/2015	Jervis Bay	Heath	C Dove C Brandis
Eastern Bristlebird	5	2/03/2015	Jervis Bay	Heath	C Dove C Brandis
Jacky Winter	2	17/04/2015	Burrill lake	Fence	Charles Dove
Australian Wood Duck	16	31/03/2015	Bulli	Old Bulli Bowling Club Greens	Mike Morphet
White-headed Pigeon	2	25/03/2015	Jamberoo	Garden/o'head	Betty Hudson
White-headed Pigeon	3	29/03/2015	Jamberoo	Camphor Laurel's Croquet Club	Betty Hudson
Tawny Frogmouth	2	7/04/2015	Cordeaux Heights	Garden	Mike Morphet
Nankeen Night-Heron	1	20/03/2015	Jamberoo	Hyams Creek/Churchill Stbridge	Betty Hudson
Straw-necked Ibis	~100	15/03/2015	Croome	Rural	Darryl Goldrick
Royal Spoonbill	1	6/04/2015	Tawradgi Surf Leisure Resort	Creek	Mike Morphet
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	2	25/03/2015	Tarrawanna	O'head- audible honking	Alan & Anne Cousins
Whistling Kite	1	27/03/2015	Balgownie	O'head	Pam Hazelwood
Brown Goshawk	1	24/03/2015	Bulli	Showground towers	Mike Morphet
Little Eagle	1	25/03/2015	Balgownie	O'head	Pam Hazelwood
Rainbow Lorikeet	>20	7/04/2015	Albion Park	Garden	Garth Rankin
Lewin's Honeyeater	1	23/04/2015	Albion Park	Garden	Garth Rankin
Golden Whistler	1	7/04/2015	Albion Park	Garden	Garth Rankin
Magpie-lark	2	8/04/2015	Albion Park	Garden	Garth Rankin
Eastern Yellow Robin	3	02-Apr-15	Thirroul	Garden	Mike Morphet

REMINDER

For all your bird sightings please remember to send to Darryl Goldrick on sightings@iboc.org.au or post to 149 Reddall Parade, Lake Illawarra South 2528.

Fees for 2015

**A motion at the AGM to increase the fees was passed.
So fees will be Singles \$40 & Families \$50 as from 1.01.2015
Renew at next meeting or download membership form from website
www.iboc.org.au**

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