



EUROBODALLA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Inc.

PO Box 888
MORUYA NSW 2537

www.enhs.org.au



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The Beach Stone-curlew (*Esacus magnirostris*) – Wagler 1829

Taxonomy, Distribution and Habitat

The genus *Esacus* includes the two heaviest shorebirds in the world - the Great Stone-curlew (*E. recurvirostris*) of India and Southern Asia and the Beach Stone-curlew (*E. magnirostris*) of Australasia. In Australia, *E. magnirostris* is largely resident on mudflats and in mangrove forests in the tropics, though it is increasingly being recorded in similar habitats in southern NSW and has recently reached Victoria.

Identification and Behaviour

At 55cm in length and weighing in at 1kg, the Beach Stone-curlew is one of the largest and the heaviest of the shorebirds. The grey brown plumage, massive yellow eye and huge yellow and black beak make the species unmistakable. In flight the wings are boldly patterned black and white. Plumage does not differ between the sexes but males average slightly heavier (by 100 grams) than females.

The species is not gregarious and is encountered either singly or in small family groups. Pairs mate for life and defend the same stretch of beach throughout the year. Feeding occurs during crepuscular hours and the species takes a large variety of large invertebrates, particularly crabs, but will also take small vertebrates as well as the eggs and chicks of other birds.



Beach Stone-curlew

Photo: D. Bertzeletos

The species is generally not vocal unless displaying and this occurs mostly at night. Calls can be described as unimpressive for a bird of this size, consisting mostly of high pitched shrieks, shrills and whistles.

Breeding

The nest of the species is barely more than a scrape in the sand, often amongst sparse vegetation and debris, where the cryptic colouration of the single egg allows it to blend in with the surroundings. The egg takes about a month to hatch, after which both parents look after the chick for seven to twelve months.

Conservation Status and Distribution in the Eurobodalla

As with most coastal shorebirds, Beach Stone-curlews are highly susceptible to disturbance, particularly during the breeding season. As a consequence of coastal development, the species range has contracted significantly in south eastern parts of its distribution and only 15 pairs are thought to remain in NSW, where it is listed as critically endangered. Across its range it is listed as near threatened by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.



Nonetheless over the last five years there have been a spate of records - including pairs - across southern NSW and Victoria and the species has been recorded a handful of times in the Shire. Though breeding has yet to occur in the region, it is a possibility. Dimitris Bertzeletos

In flight

Photo: D. Bertzeletos

What's Coming Up.....

In late 2016, we trialled later starting times on Saturday and earlier Sunday meeting times in the daylight savings months and have received good feedback. We will continue this in 2017 and again welcome your feedback.

Saturday February 11, 3pm: Bingie/Coila Lake. Meet at the Bingie turnoff, intersection of Princes Hwy and Bingie Rd. Coastal forest and lakeside walk. Rufous Fantail, Scarlet Honeyeater, Cicadabird, Brown Gerygone, Crested Shrike-tit and a variety of water and shore birds on the lake.

Sunday February 26, 8am: Mystery Bay. Meet at the entrance to the camping ground on Mystery Bay Rd. Walk through Spotted Gum forest, then along the beaches, finishing with a picnic lunch at the rotunda.

Saturday March 11, 3pm: Brou Lake. Meet at the corner of the Princes Hwy and Brou Tip Rd. This intersection is south of Bodalla. The lake hosts a number of water and wader species, including Black Swan, Grey and Chestnut Teal. The surrounding Spotted Gum forest has many honeyeater species.

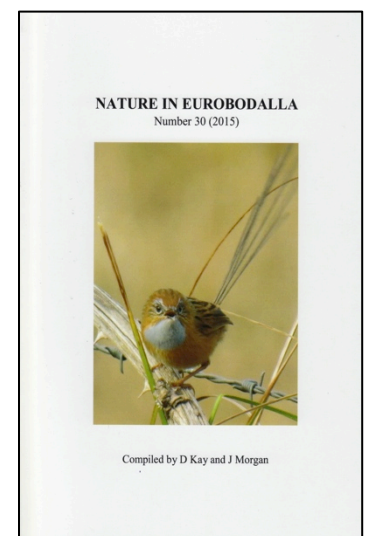
Sunday March 26, 8am: Durras Discovery Trail. Meet at the NPWS pay station, North Durras Rd. There is a fee payable to use the park unless you have a pass or an exemption. Eucalypt forest, wet gullies dominated by tree ferns and lakeside vegetation. Eastern Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Rose Robin, Rufous Fantail, Large-billed Scrubwren, Green Catbird.

2017 Memberships Are Now Due

A membership renewal form has been included with this newsletter. Single membership is \$20, family \$30 and for under 18s \$5.

Nature in Eurobodalla Number 30 (2015)

It's quite an achievement for a small group like ours, but this year we have published the 30th edition of *Nature in Eurobodalla*. It is a summary of members' observations by species for 2015 and is available for purchase for \$13 if picked up or \$15.50 if posted.



The Editorial team would like to say thank you....

To all the contributors to our newsletter, those who write articles and those who submit their observations. Without you, we couldn't publish a newsletter, thank you for your interest and dedication.

We would invite all members to contribute to the newsletter, about any aspect of the natural world in the local area, something interesting that you have seen, or your favourite birding spot in the Eurobodalla.

Looking back over Spring

One thing that I've heard over and over in 2016 has been that "Everything is late this year". Many of our migrants were back later than usual this Spring, including Noisy Friarbird, the migratory populations of Yellow-faced Honeyeater and Red Wattlebird, the Common Koel (whose delay no-one was complaining about!) and Channel-billed Cuckoo. We had no records of Swift Parrot in August/September but then there were two very late records on the far south coast, a group at Tura Beach on the 4th of November and a couple at Coolagolite on the 7th of December. There were no Black-winged Stilt, Hoary-headed Grebe, Rufous Songlark or White-winged Triller records this Spring and far fewer duck species reported than in recent years.

The weather on the south coast and in other parts of Australia may help to explain this. It has been very wet up north, in Queensland, and inland. Perhaps the migratory birds found good food sources in these places and delayed their trip to our part of the coast. The south-east corner of Australia has been relatively dry and despite a good start to the flowering of Spotted Gum in Autumn, this didn't continue. The gums that usually flower in Spring, Grey and Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus paniculata* and *E. fibrosa*), did not.

There has been much discussion about Scarlet Honeyeater this Spring. This species is migratory and arrives back in the Eurobodalla in September. They

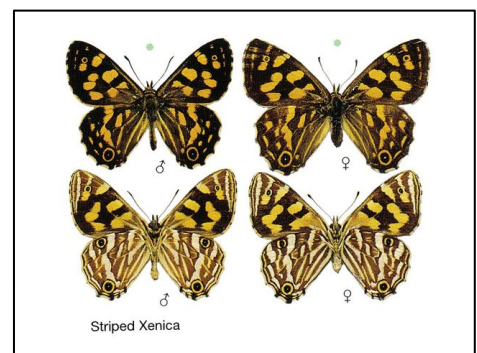


Scarlet Honeyeater

Photo: S. Benjamin

tend to feed high up in the flowering eucalypts but this year, many people have reported seeing Scarlet Honeyeater in their garden on banksia and grevillea. It's led to the question "are there more Scarlet Honeyeaters this year?" I believe that there is probably the same number but they are feeding differently, in a way that makes them more visible. When I look at past records, there are usually up to 20 at Pedro Swamp and similar numbers in the forests west of the highway in Spring. This year there are none and I think it's because there are no gums flowering in these forests.

We have a couple of firsts for the Shire in our non-avian records. Julie Collet found the first Peacock Spider in the Eurobodalla, *Maratus splendens*. Please see the following story on Peacock Spiders for more details. The first Striped Xenica butterfly recorded in the Shire was found at Pedro Swamp. It was a cloudy day and I had just surveyed Moruya Beach for Hooded Plover and was making my way home along the edge of the swamp. The butterfly was resting on a small paperbark with its wings folded up. The pattern of the underwing was very distinctive and I noted the details before slowly stepping back to take my camera out of my backpack. It flew away as soon as I took that step. I knew that it was a Xenica but not the Marbled Xenica, a species I've seen regularly at Pedro Swamp. When I consulted my butterfly field guide, I identified it as a Striped Xenica, noted that the habitat was right, Swamp Paperbark (*Melaleuca ericifolia*), but it was out of range. I wrote to the author of the field guide, Michael Braby, asking whether it was possible that the species would occur in the Eurobodalla. He had no doubt that it would and that it just hadn't been reported before.



Source: M. Braby. The Complete Field Guide to the Butterflies of Australia.

I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight the recent publication of the 30th edition of our annual records summary *Nature in Eurobodalla*. This is a wonderful achievement for our society and I wish to acknowledge the contributions the founding members of ENHS, Stephen Marchant, Jill Whiter and Mike Crowley. Over the past 30 years, the Society has tracked the wildlife of the Eurobodalla and has documented the species that call the Eurobodalla home, as well as the movement of species from other regions to our area. Thank you to all the members of ENHS who have documented their observations over the years – without these contributions, this publication would not be possible. Julie Morgan

Mystery Bay's Hooded Plovers

In late spring 2015, I noticed two unusual shore-birds on the main beach at Mystery Bay. I identified them as immature Hooded Plovers. This was an exciting discovery, because I had never seen Hooded Plovers before on our beach, and there were certainly no recent records of their presence here. One of the birds was wearing a leg tag. By checking with our National Parks Shorebirds co-ordinator, Amy Harris, I learned that it had come from Nullica, south of Eden. These young birds stayed around for a couple of days, and then were seen no more. We assume that they had flown further north and may have become a breeding pair.

But even more exciting was, a couple of days later, the appearance of a pair of adult Hoodies, one of which was also leg tagged, and was found to have come from Tura Beach. Together with a number of other keen Mystery Bay birders, Richard, Oung and Ann, I kept a close eye on these birds as they moved from beach to beach, grazing contentedly at the shore-line and hiding out in the nearby dunes.

Eventually, to our great delight, a nest-scrape was found and 3 eggs soon appeared. National Parks supplied a nest-cage which is designed to discourage predatory birds such as ravens and gulls from taking the eggs. The plovers accepted the cage immediately and ran in and out of the section of the beach, in the hope of keeping people at a safe distance.



Adult pair of Hooded Plover

Photo: A. Christiansen

In typical plover fashion, both birds took their parenting roles very seriously and shared the brooding duties. After about 33 days, two small chicks appeared, and, under the careful guidance of the parent birds, began feeding almost immediately. The third egg did not hatch and was later discovered to be infertile. However, the surviving chicks made good progress, and were eventually trapped by Amy and leg banded. They were also weighed and measured, blood and feather samples were taken and they were released, to the great relief of the vigilant parents. The entire event was photographed and filmed by National Parks officers. DNA testing later showed that one chick was a male and the other a female (this is the only way of sexing plovers).

Our two young Hoodies, T6 and P7, have been seen on other nearby beaches so their survival is confirmed.

In November this year, our two adults re-appeared on Pooles Beach and nested once more, again laying 3 eggs. However, the outcome this time was not so happy. After about 3 weeks, the birds abandoned the nest. Amy eventually inspected the eggs to find that all three had been fertilised and tiny birds had been developing. No-one is really sure why the nest was abandoned, but Amy suggested that it may have been because of an unusually hot day, when the adults had not been able to protect their eggs. She explained that eggs can be shielded from cold weather by the parents sitting on them, but protecting them from extreme heat is less successful.



Hooded Plover on nest

Photo: A. Christiansen

It is possible that the Hoodies will make a second attempt at nesting. Hopefully, if they do, they will survive the anticipated king tides and large numbers of visitors whose arrival coincides with shorebird nesting activities. They managed to do so last year, and we will certainly give them all the help and protection that we can.
Mandy Anderson

The captivating Peacock Spider

It was very exciting to hear that Julie Collet had found the first Peacock spider in the Eurobodalla at Comerang, near Bodalla. The species was *Maratus splendens*. Julie first located a male and later a female. Julie said that she found the Peacock Spider by accident while she was looking for insects on a very small wild Tobacco Bush. It was out on a leaf in the sun. Julie saw the bright colour on its abdomen and took a closer look. The bush was at the base of a Twisted Elm Tree and was surrounded by leaf litter covered with grass. The male is a beautiful spider as the photo shows.



Maratus splendens

Photo: J. Collett

I was keen to learn more about Peacock Spiders so at the Bermagui Bioblitz in November, I did a couple of surveys with Stuart Harris, a citizen scientist who has photographed many Peacock Spider and discovered a new species. I learnt more about how to find these creatures as it is quite a challenge. Peacock Spiders are small, measuring between 2 and 5 mm ... yes folks, millimetres not centimetres... so finding them isn't always easy; but once you get your eye in, you will see them among the leaf litter and on small shrubs. They are active between the months of September and December. When I returned home, I was keen to look around Pedro Swamp where I found a couple of specimens of a common species, *Maratus volans*.



Maratus volans

Photo: J. Morgan

Peacock spiders are part of the Jumping spider family, Salticidae. The genus *Maratus* was first documented by Karsch in 1878. However it wasn't until this century that a number of new species were described and added to the genus. Dr Jurgen Otto discovered the first of the new species in 2005 and since then more than 50 species have been discovered. Many new species have been found by photographers and amateurs and this is a great example of how citizen scientists can help with these discoveries. In fact, at the Bioblitz in Bermagui, ENHS member Helen

Ransom found a Peacock Spider which may well be a new species. This was an exciting discovery for us all.

Because of their attractive appearance and fascinating mating dance, Peacock Spiders have attracted a lot of media attention. You can have a look for yourself: just enter "peacock spider" into a YouTube search. The males' mating dance is captivating! But be aware that you are unlikely to see this full display of the males' colours in the wild as he will only display if a female is present. We will be planning to run Peacock Spider surveys in 2017 so if you are interested, please join in! Julie Morgan

And at the other end of the spider scale.....

Helen Ransom recently sent in a photo of a Giant Water Spider (*Megadolomedes australianus*) that she found in the pond in her backyard. This is a very large spider – the size of a man's hand. They can run across the surface of the water quickly and they hunt for insects, frogs and fish. Giant Water Spiders can remain submerged under water as they trap air around their bodies. The female carries egg sac under her body and when the spiderlings are ready to hatch, she constructs a web in the vegetation near water. They prefer slowing moving water, freshwater creeks and river edges, but also backyard ponds. Julie Morgan



Don't Judge a Plant by its Name

Many of you probably would have noticed the large number of white flowering shrubs in our dry sclerophyll forests and woodlands from early spring last year. Many of these shrubs are *Kunzea ambigua* (Tick Bush), a member of the Myrtaceae family. The genus name *Kunzea* is after Gustave Kunze (1793-1851) a German botanist and physician. The species name comes from the Latin *ambiguus* meaning doubtful or unknown, which seems appropriate as I was unable to find out why this species name was given. As for the common name, it is probably not what you think!



Tick Bush

Photo: F. Anderson

Kunzea ambigua may grow up to 4 metres in height, with an erect to weeping habit. Leaves are small (4-12 mm long x 1.5mm wide), densely crowded and with aromatic oil glands (a characteristic of the Myrtaceae family). Flowers are white to cream, up to 12mm in diameter, with 5 white petals and 5 green sepals. They are very conspicuous, being crowded on side branches and in axils of upper branches, and also have a strong honey perfume. This species is often mistaken for a *Leptospermum*, however, *Kunzea* can easily be distinguished by its long, protruding stamens which are much more obvious than the petals. Flowers occur during spring and summer and are pollinated by insects. The fruit is a small, non-woody capsule, which differs from the woody capsules of *Leptospermum*.



Tick Bush plant Photo: F. Anderson

Heathland and dry sclerophyll forests on sandstone soils are preferred habitats. Because *Kunzea ambigua* will tolerate a wide range of climatic conditions, it has a wide distribution from the mid North Coast and adjacent ranges of NSW, to Victoria and Tasmania. However, due to its intolerance to high summer humidity, it is not found in tropical areas.

As it is an attractive shrub suited to a range of conditions, *Kunzea ambigua* is useful as a garden plant and for other horticultural purposes. It is a good bird and insect attractor (especially the Soldier Beetles) and, once established, rarely troubled by pests or disease. It will grow in full sun or light shade, can withstand light to moderate frosts and is reasonably drought resistant. As it responds well to pruning, it can be used as a hedge. Is also useful as a low wind break and for stabilisation of coastal soil.

Now, back to the common name -Tick Bush. This comes from the observation that many native animals, especially kangaroos, often shelter under these shrubs. It was assumed that oil dripping from the leaves helped repel ticks and lice. Aboriginal people also realised the benefit of the oil, using it to relieve irritated skin, muscle tightness and pain. *Kunzea ambigua* oil is now distilled commercially and has been registered with the Australian

Therapeutic Goods Administration for the relief of arthritis; muscular aches and pains; influenza; skin conditions such as eczema, dermatitis and psoriasis; as well as stress and anxiety. This is an amazing list, and demonstrates the importance of plants in our lives. Also, as the kangaroos have always known, *Kunzea ambigua* could be used on pets to repel ticks and lice. Fran Anderson

Out of Shire Trip Report 2016

Our Out of Shire trip for 2016 was around the Jervis Bay area. On a sunny and very warm Friday morning



Eastern Reef Egret with Silver Gull

Photo: K. Dawes

we met at the South Pacific Heathland Reserve in Ulladulla. Charles Dove provided an excellent overview and guide through the park area as well as generously giving each of us a copy of his Bird Photo DVD. We heard both the Bar-shouldered Dove and Shining Bronze-Cuckoo but could not get a sighting of either of them. Common heathland birds sighted included the Scarlet Honeyeater which has been so prevalent in our area over spring. We enjoyed lunch at the Ulladulla Harbour and Kevin added Eastern Reef Egret to the list. We then took a quick visit to the Ulladulla Wildflower Reserve. The signage and care of both these places was impressive.

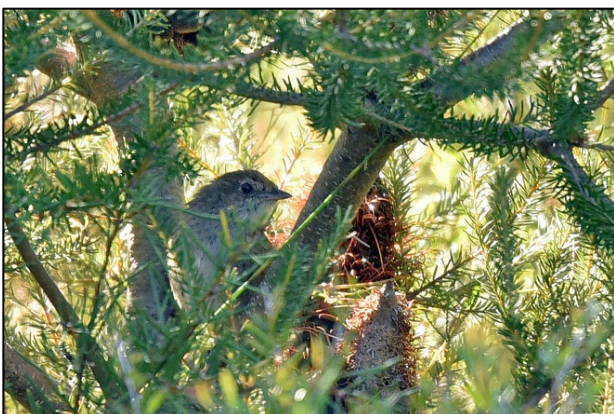
We travelled north to our accommodation and relaxed for the remainder of the day. The next day we headed off early to meet with other members of the group before travelling to Culburra to meet with Frances Bray and Joy Pegler. There had been some concern about a bushfire that was blazing in the area but we were able to detour around it. Lake Wollumboola, south of Culburra Beach has recently been closed to the sea. Frances explained clearly how this change has affected the ecology of the lake. We still had the pleasure of seeing a wide range of waders, and the “experts” gave us a great session on identification and differentiation between species. It was great to see some Little Terns, as well as the Bar-tailed Godwits and Red Knots.

A short time was spent at Crookhaven Heads and the remains of the lighthouse but there were very few birds. We did have some excellent sightings of the Variegated Fairy Wren. After this interlude we travelled to Comerong Island and had a relaxed lunch amongst the coastal vegetation. A few short walks and a drive didn't come up with any surprises but it was interesting to explore the island. The next couple of days were more relaxed, with a successful search for some Eastern Bristlebirds. We spent time in Booderee National Park on the Telegraph Creek Nature Trail, as well as the Botanic Gardens and around the lighthouse ruins.



Variegated Fairy-wren

Photo: K. Dawes



Eastern Bristlebird

Photo: K. Dawes

Those of us who stayed on for another day spent some time in Nowra visiting the Bomaderry Creek, Ben's Walk and Bangalee Reserve. These three areas provided some different habitats to the previous days. The small pond in Nowra township provided more sightings than many of our other spots. Aside from the Eastern Bristlebirds there were no stand-outs but we managed a list of 98 birds for the 5 days. We had a great time together and look forward to the Out of Shire Trip for 2017. Lyn Burden.



ENHS members have many stories to tell about their observations of nature. 'My Patch' is a forum where these stories can be shared with others and will be published both in the newsletter and on the website. Photos are welcome. Please send your contributions to mypatch@enhs.org.au

Logo design by Trevor King

Buff-banded Rail breeding again at Tuross

On the 20th of September, 6 chicks were seen in the garden with 2 adult birds. This decreased to 5 chicks on the 24th and 3 until the 29th. By the 1st of October only a single chick remained. On the 28th of October, I found 8 beautiful red spotted fawn eggs on the ground, under a shrub near the clothes line. The adult pair took turns on the nest. All 8 chicks hatched but 2 died in the nest. The adults continued to be seen with 6 chicks until the 10th of November when only one chick remained. On the first of December, the rails were nesting again. Janet Houghton

Pied Oystercatcher breeding at South Durras

In October, a pair of Pied Oystercatcher were nesting at South Durras on the beach on the south side of the lake entrance. Two chicks hatched around 20th October. The 2 adult birds then flew across to the northern shore and the 2 chicks swam across the lake, where the family continues to feed. Two other pairs of Pied Oystercatcher are using the beach and lake entrance. In November, another pair laid 2 eggs on the northern side of the beach. There are probably 5 pairs of Pied Oystercatchers around the lake but I have only seen 2 pairs at one time. Jennifer Coffey

Highlights from ENHS records - Spring 2016

Avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Emu	2	TS Bridge	FM	East off highway
Stubble Quail	Call, 2	MYA/Com	JM/JC	MYA, a new location for species.
Musk Duck	2	PS	JM	Displaying at PS in Nov.
White-headed Pigeon	Up to 20	MKS	SMG	
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Up to 10, 5	MKS/Lilli Pilli	SMG/IAG	
Brush Bronzewing	1	MO	NM	Nov.
Peaceful Dove	Calling	Com	JC	
Topknot Pigeon	17, 8, 2	MO/Pedro/Com	NM/JS/JC	
Tawny Frogmouth	3, 1	Pedro/MKS/ Gulaga	JS/ SMG/FM	
White-throated Nightjar	1 or 2	MKS/PS	SMG/JM	First return 24 Sep. Also reported at Womban west of Moruya (PK)
Aust Owlet-nightjar	1	Com/Nelligen	JC/JM	
White-throated Needletail	50	Malua Bay	MW	
Shearwater sp.	Thousands, Hundreds	Off MB Off Bingie Pt	MA/ DHK	Oct 27 Oct 26
Little Penguin	1	Sth DS	J Coffey	Dead
Australasian Darter	1	Coila Ck	MA	
Pied Cormorant	2	MO/Coila L	NM/FM	
White-necked Heron	3, 1	Com/Bergalia	JC/DHK	Fewer records than usual
Intermediate Egret	1 or 2	Com	JC	

Cattle Egret	Up to 50, 34	MYA/Com	JM/JC	First signs of breeding plumage 9 Sep. 2 still at TS on Nov 27.
Little Egret	1	Barlings S	FM	In Oct.
Eastern Reef Egret	3, 1	MO/Cullendulla Ck/Broulee	NM/GLM R Soroka	
Straw-necked Ibis	Up to 20	Com	JC	Sep.
Royal Spoonbill	13, 9	MYA/JC	JM/JC	Sep.
Eastern Osprey	1	Cullendulla Ck /BB	DB/R Soroka /NC	On the nest on the island in the Clyde R again in Nov. (NC)
Square-tailed Kite	1	PS/Bodalla SF	JM	
Whistling Kite	3	Com	JC	Nesting at Com in Oct-Nov.
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	Gulaga	JM	
Grey Goshawk	2	Malua Bay/PS/MO	MW/JM/DHK	Nesting at PS.
Swamp Harrier	1	MO/Tilba	NM/JM	
Nankeen Kestrel	4	Com	JC	2 young
Australian Hobby	1	Malua Bay	MW	
Peregrine Falcon	1	PS/Coila Ck Rd/Coila L/Com	JM/FM/JC	
Buff-banded Rail	2 to 10	TS	JH	6 chicks in Sep; nest with 8 eggs in Oct; 8 chicks hatched but only 6 survived. By the end of Nov only 1 chick alive.
Eurasian Coot	8	NA	DHK	Adults with 6 young at the swamp behind Bar Beach.
Aust Pied Oystercatcher	7, 6, 4	Coila L/NA/Sth DS	FM/MA/J Coffey	2 chicks and other nests at DS. Two on the Tuross R at Com in Nov. Most downstream record. (JC)
Sooty Oystercatcher	12	Broulee Is	HR	In Nov.
Red-capped Plover	Up to 12	Coila L	CM/FM	Nest with 2 eggs in Nov.
Double-banded Plover	2	MB	MA	27 Oct.
Black-fronted Dotterel	4, 3, 2	Com/Coila L/MO	JC/CM/DHK	
Hooded Plover	2	MB	MA	Nesting attempted but not successful.
Latham's Snipe	1	Coila Ck Rd	FM	In Oct.
Bar-tailed Godwit	Up to 250	NA	MA	3 juveniles at Coila L in Nov. (CM)
Eastern Curlew	3, 1	Cullendulla Ck/NA	DB/MA	
Grey-tailed Tattler	1	Cullendulla Ck/CO	R Soroka/JM	Oct/Nov.
Ruddy Turnstone	2	Brou L	A. Harris	Oct.
Great Knot	8	NA	MA	In Oct.
Red-necked Stint	23	Brou L	A. Harris	Oct.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1	Brou L	A. Harris	Oct.
Curlew Sandpiper	12	Brou L	A. Harris	Oct.
Painted Button-quail	1	Cullendulla Ck	DB	Nov.
Caspian Tern	8, 3	Coila L	CM/A. Harris	Immature at Sth DS (J Coffey)
Glossy Black Cockatoo	Up to 3	PS/Bodalla	JM/JC	Dependent young at PS in Oct/Nov.
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	14, 12	Sth DS/Broulee	J Coffey/GLM	
Gang-Gang Cockatoo	6	Broulee	GLM	Copulation in Sep. Breeding at that location for the second year in a row (HR).
Little Corella	Up to 200	MYA	JM	

Rainbow Lorikeet	Up to 100	Broulee	GLM	
Musk Lorikeet	6, 4	Boyne SF/ Malua Bay	JM/MW	On flowering Spotted Gum at Boyne
Little Lorikeet	20	Boyne SF	JM	On flowering Spotted Gum
Swift Parrot	2	Tura Beach	N&A Hayes	Nov 4. Out of our area but worth noting as it was a very late record for this species.
Eastern Koel	4, 3	Broulee/Coila L	GLM/FM	Including juvenile at Coila L in Nov. First return 23 Sep Bergalia (DHK).
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Com	JC	First return 18 Sep.
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	1	MKS/Com	SMG/JC	Oct-Nov.
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	1	Nelligen	JM	First return 8 Sep.
Brush Cuckoo	1 to 3	Malua Bay/ PS/ MO/Bodalla	MW/JM/NM /MA	
Powerful Owl	Call	Malua Bay/ MKS	MW/SMG	
Southern Boobook	1	Com/MYA	JC/JM	Immature roosting in tree hollow at Com, young trilling at Mynora.
Eastern Barn Owl	Call	Com	JC	
Sacred Kingfisher	6	Com	JC	
Dollarbird	8, 4	Com/Malua Bay	JC/MW	First return 8 Sep at Nelligen. (JM) Nesting at Com in Oct. (JC)
Red-browed Treecreeper	6, 3	Gulaga/CO	JM/DHK	
Pilotbird	7, 4, 2	Gulaga/ Wandera SF/ Bodalla SF	JM/FM	
Large-billed Scrubwren	8, 3	Gulaga/Bodalla SF	JM/FM	Along Wagonga Scenic Dr in Bodalla SF.
White-throated Gerygone	6, 2, 1	Com/MKS/ Bodalla	JC/SMG/MA	First return at Com 5 Oct.
Buff-rumped Thornbill	4	Nelligen	JM	In Sep.
Striated Pardalote	2 or call	MYA/Com/ Bevian Rd	JC/JM/FM	At Mynora, MYA.
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	2	MKS	SMG	Sep.
Fuscous Honeyeater	10	Nelligen	JM	
Crescent Honeyeater	Up to 20	Gulaga	JM/FM	
White-cheeked Honeyeater	2	MKS	SMG	
Scarlet Honeyeater	10, 6	Malua Bay/ Broulee	MW/GLM	Pairs widespread.
Noisy Friarbird	8	Malua Bay	MW	Dependent young in Sep.
Eastern Whipbird	9, 3	Broulee/Lilli Pilli	GLM/IAG	Young being fed Sep-Nov at Lilli Pilli
Varied Sittella	6, 5	Com/Bodalla SF	JC/FM	Nesting at Com in Sep.
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	2	PS/Com	JM/JC	
Cicadabird	1 to 2	MKS/PS	SMG/JM	First return 30 Oct at MKS.
Crested Shrike-tit	2, 1	Gulaga/ Bodalla SF/ Wandera SF	JM/FM	
Olive Whistler	1	Gulaga/NA	JM	At Lilyvale Place, NA.
Rufous Whistler	Calls	MKS	SMG	First return 23 Sept.
Australasian Figbird	Up to 5	MYA	JM	Pair with young at BB in Nov (GLM)
White-breasted Woodswallow	2	MYA/Coila Ck	JC/JM/FM	

Dusky Woodswallow	5	Gulaga	JM/FM	Feeding young in Sep.
Grey Currawong	1	Malua Bay	MW	In Oct.
Rufous Fantail	1	MO	NM	In Nov.
Restless Flycatcher	2	Com	JC	Nesting in Sep
Leaden Flycatcher	Up to 6	PS	JM	Nov.
Satin Flycatcher	1	Cullendulla Ck	DB	In Nov.
Black-faced Monarch	1 or 2	Gulaga/MKS/ Com	FM/SMG/JC	First return 25 Sep at Gulaga.
White-winged Chough	11, 10, 9	PS/Com/Pedro	JM/JC/JS	Young at PS and Com.
Rose Robin	2	Com/Gulaga	JC/FM	
Golden-headed Cisticola	1 or calls	Coila Ck/Com	FM/JC	
Australian Reed-Warbler	1, calls	Barlings S/PS	FM/JM	In Oct.
Little Grassbird	2	PS	JM	In Nov.
Tree Martin	20, 10	Com/Gulaga	JC/JM	
Bassian Thrush	6	ERBG	DB	Also breeding at Cullendulla Ck in Sep, parents feeding chicks.
Common Blackbird	1	Bingie	DHK	Grey Rocks
Australian Pipit	Up to 8	Com	JC	

Non-avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Short-beaked Echidna	3, 2	Pedro/Broulee	JS/GLM	Singles widespread
Spotted-tailed Quoll	Signs	PS	JM	
Agile Antechinus	2	Cullendulla Ck	DB	
Long-nosed Bandicoot	Signs	MB	MA	
Common Wombat	1 to 3	Coolagolite	DO	
Sugar Glider	4	Nelligen	JM	
Greater Glider	1	Nelligen	JM	
Yellow-bellied Glider	6	Nelligen	JM	
Feathertailed Glider	2	Nelligen	JM	
Common Ringtail Possum	1	Broulee	GLM	
Common Brushtail Possum	Up to 6	Com	JC	
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	Up to 79	Coolagolite	DO	
Red-necked Wallaby	Up to 7	Coolagolite	DO	
Swamp Wallaby	16	MB	MA	
Grey-headed Flying-fox	20	Nelligen	JM	
Dingo	Call	Com	JC	Oct.
Rabbit	12	Broulee	GLM	Also at Bingie and Mullimburra Pt (DHK)
Snake-necked Turtle	10, 3	Coolagolite/ Com	DO/JC	9 found dead at Coolagolite Oct-Nov. Eggs dug up at PS in Nov. (JM)
Yellow-bellied Water-skink		Com	JC	Nov.
Dark-flecked Garden Sunskink	Up to 4	Mossy Pt	HR	
Pale-flecked Garden Sunskink	2	Mossy Pt	HR	
Blue Tongue	2, 1	Com/Broulee	JC/GLM	
Jacky Lizard	1 to 3	Mossy Pt	HR	
Gippsland Water Dragon	6 to 10	Com	JC	
Lace Monitor	1	Com/CO/ Coolagolite	JC/JM/DO	In Oct-Nov.
Diamond Python	6	MB	MA	Singles at MKS and PS.
Mustard-bellied Snake	1	Gulaga/ Coolagolite	FM/DO	
Red-bellied Black Snake	3, 1	Com/ Coolagolite	JC/DO	

Eastern Brown Snake	1	MKS	SMG	In Oct.
Humpback Whale	1 to 2	Off BP/ Broulee Is/ Bengello/BI	HR/DO	
Australian Fur Seal		MB	MA	

Frogs JC/GLM/JM/DO/ HR	Common Eastern Froglet, Brown Striped Frog, Haswell's Froglet, Brown and Tyler's Toadlet; tree frogs: Brown, Jervis Bay, Keferstein's, Peron's, Leaf-green, Tyler's, Verreaux's, Eastern Sedgefrog.
Moths JC/AM/JM/GLM	Plume, Cabbage Centre Grub, Meal, Cream Wave, Plantain, Mecynata, Sodaliata, Finely-lined Carpet, Orange-spotted Taxeotis, Double-fringed and Textured Emerald, Red-spotted Delicate, Banded Porela, White Cedar, Variable Halone, Magpie, Heliotrope, Crimson Tiger, Tiger, Omnivorous Tussock, Southern and Northern Old Lady, Tobacco Looper, Mistletoe, Browntail Gum, Bogong, Variable and Brown Cutworm, Native Budworm.
Butterflies JC/JL/GLM/JM/ FM	Narrow-brand grass-dart, Blue Triangle, Macleay's and Orchard Swallowtail, Small Grass Yellow, Black Jezebel, Caper and Cabbage White, Dusky Knight, Meadow Argus, Australian Painted Lady, Yellow Admiral, Grey and Brown Ringlet, Common and Forest Brown, Varied Sword-grass Brown, Striped Xenica, Common Grass Blue
Beetles JC/JM	Net-winged, Plague Soldier, Small Leaf, Small Blue Leaf, Metallic Green Acacia, Acacia Leaf, Pintail, Argentinian and Green Scarab, Longicorn. Ladybirds: Striped, 26 Spotted, Common Spotted, Mealybug, Transverse, White-collared, Variable, Tortoise Shelled, Fungus-eating, Steelblue.
Dragon/Damsel flies JM/JC	Common Bluetail, Cup Ringtail, Tau Emerald, Orange Threadtail, Blue-spotted Hawker, Common Glider, Blue Skimmer.
Spiders JC/JM/HR/FM	Leaf-curling, Red Back, Daddy Long Legs, St Andrew's Cross, Black House, Water, Giant Water, Huntsman, Wolf, Little Striped Wolf, Jumping, Peacock, Two Spined, Spiny, White-tailed, Comb Footed, Two-tailed, Swift.

RAINFALL (mm). September: 51 at Lilli Pilli, 77 at MKS, 71 at Bergalia, 69.4 at TS, 60 at Com, 90 at MB, 72.5 at Coolagolite. **October:** 8 at Lilli Pilli, 25 at MKS, 29 at TS, 32 at Com, 39 at MB, 27.5 at Coolagolite. **November:** 22 at Lilli Pilli, 22.8 at TS, 24 at Com, 23.25 at Coolagolite.

Contributors

MA	M Anderson, MB	JH	J&J Houghton, TS	HR	H Ransom, Mossy Pt
DB	D Bertzeletos, Surfside	DHK	D&H Kay, Bergalia	JS	J Sagar, Pedro
AC	A Christiansen, MB	PK	P Kingston, MYA	BS	B Scales, Kianga
NC	N Clark, Surf Beach	GLM	G&L McVeigh, Broulee	MW	M Wilkinson, Malua Bay
JC	J&P Collett, Com	AM	A Marsh, Bingie	FM	Field Meeting
MF	M Fyfe, Broulee	NM	N Montgomery, MO		A. Harris, NPWS
IAG	I&A Grant, Lilli Pilli	JM	J Morgan, PS		J. Coffey, DS
SMG	S&M Guppy, MKS	CM	C Morrison, TS		R Soroka, Surfside
		DO	D Ondinea, Coolagolite		
Places					
BB	Batemans Bay	ERBG	Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens	NP	National Park
BBWG	Batemans Bay Water Gardens	MKS	Maulbrooks Rd S, MYA	PS	Pedro Swamp
BI	Bermagui	MO	Meringo	PP	Potato Point
BP	Burrewarra Point	MYA	Moruya	SB	Surf Beach
Com	Comerang	MH	Moruya Heads, N&S	SF	State Forest
CO	Congo	MB	Mystery Bay	TS	Tuross
DS	Durras	NA	Narooma	WL	Wallaga Lake

ENHS Committee and Contact Details

Chair	David Kay	4474 5619	chair@enhs.org.au
Secretary/Recorder	Julie Morgan	0457 637 227	secretary@enhs.org.au
Treasurer	Malcolm Griggs	4472 4150	treasurer@enhs.org.au
Committee	Fran Anderson, Mandy Anderson, Steven Benjamin, Lyn Burden, Lucy Gibson		
Public Officer and Membership	Malcolm Griggs	4472 4150	treasurer@enhs.org.au
Minutes Secretary	Mandy Anderson	4473 7651	
Editorial Team	Mandy Anderson, Lucy Gibson, Helen Kay, Julie Morgan		editor@enhs.org.au
Website Team	Julie Morgan, David Num, Roman Soroka		secretary@enhs.org.au

All mail correspondence to P.O. Box 888, Moruya, NSW, 2537.

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