



# EUROBODALLA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Inc.

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[www.enhs.org.au](http://www.enhs.org.au)



NEWSLETTER NUMBER 173

AUTUMN 2017

## The Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*) – Gould 1838

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### *Taxonomy and Distribution*

The Painted Honeyeater is the sole member of the genus *Grantiella*, its closest relatives being the Striped Honeyeater (*Plectorhyncha lanceolata*) and honeyeaters of the genus *Xanthotis*. The species is endemic to most of inland eastern Australia, occurring from Victoria to Queensland and the Northern Territory. It can be found across most woodlands, particularly those heavily infested with mistletoe.

### *Identification and Behaviour*

At 16cm the Painted Honeyeater has proportions similar to those of *Melithreptus* honeyeaters and is perhaps most easily confused with them on brief views. However, on good views the species is unmistakable; it is the only yellow winged honeyeater with a coral pink beak. Other than white ear spots and further yellow flashes in the tail feathers, the rest of the upperparts are jet black in colour. The underparts, including most of the underwing and tail feathers are pearl white with a few black streaks. The sexes are similar in plumage though females average browner than the males. Juveniles sport dull versions of the adult plumage. The species is vociferous, the most frequent and diagnostic call being a sweet see-sawing whistle: “georg-geee” and variations of such.



Painted Honeyeater

Photo: Dean Ingwersen

### *Diet and Breeding*

The species is strongly associated with mistletoe, as the fruits and flowers of these form a large part of its diet. Breeding generally occurs in the spring to summer months in the south but, as with most Australian species, opportunistic breeding occurs whenever conditions are suitable. Where food is abundant small colonies may form, but pairs appear to be largely monogamous within the breeding season. A cup shaped nest of soft, fine material such as roots and bark is built by both sexes, often in dense mistletoe or acacias. Clutches are typically 1-3 eggs and both parents are involved in incubation and rearing the chicks. Depending on climatic conditions and mistletoe fruiting; after breeding, southern populations may migrate northwards with adult birds typically departing first.

### *Conservation Status and Distribution in the Eurobodalla*

Much of the original woodlands inhabited by the species have now been cleared for agriculture. However, the species does occur and breed across a vast range and as such it is classified as Vulnerable, despite local population declines. In the Eurobodalla, the species is probably an accidental vagrant and has only been reported in 2012 and this year. Dimitris Bertzeletos

### **What's Coming Up.....**

**Saturday July 8, 2pm: Moruya Heads/Pedro Point.** Meet at the corner of Elizabeth Road and Coronation Drive, Moruya Heads south. Dolphins, seals and possibly whales at Moruya Heads. Oystercatcher at Pedro Pt. Walk along a forest track, Crested Shrike-tit, Striated, Yellow and Brown Thornbill, Variegated Fairy-wren.

**Sunday July 23, 9am: Wasp Head.** Meet at the entrance to Murramarang Resort. Wasp Head provides a great vantage point for a number of sea bird species, including albatross, White-fronted Tern, Southern Giant-Petrel.

**Saturday August 12, 2pm: Mullimburra Point.** Meet at the Bingie turnoff, intersection of Princes Hwy and Bingie Rd. Coastal forest and headland walk along a section of the Bingie Dreaming Track. White-bellied Sea-Eagle, White-fronted Tern, Eastern Reef Egret and a number of honeyeater species.

**Sunday August 27, 9am: Reedy Creek Road, Eurobodalla.** Meet opposite the Bodalla Police Station. A walk down a quiet road. Farmland and bush birds with the possibility of Flame and Scarlet Robins.

**Saturday September 9, 2pm: Bodalla State Forest.** Meet opposite the Bodalla Police Station. A track will be chosen closer to the time with the hope that Swift Parrot will be passing through the area.

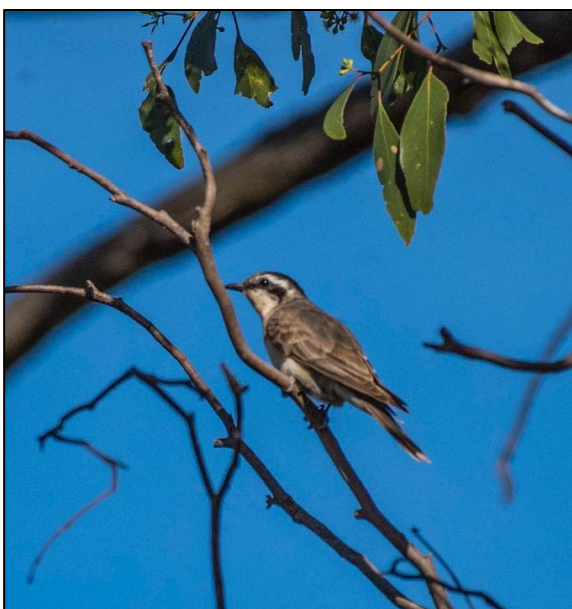
**Sunday September 24, 9am: Bimbimbie/Misons Road.** Meet at the intersection of Bimbimbie Rd and the Prince Hwy, Bimbimbie. The track runs between Bimbimbie and Misons Rd. Spotted Gum forest and moist gullies. Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Brown Gerygone, Rose Robin.

### **Out of Shire Trip 2017**

#### **Leeton/Griffith Area**

**30th October – 6th November**

Fivebough Swamp, Binya State Forest and Cocoparra National Park will be the main focus for our 2017 out of shire trip. The Ramsar listed Fivebough Wetlands is two kilometres north of Leeton and attracts many summer shorebirds and other summer migrants. Binya State Forest and Cocoparra National Park have dominant stands of cypress pine, box, bull oak and mugga ironbark. These areas support a wide diversity of birdlife. Target bird species include the Painted Honeyeater, Superb and Turquoise Parrots, Brolga, Spotted and Spotless Crake, Glossy Ibis, Australasian Bittern, White-browed Treecreeper and Black-eared Cuckoo.



Black-eared Cuckoo

Photo: Paul Gatenby

We plan to arrive in Griffith on the 30th October and leave from Leeton on the 6th November, spending the first half of the trip in the Griffith area and the second half around Leeton. Accommodation is available in both Griffith and Leeton. For those interested in camping there is a wonderful campsite at Woolshed Flat in Cocoparra NP and river sites are plentiful in the Murrumbidgee Valley National Park.

Please contact Lyn Burden ([lynburden60@gmail.com](mailto:lynburden60@gmail.com) or 0408 183 510) to express interest in the trip and/or find out any other details.

## A warm welcome to new members...

Jane Knuckey, Moruya

### The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Eurobodalla Natural History Society was held at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens on Sunday 28th May 2017 with 16 members in attendance. The minutes from the 2016 AGM were circulated and taken as read.

**Chair's Report:** David Kay started his report by announcing that he was retiring after five years as Chair of the Society. He reflected on the progress of the Society during his time as Chair and highlighted that it had been a time of transition. Many members who had served on the committee for years had retired and for the first time since the Society's inception, a founding member was not on the Committee. David said that we had successfully negotiated that transition and thanked all the members who had served on the committee during his time as Chair. He also thanked the current committee, the newsletter team, and all members of the Society for their continued support of the Society's activities.

The meeting offered thanks to David Kay for his years as Chair.

**Secretary's Report:** Julie Morgan outlined the participation of the Society in an Out of Shire Trip to Jervis Bay, the NPWS shorebird recovery program, Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater surveys and the Bermagui BioBlitz. The website has been a major source for promotion, and the "Eurobodalla Natural History" closed Facebook page has an increasing number of members. The Society is also being endorsed locally in tourism and council directories. Members continue to be encouraged to participate in walks, suggestions and leading.

**Treasurer's Report:** Malcolm Griggs presented his report and indicated that there has been a small loss for the year, due to some members not having renewed. Postage costs have also increased and have had a minor effect on the bottom line. Income for the year was \$2578.02; expenditure \$2805.51; the bank balance was \$4,002.26; and the ANZ term deposit \$7528.80.

**Election of Office Bearers:** The Office bearers and committee positions were filled unopposed.

**Chair** - Julie Morgan, **Secretary** - Lyn Burden, **Treasurer** – Malcolm Griggs, **Recorder** – Julie Morgan, **Committee Members** – Mandy Anderson, Fran Anderson, David Kay, Gillian Macnamara, Lucy Gibson and Steven Benjamin.

#### General business:

A discussion was held on field meeting times in daylight savings months and it was resolved to keep the Sunday morning start time at 9am throughout the year. A consensus was not reached on the Saturday field meeting start time and it was referred back to the committee for discussion and resolution. Members are encouraged to report on any new places that would be suitable for field trips. Any member can approach a committee member with advice on possible locations, or if willing to lead field meetings. A discussion was held about the postage of the newsletter and whether it should only be available online. Many people still prefer a hard copy and/or do not have reliable Internet coverage. David Kay pointed out that it is not a substantial budget issue. It was decided to continue posting out the newsletter to members who prefer to have a hard copy. The Out of Shire Trip for 2017 will be to Leeton and Griffith from 30th October to 6th November.

The meeting offered thanks to Julie Morgan for her many years as Secretary.

The ERBG was thanked for providing the space for the meeting, as was Heather Haughton for organising morning tea. Lyn Burden

The editorial team would like to invite members to contribute to the newsletter. Submissions for the Winter edition would be appreciated before mid-August. Please email to editor@enhs.org.au

## Looking back over Autumn

A number of ENHS members have been watching the Eastern Osprey nest on Budd Island at Batemans Bay, and we have been rewarded by signs that the pair is nesting again. We have had reports of two birds in the vicinity of the nest, and a bird was observed sitting on the nest in late May. It attracted the attention of Chris Grounds who is the Conservation Officer of the Shoalhaven branch of BirdLife Australia. The nesting is unusual because it is on a natural structure, unlike many Osprey which utilise man-made structures in the coastal areas.

Chris pointed out that the profile of the tree in which the Ospreys are nesting, and the surrounding trees, indicate that they are stick trees. The birds collect sticks for their nest from these trees in flight. He visited the nest and took a number of photos, one of which can be seen at right. He has mentioned that the photo is the sort he uses for verification, and not the best quality due to the circumstances on the day. Please see our website for more of Chris' photos and our Facebook page for updates on the activity at the nest.



Eastern Osprey pair at nest Photo: Chris Grounds

As this is such an unusual nesting site for the species, it will be important for us to monitor the nest site over the next few months. From what we've seen, they may have chicks as early as July. Members interested in monitoring the site are asked to note the time and day they are at the nest, whether there are one or two birds present, and to observe the behaviour of the birds. Are they coming and going? Taking food to the nest? Is there a bird in the nest? Chris mentioned that he had watched the nest for 20 minutes before he saw the second bird that had been sitting on the nest.



Tawny Grassbird

Photo: Julie Collett

Julie Collett has reported a Tawny Grassbird at Comerang, west of Bodalla. This is only the second record of the species in the Eurobodalla. The first was at Maulbrooks Road, west of Moruya, in December 2012. We also had reports of Glossy Ibis in the shire, with two birds seen at Narooma and one at Brou Lake in March. Our most recent prior records were at Old Man Bed Swamp in November 2006 and Comerang in April 2005. Two Painted Honeyeater were seen with a group of migrating Yellow-faced Honeyeater at Batemans Bay in April by Dimitris Bertzeletos.

A pair of Bassian Thrush were observed feeding young in a nest in the Mogo State Forest at the end of April, which was a very late record. Bassian Thrush bred in Cullendulla in Spring 2016, but these two breeding records are the only ones that I can recall in the last 10 years. In the same area of Mogo State Forest, two Emerald Dove were observed, one a young bird. This species is very secretive and may be overlooked in the shire.

There were no flowering gums which meant no Swift Parrot, very few Rainbow, Musk and Little Lorikeet, and only small numbers of migrating Yellow-faced and White-naped Honeyeater, and Red Wattlebird. The Yellow-faced Honeyeater migration was stronger the further west you went, with 600 birds recorded in 30 minutes at Belowra. Another interesting absence this Autumn was the Plague Soldier Beetle, which is usually very numerous at this time of year.

But there was a lot of rain in March and as a result there were many more varieties of fungi than we have seen in recent years. Many members commented on the many colours and sizes of fungi they had seen this season. Julie Morgan



## Nest predation articles

Michael and Sarah Guppy have two new articles on nest predation on their property west of Moruya. The articles have been posted on the Publications page of the website and abstracts of each follow.

### **Parasitism strategies of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*. M. Guppy, S. Guppy and P. Fullagar. Published in Australian Field Ornithology.**

Abstract. The Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis* inhabits thick forest, and nothing is known about how it finds the nests of its hosts, or whether it monitors the nests that it does find. We studied this cuckoo, and its hosts, for 8 breeding seasons between 2007 (August 2007–January 2008 inclusive) and 2014 (August 2014–January 2015 inclusive) on a 10-ha site in a coastal forest of south-eastern Australia, near Moruya, New South Wales. For three of these seasons, nests were monitored with cameras. The Cuckoo was recorded at the nests of only its four putative hosts at the site (White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*, Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla*, Superb Fairy-wren *Malurus cyaneus* and Variegated Fairy-wren *M. lamberti*). It parasitised only the nests of the White-browed Scrubwren and Brown Thornbill, but it removed either eggs or young from all other nests at which it was recorded. There was no correlation between any measure of nest activity for a host species, and parasitism of that species, and cameras at nests recorded no evidence of nest monitoring by the Cuckoo. We conclude that individual Cuckoos may be host-specific, and that the parasitism strategy is enigmatic, but is possibly haphazard and inefficient. As a result, the Fan-tailed Cuckoo finds most host nests too late for successful parasitism, it spoils them to re-instigate building, and is by default a major nest-predator.

### **The Long-nosed Bandicoot (*Perameles nasuta*) a nest-predator. M. Guppy and S. Guppy. Published in Australian Mammology.**

Abstract. We have been documenting nest predation on a woodland site in south-east Australia using camera traps. Here we describe the recording of a long-nosed bandicoot (*Perameles nasuta*) digging out the tunnel nest of a spotted pardalote (*Pardalotus punctatus*), and eating the three young birds. The diet of this species is mainly insects and other invertebrates, so this observation is significant as it is the first documentation of this animal as a nest predator.

## Field trip report: Durras Discovery Trail

On 26 March twelve intrepid explorers, led by Julie Morgan, set off on the Durras Discovery Trail. We were in the Murrumbidgee National Park and so had to pay for parking or display a permit. As happened on our previous trip to that park, the parking machines did not work. This time we did not receive warning letters for not paying. Before we left it was pointed out that there were leeches, and that if anyone wanted to see leeches then they would be able to see them on me. I could not understand the reason for the comment as I was dressed appropriately for the conditions – shorts, sand shoes and no socks. Others wore long trousers and boots.



An ancient Spotted Gum

Photo: Geoff McVeigh

We walked through the forest but did not see many birds for a while. There were large gum trees, cabbage palms, ferns, fallen trees covered in moss, one of which was part of the track. The track was mostly shady and cool. There were some lovely creeks. It had rained days before and so there were puddles and mud to navigate around or slip through. Apparently, there were leeches as our leader and some



Blue fungi

Photo: Geoff McVeigh

others found. In response, those members did a most interesting dance and scratch which looked more-chook like than human. Of course, as I dressed appropriately, I did not have any leeches.

There were very few birds, and so many leeches, and that meant we spent more time looking down so it soon became a fungus discovery walk. Fungi had blossomed after the wet and in the shady surrounds. The most spectacular fungus was a little blue one. There were all varieties of fungi. The colours were white, white fringed, blue, red, puce, brown with white blotches, grey, flowery pink, yellow flames coming out of the ground, grey, an orange one that appeared to have bites taken from it and tree rotting fungus with waves of colour.

We went off on the side track to Lake Durras but again there were not many birds. On the walk, I only managed to photograph a White-throated Treecreeper and an Eastern Whipbird. The highlights included a pair of male Superb Lyrebirds that crossed a creek together, and many Eastern Yellow Robin.

The group also visited North Durras for a walk on the beach. A Collared Sparrowhawk, a number of Red-capped Plover and the resident Eastern Grey Kangaroos were the highlights. There was a total of 48 bird species for the day. Geoff McVeigh

*If you'd like to see more photos from the day, please see the Members' sightings page of the website.*

### ***Zieria smithii*, another misunderstood plant**

*Zieria smithii* has many common names. Perhaps the two most unkind are Sand-fly *Zieria* and Tasmanian Stinkwood. Like other members of the Rutaceae family, *Zierias* produce strongly scented and volatile oil. This oil is located in leaf glands which can be seen if the leaf is held up to the light. The aroma is released when temperatures are high or the leaf is crushed. This genus consists of 44 species, 43 of which are endemic to the eastern states of Australia. The other species is found in New Caledonia. There are 8 species in the Eurobodalla area.

As well as a highly aromatic fragrance, *Zierias* are characterized by having prominent warts on their leaves and branches. The aroma ranges from pleasant to very unpleasant and the oil may also be toxic. Leaves are opposite and usually divided into 3 leaflets. Flowers have 4 petals and 4 stamen (*Boronia* flowers also have 4 petals, with 8 stamen). They occur in small clusters, have a sweet fragrance and are pollinated by insects.

*Zieria smithii* is a medium shrub to two metres high with very warty stems and leaves. It grows as an understorey plant in open forests, and margins of wet sclerophyll forests and rainforests on the coast of NSW and adjacent tablelands. It is also found in



*Zieria smithii*

Photo courtesy of ERBG



Queensland, Victoria and Tasmania. The central leaflet is 2-5cm long and 4-7mm wide. Leaves are dark, glossy green above, paler below and the apex is acute. Both surfaces are dotted with raised oil glands. Flowers occur in loose clusters in the leaf axils and are shorter than the leaves. Petals are usually white, sometimes pink, and 2-4mm long. The whole plant flowers at once and can be very spectacular. The flowering period is spring and autumn.



*Zieria smithii*

Photo courtesy of ERBG

The common names given to this plant relate to the oil produced. The aroma is often described as being like a lolly shop, lemon zest or petrol. This is due to a high safrole content. Safrole is a colourless or slightly yellow oil found in small quantities in many other plants, the most prolific being North American Sassafras and Camphor Laurel, where it functions as a natural pesticide. Rubbing the crushed leaves on the skin should have a similar effect (hence Sand-fly Zieria). It is used in the manufacture of many chemicals including Pyrethrum and amphetamines.

*Zieria smithii* is a hardy garden plant. It prefers a moderately well-drained soil, sun or semi-shade and tolerates moderate frosts. It responds well to pruning and will reshoot from lignotubers or epicormic buds on its lower stems. It is a favoured habitat for the Superb Fairy Wren and a host plant for the Orchard Swallowtail Butterfly.

There are two species of *Zieria* which are found only in the Eurobodalla. *Zieria adenophora*, Araluen *Zieria*, is listed as being critically endangered and is known from only one location near Araluen. It was first collected in 1888 near Araluen, then not collected for another 100 years, and was considered extinct until its rediscovery at Bell's Creek in the Araluen Valley in the 1980s. *Zieria tuberculata*, Warty *Zieria*, is listed as vulnerable. It is endemic to areas around Gulaga and Tilba Tilba, growing on exposed rocky outcrops on the edge of rain forests. Fran Anderson



*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](mailto:mypatch@enhs.org.au)*

*Logo design by Trevor King*

## Blue Wrens

I don't know what I have to do to convince some people that I really have a thorough knowledge of birds, especially given my last adventure with the Russet Wrens. Some of our most familiar birds are a delight yet are taken for granted. However, tourists seem to really appreciate them. The blue wrens locally are known as the Superb Fairy-wren and the Variegated Fairy-wren. I must admit that I did not know about the latter until the last few years.

The Superb Fairy-wren is a lovable little bird which seems to be everywhere. They mostly appear in low bushes but will also go up into larger trees. They eat insects (including small spiders) and human food. I am glad that they are not called ‘common’ as seems to happen to some birds. They live in small groups and nests are usually built in low bushes. In a politically correct way the nest is made by the female and she sits on the eggs. The male takes his role seriously and does help her feed the nestlings, as does the rest of the group.

I do not need to undertake a safari to find them, nor do I need to take special precautions. I see them everywhere. They used to nest in our backyard in Canberra but it appears that the larger predatory birds have driven them out. In both Canberra and on the coast, they can be difficult to photograph as they quickly hop from place to place. The photos are sometimes a blur.

Superb Fairy-wrens are particularly active at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens Café. They play on the water feature near the café and occasionally fly inside. They hop on tables, chairs and plates to feed. (See the photo below.) At the Australian National Botanic Gardens at Canberra, this role is taken by magpies, wattlebirds, currawongs and ravens. Geoff McVeigh



### Highlights from ENHS records - Autumn 2017

Avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Emu	7	Jemison's Pt	FM	3 small ones
Stubble Quail	Up to 20	Com	JC	Until April
Brown Quail	6, 5, 3, 2	Montagu Is/ Bingie Pt/ Belowra/Com	MA/DHK/ JC	
Black Swan	360	Jemison's Pt	FM	
Australasian Shoveler	4	MYA	JC/JM	
Chestnut Teal	300	Brou Lake	FM	
Great-crested Grebe	1	MO	NM	In April. Still in breeding plumage.



White-headed Pigeon	12, 9, 7	Pedro/Lilli Pilli/TS	JS/IAG/JH	
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	4, 5	Lilli Pilli/MKS	IAG/SMG	
Brush Bronzewing	1 to 2	MKS	SMG	April
Emerald Dove	2	Mogo SF	AM/JM	Adult and juvenile birds.
Peaceful Dove	2	Com	JC	
Bar-shouldered Dove	Calls	Cullendulla Ck	DB	
White-throated Nightjar	1	PS	JM	Last record 25 <sup>th</sup> March
Aust Owllet-nightjar	1	MKS/Com	SMG/JC	
White-throated Needletail	20 to 30	Malua Bay/PS/Com/Nerringundah	MW/JM/JC	March
Albatross sp.	10	Off CO	JM	
Short-tailed Shearwater	100s	Off MO	NM	In April
Australasian Gannet	15 to 30	Sth DS	J Coffey	
Intermediate Egret	3, 1	MYA/Com	JM/JC	
Cattle Egret	30	MYA/Com	JM/JC	
Striated Heron	2	MYA River	JC/JM	
White-faced Heron	25, 20	Com/Cullendulla	JC/R Soroka	
Little Egret	6	Brou Lake	FM	
Glossy Ibis	2, 1	NA/Brou L	DHK/MC/PK	Rare visitors to our coastline. Last recorded in 2006 at Old Man Bed Swamp.
Straw-necked Ibis	155	MYA	JM/JC	
Royal Spoonbill	8	Bergalia	DHK	Overflying in April
Eastern Osprey	2	BB	NC/JM/DB/R Soroka/MA	A pair nest building and sitting on the nest on Budd Island.
Black-shouldered Kite	3	MYA	JC/JM	Dependent young in March
Whistling Kite	3	Com	JC	Still with young in March
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	Nth DS/Mogo SF/Com	FM/JM/JC	
Grey Goshawk	1	Malua Bay/Bingie Pt	MW/DHK	
Spotted Harrier	1	TS	MA	Flying low across paddocks near highway.
Peregrine Falcon	2	Com	JC	
Buff-banded Rail	1	TS	JH	
Eurasian Coot	210, 160	Com/Jemison's Pt	JC/FM	
Aust Pied Oystercatcher	12	Brou Lake	FM	
Sooty Oystercatcher	5, 4	CO/Broulee	JM/HR	
Black-winged Stilt	2	MYA/Com	JM/JC	
Red-capped Plover	50	Brou Lake	FM	
Double-banded Plover	5	CO	JM	
Black-fronted Dotterel	2	Com	JC	
Bar-tailed Godwit	60, 30	NA/Brou Lake	MA/FM	
Eastern Curlew	2	Brou Lake	FM	
Whimbrel	2	Cullendulla	R Soroka	
Red-necked Stint	20	Brou Lake	FM	
Painted Button-quail	1	MO	NM	In April
Caspian Tern	14	Brou Lake	G Tedder	
Glossy Black Cockatoo	4, 5	Belowra/MKS/Pedro	JC/SMG/JS	Immature at PS
Gang-Gang Cockatoo	40, 20	Pedro/PS	JS/JM	March/April
Little Corella	200	Malua Bay/MYA	MW/JM	More in Malua Bay than usual
Little Lorikeet	6	BB	DB/JM	Along Lattas Pt Rd

Australian King Parrot	50	Com	JC	April
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	1	Bingie	DHK	March
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	1 or calls	Widespread		
Powerful Owl	2 to 3	PS/Pedro	JM/JS	Two females calling at PS. Up to 3 calling at Pedro in March.
Sooty Owl	Calls	Pedro	JS	In March
Masked Owl	1	Coila	G Tedder	Roadkill in May
Eastern Barn Owl	1	Com	JC	In May
Sacred Kingfisher	3	Belowra	JC	1 juvenile
Superb Lyrebird	4	Sth DS	FM	
Red-browed Treecreeper	Call, 2	ERBG/Mogo SF	FM/JM	At 2 locations within Mogo SF
Southern Emu-wren	Up to 9	Candlagan Ck	GLM	Also present at Cullendulla Ck (DB)
Pilotbird	Call	Sth DS/MYA SF	FM/JM	
Large-billed Scrubwren	4, call	Mogo SF/ Sth DS	JM/FM	
Striated Pardalote	1 or 2	MYA/PS	JC/JM	
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	300, more than 600	Com/Belowra	JC	Belowra number recorded over 30 minutes.
White-eared Honeyeater	Up to 8 or calls	MKS/Broulee/PS/Bodalla SF/Coolagolite	SMG/GLM/JM/AM/DO	
Fuscous Honeyeater	6, 1, call	PS/TS/Sth DS	JM/JH/FM	
Red Wattlebird	50	MKS	SMG	
Scarlet Honeyeater	2	Deua NP	AM/JM	
Crescent Honeyeater	1	Com	JC	
Brown-headed Honeyeater	20	Nelligen	DB/JM	At flowering Mistletoe
Noisy Friarbird	Call	MYA	JM/JC	In May
Painted Honeyeater	2	BB	DB	With migrating Yellow-faced and White-naped Honeyeater.
Varied Sittella	5, 3	Com/Bingie	JC/DHK	
Crested Shrike-tit	2, 1	MO/Mogo SF	NM/JM	April
Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike	Up to 13	Along Com Farm Rd	JC	In March
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	1 or 2	PS/Com	JM/JC	
Rufous Whistler	1	Com	JC	Last record 5 April
White-breasted Woodswallow	Up to 6	PS	JM	March/April
Dusky Woodswallow	5, 3	Coolagolite/Belowra	DO/JC	A juvenile at Belowra
Grey Currawong	1	Benandarah SF	DB	May
Rufous Fantail	Up to 3	PS/Bergalia/MO/Com	JM/DHK/NM/JC	March/April
Restless Flycatcher	1 to 3	Bergalia/Com/Bodalla/Belowra	DHK/JM/JC	
Black-faced Monarch	Call	Sth DS/Mogo SF	FM/JM	Last record April 27
Australian Raven	40	MKS	SMG	Flying over in April
Little Raven	40	Belowra	JC	Calls at MO (NM)
White-winged Chough	22	Com/Belowra	JC	
Scarlet Robin	1 to 3	PS/Belowra/Bergalia	JC/JM/DHK	First return 21 March which is quite early for this species
Flame Robin	1	MYA	JC/JM	At Mynora
Rose Robin	Call	Sth DS	FM	

Golden-headed Cisticola	10	Com	JC	
Australian Reed-Warbler	1	PS/Com	JM/JC	March
Tawny Grassbird	1	Com	JC	Second record of species in the shire.
Silvereye	Hundreds	PS/Com	JM/JC	Migrating
Tree Martin	80, 50	Com/PS	JC/JM	
Bassian Thrush	2	Mogo SF	AM/JM	Adults feeding 2 chicks in a nest on April 30
Mistletoebird	1 or 2	PS	JM	
Red-browed Finch	40, 20	Com/Malua Bay	JC/MW	Nest building at Malua Bay in March, young at Malua Bay and Comerang in May
Diamond Firetail	7 to 9	Belowra	JC	March
Australasian Pipit	8	Com	JC	
European Goldfinch	8, 3	Belowra/Com	JC	

<b>Non-avian species</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Observer</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Short-beaked Echidna	1	Sth DS/PS	FM/JM	
Common Wombat	signs	Coolagolite	DO	
Sugar Glider	Calls	PS/Com	JM/JC	
Common Ringtail Possum	1	Lilli Pilli	IAG	
Common Brushtail Possum	6, 4	Com/Pedro	JC/JS	Adult with young at Lilli Pilli (IAG)
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	Up to 80	Coolagolite	DO	
Red-necked Wallaby	Up to 8	Coolagolite	DO	
Dingo	Calls	Com	JC	In May
Red Fox	1	Coolagolite	DO	
Pig	10	West Flat	JC	In the corn at harvest time
Bottlenose Dolphin	20	Montagu Is	MA	
Seal sp.	10	Off Bingie Pt	DHK	
Humpback Whale	numerous	Off MB	MA	Moving north
Snake-necked Turtle	5	Com	JC	
Yellow-bellied Water Skink	4	Com	JC	March
Dark-flecked Sunskink	5	Mossy Pt	HR	
Pale-flecked Sunskink	1	Mossy Pt	HR	
Gippsland Water Dragon	10	Com	JC	Down to 2 in May
Jacky Lizard	1 or 2	Mossy Pt/ Deua NP/ Coolagolite	HR/FM/ DO	March/April
Eastern Blue-tongue	1 or 2	Sth DS/Com	J Coffey/JC	
Lace Monitor	1 or 2	Lilli Pilli/ Pedro	IAG/JS	In March

<b>Frogs</b> JC/JM/DO/FM	Common Eastern Froglet, Brown Striped Frog, Haswell's Froglet, Brown Toadlet; tree frogs: Brown, Eastern Sedgefrog, Jervis Bay, Keferstein's, Peron's, Tyler's, Verreaux's
<b>Moths</b> JC/JM/GM	Bardi Grub, Plume, Beet Webworm, Australian Bagmoth, Cream Wave, Plantain, Bracken, Clara Satin, Mecynata, Acute Point, Neat Epidesmia, White-stemmed Wattle, Vine Hawk, Variable Halone, Lichen-eating and Eggfruit Caterpillar, Heliotrope, Tiger, Crimson and Dark-spotted Tiger, Magpie, Green-blotched, Variable and Brown Cutworm, Native Budworm.
<b>Butterflies</b> JC/GLM/JM/FM	Splendid Ochre, Narrow-brand Grass-dart, Orchard Swallowtail, Cabbage White, Brown Ringlet, Imperial and Black Jezebel, Varied Sword-grass Brown, Common and Wonder Brown, Marbled Xenica, Meadow Argus, Australian Painted Lady, Yellow Admiral, Monarch, Common Grass Blue.



<b>Dragon and Damselflies</b> JC/JM/FM	Red and Blue Damsel, Common Bluetail, Wandering and Scarlet Percher, Blue Skimmer, Australian and Tau Emerald, Common Glider, Cup Ringtail.
<b>Beetles</b> JC/JM	Click, Carrion, Three-lined Potato, Dung, Honeybrown, Magnetic Green Acacia, Argentinian Scarab; Ladybirds: Twenty-six and Orange Spotted, Striped, Fungus-eating, Yellow-shouldered, Transverse.
<b>Bugs</b> JC	Bronze Orange, Harlequin, Water Strider.
<b>Bees/Wasps</b> JC/JM/DO	Blue-banded Bee. Wasps: Common Paper, Blue Flower, Orange-collared, Cuckoo, Orange Caterpillar Parasite, White-faced Brown Paper.
<b>Spiders</b> JC/AM/JM	Golden Orb, Spiny, Leaf-curling, Daddy Long-legs, Black House, White-tailed, Huntsman, Jumping, Water, Giant Water, Wheel-weaving Garden, St Andrew's Cross, Two-tailed.
<b>Marine Life</b> NC/DO	Weedy Sea Dragon, Port Jackson Shark egg (Surf Beach); Southern Calamari Squid, Smooth Stingray, Old Wife (Bermagui)

**RAINFALL (mm). March:** 162 at Lilli Pilli, 312.5 at MKS, 225 at Bergalia, 203.4 at TS, 220.5 at Com, 194.25 at Coolagolite. **April:** 38 at Lilli Pilli, 48.5 at MKS, 53 at Bergalia, 42.5 at Com, 45.5 at Coolagolite. **May:** 42 at Lilli Pilli, 61.3 at MKS, 98 at Bergalia, 143 at TS, 80.5 at Com, 91 at MB, 97.25 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
LB	L Burden, MYA	PK	P Kingston, MYA	BS	B Scales, Kianga
NC	N Clark, Surf Beach	GM	G Macnamara, TS	MW	M Wilkinson, Malua Bay
JC	J&P Collett, Com	GLM	G&L McVeigh, Broulee	FM	Field Meeting
MC	M Crowley, MHS	NM	N Montgomery, MO		J Coffey, Sth DS
MF	M Fyfe, Broulee	JM	J Morgan, PS		R Soroka, Surfside
IAG	I&A Grant, Lilli Pilli	DO	D Ondinea, Coolagolite		G Tedder, CO
SMG	S&M Guppy, MKS				
<b>Places</b>					
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

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