

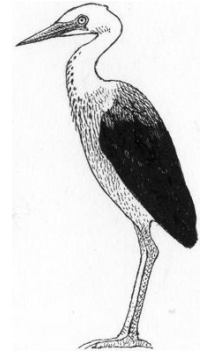


EUROBODALLA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Inc.

PO Box 888
MORUYA NSW 2537

www.enhs.org.au



NEWSLETTER NUMBER 174

WINTER 2017

The Tawny Grassbird (*Megalurus timoriensis*) – Wallace 1864

Taxonomy and distribution

The family *Locustellidae* contains a number of old world Warbler genera including the Grassbirds. They occur across Africa and Eurasia with five species inhabiting Australia. These are the Tawny and Little Grassbirds, the Rufous and Brown Songlarks and the Spinifexbird. Of these species, only the Little Grassbird is common in our area, with the Tawny Grassbird occurring mainly from Sydney northwards, throughout New Guinea, Indonesia and the Philippines.

The taxonomy of these species is in a state of flux with recent genetic studies indicating that the Tawny Grassbird is in fact more closely related to Songlarks. Indeed, the most recent Birdlife Australia working list includes the Tawny Grassbird in the Genus *Cincloramphus* with the Rufous and Brown Songlarks whilst the Little Grassbird and Spinifexbird are in the Genus *Poodytes*. However, these relationships are still being investigated.

Description and behaviour

Similar in size to the Australian Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus australis*), the Tawny Grassbird together with the Little Grassbird inhabit similar reed and tussock habitats near water and the three can often be found together. However, the Tawny Grassbird can also occur in drier habitats away from water. Seen well, the presence of striations helps distinguish this species from the Reed-Warblers. When the larger size of the Tawny relative to the Little Grassbird isn't evident, its pale legs (which are dark in Little Grassbird) paler sandy yellow colouration and pronounced rufous cap distinguish this species from Little Grassbird. Finally, the longer tail distinguishes this species from Golden-headed Cisticola (*Cisticola exilis*) which occurs in similar habitats.

Both sexes of the Tawny Grassbird are similar in colouration, whilst young birds are duller, shorter tailed versions of the adults. The species is rather secretive in behaviour, but they generally do show themselves if the observer is quiet and patient. The song of the species is a down slurred trill, quite like the calls of fairywrens and unlike the whistles of the Little Grassbird. Alarm calls are a short and abrupt 'tok'. Other calls include up slurred whistles and croaks.



Tawny Grassbird

Photo: D. Bertzeletos

Diet and breeding

The species is insectivorous, finding most of its food by clambering amongst thick vegetation. It will also make short flights to hawk insects over water. Breeding can occur at any time of the year, though mainly in the warmer months in the south. A cup shaped nest is built in thick vegetation and is very well hidden, though the display flights of the male bird may hint at its location early in the season. Two to three eggs are typical in a brood though details on the breeding of the species have not been closely studied.



Tawny Grassbird

Photo: D. Bertzeletos

Conservation and status in the Eurobodalla

With a wide distribution and stable populations, the species is currently listed as of Least Concern conservation wise. In the Eurobodalla, there have been two records of Tawny Grassbird; the first was in 2012 at Maulbrooks Road, just west of Moruya, and then this year a bird was present from May to July at Comerang, west of Bodalla. The species has occurred as far south as Melbourne and can disperse inland when conditions become suitable. This together with the secretive behaviour of the species may mean that it occurs more regularly in our area, but remains undetected. Dimitris Bertzeletos

What's coming up.....

Saturday October 14, Maloneys Beach, 3pm: Meet at the picnic shelter at the eastern end of the beach off Hibiscus Close, which runs off Maloneys Drive. Coastal forest and beach walk. White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Pied and Sooty Oystercatcher, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, New Holland Honeyeater.

Sunday October 29, Belowra, 8am: Meet opposite the Bodalla Police Station. Please note that the trip out to Belowra takes an hour. Julie and Peter Collett will lead a walk on their farm. Rufous Songlark, Diamond Firetail, White-winged Triller, Dusky Woodswallow.

Saturday November 11, Illawong Nature Reserve, 3pm: Meet at the corner of George Bass Drive and Broulee Road, Broulee. Walk through woodland that surrounds Illawong Swamp. Little Grassbird, Aust Reed Warbler, Olive-backed Oriole, Varied Sittella.

Sunday November 26, Waders, 8am: an email will be sent out to members or you can check the Field Meetings page of the ENHS website or call Julie, Lyn or Mandy for the location after November 22. The venue for this walk depends on wader activity, weather and water levels in the estuaries. If weather causes a cancellation, then an alternative walk will be proposed.

A visit from BirdLife Southern Highlands

The group will be visiting us from Monday October 7 to Friday October 13 and have invited members of ENHS to join them in their activities. Their program will be posted on the website and emailed to members. Please contact Jennie Wiles at millieup@hotmail.com or on 0415 657 273 if you plan to join them.

A warm welcome to new members...

Alan Lewis, Dalmeny
Ines Judd, Bermagui
Judy and David Kelly, Aranda

Out of Shire Trip to the 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 Crane, Glossy Ibis, Australasian Bittern, White-browed Treecreeper and Black-eared Cuckoo.

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 or 0408 183 510) to express interest in the trip and/or find out any other details.

Looking back over Winter

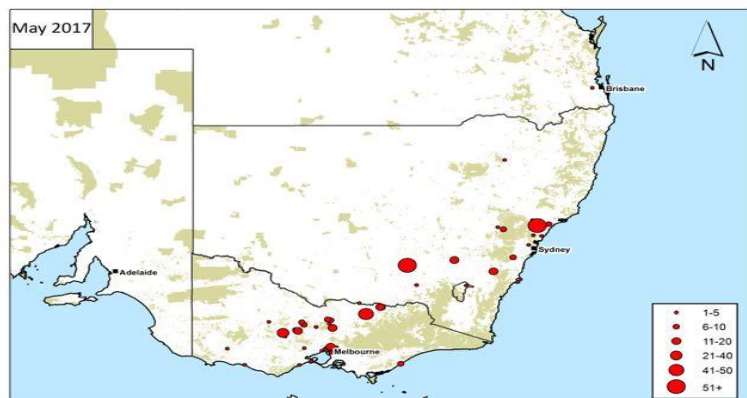
ENHS members have continued to keep a close eye on the Eastern Osprey nest on Budd Island at Batemans Bay but this pair still have us wondering. They have been sitting on the nest since May 24 and members have been watching and photographing the activity around the nest. We know from these observations that both adults have taken turns sitting on the nest, and that the male often returns to the nest with a fish which the female takes away with her when she leaves. There have not been any confirmed sightings of a chick, although a photo taken by Nicola Clark may have captured a chick in the nest.



Adult Eastern Osprey at nest on Budd Is. Photo: G. McVeigh

Eastern Osprey typically lay 2 to 3 eggs which are incubated by both the female and male, although predominately the female, for 33 to 38 days. Nestlings are brooded by mainly by the female who feeds the chicks on food delivered by the male. Young fledge in 7 to 11 weeks but continue to return to the nest to be fed for another 1 to 2 months. According to research on the north coast of NSW, breeding success is about 60%. (www.environment.nsw.org.au)

Using these estimates of breeding times and applying them to what we know about our pair we can make the following calculations. An adult Osprey was first observed sitting on the nest on May 24th - if it was incubating eggs, then we would expect those eggs to hatch by July 1st at the latest. The chicks should then fledge between August 19th and September 16th and continue to be present until mid to late October. If breeding has been successful, then the chicks should now start to be more visible so we should keep an eye on the nest for a little while longer.



Swift Parrot records from the May 2017 survey weekend and incidental records from January to July 2017. Source: BirdLife Australia.

Swift Parrot surveys have been conducted again in the second half of the year but no birds have been detected in our area. A general lack of flowering Spotted Gum could explain the absence of the species in the Eurobodalla this year. Results from BirdLife Australia's first half of 2017 report showed that the species chose a more inland route through central Victoria and NSW, as the map shows. In NSW, large concentrations of Swift Parrot were recorded in the Hunter Valley, with over 200 birds feeding on Spotted Gum south of

Cessnock, and in the Ingalba Nature Reserve near Temora, with more than 100 feeding on lerp on the Mugga Ironbark and Inland Grey Box. Another large group was reported at Frogmore near Boorowa. On the south coast, there was an unconfirmed report of Swift Parrot at Port Kembla and a single bird in Booderee National Park. We will continue surveys through until October so please contact me if you are interested in participating. Julie Morgan

Introducing *Maratus sapphirus*

A new species of Peacock Spider has been discovered on the south coast of NSW and ENHS members were involved in finding it. Helen Ransom, Dianne Deans and I joined Canberra spider man, Stuart Harris, in a Peacock Spider survey at the BioBlitz south of Bermagui last November. We were in the Murrah Flora Reserve when Helen pointed out a spider that she had found. This led to much excitement when Stuart said he'd never seen it before and that it could be a new species. Dr Jurgen Otto confirmed Stuart's suspicions and this has now been verified and the species has just been described. The species name "sapphirus" was chosen because of the blue on the abdomen of the spider and because of its discovery on the Sapphire Coast. For more details on this exciting discovery, just enter the species name into your search engine. It has received much media coverage. Julie Morgan



Maratus sapphirus

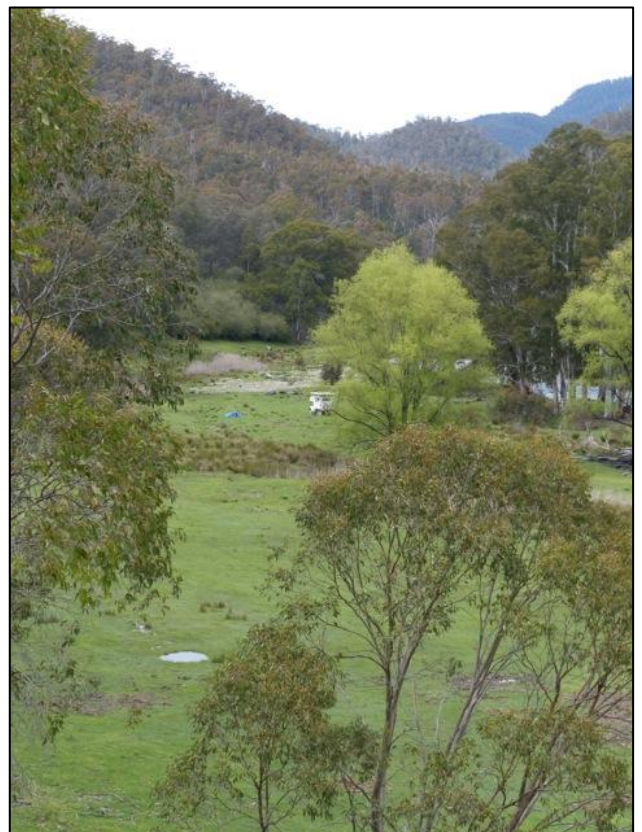
Photo: S. Harris

Cuckoos and Nest Predators in a Different Habitat

We have recently completed a couple of studies on our property, Ballara, 5 km NE of Moruya. One of the studies was on nest predation, the other on the parasitism strategy of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo (Guppy et al 2016; 2017). These articles can be found on the Publications page of the ENHS website.

Last season (September-December 2016) we shifted our efforts to another site, for two reasons, based on the studies mentioned above. First, the data we collected on the nest predators was so unexpected that we wanted to check it at another site. Second, the data we collected on the Fan-tailed Cuckoos in particular, as a nest predator, were so puzzling that we wrote a dedicated paper on it (see above), and wanted to see if the same thing was occurring in a different habitat.

The site we chose was at the southern end of the Brindabella Valley, 600m long x 200m wide, at an altitude of 600m, on a property called Koorabri. Michael has had an association with this property for 40 years, ever since he started fly-fishing in the Goodradigbee in the late 1960's. The site was mainly flat, open country, with a small creek running through the middle. The large Goodradigbee River runs down one side, and there is a steep hillside on the other side. The site encompassed about 50m of the hillside, which comprised mainly Narrow- and Broad-leaved Peppermint, *Cassinia* sp, three species of Wattle (*Acacia* ssp) and a Tea Tree (*Leptospermum* sp). The remainder of the site was dominated by tussocks (*Poa* sp), and Broad-leaf Cumbungi (*Typha orientalis*) and sedges (sp), in and around the creeks.



Koorabri

Photo: M&S Guppy

So this site comprised a totally different habitat from the one found at Ballara, but with many of the same species of birds.

We took our campervan up there for 3-4 days every alternate week, and did the same sort of field work that we have been doing at Ballara, including using cameras on nests. The data we collected are shown in Figure 1 and the significant points are summarized below:

Figure 1

Nest	Superb-Fairy-wren	White-browed Scrubwren	Brown Thornbill	Spotted Pardalote	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Rufous Whistler
Not completed	4		1			
Active 8/9/16-20/12/16				1		
Abandoned	2					
Successful	6	1				
Predated (Currawong)	2					
Predated (Whipbird)	1					
Predated (Brown Snake)	1					
Predated (Blue Tongue Skink)				1		
Unknown predator	1				1	1
Total nests	23					
Total successful	7					
Total predated	8					

1. We only found nests of 6 species, and 74% of the nests we found were those of the Superb Fairy-wren.
2. The success rate for all nests (that progressed to one egg) was 32%. This is lower than the average success rate on the Ballara site.
3. A Whipbird did attack one nest, of a Fairy-wren, which implies that the Whipbird individual, or individuals, that took so many nests during the Ballara study, were not simply aberrant birds, i.e. we don't have a rogue nest-predating Whipbird on the Ballara Site. The contribution by the Whipbird to nest predation was low compared to the Ballara Study, but the habitat on most of the site was not conducive to Whipbirds.
4. No cuckoo was seen at any nest, and no cuckoo eggs were found in any nest. This is despite at least 5 Fan-tailed cuckoos being seen on the site at any one time, and the Fairy-wren being a known host for this cuckoo in some habitats.
5. The Currawong was a significant predator, accounting for 40% of nest predations. This is high compared to the 8% contribution by Currawong over the three years of the Ballara study. There was a Currawong breeding on the site (as there was in the Ballara study), but at Koorabri (unlike at Ballara), all the wren nests would have been visible from the Currawong's nest site.
6. The Brown Snake and Skink were predators we had not encountered before, which shows that there will be habitat-specific predators for the same nesting species.

This study showed us that nest predation is qualitatively habitat-specific, but quantitatively is similar regardless of habitat, for the small passerines. It only deepened the mystery of the Fan-tailed Cuckoo, which was present in numbers, but seemingly had no interaction with any of the nests. And finally, the study showed us what a rich environment we have at Ballara, and what a good choice Sarah's father made in 1972, to buy Ballara and study the birds on the property.

As for the future, we now know that the Reed Warblers come into the valley late in the breeding season. We were just beginning to hear them (over the flies!) as we wound up the study in December. So for the next study we will return late in the season to see whether perhaps the Reed Warbler nests are the target of the Fan-tailed Cuckoos. We would like to thank Peter and Fran Smith, and their dog Shandy, for welcoming us to their property, and for the help they gave us with the study. Michael and Sarah Guppy

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and the Eurobodalla

I recently attended a workshop organised by a BirdLife Australia to learn more about their Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) program and how individuals and organisations such as the ENHS can contribute. The KBA program is the successor and extension of BirdLife Australia's Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) program, broadening the concept of an IBA to include all biodiversity. As many of you will know, the Eurobodalla has been part of an IBA, extending from Ulladulla to Merimbula, reflecting its importance as habitat for the Swift Parrot.

A Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas was launched by BirdLife International and ten other leading non-government conservation organisations last September. For an area to be declared a KBA it must have either at least >0.5% of the population of an endangered species or at least 1% of a species at a critical stage of their life cycle, for example a migration stopover. You will be pleased to learn that our local IBA has met the criteria for a KBA and is now a part of that program. Amy Harris (NPWS) and I have been nominated as the Guardians for this KBA. (For more details on KBAs see <http://www.birdlife.org.au/projects/KBA>)

At the workshop, the importance of collecting data on species within the KBA and how this should be done was discussed. We have a long history of data collection within ENHS, however, because of the approach and information required by BirdLife, we cannot simply enter the information from our database into theirs. I think we can nevertheless extend our current data collection efforts to input into the KBA program.

BirdLife Australia requires systematic surveys be conducted, for example a 20 minute/2 hectare search or a 500 metre area search, with GPS coordinates to be recorded. The information can then be sent directly into their web based data portal, Birdata, using a phone app. For details see <http://birdata.birdlife.org.au/>

I will use the Birdata app at our field meetings and will be happy to demonstrate its use to anyone interested. There are also plans to hold a workshop in association with NPWS, to teach interested members how to use Birdata. In the meantime, please contact me if you'd like any further information. Julie Morgan

Field Trip Report - Moruya Heads

I was asked to lead a Field Trip to share the load amongst field trip leaders. I would like to say it was due to my expertise in birds, but nobody would accept that reason. The walk was at Moruya South Head with an optional walk to Pedro Point. There were thirteen in the group. We walked to the beach below the meeting spot and then meandered along the road, firstly the coastal side and then around to Shelly Beach. One whale was sighted far off in the distance. Sixteen seals cavorted in the water below the cemetery. The birding highlights were a Golden Whistler, six albatross and a group of Silvereye.



Seals cavorting off Toragy Point

Photo: G. McVeigh

In addition to shouting "car coming", I felt that I should instil some discipline into the group. I chastised one person for using questionable language. I had to speak to two people concerning straying from the group. This latter action unfortunately caused mirth, with members of the group saying that this was the pot calling the kettle black.

We went to Pedro Point but as there were few birds and it was late and getting cold, we returned to the cars and did the bird count. During the bird count two people arrived and interjected. The man asked whether we had seen the sandpipers which were running around on the beach. Peter asked whether they had red on their

heads. When the man described them, I concluded that they were seagulls. He responded that if I was the guide, then the group would not be likely to find anything. I said this sort of thing does not happen to Julie.

He had taken photos of the birds which were Red-capped Plovers and we added them to the bird count. Two ravens arrived late and were also added. The weather was beautiful and we all saw most of the birds. Leading the walk was an interesting experience and one that succeeded because of the assistance and goodwill of those who attended the field trip. I recommend it to others. Geoff McVeigh

Field Trip Report to Cadgee Farm – Local History and Natural History

A grey and overcast morning greeted the twenty ENHS members, as we assembled in Bodalla. However, our spirits lifted when Julie Collett, our leader for the day, announced that there would be a change of plans. We had the rare privilege of being invited by Cath Lawler, the owner of Cadgee Farm, to spend the day bird-watching around her property.

Our Society historian, Peter Collett, then outlined the extraordinary history of the property. It was originally settled by the Byrne family in the 1850s and, on our visit, we would see some of the original buildings and get the opportunity to meet Cath, who was a repository of the property's history. Most remarkable was that the Farm had been visited by the notorious bushrangers, the Clarke gang, who were judged to be more "bloody" than even the Kelly gang. On April 9th 1866, they rode into the then thriving mining town of Nerrigundah, believing that it was unprotected and that store holders had large reserves of gold. After taking hostages and robbing them, they were confronted by Constable Miles O'Grady – a shootout ensued and the Constable was killed. In their efforts to escape, the Clarke gang invaded the Byrne's home and threatened to kill the family and burn the house down. Thankfully the family was spared that fate. In April 2016, the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary celebrated the Constable's bravery with a flag raising ceremony in Nerrigundah.



The house at Cadgee

Photo: A. Christiansen



Dusky Woodswallow Photo: A. Christiansen

We had much to look forward to and set off in our usual convoy to tour the 800 hectare property, with occasional stops to see the bird-life on the way. The rain didn't deter us from venturing out as there was so much to see. Above us, we saw a Peregrine Falcon and Wedge-tailed Eagle soaring in the grey clouds. We also observed large flocks of Red Wattlebirds moving through the trees, two Dusky Woodswallows perched in an Angophora tree, White-throated Treecreepers and two darting Restless Flycatchers.

The sun finally came out at lunch-time and we were entertained by the sight of an Eastern Yellow Robin sitting on a post in the sunlight. The total bird count for the day was 53 species. There are so many people to thank for such a rewarding day – Cath Lawler and her daughter Moira for taking the time to tell us about the property's history and to Peter and Julie Collett for making the visit possible. Helen Kay

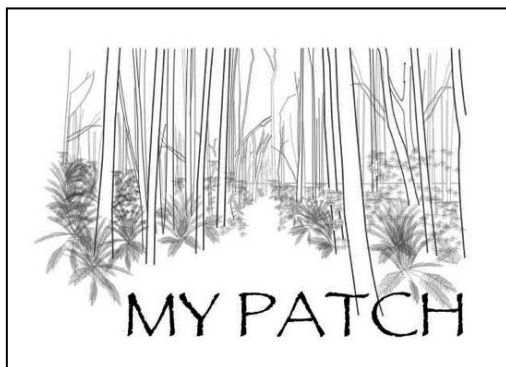
PS. If anyone is interested in finding out more about the Clarke gang, Peter Collett recommends The Clarke Gang: Outlawed, Outcast and Forgotten by Peter C. Smith. The book is the culmination of more than 50 years of research into the notorious Clarke brothers and was launched in May 2015.

Australia races towards the equator

Wollongong academic Dr Kevin Mills distributes a monthly electronic newsletter entitled “Budawangia”, a publication designed to inform people who are interested in the plants of the New South Wales south coast. As you would expect, the majority of the articles have a botanical theme. But in the August edition, the following short article attracted my interest. Mandy Anderson

“Australia is moving north at maximum speed! Those of us regularly using the Global Positioning System (GPS) will be glad to hear that the authorities are taking steps to keep up with Australia’s movement northwards. The Australian continent, part of the IndoAustralian Plate, is moving north at a rate of about 6-7 cm each year, faster than any other land mass; there is also a slight clockwise rotation. Four times in the last 50 years coordinates had to be adjusted to keep pace with the northward advance. In a lifetime of 85 years, Australia would be about 5.9 metres closer to the equator than when the person was born. The coming technology will allow GPS devices to be accurate to within about 2.5 cm or less. Why does such accuracy matter? Well, consider driverless cars, surveying and navigation, all of which require as accurate a location as possible to maximise their efficiency and safety. While not making a change for a couple of years may not be a big problem, consider the cumulative inaccuracy if modifications were not made for a decade or two.”

Reproduced here with the kind permission of Kevin Mills. If you would like to subscribe to the electronic newsletter please contact Kevin at kevinmillskma@gmail.com



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

The challenges of identifying a Tawny Grassbird

A Tawny Grassbird was seen over about 3 months from May to July this year on our farm ‘Comerang’. It took me a while to be sure of the identification as we also have Little Grassbird, Golden-headed Cisticola, Rufous Songlark and Australian Reed-Warbler and 4 of the 5 species were present at the time. Because of similarities between these species, the Tawny Grassbird could possibly be overlooked in the shire.

The Tawny Grassbird would appear briefly, flying up to a vantage point on top of a reed, log or the electric fence, call several times “tok-tok”, sometimes look around and then fly back under cover again. It was less secretive than the Little Grassbird, and both were seen amongst the reeds at the edge of the swamp. However, the Tawny Grassbird was also seen flying in and out of a nearby paddock of corn, which is also the behavior of the Australian Reed-Warbler seen here. It also spent time in a grassy paddock and amongst logs, often up to 100 metres away from the swamp. This habitat is similar to that used by both Golden-headed Cisticola and Rufous Songlark. Julie Collett

Highlights from ENHS records - Winter 2017

Avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Emu	1	Dalmeny	MA	First record at this location.
Stubble Quail	Up to 10	Com	JC	
Brown Quail	1	Com	JC	
Freckled Duck	12	Trunketabella	JMG	
Pink-eared Duck	30, 1	Trunketabella/ Com	JMG/JC	
Australian Shoveler	20, 7	Trunketabella / Com	NC/JMG/JC	
Hardhead	30, 7	Trunketabella/ Com	JMG/JC	
Hoary-headed Grebe	6, 4	Trunketabella/ Com	JMG/JC	
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Up to 30	MKS	SMG	
Common Bronzewing	13	MKS	SMG	
Peaceful Dove	Call	Com	JC	
Topknot Pigeon	3, 2	MO/Turlinjah	NM/AM	
Albatross sp	6	Bogola Head	FM	
Black-browed Albatross	6, 2	MHS/Bogola Head/Sth DS	FM/J Coffey	
Fluttering/Hutton's Shearwater	2,000, 50	Off Sth DS/ Mullimburra Pt	J Coffey/FM	In our area, most are likely to be Fluttering.
Australasian Gannet	24	Bogola Head	FM	Including juveniles
Great Cormorant	16	Bogola Head	FM	
Little Black Cormorant	120	Sth DS/MB	J Coffey/MA	
Pied Cormorant	3	Mullimburra Pt	FM	
White-necked Heron	Up to 10	Com	JC	
Eastern Great Egret	4	Sth DS	J Coffey	
Intermediate Egret	2	MYA/Com	JM/JC	
Cattle Egret	34	Com	JC	
White-faced Heron	30	Com	JC	2 displaying at Tomakin in Aug.
Striated Heron	2	MO/ Mullimburra Pt	NM	Both immature birds at different stages observed in June.
Eastern Reef Egret	2, 1	MB/BB/Broulee /MO	MA/KD/MF/ NM	
Nankeen Night Heron	2	Gannon's Pt	JM/JC/AM	
Straw-necked Ibis	60	Com	JC	
Royal Spoonbill	3, 2	Com//Broulee/ MB	JC/GLM/MA	
Eastern Osprey	2	BB	NC/GLM/JM AM/MA/KD	Nesting continues. Also, an adult female at MHS carrying a fish. (MC)
Square-tailed Kite	1	MHS/MB	MC/MA	
White-bellied Sea- Eagle	3	MB/ Mullimburra Pt	MA/FM	Immature at MB
Whistling Kite	2	Com	JC	On the nest
Grey Goshawk	1	Mullimburra Pt /PS/MO	FM/JM/NM/ DHK	
Swamp Harrier	1	MB	MA	
Wedge-tailed Eagle	2	MKS/MO/Com/ MB/Coolagolite	SMG/NM/JC /MA/DO	
Little Eagle	1	Kianga	T&A Ross	
Peregrine Falcon	1	Com/Belowra	JC	
Buff-banded Rail	2	NA	JMG	
Aust Pied Oystercatcher	5	Dalmeny	MA	

Sooty Oystercatcher	6, 5, 4	MB/CO/Sth DS/ Broulee/ Candlagan Ck	MA/JM/FM/ GLM/HR	
Black-winged Stilt	11, 4	Com/ Trunketabella	JC/JMG	4 immatures at Com in July
Red-capped Plover	38, 30	Bogola Head/ Brou L	FM/MA	
Double-banded Plover	5, 2	CO/NA/MO/ Brou L	JM/JMG/NM /MA	Colouring up in late August in preparation for their flight to NZ
Hooded Plover	1	MB	MA	immature
Red-necked Stint	4	Brou Lake	MA	August
Masked Lapwing	70	Com	JC	
Bar-tailed Godwit	40	NA	JMG	
Eastern Curlew	4	BB	DB	
Caspian Tern	8, 6	Brou L/NA	MA/JMG	
White-fronted Tern	1	Bingie Pt/ Bogola Head/ Sth DS	DHK/FM	
Crested Tern	200	Sth DS	J Coffey	
Glossy Black Cockatoo	Up to 8	Bodalla	MA	
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	10	Malua Bay	MW	
Gang-Gang Cockatoo	2, calls	Lilli Pilli/ Coolagolite/MO	IAG/DO/NM	
Rainbow Lorikeet	20	Broulee	GLM	
Musk Lorikeet	6, 2	MB/Sth DS/ Com	MA/FM/JC	
Little Lorikeet	6, 2	Malua Bay/PS	MW/JM	
Australian King Parrot	50, 18, 16	Com/Coman's Mine/MKS	JC/FM/SMG	
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	1	Com	JC	First return 24 August
Pallid Cuckoo	1	PS	JM	First return 20 August
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	1 or 2	widespread		
Powerful Owl	Call	MKS	SMG	August
Eastern Barn Owl	1	Com	JC	
Azure Kingfisher	1	Tomakin/Com	GLM/JC	
Sacred Kingfisher	1	Broulee	GLM	August
Superb Lyrebird	3	Coman's Mine	FM	
Red-browed Treecreeper	Call	Nerringundah Trig	FM	
Green Catbird	1	NA	JMG	In August
Variegated Fairy-wren	40	Sth DS	FM	
Southern Emu-wren	6, 1	Broulee/MYA	GLM/LB	New location for the species in MYA.
Yellow Thornbill	20	Broulee	GLM	
Striated Pardalote	2	Com	JC	In August
White-eared Honeyeater	6, 2, 1	PS/MKS/MO	JM/SMG/ NM	Still present at MKS August 27 th
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	2	MKS	SMG	
Fuscous Honeyeater	4, calls	PS/MKS	JM/SMG	
Red Wattlebird	25, 20	Gannon's Pt/ Broulee	JM/JC/AM/ GLM	
Scarlet Honeyeater	Calls	Malua Bay/ Com/MB/ Mullimburra Pt	MW/MA/JC/ FM	In August
Crescent Honeyeater	6	Coman's Mine	FM	

White-cheeked Honeyeater	4	Coman's Mine	FM	
White-naped Honeyeater	10	Nerrigundah Trig	FM	
Noisy Friarbird	Up to 20	PS	JM	First return August 12
Varied Sittella	9, 5, 3, 1	MO/Malua Bay/Com/Mullimburra Pt	NM/MW/JC/FM	
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	1	PS/Com	JM/JC	
Crested Shrike-tit	1, call	Com/MKS	JC/SMG	
Olive-backed Oriole	Call	Mullimburra Pt	FM	First Aug 12
Grey Currawong	1	Com	JC	
White-winged Chough	Up to 20	PS	JM	
Jacky Winter	18	Belowra	JC	
Scarlet Robin	4, 2	Belowra/PS/Bergalia	JC/JM/DHK	
Rose Robin	4, 2	Com/Gannon's Pt	JC/JM/AM	
Golden-headed Cisticola	6	Com	JC	
Tawny Grassbird	1	Com	JC	June/July
Fairy Martin	20, 2	Corunna/Bogola Head	MA/FM	
Tree Martin	100, 10	Com/MO	JC/NM	
Bassian Thrush	2	Malua Bay	MW	
Common Blackbird	3	Lilli Pilli/MB	IAG/MA	
Common Myna	20	Eurobodalla Rd	FM	
Mistletoebird	1 or calls	PS	JM	
Australian Pipit	12	Com	JC	
European Goldfinch	30, 3	Com/Belowra	JC	

Non-avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Short-beaked Echidna	3, 1	MB/Coolagolite	MA/DO	
Long-nosed Bandicoot	Signs	Mullimburra Pt	FM	
Common Wombat	1, signs	Com/Coolagolite	JC/DO	
Yellow-bellied Glider	1	Mossy Pt	HR	
Sugar Glider	1 or calls	Coolagolite/Mossy Pt/PS/Com	DO/HR/JM/JC	
Common Brushtail Possum	Up to 6, 2	Com/Lilli Pilli	JC/IAG	
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	Up to 57	Coolagolite	DO	48 at Sth DS (J Coffey)
Red-necked Wallaby	5	Coolagolite	DO	
Swamp Wallaby	Up to 16	MB	MA	
House Mouse	1	Coolagolite	DO	
Black Rat	1	PS	JM	
Dingo	Call	Com	JC	August
Red Fox	Call	PS	JM	August
Fallow Deer	10	West Flat	JC	West of Bodalla
Deer sp.	1	Coolagolite	DO	
Rabbit	6, 1	Broulee/Bingie Pt/MB/Coolagolite	GLM/DHK/MA/DO	Many at Bingie Pt
Snake-necked Turtle	3, 1	Coolagolite/Mossy Pt	DO/HR	Found dead at Coolagolite.
Dark-flecked Garden	2	MYA	JL	

Sunskink				
Eastern Blue-tongue	1	Mossy Pt	HR	In July
Jacky Lizard	1	Mossy Pt/ Coolagolite	HR/DO	In August
Diamond Python	1	PS/MB	JM/MA	
Red-bellied Black Snake	1	PS/Com/ Coolagolite	JM/JC/DO	June and August
Australian Fur Seal	16	MHS	FM	
Humpback Whale	12, 3	Bogola Head/ Sth DS/MB	FM/MA/ J Coffey	
Bottlenose Dolphin	8, 6	MB/Sth DS	MA/ J Coffey	

Frogs JC/JM/DO/HR	Common Eastern Froglet, Brown Striped Frog; tree frogs: Brown, Eastern Sedgefrog, Jervis Bay, Keferstein's, Peron's, Tyler's, Verreaux's
Moths JC/JM/KD	Ghost, Subidaria, Red-lined Geometrid, Variable Halone, Green-blotched
Butterflies J Coffey/JC/JM/HR/DO	Black and Imperial Jezebel, Cabbage White, Forest Brown, Meadow Argus
Beetles JC	Net-winged. Ladybirds: Striped, 26 Spotted, Mealybug, Transverse.
Other JC/JM	Common Paper Wasp, White-faced Brown Paper Wasp
Spiders JC/JM/HR/RS/FM	Leaf-curling, Daddy Long Legs, Black House, Huntsman, Jumping, St Andrew's Cross, Two-tailed, Swift, Wolf.

RAINFALL (mm). June: 22 at Lilli Pilli, 21 at MKS, 19 at Com, 36 at Coolagolite. July: 23 at Lilli Pilli, 23 at MKS, 18.5 at Com, 34.5 at MB, 41 at Coolagolite. August: 19 at Lilli Pilli, 23 at MKS, 56 at Com, 24 at MB, 34 at Coolagolite.

Contributors

MA	M Anderson, MB	IAG	I&A Grant, Lilli Pilli	DO	D Ondinea, Coolagolite
DB	D Bertzeletos, Surfside	JMG	J&M Gordon, NA	HR	H Ransom, Mossy Pt
LB	L Burden, MYA	SMG	S&M Guppy, MKS	BS	B Scales, Kianga
NC	N Clark, Surf Beach	DHK	D&H Kay, Bergalia	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
KD	K Dawes, Surfside	AM	A Marsh, Bingie		R Soroka, Surfside
MF	M Fyfe, Broulee	JM	J Morgan, PS		T&A Ross, Kianga
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/Recorder	Julie Morgan	0457 637 227	chair@enhs.org.au
Secretary	Lyn Burden	0408 183 510	secretary@enhs.org.au
Treasurer	Malcolm Griggs	4472 4150	treasurer@enhs.org.au
Committee	Fran Anderson, Mandy Anderson, Steven Benjamin, Lucy Gibson, David Kay, Gillian Macnamara		
Public Officer and Membership	Malcolm Griggs	4472 4150	treasurer@enhs.org.au
Minutes Secretary	Mandy Anderson	4473 7651	
Editorial Team	Mandy Anderson, Lucy Gibson, David Kay, Helen Kay, Julie Morgan		editor@enhs.org.au
Website Team	Amanda Marsh, Julie Morgan, Roman Soroka		chair@enhs.org.au

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

Copyright 2017. All rights reserved. While all due care has been taken to ensure that the content of this newsletter is accurate and current, there may be errors or omissions and no legal responsibility is accepted for the information in this newsletter.