

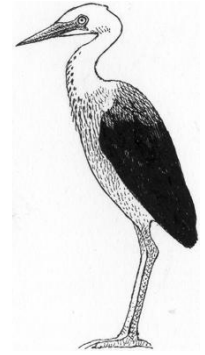


# EUROBODALLA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER NUMBER 175

SPRING 2017

## The Baillon's Crake (*Porzana pusilla*) – Pallas 1776

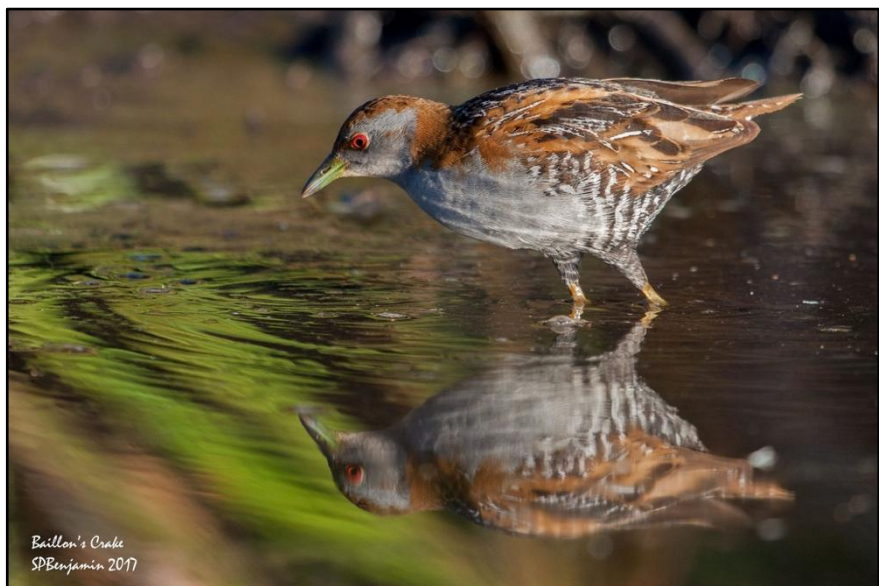
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### *Taxonomy and distribution*

The genus *Porzana* includes some 13 species of medium to small crakes with a worldwide distribution. Of these Baillon's Crake (*P. pusilla*) has one of the most widespread distributions occurring across Europe, Africa, Asia, Australasia and New Zealand. Despite this vast range no subspecies are recognised and it is considered monotypic. As is typical of crakes and rails the species tends to occur on densely vegetated wetlands and is generally hard to see if water levels are high.

### *Description and behaviour*

At 15-16 cm in length Baillon's Crakes are about the same size as the Superb Fairywren (*Malurus cyaneus*) and are the smallest crake or rail to be found in Australia. In adults the combination of size, greenish yellow soft parts, bright red eyes, blue grey underparts and blended brown, black and silver upperparts is unmistakable. The much larger Australian Spotted Crake (*P. fluminea*) is darker underneath and has a red 'shield' on the beak. If only brief glimpses are had the species is most likely to be confused with chicks of a Dusky Moorhen (*Gallinula tenebrosa*) or Purple Swamphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*) which are the same size when newly hatched.



Baillon's Crake

Photo: S. Benjamin

The sexes are generally similar but females differ from males in having paler underparts and a faint brown eyestripe. Juvenile birds are uniformly cinnamon brown with black and silver barring or splotches towards the rear of the body. Chicks are diminutive black downy balls.

As is typical of rails and crakes, the species is generally described as shy and retiring, preferring to feed close to or in dense reed beds. However, dropping water levels can force the species into the open and it can be easily observed if one sits quietly. In fact, in situations such as these it is often determined that the species is common or even abundant. The bird's small size allows it to run over submerged vegetation and it can be seen quickly moving across gaps between reed beds in this manner.

Despite their apparently clumsy flight, rails and crakes are excellent flyers and regularly colonise offshore islands. European populations of Baillon's Crake migrate to Africa in winter. In fact, the discovery of

breeding Baillon's Crakes in sub-Saharan Africa may indicate that the species has two breeding seasons: one in Europe followed by one on the African 'wintering' grounds. The movements of the Australian population are poorly understood. There is at least some migration across Torres Strait to Papua New Guinea and the species has reached sub-Antarctic islands as a vagrant. Like many waterbirds in Australia the species can be irruptive, quickly taking advantage of inland floods before retreating to coastal refugia. As such the species can be encountered anywhere where there is suitable habitat.

Baillon's Crakes are not particularly vocal outside the breeding season and even then their call - a dry 'krrrrr--krrrrr--krrrrr' - may be mistaken for that of a frog or an insect.

### *Diet and breeding*

The species is omnivorous, feeding on a variety of small aquatic invertebrates and vegetable matter. When breeding - which can be at any time in Australia - the male defends a small territory from which he calls to attract a mate. Pairs are solitary. They build a flimsy nest in a dry location in dense cover. The clutch size ranges from 4 to 11 eggs. The brood is incubated by both sexes and takes between 16 and 20 days to hatch. Chicks leave the nest soon after hatching and, though their parents may feed them, they largely fend for themselves.

### *Conservation and status in the Eurobodalla*

Due to the wide distribution and large population the species is considered to be of least concern conservation wise. In Australia the population size and trends are unknown, though it has undoubtedly suffered from habitat destruction. Still the species can be the most numerous crake recorded when conditions allow for crake viewing. In the Eurobodalla the species is seldom observed although it has been recorded most years. Due to its cryptic behaviour it is probably under-recorded. The 2017 sightings have been exceptional and the species clearly irrupted to coastal NSW and Victoria this year as shown by the spikes of records across these states. Dimitris Bertzeletos

## **What's coming up.....**

The Field Meeting Program for 2018 is included with this newsletter. After discussion at the AGM and the committee meeting, it has been decided to return to the traditional start times for the field meeting, 2pm Saturday and 9am Sunday.

**Saturday February 10, Batemans Bay Water Gardens, 2pm:** Meet at the carpark at the end of Museum Place, next to the Old Courthouse Museum, Batemans Bay. A number of interesting species have been seen here over the past few months: Baillon's Crake, Spotless Crake, Latham's Snipe and Red-capped Robin.

**Sunday February 25, Corunna Lake, 9am:** Meet near the corner of Princes Highway and Mystery Bay Rd. Turn left onto Mystery Bay Rd then immediately left again. A mix of shorebirds, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Australian Pipit, Tree and Fairy Martin, honeyeaters, robins, thornbills, Olive-backed Oriole, fairy wrens and fantails.

**Saturday March 10, Brou Lake, 2pm:** Meet at the corner of the Princes Hwy and Brou Tip Rd. 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 25, Monga National Park, 9am:** Meet at the corner of River Forest Rd and the Kings Hwy, the turn-off to Monga National Park. This is the time that the Pinkwood is in flower. Superb Lyrebird, Pilotbird, Rose Robin, Olive Whistler, Red-browed Treecreeper, Large-billed Scrubwren.

And the Friends of **Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden** have advised that (weather permitting) an evening walk is planned for **Friday February 23**. Gates will open at 5.30 pm. Walks after 6:30 pm will be led by ENHS, the Environment Unit of Eurobodalla Council and ERBG volunteer guides. It is unusual to have access to the Garden at night and on a previous walk we did see White-throated Nightjar and many species of frogs. The entry fee will include at least one sizzled sausage. No BBQ facilities will be available to guests who are welcome to bring their own picnic. We will email members more details when they are available. For further details please contact Heather Haughton, [h@haughton.id.au](mailto:h@haughton.id.au)

## **A warm welcome to new members.....**

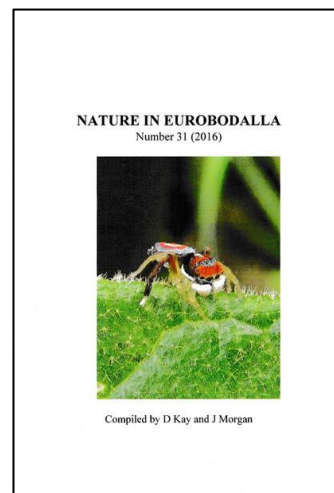
Paul Dumbrell, Tuross Head  
Bill Platts, Broulee  
Joslyn van der Moolen, South Durras

## 2018 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 31 (2016)

We have published the 31<sup>st</sup> edition of *Nature in Eurobodalla*. It is a summary of members' observations by species for 2016 and costs \$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 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



Eastern Osprey nest

Photo: N. Clark

Great news for those of us who had been carefully watching the Eastern Osprey nest at Batemans Bay... we have evidence that a chick fledged!! Nicola Clark took this photo on October 21 confirming that the nest was indeed successful. If you look at the photo closely, there's an adult on the lowest branch on the left with a fish and 2 birds in the nest itself. We had been hopeful, as we had glimpses of what we thought might have been a chick in September and the adults appeared to be feeding young, but nothing definitive until this photo. This is the first breeding record of the species in the Eurobodalla that we are aware of ... although an oyster farmer on Budd Island said that he saw a young bird being fed last year.

The dry weather through winter and spring brought many interesting birds to the coast. A female Red-capped Robin was photographed at the Batemans Bay Water Gardens by Kevin Dawes; this was only the second record of the species in the Eurobodalla. At the same location, a number of Baillon's Crake were observed and photographed. Dimitris Bertzeletos counted 8 at one time but estimated as many as 30 birds were sheltering among the reeds. Baillon's Crake were also recorded at the Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens and Cooper's Island, which is just north of Bodalla. Rufous and Brown Songlark returned to Comerang, with Brown Songlark also recorded at Bodalla and Belowra. Western Gerygone were also heard calling west of Bodalla.

Continuing with the theme of unusual species on the coast, Bill Nagle and Marie Zuvich found a pair of Turquoise Parrots near Bimberamala Creek (just north of the shire) in early November. This stunning parrot has bright green upper parts and a turquoise blue crown and face, and is more commonly seen in central western NSW. It is listed as vulnerable in NSW. The account of the discovery follows. Also at Bimberamala were Brush Bronzewing, Spectacled Monarch and Satin Flycatcher. Further north, Orange Chats were present and showing signs of breeding in Jamberoo, Rainbow Bee-eaters were seen on the Shoalhaven River near Nowra and a pair of Wandering Whistling Duck were seen in Nowra.



Female Red-capped Robin Photo: K. Dawes

Helen Ransom recorded a frog call at Durras and identified it as the Southern Leaf-green Tree Frog *Litoria nudidigitus*. We have had many records of the Leaf-green Tree Frog *Litoria phyllocroa* over the years but this species has been split into two species, with the individuals south of Sydney now classified as a separate species on the basis of distribution and call. This name change will be adopted in future newsletters and in *Nature in Eurobodalla*. Julie Morgan

## Turquoise Parrots near Shallow Crossing

We were on an exploratory 4WD trip just north-west of Shallow Crossing in Bimberamala National Park looking for out-of-the-way campsites in mid November when we came across a very bird-rich little pocket of scrub around a picturesque bush camp site.

There is a great local 4WD guide book (details below) that covers a range of 4WD trips between Batemans Bay and East Gippsland (focusing on sensitive camping-oriented 4WD driving options, not destructive he-man heroics). The trip we were doing was the most northern of the routes in the book. In researching the trip beforehand we had come across references to Ground Parrots being spotted in the area but dismissed this as being a generic reference to possibly Red-Rumps.

Having found a pleasant camp site adjacent to the Bimberamala River crossing on the Cattleman's Fire Trail, we stopped for morning tea and some bird-watching – and there were plenty of birds about: Golden and Rufous Whistlers, Yellow Robins, various cuckoos, Wonga Pigeons, monarchs, flycatchers, bronze-wings and a range of honeyeaters. After we had been there for a while we noticed a pair of parrots moving around quite regularly in the scrub and low trees around the campsite, so we spent a bit of time getting a closer look at these birds. We had to conclude they were both male and female Turquoise Parrots from their diagnostic markings (full yellow underbellies, blue and green wings, blue face on males), and by a process of elimination of other possibilities. At that stage we thought these birds were an interesting find for us, having never seen them personally in this area before, but didn't give it much more thought than that. Over the few hours we spent at the spot the birds came in close a number of times, favouring a couple of unremarkable wind-damaged wattles and stripling gums.

When we were back in civilisation we dropped a note to Julie Morgan mentioning the parrots by way of a query about their abundance in the area. Julie excitedly informed me that there were no confirmed sightings except for a possible aviary escape over 20 years before. We were a bit shocked and went to as many guidebooks and websites as possible to check the birds' details more closely. (There is a surprising range of opinion about the markings, especially the prevalence of the pale orange patch on the lower belly.) We were still confident these were Turquoise Parrots but were slightly unsettled by the out-of-area location and the nature of the closed-in scrub where we saw them



Demetrios Bertzeletos

Turquoise Parrot Photo: D. Bertzeletos

Given the importance of the sightings, the best solution was to go to the spot again to have another look – optimistic as that may sound. So a few days later Julie, Demetris and Bill visited the area again and, just as before, there the parrots were, favouring the same trees. Fortunately, Demetris was able to get some reasonable photos of the pair, and after watching them come and go for about an hour or so, we had no doubt that they were a pair of male and female Turquoise Parrots. Unfortunately, no visits to nesting hollows were observed. The ENHS closed Facebook page has some photos (one included here) and details about the site location and some of the other birds seen in the area.

Note that access to the area is moderately difficult, requiring a 4WD with high clearances and low range capacity to handle some steep rocky track sections, numerous steep-pitched swales, shallow creek crossings and muddy stretches after rain. Bill Nagle and Marie Zuvich

The publication is: Lewis, Craig and Savage, Cathy. *4WD Touring – South East NSW and East Gippsland* (Boiling Billy Publications)

## Beach Plants

Plants play an important role in the formation and stability of our beaches. More than 100 species of native plants are found on sand dunes in SE Australia. As well as these native plants, many exotic species have been spread along the coast by currents and wind. Some of these have been deliberately introduced for rehabilitation and stabilisation of disturbed sites. However, some have become invasive weeds, displacing native vegetation. This article will cover 4 of these plants: 2 natives and 2 exotic.

### **Seaberry Saltbush** *Rhagodia candolleana*

*Rhagodia* is a genus in the Chenopodiaceae family. There are 11 species, all of which are endemic to Australia and found in all states. This species occurs from SE Qld to the Great Australian Bight and Tasmania. It is generally a coastal shrub up to 4m high, growing on cliffs and dunes, often scrambling amongst other shrubs.



Seaberry Saltbush Photo: F. Anderson

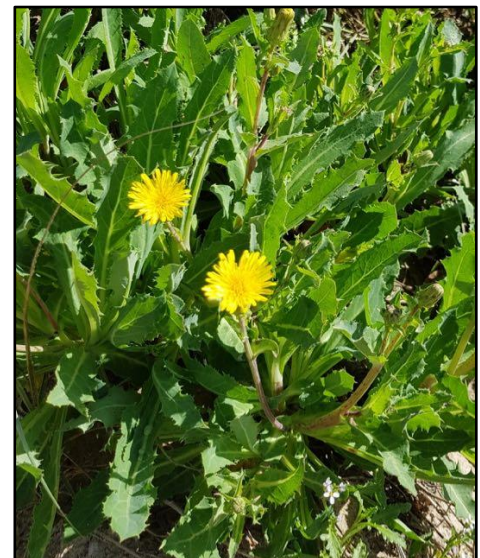
Leaves are small (20-35mm long and 4-12mm wide), widest at the base, semi-succulent, glossy green above and greyish silver underneath. Flowers are very small, greenish grey and crowded along secondary branches. Fruits are almost globular, 4-7mm in diameter, red and fleshy with an acid taste. They are usually profuse along the secondary branches.

This is a good plant for dune stabilisation. It also provides food and refuge for small birds, mammals and lizards. The leaves (after boiling to remove the bitter taste) and fruit are edible. Aboriginal children used the red fruit to paint their faces. As it is tolerant of salt spray and saline soils, Seaberry Saltbush is suitable for coastal gardens. It also tolerates drought and moderate frosts and is fire retardant. In the garden it requires good drainage and can be pruned to promote bushier growth.

### **Dune Thistle, Beach Thistle or Coastal Sourthistle** *Actites megalocarpa*

*Actites*, a genus in the Asteraceae (daisy) family, is endemic to Australia, and this is the only species. It was formerly called *Sonchus megalocarpa*. It grows on sand dunes and coastal cliffs from Southern Qld to South West WA and TAS. It is a fleshy, tufted herb 40-60cm high with green stems containing a milky sap.

Leaves are fleshy and clustered in a basal rosette that lies close to the sand. They can be up to 10cm long and are wider towards the top. The margins are toothed and there is a prominent mid vein raised on the lower surface. The upper surface is dark green and the lower surface is light green. A solitary flower head is found at the end of a long stalk. The flower is bright yellow and 2cm in diameter. It is daisy-like, but has only the outer ray floret, not the disc floret which usually forms the centre of a daisy flower. The flowering period is summer and autumn. The fruit is an achene, which means that it has a dry single seed and does not open when mature. Each seed is tipped with creamy white hairs (like a dandelion) for wind distribution.



Dune Thistle

Photo: F. Anderson

This plant is often mistaken for a weed, but it should not be removed, as it has an important role in sand stabilisation. The leaves are edible, but must be steamed first. They were used by Aboriginal people for pain relief and to induce sleep.

### **Sea Rocket** *Cakile maritima*

The genus *Cakile* is in the Brassicaceae (cabbage) family. There are 7 species which are native to Asia, Europe and North America. *Cakile maritima* is now found growing along the NSW coast south from Woy Woy. It also occurs in Broken Hill.



Sea Rocket

Photo: F. Anderson

It is a spreading, succulent herb, often dense and bushy. The stems are horizontal and up to 80cm long. To cope with the shifting sand, the plant develops a long tap root with many branches which also help to stabilise the sand. The leaves are shiny, pale bluish green and fleshy, helping to retain moisture. The leaf shape and size differ depending on their position on the stem and the stage of development. Most leaves have lobed margins and rounded tips, but some have smooth margins and pointed tips. Flowers are present most of the year. The 4 petals are 8-14 mm long, usually mauve, sometimes white. Fruits are green and succulent when young, later becoming corky and buoyant, allowing dispersal by water. They tend to stick out at an angle to the stem.

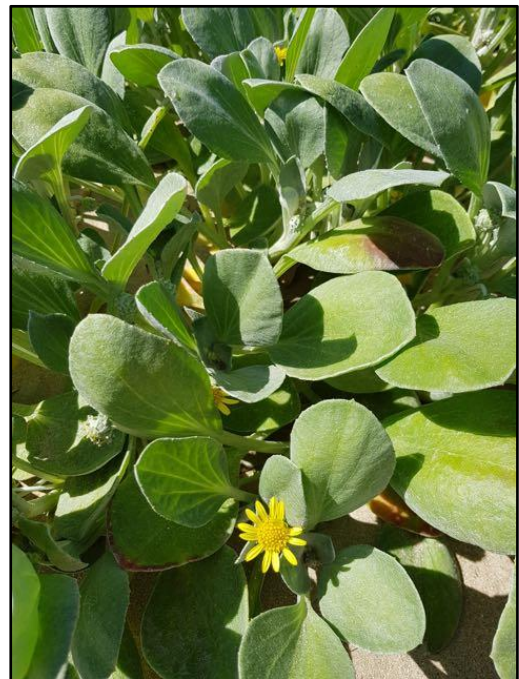
Although this plant is not a native, it is not as invasive as some other weeds and is useful as a sand stabiliser. Apparently, leaves, stems, and immature fruit can be eaten raw or cooked. They are high in Vitamin C but have a bitter taste. Crimson Rosellas eat the fruit and help disperse the seeds, while the Cabbage White Butterfly lays eggs on the leaves. A similar species, *Cakile edentula*, also called Sea Rocket and a native of

North America, is sometimes found on our local dunes. This species generally has smaller leaves, flowers and fruit. The 2 species can be difficult to distinguish.

### **Beach Daisy or Coast Capeweed *Arctotheca populifolia***

This species is a member of the Asteraceae family and a native of South Africa. It was introduced to Western Australia for sand stabilisation and is now found along the coast of temperate Australia, growing on coastal dunes and estuaries. In most of these areas, it competes with native vegetation such as spinifex grass, and should be removed. In NSW, it grows south from Laurieton.

Beach Daisy is a low-growing, semi-succulent, perennial herb up to 30cm high. It has thick, ribbed and decumbent stems. Roots grow from the stem joints to form dense clumps, which accumulate sand to form hummocks. Leaves are greyish green, thick and fleshy, with a dense covering of white, silky hairs. They are oval with pointed tips, 2-6cm long and 1-5cm wide. Flowers occur most of the year. They are found on top of tall (up to 11cm) woolly stalks. The outer ray florets are 5-7mm long; they and the larger central disc florets are golden yellow. The fruit is an achene, about 5 mm long and covered in whitish woolly hairs.



Beach Daisy

Photo: F. Anderson

Although it is a weed, it does help to stabilise the sand. Flowers provide food and nectar for a variety of insects including *Vanessa kershawi*, Australian Painted Lady. Fran Anderson

## Out of shire trip to the Leeton and Griffith area

I had visited Woolshed Flat campsite in Cocoparra National Park during the recce trip in April, but I had forgotten how lovely the open woodland setting was. And the six of us had it almost to ourselves - one other camper had set up some distance away. So, four tents and a big black truck were spread among the trees, with red dirt underfoot. We stayed four nights in this lovely place. Most nights, I fell asleep to the sound of a Willie Wagtail singing its head off in the dark. Well, that and the sound of my brand new, but inexplicably squeaky, camp bed.

At and around the camping area, we saw and heard many birds, including Speckled Warbler, Southern Whiteface, Diamond Firetail, White-browed Babbler, woodswallows in mixed, noisy flocks, and several species of honeyeater. Many of the bird calls we were hearing at the campsite were unfamiliar to me. One call in particular was exercising my mind, as it was so loud and frequent. I named it the 'pleased to meet you' bird, though the intonation was not quite right. Its identity was discussed at length until it eventually called from an exposed perch – it was a Pied Butcherbird.

A tall tree near our tents attracted many small birds in the mornings and late afternoons. Muriel discovered why: rain had filled a hollow and crowds of honeyeaters, including White-plumed, Spiny-cheeked and Brown-headed, were taking turns to drink. At least, most seemed to be taking turns. A Striped Honeyeater jumped the queue and was chased off.

Despite the many attractions of the campsite, we did manage to tear ourselves away. Sites visited around the Griffith area included Jacks Creek, Wyangan Lake (no Great Crested Grebe this time, but Black-winged Stilts and Red-kneed Dotterels), the golf course (parrots and Yellow-headed Miners), Nericon Swamp, Wattle Dam (doves and Turquoise Parrots drinking near sunset), and – my favourite – Campbell's Swamp. The swamp had been dry when we visited in April but, seven months later, was full of water. We saw a good variety of water birds, including Freckled and Blue-billed Duck. Overhead, a raptor caused lengthy discussion, and the differences between our individual observations were fascinating – the tail was fanned, no it was not, the underwing colour pattern was this, no, much more like that. Just as well we did not have to give evidence in court! The bird was not behaving in its usual manner, nor was it displaying its distinctive rump, but we did eventually agree that it was most probably a Swamp Harrier.

Memorable for bumps rather than birds was the drive along a section of the Whitton Stock Route. We had crept along a short section in April and now returned to see if it had improved. It had not. Lurching around in the passenger seat, watching the 'road' ahead deteriorate still further, I was very glad that I was not driving.

While in Griffith, we also managed to catch up with Sue, a local birder in her eighties. We had met her in April, when she had shown us her favourite birding spots. She had also impressed us with her fitness, tearing up one steep, rocky track and leaving some of us 60-somethings struggling in her wake. Unfortunately she was unable to accompany us this time but we had dinner together.

After four nights at Woolshed Flat, we packed up and headed towards Leeton. Having put the tents up and taken them down once, some of us were not keen to repeat the process, so we decided to stay in cabins in Leeton. We were glad of this decision later.

In and around Leeton, we visited Evan Smyles Road, Fivebough Wetlands, Turkey Flat (Painted Honeyeater), Euroley Bridge (no Superb Parrots, but Dollarbird and Sacred Kingfisher) and Billenbah, in the Murrumbidgee Valley National Park. Of these, my favourite place was Fivebough Wetlands, which we visited twice, as it took us a few hours to cover a small section of the track, slowed down as we were by the constant supply of birdlife. Crakes skulked among the reeds, giving us occasional, tantalising glimpses. I did not see the Baillon's Crake that those ahead of me did. My favourite sighting of the day was not a particularly uncommon bird. Attracted by a bright little shape and rapid movement, I followed the dizzying toing and froing of a Golden-headed Cisticola, as it shot about among the reeds, its bill full of fluffy seed. We assumed that it was agitated by our presence and not wanting to reveal its nesting site, so we left it to its frenetic activity.

Also at Fivebough Wetlands, we bumped into Keith Hutton, a Leeton local whom we'd met in April. Keith is a great birder and very involved in local birding activities and projects. He talked about the ecology of the swamp, and expressed the opinion that, rather than being kept permanently wet, it should be allowed to dry out. Keith pointed out a distant flock of Red-necked Avocets that we'd missed, and listed the vast numbers of birds we would have seen if we had been there a few days earlier. But I was pretty happy with what we did see. Again, one of my favourites was definitely not uncommon - large numbers of Whiskered Tern flew over the swamp, showing the black underwings of their breeding plumage. We also saw Australian Shelduck, spoonbill and ibis.

On our last night in Leeton, the wind blew, the rain poured, and I was very pleased not to be in a tent. It was still wet the following morning when we packed up and left. But we still managed some birding, thanks to Lyn's ability to drive (safely) and spot birds at the same time. My favourite was a small flock of Superb Parrot by the side of the road.

Writing now, five weeks after our return, I remember warm, mainly sunny days spent in congenial company, in beautiful surroundings, with some really magical moments, mostly related to birds. There were no 'lifers' for me on this trip but a magnificent list for the group of over 140 birds. (My list was a little shorter, mainly because the early morning walks had to compete with the squeaky comfort of bed.) I would especially like to thank Lyn Burden for managing the trip. As usual, she did an absolutely brilliant job. Gillian Macnamara

### Interesting banding information

Michael and Sarah Guppy shared this excerpt from the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme Newsletter, Flightlines, Number 32, July 2017.

#### BILL BOARD

There have been a few record-breaking recoveries and resightings reported since the last issue of Flightlines.

052-66326 was placed on a Plains-Wanderer (*Pedionomus torquatus*) at Patho Plains, Victoria on 13 May 2016 by Mark Antos. Recaptured by hand and released alive at 'The Ranch', near Boorooban, NSW by Phil Maher on 10 April 2017, 10 months and 28 days after banding. The distance moved is 124km. This is the longest movement recorded for this species, and the only movement recorded between NSW and Victoria.

150-44123 was placed on a pullus female Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Aquila audax*) at Avon Valley National Park, WA on 4 November 2015 by Simon Cherriman. Found dead, cause unknown near the Eyre Highway, west of the Eyre Bird Observatory turn off on 31 March 2017 by a member of the public, 1 year 4 months and 27 days after banding. The distance moved is 956km. This is the longest movement recorded for this species.

132-19712 was placed on an adult male Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*) at Woodstock Nature Reserve, ACT on 28 October 2015 by Jerry Olsen along with a satellite transmitter pack. The transmitter signal was detected near Daly Waters, NT on 2 June 2017, 1 year 7 months and 5 days after banding. The 'great-circle'\* distance moved is 2639km, however the tracking data revealed a 3300km journey. This is the second longest 'great-circle' movement recorded for this species. We are eagerly awaiting the return of this bird to the ACT. If he makes it back to the ACT, he will have travelled in excess of 5200km. This remarkable movement was reported in the Canberra Times: <http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/a-little-eagles-remarkable-migration-from-canberra-to-the-northern-territory-20170421-gvpwm1.html>

100-86690 was placed on a pullus Pied Oystercatcher (*Haematopus longirostris*) at Barilla Bay, Tasmania on 18 December 1984 by Mike Newman. The bird was colour banded with black/green/red on the right leg at the same time. The bird was sighted alive and photographed with the original colour bands at Porpoise Hole, Marion Bay, Tasmania on 27 February 2017 by Eric Whoeler, 32 years, 2 months and 9 days after banding. The distance moved is 30km. This is the longest time elapsed between banding and recovery recorded for this species. It is also the longest time elapsed between banding and recovery for a colour banded bird of any species ever recorded in Australia. There will be a short paper published soon on this remarkable resighting.

R-42720 (New Zealand National Banding Scheme) was placed on a breeding adult male Gibson's Albatross (*Diomedea antipodensis gibsoni*) at Adams Island, New Zealand on 20 February 1991 by Kath Walker and Graeme Elliot. It was suspected that he was at least 10 years old when banded, but possibly as old as 20 years due to his large size and plumage. He was nicknamed 'Tini' due to his size. He was tracked in 2011 to Australian waters off Tasmania. Readable band Red 43G was placed on the bird in 2012 (and he has now lost his original metal band). He was subjected to close monitoring by Kath and Graeme as part of their long term monitoring program on this species at Adams Island, and had the same partner for 15 years until the death of his mate in the 2005/06 season. He has since had a couple of new mates, but unfortunately these have all died before they were able to breed successfully, and he has been without a partner in 2016 and 2017. His readable band was sighted at sea in the Southern Ocean on 21 March 2017 by Eric Whoeler, 26 years 1 month and 1 day since banding. The distance move is approximately 1827km. This is the fourth longest time elapsed between banding and recovery recorded for this species, but the bird may be much older than this. Many thanks to Kath Walker for supplying the life history for Tini.

\* 'Great circle' distance calculations are the shortest distance between two points on the globe, and are how all movements are calculated by the ABBBS database.

You can query these details for all species via our public access web portal:  
<http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/science-and-research/bird-and-bat-banding/banding-data/search-abbbs-database>





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

## It's Spring and Love is in the Air

November 24 – yes, late but still spring, and for some never too late for a little rough and tumble.

Just behind our place in Broulee (35 50' 57"S, 150 10' 15"E), five Flinders Cuckoos decided to give the elderly residents a lesson on how to go about it. As a result, we had a seriously noisy afternoon with two male birds relentlessly pursuing one female while two other males cooed their encouragement - or was it their frustration at missing out from the nearby treetops.

The Flinders Cuckoo, after the great navigator, was given the Latin name *Eudynamys flindersi*, by Vigors and Horsfield in 1826. However, the species name, *E. orientalis*, had originally been applied by Linnaeus in 1766.

This bird has also been known as the Cooee-bird, Rainbird, Stormbird or Corn-planter, the last three because of its time of arrival from northern parts which coincides with the wet season<sup>1</sup>. Today we know the bird, which most annoyingly begins calling loudly and persistently while most of us would prefer to be sleeping, as the Eastern Koel.

Another night-time caller close by right now is the Cuckoo Owl, reportedly so called by the early settlers since its call was, to them, reminiscent of the Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* of their homeland. While not such a raucous intruder, its seemingly never ending mournful two note call can be quite tiresome to some. Today we know it as the Southern Boobook *Ninox novaeseelandiae*. Malcolm Fyfe

<sup>1</sup> **Australian Bird Names: A complete guide**; Ian Fraser & Jeannie Gray, CSIRO 2013

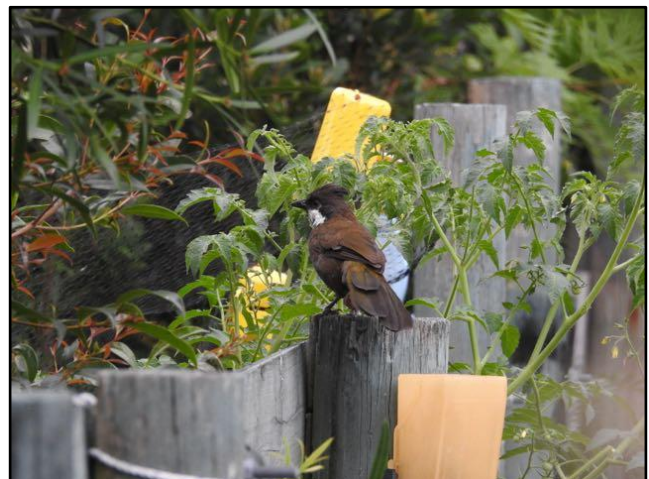
## Eastern Whipbird

For some reason I equated Eastern Whipbirds with Woodpeckers, most probably because of a lack of knowledge of either species and watching too many cartoons. Mostly all we “see” of the Whipbird is their call. It is a loud, sharp whip crack sound which is the male calling its mate. I can recognise its call, which is something I cannot say about most birds.

The other fallacious belief that I had was that they are deaf and that is why they have a loud call. They may be like me and practise selective deafness.

I have mostly seen single birds, but occasionally also pairs. Even I cannot confuse it with other birds. I have always thought that the Whipbird was a furtive bird which kept to itself and ran or flew away when it saw people. This is not always true. I have found that Whipbirds can adapt to humans and are not so secretive in those circumstances. I do not think that they like a crowd.

Adult Whipbirds are mostly olive-green on the top of the back and tail. They are dark underneath with a



Eastern Whipbird

Photo: G. McVeigh

black pointed head. There appears to be a white flowing beard down the cheeks. They have a grey-white belly. The tail is long and sometimes fanned. The eye and bill are dark. They are smaller than a magpie, around 12" in length. The Whipbird hops around and scampers under or through bushes. It feeds on insects and scratches up the surface soil or mulch. You are able to find them from their call and the movement of bushes. The female incubates the eggs but both adults feed the young birds.

At Broulee they are seen especially around sunrise and mostly in the dunes and the bush, although, thanks to our neighbour's bushy block, they have appeared along our fence line. The Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens is a good place to see them. In July 2017, I followed one around for 40 minutes and took almost 200 photos. Of course, I did not hop fences where I should not have done so. Near the Broulee dunes recently a lady asked me what the road runner bird was in the bushes. I showed her a photo (taken shortly beforehand) and was able to identify it for her. Not many people regard me as a birding expert. Perhaps she is the only one. Geoff McVeigh

### Highlights from ENHS records - Spring 2017

| Avian species                | Number   | Place                          | Observer              | Comments                                  |
|------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Emu                          | 1        | Bodalla                        | FM                    |   |
| Stubble Quail                | Up to 20 | Com                            | JC                    |   |
| Musk Duck                    | 2, 1     | Long Swamp/<br>Coopers Is      | MA                    |   |
| Aust Shoveler                | 1        | MO                             | NM                    |   |
| Northern Mallard             | 1        | Com                            | JC                    |   |
| Hardhead                     | 3        | Trunketabella                  | MA                    |   |
| Hoary-headed Grebe           | 8, 1     | Bingie/MO/<br>Brou L           | DHK/NM/<br>MA         |   |
| White-headed Pigeon          | Up to 16 | MKS                            | SMG                   |   |
| Brown Cuckoo-Dove            | 25, 5    | MKS/Lilli Pilli                | SMG/IAG               |   |
| Brush Bronzewing             | 1        | Bimberamala NP/<br>Deua R      | DB/JM/B<br>Nagle/RSAR | Nov                                       |
| Peaceful Dove                | Calling  | Com                            | JC                    |   |
| Wonga Pigeon                 | 14       | Nerringundah and<br>Belowra Rd | JC                    | Between Cadgee Mountain Rd<br>and Belowra |
| Topknot Pigeon               | 23, 10   | MO/MKS                         | NM/SMG                | Also at NA (JMG)                          |
| Tawny Frogmouth              | 1        | Deua R/MB                      | RS/AR/MA              |   |
| White-throated Nightjar      | 2, 1     | PS/MKS/Deua R                  | JM/SMG/RS<br>/AR      |   |
| Aust Owlet-nightjar          | 1        | PS/Com                         | JM/JC                 | Calling during the day at PS.             |
| White-throated<br>Needletail | 40       | PS/Bergalia                    | JM/DHK                | First return Nov 1, Bergalia.             |
| Black-browed Albatross       | Up to 8  | Off Sth DS                     | J Coffey              | In Sep                                    |
| Wedge-tailed<br>Shearwater   | 100s     | Off MB                         | MA                    | Oct                                       |
| Short-tailed Shearwater      | 10       | Off BP/MO                      | NC/NM                 |   |
| Little Penguin               | 1        | Broulee                        | W Platts              | Leg found washed up on beach.             |
| Australasian Gannet          | 30, 40   | Sth DS/MO                      | J Coffey/<br>DHK/NM   |   |
| Australasian Darter          | 1        | BBWG/Com                       | NC/JC                 |   |
| White-necked Heron           | 5, 3, 1  | Com/Cool/MYA/<br>Bergalia      | JC/DO/JM/<br>DHK      |   |
| Pied Cormorant               | 10, 9    | Kianga/MO                      | MA/NM                 |   |
| Australian Pelican           | 11       | TS                             | JH                    |   |
| Eastern Great Egret          | 5        | Sth DS                         | J Coffey              |   |
| Intermediate Egret           | 1        | Com/Brou L                     | JC/MA                 |   |
| Cattle Egret                 | 30, 23   | Tilba/Com                      | MA/JC                 | In breeding plumage in Oct at<br>Com      |
| Striated Heron               | 1        | Broulee/NA                     | GLM/MA                |   |
| Little Egret                 | 20       | Brou L                         | FM                    |   |

|                                 |           |                                 |                     |   |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Eastern Reef Egret              | 2, 1      | MB/BI                           | MA/DO               |   |
| Straw-necked Ibis               | Up to 100 | MYA                             | JM                  |   |
| Royal Spoonbill                 | 12, 1     | Trunketabella/<br>Broulee       | DB/GLM              |   |
| Eastern Osprey                  | 3         | BB/NA                           | NC/A Ross           | Young confirmed in Oct at BB.   |
| Square-tailed Kite              | 1         | PS/MB                           | JM/MA               |   |
| Whistling Kite                  | 3         | Com/Bergalia                    | JC/DHK              | Nesting at Com in Sep.  |
| Collared Sparrowhawk            | 1         | PS/Coila Ck                     | JM/NC               |   |
| Spotted Harrier                 | 1         | BB                              | DB                  | Immature  |
| Little Eagle                    | 1         | Cullendulla Ck                  | DB                  |   |
| Australian Hobby                | 1         | BB/Broulee                      | NC/MF               |   |
| Peregrine Falcon                | 1         | Com/Brou L                      | JC/DB               | Juvenile with fresh Galah kill at Brou L.   |
| Buff-banded Rail                | 3, 1      | TS/ERBG                         | JH/DB               | Chick in Nov at TS.   |
| Baillon's Crake                 | 8, 6, 2   | BBWG/ Coopers Is<br>/ERBG       | DB/MA/MC/<br>GLM/NC | Possibly up to 30 feeding among the reeds at BBWG.  |
| Spotless Crake                  | 2         | BBWG                            | DB/NC/MA            |   |
| Aust Pied Oystercatcher         | 7, 6      | BI/Sth DS/Brou L                | DO/J<br>Coffey/DB   | 2 nest with eggs at Sth DS in Oct;<br>2 chicks from one nest and 1<br>dependent young in Nov. |
| Sooty Oystercatcher             | 6, 4      | NA/Candlagan Ck/<br>Broulee/MB  | MA/HR/<br>GLM       | In Nov.   |
| Pacific Golden Plover           | 1         | MB                              | MA                  | In Oct.   |
| Grey Plover                     | 1         | NA                              | MA/AC               | In Sep.   |
| Red-capped Plover               | 12, 2     | Brou L/Sth DS                   | FM/J Coffey         |   |
| Double-banded Plover            | 1         | Brou L                          | MA                  | In breeding colours in Sep.   |
| Black-fronted Dotterel          | 4, 2, 1   | Com/MO/Bingie/<br>Trunketabella | JC/NM/DHK<br>/DB    | Dependent young at Com in Oct.  |
| Latham's Snipe                  | 2, 1      | Coila Ck/ERBG/<br>Com           | NC/JC               |   |
| Bar-tailed Godwit               | 40, 32    | NA/Brou L                       | MA/NC               |   |
| Eastern Curlew                  | 4, 1      | BB/NA                           | KD/MA               |   |
| Red Knot                        | 1         | Brou L                          | MA                  |   |
| Red-necked Stint                | Up to 19  | Brou L                          | MA/MGLB/<br>FM      |   |
| Sharp-tailed Sandpiper          | 1         | BBWG/Brou L                     | DB                  | Juvenile  |
| Curlew Sandpiper                | 1         | Brou L                          | MA                  | Sep   |
| Little Tern                     | 50        | Brou L                          | FM/NC               | Courtship feeding Nov 9.  |
| Caspian Tern                    | 3         | Sth Ds                          | J Coffey            |   |
| White-fronted Tern              | 1         | Bingie                          | DHK                 | 4 Sep.  |
| Whiskered Tern                  | 1         | Brou L                          | NC                  |   |
| Glossy Black Cockatoo           | 6, 3      | MKS/PS                          | SMG/JM              | Dependent young at PS from Sep.   |
| Yellow-tailed Black<br>Cockatoo | 9, 7, 6   | MKS/Broulee/<br>Bergalia        | SMG/GLM/<br>DHK     |   |
| Gang-Gang Cockatoo              | 4, 3      | Broulee/Lilli Pilli             | GLM/IAG             |   |
| Galah                           | 60        | Broulee                         | GLM                 | 40 eating seeds on the beach.   |
| Rainbow Lorikeet                | 50 to 100 | Broulee                         | GLM                 |   |
| Musk Lorikeet                   | 20, 10    | MB/Com                          | MA/JC               |   |
| Little Lorikeet                 | 6         | PS                              | JM                  |   |
| Turquoise Parrot                | 2         | Bimberamala NP                  | DB/JM/B<br>Nagle    | Just north of the shire.  |
| Eastern Koel                    | 5         | Broulee                         | MF                  | See story in My Patch   |
| Channel-billed Cuckoo           | 2         | TS                              | JH                  | Being chased by a Pied<br>Currawong   |
| Horsfield's Bronze-<br>Cuckoo   | 2, 1      | Com/PS/MO/<br>Belowra           | JC/JM/NM/<br>FM     | More than usual at Com  |
| Shining Bronze-Cuckoo           | 4, 2      | MO/Com                          | NM/JC               |   |
| Pallid Cuckoo                   | 2, call   | Com/Belowra/<br>Malua Bay       | JC/MW               | Back at Com after several years<br>absence.   |

|                             |            |                                |                     |   |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Brush Cuckoo                | 4, call    | PS/MKS/Com                     | JM/SMG/JC           | First return 25 Sep   |
| Barking Owl                 | Call       | MB                             | MA                  |   |
| Sacred Kingfisher           | 8, 6       | Belowra/Com                    | FM/JC               |   |
| Dollarbird                  | 6          | Com                            | JC                  |   |
| Superb Lyrebird             | 7          | Nerrigundah Rd                 | JC                  |   |
| Green Catbird               | 2, 1       | NA/Box Cutting                 | JMG/MA              |   |
| Southern Emu-Wren           | 8          | Broulee                        | GLM                 |   |
| Large-billed Scrubwren      | 1          | Bodalla SF                     | FM                  |   |
| White-throated Gerygone     | 4, call    | Com/Belowra                    | JC                  | First return at Com 17 Sep.                                 |
| Yellow Thornbill            | 40         | Cullendulla Ck                 | JM/MGLB             |   |
| Spotted Pardalote           | 4          | Bodalla SF                     | FM                  | 4 nests along Wagonga Scenic Dr.                            |
| Striated Pardalote          | Call       | Belowra                        | JC                  |   |
| White-cheeked Honeyeater    | 15         | Cullendulla Ck/<br>NA          | JM/MGLB/<br>MA      |   |
| Scarlet Honeyeater          | 10, 8      | Com/MB                         | JC/MA               |   |
| Noisy Friarbird             | 20         | PS                             | JM                  | Dependent young in Oct.                                     |
| Varied Sittella             | 5          | Com                            | JC                  |   |
| White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike | 1 or 2     | MKS/PS/Com                     | SMG/JM/JC           |   |
| Olive-backed Oriole         | 20         | Belowra                        | FM                  | Nesting in Oct.   |
| Cicadabird                  | 8, 1, call | PS/Malua Bay/<br>MKS/Belowra   | JM/MW/<br>SMG/JC    | First return 7 Oct MKS.                                     |
| Crested Shrike-tit          | 1          | Belowra/MB                     | JC/AC               |   |
| Rufous Whistler             | 6          | Com                            | JC                  | First return 19 Sept.                                       |
| Australasian Figbird        | Calls      | Cullendulla Ck                 | JM/MGLB             |   |
| White-breasted Woodswallow  | 8          | PS                             | JM                  | Nov.  |
| Dusky Woodswallow           | 8, 6, 3    | Belowra/Coopers<br>Is/Bodalla  | FM/MA/DB            | Nest building at Belowra in Oct.                            |
| Rufous Fantail              | 1          | MKS/NA                         | SMG/JMG             | In Nov.   |
| Restless Flycatcher         | 4, 2       | Com/Belowra                    | JC/FM               | Nesting at Belowra and Com in Oct. Two young at Com in Nov. |
| Leaden Flycatcher           | Up to 6, 2 | PS/Belowra/MB                  | JM/FM/MA            | First return Oct 11. Nesting.                               |
| Satin Flycatcher            | 1          | Bimberamala NP<br>/MO          | DB/JM/B<br>Nagle/NM |   |
| Spectacled Monarch          | 2          | Bimberamala NP                 | DB/JM/B<br>Nagle    |   |
| Black-faced Monarch         | 3, 2       | Belowra/MO/<br>Com             | JC/NM/FM            | First return Sep 29.  |
| Red-capped Robin            | 1          | BBWG                           | KD                  | Female. 2 <sup>nd</sup> record in the shire.                |
| Rose Robin                  | 2, call    | Com/Bodalla SF                 | JC/FM               |   |
| Golden-headed Cisticola     | Calls      | Com                            | JC                  |   |
| Australian Reed-Warbler     | Calls, 1   | MKS/PS/MO/<br>Com              | SMG/JM/<br>NM/JC    |   |
| Tawny Grassbird             | 1          | BBWG                           | DB                  |   |
| Little Grassbird            | 1/call     | BBWG/PS                        | NC/JM               | First call at PS Oct 9.                                     |
| Rufous Songlark             | 1          | Com                            | JC                  | Sep 21  |
| Brown Songlark              | 2, 1       | Com/Belowra/<br>Bodalla        | JC/FM/DB            | From Oct 15, with males displaying at Com.                  |
| Silvereye                   | 50, 40     | Malua Bay/Sth DS               | MW/ J<br>Coffey     |   |
| Tree Martin                 | 20, 10, 5  | MB/Com/MYA/<br>Illawong NR     | MA/JC/JM/<br>FM     |   |
| Bassian Thrush              | 2, 1       | Malua Bay/<br>ERBG/Lilli Pilli | MW/NC/<br>IAG       |   |
| Common Blackbird            | 1          | Malua Bay/                     | MW/MA               |   |

|                    |             |   |                          |     |
|--------------------|-------------|---|--------------------------|-----|
|                    |             | Tilba                                   |                          |     |
| Mistletoebird      | 10          | Cullendulla Ck                          | JM/MGLB                  |     |
| Diamond Firetail   | 8           | Belowra                                 | JC                       |     |
| Australian Pipit   | 10, 4, 2, 1 | Com/Bingie Pt/<br>Belowra/MO/<br>Sth DS | JC/DHK/NM<br>J Coffey/FM |     |
| European Goldfinch | 2           | Com                                     | JC                       | Nov |

| <b>Non-avian species</b>     | <b>Number</b> | <b>Place</b>                                 | <b>Observer</b>            | <b>Comments</b>  |
|------------------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|--|
| Short-beaked Echidna         | 3, 1          | MB/Lilli Pilli/<br>PS/MYA/<br>Bingie Pt/Cool | MA/IAG/<br>JM/DHK/<br>DO   |  |
| Spotted-tailed Quoll         | Signs         | PS   | JM                         |  |
| Common Wombat                | 3, signs      | Belowra/Cool                                 | FM/DO                      |  |
| Sugar Glider                 | 2, call       | Mossy Pt/Cool                                | DO                         |  |
| Yellow-bellied Glider        | 1             | Mossy Pt                                     | HR                         |  |
| Common Ringtail Possum       | 1             | Lilli Pilli/Mossy<br>Pt/Broulee              | IAG/HR/<br>GLM             |  |
| Common Brushtail Possum      | Up to 6       | Com  | JC                         | Adult with young at Lilli Pilli (IAG)                              |
| Eastern Grey Kangaroo        | Up to 66      | Cool   | DO                         |  |
| Red-necked Wallaby           | Up to 5       | Cool   | DO                         |  |
| Swamp Wallaby                | 8             | PS   | JM                         |  |
| Bush Rat                     | 2             | Bergalia                                     | DHK                        | In compost bin.  |
| Grey-headed Flying-fox       | 2             | Com  | JC                         | Oct.   |
| Rabbit                       | 6, 3          | Broulee/Sth DS                               | GLM/J<br>Coffey            | Also at Bingie Pt (DHK)  |
| Pig                          | 3             | West Flat                                    | JC                         |  |
| Fallow Deer                  | 15, 10        | Coila/West Flat                              | NC/JC                      |  |
| Snake-necked Turtle          | 12, 2, 1      | Com/Cool/Bingie                              | JC/DO/<br>DHK              |  |
| Yellow-bellied Water-skink   | 3             | Com  | JC                         |  |
| Eastern Water Skink          | 1             | Lilli Pilli                                  | IAG                        |  |
| Dark-flecked Garden Sunskink | Up to 6       | Mossy Pt                                     | HR                         |  |
| Pale-flecked Garden Sunskink | 1             | Mossy Pt                                     | HR                         |  |
| Eastern Blue Tongue          | 1             | Mossy Pt/ Bingie<br>Pt/MB/Deua R<br>/Com     | HR/DHK/<br>JC/RS/AR/<br>MA |  |
| Jacky Lizard                 | 3, 1          | Cool/Sth DS/<br>Mossy Pt/Broulee             | DO/<br>J Coffey/<br>HR/GLM |  |
| Eastern Water Dragon         | 2             | Deua R                                       | RS/AR                      | Large and engaging in combat                                       |
| Gippsland Water Dragon       | Up to 10      | Com  | JC                         |  |
| Lace Monitor                 | 2, 1          | Belowra/Lilli<br>Pilli/Com/Cool              | FM/IAG/<br>JC/DO           |  |
| Diamond Python               | 1             | Com/MB                                       | JC/MA                      |  |
| Common Death Adder           | 1             | Deua R                                       | RS/AR                      |  |
| Red-bellied Black Snake      | 2, 1          | Com/Bimbimbee<br>/PS/Bingie Pt               | JC/FM/JM/<br>DHK           |  |
| Bottle-nosed Dolphin         | 12, 9         | Off Sth DS/<br>Bingie Pt                     | J Coffey/<br>DHK           |  |
| Humpback Whale               | 6, 2          | Off Bingie Pt/<br>MO/MB                      | DHK/JM/B<br>BLSH/MA        | Sep/Oct  |
| Southern Right Whale         | 2, 1          | Off MO/<br>Sth DS                            | DHK/<br>J Coffey           | Mother and calf off MO in Oct; in Beagle Bay, 31 August and 1 Sep. |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Frogs</b><br>JC/GLM/JM/DO/<br>HR       | Common Eastern Froglet, Brown Striped Frog, Haswell's Froglet, Tyler's Toadlet; tree frogs: Jervis Bay, Keferstein's, Peron's, Southern Leaf-green, Tyler's, Verreaux's, Eastern Sedgefrog.   |
| <b>Moths</b><br>JC/JM/GLM                 | Pink Leaf, Diamondback, Tree Lucerne, eggfruit Caterpillar, Cream Wave, Plantain, Mecynata, Subidaria, Sodaliata, Oval-spot and Spring Taxeotis, Golden-fringed Emerald, Red-spotted Delicate, Red-lined Geometrid, Arc-line, Australian Cranberry, She-oak, Common Antheid, Processionary Caterpillar, Coprosma Hawk, Banded Lichen, Variable Halone, Magpie, Crimson Tiger, Tiger, Green Blotched, Black Noctuid, Bogong, Variable and Brown Cutworm, Native Budworm. |
| <b>Butterflies</b><br>JC/JL/GLM/JM/<br>FM | Macleay's and Orchard Swallowtail, Imperial and Black Jezebel, Capar and Cabbage White, Dusky Knight, Brown Ringlet, Meadow Argus, Australian Painted Lady, Yellow Admiral, Common Varied Sword-grass Brown, Common Grass Blue.   |
| <b>Beetles</b> JC/JM                      | Dung, Net-winged, Click, Small Blue Leaf, Metallic Green, Acacia Leaf, Pintail, Argentinian and Green Scarab. Ladybirds: Striped, 26 Spotted, Mealybug, Transverse, White-collared, Variable.   |
| <b>Dragon/Damsel flies</b> JM/JC          | Common Bluetail, Blue Ringtail, Red and Blue Damsel, Wandering Percher, Tau and Australian Emerald, Blue-spotted Hawker, Blue Skimmer.  |
| <b>Spiders</b><br>JC/JM/HR/FM             | Leaf-curling, Daddy Long Legs, St Andrew's Cross, Black House, Huntsman, Jumping, Striped Saitis, Spiny, White-tailed, Comb Footed, Two-tailed, Swift.  |

**RAINFALL (mm). September:** nil at Lilli Pilli, nil at Com, 2 at MB, 2 at Cool. **October:** 22 at Lilli Pilli, 135 at Bergalia, 144.5 at Com, 72 at MB, 81.75 at Cool. **November:** 83 at Lilli Pilli, 145 at MKS, 136 at Com, 115.5 at MB, 117 at Cool.

#### Contributors

|               |                            |      |                             |       |                                  |
|---------------|----------------------------|------|-----------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| MA            | M Anderson, MB             | IAG  | I&A Grant, Lilli Pilli      | RS/AR | R Stacey & A Rees, MYA           |
| DB            | D Bertzeletos, Surfside    | SMG  | S&M Guppy, MKS              | MW    | M Wilkinson, Malua Bay           |
| AC            | A Christiansen, MB         | JH   | J&J Houghton, TS            | FM    | Field Meeting                    |
| NC            | N Clark, Surf Beach        | DHK  | D&H Kay, Bergalia           |       | J Coffey, Sth DS                 |
| JC            | J&P Collett, Com           | GLM  | G&L McVeigh, Broulee        |       | J Mather, BB                     |
| MC            | M Crowley, MHS             | NM   | N Montgomery, MO            |       | W Platts, Broulee                |
| KD            | K Dawes, Surfside          | JM   | J Morgan, PS                |       | A Ross, Kianga                   |
| MF            | M Fyfe, Broulee            | DO   | D Ondinea, Cool             |       | B Nagle, Broulee                 |
| JMG           | J&M Gordon, NA             | HR   | H Ransom, Mossy Pt          | BLSH  | BirdLife Southern Highlands      |
|               |                            |      |                             | MGLB  | Manning Great Lakes Birdwatchers |
|               |                            |      |                             |       |                                  |
| <b>Places</b> |                            |      |                             |       |                                  |
| BB            | Batemans Bay               | ERBG | Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens | NR    | Nature Reserve                   |
| 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                       |
| CO            | Congo                      | MH   | Moruya Heads, N&S           | SF    | State Forest                     |
| Com           | Comerang                   | MB   | Mystery Bay                 | TS    | Tuross                           |
| Cool          | Coolagolite                | NA   | Narooma                     | WL    | Wallaga Lake                     |
| DS            | Durras                     | NP   | National Park               |       |                                  |

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