



EUROBODALLA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Inc.

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Grey Butcherbird - *Cracticus torquatus* - (Latham 1801)

With its tuneful, lilting song, the Grey Butcherbird may not seem to be a particularly intimidating species. However, with its strong, hooked beak and its fierce stare, it is not a bird to be messed with. When a nest or newly fledged chick is around, they can become extremely belligerent - far more than their famously swooping cousin, the magpie. If you venture too close, before attacking you the butcherbird first fixes you with an intimidating stare, accompanied by a warning cackle. Then it flies directly towards your face with intent to strike. If you're lucky, it veers out of the way just in time, in which case it may attack time and time again, each swoop accompanied by a loud, maniacal cackle. If it doesn't veer out of the way, you'll discover that its hooked beak is quite an effective weapon, striking with enough force to draw blood.

The beautiful melodious song of the Grey Butcherbird can be heard across most of Australia and is among Australia's loveliest songs. The species ranges from northern Queensland, through southern Australia, including Tasmania, and to the Pilbara in Western Australia. They are found in a range of wooded habitats, including suburban areas. In inland areas they favour denser woodlands. It is one of five species of butcherbirds in Australia, with two more occurring in Papua New Guinea. It is by far the most common butcherbird in the Eurobodalla. (The Society has only 2 records of the Pied Butcherbird in 40 years). Three subspecies are recognised – Tasmanian (*Cracticus torquatus cinereus*) South-eastern (*C. torquatus torquatus*) and Inland (*C. torquatus leucopterus*). The species is ranked of Least Concern from a conservation perspective.



Adult Grey Butcherbird Photo R Soroka

The adult Grey Butcherbird has a black crown and face and a grey back, with a thin white collar. The wings are grey, with large areas of white and the underparts are white. The grey and black bill is large, with a small hook at the tip of the upper bill. The eye is dark brown, and the legs and feet are dark grey. Both sexes are similar in plumage, but the females are slightly smaller than the males. Young Grey Butcherbirds resemble adults but have black areas replaced with olive brown and a buff wash on the white areas. The bill is completely dark grey and often lacks an obvious hook. They are sometimes mistaken for small kingfishers. Their average size is 27cm and their average weight is 100 grams.

Grey Butcherbirds are predators. They prey on small animals, including birds, lizards and insects, as well as some fruits and seeds. Grey Butcherbirds sit on an open perch searching for prey which, once sighted, they pounce on. Most mobile prey is caught on the ground, though small birds and insects may be caught in flight. Feeding normally takes place alone, in pairs or in small family groups. Butcherbirds get their name from their habit of hanging captured prey on a hook or in a tree fork, or crevice. This 'larder' is used to support the victim while it is being eaten, to store several victims or to attract mates.

The Grey Butcherbird's breeding season is July to January. The nest is bowl-shaped and is made of sticks and twigs, lined with grasses and other soft fibres. It is normally located within 10m of the ground. Clutch size is 3 to 5 eggs. The eggs are incubated by the female (25 days) and the young birds are fed by both parents. The nestling period is 28 days. The young birds will remain in the breeding territory for about a year, and help the parents raise the young of the following season.



Juvenile Grey Butcherbird Photo R Soroka

The song is a rich piping with some mimicry and harsher notes and when singing, Grey Butcherbirds have a special talent of singing in duets. This is no ordinary duet: it's called 'antiphonal singing', where the two birds coordinate their songs so incredibly accurately that it sounds like a single bird is singing. Some Grey Butcherbirds, for example, sing a melodious tune that sounds very much like "*whistle while you work*". This is answered by a second bird with "*tool-to-tool*", all of the same note, to which the first bird responds with a lilting "*tool-till-tooool*", and then the second bird repeats "*tool-to-tool*". It all flows so easily that it sounds like a single call. Magic!

However, they sometimes add to the complexity of this behaviour. The same Grey Butcherbirds may sometimes make their song even more elaborate by including more than two birds in their antiphonal singing. Sometimes three butcherbirds can be heard singing antiphonally (and once five birds were recorded all singing together!). It was easy to tell which bird was singing — each wagged its tail rapidly from side to side while it sang. First, one bird sang "*whistle while you work*" and it was answered by the other two birds simultaneously; the third phrase was then given by the first bird, and the other two answered together once more, duetting in perfect unison. Because of their exquisite timing, you'd never realise that it was more than one bird warbling away. David Kay

What's coming up.....

Saturday 12 July, 2pm Cloutts Road, Moruya (2-3 km Grade 2) Meet at the car park outside the Eurobodalla Shire Council and the Library, off Vulcan Street, Moruya. Walk along a rural road with bush and farmland areas. Australasian Pipit, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Little Eagle, Whistling Kite, Scarlet and Flame Robin, Jacky Winter, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Little Raven.

Sunday 27 July, 9am Bumbo Road (2-3 km Grade 1) Meet at the corner of Bumbo Road and Princes Highway, Trunketabella, just north of Bodalla. Short walks along an unsealed road and across grassy areas by the edge of the Tuross River and Bumbo Creek. White-eared Honeyeater, Rose Robin, White-bellied Sea-Eagle and other raptors, Australian Darter, cormorants, ducks, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Scarlet Robin, Azure Kingfisher.

Saturday 9 August, 2pm Bengello Beach (south) (2-5 km Grade 1) Meet at the carpark on the northern boundary of Moruya Airport. Access is via a dirt track that is signposted off George Bass Drive. Unsealed forest track, mostly flat, through sand bangalay forest. Yellow-tailed and Glossy Black Cockatoos, Striated Thornbill, Varied Sittella, honeyeater species and other small bush birds.

Sunday 24 August, 9am Nerrigundah (2-3 km Grade 2-3) Meet opposite the Bodalla Police Station, corner of Princes Hwy and Eurobodalla Road, Bodalla. Bush tracks with moderate slopes with some steep sections. Scarlet and Flame Robin, Azure Kingfisher, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Pilotbird, Little Eagle, White-eared Honeyeater, Eastern Shrike-tit, Jacky Winter, Rose Robin, Red-necked Wallaby.

Saturday 13 September, 2pm Meringo (2-3 km Grade 2) Meet at the intersection of Princes Hwy and Bingie Rd. Coastal forest and headland walk along Bush tracks with moderate slopes. Brown Gerygone, Striated Thornbill, Little Wattlebird, Double-banded Plover, White-bellied Sea-Eagle and other raptors, as well as seabirds, Australasian Gannet, Greater Crested Tern, White-fronted Tern.

Sunday 28 September, 9am Mogendoura Farm (2-3 km Grade 2) Meet at the car park outside the Eurobodalla Shire Council and the Library, off Vulcan Street, Moruya. A walk on unsealed track with moderate slopes on private property with a mixture of open land and forested areas. Herons, cormorants, egrets, Australasian Darter, Mistletoebird, Grey Goshawk, Peregrine Falcon, Wedge-tailed Eagle, White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike, Superb Lyrebird.

Saturday 11 October, 2pm Barlings Swamp and Bevia Road (2-3 km Grade 2) Meet at the corner of George Bass Drive and Bevia Road, next to Barlings Swamp. Rough track with some unmade sections. The swamp is home to a variety of duck and waterfowl species, including the possibility of Blue-billed Duck, Swamp Harrier Australian Hobby. Along Bevia Rd: Mistletoebird, various thornbills, Brown Gerygone, Varied Sittella.

Report of the Annual General Meeting 2025

The AGM was held in the Banksia Room at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens on Sunday 26 May with 28 members in attendance. In business arising from last year's AGM, Julie Morgan reported that the agreement to move the AGM indoors was achieved as was the introduction of a talk following the AGM.

Chair's report: Julie reported that ENHS continues to flourish, with a strong membership base, well-attended field meetings and publications that continue to track the changes in the natural environment of the Eurobodalla. She reported on her successful presentation about ENHS data to the Linnean Society, noting the value of our collection in highlighting changes in our natural environment.

Julie thanked volunteers including the current Secretary, Treasurer and members of the Committee. She made particular mention of the resignation of Mandy Anderson who is retiring from the Committee after 14 years of service on the Committee, as Minutes Secretary and her extensive contributions elsewhere in the Society. Julie also thanked the newsletter team and David Kay for his work on the annual publication, *Nature in Eurobodalla*. She acknowledged the work that Roman Soroka has done in updating the website and administering the ENHS Facebook page. She then thanked all members for their continued support of the ENHS.

Secretary's report: Annie Loveband began by thanking the Committee, together with a core group of members, for contributing to the field meeting program and leading the meetings. She noted the Geology Walk at Bingie Point and the Wallaga Lake/Murunna Point Walks were particular highlights of the past year of meetings and that an interesting field meeting program has been compiled for the second half of 2025. This program accompanies this newsletter and will be uploaded on the website shortly. Annie encouraged members to make suggestions for future walks either directly to her or to Committee members and to volunteer to lead walks. Membership has remained relatively stable, and we have welcomed 9 new members. Annie made special mention of our youngest new member, Wren, who is 5 years old. The ENHS Facebook site remains to be a lively site of communication with postings and exchanges of information and expertise. Annie thanked Roman for his dedication in administering both the Facebook site and the website. She concluded by thanking everyone for their continued support and enthusiasm for natural history.

Treasurer's report: Malcolm Griggs tabled his report and indicated that the Society is in a sound financial position, with a surplus of \$936.58 this year, and with funds of \$14,842.98.

Election of office-bearers: All positions were declared vacant. The Committee is as follows: Chair and Recorder – Julie Morgan; Secretary – Annie Loveband; Treasurer – Malcolm Griggs; Committee – Julie Collett, Nicola Clark, Paul Gatenby, Gee Hounsell, Deb Stevenson.

General Business: Deb Stevenson spoke about the upcoming "Fungi Feastival" to be held across the Eurobodalla and Bega Shires from 20 June to 20 July, 2025. Julie Morgan offered to run a workshop to outline where and how data is gathered. Julie also noted that the ENHS computer is getting old and due to recent problems, it may need to be refurbished or replaced.

The AGM concluded and was followed by a well-attended and highly engaging presentation by Gee Hounsell and Bill Platt about their work with Gang-Gang Cockatoos. Annie Loveband

Field Meeting – Wagonga Inlet – 23 March 2025

In ideal conditions, a group of 8 members boarded one of the Narooma barbecue boats for a 3-hour excursion out onto the waters of the Wagonga Inlet. There was no wind at all, and the morning remained overcast, giving even light for water-bird viewing and photography.

Capable at the helm was my friend Steve Genner, who generously gave his time as a favour to the Society. Steve is very familiar with the Inlet, which meant that he knew all the little corners and coves where we could get close to the shore without running aground. This enabled us to add many bush birds to our species list, in most cases identified by their calls rather than from sightings.



Photo S Genner

Along the shoreline at the departure point, we saw about 80 Bar-tailed Godwits, several of which were in breeding plumage, ready for their migratory journey to the northern hemisphere. Godwits are remarkable in that their journey of up to 11,000kms is made non-stop, and takes about 9 days. For their return journey, the adults depart the breeding grounds approximately 3 weeks ahead of their new hatchlings, leaving the offspring to make their return unassisted. This migration is “hard-wired” into the brains of these amazing birds.

Moving at a gentle pace, we were able to make many wonderful sightings, including several Striated Herons, a lifer for some on board. Steve knew the location of an enormous, White-bellied Sea-Eagle nest, which is now easily located because of a large white fungus growing underneath, acting like a sign-post.



Australasian Darter

It was a completely enjoyable morning, and our sincere thanks to Steve for guiding us safely around the Inlet. Our species count was 42, including a pair of Ospreys on top of the distant Telstra tower. Bronwen Harvey’s photographs record some of the highlights. Mandy Anderson



Bar-tailed Godwit



White-faced Heron

Red Bloodwood - *Corymbia gummifera*

As winter approaches, it is difficult to find much colour in our bushland, so it is lovely to see the Red Bloodwoods along Bingie Road flowering so vigorously and for so long in May. This I gather is because of the warmer weather of late and the copious amount of rain we've had.

I was keen to learn more about these stately trees. As always, I turned to our trusty but ageing edition of Costermans* for more information and discovered that the tree was listed as *Eucalyptus gummifera*. It was reclassified in 1995 as *Corymbia gummifera* following research by botanists Ken Hill and Lawrie Johnson, who identified the bloodwoods, ghost gums, and spotted gums as a group distinct from the genus *Eucalyptus*. The reclassification saw about 100 species split off from *Eucalyptus*. According to the Australian Plants Society, this sparked considerable debate and controversy among botanists and is now jokingly referred to as the "Eucalypt Wars".

C. Gummifera is the first described or 'type' species for this new group of trees. The name *Corymbia* is derived from the Latin *corymbium* and refers to the shape of the flower clusters or 'racemes' – the stalks or 'peduncles' of the lower flowers are longer than those of the upper flowers so that the inflorescence has an overall flat or slightly convex upper surface (like the appearance of a piece of broccoli or cauliflower). *Gummifera* is from the Latin for "producing gum" which refers to the sap often observed on the trunks of this species.

The tree is found along the entirety of the NSW Coast, into Queensland and north to about Bundaberg. In Victoria it is confined to the far-eastern area around Mallacoota and East Gippsland. It is very common in bushland on sandstone and sandy vegetation but is sometimes found on heavier soils. It forms a co-dominant part of coastal vegetation types such as dry sclerophyll forest and woodlands.

Red Bloodwoods typically reach heights of 15 to 30 metres and can live for over 100 years. The glossy green foliage provides a striking contrast to the reddish bark, which is rough and fibrous, forming a protective layer against harsh environmental conditions. One of the tree's fascinating features is its deep red sap, which is exuded when the bark is damaged. This sap, known as kino, has been used by Indigenous Australians for various purposes, including as a dye and in traditional medicine.



Red Bloodwood in flower Photo ERBG



Gang-gangs feeding on Red bloodwood Photo G Hounsell

The racemes of creamy white flowers appear in late summer and early autumn. Clusters containing seven flowers are typically found at the ends of branches. The fruit makes for easy identification - it is an urn-shaped

capsule, up to 20 mm long by 15 mm wide, with a deeply depressed disc and enclosed valves. Commonly called a gumnut, it is the reason the species was first placed in the genus *Eucalyptus*.

Bloodwoods are a valuable food source for birds, insects and other animals. Their white flowers are attractive to nectar-feeding insects and other animals, including birds such as the Gang-gang Cockatoos seen among the blossoms in Gee Hounsell's photo. The gum nuts are favoured by cockatoos, and the sap can be a food source for some gliders. The trees can provide habitat for various birds, both those that nest in them and those that forage in the surrounding areas. Bees and other insects are important pollinators for bloodwood trees, facilitating cross-pollination and seed production. Helen Kay

*Costermans, L 1983: Native Trees and Shrubs of South-Eastern Australia.



Red Bloodwood flower Photo ERBG

Even more ticked off!!

Despite the article about ticks in the previous newsletter concluding on a positive note, giving reasons why ticks should not be universally detested, I am going to add to the evidence for the negative - a further reason for believing that we would all be better off without them.

I have recently been diagnosed with Mammalian Meat Allergy, also known as tick-bite allergy and Alpha-gal allergy. As a result of living in the tick capital of Australia, Mystery Bay, and having been bitten numerous times by ticks, I am no longer able to eat mammalian meat. No more roast lamb dinners, barbecued steaks, mixed grills. I know of at least two neighbours who have also received this diagnosis.

Ticks inject a sugar/carbohydrate in their saliva when they bite, and many people develop an allergic reaction. The sugar, known as alpha-gal, exists in all mammals apart from primates, and can cause sometimes serious allergies in humans (and presumably in other primates, although I have found no mention of any research into this aspect of the subject - and non-human primates very rarely eat meat). Symptoms range from mild dietary problems, through more severe gut responses, and in some cases dangerous anaphylactic shock. The lips, tongue or throat can become swollen, coughing and wheezing can occur. Some people have such a severe allergy that they cannot eat any dairy products, nor any foods containing gelatin. (In addition, gelatin is often used in medications, and in artificial heart valves).

Because the allergic reaction can take up to 6 hours to become evident, it has often been difficult to diagnose. Most food-related allergic reactions are almost immediate. It is very likely that lots of people are allergic to Alpha-gal without making the connection to their consumption of red meat. Australia has the highest prevalence of Alpha-gal allergy, with 113 people per 100,000 affected. Probably a very high proportion of them are unaware that they have the allergy. A simple blood test can identify it.

Avoiding mammalian meat is one vital treatment, as well as avoiding tick bites as much as possible. This is not always easy for somebody who prefers to be in the bush rather than indoors, or for people who enjoy gardening. One source that I referred to recommended moving to a tick-free location.

Some people eventually "grow out of" Mammalian meat allergy and can once again enjoy a meat meal. But as one friend commented, it's much better for the planet if fewer of us are regularly eating grazing animals. Mandy Anderson

Emergence of Imperial Hairstreak Butterflies

On 1 March, I noticed a couple of medium sized bluish butterflies that I didn't immediately recognise so I followed them across the yard and they seemed to disappear. Later, I noticed three of the same butterflies and this time they led me to a Sydney Golden Wattle (*Acacia longifolia*) and I discovered that this was where the action was! There were pairs of Imperial Hairstreak copulating as well as many others flying around the wattle.

The Imperial Hairstreak butterfly (*Jalmenus evagoras*) is a medium sized butterfly measuring between 32 to 37cms across the wings. This species occurs on the east coast of Australia from Queensland to Victoria. Imperial Hairstreak fly low to the ground in open eucalypt forests and woodland that have wattles in the understorey. The larvae feed on wattles and form colonies on the host plant when there are suitable ants, usually a species of *Iridomyrmex*. The ants tend to the larvae by feeding on a honeydew exude the larvae excrete, which is rich in sugars and amino acids. In turn, the ants protect the larvae from parasitism from wasps, spiders and beetles.

A closer look at the wattle revealed that this was the breeding site from the previous year with many empty pupal cases and attendant ants. Male Imperial Hairstreak butterflies patrol the host tree and wait for newly emerged females to mate with. The females will then lay their eggs in the crevices of branches on the tree, or on a nearby wattle that has a colony of attendant ants. The ants may even encourage the female to lay eggs by gently nibbling the tip of her abdomen. When the larvae emerge, they will feed on the plant and then pupate in clusters on the leaves or stems of the wattle.

I plan to monitor this wattle and others nearby next year to see if the females laid their eggs and whether this wonderful event will be repeated. Julie Morgan

For further information, see this wonderful account from Paul Whittington
<https://southernforestlife.net/happenings/2017/6/26/the-life-of-the-imperial-hairstreak>



Imperial Hairstreak butterfly



Pupal cases and ants

Miner or Myna ?

In preparation for the talk that I delivered at the Linnean Society conference in 2024, I reviewed 39 years of data that members of the Eurobodalla Natural History Society have contributed to the database. The ENHS was founded by Stephen Marchant in 1986 who established a high standard of observation recording and data verification and this culture continues to guide the society. We have always been committed to collecting systematic data over time and this longitudinal data tracks many interesting changes. The data shows species which have moved to the area as well as the decline of others and also highlights the presence of species not thought to have occurred in the Eurobodalla.

The reliability of our data can also be illustrated by a species that is rarely recorded in the Eurobodalla, the Noisy Miner (*Manorina melanocephala*). This species is not established in the Eurobodalla and when I presented this fact at the conference it was met with cheers from the audience. The ENHS database reflects a handful of records over the past 39 years, an unconfirmed report in 1986 from Batemans Bay, a sighting in Congo in 2004, 2 were reported in Tuross Head in 2005 and up to 5 in Belowra in 2017. We also have records from just south of the shire boundary at Coolagolite and Cobargo and to the west of Monga.

I thought it would be interesting to look at other databases to see whether they showed a similar absence and was surprised to find quite a few records in recent years from right across the Eurobodalla in the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) database. There were 116 records of the species, of these 78 records have been reported through eBird, 31 from BioNet and 7 from Birdlife Australia. Most of these records (70%) date from 2017 to 2024 and the greatest number of records are from Batemans Bay, Narooma, Long Beach, Tomakin and Mystery Bay, with records from 23 other locations right across the shire. I have included a map from the ALA website which reflects these records. ENHS members are resident in most of these locations and provide daily, weekly and monthly observations of biodiversity and they have not reported Noisy Miner. Interestingly, there are no reports of the species on iNaturalist which encourages the submission of photographs. This begs the question: “what are the reports of?”.



The most likely explanation for some of these sightings is inexperienced bird watchers who may be confusing the Noisy Miner with either the introduced Common (or Indian) Myna *Acridotheres tristis* or perhaps the Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*. It seems that the confusion between the Noisy Miner and Common Myna is quite common as Sean Dooley (BirdLife Australia) has made a video highlighting the difference between the species which you can watch on YouTube <https://youtu.be/Qdj-TZxjS0I?si=Dlv-sEQ6puwflvkh> This confusion was illustrated recently at a meeting of conservation-minded landowners, where I spoke about the Society and the data we hold and related this example. A local resident was adamant that they see Noisy Miner in Moruya regularly. I was curious and spoke to this person afterwards and within a couple of questions determined that the bird being observed was a Common Myna.



Noisy Miner (*Manorina melanocephala*)



Indian Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*)

The other interesting question is “Why don’t we have a population of Noisy Miner in the Eurobodalla?”. Conversations with ecologists, conservationists and ENHS members have pointed to the presence of continuous forest south of Nowra which supports a diversity of bird species. Noisy Miner thrive in areas where native vegetation has been disturbed and the richness of native bird species has decreased.

ENHS members may be interested to check the locations on the ALA map to investigate what species are present. Whether there are Noisy Miner hiding in these areas that are evading our detection, or whether there are Common Myna or Bell Miner present which are being misidentified. If ENHS members would like to help with the verification of the absence of this species, please get in touch with me at chair@enhs.org.au or on 0457 637 227. Julie Morgan

More firsts for ENHS records

In the last newsletter, I highlighted some firsts for our database. Here are a couple more....

Evening Brown butterfly (*Melanitis leda*)

Geoff and Lynne McVeigh saw a different butterfly on a late afternoon walk along Candlagan Creek in March. It was flying around the shrubs and along the track, moving away from the creek. The Evening Brown is a medium to large sized butterfly which has a dry/winter and a wet season form. The butterfly seen at Candlagan Creek was a dry form of the species which lacks the distinct eyespots on the underwing. The Evening Brown is crepuscular, active at dawn and dusk and into the evening. It rests on leaf litter during the day and the underwing of the species provides great camouflage. It is not known in this area, and so I wrote to Michael Braby (Australia’s leading butterfly expert) to let him know. Michael was excited to hear of the sighting as the closest record on the south coast he knew of was from Wollongong.



Evening Brown butterfly Photo G McVeigh

Golden-crowned Snake (*Cacophis squamulosus*)

Isis Joyce submitted a record in March of a Golden-crowned Snake from Nerrigundah, which is the first record of this species for ENHS. The Golden-crowned Snake is a secretive, nocturnal snake that shelters under fallen logs, rocks and leaf litter. It favours sandstone in the southern limits of its range and is usually found north of Jervis Bay, NSW, through to Queensland. The Atlas of Living Australia has a few reports of the species in this area, from Wadbilliga River, Broulee, Pretty Beach and South Brooman. This was not the first time Isis has encountered this species, with 4 other sightings over the past 5 years. Julie Morgan

Highlights from ENHS records - Autumn 2025

Avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Stubble Quail	Up to 20	Com	JC	
Brown Quail	2	Com	JC	Small group at Broulee (RSor)
Musk Duck	2, 1	Tilba/PS	MA/JM	Little Lake, Tilba
Australian Shelduck	Up to 6	Com	JC	
Hardhead	1	PS	JM	
Australian Shoveler	3	Com	JC	
Northern Mallard	5	Com	JC	
Grey Teal	14	MYA	FM	Holstein Swamp
Australasian Grebe	6, 3, 2, 1	MB/BBWG/ Com/MYA/Sth DS	MA/JC/FM/ JCof	
Hoary-headed Grebe	32, 5	PS/Tilba	JM/MA	Little Lake, Tilba

Peaceful Dove	2	Belowra	JC	
Bar-shouldered Dove	2, 1	Sth DS/Broulee/ TS	JCof/GLM/JM	
Topknot Pigeon	8, 7, 1	PS/MO/NA	JM/NM/FM	
Tawny Frogmouth	3, 1	Sth DS/Com/ Nerrigundah	JCof/JC/IJ	
Australian Owlet Nightjar	1	Com	JC	
White-throated Needletail	60, 12	Surfside/MB	DB/A Christiansen	In March
Fork-tailed Swift	100	Surfside	DB	
Horsfield's Bronze- Cuckoo	1	MB	MA	In April
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	1	Tuross Falls	IJ	In March
Brush Cuckoo	1	Bingie	AM	Immature
Buff-banded Rail	2	NA	RSor	
Dusky Moorhen	2, 1	MYA/ERBG/ MO/Com/ Kianga L	FM/MA/NM/ JC	
Eurasian Coot	500, 400, 180	Kianga/Corunna L/Tilba	MA	Little Lake, Tilba
White-faced Storm Petrel	1	Bengello Bch	L Dampney	Found onshore and taken into care.
Royal Spoonbill	22, 12, 4, 2	Com/MB/ BBWG/MYA	JC/MA/FM	
Straw-necked Ibis	Up to 300	MYA	JM/FM	
Australian White Ibis	Up to 300	MYA	JM/FM	
Nankeen Night Heron	2, 1	Bumbo Rd/Sth DS	MA/JCof	
Striated Heron	4, 1	NA/Broulee	FM/GH	
Cattle Egret	50, 20, 14	MYA/Com/NA	JM/JC/T&A Ross	On Wagonga Inlet, NA
White-necked Heron	2, 1	Com/MYA/MB/ Bergalia/Bodalla /Nerrigundah	JC/JM/DHK/ MA/IJ	
Intermediate Egret	1	NA	MA	
Little Egret	Up to 8	MB	MA	
Eastern Reef Egret	2, 1	NA/Bingie Pt/ MO/MB	MA/DHK/NM	
Australasian Gannet	10, 6, 4, 1	Pedro Pt/MB/LP /MO	FM/MA/NM	
Great Pied Cormorant	9, 1	Kianga/MO	FM/NM	
Australasian Darter	9, 4, 1	Com/NA/PS/ MB	JC/FM/JM/MA	Two females and 7 immatures at Com
Aust Pied Oystercatcher	12	NA	MA	
Sooty Oystercatcher	12, 8, 6	MB/Broulee/ MO	MA/GLM/NM	
Pied Stilt	Up to 3	Com	JC	
Pacific Golden Plover	Up to 12	MB	MA	In full breeding plumage
Red-capped Plover	31, 11	MB/Sth DS	MA/JCof	
Hooded Plover	4, 2, 1	MB/Corunna/ Tilba	MA	Adults and immatures Little Lake, Tilba
Black-fronted Dotterel	12, 9, 2	Tilba/Bingie/ MO	MA/DHK/NM	Little Lake, Tilba; Kelly's Lake, Bingie
Whimbrel	1	PS	JM	Calling at sunset
Far Eastern Curlew	1	WL	MA	
Bar-tailed Godwit	80, 4	NA/Brou L	FM/MA	
Caspian Tern	5, 4	Sth DS/MB	JCof/MA	
White-fronted Tern	8	MB	MA	

Greater Sooty Owl	1	LP/MHS/PS/ MB	M Fleming/ JM/MA	
Masked Owl	1	PS	JM	
Powerful Owl	1	PS/Com	JM/JC	
Osprey	2	Sth DS/NA/ Broulee/TS/BI	JCof/MA/FM/ GLM/M Craig/ J Davies	On nest at NA
Square-tailed Kite	1	MB	MA	
Little Eagle	2	MB	MA	
Swamp Harrier	1	WL	MA	
Grey Goshawk	1	Surfside/MO/ MB	NC/NM/MA	
Brown Goshawk	1	MO	NM	
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	MO	NM	
Azure Kingfisher	1	Nerrigundah	IJ	
Sacred Kingfisher	2, call	Bergalia/Cool	DHK/DO	
Australian Hobby	1	PS/TS/MB	JM/M Craig/ MA	Hunting during Silvereve migration at PS
Brown Falcon	1	TS/Com	M Craig/JC	
Peregrine Falcon	1	Com	JC	
Glossy Black Cockatoo	3, 2	MKS/PS/MB/ Sth DS/MYA/ Bergalia	SMG/JM/MA/ JCof/LD/DHK	Pairs displaying at MYA and PS
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	Up to 40	MB	MA	
Gang-Gang Cockatoo	12, 6, 5, 4	MB/Tilba/PS/LP /Broulee/MYA	GLM/MA/JM/ I Bevege/GH/ L Dampney	
Eastern Rosella	10, 5	Com/ Nerrigundah	JC/IJ	
Swift Parrot	1	Surfside	DB	
Musk Lorikeet	60	Bimbimbee	AM/JM	On flowering Red Bloodwood
Little Lorikeet	25	Bimbimbee	AM/JM	On flowering Red Bloodwood
Australian King Parrot	Up to 22	MKS	SMG	
Superb Lyrebird	5, 4, 3	Benandarah/ Gulaga/Cool	AM/JM/MA/ DO	
Red-browed Treecreeper	2	PS	JM	
Southern Emu-wren	Up to 11, 3	Broulee/Surfside	GLM/NC	
Crescent Honeyeater	2, 1	Nerrigundah/ Cool/Tilba/ Benandarah/	IJ/DO/AM/JM/ MA	
White-cheeked Honeyeater	4	Deua NP	AM/JM	
White-naped Honeyeater	20	Bimbimbee	AM/JM	
Brown-headed Honeyeater	6, 4, 1	PS/Kianga/Com/ MB	JM/MA/JC	
White-eared Honeyeater	5, 2, 1	PS/Bimbimbee/ MYA/MO/Cool/ Nerrigundah/	JM/AM/FM/ NM/DO/IJ	
Noisy Friarbird	Up to 20, 12, 10	PS/Bergalia/ Pedro	JM/DHK/JS	Records across the shire until late April
Scarlet Honeyeater	9, 1	Bimbimbee/PS	AM/JM	
Fuscous Honeyeater	Up to 10	PS	JM	
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	110,100	Bimbimbee/ PS/Com	JM/JC	Migrating at PS and Com

Striated Pardalote	10, 2	Bimbimbee/PS/ Com	JM/JC	Migrating at PS and BB
White-throated Gerygone	1	Com/MB	JC/MA	
Pilotbird	Call	Gulaga	MA	
Large-billed Scrubwren	2	NA	MA	In Ringlands
Varied Sittella	6, 2	PS/NA	JM/MA	
Australasian Figbird	6, 5, 1	NA/MYA/PS	MA/JM	
Eastern Shrike-tit	1	Nerrigundah	IJ	
Olive Whistler	1	MB	MA	
Rufous Whistler	4, 3, 2	PS/TS Falls/ Benandarah/ ERBG/Com	JM/IJ/AM/MA /JC	Until the end of April
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	Up to 3	PS	JM	
Common Cicadabird	4	PS	JM	In March
Dusky Woodswallow	20, 10, 5, 4, 3	Nerrigundah/Sth DS/MO/Cool/ Brou L	IJ/JCof/NM/ DO/MA	Dependant young at Nerrigundah
White-breasted Woodswallow	16, 8, 6	MB/MO/PS	MA/NM/JM	
Rufous Fantail	6, 3, 1	Benandarah/PS/ Bimbimbee/MB/ Bingie/Tilba	AM/JM/DHK/ BH/MA	
Spangled Drongo	1	MHS/CO/ Bergalia	A Cram/I Findlay/DHK	In March and April
Restless Flycatcher	2, 1	MB/Com/ Belowra	MA/JC	
Black-faced Monarch	1 or call	Broulee/ Nerrigundah/NA	GLM/IJ/MA	
Little Raven	40, 4	Bergalia/MB	DHK/MA	
White-winged Chough	14, 12, 9, 6	MB/MO/ Bergalia/MKS	MA/NM/DHK/ SMG	
Rose Robin	1 or 2	Surfside/PS/MO /Com/MB	RSor/JM/NM/ JC/MA	
Flame Robin	4, 1	Belowra/ Nerrigundah	JC/IJ	
Scarlet Robin	3, 2, 1	MB/Belowra/ Nerrigundah/ Bergalia	MA/IJ/JC/ DHK	More widespread than in recent years
Golden-headed Cisticola	10	Com	JC	
Fairy Martin	1	BBWG	DB	In May
Tree Martin	20, 4, 3	Com/PS/MO	JC/JM/NM	
Silvereye	600, 200	Bimbimbee/PS	AM/JM	Strong migration in April
Bassian Thrush	1	Gulaga	MA	
Mistletoebird	10	Deua NP	AM/JM	At flowering mistletoe
Australasian Pipit	3, 2	Belowra/Com/ Bingie Pt/MB	JC/DHK/MA	
European Goldfinch	3	Belowra	JC	In May

Non-avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Short-beaked Echidna	1	PS/MB	JM/MA	
Brown Antechinus	1	Broulee	GLM	
Long-nosed Bandicoot	Signs	PS/MHS/MB	JM/DS/MA	
Dunnart sp.	1	Nerrigundah	IJ	
Common Wombat	1 or signs	Broulee/Com/ Nerrigundah/ Cool	GLM/IJ/JC/DO	

Yellow-bellied Glider	Calls	LP/PS	A Kerle/JM	
Sugar Glider	Calls	PS	JM	
Common Ringtail Possum	2, 1	Broulee/PS	GLM/JM	
Common Brushtail Possum	2, 1	Com/PS/MB/ Nerrigundah	JC/JM/MA/IJ	Golden form roadkill at Bodalla
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	25, 20	Cool/PS	DO/PS	
Red-necked Wallaby	6, 4, 2, 1	Nerrigundah/ Cool/Punkalla/ MKS/PS	IJ/DO/MA/SMG/ JM	
Grey-headed Flying-fox	2 or call	PS/Cool	JM/DO	Camps at MYA, NA and WL
Bush Rat	Up to 4	Nerrigundah	IJ	Nesting
Seal sp.	Up to 4	MYA	DHK	Riverside Park
Snake-necked Turtle	Up to 15	Com	JC	
Yellow-bellied Water-skink	3	Com	JC	March-April
Eastern Blue-tongue	1 or 2	Broulee/Com	GLM/JC	
Jacky Lizard	1	PS	JM	March
Gippsland Water Dragon	Up to 5	Com	JC	March-April
Lace Monitor	2, 1	PS/Cool/Com	JM/DO/JC	March-April
Golden-crowned Snake	1	Nerrigundah	IJ	
Eastern Small-eyed Snake	1	PS	JM	
Mustard-bellied Snake	1	Quirriga Bch	RSor	

Frogs JC/JM/FM	Common Eastern Froglet, Brown-striped Frog, Dendy's and Tyler's Toadlet; tree frogs: Brown, Eastern Sedgefrog, Jervis Bay, Screaming, Peron's, Tyler's, Verreaux's.
Moths JC/IJ/JM/T&A Ross	Bardi, Mustard and Bubbly Ghost, Fungus, Banded Concealer, Geranium Plume, Speedwell Pterror, Meal, Pond, Eggfruit Caterpillar, Sod Webworm, Dodonaea, Neat Epidesmia, Twin Emerald, Cream and Varied Wave, Plantain, Mecynata, Plesia Carpet, Red-spotted and Sea-blue Delicate, Gum Snout, White-stemmed Gum, White Cedar, Browntail Gum, Little Mask Philenora, Banded and Lydia Lichen, Variable Halone, Adorned Footman, Lichen-eating Caterpillar, Heliotrope, Magpie, Long-snouted, Double-lined and Three-lined Snout, Variable Spot-wing, Plain Pantydia, Triangle Owlet, Eugenia Caterpillar, Gum-leaf Skeletoniser, Cycota Tuft, Brown-bar, Green-blotched, Eastern Alchemist, Tawny-collared Noctuid, Double-lined, White-spot Armyworm, Brown and Variable Cutworm, Native Budworm.
Butterflies NC/MA/JC/GH/IJ/GLM/JM/RSor /FM	Splendid Ochre, Barred Skipper, Narrow-brand Grass-dart, Blue Triangle, Orchard Swallowtail, Imperial and Black Jezebel, Caper and Cabbage White, Dusky Knight, Brown Ringlet, Varied Sword-grass Brown, Common, Spotted, Banks and Evening Brown, Tailed Emperor, Meadow Argus, Australian Painted Lady, Yellow Admiral, Monarch, Imperial Hairstreak, Varied and Blotched Dusky-blue, Common Grass Blue.
Beetles JC/JM	Green Scarab, Fiddler, Acacia Leaf, Metallic Green Acacia, Three-lined Potato, Plague Soldier, White-fringed Weevil; Ladybirds: Steel Blue, White Collared, 26 Spotted, Variable, Striped, Fungus-eating, Yellow-shouldered, Tortoise Shelled.
Bugs JC/JM/FM	Harlequin, Bronze Orange, Metallic Shield, Green Vegetable, Horehound, Assassin, Backswimmer, Water Boatman, Water Strider. Cicada: Beach Squeaker, Silver Princess, Greengrocer, Razor Grinder.
Dragon & Damselflies JC/JM/T&A Ross	Common Bluetail, Metallic Ringtail, Blue and Slender Skimmer, Australian and Tau Emerald, Scarlet, Wandering and Black-faced Percher, Blue-spotted Hawker, Australian Emperor.
Other insects JC/JM/FM	Blue Banded Bee. Wasps: Common Paper, Orange Caterpillar Parasite, Orange-collared Spider. Yellow-winged Locust. Katydid: Olive-green Coastal, Australian Garden.
Spiders MA/JC/GLM/JM /FM	Black House, Leaf-curling, Jumping, Huntsman, Daddy Long Legs, Golden Orb, Two-tailed, Whip, St Andrew's Cross, Water, Giant Water, Orange-legged Swift, Garden Wheel Weaving, Flat Rock, Lucrida Jumping, Hoary Servaea.

RAINFALL (mm). March: 148.5 at MKS, 217 at Bergalia, 119.5 at Com, 173.5 at Cool. **April:** 107 at Bergalia, 52.5 at Com, 85 at MB, 43.5 at Cool. **May:** 99 at MKS, 128 at Bergalia, 89.25 at Cool.

Contributors

MA	M Anderson, MB	DHK	D&H Kay, Bergalia		I Bevege, LP
DB	D Bertzeletos, Surfside	GLM	G&L McVeigh, Broulee		A Christiansen, MB
NC	N Clark, Broulee	AM	A Marsh, Bingie		M Craig, TS
JCof	J Coffey, Sth DS	NM	N Montgomery, MO		A Cram, MYA
JC	J&P Collett, Com	JM	J Morgan, PS		L Dampney, MYA
LD	L Dann, MYA	DO	D Ondinea, Cool		J Davies, BI
SMG	S&M Guppy, MKS	RSor	R Soroka, Surfside		I Findlay, CO
BH	B Harvey, MB	DS	D Stevenson, MHS		M Fleming/A Kerle, LP
GH	G Hounsell, Broulee	FM	Field Meeting		T&A Ross, Kianga
Places					
BB	Batemans Bay	ERBG	Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens	PDD	Percy Davis Drive, MYA
BBWG	Batemans Bay Water Gardens	LP	Lilli Pilli	PS	Pedro Swamp
BI	Bermagui	MKS	Maulbrooks Rd S, MYA	PP	Potato Point
BP	Burrewarra Point	MO	Meringo	SB	Surf Beach
Cool	Coolagolite	MYA	Moruya	SF	State Forest
Com	Comerang	MH	Moruya Heads, N&S	T'bella	Trunketabella
CO	Congo	MB	Mystery Bay	TN	Tomakin
DS	Durras	NA	Narooma	TS	Tuross
DY	Dalmeny	NP	National Park	WL	Wallaga Lake

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