



EUROBODALLA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Varied Sittella - *Daphoenositta chrysoptera* - Latham 1801

This newsletter contains a report on the 26 April field meeting to Glenduart. One of the highlights was the sighting of a flock of Varied Sittella. It was an especially good opportunity to see this not-so-common species, as one or two birds foraged for some time at eye level a couple of metres from the track. Thank you to Rob Clunes for letting me use his photos from that day.

When John Latham, an English ornithologist, first described the Varied Sittella, it was given the name *Sitta chrysoptera*. This has since changed; the generic name, *Daphoenositta*, is derived from two Greek words, *daphoinos* meaning tawny, and *sitte* meaning a woodpecker-like bird. The species name, *chrysoptera* is also derived from a Greek word, *khrusopteros*, meaning golden-winged. The species is endemic and is found throughout mainland Australia except in treeless grassland and desert.



The bird first identified by Latham was what is now classified as the nominate subspecies, and what we know as our local subspecies. This is the Orange-winged Sittella, *D.c. chrysoptera*. It is found throughout eastern NSW and Victoria and parts of southern Queensland. Since that first classification, the world famous and indefatigable English ornithologist, John Gould, identified a further four subspecies:

- The Black-capped, *D.c. pileate* has the widest distribution, across much of Western and South Australia, southern Northern Territory, and western Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.
- The White-winged, *D.c. leucoptera* is found in northern Western Australia and the Northern Territory and parts of northern Queensland excluding Cape York.
- The Striated, *D.c. striata* inhabits parts of northern Queensland including Cape York.
- The White-headed, *D. leucocephala* is found in eastern Queensland south of Cape York and a small area of the north coast of NSW.

All subspecies vary markedly in appearance, hence the common name, but they have several features in common. This is a small, compact bird, 10-14 cm long, with a thin, slightly upturned bill, short tail, small, long-toed feet and broad, rounded wings. Colours common to all subspecies are grey upperparts, lighter underparts, yellow-orange eyes, a yellow eye ring and yellow feet, a barred undertail, a dark tail with a white tip and a white rump. All have a wide wing bar that is obvious in flight, but the colour varies between subspecies.



Our 'local', *D.c. chrysoptera*, has an orange wing bar and grey head. The sexes are similar; both have a dark bill with a yellow gape, but the male's bill is longer and darker than the female's, his head is a more uniform grey, and his back has less streaking than the female's.



Varied Sittellas are found in eucalypt woodlands and forests. They like stringybarks, ironbarks and other rough-barked trees or mature trees with hollows or dead branches. Their long toes and sharp bills assist them in their foraging. They feed on spiders and insects which they extract from under the bark. They usually forage in small flocks, chattering while they feed. They fly high into a tree, usually facing downward and working their way down, often fast and somewhat erratically. The contact call is a single, thin, high-pitched 'chip' that sometimes develops into a louder chatter of contact calls as birds fly from tree to tree.

In our area we see other birds, including the White-throated and Red-browed Treecreepers, foraging for insects under the bark of trees. But the treecreepers are larger and usually seen singly, and they tend to fly to a low point on a tree trunk, then face upward and move slowly, spiralling up the trunk.

The breeding season for southern subspecies is September to December. Small breeding flocks comprise a breeding pair, a few unattached adults and immature birds from the last season. The nest is cone-shaped, made of bark, fibres and spider-webs, camouflaged with strips of bark, and placed 5 to 25 m above ground, in an upright tree fork or on an exposed branch. A pair may return to the same tree or even the same fork year after year. The female lays two or three small (17mm x 13mm) white eggs spotted with blue, then she incubates them for 18 to 20 days and broods the nestlings. The other birds in the small breeding flock help with feeding and the removal of faeces.

The Varied Sittella is listed as Vulnerable by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage. The state population size is unknown, but reports of sightings have decreased over years and the species has probably declined in some areas. Causes for its probable decline include: the impact of climate change, including drought reducing the availability of resources; the removal of woodland; small-scale clearing such as for fencelines and verges; weed infestation; overgrazing reducing leaf litter and shrub growth; the dominance in some woodlands of Noisy Miners.

A NSW government report recommends: retaining trees and vegetation along roads and in paddocks; planting trees; leaving dead timber in forest and woodland; limiting grazing in habitat areas; controlling weeds. Common sense really. Gillian Macnamara

What's coming up.....

Saturday 11 July, 2pm Toragy Point, Moruya Heads South (2-3km – Grade 1-2) Meet on the grassy area near the intersection of Coronation Drive and Shelly Beach Road, Moruya Heads. Headland with vegetation and open areas. White-bellied Sea-eagle, Pied and Sooty Oystercatchers, White-fronted Tern, Little Pied Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Variegated Fairy-wren, New Holland Honeyeater, Golden Whistler, albatross and other seabirds, seals and whales.

Sunday 26 July, 9am Dampier State Forest (2-3km – Grade 2) Meet opposite the Bodalla Police Station, corner of Princes Hwy and Eurobodalla Road, Bodalla. The walk takes us through a Sydney Red Gum and Red Bloodwood forest. Superb Lyrebird, Red-browed Treecreeper, Variegated Fairy-wren, Buff-rumped Thornbill, Brown-headed Honeyeater, Gang-gang Cockatoo, Grey Currawong.

Saturday 8 August, 2pm Clyde River National Park (2-3km - Grade 2) Meet at the lookout 1.3kms along Rotary Drive. Rotary Drive is 2.5 kms from the intersection of the Princes and Kings Highways. A walk through eucalypt forest along a track that leads to the Clyde River. Superb Lyrebird, Yellow-faced, White-cheeked and Crescent Honeyeater, White-throated Treecreeper, Eastern Whipbird, Osprey, Rose Robin, White-bellied Sea-Eagle.

Sunday 23 August, 9am Discovery Trail, South Durras (2-3km - Grade 2-3)

Meet at the NPWS pay station, North Durras Rd. Please note that entry fees into this National Park apply. Eucalypt forest, wet gullies dominated by tree ferns and lakeside vegetation. Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Rose Robin, Large-billed and Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone, Green Catbird, various thornbills and honeyeaters.

Saturday 12 September, 2pm Coila Creek Road (2-3km Grade 1) Meet at the corner of the Princes Highway and Coila Creek Road, which is just south of the Coila Creek service station. A walk along the road with farmland and patches of bush. Olive-backed Oriole, White-throated Gerygone, Scarlet and Brown-headed Honeyeater, Jacky Winter, Rufous Songlark, Musk Lorikeet.

Sunday 27 September, 9am Mystery Bay (2-3km – Grade 1-2) Travel 2km down Mystery Bay Road and meet at the carpark on the left opposite Lamont Young Drive. We will convoy from there. A walk along a formed driveway through dry eucalypt forest with pittosporum, casuarina and a variety of understorey bushes. Gang-gang Cockatoo, Golden Whistler, Channel-billed and other cuckoos, honeyeaters and small bush birds. The optional walk down to Tilba Lake will add a variety of waterfowl.
(ENHS Members Only)

Saturday 10 October, 2pm Long Nose Point, Barlings Beach (2-3km Grade 2) Meet at the carpark at the end of a track that runs along the northern boundary of the Barlings Beach Holiday Park. This track is unnamed and runs east off George Bass Drive. A walk along the coastline among Bangalay Sand Forest and on Barlings Beach and the rock platform. Eastern Yellow Robin, Brown Gerygone, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Great and Little Pied Cormorants and other seabirds, New Holland and White-cheeked Honeyeater.

A warm welcome to new members

Geoff Bartram, South Durras.
Robin Carroll, Moruya Heads.
Jocelyn Cole, Congo.
Helen Fisher, Moruya Heads.
Jude Meacham, Moruya.
Darren Subritzky and Ivana Gilberti, Surf Beach.
Jack Taylor, Moruya.

Report of the Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held in the Banksia Room at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens on Sunday 24 May with 26 members in attendance. In business arising from last year's AGM, Julie Morgan reported that the workshop on data collection which had been offered last year had not been taken up and that the purchase of a new computer had been deferred.

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 made mention of the number of new members joining the society, 22 in the past year, which included a number of younger people. Julie thanked volunteers including the current Secretary, Treasurer and members of the Committee and made particular mention of Nicola Clark who is retiring from the Committee this year and Vivien Howard who volunteered to join the committee in the past year. Julie also thanked the newsletter team and David Kay for his work on the annual publication, *Nature in Eurobodalla*. She acknowledged the on-going work of Roman Soroka on the website and administering the ENHS Facebook page. She mentioned that these are the ways in which we communicate with members and the broader community. Julie spoke of an application prepared for the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA). She then thanked all members for their continued support of the ENHS.

Secretary's report: Annie Loveband began by reflecting that the year's field meeting program provided members with opportunities for exploration, learning, and social connection, supported by the dedication of field leaders and Committee members. She provided highlights of the previous year's meetings and noted that an interesting field meeting program has been compiled for the second half of 2026. 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 strong at 117 members, including 26 family memberships and made particular mention of young naturalist Hutch Barker. The ENHS Facebook site continues to attract new followers with 537 at present. Annie thanked Roman for 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 \$349.58 this year, and with assets of \$15,192.56.

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, Paul Gatenby, Vivien Howard, Gee Hounsell, Isis Joyce and Deb Stevenson.

General Business: Julie elaborated on the application prepared for the ALA for data mobilisation highlighting that the ENHS data provided longitudinal information on the status of nature in the Eurobodalla which is quite different from the information in other databases. The application was prepared by the committee with the assistance of Mike Fleming, who was invited to address the meeting on the technical aspects of the application in response to a question.

The AGM concluded and was followed by a well attended and highly engaging presentation by Deborah Andrew and Mike Fleming on their work on the “Shorebirds of Botany Bay – lessons for conservation”.

Field Meeting – Glenduart – 26 April 2026

A group of 23 gathered at the car park outside the Eurobodalla Shire Library for our Moruya Ramble. The promise of a glorious autumn day clearly inspired many of us to rise from our warm beds to attend and it turned out to be a splendid morning with much to see and learn about the history of the area.

After a briefing from Julie Morgan, we drove to Glenduart Drive and started our walk at the old cemetery, which is set on a lovely, quiet bend overlooking the Moruya River. This is a site of some historical interest. Glenduart lies on the north bank of the Moruya River, just to the west of the Mullenderee Flat floodplains, on Walbanja Country of the Yuin people. Before being impacted by colonial land clearing, the area was most probably an open forest with a shrub layer and a dense ground layer dominated by grasses – what is now referred to as the South Coast Lowland Grassy Woodland ecological community. Estimates of the pre-colonial population of the Yuin people are around eleven to twelve thousand – but within only a few decades that number had been reduced to 600.



Photo H Kay



Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos
Photo R Clunes

The Moruya River was the southern-most boundary of the original 19 counties – the area that was officially opened for settlement by the colonial administration in Sydney in 1826. Farming lots were claimed and allocated along the northern bank of the river. The cemetery at Glenduart was established in the late 1840s and ten graves are still visible. There was a racetrack nearby, on the western end of the floodplain, although no sign remains of that now. Over the last 200 years, the land has been logged, cleared, used for growing beans, and, up until the 1980s, for dairy cattle. This intensive European style farming left riverbanks eroded and the soil badly compacted. Native vegetation has been smothered by kikuyu, couch and other pasture grasses.

The dairy industry along the south coast was undermined by legislative changes which made it uneconomic for small farms, and by 2000 most, if not all, dairy farms in the area had switched

to beef. Glenduart was dairy farmland, which in the early 1980s was subdivided into one hectare (two and a half acre) housing lots. Some of these have been planted regeneratively, although many remain mostly cleared.

In the early 2000s, Eurobodalla Shire Council negotiated with several landholders to take back land along the river and created the Glenduart reserve. With two decades of planting and care, the reserve has now become home to a rich, diverse ecosystem, and is especially abundant in birdlife, which leads me on to describing the rest of our walk from the cemetery.



Yellow Thornbill
Photo R Clunes

At the cemetery, we were greeted by two Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos flying over and a further five on gum trees basking in the morning sun. One of our new members, six-year-old Hutch Barker, informed Julie that he didn't usually see Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos in gum trees, and she was curious as

to where he did see them. Old Man Banksia was the answer and Hutch told her that the flowers of these trees were a food source for the Pygmy Possum. She asked how he knew this and the answer was "Inga's tree book". Inga Simpson is a local author who wrote *Where the Trees Were*.



Hutch Barker
Photo J Morgan

We ambled east along the northern bank of the river, with views of open paddock along one side and a thin strip of vegetation dominated by Forest Red Gums along the riverbank. There were several species of honeyeaters— Yellow-faced, Brown-headed, White-eared, Lewins and Eastern Spinebill. Further

along the track, Brown Thornbill were seen low in the shrubs while Yellow Thornbill favoured the upper branches of the casuarina. We also heard Striated Thornbill calls in the mid to upper storey of the trees. We stopped to watch a White-throated Treecreeper which was low on a casuarina and then were distracted by two Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike chasing each other. Red Wattlebird and Grey Shrike-thrush were also seen in the area.



Varied Sittella
Photo R Clunes

On the return journey, we saw a Nankeen Kestrel and a Black-shouldered Kite hovered over the paddocks ready to dive. Higher up, four Pelicans and a Wedge-tailed Eagle circled and still higher, another three Wedge-tailed Eagles. The real highlight though was the sighting of Varied Sittellas on the bark of casuarina growing on the edge of river. They were feeding at eye level less than 2 metres from the path, affording us a perfect view - no binoculars needed. This was a real treat as this species can be difficult to find and when they began to fly off, we counted 15 in total.

A grand total of 55 bird species seen and a glorious morning out in nature. Thanks to Deb Long for input on the history of Glenduart and to Rob Clunes for allowing me to use his photos from the day. Helen Kay

Southern Marbled Gecko

The Southern Marbled Gecko, *Christinus marmoratus*, is not a species that is commonly recorded in the Eurobodalla. Our first record was in April 2022, when one of our founding members, Mike Crowley, found a deceased Southern Marbled Gecko on his front lawn at Moruya Heads. At the time, Mike noted that this species is the most southerly of all the geckos with its range extending across the southern states. As it is the most common gecko found in the ACT, Mike suspected that it may be an accidental introduction. He recorded a second Southern Marbled Gecko in April 2023 and this time it was a live specimen. This led Mike to consider whether the species was now breeding in the Eurobodalla and whether it should be added to our species list.

In May 2026, Mike Fleming and Anne Kerle photographed a Southern Marbled Gecko at Lilli Pilli and we became curious about records of the species in other databases. In addition to Mike Crowley's report, we found 5 records between 2021 and 2026, at Batehaven, Surf Beach, Dalmeny, Narooma and Wallaga Lake. Other south coast records were at Ulladulla and various localities within the Bega Shire, including Bermagui.



Southern Marbled Gecko

The Southern Marbled Gecko is grey or brown above with a series of fine black markings which form a reticulated pattern. It is whitish below. The body is slender and slightly depressed and up to 7cm long. The toes are long and slender with large pads. It is an arboreal species of dry sclerophyll forests and woodland and is attracted to external lights. It can be found in woodpiles, fallen timber as well as in trees. The only other gecko reported in the Eurobodalla was an Asian House Gecko which can be distinguished by a generally lighter appearance and the series of small spines on the top and edges of the tail.

As I was researching this article for the newsletter, I found a Southern Marbled Gecko in my woodpile. I had just cut up some fallen wood from my property to use as firewood. I live on a large bush block just over a kilometre from where Mike first saw the Southern Marbled Gecko. I have not recently travelled to Canberra and my property is largely native bush. It seems that this species is becoming more established in the Eurobodalla and, as Mike suggested, it should be added to our species list. It moved quickly and I did not get a photo and is now hibernating somewhere in the woodpile, so I am carefully checking each piece of wood before it goes into the fire. Julie Morgan

***Pittosporum revolutum* -Rough Fruited Pittosporum**

Having seen the rather stunning seed capsules of this plant on a recent walk, it prompted me to do a bit of research into the species.

Pittosporum revolutum has a mainly coastal distribution in NSW, extending just into the central tablelands and central western slopes. It extends up the coast as far as Cooktown in Queensland and into the north-east corner of Victoria, with one final disjunct patch between Bairnsdale and Orbost. It grows in rainforest, wet sclerophyll forest, and in dry sclerophyll forest in the south of the range.



Leaves and fruit Photo Margaret R Donald

Pittosporum revolutum is a spreading shrub or small tree to about 1–4m high. Branchlets and leaves are covered with rusty-coloured, short-matted hairs. The older leaves are smooth with occasional hairs on the lower surface. Leaves are dull, dark green, alternately arranged or clustered, oval, elliptic or egg-shaped, 4–15cm long, 3–6cm wide, and the margins wavy or smooth. The fragrant, bisexual yellow flowers, varying in number, are borne at the end of branches in clusters (pedicels) 4–15mm long. Sepals are lance-shaped about 5mm long, petals are oblong-shaped, down-curved, 10–20mm long and yellow. Flowering occurs in September and October and the fruit is a yellow-orange coloured capsule, ellipsoid or globe-shaped, 12–20mm long, warty and wrinkled. The seeds are orange to red or red-brown, sticking together in a mass as they are coated with a sticky resinous substance; very showy if produced in large numbers.



Seeds Photo J Morgan

Pittosporum is a large genus of about 150 species, extending to Africa, southern Asia, the Pacific Islands and New Zealand.

There are about 14 Australian species, occurring in all states. *Pittosporum revolutum* was first formally described in 1811 by W.T.Aiton and the description was published in *Hortus Kewensis*. The specific epithet (*revolutum*) means "curling down" referring to the petals. The species has a number of common names including rough-fruited pittosporum, yellow pittosporum, Hairy Pittosporum, Lemon-fruited Pittosporum, Brisbane laurel and wild yellow jasmine.

The species can be grown in a garden situation and plants are available commercially. It is a very attractive plant in flower as well as in fruit. Seeds are eaten by Figbirds and Satin Bowerbirds while the flowers attracts bees, butterflies and other insects. It is useful as a fast-growing hedge or screen plant and can be grown in a sunny to dappled light situation, in most soils. It has limited frost tolerance. Propagation can be carried out from seed which germinates readily without treatment. This species was reportedly used by First Nations People of Australia for food. It is not considered to be at risk of extinction in the wild. David Kay



Flowers Photo Allthingsnative

How to become a birdwatcher

“Here’s to the birdwatchers: optimistic, slightly eccentric, custodians of wonder and joy and passion and love” writes Natalie Kyriacou in her book Nature’s last dance. Birdwatching is "the gentle act of noticing, the willingness to see the world around you.”

Birdwatching takes you to beautiful environments. It provides the opportunity to observe and immerse yourself in all of the beauty that nature has to offer. Birdwatchers do not restrict their enthusiastic observation to just birds. It’s all about the whole picture – the birds, their behaviours, their environments, the plants that they depend on for shelter, protection, food, the insects, the scenery.

As a hobby, birdwatching is comparatively inexpensive. The most important investment is a decent pair of binoculars. There is no point trying to watch birds with your old horse-racing clunkers, nor is a tiny pair that is difficult to adjust and focus going to cause anything but frustration. It is not necessary to spend thousands of dollars (but you could), but be prepared to invest a few hundred for a satisfying experience. Once you have made this initial investment, there is very little ongoing cost, unless you decide that you want to add the Emperor Penguin to your Australian life-list. Or travel further afield to see the Resplendent Quetzal, which would involve a journey to Costa Rica.

Birdwatchers are often parodied in their “uniforms” – the colourless hiking pants with multiple pockets, the floppy hat, the hiking boots and gaiters. These accoutrements are not essential – you just need the usual requirements when spending time outdoors in Australia: sunblock, a hat, water and a few pockets or bum-bag for carrying your mobile phone – because you will very soon need to purchase one of the essential apps which will help you recognise birds, their calls, their locations. A hard-copy is also useful. It’s advisable to always carry a field-guide in the car because you can never know when you’re going to come across a bird that needs identifying.

Birdwatching is a life-changing hobby. Seeing a rare bird can have a strange effect on an otherwise average, normal person. It can become addictive. Even obsessive. It is advisable to “find your flock” – join a group, or go along with some friends who are knowledgeable birdwatchers. You can learn so much from an experienced friend or an expert. Hiring a professional guide when visiting a new area can be rewarding and worth this extra occasional investment. A mentor will pass on lots of invaluable information. Self-confessed “Bird-nerd” Sean Dooley, who works for Birdlife Australia as their publicist, was, as a young boy, taken “under the wing” of an acquaintance, a man called Mike Carter, who was well-known in birding circles. Sean's parents apparently thought nothing of Sean wandering off into the bush each weekend with an older gentleman, each of them armed with binoculars.

During the Covid pandemic, there was a surge in the number of people who became engaged in birdwatching, and in the majority of cases, the hobby has stuck. Restricted to a 5km radius from their homes, people began discovering some of the joys of the world around them. So much time was freed up. The mental and physical benefits of being outside and in nature are permanent. Birdwatching is a form of meditation. It’s impossible to

think of anything else if you are totally concentrating on a bird and noting all of its features, seeking a positive identification.

During this year’s annual bird count which is organised by Birdlife Australia, the number of individual bird sightings exceeded 5 million for the first time. Each year since the Count began about five years ago, participation has soared, so that the numbers of individual birds counted, and the number of observers has climbed. This annual bird count is a great example of citizen science in action. We are adding to scientific data. Scientists acknowledge that more than half of all bird data has been contributed by amateurs such as birdwatchers.

As a novice birdwatcher, you can start anywhere, as Dr Ann Jones has shown in her TV series “Urban birds”. At home or out in the bush, just one special sighting can get you hooked. For me, it was the Regent Bowerbird. I can vividly picture in my mind the time when, as a young child, I was living in Murwillumbah, and a small group of these spectacular birds briefly visited our garden.

For those who live in the Eurobodalla area, what better place to start than at the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, armed with their bird identification brochure. It has been uplifting to monitor the surprisingly rapid recovery of bird numbers since the devastating bushfires of 2019-2020. On my first return visit after that summer, I heard a single call - a courageous little pardalote. But I did not actually see a single bird. Now, a mere five years later, it is not difficult to compile a list of more than 20 different species.

Patience is a true asset for anyone beginning the birdwatching path. Don’t try to acquire too much knowledge at once – it will gradually seep in. This is especially important when trying to familiarise yourself with bird-calls. Some species make numerous different calls, which can be really frustrating at first, but just aim to enjoy each experience. The male and female of a species can look so different from each other, yet another challenge to the learning process. It won't be easy, but it will be rewarding. And don’t go birdwatching with a bushwalking group. They won’t stop for you to identify a bird. It’s a totally different activity, and from my experience, the two are mutually exclusive.

Some birdwatchers are “listers” – they might keep a monthly list, an Australian list, an annual list, a life-list. You can tick your sightings off in your field guide or on the app. Listers can become very competitive – and this is where the term “twitcher” enters the picture. If you need a Semi-palmated Plover for your life-list, and there have been a couple of sightings reported at the Broome Sewage works, then the twitcher will drop everything and book a flight. Australia has approximately 1,000 of the 10,000 bird species in the world, so a life-list of 600 is a realistic goal – over a number of years.

The above-mentioned Sean Dooley decided to spend a small inheritance, doing a “big twitch”. His goal was to see 700 Australian species in a single year. Most people would not see that number in a lifetime. But Sean was successful and he published an account of his year in his entertaining book [The Big Twitch](#).

Our world has become noisy, fast-paced, stress-inducing, and we are constantly bombarded with invasive social media. Birdwatching offers something completely different and totally satisfying. It’s quite ok to be eccentric and addicted. There’s a whole flock of us out there. Mandy Anderson

Highlights from ENHS records - Autumn 2026

Avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Emu	2	PP	FM	
Stubble Quail	Up to 20	Com	JC	
Musk Duck	Up to 7	PS	JM	
Freckled Duck	4	MHS	MA	Newstead Pond
Australian Shelduck	Up to 9	Com	JC	
Hardhead	2	MHS	MA	Newstead Pond
Australian Shoveler	1	Com	JC	In April
Northern Mallard	3	Com	JC	In May
Australasian Grebe	14, 2	Com/ Eurobodalla Rd	JC/MA	
Hoary-headed Grebe	2, 3	MHS/Barlings S	MA	Newstead Pond at MHS
White-headed Pigeon	25	MB	A Christensen	A large number
Bar-shouldered Dove	1	Cullendulla Ck	RC	

Superb Fruit Dove	1	Tilba	Reported to MA	Window strike at Central Tilba Public School
Tawny Frogmouth	2, 1	MB/Pedro	MA/JS	
White-throated Nightjar	Call	PS	JM	In mid March
Australian Owlet Nightjar	Calls	Com/PS	JC/JM	
White-throated Needletail	A few hundred	Surfside	DB	In early March
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	1	PS/Deua NP	JM/AM	In March/April
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	2, 1	Ner/MYA/Bergalia	IJ/JM/DHK	
Pallid Cuckoo	1	Ner	IJ	In April
Buff-banded Rail	2, 1	ERBG/NA/Eurobodalla Rd	SH/PB/MA	
Spotless Crake	1	TS	RC	
Dusky Moorhen	3, 2, 1	ERBG/MHS/Com	SH/PB/MA/JC	
Eurasian Coot	400, 240	Tilba/Barlings S /PS	MA/JM	Little Lake, Tilba
Royal Spoonbill	40, 35	Bodalla/Bumbo Rd	MA	
Straw-necked Ibis	Up to 150	Com	JC	
Australian White Ibis	Up to 150	Com	JC	
Nankeen Night Heron	2, 1	Mossy Pt/MHS	SH/PB/MA	
Striated Heron	1	MYA	RC/DHK	Glenduart and Riverside
Cattle Egret	Up to 50, 20	MB/MYA	MA/DS/JM	
White-necked Heron	2, 1	Com/MYA/Bergalia/Bingie/MB	JC/JM/DHK/MA	
Intermediate Egret	1	Com	JC	
Little Egret	Up to 10, 1	MB/Mossy Pt	MA/SH/PB	
Eastern Reef Egret	1 or 2	MB	MA	
Australasian Gannet	12, 2, 1	MB/Bingie Pt/BP	MA/DHK/SH/PB	
Great Pied Cormorant	4, 2, 1	Brou L/MB/NA	MA/T&A Ross	
Australasian Darter	1	PS/Com/NA/Eurobodalla Rd	JC/JM/T&A Ross/MA	
Beach Stone-curlew	1	Cullendulla Ck	RC/SH/PB/VH	
Aust Pied Oystercatcher	17	WL	MA	Western side
Sooty Oystercatcher	12	Candlagan Ck	GH	
Pied Stilt	9	Cullendulla Ck	SH/PB	
Pacific Golden Plover	Up to 5	MB	MA	In full breeding plumage
Red-capped Plover	15, 11	Brou L/Sth DS	MA/JCof	
Hooded Plover	4	MB	D Crass	1080 Beach
Black-fronted Dotterel	3	Bingie	DHK	At Kelly's Lake
Whimbrel	12	MHN	RC	In March
Far Eastern Curlew	20	MHN	RC	In March
Bar-tailed Godwit	Up to 120	NA	MA	
Caspian Tern	5	Brou L	MA	Singles elsewhere
Masked Owl	1	Pedro	JS	
Barn Owl	1	Tilba	MA	
Powerful Owl	2, call	Pedro/PS/TS	JS/JM/GM	
Southern Boobook	4	Long Beach	B Wilson	A family
Osprey	1	Square Head/MYA/TS	JM/M Craig	
Square-tailed Kite	1	Bingie Pt/WL	DHK/MA	
Little Eagle	1	PS	JM	April
Swamp Harrier	1	PS/Com	JM/JC	

Grey Goshawk	2, 1	Kianga/Com/ MB	T&A Ross/JC/ MA	
Brown Goshawk	1	PS/MO	JM/DHK	
Collared Sparrowhawk	1	MKS	SMG	
Oriental Dollarbird	Up to 8	MB	MA	In March
Azure Kingfisher	1	MYA/Com/PP/ Ner/Tilba	DHK/Com/FM /IJ/MA	
Sacred Kingfisher	1	Mossy Pt/MYA/ PS/Bergalia/ Eurobodalla Rd	SH/PB/FM/JM /DHK/MA	Until end of April
Australian Hobby	2, 1	PS/Pedro/Com	JM/JS/JC	Displaying at PS
Brown Falcon	1	MYA/TS/Com/ Bodalla	JM/GM/JC/ MA	
Peregrine Falcon	1	MYA/PS/Com	FM/JM/JC	
Glossy Black Cockatoo	5, 3, 2	PS/MKS/Pedro/ Bergalia	JM/SMG/JS/ DHK	One immature female in a group of three at PS
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	28	Ner	IJ	
Gang-Gang Cockatoo	8, 7, 5, 4	Ner/Cool/ MB/Pedro	IJ/DO/MA/JS	
Crimson Rosella	Up to 40, 25	Pedro/PS	JS/JM	Large numbers
Eastern Rosella	10, 8, 4	Com/Bingie/MB	JC/DHK/MA	
Musk Lorikeet	15, 10	Com/Mossy Pt/ MYA	JC/SH/PB/JM	
Little Lorikeet	4, 2	Maloney's Bch/ PS	FM/JM	
Australian King Parrot	40, 30	Com/MKS	JC/SMG	
Noisy Pitta	Call	PS	JM	At night
Superb Lyrebird	3	Deua NP/NA	AM/JM/MA	Singles or calls elsewhere
Red-browed Trecreeper	1	Deua NP/PS	AM/JM	
Southern Emu-wren	1	Cullendulla	RC	
Crescent Honeyeater	1	Ner	IJ	
White-cheeked Honeyeater	4	Deua NP	AM/JM	
White-naped Honeyeater	8, 5, 4	Deua NP/MB/ PS/Bodalla	AM/JM/MA/ FM	
Brown-headed Honeyeater	8, 5, 4	PS/Com/MYA/ Cool/NA	JM/JC/FM/DO /MA	
White-eared Honeyeater	5, 4, 2	PS/Deua NP/ Pedro/Ner/MB	JM/AM/JS/IJ/ MA	
Noisy Friarbird	Up to 60	PS	JM	Strong migration in March
Scarlet Honeyeater	2, 1	PS/MYA/ERBG /Mossy Pt	JM/FM/SH/PB	
White-plumed Honeyeater	Call	PS	JM	In May
Fuscous Honeyeater	7, 4, 3	MKS/Pedro/PS	SMG/JM	
Striated Pardalote	2 or call	PS/Com/MB	JM/JC/MA	
Pilotbird	Call	Deua NP	AM/JM	Mungerarie Firetrail
Buff-rumped Thornbill	8, 1	Ner/MB	IJ/MA	
Varied Sittella	15, 11, 4	MYA/Pedro/PS	FM/JM	
Australasian Figbird	4, 1	MYA/PS/BrouL	JM/MA	
Spotted Quail-thrush	1	Deua NP	AM/JM	Donald's Ck Rd
Eastern Shrike-tit	1	MYA/Bingie	RC/CL/DHK	
Rufous Whistler	2, 1	PS/Com/Ner/ MB/Square Hd	JM/JC/IJ/MA/ FM	
White-bellied Cuckoo- shrike	Up to 7	PS	JM	An usual gathering with displaying and immatures
Common Cicadabird	3	PS	JM	In March

Dusky Woodswallow	15, 5	Ner/Bodalla Forest Pk	IJ/FM	
White-breasted Woodswallow	10, 4	MHS/PS	JM	
Rufous Fantail	1	PS/Ner	JM/IJ	In March and April
Satin Flycatcher	1	Mullimburra Pt	DHK	In April
Restless Flycatcher	2, 1	Com/Bingie/MB	JC/DHK/MA	
Little Raven	30, 29	Com/Eurobodalla Rd	JC/MA	
White-winged Chough	17, 10, 8	MKS/Pedro/Bergalia	SMG/JS/DHK	
Rose Robin	1 or 2	Cullendulla/Deua NP/PS/Com/Ner/MB	RC/JM/JC/JC/IJ/MA	
Scarlet Robin	2, 1	Ner/Bergalia/Com/MB	IJ/DHK/JC/MA	
Golden-headed Cisticola	1 or calls	MYA/Com	M Penrith/JC	
Fairy Martin	24	Eurobodalla Rd	MA	In March
Tree Martin	40, 5, 4	Com/MYA/Ner	JC/JM/IJ	
Silvereye	Hundreds	PS	JM	Strong migration in April including by moonlight in the early morning
Bassian Thrush	1	ERBG/Ner	RC/MA/IJ	
Mistletoebird	1 or 2	MYA/Deua NP/PS/Bodalla	AM/JM/FM	
Australasian Pipit	2, 1	Com/Bingie Pt /MB	JC/DHK/MA	

Non-avian species	Number	Place	Observer	Comments
Short-beaked Echidna	1	PS/Ner/MB	JM/IJ/MA	
Agile Antechinus	1	Mossy Pt	SH/PB	
Antechinus sp.	1	Deau NP	AM/JM	
Long-nosed Bandicoot	1	Pedro	JS	
Common Wombat	1 or signs	Ner/Com/Cool	IJ/JC/DO	
Yellow-bellied Glider	1	Mossy Pt	SH/PB	
Sugar Glider	Calls	PS/Pedro Pt/Com/Cool	JM/JC/DO	
Common Ringtail Possum	1	Mossy Pt	SH/PB	
Common Brushtail Possum	3, 2, 1	Pedro/Mossy Pt/Pedro Pt/Com/Ner/Cool	JC/JM/MA/IJ/DO	
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	84	Maloney's Bch	FM	
Red-necked Wallaby	7, 6, 2, 1	Ner/Pedro/Cool/PP/MKS	IJ/JS/DO/FM/SMG	
Grey-headed Flying-fox	Camps	MYA/WL	FM/DO/MA	
Australian Fur Seal	9	BP	SH/PB	Seal sp. at MYA and MB
Bottle-nosed Dolphin	8	DY	MA	
Snake-necked Turtle	10, 4	Com/Ner	JC/IJ	
Yellow-bellied Water-skink	3	Com	JC	
Eastern Blue-tongue	3, 1	Com/Long Nose Pt/Cool	JC/SH/PB/DO	
Jacky Lizard	3, 1	BP/ERBG/Cool	SH/PB/DO	In March
Eastern Water Dragon	1	ERBG/Pedro Cullendulla	RC/JS/C Codes	
Gippsland Water Dragon	5, 1	Com/ERBG	JC/SH/PB	March-April

Lace Monitor	2, 1	Pedro/Ner/ PP/Brou L/Cool	JS/IJ/FM/MA/DO	March-April
Diamond Python	1	Ner	IJ	
Eastern Small-eyed Snake	1	PS	JM	Juvenile

Frogs JC/JM/FM	Common Eastern Froglet, Brown-striped Frog, Dendy's and Brown Toadlet; tree frogs: Brown, Screaming, Southern Leaf-green, Peron's, Tyler's, Verreaux's.
Moths JC/JM/T&A Ross	Southern and Variable Oxycanus, Cone Case, Australian Bag, Saunder's Case (larva), Scat, Light Brown Apple, Satin-green Forester, Four-spotted Cup, Geranium Plume, Meal, Pond, White Rush, Beet Webworm, Corded and Black Geometrid, Chestnut Vein Crest, Clara Satin, Bracken, Acute Point, Long-fringed and Mahogany Bark, Pink Arhodia, Brown Twisted, Neat Epidesmia, Varied Grey, Golden-fringed Emerald, Cream and Varied Wave, Plantain, Black-lined and Dark-patch Carpet, Sodaliata, Red-spotted Delicate, White-stemmed Gum and Wattle, Common Anthelid, Convolvulus and Coprosma Hawk, Sparshalli, Gum Cowl-head, White Cedar, Banded and Lydia Lichen, Variable Halone, Reticulated and Diminutive Footman, Lichen-eating Caterpillar, Magpie, Tiger, Crimson Tiger, Long-snouted, Streaked and Three-lined Snout, Variable Spot-wing, Plain Pantydia, Northern Old Lady, Triangle Owlet, Pennywort Cutworm, Gumleaf Skeletoniser, Cycota Tuft, Brown-bar, Mistletoe, Green-blotched, White-streaked, Pale-banded, Blood-spotted, Black-bodied and Tawny-collared Noctuid, Bogong, Australian Armyworm, Tasmanian, Black, Chevron and Variable Cutworm, Native Budworm.
Butterflies MA/JC/SH/PB/IJ /JM/FM/M Craig	Southern Silver and Splendid Ochre, Barred Skipper, Dingy Grass-skipper, Eastern Iris Skipper, Narrow-brand and Greenish Grass-dart, Greenish Darter, Blue Triangle, Macleay's and Orchard Swallowtail, Black Jezebel, Cabbage White, Dusky Knight, Brown Ringlet, Varied Sword-grass Brown, Wonder, Common, Spotted, Banks and Evening Brown, Tailed Emperor, Meadow Argus, Australian Painted Lady, Yellow Admiral, Monarch, Imperial Hairstreak, Varied Dusky-blue, Saltbush and Common Grass Blue.
Beetles JC/JM/FM	Jewel, Acacia Leaf, Metallic Green Acacia, Three-lined Potato, Plague Soldier, Net-winged, Pumpkin, Elm Leaf, Honeybrown, Red Shouldered; Ladybirds: Steel Blue, 26 Spotted, Striped, Mealybug, Tortoise-shelled.
Bugs JC/JM/FM	Milk Vine, Harlequin, Bronze Orange, Metallic Shield, Green Vegetable, Black and White Seed, Backswimmer, Water Boatman, Cherry Ballart and Yellow-dotted Shield. Cicada: Beach Squeaker, Silver Princess, Greengrocer, Razor Grinder.
Cicada JM/FM	Silver Princess, Double-spotted, Beach Squeaker, Greengrocer, Razor Grinder.
Dragon & Damselflies JC/GH/JM/T&A Ross	Common Bluetail, Metallic Ringtail, Blue Skimmer, Australian and Tau Emerald, Scarlet, Wandering and Black-faced Percher, Blue-spotted Hawker, Common Glider, Australian Emperor, Pygmy Wisp, Red and Blue Damselfly, Common Flatwing.
Other insects JC/SH/PB/JM/ FM	Bees: Sugar Bag, TeddyBear, Blue Banded, Neon Cuckoo. Wasps: Common Paper, Orange Caterpillar Parasite, Sphex. Yellow-winged Locust. Olive-green Coastal Katydid. Red Triangle Slug, Margined-winged Stick Insect.
Spiders MA/JC/GLM/JM /FM	Black House, Leaf-curling, Jumping, Giant Banded Huntsman, Daddy Long Legs, Golden Orb, Two-tailed, St Andrew's Cross, Flat Rock, Wolf, Lucrida, Jovial, Golden-tailed and Salpesia Jumping, Horned Triangular.

RAINFALL (mm). March: 105 at MKS, 153 at Bergalia, 116 at Com, 163 at MB, 142.75 at Cool. **April:** 1 at MKS, 4 at Bergalia, 1 at Com, 13 at MB, 1.25 at Cool. **May:** 58.5 at MKS, 85 at Bergalia, 70.5 at Com, 70.5 at MB, 56.75 at Cool.

Contributors

MA	M Anderson, MB	CL	C Lucas, MYA	C Codes, Cullendulla
DB	D Bertzeletos, Surfside	GM	G Macnamara, TS	A Christensen, MB
RC	R Clunes, Surfside	AM	A Marsh, Bingie	M Craig, TS
JCof	J Coffey, Sth DS	JM	J Morgan, PS	D Crass, MB
JC	J&P Collett, Com	DO	D Ondinea, Cool	M Penrith, Long Beach
SMG	S&M Guppy, MKS	JS	J Sagar, Pedro	T&A Ross, Kianga
SH/PB	S Holliday & P Buckley, ACT	DS	D Stevenson, MHS	B Wilson, Long Beach
GH	G Hounsell, Broulee	FM	Field Meeting	
DHK	D&H Kay, Bergalia			

Places					
BB	Batemans Bay	LP	Lilli Pilli	PS	Pedro Swamp
BBWG	Batemans Bay Water Gardens	MKS	Maulbrooks Rd S, MYA	PP	Potato Point
BI	Bermagui	MO	Meringo	SB	Surf Beach
BP	Burrewarra Point	MYA	Moruya	SF	State Forest
Cool	Coolagolite	MH	Moruya Heads, N&S	T'bella	Trunketabella
Com	Comerang	MB	Mystery Bay	TN	Tomakin
CO	Congo	NA	Narooma	TS	Tuross
DS	Durras	Ner	Nerrigundah	WL	Wallaga Lake
DY	Dalmeny	NP	National Park		
ERBG	Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens	PDD	Percy Davis Drive, MYA		

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