



Gang-gang

JUNE 2021

Newsletter of the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc.

JUNE MEETING

**Wednesday 9 June 2021 7.30pm
normal face-to-face meeting**

*Following the approval of our COVID Safety Plan, COG will hold our 9 June meeting as a face-to-face one at the usual venue, **Canberra Girls Grammar School (CGGS) Multi-media centre, corner Gawler Cres and Melbourne Ave, Deakin.***

Attendees will need to sit so that there is only one person per 2 sq m and with 1.5 m distancing, by maintaining 2 spare seats between people except for members of the same family or group of close contacts.

All attendees must practice good hand and respiratory hygiene and stay home if unwell.

As required by the ACT Government for application of the 2 sq m per person rule, the 'Check in CBR' app will be used to collect participants' contact details, using the QR code displayed at the entrance to the venue.

If attendees do not have or cannot share this app, COG will make a paper record of their names and contact details.

Proposed attendees should make themselves familiar with COG's approved COVID Safety Plan for CGGS, the full details of which are available on COG's web site.

Summary/analysis of the past month and what to watch out for this month

The dry weather with minimum temperatures often hovering around 0°C and maximums in the high teens or low 20s continued for the first week of the 4 week period from 28 April to 25 May covered by this column, before a significant rainfall event led to a wetter week with much higher minimums. For the rest of the period this was followed by a significantly colder change with our first big frosts. This cooling down does not seem to have had a major effect on the birds within the COG Area of Interest (AoI), as my analysis below shows that particularly the later leaving spring/summer migrants seem to be staying longer than usual, with the autumn altitudinal migrants also being slow to arrive.

In fact, the colder change seems to have led to the highest activity in the period during which the attention has been dominated by three parrot species. The first of these, the endangered **Swift Parrot**, continued to be reported from around Callum Brae to 6 May. However, numbers had dropped off rapidly from the peak of 65 reported by Luke Downey on 2 May, and this seemed to coincide



Little Lorikeet

Lindsay Northrop

Everyone welcome

JUNE MEETING *continued from Page 1*

The first presentation will be by **Peter Fullagar** and **Chris Davey** on “**Assessing Silver Gull breeding numbers on Spinnaker Island, Lake Burley Griffin, ACT- 2010-2020**”.

They will discuss the problems of assessing numbers and productivity in colonial breeding birds, based on their work with Silver Gulls in Canberra. They will summarise their survey results and then describe the use of a drone to determine colony size and breeding success.

The main presentation will be by **Stuart Rae** on “**Little Eagles in the ACT area – and beyond, 2017-2020**”.

The Little Eagle Research Group has been studying these birds for four years now, and Stuart will present the group’s findings so far. The group is an informal collaborative study group which aims to monitor and assess the status and ecology of the Little Eagle in the ACT and nearby NSW. This is done part-time with the combined knowledge, expertise and resources of the group members. They have collated a vast amount of data on the birds’ diet, population, breeding success, and movements. So how many are there, where are they and why? Stuart will illustrate answers to these questions with examples of the birds’ foods, habitats and nationwide movements.

Summary/analysis of the past month and what to watch out for this month *continued from Page 1*

with Steve Holliday reporting 30 from the western side of Mt Ainslie on 3 May, with others reporting slightly lower numbers there up to 9 May. After that there were scattered reports of smaller numbers and they appeared to have moved on until, on 20 May, Philip Veerman reported around 25 in the light industrial area around Jenke Circuit Kambah, just to the north of Lake Tuggeranong. Many observers then saw them there spread out over around 400 m, with Philip estimating up to 80 birds (Adam FitzGerald counted 64 in one of his images) on 23 May. Importantly that same afternoon Mark Clayton and colleagues estimated at least 15-20 at Namadgi NP Visitors Centre.

This is a very significant event for Canberra and the COG AoI noting that a news release on 2 December 2020 indicated that the population size of **Swift Parrots** could be less than 300 individuals. This was based on new research by the team from the ANU which, by using genetics, showed how decades of deforestation in Tasmania and introduced predators had badly affected this parrot’s population. Thus, our up to 100 birds represents a remarkable 30% or more of this population estimate, and even with the previous estimate of around 1000 pairs (2000 birds) it would be 5%. Since mid-April they have now been observed at 10 different locations/suburbs within Canberra/Queanbeyan, with the next closest location being just 4 birds at Tarcutta on 1 May, about 125 km due west. So please continue to keep an eye out for them, as they could turn up anywhere where there are flowers (including buds) or lerps present.

During the lull in the above sightings the attention turned to the **Little Lorikeet** first reported (somewhat hesitantly) alongside **Rainbow** and **Musk Lorikeets** by Peter Miller on 13 May on the footpath that runs between Phillip Ave and Newton St Hackett. Since then many observers have reported them (on 2 occasions 2 birds) spread over 200 m in that general vicinity to at least 24 May. COG’s 2018-2019 Annual Bird Report (ABR) lists it as a rare, non-breeding visitor, a nomadic species feeding mainly on eucalypts and which is declared vulnerable in NSW. So, it is another endangered species attracted by the amount of flowering in Canberra at present.

On 19 May Philip Veerman observed around 50 **Superb Parrots** feeding mainly on leaves at the bottom of Jenke Circuit Kambah (where he found the **Swift Parrots** a day later). This is a remarkable number of this species southside in late autumn. Even more remarkable was that two birds (a male and a female) were banded, though these could not be read. Chris Davey has confirmed that these birds were likely to have been banded northside and had found their way south, close to the south-eastern limit of their range. On 23 May David Rees saw a number of pairs of **Superb Parrots** moving about in Watson, with one particular pair showing little sign of leaving and he watched (and filmed) them prospecting nest hollows, interesting behaviour for this bird at this time of year, he thought. They have been reported from close to 50 locations over the period,

including 20 south of the lake, a remarkable number for a species that once (only 20 or so years ago) left Canberra completely during late autumn/winter.

In my May column I noted my impression that the altitudinal migrants, which move into Canberra and its surrounds in autumn/winter from the mountains and other higher areas, had continued to move in slowly. This continues to be the case for the first arriving altitudinal migrants, with numbers much the same as in April for total locations and the number of urban/peri-urban compared with rural locations for the **Golden Whistler**, **White-eared Honeyeater** and **Grey Shrike-thrush**. There were reports from around 40 locations for the **Scarlet Robin**, with still less than 20 of these from urban/peri-urban areas. However, the usually later arriving **Flame Robin** has clearly moved in, with 15 of the 27 locations from which it was reported being urban or peri-urban, compared with just 1 of the 19 locations in April. This includes 6 (only 1 male) on 18 May at their known favoured spot about 800 m to the WSW of Mt Arawang, from where they have been largely absent over the past couple of late autumn/winter periods.

The **Rose Robin**, often regarded as a passage migrant, was still reported from Tidbinbilla NR up to 16 May and Namadgi NP Visitors Centre on 25 May, as well as from 5 urban/peri-urban locations in an arc from the ANBG to Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR to 24 May. There were no reports of the **Pink Robin** during the period, but Matthew Larkin has informed me that the COG Rarities Panel has accepted his report of a female seen on the Bindubi Street edge of the Wybalena Grove community in Cook on 3 April. This is the first report of this species in the COG Aol in at least 15 months. Interestingly the **Crescent Honeyeater** has only been reported from 4 locations to the west of the Murrumbidgee River in the period, with none at the ANBG or as yet in my Chapman garden. There have been no urban or peri-urban reports so far in 2021 of the **Yellow-tufted Honeyeater**; in fact, so far in 2021 there has been only the single report of 3 birds at the Tharwa Sandwash on 24 January.



Musk Lorikeet

Lindsay Hansch



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Alice Springs, West MacDonnell
Ranges, Glen Helen, Yulara,
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16 & 17 October 2021
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Of the spring/summer migrants the most interesting observation was of a **Rufous Songlark** reported on 1 May by Patrick Cox on Naas Road at Apollo Road. This is a species that does overwinter in very small numbers, often in my experience to the south of Canberra (as this one was), but is very quiet, often skulking down in the cover, but clearly identifiable from similar species by its rufous rump, as was obvious in Patrick's photo.

Of those still present in April, there have been no further reports of the **Eastern Koel**, **Brush Cuckoo**, **Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo**, **Common Sandpiper**, **Rainbow Bee-eater**, **White-winged Triller**, **Common Cicadabird**, **Leaden or Satin Flycatcher**, or **Fairy Martin** in the period covered. However, a mature **Shining Bronze-Cuckoo** was photographed during the COG outing to private property south of Tharwa on 2 May, as was another (no details) slightly further north at Tharwa Sandwash on the same day. The **Fan-tailed Cuckoo**, the least migratory of the local cuckoos, was still reported from 7 locations, the most recent being an adult from Sherwood Forest on 20 May.



Shining Bronze-Cuckoo near Tharwa

Tee Tong Teo

There was still one report of a **Rufous Fantail** by John Hurrell at Narrabundah Hill on 27 April. The **Australian Reed-Warbler** was reported from 4 locations in the period, the most recent being from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR by Sandra Henderson on 24 May, and the **Tree Martin** from 3 locations, most recently 5 birds from Nelanglo TSR north of Gundaroo by Tony Willis on 22 May.

Of the species that usually leave by the end of April, the **White-throated Gerygone** was reported from just the single location, Tuggeranong Hill, on 8 May, whereas the **Western Gerygone** was still reported from 3 locations, most recently from both Campbell Park and Namadgi NP Visitors Centre on 22 May. **Rufous Whistlers** and **Grey Fantails** were reported from 19 and over 100 locations, respectively, and the **Noisy Friarbird** was still reported from a remarkable over 30 locations, with all three still present up to the time of writing. The numbers, particularly for the last three species, underline how late they seem to be staying. A number of these species will overwinter, as will the **Mistletoebird** (still reported from 10 locations) and **Superb Parrot** (see above for the remarkable reporting from around 50 locations).

Finally **Dusky Woodswallows** and **Olive-backed Orioles**, usually the last migrant species to leave, were still each reported from 17 locations up to the time of writing. Again small numbers of these often overwinter. So, during June please keep an eye out for the above late-leaving spring/summer migrants.

As opposed to the parrot species highlighted above, a couple of other "unusual" species were seen only by the reporter. Alison Rowell reported a single **Double-banded Plover** on 15 May on the north-western taxiway at the Canberra Airport, just behind Costco. It was viewed for several minutes with binoculars from a vehicle from about 20 metres away and it flew short distances, but was reluctant to leave the area. She noted it was a surprising observation, and certainly a first for Canberra Airport. The 2018-2019 ABR lists it as a rare, non-breeding vagrant which migrates to Australia from NZ in the first half of the year, with nearly all sightings from Lake Bathurst, where the eBird Australia map shows 2 sightings for 2021 of up to 5 birds in March and April by Michael Lenz.

On 19 May Luke Downey saw a **Spangled Drongo** in Stirling. It was a medium-large sized, black bird, bouncing around restlessly, with a long forked tail that it shook like a flycatcher. The bird appeared to be part of a mixed flock of migrating honeyeaters but has not been able to be found again. The 2018-2019 ABR lists it as a non-breeding vagrant, a coastal species which has regularly albeit sparsely reported since 2000. Interestingly the closest other sighting so far in 2021 is from Bawley Point about 125 km to the east.

Otherwise "unusual" species and their numbers seem to be well down for the period despite my ever increasing list of them. Up to 18 **Plumed Whistling Ducks** have been reported only from their 2 usual locations close to Bungendore. Up to 37 **Australian Shelduck** were also reported from around there, but the highest number was 110 on 21 May from Wollagorang Lagoon south of Breadalbane. There have been no **Blue-billed Ducks** reported anywhere from the COG AoI during the period, and (other than from Tidbinbilla NR Sanctuary) only a single **Musk Duck** at Rowes Lagoon on 3 May.

There have been no reports for the **Stubble Quail** over the period (again probably an indication of how much we rely on their call for their presence), but reports from 4 locations for the **Brown Quail**. **Painted Button-quail** were reported from 2 locations (Campbell Park on 12 May and Mt Taylor on 13 May), but no **Little Button-quail** or **Great Crested Grebes** were reported during the period.

A **White-headed Pigeon** was reported by Greg Hosking from Torrens on 22 May, and a single **Peaceful Dove** by several observers at Orana Bay on LBG from 28 April to 1 May. However, the **Diamond Dove** has still not been reported in the ACT so far this year, with the eBird Australia map showing the closest record so far in 2021 being at Orange.

A **Grey Goshawk** was reported on 12 May by N Froelich from the Tuggeranong Parkway; it was sitting still on a very tall street light, masquerading as a **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** as is often the case. On 16 May John Layton saw his first live **Barn Owl** in the ACT while travelling through the Belconnen Golf Course Estate. Surprisingly this is the only record for the ACT for the period, though there was a record from Goulburn just outside the COG Aol on 30 April. Despite my expectations in my May column that the dropping temperatures might curtail the mouse plague's move towards the ACT, press reports since indicate this clearly has not been the case.

However, I understand numbers in the ACT continue to be relatively low and, while there were reports of the **Black-shouldered Kite** from 5 locations in the ACT between 2-18 May, there are no other records from the COG Aol in the period, with the nearest record being from near Gundagai about 100 km to the west. This suggests that these sightings may not have been linked to increasingly high mouse numbers.

While **Southern Boobooks** have been reported from 5 local locations, only 3 of these were of birds calling while it was dark. It is interesting that there have been so few such records since April, despite them coming into their peak winter calling season prior to breeding, as at least some references indicate. Joan and Trevor Lipscombe have noted that when they first moved into Campbell in November 2014, for a few weeks they regularly heard one calling from the Mount Pleasant Nature Reserve close by. Since then they have heard them sporadically, in late spring/early summer, including 2020. In 2021 the pattern has been different. Their first sighting was one seen in the third week of February, and for a few nights it was around, hawking from their roof. They have not seen one since, but have heard them in the first week in March and for 4 weeks in April.

Surprisingly there have been no reports of the **Azure Kingfisher** over the period, though there were further reports of the **Budgerigar** in natural colours from Naas Road at Apollo Road by 3 observers on 28-29 April. There was a report of 2 **Scaly-breasted Lorikeets** at McQuoids Hill NR by Sue Beatty on 16 May, whereas **Musk Lorikeets** have been surprisingly common, having been reported from 8 locations over the period.

No **Blue-faced Honeyeaters** were reported over the period, whereas **Scarlet Honeyeaters** were reported from 3 locations between 8-15 May, at the ANBG, North Lyneham and Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR. These were single males from the first two and an immature male from the last spot.

Of the birds I have been asking readers to keep a special lookout for continuing into 2021, the **Jacky Winter** has been reported from only the single known location, Namadgi NP Visitors Centre, with 1 or 2 birds seen there between 9-22 May. Over the period up to four **Hooded Robins** were reported by many observers from the known spot, Naas Rd at Apollo Rd, with 2 birds at the only other location west of there in Namadgi NP on 2 May. **Restless Flycatchers** have been reported from only 3 locations, with 2 birds recorded on 5 and 22 May at the known spot at Nelanglo TSR north of Gundaroo, with at the earlier time Michael Lenz noting there was probably already a pair, as one was singing a lot. The other locations were new ones at Kambah horse paddocks north-west of Allchin Circuit where several observers reported 1 bird between 22-24 May, and at nearby McQuoids Hill NR from where one was reported on 24-25 May.

There have been some reports of late breeding during the period. On 24 May Matthew Larkin saw a **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** begging in Cook. Another bird was nearby but did not respond to the begging (at least not while he was watching). Many of my recent **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** breeding records are of young still begging (and being fed) during late autumn/early winter. I noticed this particularly when monitoring some of the local Weston Creek roost sites a couple of years ago, when there were often one or sometimes 2 examples. The 2018-2019 Annual Bird Report contains dependent young (dy) on 1 July 2018, as well as one of my records at Holder on 19 June 2019. I expect the young take quite a while to be weaned, similar to **Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos** that often have squawking young present in autumn, probably from a nest quite some distance away.

Again few, if any, reports of mixed feeding flocks (MFF) have come to my attention during the period. So please continue to look out for these before the breeding season commences, especially for the unexpected species often quietly feeding in amongst all the activity.

Watch out too for the signs of birds that gather in single species flocks. I have started to see flocks of up to 200 **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** in my local area, and on 15 May Shorty spotted a large flock of **Little Corellas** (estimated as over 800) on the property on the south-eastern corner of Hindmarsh Drive and Monaro Highway. Over the next few days others saw similar numbers there towards dusk and wondered where the roost site may be. Rob Parnell posted that he had recently observed **Little Corellas** roosting in the southern end of Telopea Park and in the gums along Goyder St near Boomanulla Oval, Narrabundah. They were very noisy events and hard to count; 100 in the former and 50 in the latter was his very casual estimate. However, based on my difficulties counting cockatoos once in the roost, I suspect this was a serious underestimate.

On 14 May Michael Robbins estimated more than 50 **Rainbow Lorikeets** at Torrens Primary School. The reporting of this species from over 90 locations during the period emphasises how common this species has become, and others have observed close to similar numbers together, I expect attracted by the widespread availability of blossoms.

Contrary to my predictions, the honeyeater migration season continued during the period with initially several reports of movement between 29 April and 1 May. On the first date Alison Milton reported a fairly constant stream of **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** (YFHE) across Callum Brae, sometimes flying in from one direction, landing to rest a minute or two then heading back the way they had come. She watched them for half an hour or so drinking and bathing in one of the dams, and estimated a few hundred at least, with a scattering of **White-naped honeyeaters** there. On 23 May Jan and Michael Robbins observed a small flock of YFHE while walking to the west of the Vikings Club, Greenway, which, on the basis of call, flight and general behaviour, seemed to be migrating towards the coast.

On 25 May Michael observed about a half dozen YFHE flying west to east on the usual migration route at the western end of Urambi Village. They were making contact calls and **White-naped Honeyeater** in the above and the apparent overall poor migrating season for this species is not clearly reflected in the numbers of locations they were reported from over the period, around 50 compared with about 70 for the **Yellow-faced Honeyeater**. These are also many more than the 11 locations for the **Fuscous Honeyeater**, which also is known to join these migrating flocks. This does not include 2 locations from their spring/summer habitat of Namadgi NP from where 3 were last reported on 30 April, which compares with the maximum number in the ACT of 5 birds at Mt Ainslie NR on 20 May.

On 1 May Denise Kay posted that at least 40 **Red Wattlebirds** had called by Giralang that morning to collect her 6 en route to somewhere east. The day before Ryu Callaway observed a conservative total of 72 birds migrating to the south-east from the Tuggeranong pines. However, due to the available flowering, **Red Wattlebird** numbers in my GBS site have continued to be elevated, at the cost of the small birds which, except for the **Eastern Spinebill**, all seem to have left.

On the same day Ryu also observed a conservative total of 100 **Pied Currawongs**, with over 90 of them heading south-east, and with huge numbers still in the Tuggeranong pines. As they are generally considered to be altitudinal migrants, I am not sure where they would have been heading. The fairly large group I had hanging around my place a couple of months ago has moved on, and I have had very few present recently.

So please watch out for the last of the spring/summer migrants mentioned above, for the altitudinal migrants still to arrive, for MFFs and single species flocks, for roost sites and flights, and for any early winter breeding activity. Please also continue to keep a special look out for the **Restless Flycatcher**, **Jacky Winter** and **Hooded Robin**. As usual please ensure that all significant sightings are properly reported and end up on the COG database.

Once again my sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to my two main data sources, posting on the COG e-mail Discussion List ("COG chatline") and the eBird Australia database, as well as direct correspondence with me. As always I am very grateful to all involved for publishing this information without which it would not be possible to put this column together.

Jack Holland

COG's cogs - No 1

Here at COG, we're all brought together by a mutual love for everything that is fine and feathered. The monthly talks and the weekend field trips draw people from all over Canberra and engender a deeper love and appreciation for our local avian friends. But what does it take to keep COG's clockwork ticking? Without a small legion of volunteers to wind the gears each week, COG would grind to a halt. In this short series we're going to meet some of the folk, find out what they do and take a peek behind the curtain of COG HQ.

To start us off, if you've ever filled in a COG membership form (and I assume you have), then it would have passed through the hands of Membership Secretary, Sandra Henderson. Sandra joined COG in 2006, after the siren song of the Golden Whistler lured her in. Almost straight away Sandra was made COG's Secretary and Membership Secretary, so she must have been doing something right ... or maybe wrong; it's still not clear.

She kept the first job for 9 nine years, and still today holds responsibility for maintaining COG's membership information. When people sign up, Sandra adds their details to the database. If anyone has questions about payments or their membership status, Sandra has the answers. One of the more difficult parts of the job is figuring out where the occasional mystery membership payments come from when an unknown or nameless person transfers funds into the COG account. So it's an important reminder to fill in those payment forms properly.

Sandra also makes monthly contributions to *Gang-gang*, describing any new birding sites she's visited (she's clocked up over 150 to date), and provides details on any upcoming field trips that she is leading. When the issue goes out Sandra also submits a copy to the National Library archives so that in 100 years people will know just exactly how many Koels there were (a lot). Sandra has also taken part in birding surveys at Callum Brae and Isaacs Ridge, and the K2C and Jerrabomberra Wetlands surveys. Very occasionally she's given a presentation at a COG meeting and/or written CBN reports about birds she's taken a special interest in, such as the Peregrine Falcons at Red Rocks Gorge, or the Great Crested Grebes on the far reaches of Cotter Dam.

Volunteering with COG has really enriched Sandra's Canberra birding experience. It has brought her closer to many of the group's members, which in turn has further kindled that shared love for Canberra's local environment and avian life. If you have any questions about what the other volunteer roles at COG look like, or would like to offer some of your own time, feel free to get in touch. And if you have any other questions about what Sandra does to keep COG ticking, come to COG's monthly meetings where the raffle is a chance to say hi to Sandra, as well as allowing her to indulge her passion for bookshop browsing.

We plan to continue profiling one of our volunteers each month and hope that new members, in particular, will learn more about our work. We would welcome any feedback from our readership.

Acknowledgements

Sandra Henderson and Nathan Finger
Julian Robinson for title to this series



COG trip near Tharwa

Tee Tong Teo

Committee news

The COG committee met on 20 May for its regular monthly meeting.

The committee is preparing a submission for the National Capital Authority consultation on seaplanes using Lake Burley Griffin (see <https://www.nca.gov.au/consultation/seaplanes-lake-burley-griffin-discussion-paper>). COG's other recent submissions are here – <http://canberrabirds.org.au/conservation-2/cog-conservation-strategy/>.

COG members are reminded that the membership year runs from July to June. Membership payments are now due and can be paid at the monthly meeting, online at <http://canberrabirds.org.au/about-cog/joining-cog-and-renewing/> or by downloading and completing the form from the same webpage, and mailing it.

The Garden Bird Survey has been running since 1981. The survey year also runs from July to June. Chris Davey will have blank charts available at the June meeting. Completed charts can be returned at the July meeting.

COG could not continue without the efforts of many volunteers. 'COG's cogs' is a new monthly feature in Gang-gang. It highlights the activities of one of the 'cogs' that keep COG going. Look for the first 'COG's cogs' this month.

Brittany Brockett led her second walk for young birders on 23 May at Campbell Park. It was a glorious morning and four young birders and their parents met Brittany and Liam Manderson to hone their skills.

Neil Hermes *President* Alison Mackerras *Minutes Secretary*

Publications for Sale

COG provides a range of birdwatching related publications for sale to members at discounted prices (around 10-30% off RRP). Contact Kathy on sales@canberrabirds.org.au if you would like to purchase a publication.

Black Mountain: a natural history of a Canberra icon

Ian Fraser and Rosemary Purdie with Friends of Black Mountain

This book takes us to the ecological heart of Black Mountain, in the heart of Canberra, a conservation reserve since 1970. Find out about the area's geological evolution, its native plants and animals and their habitats, how the biodiversity has changed over the last three decades, and how species survive fires and storms and are affected by invaders. Meet the enthusiastic professional and citizen scientists who have been keenly documenting and studying more than 640 plant species and thousands of insects and other animals living on the mountain, and learn about the challenges for maintaining the area's natural values in the coming decades.

This attractive and richly illustrated book is published to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Black Mountain Nature Reserve. It is a good read for the general public as well as ecologists, conservationists, and senior secondary and tertiary students, with clues to explore and protect this special place, now and into the future.

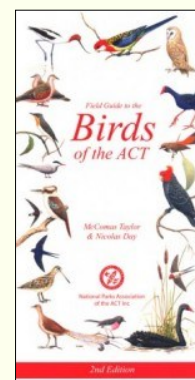
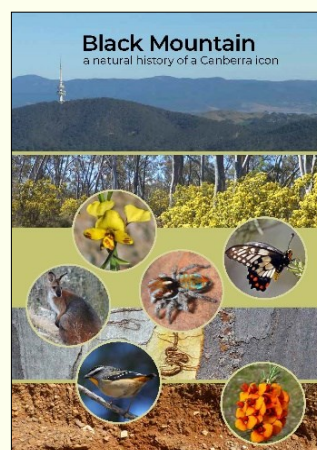
Members' Price: \$30

Field Guide to the Birds of the ACT

McComas Taylor & Nicolas Day

This revised second edition illustrates in colour the 217 birds likely to be seen in and around the ACT. It has easy-to-follow descriptions in a compact format. Only local birds are shown making this Field Guide much simpler to use than comprehensive national guides. McComas Taylor has been watching birds in Canberra for over 30 years and has written, broadcast and lectured on the subject. Nicholas Day is widely recognised as one of Australia's foremost wildlife artists.

Members' price: \$20.



Future Field Trips

COG Trips

Each participant must sign a COG Field Trip Registration Form at the start of each trip and before proceeding on the trip which acknowledges the participant's responsibilities (wording follows). An Emergency Contact Name and Number are required.

"I declare that I am capable of undertaking the trip having discussed with the Trip Leader any limitations I have (e.g. medications, physical), assessed the risks to myself and my property, and ensured that I am adequately equipped.

I will follow the instructions of the Field Trip Leader, and advise them before moving away from the group."

Changes to trips are notified on the COG chatline <http://canberrabirds.org.au/publications/discussion-email-list/> and trips page of COG website <http://canberrabirds.org.au/category/trips/>.

A reminder that COG has a long-standing policy to give preference to members for field trips that can accommodate only a limited number of people.

Be Covid-safe on COG field trips:

Maintain social distancing of 1.5 metres
Maintain hand hygiene

DO NOT ATTEND if you have any cold or flu symptoms

Saturday 12 June – Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve -Superb Lyrebird surveys

Since the January 2003 bushfires Peter Fullagar and Chris Davey have been monitoring the return of the **Superb Lyrebird** to an area of the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve. They wish to get an idea of the present distribution within the Reserve and are asking COG members to join them for a morning's survey. They are calling for expressions of interest to join them at 8.00am at the Reserve car park to walk the trails and to record the location of calling birds. Depending on the trails walked the survey should take about three hours.

This outing will be a repeat of the very successful surveys conducted at this time of the year since 2004.

Register with Chris Davey (chris_davey@aapt.net.au) MOB 0418679 847, providing your name and mobile number, and the name and number of an emergency contact.

Wednesday June 16 - Point Hut Pond District Park.

The June Wednesday walk will be at Point Hut Pond District Park. Meet at 9am at the main carpark on McGilvray Cl, Gordon (close to Scully St roundabout). This is an easy walk of just over 2.5km on formed tracks. Past walks at this location have produced a range of waterbirds and bush birds.

Register with Sandra at shirmax2931@gmail.com with your name and phone number, and name and number of an emergency contact.
Sandra Henderson

Sunday 20 June – The Pound, Kowen Forest

The Pound is a fascinating area of woodland, deep in the 'seahorse's snout' - that is, the far east of the ACT. It is a small TSR on a disused section of the Kings Highway, with a nice selection of bushland birds, including thornbills, honeyeaters and (possibly) sittellas. Mixed feeding flocks are a possibility. So far, eBird lists 50 species from there, and we may add to that list.

Numbers limited to 20 participants. Please bring morning tea and the usual water, sturdy shoes, sunscreen, hat. We will be walking off-track, but through very light understory.

Registration is essential, to David at david.dedenczuk@gmail.com (or 0417 222 154); please provide your name and mobile number, and the name and number of an emergency contact.

From the Canberra direction on the Kings Highway, take the Sparrow Hill Road into Kowen Forest, and drive to the carpark end of the road. Meet there at 8am.

David Dedenczuk

Sunday 4 July – Tharwa Sandwash

We will explore the Murrumbidgee corridor at Tharwa Sandwash, which is accessed just south of Tharwa from Smiths Rd. Meet for carpooling in Lanyon Marketplace carpark at 9am, the section on the right as you turn in on Balcombe St. Please come prepared for all weathers and wear sturdy footwear. A couple of hours should be enough and we may visit Namadgi Visitors Centre afterwards if time allows.

Booking is essential. Contact Lia Battisson at liabattisson@grapevine.com.au before 1 July; please provide your name and mobile number, and the name and number of an emergency contact.

Saturday 17 July - Gungahlin Cemetery, Mitchell

A beautiful setting for a morning walk, with nice cover for small bush birds and mixed feeding flocks. I have previously recorded 45 species in a 3 hour walk.

Meet ready for a 9am start outside the pedestrian entry at the junction of Hoskins St and Lysaght St.

eBird hotspot: <https://ebird.org/australia/hotspot/L2543425>

Walking distance: 2.5km easy

End time (approx.): 11:30am

Numbers restricted to 16.

Registration essential - name and mobile for yourself and an emergency contact to Ryu Callaway ryu_is_gr8@yahoo.co.jp

Saturday 31 July - Australian National Botanic Gardens – beginners' outing

This morning walk will be aimed specifically to help beginners and new members identify birds and to learn about their behaviour and calls. The Botanic Gardens are especially suitable for such an outing, as they allow the opportunity to observe a range of local bush birds in a variety of habitats. Due to the available food supply they are also a relative haven for birds during late autumn/winter. Anthony Overs will lead this outing, which will consist of a stroll through this lovely part of Canberra for a couple of hours. Meet at 9.15am at the ANBG bus shelter.

Registration is essential; please provide your name and mobile phone number, as well as an emergency contact name and number. Book your place with Anthony (0419202155, or anthony.overs@gmail.com), who will be happy to discuss whether this outing is suitable for you. Please make sure to bring your binoculars and field guide. **If you do not have binoculars, please let me know as COG can supply you with a pair to use on the day.**

Note that the aim of the walk is to introduce you to bird-watching, not bird photography, so please leave your camera at home.

Sunday 8 August - Jerrawa Creek Travelling Stock Reserve , Dalton Cemetery and Berrebangalo TSR

Description: These sites are near Gunning with good connectivity to woodlands and fields. Dalton Cemetery is in the bosky village of Dalton with **Crested Shrike-tits** and **Australian Owlet Nightjar**. Jerrawa Creek TSR is a new site with **Pied Butcherbird** and more species to be discovered. Berrebangalo TSR is a hotspot for raptors.

Meeting time and place: Netball Centre Lyneham at 8.00 am for carpooling. Suggested contribution for petrol - \$8 per passenger.

Walking distance: Dalton 0.8 km, Jerrawa Ck 1.6 km and Berrebangalo 2 km

Degree of difficulty: easy

End time: 4.00 pm at Lyneham

What to bring: water, morning tea, lunch, sunscreen, water, sturdy shoes, hat.

Participants must register with the leader, providing their name and mobile number, and the name and mobile number of an emergency contact

Numbers: limited to 16 .

Name of leader and contact details: Bill Graham at 0466874723 or graham.br63@grapevine.com.au

Sunday 22 August – private property at Forbes Creek via Hoskinstown

Description: Mixed-eucalypt forest, including post-burn regeneration; garden around house. A range of forest species expected including **Eastern Yellow Robin**, **White-throated Treecreeper**, **thornbill species**, **Australian King Parrot**, **rosellas**, **Wonga Pigeon** and **Laughing Kookaburra**.

Meeting time and place: 8.00 am, Spotlight car park, Queanbeyan

Walking distance: 4 km

Degree of difficulty: medium

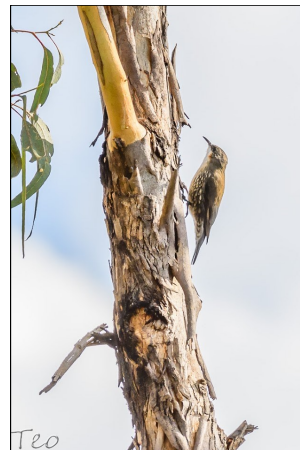
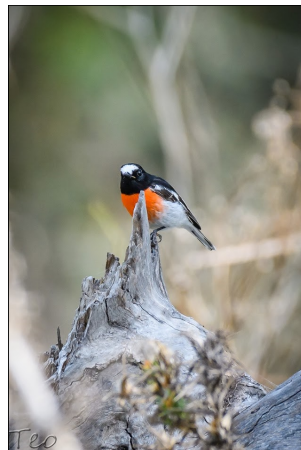
End time (approx.): 12.00pm

What to bring: water, morning tea

Registration: participants must register with the leader, providing their name and mobile number, and the name and mobile number of an emergency contact

Numbers limited: maximum of 16

Name of leaders and contact details: Peter Smith 0427 879 774 smith.peter899@gmail.com (assisted by John Brannan)



Varied Sittella, Scarlet Robin, White-throated Treecreeper, Tharwa field trip

Tee Tong Teo

Field Trip Reports

Sunday 2 May – private property near Tharwa

A group of 14 gathered at the carpark next to the Tharwa at 8.30am for carpooling, and it was good to welcome a keen birdwatcher from Brisbane who was en route home after a road trip.

Our hosts, Clive and Carolyn, welcomed us with a delightful early morning tea and provided some background about the property. Prior to the day, Carolyn had sent us a list of birds that had been observed on the property in December 1981 by a friend visiting the property while Clive and Carolyn were away on their honeymoon!! It is interestingly listed according to the source of food for each bird. We were intrigued to see what we would spy in comparison. Clearly a different time of the year, as well as the passage of some 40 years, could make an impact. (A particular thank you to Carolyn who had typed this up for us from the original, which is a rather faded list, beautifully scripted by hand.)

Clive then led us down through open grassed paddocks to the fenced off area (31 hectares) that has been specifically set aside as *Land for Wildlife* and is recognised as a *Boxland Reserve*. For much of the following 2 hours we were walking on 4WD tracks and walking tracks through relatively open woodland – mainly Apple Box and Yellow Box with mixed understorey, almost constantly, to fairly regularly, hearing or spotting new sightings. Ryu Callaway and Steve Read were ever helpful in confirming sightings as I recorded by the old-fashioned means of pen and notebook, and Ryu was of further assistance later in introducing me to how to enter it in *eBird*.

Initially noted, not unexpectedly, were small flocks of the **Australian Wood Duck** around small dam sites, a small gathering of **Galahs**, and numerous other relatively expected sightings such as **Crimson Rosellas**, **Australian Ravens**, **Red Wattlebirds** and a flock of **Common Starlings** in the distance across the neighbouring open paddocks. As we slowly ambled through the lower slopes (of a steep wooded hill we did not climb), we noted many of the smaller birds including **Superb Fairywrens**, **Weebills**, **Silvereyes**, **Buff-rumped**, **Brown**, **Yellow-rumped** and **Striated Thornbills**. There were a number of **Honeyeaters**, including **White-naped**, **White-eared** and **Yellow-faced**. A **Red-browed Finch**, and a number of **Willie Wagtails** and **Grey Strike-thrush** were heard.

We spent some time enjoying watching a male and a female **Scarlet Robin**, quite active, near another small dam before retracing our steps to just inside the fence line. Most of the party then followed a track up a creek line for some 30 minutes. (A few took the slightly easier route over open paddocks back to the farm house.) As we explored up the small valley, we noted a pair of **Wedge-tailed Eagles** overhead, and confirmed sightings of both **Golden** and **Rufous Whistler**.

Just as we were leaving the creek gully to climb back to the farm house we came across a lovely thicket full of some special extras such as **Double-barred Finch**, but the key find of the day was a **Shining Bronze-Cuckoo** in



Spotted Pardalote, Scarlet Robin, Golden Whistler,
Eastern Rosella
Tee Tong Teo

a small tree not far from the homestead, clearly late in the season but he/she was happy to sit for quite some time as the photographers got to work. That gave us 44 species for the morning.

A particular thank you to Clive and Carolyn who looked after us so graciously. We were indulged with another morning tea provided on our return – delightful -and all happily contributing a gold coin to the local Smiths Road Fire Brigade. Some of us accepted Clive and Carolyn's offer to show us the views from the "top of the hill", ie a 4WD trip up a steep open paddock to the top of the ridge above the farm house placed us on the border with ACT with views down into Namadgi to the west, and all the way back to Black Mountain in the north - a great finish.

If anyone wishes to birdwatch on this private property, please contact Clive on 0418 628 916 or Carolyn on 0427 350 151. Sue Genner



Tharwa scenery

Tee Tong Teo

Sunday 9 May – Goulburn

After some slight confusion with convoy arrangements a group of 12 members met at Goulburn Wetlands on a fine but overcast day. We were greeted by COG member Frank Antram of FROGS (Friends and Residents of Goulburn's Swamplands Landcare). He explained how over the last 12 years they have created an urban park and wetland in the abandoned pits of the former Melbourne Place Brickworks working with local plants. The site is located in the Mulwarree flood plain and there was plenty of evidence of its role in stormwater treatment in the masses of vegetation piled against trees and shrubs.

After being told there weren't many birds about at this time of year the group saw 46 different species. From a lookout over the ponds there was a good view of the waterbirds including several **Australasian Grebes**, young **Dusky Moorhens**, **Grey Teal**, **White-faced Heron** and **Little Black Cormorants**. In the shrubs surrounding the ponds there were smaller birds including **Eastern Spinebill** and **New Holland Honeyeater**.

We walked around the park paths to the three hides. In a group of Cabbage Tree Gums near the first hide an unoccupied **Satin Bowerbird** bower was obvious by its collection of bright blue objects. In the trees and shrubs lining the park paths we sighted **Eastern** and **Crimson Rosellas**, **Red Wattlebirds**, **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** and smaller birds. There were fly overs by **Little Corellas** and **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos**.



Marsden Weir

Sheila Hughes

Near the second hide, set amongst shrubs and long grasses, there was a profusion of smaller birds including **Spotted Pardalotes**, a **Golden Whistler**, **Red-browed Finches** bobbing on the end of grass stalks to harvest the seed, small flocks of **Yellow-rumped** and **Yellow Thornbills**, and individual **Yellow-faced** and **White-plumed Honeyeaters**.

We walked back to the cars and travelled on to Marsden Weir on the Wollondilly River. The weir was constructed in the 1890s to secure the water supply for the Goulburn Waterworks after the "inexhaustible" waterhole it was built near ran dry during a drought. The Waterworks is now a museum.



Goulburn Wetlands

Sheila Hughes

The Weir is known for its waterbirds and **Little Pied** and **Little Black Cormorants** perched on the weir wall while a pair of **Black Swans**, **Pacific Black Duck**, **Hardhead** and **Eurasian Coots** were on the water of the pondage.

The group walked for about a kilometre along the riverside pathway linking the weir to North Park. We had a great view of a **Australasian Darter** drying its wings and an immature **White-faced Heron**. A large flock of **Silver Gulls** flew overhead heading southwest. Small flocks of **Crested Pigeons**, **Rock Doves**, **Common Starlings** and a larger flock of **House Sparrows** were near the river. In total 33 species were seen in this area.

We returned to the weir for a picnic lunch. Many thanks to Sandra for leading the trip.

Sheila Hughes

Wednesday 19 May - Oaks Estate River Corridor Heritage Walk

On a bitterly cold morning we met at the end of River St to walk the Heritage Trail and go as far as the historic Riverside Cemetery on the banks of the Queanbeyan River. The walk follows the Molonglo River to its junction with the Queanbeyan River, and continues along the latter. A slight detour at the end of the Molonglo track took us to the grove of Osage orange trees, which formed one of the early boundaries of the Duntroon property. A pair of **Black Swans** flying along the river was a surprise, but things were very quiet for the first part of the walk. As the day warmed up (slightly), a few more birds appeared. At the Riverside Cemetery **Australian Ravens** were sitting on some of the gravestones, and **Red Wattlebirds** and a few **Rainbow Lorikeets** were foraging in the flowering eucalypts along the fenceline. A **Fan-tailed Cuckoo** was seen by those bringing up the rear.

Sandra Henderson

Saturday 22 May – ANBG beginners' outing

Perhaps Covid has given us a greater appreciation for nature and birds in particular, because Anthony Overs had unprecedented (that word again!) interest in his beginners' outing. He led 13 keen participants on an exploration of just a small area of the Gardens on 22 June and has scheduled another outing with a similarly sized group next Saturday to satisfy the demand.

Once we reached the Brittle Gum lawn, Anthony gave us a lesson in how to locate a bird with binoculars – sight it by eye and then raise your binoculars to your eyes without moving your head. We soon had the perfect bird to practise on, an **Eastern Yellow Robin**, which perched and pounced, as did several others later in the morning. In the grevillea and banksia sections, **Eastern Spinebills** and **New Holland Honeyeaters** made viewing easy as Anthony discussed what to take note of when sighting an unfamiliar bird: size, colour, bill size and shape, etc. Some of the common bird families such as honeyeaters, thornbills and pardalotes were discussed as we encountered them. A blue male **Satin Bowerbird** seemed very interested in the group, observing us with its purple eye from several different perches between visits to its bower, and then landing on the ground to feed which lead to a discussion about birds that hop, as it did, and those that walk like magpies.

Hopefully, Anthony's wonderful introduction to birding will result in a new hobby for all participants and some new members for COG. We all appreciated his enthusiasm for birding and his depth of knowledge.

Sue Lashko

Sunday 23 May – Scott Nature Reserve, Mulloon

The day dawned cold but clear and windless – ideal for 18 COG participants to enjoy the excellent leadership of David McDonald to little known Scott Nature Reserve, in the Mulloon area, south of the Kings Highway, between Bungendore and Braidwood. The rarely visited reserve covers an area of 151 hectares. As a strict nature reserve and a stronghold of the threatened **Glossy Black Cockatoo** and its key food source, Black Sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*), our visit was subject to NSW NPWS permission, which David had organised ahead of our visit. The reserve stands out as a slightly elevated island of bushland surrounded by largely cleared farmland. Accompanied by the gloriously clear call of an unseen **Grey Currawong**, David explained that patches like this survived uncleared because they were thought prospective for gold mining and thus



excised from the original grant of land. It's tempting to imagine the cockatoos and the other 27 species we encountered in our tracked and trackless 6.2 km ramble around the reserve being eternally grateful that gold was never found on this last bushy patch of Mr Scott's original 19th Century land grant. We were fortunate to have as a trip participant Lucy Wenger, a Program Officer at Greening Australia, who is leading a project of Black Sheoak revegetation on private property in the Bungendore area, primarily to enhance **Glossy Black Cockatoo** habitat.

We set off through scrubby Bungan (*Kunzea ericoides*) stands interspersed with boggy patches with flowering *Goodenia hederacea* here and there, a reminder that we were immediately east of the Great Divide and in a marginally wetter climatic zone than the ACT. It was Lucy whose keen hearing first picked up the sound of falling detritus and the quiet contact calls of the six **Glossy Blacks** we eventually encountered. The birds were concentrated in one or two Sheoaks in a very small area where, as Lucy explained, the fruits were ripe for the birds to break and extract the seeds before they fell, wasted, to the ground. Rob Parnell pointed out to the group that the Glossy call is uncannily similar to that of the Bleating Tree Frog. Lucy played the frog call on her phone app and was amazed at the likeness. While the cockies were the metaphorical catch of the day, **Varied sitellas**, female and juvenile **Golden Whistlers**, **Buff-rumped** and **Striated Thornbills**, and **White-throated Treecreepers** kept us interested. **Crimson Rosellas** were numerous while Galahs and **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** weren't. We took tea amongst fruiting Geebung (*Persoonia mollis subsp. livens*) at a high point dominated by leucogranite from the Boro batholith, a product of the early Devonian (407-410 million years ago). As the odd **White-eared Honeyeater** called from nearby tall hickory wattle, we refreshed in sight of Mt Palarang and the distant ranges, before setting off on our return around the reserve perimeter. Along the way we saw a pair of **Wedge-tailed Eagles**, two **Black-faced Cuckooshrikes**, two **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters**, an **Eastern Spinebill**, both pardalotes, a few **Red Wattlebirds** and **Grey Fantails**, and a **Laughing Kookaburra** or two. The full bird list can be found on eBird.



Thanks to David McDonald for researching and organising a thoroughly enjoyable outing to an otherwise inaccessible but very important conservation reserve. Thanks also to Lucy Wenger whose knowledge of the vegetation and the ecology of the cockatoos and their dependence on the sheoaks enriched our visit.

Doug Laing



Glossy Black Cockatoo, Golden Whistler, COG Members at Scott Nature Reserve, Mulloon
Tee Tong Teo

What is eBird and what does it offer?

What is eBird?

eBird is a free user-friendly website that offers birders a place to record the birds they see and keeps their birding statistics. It is also one of the world's largest biodiversity-related citizen science projects. eBird data is contributing to research and decision making about birds in Australia and across the world.

eBird is managed internationally by the Cornell University Lab of Ornithology. eBird Australia is managed within Australia, and is one of a network of regional eBird portals.

The precursor to eBird Australia was Eremaea Birds, developed by Richard and Margaret Alcorn in Victoria, and released in 2003. Eremaea Birds quickly became the website of choice for many Australian birders for recording and maintaining their bird sightings in Australia and overseas.

Eremaea Birds merged with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology eBird project in February 2014, with Eremaea data forming the basis of the eBird Australia database.

eBird Australia is managed by a Steering Committee under the auspices of the Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science at the University of Queensland. As well as the Steering Committee, eBird Australia is supported by a community of volunteers, including a website team, local reviewers and hotspot editors. The reviewers are based in each state and territory and help ensure records meet eBird data quality standards. The reviewers also support local eBirders with advice if requested.

What does eBird offer me?

Anyone can look at the eBird website to find:

- What birds are being seen today and in the past, and where to find them.
- Photos, audio files of calls and videos submitted by eBirders.
- A virtual field guide through the 'Explore Species' pages, with maps, statistics, photos and audio files.

But if you want to add your bird observations to eBird you need to have an account. Account holders can:

- Submit their bird observations including field notes, photos, audio files and videos.
- Use their 'My eBird' page which shows their life, year and month lists, lists for all the places they have birded, and statistics of their birding activity.
- Continue to access all the checklists they have submitted and update them if required.
- Install a free Mobile app for smartphones. The app is becoming popular as it automatically calculates the time spent birding and uses GPS to pinpoint the location and record the distance travelled.

Who uses eBird?

eBird is used by people interested in finding places to go birding as well as people who want to add their observations to an easy-to-use website. New birders as well as very experienced birders use eBird.

In the ACT 1,339 eBirders have contributed just over 87,700 checklists as of May 2021. eBirders are mainly individuals, but groups such as the COG Blitz and the Lathams Snipe Survey also submit records. Many birders have also added their historical lists to eBird, with the earliest ACT list in eBird dating from 1968. Across Australia, 1.4 million checklists have been submitted by 14,000 birders, along with just over a million photos of Australian birds.

Where is eBird on the web and how can I enter my sightings?

Google 'eBird Australia' or type www.ebird.com.au into your browser. If you want to add your bird sightings to eBird you need to create an account. This is free and requires only your name and email address, as well as a public username and

password that you choose for yourself. Once registered you can decide whether to keep your lists private for your own viewing or, as most people do, have them publicly visible.

The next issue of Gang Gang will have more information about eBird, including how data quality is managed, the eBird/Clements taxonomies and about geography, Hotspots and Personal Locations.

Kim Farley
ACT eBird reviewer
kimlouisefarley@gmail.com

Reference

eBird. (2021). eBird: An online database of bird distribution and abundance [web application]. eBird, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York. Available: <http://www.ebird.org>. (Accessed: 11 May, 2021)).

New Places: May 2021

Sandra Henderson

Shady Gully Caravan Park, Mallacoota

Several COG members stayed at this caravan park for the outing to Mallacoota. Behind our cabin was a patch of bushland which we visited several times, but even within the park itself a few of us were treated to **Glossy Black Cockatoos** on our morning wander. **Wonga Pigeons** were seen wandering around the cabins, and a **Superb Lyrebird** was seen foraging outside one cabin. Other great birds seen in or near the caravan park were **White-headed Pigeon**, **Varied Sittella**, **Brown Gerygone**, **Restless Flycatcher** and **Whistling Kite**.

Dalton, NSW

I attended a workshop on Fungi in Dalton, and took the opportunity to visit the cemetery, wander around the village, and then do another birdlist during the field trip to the local recreation ground.

The highlight was a couple of **Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos** which flew into the tall pines at the cemetery. Various other parrots and small birds were seen through the village. Not an especially birdy place, but an interesting little village.

Tidbinbilla – the Peppermint Trail

This is the slightly longer of the two trails which start at the Koala viewing point. I was there on a cold, windy, overcast day – not a great birdwatching day. That didn't seem to worry the **Eastern Yellow Robins**, who were very confiding. I'm sure I'll get more than 10 species on a nice day later in the year.

Kowen Forest – Sparrow Hill

I'm gradually exploring the Kowen Forest. Sparrow Hill is possibly the best known area, criss-crossed by mountain bike trails, and apparently popular with dog walkers too – I met several dogs when I was there. I walked a loop about 3.5km long, part of which was parallel to the Kings Highway. Although traffic noise was considerable at times, this was the area where **Speckled Warblers** and **Yellow-rumped Thornbills** were found. **White-naped** and **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** were moving through the area, and I did find a range of fungi (added to Canberra Nature Map).

MELIPHAGA MAGIC

ACCOMMODATED HONEYEATER TOUR

18-22 OCTOBER 2021



Spring honeyeater hunt across some of the best destinations in inland NSW with

Neil Hermes
and
Mark Clayton

With the drought and bush fires as an added challenge, this October Neil and Mark are guiding a trip to try to track down a target of 25 species of honeyeaters in 5 days. Highlights we are seeking are Painted and White-fronted Honeyeaters and at least three species of chats.

The trip will be accommodated and travelling in an airconditioned mini coach.

Of course we will also be trying to get a good list of species other than just honeyeaters!

Tour booklet with bird lists and full itinerary provided to all participants.

Cost for 5 days \$1150pp
single supplement \$400

Includes four nights motel accommodation, minicoach travel, two guides, snacks and water, picnic lunch on some days. All other meals, drinks and personal items are at participants cost.

Brief Itinerary

Day 1 Ingalba NR, Charcoal Tank NR.

Day 2 West Wyalong Wetlands, Ungarie, Lake Cargelligo, Chat Alley.

Day 3 Round Hill NR, Nornbinnie NR.

Day 4 SW Woodland NR, Pulletpool NR, Lake Wyangan

Day 5 Fivebough Wetland, Murrumbidgee National Park, Bethungra

To book or get further details email

or go to bookings@canberraguidedtours.com.au
neilhermes.com.au

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Canberra Birds Conservation Fund

Donations to this fund are tax deductible. Funds are used to support projects that protect and enhance native birds and the environments that sustain them.

COG membership

2020-2021 memberships:

- Individual: \$50
- Family: \$55
- Institution: \$50
- School student (under 18) \$20

New members

COG welcomes the following new members:

A King
J Jeffery
G Calma
B Haniffee
C Page
C Henderson

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for July 2021 edition:

Wednesday 30 June 2021

Please send articles, advertisements, updates etc. to the Editors at:

gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au

or

c/- The Secretary COG,

PO Box 301 Civic Square, ACT 2608

Articles should be less than 500 words (300 for reports of 1-day field trips) except by prior arrangement with the editor.

Photographs (prints or electronic) with or without articles are encouraged.

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Gang-gang is published on COG's website in PDF format.

ISSN 2208-018X

