



Gang-gang

JULY 2021

Newsletter of the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc.

JULY MEETING

Wednesday 14 July 2021 7.30pm
normal face-to-face meeting

Following the approval of our COVID Safety Plan, COG will again hold our 14 July 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.

The meeting is expected to be conducted under the same arrangements as previously for 2021 except that at the time of publication the ACT Government has mandated masks should be worn at all indoor events. Therefore all attendees at this members meeting will need to wear a mask. Before attending everyone should also check <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/updates> and <http://canberrabirds.org.au/category/meetings/> in case there are any changes.

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,

Everyone welcome

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

After a frosty (some of them heavy) first 10 days, the weather over the 5 weeks from 26 May covered by this column has mostly been mild and cloudy, sometimes windy and, particularly over the last fortnight, very wet. While bird activity within the COG Area of Interest (AoI) is usually quietest in winter, as summarised below there was still plenty of interest to report. My analysis again shows that some spring/summer migrants have stayed/are staying longer than usual, and that many of the autumn altitudinal migrants have been slow to arrive.

Swift Parrots continued to be reported from 3 locations, a new 2021 one at the AIS, Kambah/the top of Lake Tuggeranong (from where 15 were last reported on 21 June), and from Ainslie (from where 3 were last reported on 29 June). The highest number together during this time appears to have been the 30 at the AIS on 30 May. Interestingly while they do seem to have been moving away (though **Swift Parrot** fatigue may have played a part), the closest sightings to the above have been from near Albury 200 km to the south-west, and at the



Swift Parrot

Victor Braguine

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.

The first presentation will be by Ian McMahon on "Stamp Designs of Betty Temple Watts".

Betty Temple Watts is best known to COG members as the artist who drew the plates for *Birds in the Australian High Country* edited by Harry Frith and first published in 1969. The book went through a number of editions and was an important guide to Canberra birds for over 20 years. Her other work included the design of a series of postage stamps depicting Australian birds which were issued in 1964, with many of the designs also used for some of Australia's first decimal currency stamps. This presentation will look briefly at her designs for the stamps and their development.

The main presentation will be by Kim Farley, the ACT eBird reviewer, and is entitled "All about eBird".

This talk, with a live demonstration, will explain what eBird offers birders and COG. Kim will show you how to make the best use of eBird in your birding adventures in the ACT and across Australia. There will also be a brief outline of eBird geography, hotspots and personal locations and the eBird taxonomy. Time for questions and discussion will be included.

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

Mt Annan Botanic Gardens, a similar distance to the north-east. This may well reflect a paucity of observers away from the built-up areas or, possibly more likely, the presence of flowering planted trees in the ACT. Also interesting is that a news report of them being sighted at Port Macquarie indicated that, based on the apparent good breeding season in Tasmania, the mainland sightings this winter had revised the **Swift Parrot** population estimate up to 750 from the 300 I quoted in my June column. However, the maximum of 100 reported in May would still represent around 13% of the population, underlining how fortunate we are to have them around this autumn/winter.

The last report of the **Little Lorikeet** in Hackett was on 31 May, with a gap until one was reported from Fraser on 27 June. In contrast **Superb Parrots** have been reported from around 40 locations, 17 of them south of the lake. The largest flock that seems to have been reported was of 70 (about 1/4 in male adult plumage) on 18 June at the crook of Manning Clark Crescent in Franklin, just east of the roundabout at the south-east corner of Mulanggari Grasslands. This is a favoured spot where in September 2019 up to 124 birds were observed. On 19 June Anthony Overs posted that he was seeing **Superb Parrots** just about everywhere he went in Canberra. He noted that a lot had changed concerning their breeding areas and overwintering behaviour, with the days of breeding only as far south as Wallaroo Rd and moving north for winter being long gone.

Of the species which move into Canberra and its surrounds in autumn/winter from the mountains and other higher areas, from the eBird maps the **Golden Whistler**, **White-eared Honeyeater** and (to a lesser extent) **Grey Shrike-thrush** do finally seem to have moved in closer. This also applies to the **Scarlet Robin**, with about 26 of the around 45 locations being from urban/peri-urban areas. This is despite a number of observers noting that there have been few (if any) at some of their usual spots. I finally found my first pair for the season on Coleman Ridge about 10 days, and a number of searches, after my daughter had alerted me to them. Compared to May, the **Flame Robin** also seems to have been rather difficult to find in June, with 10 of the 17 locations (compared with the total of 27 in May) from which it has been reported being urban/peri-urban.

The passage migrant **Rose Robin** has been reported from 4 locations, 2 along the Murrumbidgee River and 2 in central Canberra, with the most recent report being from the former on 14 June. There were no further reports of the **Pink Robin** during the period. The **Crescent Honeyeater** has been reported from 6 locations in the period, 3 of them peri-urban and the others on or to the west of the Murrumbidgee River (again none at the ANBG or as yet in my Chapman garden). The first

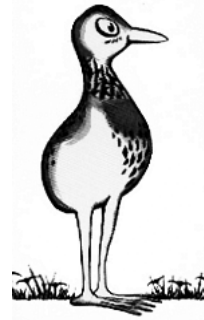


urban or peri-urban report of the **Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** was one (with photo) on Facebook that Shorty alerted me to at the bush cemetery at Queanbeyan on 15 June, and then a number of observers reported up to 4 of them at Tuggeranong Hill from 23-28 June, with a further bird at Tuggeranong Hill NR South on 28 June.

Of the lingering spring/summer migrants the **Rufous Songlark** seen at Naas Road at Apollo Road was further reported, this time by David Rees on 30 May. On 24 June Michael Lenz reported a **Horsfield's Bushlark** on the eastern side of Lake George, an area from where he has reported them in winter before as summarised in his recent CBN article. Also, Shorty alerted me that there was also a post on Facebook of a **Shining Bronze-Cuckoo** at Apollo and Naas roads on 13 June with a photo that he and Mark Clayton confirmed for the observer. The **Fan-tailed Cuckoo**, the least migratory of the local cuckoos, was still reported from 3 locations, the most recent being Mulligans Flat NR on 18 June.

Of those still present in May, there have been no further reports of the **Rufous Fantail** or the **Australian Reed-Warbler**, though the **Tree Martin** was still reported from 4 locations, most recently on 11 June, with the highest number together being 17 birds from Nelanglo TSR north of Gundaroo by Michael Lenz on 1 June. A **White-throated Gerygone** was still reported from McQuoids Hill NR on 31 May, and the **Western Gerygone** from 2 locations, most recently from Campbell Park on 20 June. The **Noisy Friarbird** was still reported from 7 locations, most recently from Queanbeyan and Mt Majura NR on 9 June, the first time for quite a few years I can recall it being recorded in June.

The **Rufous Whistler** was still reported from 7 locations, most recently from Kama NR on 27 June. The **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** and **Grey Fantail** were reported from around 35 and over 80 locations, being still present up to the time of writing, continuing their recent trends on overwintering in larger numbers. **Yellow-faced** and **White-naped Honeyeaters** were reported from around 50 and 40 locations, respectively. Several flocks of between 50-60 birds of the latter have



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Good birding, good food

Plains-wanderer Weekends 2021

16 & 17 October 2021
30 & 31 October 2021

2022

The Gulf Country

May 2022
Cairns, Karumba, Burketown, Mt Isa, Winton

Atherton Tablelands & Iron Range NP

June 2022
Cairns & Atherton Tablelands
Julatten to Iron Range NP

Top End

June/July 2022
Darwin, Kakadu, Katherine, Kununurra,
Mitchell Plateau

The Pilbara birding tours NW WA

July/August 2022

Central Australia

August 2022
Alice Springs, West MacDonnell Ranges, Glen
Helen, Yulara, Eridunda, Marla

Personal tours around Deniliquin, NSW, and
all of Victoria.

Please see itineraries, checklists and latest
news on our website.

www.philipmaher.com

been recently recorded, alleviating some of the concern for this species I raised in autumn. The **Fuscous Honeyeater** has been reported from 17 locations indicating it too is overwintering, as is the **Mistletoebird** which was reported from 7 locations, most recently on 27 June.

So too may the **Dusky Woodswallow** which was still reported from 3 locations and most recently from 2 of them on 26 June (both near water). The **Olive-backed Oriole** was still reported from 8 locations, most recently on 29 June from Tuggeranong Hill. On 14 June Shorty saw 8 birds together (four adults and four immatures) at Callum Brae, a remarkable number as there are usually only just one or two birds. So, during July please keep an eye out for the above late-leaving or overwintering spring/summer migrants.

There were a couple of new (for 2021) “unusual” species reported during the period, the first being the dark morph **White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike** reported by Richard Allen from Curtin on 3 June. The second was the **Black Falcon** reported by Luke Downey flying slowly past very close to the road in Pialligo Ave while he was stuck in morning traffic on 23 June. Michael Lenz has also reported more **Double-banded Plovers** from Lake Bathurst, with a maximum of 32 on 26 May.

Otherwise, “unusual” species and their numbers again seem to well down for the period. Up to 19 **Plumed Whistling Ducks** have been reported only from the Trucking Yard Lane dam at Bungendore, though **Australian Shelducks** were reported from around 14 locations to the north and east of Canberra. Up to 2 **Blue-billed Ducks** were reported from Fyshwick Sewage Treatment Plant and Isabella and Upper Stranger Ponds, and (other than from the Tidbinbilla NR Sanctuary) up to 2 **Musk Ducks** were reported from 6 locations.

Stubble Quail were reported from 3 locations over the period, the maximum being the 14 Michael Lenz flushed at Lake George East on 23 June. Up to 9 **Brown Quail** were reported from 8 locations including NW Cooleman Ridge where on 13 June I flushed 8 birds, the first there for several years. Up to 4 **Painted Button-quail** were reported from a remarkable 6 locations during the period. The above indicates that these species may be building up after the drought years. However, no **Little Button-quail** or **Great Crested Grebes** were reported during the period.

Two **White-headed Pigeon** were reported from Watson on 21 June, but again no **Peaceful** or **Diamond Doves** were reported during the period; the latter has still not been reported in the ACT so far this year. Despite the continuing mice plague due to the mild winter so far, the only report for the **Barn Owl** during the period was on 13 June by Brian Grinter at the corner of Mirrabai and Gundaroo Drives, on the south-west side of Yerrabi Pond dam wall in Gungahlin. He commented, "A small pale owl was being pursued across Gundaroo Drive by several species (Australian Magpies, Australian Ravens, Noisy Miners, Pied Currawongs & Magpies-larks). It collided with a glass barrier along the western side of the intersection with Mirrabai Drive, but the owl recovered after several minutes and made its escape into Ngunnawal." Brian included two lovely photos of the stunned owl and noted that after several minutes, to his surprise, the owl made a return trip back over Gundaroo Drive towards the nature strip behind Bunnings.

Though there still have been no other reports of **Barn Owls** closer than Goulburn, the **Black-shouldered Kite** was reported from 9 locations, all from the ACT except for one at Yass, during the period. This is an increase from the 5 locations in May, and possibly reflects increasingly higher mouse numbers (see breeding record below). **Southern Boobooks** have been reported from 3 local locations, with 2 of these being of birds calling while it was dark.

An **Azure Kingfisher** was reported from Uriarra Reserve West on 29 May, and at Isabella Pond, a new location, on 8 June. A **Scaly-breasted Lorikeet** was reported from the ANU on 9 June, while up to 3 **Musk Lorikeets** were reported from 4 locations, most recently from Watson on 29 June. An immature **Scarlet Honeyeater** was reported from Nevertire St parkland in Lawson by several observers between 1-14 June. On 7 June Corinna from Bywong emailed the COG office that over the past couple of weeks they had had a male feeding on their callistemons. They had never seen him here before. He was being bullied by the bigger **Eastern Spinebill**, but was pretty good at ducking and hiding from him. Finally on 27 June Shorty alerted me that a photo of a **Singing Honeyeater** taken on a property near Yass had just been posted on Facebook.

Of the birds I have been asking readers to keep a special lookout for continuing into 2021, there have been no confirmed reports of **Jacky Winter** during the period. Up to three **Hooded Robins** were reported by a number of observers from just the single known spot, Naas Rd at Apollo Rd. More observers also reported a **Restless Flycatcher** from there throughout the period. This species has also been reported from another 3 known locations: a single bird by many observers the Kambah horse yards area west of Allchin Circuit (2 on one occasion), and at nearby McQuoids Hill NR, with 2 birds also recorded by a number of observers at Nelanglo TSR north of Gundaroo.

While it was the first month of winter there have been some reports of breeding during the period. Some highlights follow:

- On 19 June Shorty posted that he had found **Black-shouldered Kites** around a large gum on private property at Mountain Creek Road. It was quite distant and he was facing into the sun so the view was poor, but he saw the adult bringing a large stick to the tree. He then spotted a second bird and noticed it was a juvenile. After checking his photos he concluded there were two adults and two juveniles on a nest. He assumed that the stick was to repair the nest. As is clear from the BIRD INFO data on the COG website, this species is well known to breed in the COG Aol during autumn. Shorty's photos showed relatively advanced fledglings/juveniles, and we agreed carrying the stick may have been for courtship or repairing the nest for another clutch. Wikipedia indicates that some pairs breed twice in a good season, referencing Stephen Debus' 1998 *The Birds of Prey of Australia: a Field Guide*. This was supported by several other observers later recording the adults copulating, and also reporting that there were actually 4 juveniles around the nest site.
 - Joan Lipscombe posted a photo of young **Australian Wood Ducklings** in Acton on 4 June, asking - is this an unusual time for Wood Ducks to be breeding? While they do breed in autumn, none had come to my notice this year, though I had not looked too hard. Compared with inspecting hollows, dependent young in winter is much less common, with the BIRD INFO data on the COG website including only 5 records in June, and 1 in July. On 8 June Bill Hall posted they had a clutch of 12 ducklings in Fernleigh Park.
 - On 11 June Shorty heard a begging young in his flock of 300 **Little Corellas** in Symonston and spotted an adult feeding it, and when he got closer he could also hear a second one begging. He noted that in the COG breeding records there were none for dependent young in June. Checking the BIRD INFO data reveals that, apart from inspecting hollows and on/leaving the nest, the breeding records for this common species are surprisingly few. As an example, on 24 March I observed at least 8 examples of begging young in the big flock of **Little Corellas** on either side of the Lake Tuggeranong dam wall. I was surprised that no-one else seemed to have recorded breeding there this year, and note that there has only been the single such record since.
- As a follow-up to the comments in my previous column, on 29 June I observed two adult **Sulphur-Crested Cockatoos** separately feeding a begging young at Lake Ginninderra, and also there was a begging young in my GBS site in Chapman on 30 June.

Compared with the previous few months there have been many more reports of mixed feeding flocks (MFF), particularly towards the end of the month, including from the COG woodland surveyors. This is an indication that the breeding season for the smaller birds is yet to commence. So please continue to look out for these in July.

Large numbers of birds, comparable with their maximums in the 2018-2019 Annual Bird Report, have also been reported. On 17 June Isobel Crawford reported a flock of around 30 **Spotted Pardalotes**, many of them very curious (perhaps younger individuals she thought), on the northern foot slopes of Mount Jerrabomberra. She noted it was a lovely sight and sound.

On 19 June John Harris was delighted to report that he counted 41 **Red-browed Finches** at his bird feeder. He noted they had had a good breeding season as on six separate occasions about a month apart he saw young being brought there. This is the flock in the native grasses along Ginninderra Creek behind Kangaroo Close Nicholls on which he published his efforts to feed and save them from the drought in CBN.

On 23 June Michael Lenz reported 8200 **Grey Teal** and 100 **Red-necked Avocets** at Lake George (east side), quite unexpected numbers particularly for the former given the widespread availability of water currently outside of the COG Aol.

So please watch out for any of the overwintering spring/summer migrants mentioned above, for the altitudinal migrants slow to arrive, for MFFs and single species flocks, for roost sites and flights, and for any winter breeding activity including the early breeders such as the **Yellow-rumped Thornbill** and the **Australian Raven**. 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 email Discussion List ("COG chat line") 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 2

This is the second piece in our series about the people behind the scenes that keep the gears of COG clicking over. Without this legion of volunteers everything would grind to a halt. This week we're meeting Duncan, COG's Garden Bird Survey (GBS) generalissimo.

Like everyone drawn to COG, Duncan always held a fondness for birds. But it was only after joining COG in 2009 that the avian allure really took hold. Being surrounded by other passionate birders inspired Duncan to become a better birder himself, and to gain a better understanding of the birds that live around us here in Canberra.

It was maybe only a matter of time before he was drawn deeper into the internal machinations of the COG machine. In a previous life, Duncan had been an IT specialist, and when the need arose for a person who 'understood computers' he seemed like a perfect fit. COG was a pioneer in using computer systems for bird data and recently GBS had moved onto a new digital format. COG needed someone who could program and get the data where it needed to be. Although Duncan had never programmed in Microsoft Office, he was an expert programmer for *Microsoft Windows* used to learning unfamiliar systems. Duncan took on the coordinator job and before too long he had updated the GBS system and worked out the kinks. I think people in the programming biz call them 'bugs'.

The job is fairly straightforward. It involves managing the distribution of new GBS charts and the collection of completed charts for each year the survey is run. He also recruits new observers; arranges and performs data entry; manages the database and its associated data entry program; and produces various outputs from the database.

Over the years, Duncan has revised the GBS chart with updated instructions and species lists. The system that's running now is pretty neat, but entering the data is still a task. One of the initiatives overseen by Duncan was to set up the GBS so that people could keep records on their computer rather than on a physical chart. This is more convenient for those wishing to keep electronic records of their birds. As the times have changed, the GBS has increasingly been completed through spreadsheets or via eBird instead of with pen and paper, which has cut down on the more tedious side of the job.

The data gathered through the GBS has delivered a wealth of knowledge on how Canberra's bird populations have changed over the years. It's a digital gold mine of data that has come in handy for research in the past and will continue to do so in the future. Just another one of the great legacies COG has built up over the years, thanks to the hundreds of people who dedicate their time to complete the survey and people like Duncan who make sure the information is stored properly.

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 Duncan does to keep COG ticking, he's always more than happy to talk tech.

Acknowledgements

Duncan McCaskill and Nathan Finger

Julian Robinson for the title to this series



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Committee news

The COG committee met on 17 June for its monthly meeting.

The committee's submission about seaplanes using Lake Burley Griffin has been finalised and submitted. It has also been published here – <http://canberrabirds.org.au/conservation-2/cog-conservation-strategy/>.

Membership payments are due and can be paid at the monthly meeting, on line at <http://canberrabirds.org.au/about-cog/joining-cog-and-renewing/> or by downloading and completing the form from the same webpage.

The Garden Bird Survey has been running since 1981. The survey year runs from July to June. Completed charts can be returned to Chris Davey at the July meeting, or posted to COG (PO Box 301, Civic Square, ACT 2608). Other arrangements can be made by contacting Chris or the COG office (cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au).

The committee is exploring whether COG's name is helping or hindering its activities. It wants to hear from all COG members and asks you to complete [the survey in this issue of Gang-gang](#). The survey has more information about why the committee is doing this and how it will use the survey responses.

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. You can purchase publications at meetings or 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.

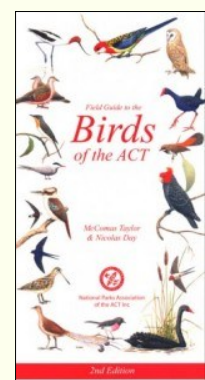
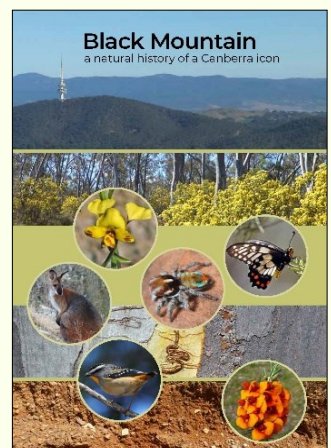
This attractive and richly illustrated book is published to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Black Mountain Nature Reserve. It is a good read for the general public as well as ecologists, conservationists, and senior secondary and tertiary students, with clues to explore and protect this special place,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

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; bring morning tea. 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 Archer 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)

Sunday 29 August – The Pinnacle Nature Reserve

Description: Peri-urban Canberra Nature Park reserve with a mixture of vegetation types, including remnant dry sclerophyll (Red Stringybark) forest, grassy box woodland, planted woodland and areas of open grassland. Possible birds include **Scarlet Robin**, **Gang-gang Cockatoo**, **Speckled Warbler**, various thornbills, **Weebill**, **White-throated Treecreeper**, **Golden Whistler**, various honeyeaters, etc.

Meeting time and place: 9.00 am at the reserve entrance at the end of Dungowan St, Hawker. On-street parking is available on Dungowan St.

Walking distance: 4-5 km

Degree of difficulty: Easy to medium

End time (approx.): 11.30

What to bring: Water, morning tea

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

Numbers limited: Yes (15)

Name of leader and contact details: John Brannan Email: johnbrannan@tpg.com.au Mob.: 0405 331 405

Tuesday 31 August to Friday 3 September - Tathra

Description: This is a mid-week trip to Tathra staying for 3 nights in the Kianinny Bush Cottages located in bushland just outside Tathra. There will be bird walks around our accommodation as well as excursions to sites within Mimosa Rocks National Park and nearby wetlands. We can expect to see around 100 species including **Glossy Black Cockatoos, Superb Lyrebirds, Crescent Honeyeaters, Hooded Plovers**, other shorebirds and seabirds.

Meeting time and place: Drive to Kianinny Cottages on the morning of 31 August. Expect a bird walk that afternoon from about 1.30pm.

Walking distance: 2-5 km each day

What to bring: Self-catering or dinner at Tathra Hotel or other eateries in town. Packed lunches some days. More detailed information will be provided to those who register.

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

Numbers limited: Yes. Five cottages have been booked. Each cottage has 2 bedrooms, one with a queen sized bed and another with twin beds, plus bathroom, kitchen and living area. When you **register**, if you wish to share a cabin with particular people, please notify the leader. The cost will depend on the number in each cabin. The cost for one cabin for 3 nights with 3 people sharing is approximately \$505 (ie about \$170 per person for a 3 night stay).

Name of leader and contact details: Prue Watters prue.watters@gmail.com 0414 357 456

Sunday 5 September – Reedy Creek TSR, Mt Fairy/Boro area

Description: We will visit this fine Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR) in the Mount Fairy/Boro area. It is located along the Goulburn Road north of the Kings Highway. It is a beautiful woodland area that is part of a five-year TSR conservation and restoration project being conducted by the Molonglo Conservation Group. The iconic **Scarlet Robin** is a possibility, along with other box/gum woodland birds, probably including some returning migrant species.

eBird hotspot: <https://ebird.org/australia/hotspot/L3895125>

Meeting time and place: 08:00 am at the Spotlight carpark, Bungendore Road, Queanbeyan, for optional carpooling

Walking distance: 5 km approx.

Degree of difficulty: Easy

End time (approx.): 12:00 noon

What to bring: Water & morning tea

Need to **register**: Yes, by email or text to the trip leader, giving name, mobile number, and emergency contact.

Name of leader and contact details: David McDonald, email david@dnmcdonald.id.au, phone 0416 231 890.

Numbers limited: Yes, maximum 15.

Sunday 12 September – Pejar and Crookwell

Location: Pejar Dam, Jean Todkill Park Dam (Crookwell)

Description: Both dams are hotspots for raptors; Pejar has had 11 species and Jean Todkill 10 including **Little Eagle, Black Kite** and **Spotted Harrier**. Many waterbirds are present with highlights being **Great-crested Grebes, Musk Duck, Blue-billed Duck** and **Whiskered Tern. Fairy Martins** occur on St Stephens Road.

Meeting time and place: Netball Centre Lyneham at 7.30 am for carpooling.

Walking distance: Pejar Dam (St Stephens Road 0.5 km, main picnic area 1 km, North Arm 1 km) and Jean Todkill Park Dam 1 km.

Degree of difficulty: easy

End time 4.30 pm at Lyneham

What to bring: water, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, sunscreen, water, sturdy shoes, hat. A scope would be useful.

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

Monday 13 to Friday 17 September – Yathong Nature Reserve

A midweek excursion to a prime patch of NSW mallee and associated woodlands.

Accommodation is in basic shearers quarters with shared facilities. Because of this numbers are limited to 14. The quarters have showers and a reasonable kitchen.

Yathong is about 600 kms from Canberra and should take about 6 ½ hours to get there, so an early start or a halfway stop is essential.

Birding in the mallee can be frustrating but extremely rewarding, especially if one comes upon such birds as **Malleefowl, Striated Grasswren, Southern Scrub-robin, Red-lored Whistler, Gilbert's Whistler** and heaps more. Now I cannot guarantee seeing any of these but they have been seen in the Reserve in the past. The Reserve also has extensive woodlands and dams which brings on different suites of birds.

You will need to take bedding, food, clothing suitable for both kinds of weather. The weather in spring can be quite unsettled (rain is not uncommon) so be prepared.

Register with Noel Luff (noelluff@gmail.com); please provide your name(s) and mobile number, and the name and number of an emergency contact.

Sunday 19 September – venue required, leader required

If you could offer an outing on this date, please contact Sue Lashko at smlashko@gmail.com

Sunday 26 September – Bluetts Block

Bluetts Block is one of the few remaining areas of natural bushland containing heath in the south of Canberra and a vital connection for wildlife between the Molonglo River Corridor and the Murrumbidgee River. The Friends of Bluetts are hoping that the ACT Government will soon protect it as a conservation reserve.

I find this to be one of the best birding areas in all of the south of Canberra, for seasonal diversity and for regular species such as **Eastern Yellow Robin, White-throated Treecreeper, Scarlet Robin**, thornbills, whistlers, pardalotes, parrots, **Chestnut-rumped Heathwren** and birds of prey. Especially in springtime the well-groomed fire trail walks are ringing with birdcalls. Red-necked Wallaby and a few Grey Kangaroo are also seen when they thump away through Red Stringybark trees. There are very fine views from the survey point and during the last summer season following good rain many species of orchids were seen and photographed.

Meet at 9.00am. To get to the start of the walk drive from Stromlo Forest Park roundabout for 2.5 km on Uriarra Road, at which point you will see the end of a bicycle track on the left hand side which runs parallel to Uriarra road. Park near the gate on the left hand side of the road, or across the road alongside the white gate. Please take care, as cars often travel very fast along Uriarra Road. Be aware that it will be necessary to step through a loose wire strand fence to start the walk, unless you are good at climbing the gate (unless a key is made available).

This is mostly an uphill and down again walk but we will take it in gentle stages as we stop to listen for bird calls. Please wear sturdy walking shoes and bring water to drink. All are welcome and there is no need to book. In case of questions: **Register** with Jean Casburn at casburnj@bigpond.com, providing your name, mobile number and the name and mobile number of an emergency contact.

Proposed survey of Bush Stone-curlew at Mulligans Flat Sanctuary

The Canberra Ornithologists Group has been involved in the reintroduction program for the Bush Stone-curlew at the Mulligans Flat Sanctuary since the start of the program in 2013. The Group has donated funds for the construction of the soft-release aviary and for the purchase of radio tracking equipment. In 2018 the Group organised a survey in the Sanctuary to determine the status of the population. After an interval of nearly three years we wish to resurvey the Sanctuary on 7 and again on 14 August 2021. We hope to assess the number of birds in the area to help determine the success of the reintroduction project and in particular to determine the number and location of unmarked individuals.

The survey will involve searching allocated areas over a three-hour period starting around 8:00am. The Sanctuary will be divided into 12 areas and each will be surveyed by volunteers over a period of three hours. The location of any Bush Stone-curlew will be recorded and photographs taken to identify individuals. I am therefore seeking volunteers with cameras that can capture an image of a leg-flag on a Bush Stone-curlew at a distance of 50m. This involves a camera equipped with a 200-400mm zoom lens. It will be great but not essential if you are in a position to volunteer for either morning but for safety reasons you will need a mobile phone. It will not be a requirement to have previous experiences with Stone-curlews but it would be an advantage. As an incentive, refreshments will be provided at the end of each morning's survey

If you wish to participate or to obtain further details please contact Chris Davey (chris_davey@aapt.net.au).

Chris Davey

Field Trip Reports

Sunday 30 May - Mulangari Grasslands Nature Reserve

A small group of 8 COG members led by Bill Graham spent a productive morning learning about the grasslands in the north-west of the ACT. Stepping off at 0900 in 2°C temperatures, the group entered the grassland reserve via the stile on Newsom Street in Franklin and headed west through the grass to the small dam in the south-west corner of the reserve. Here we came across a large flock of around 40+ **Red-rumped Parrots** feeding in the short grasses near the water's edge.

Our group then headed north through one of the east/west fence lines toward a larger, more natural dam in the north-west corner of the reserve. As we approached, we could hear numerous frogs croaking among the rushes along the boggy edges and lilies growing in deeper water. We saw a pair each of **Grey Teals** and **Pacific Black Ducks** but the expected grebes were not present. Bill gave us some insights on what to expect here in spring and summer when migrating birds return to the ACT.

It was now time to head west along the northern boundary of the reserve where we observed **Welcome Swallows**, **Common Mynas**, **Noisy Miners**, **Australian Ravens**, **Australian Magpies** (including a White-backed variety) and **Striated Pardalotes**. Bill also pointed out the trees where **Tree Martins** bred and the adjacent rapid expansion of Gungahlin medium density housing along Anthony Rolfe Avenue.

At the western end of the grassland, we observed the well-overgrown adjacent offset reserve. Here we observed a large number of **Welcome Swallows** swooping low over the grass and dam beyond. There were also a number of **Eastern Rosellas** in the trees and feeding on the ground. Bill informed us that in spring and summer, the offset reserve is a place to observe **Little Grassbirds**, **Golden-headed Cisticolas** and **Australasian Reed Warblers** amongst the bullrushes in the dam while songlarks and **Eurasian Skylarks** are seen in the surrounding grasses.

Half-way down this western boundary, we stopped for morning tea and were welcomed by a small flock of 11 **Yellow-rumped Thornbills** and a single male **Nankeen Kestrel** surveying the grass for its late morning snack.

With morning tea consumed, we headed further south to the quartz ridge at the south-west corner. This is where **Australasian Pipits** can usually be found. Unfortunately there were none today but we did come face-to-face with a fox instead.

At the end of the walk we had a count of 24 species, not unexpected for this time of year but we all have a much better appreciation of what we should expect in spring. We also have a much better appreciation of the significance of grasslands in the life cycle of birds and it was wonderful to see the extent of regrowth of the Eucalyptus and Acacia trees in the reserve.

Peter Higgins



Australian Magpie, Red-rumped Parrot, Grey Teal
Peter Higgins

Sunday 13 June – Superb Lyrebird survey, Tidbinbilla NR

The eighteenth annual survey of the **Superb Lyrebird**, designed to provide an index of population numbers within the Reserve since the 2003 bushfires, was run under perfect conditions with a cool morning, no wind and clear skies. From memory, the first time the survey was run on a Sunday, having cancelled the day before due to strong winds

Thirteen COG members and friends assembled at the car park by 8.00 am with one late-comer managing to link up with the team covering Fishing Gap. After breaking up into the allocated teams we soon started to survey the six main walking trails. This included the Lyrebird/Cascades trail which was not part of the original five because it was not until sometime after the 2003 fire that the trail was reopened.

Taking a minimum count, 25 individual **Superb Lyrebirds** were recorded within the Reserve (Gibraltar Rocks -1 (1), Devil's Gap - 2 (3), Fishing Gap - 3 (2), Ashbrook -3 (3), Camel Back -16 (4)). Figures in brackets are numbers reported last year; twelve more than in 2020; see Figure 1. Six birds were recorded from the Lyrebird/Cascades trail of which one was also recorded from the Camel Back Trail and one from Ashbrook Trail leaving four sightings allocated to the Lyrebird/Cascades trail and not included in the totals.

Lyrebird numbers from all trails, apart from Camel Back, were similar to the last few years. The number of reported Lyrebirds from the Camel Back Trail was similar to 2017, 2018 and 2019 with the unexplained drop in numbers in 2020 appearing to have recovered.

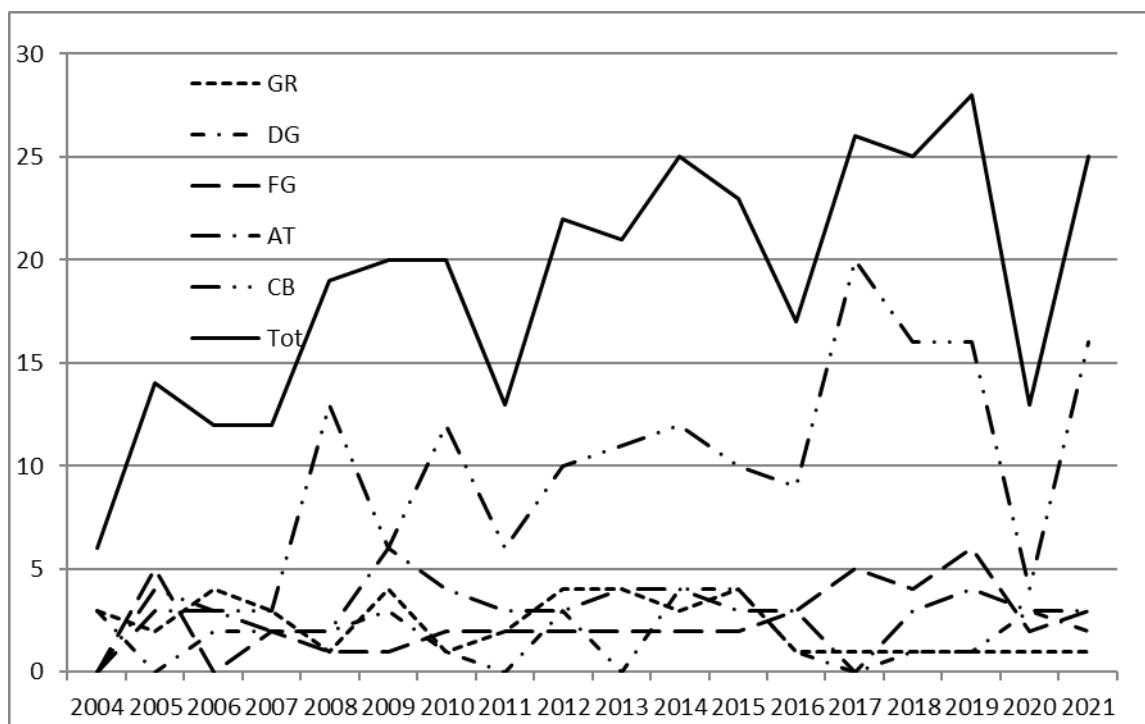


Figure 1. Numbers of Superb Lyrebirds recorded from walking trails at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, 2004-2021. GR-Gibraltar Rocks, DG-Devils Gap, FG-Fishing Gap, AT- Ashbrook Trail, CB-Camel Back, Tot- Total number of birds.

During the survey 38 bird species were recorded with the number seen depending very much on the trail walked; Gibraltar Rocks-26, Devil's Gap-26, Fishing Gap-20, Ashbrook-15, and Camel Back-9 with 10 species reported from the Lyrebird/Cascades Trail. There was similar to the total number of species last year but with a decrease from Camel Back and Lyrebird/Cascades.

There were three species reported from all six trails, **Superb Lyrebird** and **Striated** and **Brown Thornbill**. The **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo**, **Crimson Rosella**, **White-throated Treecreeper**, **White-browed Scrubwren**, **Spotted Pardalote**, **Grey Shrike-thrush** and **Eastern Yellow Robin** were reported from five of the trails.

Species seen from one track only included a single **Wedge-tailed Eagle** (FG), **Satin Bowerbird** (GR), **Pilotbird** (LY), **Yellow-rumped Thornbill** (GR), **Red Wattlebird** (GR), **New Holland Honeyeater** (GR), **Spotted Quail-thrush** (DG), **Grey Currawong** (DG), **Little Raven** (DG), **Grey Fantail** (AT), **Scarlet Robin** (GR), **Silvereye** (DG) and **Red-browed Finch** (FG).

Many thanks to all of the volunteers.
Chris Davey

Sunday 20 June – The Pond TSR, Kowen Forest

Sixteen COG members gathered on a sunny mild-ish morning at the car park at the western end of the Pound TSR in Kowen Forest. The site is in what my son Dec describes as the ‘Seahorse’s Snout’, in the far east of the ACT. The Solsticetide Sun was low in the sky at 8.00 am, obscuring party members’ views of the many birds in attendance. The shade of nearby pine trees offered little relief, as the cool of the shade brought a different kind of discomfort. As a result of recent rains, some patches of ground were very soggy underfoot. These challenges notwithstanding, we persevered, and went on to encounter many fine woodland birds. Highlights included **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** taking nectar from flowering bushes of Urn Heath. **Weebills** hovered in the foliage of small eucalypts in close proximity to the party. We encountered at least one mixed feeding flock, featuring **Scarlet Robins**, a **Golden Whistler**, **Buff-rumped Thornbills** and a **White-Eared Honeyeater**. While we did not find **Varied Sittellas** at ‘Sittella Corner’, Archer saw one nearby in the ecotone between pine forest and eucalypt woodland. All up, we identified 36 species for the morning, including two species that are new to the Pound eBird hotspot list – those being **Australasian Grebe** and **Red-browed Finch**. A very successful and enjoyable morning.

David Dedenczuk



White-eared Honeyeater, Tidbinbilla NR

Michael James



White-throated Treecreeper, Tidbinbilla NR

Michael James

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, Nombinnie NR.

Day 4 SW Woodland NR, Pulletop NR, Lake Wyangan

Day 5 Fivebough Wetland, Murrumbidgee National Park, Bethunga

To book or get further details email

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

Garden Bird Survey

We are quickly approaching the end of the Garden Bird Survey year, the final day being 2 July 2021. New charts will be available at the July COG Members Night. If you take a chart could you please provide your name and contact details so that I know who is contributing to the 2021-22 survey year.

If you cannot attend the July meeting please contact me and I will make arrangements to pick up any old charts and provide replacements. For those charts that have been entered to a spreadsheet, please email the file to me.

Chris Davey (chris_davey@aapt.net.au)

What's in a name – the Canberra Ornithologists Group

COG Members, we would like your input!

One of the issues raised in our 2019 membership survey was that some members are not enthusiastic about the name Canberra Ornithologists Group, and so the idea of COG using a new or different name was discussed during the Strategic Planning meetings that the COG committee held in late 2020 and early 2021.

Reasons for considering a different name include:

- the name Canberra Ornithologists Group can be unwieldy, not understood, or too hard to pronounce. This is especially the case for non-members (as members, we have likely become quite used to the abbreviation 'COG')

- ornithology only addresses one of the club's three objectives and purposes (which broadly are education, research and conservation of the birds of the Canberra region).

There are also reasons that the name Canberra Ornithologists Group remain unchanged:

- the name has served the club for decades, is well recognised, and has a good reputation throughout the ACT.

As members we have the option of keeping the name unchanged, formally changing COG's name, or adopting a 'trading name' while keeping Canberra Ornithologists Group as the legal name (for example, we already title our website and chatline 'Canberra Birds', and although we don't use that name elsewhere, we could start to).

If you have any thoughts on this for the committee to consider, [please consider filling out the brief survey on Page 16](#). The committee will review the responses, and bring a consensus view back to the membership for discussion. Any change to COG's legal name would require a vote at the AGM.

Please return completed surveys by **Saturday 31 July** to:

PO Box 301 CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608
or
cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au.

The Committee.

What's in a name – the Canberra Ornithologists Group Survey

How long have you been a member of COG?

<5 years <10 years <15 years <20 years <30 years >30 years

Do you think we should consider adopting another name for the club?

Are there potential benefits to the club if a new name were to be adopted?

Are there potential detriments to the club if a new name were to be adopted?

If a new name were to be adopted, would you approve of any of the following alternatives?

Note that the name "Canberra Bird Club" is already used by another organisation.

Where there is an x/x choice, please circle the preferred option.

Canberra Birds / Canberra Birders

COG Canberra Birds

ACT Birds / ACT Birders

ACT and Region Birds / ACT and Region Birders

Capital Birds / Capital Birders

Capital Region Birds / Capital Region Birders

Capital Region Bird Club

Canberra Birding Group

Would adopt a new name, but not any of these possible alternatives. My suggestion is:

THANK YOU. Please return the completed survey by **Saturday 31 July** to: PO Box 301 CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608 or cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au.

New Places: June 2021

Sandra Henderson

Scott Nature Reserve (COG outing)

Since this reserve is in NSW, there is no access without permission from NPWS, so it is not often visited. Apart from getting to see a place most of us had not visited, the COG members who came on the outing were hoping to see **Glossy Black Cockatoos**, which are known to frequent the reserve. After negotiating the locked gate, we set off up the fenceline - we had been warned there was much off-track walking, and the amount of fallen timber (casualties of drought) and soggy patches meant we spent a lot of time watching where we put our feet. During the walk we encountered some mixed flocks, which included **Varied Sittellas**, **White-throated Treecreepers**, **Grey Fantails**, **Golden Whistlers** and **Striated Thornbills**. The call of a "glossie" diverted us, and we were treated to views of these great birds crunching through the Casuarina cones. At least six **Glossy Black Cockatoos** were present. Morning tea was on a large granite outcrop, and we followed the fenceline for most of the way out of the reserve.

National Bicentennial Trail, Kambah.

I have often driven past the entry onto the trail, between the golf course and the free-range chicken farm. The map showed the trail passing a large dam on the golf course, which was potentially interesting (but in fact had only a few **Eurasian Coots** and some **Australian Wood Ducks**). There is a sign at the golf course fence (about a kilometre from the road) giving local residents permission to walk on tracks within the golf course, so that's promising. Further on, the trail goes into Urambi Hills reserve. This area was more interesting, with a group of six **Southern Whiteface** on the track, and **Superb Fairy-wrens** and **Yellow-rumped Thornbills** among the cattle grazing near the track. In warmer months I'm guessing this part of the Trail would have many more small birds. I walked only 1.5km, so it's worth more exploration.

Julatten

The precise location is not being reported (part of a commercial tour), but it's within a few kilometres of Kingfisher Park, where I and others stayed on a recent far north Queensland tour. I had gone on this tour not expecting any "lifers", so was very surprised to get one early in the tour when a drive down a short road not far from Kingfisher Park produced a **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher**. The same spot also produced a **Pacific Baza** and a couple of **Double-eyed Fig Parrots**. The species is migratory and the bird should have been long gone. For some reason a single individual was still in the Julatten area, and was still present when we passed through Julatten some days later on our return from Iron Range.

Artemis Station locality

I've previously seen **Golden-shouldered Parrots** at the well-known feeding station at the entrance to Artemis Station, and in woodland on the other side of the main road. This year Sue Johnston from Artemis Station escorted our tour group to a site quite some distance away on an adjoining property, where we encountered a group of the parrots feeding in woodland. These were not part of the group which frequents the feeding station each day. There is much effort going into improving habitat for the parrots away from the public gaze, by reducing tree and shrub cover and opening up the areas, and monitoring the local **Black-backed Butcherbirds** and other predators. **Black-throated Finches** and **Masked Finches** were also seen at the site we visited. For more information on the efforts underway, go to <https://artemis.org.au/our-work/>

Sandra Henderson



Birdwatchers & nature lover's accommodation

Feathers'n'Friends cottage is fully self-contained with extensive facilities to ensure guests can enjoy short or extended stays.

The secluded lodging is surrounded by tropical rainforest and beautiful gardens with varying habitats and a large variety of birds and wildlife.

Activities in the area include birdwatching at nearby Mt Lewis and other birdwatching locations, as well as Daintree River nature tours and other attractions.

Discounts available for Birdlife Australia members.

Check our website for comprehensive details, rates, and bookings:

www.feathersnfriends.com.au

Fred & Jeanette Birkbeck

244 Clacherty Road

Julatten QLD 4871

Tel: 07 4094 1665

Email: freddy@feathersnfriends.com.au

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:

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for August 2021 edition:

Wednesday 28 July 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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COG E-mail Discussion List

COG E-mail Discussion List COG has an email discussion list for members and friends: 'CanberraBirds'. Join (subscribe to) the list by following the links on the COG website or by sending an email message to canberrabirds-subscribe@lists.canberrabirds.org.au. The subject line and body of the email can be empty.

To unsubscribe, either permanently or temporarily, send an email message to canberrabirds-unsubscribe@lists.canberrabirds.org.au.

If you wish to re-subscribe after being unsubscribed temporarily, simply follow the 'subscribe' instructions above.

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

ISSN 2208-018X

