



# Gang-gang

**JULY 2022**

**Newsletter of the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc.**

## **JULY MEETING**

**Wednesday 13 July 2022**

**7.30 pm**

**Normal face-to-face meeting**

*Canberra Girls Grammar School,  
Multi-media centre, corner Gawler Cres and  
Melbourne Ave, Deakin*

The July meeting will again be a normal face-to-face one held at our usual venue, but as school virus rules for after-hours public meetings in school premises remain unchanged (see under **Events** on <https://www.education.act.gov.au/public-school-life/covid-school-arrangements/school-advice>) you will again need to wear a mask and also check in using the Check in CBR QR code, as noted in the COG COVID Safety Plan available on the COG web site ([COG-CGGS-Checklist-COVID-19\\_09Mar22.pdf](https://canberrabirds.org.au) ([canberrabirds.org.au](https://canberrabirds.org.au))).

The short presentation will be by local scientific illustrator and natural history artist **Bonnie Koopmans**, on "**An introduction to Natural History Illustration**".

Bonnie will look at the research and process behind scientific and natural history illustrations, and why the field continues to be relevant today.

The main presentation will be by **Geoffrey Dabb** on "**The bird art of Ellis Rowan, and the strange story of her bird of paradise paintings**".

*Continued Page 2*

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

The weather over the 5 weeks from 25 May has mostly been cloudy, cold and often windy, especially over the first half of June which has been reported as the coldest ever start to winter. This relates to daytime maximum temperatures as there continued to be very few frosts or sunny still days. While rainfall in June has been much less than in previous months, and mostly in the first week, conditions still remain wet from a significant fall at the end of May and the poor drying conditions thereafter. My impression that bird activity in the COG Area of Interest (Aoi) has been very quiet (especially once winter officially began on 1 June) seems to be confirmed by my analysis below, with very few "unusual" birds and most of the summer migrants having moved away, and only those species for which some overwinter still present, several of them still in quite high numbers.

*Continued Page 2*



*Victor Braguine*

**Hooded Robin and Diamond Firetail**

**Everyone welcome**

The year 2022 marks 100 years since the death of Ellis Rowan, justly famous as a prolific painter of wildflowers and as an adventurous traveller. The Ellis Rowan collection in the National Library of Australia, with more than 900 paintings, is said to contain about one third of Ellis's work. In the NLA are about 80 of her paintings of New Guinea birds, including birds of paradise. In an exhibition at the end of 2020 these were presented as the result of visits by Ellis to New Guinea during World War 1. However, it is now clear, in light of what we know now about birds of paradise and New Guinea, that the story of those paintings is more complicated. This talk is a version of one given in the ANBG Thursday series, and is the result of research conducted throughout 2021, prompted by the NLA exhibition and by gaps in the published biographies. It draws on Geoffrey's own experience of several years travelling around New Guinea (1962-1979).

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

*continued from Page 1*

In respect of the usually departed spring/summer migrants still present in late April/May there have been no further reports of the **White-throated Gerygone** (last reported on 29 April). The **Shining Bronze-cuckoo** was still reported from 2 locations, single birds from Sparrow Hill in Kowen Forest on 27 May, and from Cooper Rd Wamboin on 19 June. The **Fan-tailed Cuckoo**, the least migratory of our local cuckoos, was still reported from around 14 locations up to the time of writing, only slightly down from the 17 spots in May.

The **Western Gerygone** was still reported from 4 locations, the most recent being a single bird from Campbell Park on 21 June. The **Noisy Friarbird** was still reported from 3 locations, the most recent being one bird from Callum Brae NR on 4 June. The **Tree Martin** was still reported from 4 locations, the most recent being 2 birds at the West Belconnen Pond on 20 June, and there was a single report of the **Australian Reed-Warbler** on Isabella Pond on 29 May.

Numbers of the **Rufous Whistler** have dropped significantly, reported from just 8 locations (compared with 25 in May), the most recent being a single bird at Mulligans Flat on 26 June. Numbers of the **Dusky Woodswallow** have also decreased significantly, with reports from just 3 locations (compared with 21 in May), with one bird at the Magpies Golf Course west of Holt on 10 June, 4 birds at Campbell Park on 12 June, but with many reports from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR and adjacent Fyshwick Sewage Ponds. Up to 20 birds were reported from this area, again showing its preference for being near water in winter, with the most recent report being of one bird on 26 June. Reports of the **Olive-backed Oriole** were also down, from 4 locations compared with 9 in May, all of single birds and the most recent being at the ANBG on 23 June.

In contrast numbers of **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes** and **Grey Fantails** were still very high, reported from a remarkable 35 and over 75 locations, respectively. It may be expected that quite a few of the above five species will overwinter, as will the **Mistletoebird** and **Superb Parrot** reported from 6 (five of them of 1-2 birds in June, most recently 19 June) and around 23 locations (only 4 south of LBG), respectively. Over 10 minutes around 15:00 h on 27 May Anthony Overs counted 64 of the

latter coming from the trees around the AIS building and the main car park area, heading north-west.

So please keep an eye out for any of the above species, particularly the last 7 species to confirm whether some of them will overwinter this year.

Of the species that move from the mountains and higher country into Canberra and its surrounds in autumn/winter, the **Scarlet Robin** is well established being reported from around 25 urban/peri-urban locations of the over 50 total locations during the period. However, the **Flame Robin** has been reported from only 9 such locations of the around 27 total spots, indicating it has yet to move in closer. I thought that the cold weather in the first half of June had



Scarlet Robin

Marcus Hellyer

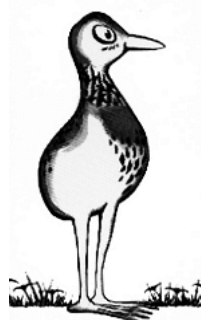
brought them closer as I have now been able to find them (a maximum of 4 males and 4 females) in their usual winter spot to the west of Mt Arawang, but this does not seem to be the case otherwise.

The **Rose Robin** has been reported from 15 locations in the period, 12 of which may be described as urban/peri-urban, but still 1 spot from west of the Murrumbidgee River at Tidbinbilla NR, and one in Tallaganda State Forest. This is a quite remarkable number of locations for June, supporting that it's not just a passage migrant in Canberra. Again, there were no reports of the **Pink Robin** during the period. The **Crescent Honeyeater** has still been reported from only two urban/peri-urban locations, 2 birds from the Arawang saddle of Cooleman Ridge during the COG outing of 6 June, and 1-2 at the ANBG, plus 3 locations still west of the Murrumbidgee River. The **Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** has been reported from 1 location only over the period, with 4 birds seen at the Gigerline NR on 20 June.

There have been no confirmed reports of the **Swift Parrot** over the period; as they were last reported on 18 May they now definitely appear to have moved on. So please keep an eye out for them as well as the above-named species to see if more move closer to Canberra this winter.

There has been one "unusual bird" species potentially reported over the period which deserves a special mention. On 6 June Mark Clayton posted that on the Australian Bird Identification (ABID) page there was a photo of an obvious **Pacific Baza** taken at Tarago sometime in the recent past. As this location is within COG's AoI, and it would be a new species for the area [it's not mentioned in COG's 2018-2019 Annual Bird Report (ABR) or in Steve Wilson's Book, *Birds of the ACT: Two Centuries of Change*], Mark indicated he would try to get more details from the person who uploaded the photo for possible COG Rarities Panel consideration. While the outcome of this is unclear to me, it did lead to some discussion on the COG chatline as to the closest spot where this species may have been previously reported. Philip Veerman mentioned being told about one in O'Connor at the COG meeting of 12 March 2014, but the nearest report of one on the chatline appears to be Denis Wilson's from the bottom of Macquarie Pass in 2011. Checking the eBird map shows that the closest record to Canberra since the start of 2020 is from the Mt Dromedary Saddle track in Gulaga NP (120 km away) in Sept 2021, or 2 reports from Jervis Bay in January 2022 (about 125 km away). So perhaps Geoffrey Dabb is correct that it does seem to be in the OMOT category - Only a Matter of Time before we have a confirmed record of this species in the Canberra area.

Two **Plumed Whistling Ducks** were reported only from the Trucking Yard Lane Dam throughout the period. Again, no **Freckled Ducks** were reported during the period. While **Australian Shelducks** were reported from 9 locations to the east and northeast of Canberra during the period, the maximum of 34 seen together near Lake Bathurst on 11 June represents a further drop in numbers. Over the period **Blue-billed Ducks** were reported only from Upper Stranger Pond (1-2 ducks) and the farm dam on Lake Road (a single one). Up to 4 **Musk Ducks** were reported from 5 locations, not including the Sanctuary at Tidbinbilla NR.



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Good birding, good food

## 2022

### Central Australia

21 — 31 August 2022  
Alice Springs, West MacDonnell Ranges,  
Yulara, Erldunda, Marla  
Possibly two places available.

### Pilbara birding tour

Possibly one place available on the  
26 July — 4 August 2022  
Pilbara tour.  
Enquiries to Patricia.

### Nullarbor birding tour

Two places available  
3 — 18 September 2022  
Enquiries to Patricia.

## 2023 tours

### Atherton Tablelands &

**Iron Range**  
In two parts  
1-14 May 2023

### 2023 Plains-wanderer Weekends

07 & 08 October 2023  
21 & 22 October 2023  
04 & 05 November 2023  
18 & 19 November 2023

Contact Patricia Maher for  
information and itineraries.

[www.philipmaher.com](http://www.philipmaher.com)



**Stubble Quail** were reported from just 2 locations, 3 birds flushed from the Wanderlight Avenue parkland (Lawson) on 17 June, and 2 birds reported from McLeods Creek NR near Gundaroo on 18 June. In contrast the **Brown Quail** was reported from around 14 locations. Up to 6 **Painted Button-quail** were reported from 5 locations in the period, with most reports from the Bluetts Block area from where Steve Wallace posted videos of the foraging birds making scrapes/platelets on 29 May. There were no reports of **Little Button-quail** during the period.

Two **Great Crested Grebe** have been reported only from the Bracks Hole Rd area of the Cotter Dam. A **White-headed Pigeon** was reported only from Griffith on 11 Jun, and on 27 Jun Lyndon Howes posted a photo of a **Diamond Dove** seen at the Parkwood horse paddocks. He indicated he spent about an hour following it into trees and foraging on the ground, at times near horses (there was some debate after as to whether this may be a wild bird or aviary escapee). Again, no **Peaceful Doves** were reported during the period.

An **Australian Spotted Crake** was reported only from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR on 8 June, and single **Spotless Crakes** were reported from here by several observers and from Tin Hut Dam (Googong) on 20 June, as well as 1-2 birds from near Googong township on 22 June. Again, no **Baillon's Crake** or **Lewin's Rail** have been reported during the period, whereas up to 3 **Buff-banded Rails** were reported from just 2 locations.

No **Banded Lapwings** were reported during the period, nor were they in May as those I included in my June column all turned out to be **Masked Lapwings**. Also, no **Red-capped Plovers**, **Red-necked Avocets**, **Common Sandpiper**, **Caspian Tern**, **Australian Little Bittern** or **Intermediate Egret** were reported during the period.

**Barn Owls** were reported from just 2 locations, single birds at Hoskintown Rd on 16 June, and on Monaro Station Rd Royalla on 20 June. In contrast the **Black-shouldered Kite** remained remarkably common, reported from over 50 locations, well up from May and with, on closer analysis, much more widespread autumn/early winter breeding (see details below). The **Nankeen Kestrel** was reported from around 70 locations (also well up from May) during the period. A **Grey Goshawk** (a white morph this time) was reported from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR on 3 June. A **Spotted Harrier** was reported from Mills Cross Hoskintown on 19 June, but there were no reports of the **Black Kite** or **Black Falcon** during the period.

An **Azure Kingfisher** has been reported from 2 locations, a single bird from the northeast end of Umbagog District Park from 17-24 June, and one at Stony Creek NR on 19 June. However, there were no reports of the **Glossy Black-Cockatoo**, **Cockatiel**, **Turquoise Parrots**, or **Little** and **Scaly-breasted Lorikeets** during the period. Up to 8 **Musk Lorikeets** were reported from Holt from 28 May to 3 June, as well as 6 birds reported from Higgins Oval and 2 from Scullin, respectively, both on 28 May.

No **Spiny-cheeked**, **Singing**, **Scarlet** or **Blue-faced Honeyeaters**, **Little Friarbirds**, **White-bellied Cuckoo-shrikes**, **Zebra Finches** or **Tawny Grassbirds** were reported during the period.

Of the birds I continued to ask readers to keep a special lookout for in 2022, **Jacky Winters** were reported from only a single location, with 2 birds reported from a known location, the rural lease near Tharwa, on 19 June. This is many fewer observations compared with May. **Hooded Robins** were reported from 4 (3 known) locations during the period. There were 4 birds at Naas Road at Apollo Road on 13 June, and 1-4 birds at Top Naas Rd between 29 May to 24 June, a pair at Tidbinbilla NR on 2 June, as well as single birds at the new location of Bracks Hole Rd area of the Cotter Dam on 10 and 12 June.

Single **Restless Flycatchers** were reported from 6 locations, the known Nelanglo TSR on 30 May, and Naas Road at Apollo Road from 4-25 June, with also one from a new spot, Top Naas Rd on 9 June. Two birds were reported from another new spot, Berrebangalo TSR (Gunning) on 25 May, as well as a single bird from Illianga (also new) further to the south on 3 and 11 June. With the bird at Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR seeming to have moved on, the known location McQuoid's Hill NR seems to have been the best spot to see them, with 2 birds observed there on 26 May, and single birds thereafter to 19 June.

In respect of breeding, a closer analysis of the eBird records shows more **Black-shouldered Kite** breeding over May/June. In order these are: Shoshana Rapley reporting 2 young with buff collars at Goorooyarroo NR on 15 May, and on 25 May at Crace Grassland NR Michael Lenz saw a pair flying into the top of a pine tree. Later from a different angle he could see 1 adult on the nest; it was still on the nest on 28 May. At Uriarra East Reserve



Restless Flycatcher, McQuoids Hill trip  
Marcus Hellyer

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on 1 June Kim Farley counted 4 immature **Black-shouldered Kites** with a brownish crown and nape and grey-brown mottling on upper wing covert, all perched together in a casuarina (river oak). On 11 June Shorty counted eight young birds there in the one tree (also a river oak). He assumed they would not all be from the same nest. Martin Butterfield clarified that according to HANZAB the average clutch size is 3-4 birds, so there would be at least two clutches. On 13 June Chris C photographed a likely more advanced juvenile **Black-shouldered Kite** with a dark brown/blackish collar/necklace at Environa (between Hume and Jerrabomberra), and on 14 June Deb and Rod Ralph photographed a pair and 2 young at Kelly Rd (north of Michelago). So, with the Top Naas event noted in my June column (and where on 24 June Angela Booth still reported 1 mature and 4 immatures all together in one place) there have been at least 7 separate breeding events for this species this late autumn/early winter. This is amazing as up to early in 2021 I had expressed concerns about the very low numbers of reports for this species.

A breeding record from last season was the observation of a dependent young **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** still being fed in Rivett for several days from 7 June. However, the new breeding season has already begun with, for example, Steve Holliday reporting a pair of **Yellow-rumped Thornbills** busy building a nest in a large Box Mistletoe in a Yellow Box at Goorooyaroo on 19 June.

The **Australian Magpies** in our GBS site have certainly been showing early signs of the upcoming breeding season. The edge of their two territories is the powerlines running along the back of our house, and over the past fortnight there has been much disputing by multiple birds (up to 9) above it. However, then typically up to 8 birds have come close together, often very amicably, over a few square metres on the path running alongside the house. They also have been quite aggressive towards the pair of **Australian Ravens** building a nest in a nearby large blue gum.

The **Red Wattlebirds**, possibly in preparation for early breeding which they can do, seem to have chased away the small mixed feeding flock (MFF) I've had in my garden for most of 2022. Finally, I have seen quite a number of fully blue male **Superb Fairy-wrens** over June, also a sign of possible early breeding.

Despite the signs of the new breeding season, MFFs continued to be reported, in particular from the COG woodland survey reports dating from 19 June, so please continue to look out for the last of this phenomenon.

Some single species flocks have also been reported, and finally in my area the **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** seems to be doing so, with the largest flock being 130 birds coming over Rivett early on 10 June, probably from the known roost site in the Chapman Horse Paddocks. Some largish groups of **Gang-gang Cockatoos** have also been reported, with on 26 May Graeme Clifton reporting around 35 in two hawthorn trees on Hoskinstown Rd. Adam Spence recalled a similar number recently near Tidbinbilla/Corin, and Michael Robbins reported at least 35 from Urambi Hills NR on 25 June. Steve Read clarified that the largest single eBird record for the Gang-gang for the ACT is 75 birds at Sherwood Forest on 18 March 2022 (ie earlier this year), though Martin Butterfield's records show that in March 2009 he recorded 80 near to Graeme's observation, close to when another birder sighted 100 birds nearby in Woolcara Lane.

However, these numbers are small compared with the 500 (a very conservative estimate) **Little Corellas** Andrea and I saw when pulling into Goulburn Railway Station (which just comes into the COG AoI) around 15:30 h on the afternoon of 1 June. I alerted Frank Antram and on 6 June he counted at least 2000 birds coming to roost at Victoria Park and Seiffert Oval about 1 km to the northwest. It reminded me of the very large flock on the east and southeast side of Red Hill several years ago that roosted on the Federal Golf Course and which seems to have gone; certainly eBird shows very few birds there recently, as well as for Lake Tuggeranong where there have also been large flocks in the recent past.

So please watch out for any overwintering spring/summer migrants mentioned above, for the still arriving altitudinal migrants, for MFFs and single species flocks, for roost sites and flights, and for any early 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 email 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*

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## Committee News

The COG committee met by Zoom on 16 June.

The committee is spending lots of time and effort writing submissions about matters affecting bird life in and around Canberra. COG's submissions on various topics are published on the website after they have been submitted – see <https://canberrabirds.org.au/conservation/cog-conservation-strategy/>. Submissions have recently been made in relation to

- the Draft Action Plan – Loss of Mature Trees Threatening Process
- the Urban Forest Bill
- the Consultation Draft of the ACT Planning Bill

The committee thanks Jenny Bounds, Clare Henderson and Steve Read for their work on these submissions which were all due between 31 May and 15 June.

The Garden Bird Survey commenced its 41<sup>st</sup> year on Sunday 3 July. It isn't too late to join in. Data from all suburbs, especially the newer ones, contribute to our understanding of Canberra's bird populations and how they are changing. Contact [gbbs@canberrabirds.org.au](mailto:gbbs@canberrabirds.org.au) to get a copy of the excel spreadsheet or paper chart for recording your sightings. Please let us if know you are starting a chart/sheet by sending your name and suburb to [gbbs@canberrabirds.org.au](mailto:gbbs@canberrabirds.org.au). If you did the survey in 2021-22 please bring your completed chart to the July meeting or contact Duncan McCaskill or Neil Hermes via the email address above to arrange collection.

Neil Hermes *President*      Alison Mackerras *Minutes Secretary*

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## Seeking volunteers for a Little Penguin survey

We are looking for volunteers to help with counting penguins at landing sites on Montague Island in September 2022. The survey will be run by MI Partners, a group that has been involved with seabird work on the island over many years.

We will be departing from Narooma and costs for travel to the island and accommodation will be covered, so volunteers will only need to cover food costs.

At this stage we expect to cross to the island on Saturday 17 September and returning on Friday 23 September. Departure may be early morning so it could be advisable to stay overnight in Narooma before departure.

On the island we will be counting the number of penguins coming ashore at a known set of landing sites. Counts will start before sunset and end once there have been no further arrivals for the past 15 minutes, so typically the count will take a couple of hours. Other than obtaining counts in the evening we will be searching for a sample of penguin nesting site during the day to determine the state of breeding.

For this survey, at this stage, we are seeking a maximum of seven volunteers but there is a possibility that the survey will be extended for the next two years so if interested could you register your availability. A general level of fitness will be required, no greater than expected on a typical COG outing.

The survey will allow participants full access to the island which is not normally available. There will be plenty of time for exploration, birding and photography.

For further details or any enquiries, please contact [chris.davey@aapt.net.au](mailto:chris.davey@aapt.net.au)

Chris Davey and Peter Fullagar

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# 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**

**Wear a mask in shared cars if carpooling (Note: carpooling is voluntary)**

**DO NOT ATTEND if you have tested positive for Covid, have been a close contact within the past 7 days, or have any Covid, cold or flu symptoms.**

### Sunday 10 July – Aranda Bushland

**Meeting time and place:** Meet at 9.00 am at the main entrance on Bindubi Street (where the power pylons go through the NR).

**Walking distance:** We will amble for about 2 hours (2 to 4 km) through the western and southern part of the reserve and possibly into the adjacent Snow Gums NR.

**Degree of difficulty:** easy

**End time (approx.):** 11am **What to bring:** water, sturdy shoes, warm clothing, hat.

**Register** with Michael - [mrobbins@home.netspeed.com.au](mailto:mrobbins@home.netspeed.com.au) with your name and contact number, plus name and contact number for an emergency contact.

Michael Robbins and Matthew Larkin

### Wednesday 20 July – Callum Brae

Callum Brae is one of Canberra's best birding hotspots, with over 165 species having been seen there. Of course it is much quieter in winter, but a good bird list should still be possible.

**Meet:** 9am at the reserve entry on Narrabundah Lane (NOT the Callum Brae farm entry further down the road).

Sturdy shoes are essential - if wet conditions persist there will be some boggy sections on the tracks.

We will probably cover around 6km, mainly on vehicle tracks.

**Please register** at least 24 hours ahead of the walk with Sandra on [shirmax2931@gmail.com](mailto:shirmax2931@gmail.com)

Sandra Henderson

### Saturday 30 July- Australian National Botanic Gardens – beginners' outing

This morning walk aims 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 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](mailto: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.**

Anthony Overs

### Sunday 7 August – Mount Taylor

**Meet** in the Mt Taylor carpark at the end of Waldock Street, Chifley (**not** the Sulwood Drive carpark), at 9am for a general bushland wander during which anything could turn up.

**Register** with Doug Laing at [lilley@iimetro.com.au](mailto:lilley@iimetro.com.au), providing your name, mobile number and the name and number of an emergency contact.

### Sun 21 August - Gungaharra Grasslands Nature Reserve, Crace

Gungaharra Grasslands NR occurs between Palmerston, Crace and CSIRO Gungahlin and borders Gungahlin Drive. The extensive grasslands support healthy populations of **Eurasian Skylark**, **Australasian Pipit** and **Stubble Quail**. There are scattered trees and woodlands with Brittle Gum and Scribbly Gum. I have seen a pair of **Black-shouldered Kites**, **Nankeen Kestrels** and **Brown Falcons** copulating. 88 species have been recorded. This is a new site for a COG visit.

**Meet** at 9.00 am at Bollard St Palmerston for a walk through the grasslands.

**Distance** -about 3km

**Difficulty** - quite easy.

**Register** with Bill Graham on [graham.br63@grapevine.com.au](mailto:graham.br63@grapevine.com.au) with your name and phone number and the phone and number of your emergency contact.

**Bring** sturdy shoes, gaiters, hat, sunscreen and morning tea.

Bill Graham

### Tuesday 30 August to Friday 2 September – Tathra

**This trip was to take place last year but was postponed due to Covid. First priority was given to those who had signed up for 2021. Several of those people are unavailable this year and there is one place available.**

**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



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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 (BYO meals 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 at [prue.watters@gmail.com](mailto:prue.watters@gmail.com), providing their name and mobile number, and the name and mobile number of an emergency contact.

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).

Prue Watters - 0414 357 456

### Sunday 4 September – venue required

The first weekend of spring but no COG field trip unless someone volunteers to lead an outing to a place of their choosing. Contact Sue Lashko at [smlashko@gmail.com](mailto:smlashko@gmail.com) if you can help.

### Monday 12 to Friday 16 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 16. The quarters have showers and a new kitchen.

Yathong is about 600 kms from Canberra and should take about 6 ½ hours to get there, plus stops, 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 and clothing suitable for all kinds of weather. The weather in spring can be quite unsettled (rain is not uncommon) so be prepared.

Register with Sue Lashko – [smlashko@gmail.com](mailto:smlashko@gmail.com); please provide your name(s) and mobile number, and the name and number of an emergency contact.

Note that NSW NPWS has given provisional permission for this trip but it may be cancelled or dates changed if NPWS programmes change or are affected by weather.

### Tuesday 4 to Friday 7 October – Grenfell area – mid-week accommodated

This is advance notice of a 4 day trip to the Grenfell area. Participants will need to arrange their own accommodation in Grenfell. Visits will be made to **Bimbi State Forest, Weddin Mountains NP, Warraenderry State Forest and other birding spots around Grenfell**. The trip will be limited to 16 people, who will carpool each day from Grenfell in 4 vehicles. Early registration is encouraged. Contact Bill Graham on [graham.br63@grapevine.com.au](mailto:graham.br63@grapevine.com.au), giving your name, mobile number and the name and number of an emergency contact. Once your registration is confirmed, it would be advisable to book your accommodation.

Bill Graham and Kim Farley

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## Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 October – Eden Pelagics

Advance notice of two pelagic trips leaving from Eden. The boat will leave Eden at 7am each day, travel to the edge of the shelf, and return at approximately 3pm. There should still be some albatrosses around and a good range of shearwaters and petrels, as well as storm petrels and jaegers, and whales. Participants will need to arrange their own accommodation nearby. A day at sea is quite tiring so, if you go on the Sunday trip, it is recommended that you do not drive back to Canberra that same day. The cost of each trip will be approximately \$130. You must be a COG member to register (so don't forget to renew your membership for 2022-23).

As there is a lot of interest in pelagics, **initially** I will accept registrations **ONLY** from those who have not been on a COG pelagic since 2019. There are 10 places available each day.

**From 15 July**, registration will be open to all members.

**To register**, send your name, mobile number and the name and number of an emergency contact to [smlashko@gmail.com](mailto:smlashko@gmail.com). Please also advise whether you wish to go on Saturday 29, Sunday 30 or either day.

Further details and arrangements for payments will be sent to participants once numbers are finalised.

Sue Lashko

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## COG's cogs No 13 - Nicki Taws

In this month's edition on the cogs of COG we meet Nicki Taws, a long time COG member and Records Officer.

Nicki can't remember a time when she wasn't fascinated by birds, but she credits the influence of her mother, who was a keen member of the Bird Observers Club. Together they went on many BOC outings, and even contributed to the first Atlas of Australian Birds in the late 1970s. Nicki has vivid memories of shivering through **Orange-bellied Parrot** surveys on the windswept saltmarshes of Western Port Bay, and of sightings of a **Regent Honeyeater** at Blackburn Lake. The area is now a solid suburban environment.

Nicki came to Canberra in 1993 and immediately zeroed in on COG as a way to get to know the local birds and the like-minded people who loved them. Once in COG, it didn't take long for Nicki's interest in recording observations and using the data to get the bigger picture of birds through time and space to be put to good use. She became involved in a number of COG surveys such as the Garden Bird Survey and the Mulligans Flat surveys which then expanded to become the Woodland Bird Monitoring Program.

When COG received some ACT government funding to undertake a survey of honeyeater migration along the Murrumbidgee River, she became involved in coordinating the volunteers. It was apparent that the COG community had many skilled bird watchers who were keen to take up opportunities for citizen science, and Nicki utilised this resource when coordinating surveys of birds in revegetation on farms for Greening Australia, and more recently the K2C surveys south of Canberra. Most recently she has taken on running the annual Bird Blitz.

Nicki has been the Records Officer for many years, receiving the many paper record forms submitted by members, checking, numbering and sending them off for data entry. As digital alternatives become the norm, this has become a diminishing job. Increasingly members are moving to online data entry through eBird and Birddata. Nevertheless, Nicki continues to contribute to the Annual Bird Report and sits on the Rarities Committee. After all, there's always more work to be done.

### *Acknowledgements*

Nathan Finger and Nicki Taws

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# Field Trip Reports

## Sunday 1 May - Picaree Hill

Twelve members met at the Hall Primary School car park to car pool for the 30 minute drive to Picaree Hill, a private conservation reserve on Dick Creek's Road.



Tree Troff drinker, see [WIRES Major Water Project to Help Wildlife](#) for further information.

The 800 h reserve consists of a variety of woodland habitats ranging from dry stony ridges to relatively lush creeks in the valleys. Of interest is that the area last experienced a wild fire in 1957, an interval of approximately 65 years and that there had been no stock in the area since 1990. The 7 km walk, in perfect weather, took 3 ½ hours during which we recorded 32 species, a good count considering the 67 species listed in the Management Plan for the area.

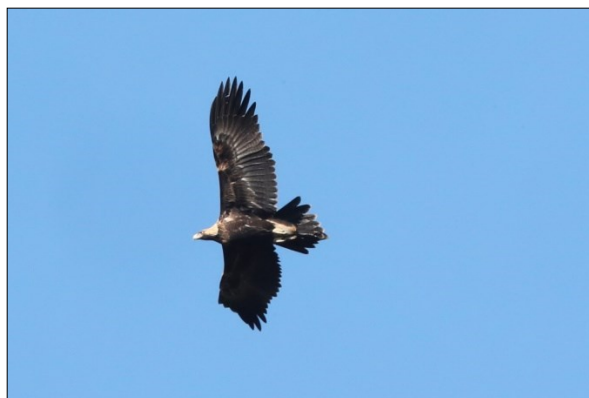
Half-way through the walk we stopped for morning tea at one of the five Tree Troff drinkers set up in the Sanctuary. A pair of Gang-gangs paid us a visit during our stop but did not use the facilities provided.

Most of the species recorded were expected for the type of habitat although a group of five interacting **Scarlet Robins** and a group of **Varied Sittella** were a bonus, whilst an adult **Wedge-tailed Eagle** with an attending begging young told us that it was time for the young to fend for itself. For a complete list of species seen see [eBird Checklist - 1 May 2022 - Picaree Hill - 32 species](#)

Many thanks to Deb and Christine Butt for allowing us access to the Reserve and to David Dedenczuk for keeping the bird list.  
Chris Davey

## Sunday 5 June – Mt Arawang

Eight intrepid members met at 9am, despite the forecast for rain. It looked as if we would manage to miss the bad weather, as we set out from the entrance on Namatjira Drive. We welcomed new members, Jeff and Julie Byron, who had recently moved from Sydney. Some of the party crossed the stormwater levy to identify birds, in a small mixed feeding flock, which were heard on the side of the hill. A **Golden Whistler** was heard making its winter “seep” call, and we took some time to ensure that all members of the party saw it, albeit briefly, before it flew off. As we continued to walk clockwise around the base of the hill and turned the corner on the south side, we were grateful that we had donned extra layers, as the wind blew and then we had some drizzle. The drizzle didn't last long and when we found ourselves on the leeward side of the hill it was quite pleasant. The species count was very low, until we came upon an acacia on the northern side of the Hill, where we added eight species, including a **Crescent Honeyeater**, **White-eared Honeyeater**, **Eastern Spinebill**, **Red Wattlebird** and **Yellow-faced Honeyeater**. In all, 21 species were recorded.  
Lia Battison



Wedge-tailed Eagle

Alison Milton

## Saturday 11 June - Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve - Superb Lyrebird Survey

The 19th annual survey of the **Superb Lyrebird**, designed to provide an index of population numbers within the Reserve since the 2003 bushfires, was run under good conditions with a cool morning, a gusty wind and clear skies.

Unfortunately this year we were unable to survey all tracks with just nine COG members and friends assembled at the car park by 8.00 am. Due to the lack of volunteers with previous survey experience it was decided that we would cover Gibraltar Rocks, Ashbrook Trail and Camel Back to best give a representative sample of counts from previous years.

Counts were as follows, Gibraltar Rocks - 2 (1), Devil's Gap - not counted (2), Fishing Gap - not counted (3), Ashbrook - 2 (2), Camel Back - 8 (16), with Lyrebird/Cascades not counted. Figures in brackets are numbers reported last year.

Two of the transects provided counts that would be expected from previous years but the number counted along the Camel Back Trail was much lower than the 16 counted the previous year. Conditions had been blustery so a recount was conducted a week later when the weather conditions were ideal. The recount provided one additional bird only, so confirming survey repeatability. The count for this trail is therefore given as nine (see Figure 1).

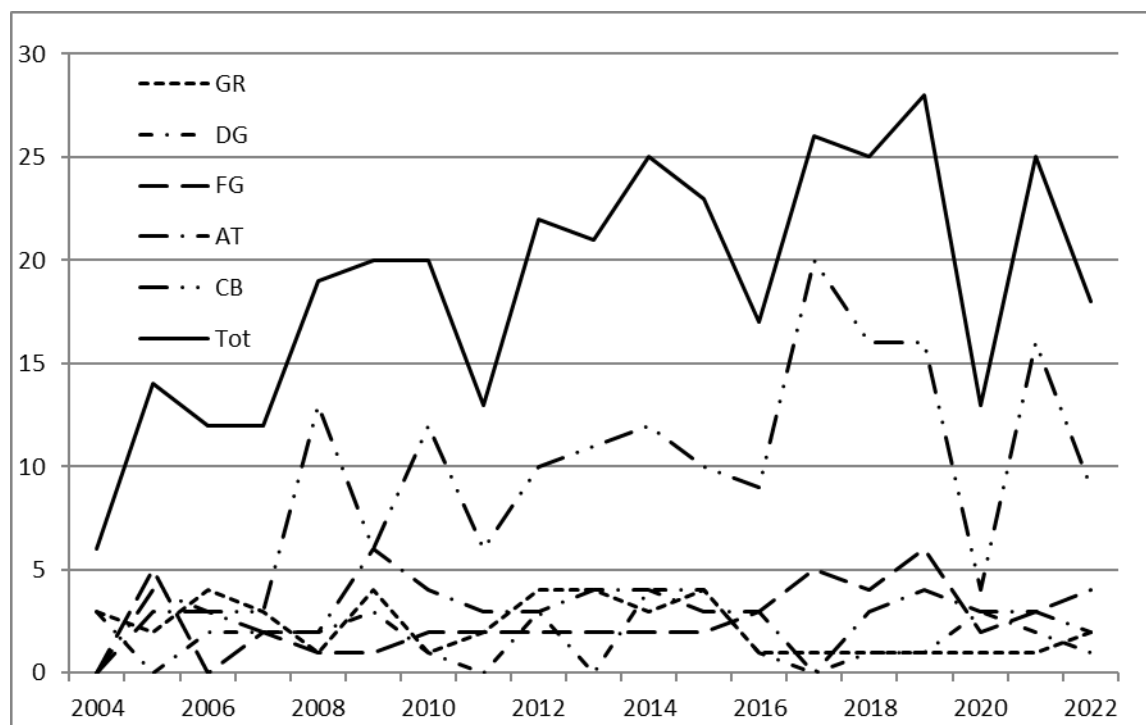


Figure 1. Numbers of Superb Lyrebirds recorded from walking trails at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, 2004-2022. GR- Gibraltar Rocks, DG-Devils Gap, FG-Fishing Gap, AT-Ashbrook Trail, CB-Camel Back, Tot-Total number of birds.



COG members counting **Superb Lyrebirds** in the snow, Camel Back Trail, Tidbinbilla NR

In general, over the past five years, the numbers for Devil's Gap, Fishing Gap and Lyrebird/Cascades have remained relatively constant, giving an average of 1, 4 and 2 respectively. As in previous years, the numbers from Lyrebird /Cascades are not included in the total because this trail has only been surveyed since 2017. We therefore assume a total count for this year to be 18, down from the total of 25 the previous year.

During the survey, 28 bird species were recorded with the number seen depending very much on the trail walked: Gibraltar Rocks - 24, Devil's Gap - not counted, Fishing Gap - not counted, Ashbrook - 11, and Camel Back - 11, with Lyrebird/Cascades Trail not counted. There was a similar number of species as last year. Birds not reported previously on the Lyrebird survey included **Brown Falcon**, **Willie Wagtail**, **Welcome Swallow** and **Rose Robin**. The total number of species recorded over the 19 surveys now stands at 58.

Apart from the four years after the 2003 fires, the Camel Back Trail has always recorded the greatest number of Lyrebirds. Of interest is that it is now becoming obvious to the casual observer that the understory along this trail is starting to thin



out, probably a natural progression of habitat regeneration after the 2003 fires. What effect this will have on Lyrebird counts is unknown. A result of this thinning was that on the second survey of the trail a Lyrebird could be observed and recorded for a period of 20 minutes in full display, a sight not seen previously.

Many thanks to all of the volunteers.  
Chris Davey

### Wednesday 15 June - Birrigai Time Trail

The outing on the Birrigai trail was on a cold but pleasant morning with no wind. Walking from the Tidbinbilla carpark, we tried the small groups of trees further up the slope, finding several smaller species. A couple of **Emus** were crossing the grassland area, but not a single Flame Robin was seen. What a contrast to several years ago when there were dozens in this area! **Grey Shrike-thrushes** and **White-throated Treecreepers** were calling along the Time Trail, and **Striated Thornbills** were seen several times. After many in the group had a look at the rock shelter we enjoyed the great views from the top of the rise. At the dam a few species were sighted briefly, and along the track back to the carpark we kept watch for the **Fan-tailed Cuckoo** which has been seen in the area. After most had departed, Lindell was shown a photo of said cuckoo - unfortunately only the photographer had seen it.

Sandra Henderson

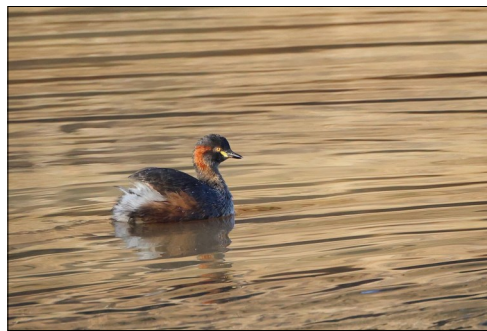
### Sunday 19 June – McQuoids Hill

Twenty-one members and friends assembled in fine, still conditions to walk the circuit track around McQuoids Hill, Kambah, led by Sandra Henderson. Progress was slow as mixed flocks lured us off the track and up the slopes at various points. A **Restless Flycatcher** was heard from our starting point and soon located. This bird, or possibly a second one, seemed to follow us round the hill, affording very good views. Three **Scarlet Robins** posed for the photographers. Small flocks of **Double-Barred Finches** showed themselves at two sites, with larger numbers of **Red-Browed Finches**. Keen ears identified **Speckled Warblers** (2), and thornbills were present in substantial numbers (**Yellow-rumped**, **Buff-rumped** and **Brown**), along with many **Weebills** and **Silvereyes**, including the Tasmanian race. The dams provided some waterfowl in the form of **Australasian Grebes** and **Pacific Black Duck**. Two **Black-Shouldered Kites**, one an immature bird, were seen hunting, and later one came under attack from an irate **Maggie-Lark**. A pair of **Wedge-Tailed Eagles** made an appearance shortly before we dispersed. A total of 42 species was recorded. Thanks are due to Sandra for leading the walk and sharing her extensive local knowledge.

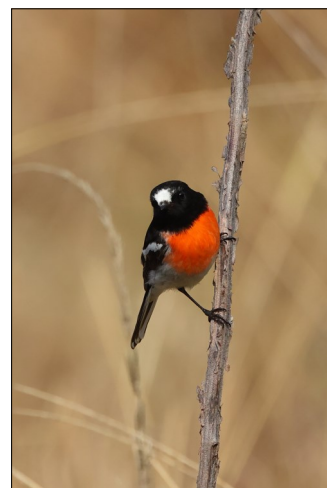
Kevin Windle



Double-barred Finch, Australasian Grebe, Scarlet Robin

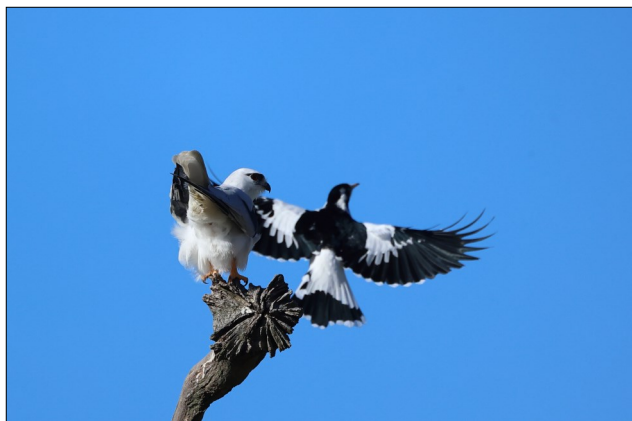


Marcus Hellyer



### Sunday 26 June - Yanunubeyan NR

Bright and early on a cold, but clear and sunny June morning, 12 COG members and guests left Queanbeyan for the little-known and -visited Yanunubeyan State Conservation Area (SCA). The convoy of three vehicles negotiated the narrow unsealed Woolcara Lane, crossing several cattle grids and traversing a little mud before reaching the lovely sub-alpine woodland of the SCA. We did a circuit of a very frosty Apple Box Flat, noting the clear air, the blue sky, the lovely box trees and ice on the dam. Perhaps because of the cold conditions, birds were subdued and more were heard than seen. Nonetheless, at this site, we saw and heard 15 species, with a highlight being an **Eastern Whipbird** - the first eBird listing for the location. The avifauna seemed to be mainly that of wet sclerophyll, with **White-Eared Honeyeaters**, **Striated** and **Brown Thornbills**, and **Superb Lyrebird** observed or heard.



**Black-shouldered Kite and Magpie Lark, McQuoids Hill trip**  
*Marcus Hellyer*

Thereafter the party drove the few kilometres south to the more open Spring Creek area with its expansive views of the forest-mantled hills of the nearby Yanunubeyan National Park. Here too, birds were few in number, but we persevered, crossing the creek and walking three kilometres to the end of the road. The woodland changed in character somewhat, with Brittle Gums becoming dominant. By this time, birds had warmed up, growing more active and were more apparent to the party. A pair of **Scarlet Robins** was a highlight of the 17 species seen in this second location. All in all, a very enjoyable mid-winter morning in a new destination.

David Dedenczuk



**Brown Falcon, White-throated Treecreeper**  
*Marcus Hellyer*



Neil Hermes Safaris – birding tours this year

- July 12-14 **BIRDS OF HIGHLANDS AND JERVIS BAY TOUR**  
 Three days exploring the best bird spots on the Southern Highlands and Jervis Bay, includes Barren Grounds Nature Reserve and Booderee National Park. Ex Canberra Includes motel accommodation. 3 day 2 nights Led by Mark Clayton and Neil Hermes \$795pp
- August 13 **SEABIRD PELAGIC CRUISE ex Jervis Bay**  
 Six hour boat cruise from Jervis Bay to shelf. Big comfortable charter boat. Great outside viewing points. Also large enclosed lounge with toilets etc. Seabird experts on hand. Hope for lots of lifers \$275 pp
- Sept 2-9 **BIRDS AND HISTORY NORFOLK ISLAND**  
 8 day fully escorted tour of Norfolk Island. General interest tour of Norfolk' plus its wildlife and history. Includes airfare from Sydney, motel accommodation, car hire. Ex Sydney Led by Neil and Michael Hermes \$2539pp
- Sept 26-30 **BIRDS OF THE NSW MID NORTH COAST**  
 For bird watchers to explore the best rainforest and coastal locations on NSW mid north coast and ranges. Includes motel accommodation Ex Canberra. 5 day 4 nights Led by Mark Clayton and Neil Hermes \$1350pp
- Oct 10-14 **MELIPHAGA MAGIC TOUR**  
 Our spring hunt for honeyeaters and other inland birds. Includes Round Hill Nature Reserve and the famous Chat alley. Includes motel accommodation Ex Canberra 5 day 4 nights Led by Mark Clayton and Neil Hermes \$1250pp
- Nov 10-12 **ON TRAIL OF THE PLAINS WANDERER**  
 A days birding in the Deniliquin area followed by a night-time watching the elusive Plains wanderer. Great for lifers list. 3 day 2 nights \$895pp Led by Philip Maher and Neil Hermes Includes motel accommodation Ex Canberra
- 2023 June TBA **PARADISE BIRDS - TASTE OF NEW GUINEA**  
 7 day 6 nights exploring the birds of Cairns and Port Moresby Highlights Birds of Paradise, bowerbirds and Palm Cockatoos Led by Mark Clayton and Neil Hermes Tour is open for expressions of interest, details to come.

Book at [neilhermes.com.au/safaris/](http://neilhermes.com.au/safaris/)  
 Enquiries at [neil@neilhermes.com.au](mailto:neil@neilhermes.com.au)

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# New Places: June 2022

Sandra Henderson

## Yanununbeyan State Conservation Area

On Sunday 26th I joined the COG outing to Yanununbeyan SCA, on Woolcara Lane. My own patchy old records indicate I visited the area about ten years ago, but I can't recall any of that earlier visit. We started our day at the Apple Box picnic area. It was very cold, and the birds were quiet.

There was a **Superb Lyrebird** calling on the slopes above the picnic area, as well as an **Eastern Whipbird**, and **White-eared Honeyeaters** were around. Striated Thornbills were busy in the treetops. Further down the track we left the cars, and after morning tea overlooking the creek we walked to the property entrance some distance along the road. A pair of Scarlet Robins, a good-sized group of **Brown-headed Honeyeaters** and several **White-throated Treecreepers** were the highlights. At our morning tea spot overlooking the creek not a single bird was seen or heard! I will try to get out there again in spring - while it was a perfect winter's day, the sheets of ice on small ponds we encountered were proof of the very cold conditions. The track to the SCA is currently "interesting" at one spot - thick mud which had to be approached with "just keep going" in mind. Two **Brown Falcons** were seen on the way out through the grazing property.

## Simpsons Hill

**Where:** Enid Lorimer Cr, Chisholm, across the road from the historic Tuggeranong Schoolhouse.

This site has an Anzac Memorial, created on the 75th anniversary of the Anzac landing. The signage incorporates some artwork by children from local primary schools. There are spectacular views across the Tuggeranong Valley from the high points of the hill.



### Feathers'n'Friends

#### 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](http://www.feathersnfriends.com.au)**

Fred & Jeanette Birkbeck

244 Clacherty Road  
Julatten QLD 4871  
Tel: 07 4094 1665

Email: [freddy@feathersnfriends.com.au](mailto:freddy@feathersnfriends.com.au)

The hill includes several patches of woodland, has directional posts with maps in several places, and there are paths around and over the hill. The woodland patches yielded a couple of **Golden Whistlers**, groups of **Weebills**, both Pardalote species, and many **Pied Currawongs** were coming and going.

Well worth a repeat visit in warmer months..

## Yarralumla Horse Paddocks

This was an opportunistic "new place". While walking along the shared path beside the Molonglo River near the Tuggeranong Parkway I noticed a step-thru gate on the high side of the track. It led into some grassland, with a narrow foot track, and it soon became obvious I was in a horse paddock, but I wasn't sure which one until I found the sign on the edge of the horse yards. The main entrance is on Cotter Road close to the tracks into the other equine facilities.

A large flock of **Welcome Swallows** was hawking over the paddocks, and a Willie Wagtail was also darting around through the clouds of insects. **Red-rumped Parrots** and **White-plumed Honeyeaters** were the other nice birds around the yards.

Not an exciting find, but adds to the list of government horse paddocks I've visited.

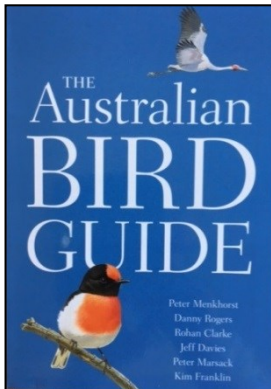


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## Publications for Sale

COG provides a range of birdwatching related publications for sale to members at discounted prices (around 10-30% off RRP).

Below are some of the most popular books and latest publications. We get new books in all the time and sometimes popular books sell out, but they can easily be re-ordered. If you are looking for a particular book, talk to the sales desk team at the meeting, as they can look at ordering it for you or contact Kathy on [sales@canberrabirds.org.au](mailto:sales@canberrabirds.org.au)



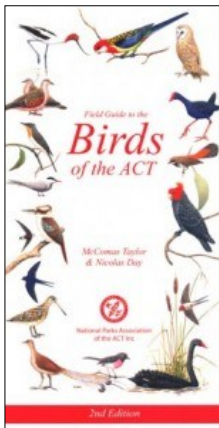
### The Australian Bird Guide

2<sup>nd</sup> edition

*Peter Menkhorst, Danny Rogers, Rohan Clarke, Jeff Davies, Peter Marsack, Kim Franklin*

The most comprehensive field guide to Australian birds ever seen and winner of the 2017 Whitley Medal. The guide features around 4700 colour illustrations, with particular emphasis on providing the fine detail required to identify difficult groups and distinctive plumages. Comprehensive species accounts have been written by a dedicated team of ornithologists to ensure identification details, distribution and status are current and accurate.

**Members' price \$38 (RRP \$49.95).**

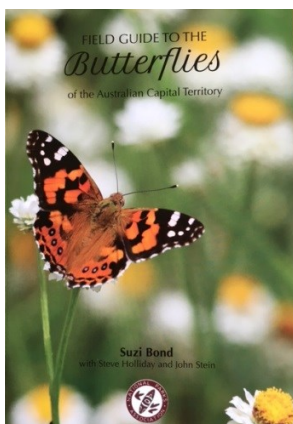


### Field Guide to the Birds of the ACT

*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.**



### Field Guide to the Butterflies of the ACT

*Suzi Bond, with Steve Holliday and John Stein*

A beautiful book with detailed notes and photographs of the wide range of butterflies found across the Australian Capital Territory.

Dr Suzi Bond is a member of COG and a Visiting Fellow at the ANU where she researches the butterflies found in the ACT. Her research is driven by a fascination for our local butterfly fauna and a desire to better understand their populations and ecology. With contributions from Steve Holliday and John Stein this book is a must for anyone interested in the butterflies of the ACT.

**Members' price: \$27.**



## 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

2021-2022 memberships:

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

## New members

COG welcomes the following new members:

C Zygadlo  
S Marks  
P Doyle  
S Jones  
C McInnes  
E Belton

## NEXT NEWSLETTER

**Deadline for August 2022 edition:**

**Wednesday 27 July 2022**

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

[gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au](mailto: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 library

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for change of address or other details.

### Gang-gang Newsletter

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**Lay-out Editor:** Gail Neumann

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## COG E-mail Discussion List

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