



Gang-gang

May 2023

Newsletter of the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc.

MAY MEETING

Wednesday 10 May 2023

7.30 pm

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

The May meeting will be a normal face-to-face one held at our usual venue. Attendees should heed social distancing and good hygiene practice etc, and use their common sense and stay home if they have COVID symptoms. Mask wearing is recommended.

Michael Lenz - Dynamics of Eurasian Coots on two suburban Ponds in Canberra over seven years, including two La Niña events.

Melissa Snape - Connecting Nature, Connecting People: implications for woodland birds.

The short presentation will be by **Michael Lenz** and Julie Clark entitled "**Dynamics of Eurasian Coots on two suburban Ponds in Canberra over seven years, including two La Niña events.**"

The Australian race of the Eurasian Coot has some notable features: numbers can fluctuate widely, and birds respond to good rainfall in the interior and move there to breed and disperse afterwards. We counted Coots on Yerrabi Pond, Gungahlin, and West Belconnen

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

The weather for the first part of the 4.5 weeks from 26 March to 25 April inclusive covered by this column was quite wet and rapidly becoming colder. This was until a significant rain event on 7 April, after which it dried out and for the last 10 days a long stable high came over, the first such I can remember for a number of years. So, we enjoyed warm still days with maximums in the low 20s and with as yet no frost. Compared with the first two months of the year, bird activity in the COG Area of Interest (Aoi) seems to have been relatively high, with some late sightings of spring/summer migrants, and with the honeyeaters seeming in no hurry to migrate. Some of the autumn/winter altitudinal migrants have also been slow to arrive.

After a slow start, with only 2 other reports in March after Andrea and I first observed it on the Molonglo River Woodland Track on 22 March, the **Spotted Harrier** attracted much of the attention, particularly after Easter. Most of the sightings were from this woodland track, but others were nearby, and all were

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Spotted Harrier

Julian Robinson

Everyone welcome

Pond, Dunlop, in Canberra monthly over seven years. Two times in that period La Niña dominated the weather. The talk focusses on the response of Coots to this weather phenomenon.

The main presentation will be by **Melissa Snape**, Senior Urban Ecologist, Conservation Research Unit, ACT Government on: **“Connecting Nature, Connecting People: implications for woodland birds.”**

Canberra's network of nature reserves, forests and urban green spaces provide important areas of habitat for biodiversity conservation, as well as providing opportunities for community connection with nature and Country. As our city grows, the combined influences of habitat loss, fragmentation and climate change pose a serious threat to native plant and animal conservation, and the wellbeing of our community. Connecting Nature Connecting People (CNCP) is an ACT Government initiative designed to address these complex issues. This talk will provide an overview of the CNCP project as a whole, and also present outcomes from the ACT Urban Habitat and Connectivity Project with a focus on small woodland birds.

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

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within the triangle bounded by John Gorton Drive and the large bend in the Molonglo River between Coppins Crossing and Edgeworth Parade (Holden's Creek) Pond. It does seem to roam over this area, with it being a matter of luck if you stumble upon it, and with many observers needing to make a number of visits before they finally located it. There have been many great photos of this beautifully marked adult bird, often in flight very low over the rank grass/weeds, but also when first perched on the top metal piping rail of the extensive fencing there. It was still recorded on 25 April, having stayed for over a month in this area. The exact reason is unclear, but it must have found some very good food sources there. Interestingly another bird was reported on Murrumbateman Rd, Gundaroo, on 23 April, but otherwise the nearest report during the period was from Urana, well over 200 km to the west. However, I expect there may be more around, so please keep an eye out for them, particularly when they are flying very low over grassland.

While receiving less attention than in March, the **Intermediate Egret** was recorded from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR throughout the period, with a maximum of 5 birds on 3 different days. It has also been reported from 4 other locations, with again a maximum of 5 birds at Wet Lagoon, Breadalbane, on 2 April. It certainly seems to have been present for much longer and in greater numbers than I can remember. There were no further reports of the **Little Egret** during the period, though the **Great Egret** was also widely reported from 14 locations compared with 9 in March.

There has also been an influx of **Royal Spoonbills** over the period, with this species reported from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR as well as 8 other locations. The maximum at the latter was 9 birds at the farm dam on Lake Rd on 9 April, whereas the maximum at the former was 24 birds on 7 April. The day before Shorty counted 22 birds there, all of which were juveniles. This was attributed to birds dispersing following the excellent breeding season inland, with Kim Farley noting there were not just spoonbills out there but many other waterbirds such as **White-necked Herons**, recorded from 14 COG AoI locations during the period. So please keep an eye out for a further dispersal of waterbird species as the inland dries out with the end of La Niña.

Of the early leaving spring/summer migrants still reported in the previous period, there have been no further reports of the **Common Cicadabird** and **Rufous Songlark**, which were last reported on 25 February and 4 March, respectively. However, there was a late report of the **White-winged Triller** from Campbell Park on 28 March (previous latest was 15 March).

Of the 3 species which usually leave by mid-March, there was still a report of the **Dollarbird** heard on 2 April at Brooklands Reserve in the Yass Valley, and then a very late report of a sub-adult bird with dull plumage and bill not quite red from Mulligans Flat NR on 18 April. The **Rainbow Bee-eater** has also stayed very late, with reports from 4 locations during the period, the latest being of 6 birds flying north over Brooklands Reserve on 2 April (there was also a very late report of one heard over Naas Rd at Apollo Rd on 25 April). The **Sacred Kingfisher** was also reported from 4 locations, but interestingly (as it usually stays the longest) the most recent was on 31 March from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR.

Of the other birds that mostly have left by the end of March/early April, there was only a single late report of the inland **Pallid Cuckoo**, a juvenile at Molonglo River woodland track on 1 April (otherwise 21 March). Likewise, there was a single late report of the inland **Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo** from Namarag – Molonglo River Reserve on 22 April (otherwise the latest report was on 19 March). In contrast there have been no reports of the coastal **Shining Bronze-cuckoo** during the period (latest report on 21 March), but there was also a late report of a **Brush Cuckoo** on 3 April from upper Bendora Road (otherwise latest 24 March). Again, in contrast there were reports of the **Fan-tailed Cuckoo**, the least migratory local cuckoo, from 17 locations. However, there were no confirmed reports of adult **Eastern Koels** (latest 18 March) though fledgling/juveniles were still reported (see below).

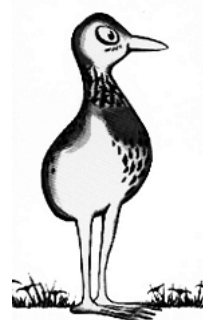
The **Latham's Snipe** was also not reported during the period, with the last of Lori Gould's tracked birds leaving Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR late afternoon on 19 March. The **White-throated Needletail** was still reported from 2 locations, 3 birds over Point Hut Rd farm dam on 26 March and then a late observation of 2 birds photographed over Griffith on 14 April. The related **Fork-tailed Swift** was again not reported during the period, with so far in 2023 only the single report of 6 birds in mid-January.

Of the passage migrants, the **Rufous Fantail** was still reported from 6 locations, three of these being from the mountains west of the Murrumbidgee River (most recently from Square Rock and Smokers Flat track on 6 April), with the other 3 peri-urban (latest 2 April). The **Satin Flycatcher** was reported from 2 locations, one of unspecified sex passing through Wamboin on 28 March and the second a male at Mcleods Creek NR Gundaroo on 2 April. However, there was a very late report of a female (identified by the photos clearly showing the buff-edged wing feathers and the darker undertail) by 2 different observers at Bluetts Block on 22 April.

The **Leaden Flycatcher** was still reported from 7 locations during the period the latest being from Mt Majura NR on 12 April. In most cases there was no photo or description including the sex; as noted above if they were a female/juvenile (as many are in autumn) they are very difficult to distinguish from the **Satin Flycatcher**, which at that time may have been passing through otherwise unsuitable habitat.

The **Australian Reed-Warbler** was reported from around 19 locations and was still present up to the time of writing. Likewise, the **Tree Martin** was reported from about 10 locations, also up to the time of drafting this column. **Fairy Martins** were reported from 4 locations, most recently 2 birds from Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club on 18 April.

Of the species which usually leave during April the **Western** and **White-throated Gerygone** were still reported from 7 (last of 3 of these on 8 April) and 15 locations (last on 7 April from Red Hill NR, apart from a late report of one of the latter heard on Molonglo River woodland track on 25 April), respectively, during the period. However, the **Noisy Friarbird** was still reported from well over 50 locations throughout the period, and the **Rufous Whistler** and **Grey Fantail** from close to 70 and well over 100 locations, respectively. A number of these last three species will



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Plains-wanderer Weekend

4/5 November 2023

2024 tours

Kutini – Payamu Tour

(Iron Range NP) Wet Season

4 to 10 January 2024

Cairns to Lockhart River

Far North Queensland

1 to 14 May 2024

Part 1: Atherton Tablelands,
Part 2: Musgrave, Archer River,
Kutini – Payamu (Iron Range NP)

Top End Birding Tour

20 June to 3 July 2024

Part 1: Darwin, Kakadu NP, Pine Creek,
Katherine,

Part 2: Victoria River, Timber Creek,
Kununurra. Optional Black Grasswren air
charter to Mitchell Plateau

Strzelecki Track Outback Tour

September 2024

Please contact Patricia Maher
for information & itineraries.

www.philipmaher.com

overwinter, as will the **Mistletoebird** (still reported from 9 locations) and the **Superb Parrot** still present at over 30 locations (11 south of the lake).

So please keep an eye out for the last of these spring/summer migrants, a few individuals of which seem to be staying quite late. Watch out too for the **Dusky Woodswallow** and **Olive-backed Oriole** (still present at around 50 and 23 locations, respectively), most of which usually leave by mid-May but some of which will also overwinter.

Of the species that return to Canberra and its surrounds from the mountains and higher country to spend autumn/winter here, over the period the **White-eared Honeyeater** and the **Golden Whistler** clearly moved into urban and peri-urban locations (around 20 and over 40 locations, respectively). Likewise, the **Scarlet Robin** also moved significantly into these areas, close to 50 such locations compared with just 11 such locations in March. As usual the **Flame Robin** has been much slower to do so, reported from around 11 such locations of the total of over 30 locations.

The **Rose Robin** has been reported from 8 urban/peri urban of a total of 16 locations, 5 of which were still from the mountains to the west of the Murrumbidgee River. There have been no further reports of the **Pink Robin** or of the inland species, the **Red-capped Robin**, anywhere in the COG Aol during the period. Two **Bassian Thrush** were photographed at the ANBG on 1 April, and it was also reported from two locations in the mountains during the period.

There has been only a single urban/peri urban report of the **Crescent Honeyeater** (from Chisholm on 18 April), with the other 5 locations being in the mountains to the west of the Murrumbidgee River. The first report of the **Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** in the COG Aol for 2023 was one heard at Gigerline NR West on 22 April. The only report so far of the **Swift Parrot** was 3 birds in Rocky Knob Park Narrabundah on 18 April; the closest report otherwise is from Mimosa Rocks NP, over 150 km to the SSE on 12 April.

So please look out for the above species as they continue to move into Canberra and surrounds during May.

The **Plumed Whistling Ducks** have returned to the COG Aol with one reported from Bungendore Sewage Treatment Plant on 1 April and then 2 from there on 9 April followed by up to 2 from Trucking Yard Lane dam from 10-24 April. Likewise, the **Freckled Duck** has returned with a single female recorded and photographed by many observers (16 records in eBird alone!) on 9 April with then no further sightings during the period (the closest is from Canowindra nearly 200 km to the NNW, as it was for the **Plumed Whistling Duck**). **Australian Shelducks** were reported from 8 locations to the east and north-east of Canberra during the period, with the highest numbers being over 230 in total from 2 spots on Wollagorang Rd on 23 April (there were also 64 at Trucking Yard Lane dam on 27 March).

Up to 4 **Blue-billed Ducks** were reported up to 11 April from 3 locations only during the period. In contrast, apart from the Tidbinbilla NR Sanctuary, up to 6 **Musk Ducks** (mostly single otherwise) were reported from 9 locations. **Great-crested Grebe** were reported from 2 locations, with up to 2 birds recorded at Cotter Dam and a single bird at Lake Ginninderra on 26 March.

Up to 5 **Stubble Quail** were reported from 3 locations only, suggesting limited calling. In contrast **Brown Quail** were reported from 13 locations, down from 18 in March. Up to 5 **Painted Button-quail** were reported from 5 locations, similar to March. On 10 April Patrick Cox found a small brownly-orange quail foraging on the roadside on Tidbinbilla Ring Rd, which he identified as a **Little Button-quail** by its size (about 10 cm long) and when flushed by a passing car it flew directly up vertically about 3 m into the cover of the foliage, showing its belly was a lighter warm colour.

There were no **White-headed Pigeon**, **Brush Bronzewing**, **Diamond** or **Bar-shouldered Doves** reported during the period, but 2 **Peaceful Doves** were reported from Cotter Rd on 26 March, and one was heard at Naas Rd at Apollo Rd on 23 April.

Spotless Crakes were reported from 4 locations, but the place to see them during the period has again been Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR from where they have been regularly reported with a maximum of 7 birds. Up to 3 **Australian Spotted Crakes** were still reported from the



Australian Spotted Crake

Victor Braguine

southern part of Ginninderry up to 1 April, with 2 then reported from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR during April. Again, no **Baillon's Crake** was reported during the period, which was also the case for the **Lewin's Rail**. However, up to 2 **Buff-banded Rails** were reported from 4 locations. The above species seem to be much less conspicuous during winter, so with the possible influx from the drying inland please keep an eye out for them.

No **Banded Lapwings**, **Red-necked Avocets**, **Red-necked Stints** or **Sharp-tailed Sandpipers** were reported during the period. However, the **Comb-crested Jacana** was still regularly reported from Rowes Lagoon north-east of Collector up to the time of writing. Also, the **Common Sandpiper** was still recorded from the northern end of Lake Tuggeranong up to 20 April, which is quite late so please keep checking in case it overwinters. No **Caspian Terns** or **Australian Little Bittern** were reported during the period, but 2 **Whiskered Terns** were reported from Lake Rd at the south-west corner of Lake George on 10 April.

A **Barn Owl** was photographed after dark on Ginninderry Conservation Corridor's Shepherds Walking Track on 9 April and was heard screeching there after dusk on 12 April, with another nocturnal record (at 4:53 am) from Symonston on 16 April. **Black-shouldered Kites** were reported from 25 locations during the period, an increase from the 16 in March (see also breeding below). The **Nankeen Kestrel** was reported from around 55 locations during the period, well up from the 34 in March. As noted above an adult **Spotted Harrier** was reported right through the period, but there were no reports of **Grey Goshawk**, **Pacific Baza**, **Black Kite** or **Black Falcon** during the period.

A single **Azure Kingfisher** was reported from Cotter Bend of the Cotter Reserve only on 2 and 5 April. No **Glossy Black-Cockatoos**, **Cockatiel**, **Greater Bluebonnets**, **Purple-crowned**, **Scaly-breasted** or **Little Lorikeets** were reported over the period. However, single **Turquoise Parrots** were reported from the Outpost, Yaouk on 3 April and then from Ingledene SF on 22 April and confirmed as a female by a number of observers on 25 April. Up to 3 **Musk Lorikeets** were reported from 7 locations during the period.

No **Singing**, **Spiny-cheeked** or **Scarlet Honeyeaters**, or **Little Friarbirds** were reported during the period. In contrast **Blue-faced Honeyeaters** were reported from 3 different locations, firstly one at Red Hill shops, a new location, on 10 April, followed by 3 at the ANU on 21 April. However, the most significant observations were three different locations in Commonwealth Park of 2, 3 and 5 birds respectively on 23 April. The last named contained photos of several immatures with the bare skin around the eye varying from olive to blue-grey, as did one of the 2 birds photographed there on 24 April (there were another 4 reports on 25 April). Whether these are the same as observed around the ANU on 12 March and/or from the breeding event in Acton Park in October 2022 is not clear.

Up to 5 **White-fronted Chat** were reported from 3 locations in Denman Prospect/Stromlo Forest Park area as well as from the National Arboretum, and a **White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike** was reported from nearby Bluetts Block by 2 different observers on 21 April. The latter is also the spot where many observers saw and photographed up to 2 **Chestnut-rumped Heathwrens** from 18 April (single birds were also reported from Carwoola and Googong Dam downstream picnic area on 10 and 11 April, respectively). However, no **Tawny Grassbirds** or **Zebra Finches** were reported during the period.



Chestnut-rumped Heathwren

Victor Braguine

Of the birds I have continued to ask readers to keep a special lookout for in 2023, 1 or 2 **Jacky Winters** have been reported from 5 locations, at the rural lease south of Tharwa on 26 March, Naas Rd at Apollo Rd on 1 April, the Outpost, Yaouk on 3 April, on Baroona Rd off Monaro Hwy on 5 April and at Namadgi NP Visitors Centre on 21 April. **Hooded Robins** were reported from 2 known locations, up to 3 at Naas Rd at Apollo Rd and a pair at Top Naas on 23 April, as well as 2 birds from the new location at Currawang on Lake George Rd on 2 April.

Restless Flycatchers were reported from 7 locations; a single bird heard on Point Hut Rd farm dam on 26 March, 2 birds at Nelanglo TSR on 30 March, a single bird on Baroona Rd on 2 and 17 April, as well as a late report of one at McQuoids Hill on 25 April. There were also late reports associated with K2C surveys of single birds at 2 locations (private property and the Strike-a Light TSR) on Bredbo-Jerangle Rd on 24 April and at Baroona Wetlands on 25 April. Quite a few of these reports possibly relate to a move into the COG Aol in autumn/winter which often seems to occur then.

While it was the second month of autumn with much bird movement, there has been a surprising amount of breeding reported including:

- On the quarterly COG Woodland Survey at the Majura Defence Training Area on 31 March, Barbara Allan and Kim Farley observed a juvenile **Scarlet Robin** and a young **Speckled Warbler** still being fed by an adult. It is a very late record for the former with the BIRD INFO data on the COG website indicating dependent young only up to February, though for the latter there are 4 such records in April and a further one in May.
- On 11 April John Hurrell photographed a **Black-shouldered Kite** on a nest at Molonglo River Reserve. Earlier on 24 March Michael Lenz reported a pair with 2 immature birds, each young paired with 1 adult at West Belconnen Pond. There have been other reports of copulation, etc, so please look out for more breeding evidence from this well-known autumn/winter breeder (as it did extensively in 2022).
- On 23 April Geoffrey Dabb visited Queanbeyan Sewage Ponds (lower) which is actually in the ACT. More than 30 **Great Cormorants** were associated with nests on the 2 floating platforms. There were 9 nests that he could see; Geoffrey believed that, going by the number of dependent young, all were either being used or had been used in the recent/current season. One nest contained at least 3 nestlings, and another was apparently the home of 4 older young. While the BIRD INFO data confirms this is another autumn breeder, there are surprisingly few records in total including from this hot spot. This is possibly due to the fact, as Geoffrey noted, that it has been neglected by eBirders, with the most recent list from there dated 26 October 2019!
- I had thought my **Eastern Koel** fledgling season was well and truly over, not having seen one since 1 March, when on 4 April I heard the unmistakable begging and traced it to a spindly gum in amongst the casuarinas on the eastern side of the Stirling netball courts. It was still being attended by a couple of **Red Wattlebirds** and had a golden crown and the tail did not appear to be fully developed, so was a relatively recent one. While I could not find it again after the 7 April (Good Friday) rain event, there have also been a number of records from Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR with one still heard begging on 24 March and one with its development stage not noted (possibly an adult?) on 26 March. This was followed by 8 separate records of



Great Cormorants, Queanbeyan Sewage Ponds (lower)

Geoffrey Dabb

juveniles, quite a few with photographs, from 28 March to 17 April. This is the second latest in the season for juvenile **Eastern Koels** to still have been recorded, the latest being 24 April in the bumper season of 2020-2021. Only one of these was noted as still begging (on 5 April), so it is expected most may have been on their way north on migration. Some support for this may be from 4 separate records there on the morning of 11 April with 3 of them spaced over a kilometre. How these young birds know that they must fly north, and particularly when some of them have only recently become independent, is a mystery to me. I expect the casualty rate for these is pretty high. It is hard to know how many of these were actually different, but my tentative tally for the 2022-2023 is 164, a bit down on the 177 in 2021-2022.

Many mixed feeding flocks (MFFs) have come to my attention, especially from the COG woodland surveys around the beginning of April. The ones that particularly caught my attention were two mixed feeding/migrating flocks, reported by Christine D on 29 March. She noted both were on hill tops, and seemed to be slow moving, and even temporarily incorporating sedentary birds as they moved through. The first flock was late afternoon on Black Mountain summit. There were at least 20 female and immature **Golden Whistlers**, several **Grey Fantails**, a **Rufous Whistler**, some **White-throated Treecreepers**, and one **Rufous Fantail**. The second flock was on top of Red Hill. It comprised 50+ **Silvereyes**, at least 6 **Golden Whistlers** (again female and immature only), 2 **White-throated Gerygones**, several **Grey Fantails** and a female **Scarlet Robin**. Birds which seemed to temporarily join this group included **Superb Fairy-wrens** and **Red-browed Finch**.

It was certainly an interesting mix of spring/summer total (**White-throated Gerygone**, **Rufous Fantail** and most **Rufous Whistlers**) and partial (**Grey Fantail**, **Silvereye**) migrants, as well as altitudinal migrants (**Golden Whistler** and **Scarlet Robin**) and sedentary birds including the **White-throated Treecreeper**. However, except possibly for the very large numbers of **Golden Whistlers**, the makeup does not seem that unusual to me. My understanding is that these flocks form spontaneously from whatever species happen to be around; my two best MFFs for the period were both near dams but contained a very different mix of species.

Certainly, none of the species move through in similar urgency to the migrating honeyeaters, the season for which didn't seem to start to get going until 4 April. However, for more than the next fortnight after that relatively few were seen, including during the COG outing on 8 April (see separate report), with Michael Robbins confirming it continued to be slow and sporadic until the more favourable weather from 21 April. Even since then numbers have only been in the low hundreds rather than in thousands as occurs in some years. It certainly is the latest I can remember it stretching over for quite a few years; sometimes it is well and truly over by now. So please continue to keep an eye out for them including the **White-naped Honeyeater** for which relatively few have been reported to date in the flocks.

On 17 April Shorty posted that it seemed the early morning fog had prompted **Noisy Friarbirds** to gather and move on. A single flock of 33 briefly stopped on their way through Jerrabomberra Wetlands to let him count them. The most popular tree held 19 birds. Interestingly, while as noted above they were still widely reported during the period, I have seen very few all summer/autumn in my local patch of Chapman, Rivett, Cooleman Ridge and Narrabundah Hill.

So, during May please watch out for the last of the spring/summer migrants mentioned above, including those that may overwinter, for the remaining altitudinal migrants still to arrive, for MFFs and single species (including migrating) flocks, for roost sites and flights, and for any late autumn 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.



Freckled Duck

Victor Braguine

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

Committee News

The Canberra Birds (COG) committee met by Zoom on 20 April. Committee members welcomed Kim Farley following her appointment as a new general member. Many COG members will know Kim in another role, as the local eBird moderator, and her links to other ACT birders will be helpful.

The committee thanks local award-winning photographer Graham Gall for leading a walk at Jerrobomberra Wetlands during the Volunteers event on 23 April. The committee thanks all COG members, past and present, whose time and effort keep COG afloat. The committee also thanks everyone who has added a note to their membership form saying how they think they can help.

Recent Submissions

COG's submission to the Review of the Ginninderry Conservation Corridor Management Plan is on the website – <http://canberrabirds.org.au/conservation/cog-conservation-strategy/>.

This page has also been updated to list COG's current conservation priorities.

Neil Hermes *President* Alison Mackerras *Minutes Secretary*

Grapevine customers Make sure you advise change of email address

To ensure you continue to receive notice of publication of Gang-gang issues after the closure of the Grapevine service at the end of May, please advise Sandra (shirmax2931@gmail.com) of your new email address if you've previously been a Grapevine customer.



The eight card designs:

- **Australian magpie** at the National Arboretum Canberra
- **Australian white ibis** at the National Carillon, Canberra
- **Bush-stone curlews** at Mulligans Flat Woolshed
- **Crimson rosellas** at the National Gallery of Australia Skyspace
- **Galahs** at the Balloon Spectacular
- **Gang-gang cockatoos** at City Hill
- **Rainbow-crested cockatoo** at Black Mountain Tower
- **Tawny frogmouths** at Shine Dome

Canberra Birds 8-pack of greeting cards

Stock up on greeting cards, and be ready for all occasions!

Each fun and vibrant card pairs a different bird species with an iconic Canberra location. The cards are drawn by local cartoonist **Stuart McMillen**, a resident of Gorman Arts Centre, Braddon.

Greeting cards **\$6 each** or **8-packs for \$40**.

Shop directly via
stuartmcmillen.com/shop

Future Field Trips

COG Trips

Each participant must register prior to their chosen trip with their name and contact number and, before proceeding on the trip, must comply with the participant's responsibilities (wording follows). An emergency contact name and phone 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."

New birders and visitors are welcome. If you do not have your own binoculars, COG can lend you a pair, so please advise the trip leader when you register.

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.

Do NOT attend if you have tested positive for Covid, have been a close contact within the past 5 days, or have any Covid, cold or flu symptoms.

Sunday 30 April 2023 – 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. The TSR is currently leased, but South East Local Land Services are arranging for us to have access.

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

Meeting time and place: 8:00 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 your emergency contact's name and phone number.

Name of leader and contact details: David McDonald, email David [at] dnmcdonald.id.au, phone 0416 231 890.

Numbers limited: Yes, maximum 15.

Sunday 14 May – McQuoids Hill, Kambah

Meet at 9.00am. Map 27 D14 (UBD). Park at step-through access gate on the right hand side of the Kambah Pool Road. This is about 700 m from the roundabout where the Kambah Pool Rd crosses Allchin Cct/Barrett St, Kambah. The gate is opposite the start of the golf club driving range and about 400 m before the entry to the golf club.

Depending on the size, fitness and ability of the group, we'll either walk the perimeter track with short excursions into the bush, or we'll climb the hill and spend a little more time in the bushy bits. However, even if we do the later, we'll spend time in the grassy areas in hopes of seeing **Double-barred Finch** and/or **Diamond Firetail** and/or **Red-browed Finch**. Whichever route we take, we'll try to find **Speckled Warbler**, and keep an eye out for raptors.

Remember to bring water, and sunscreen and a hat. No booking required. If you have any questions contact Michael Robbins (mrobbins at home.netspeed.com.au)

Wednesday 17 May, Strathnairn to Shepherds Lookout

Meet in the carpark near the Link Building at McClymont Way, Strathnairn at 8.30am. The track is 3.4km each way. When COG last walked this track in January last year we saw a nice variety of bush and water birds, and the views are magnificent. There are a couple of stiles to be negotiated along the way, but it is not a difficult walk. As usual, bring a hat, sunscreen, sturdy footwear and water. Registration is no longer mandatory. Leader: Sandra (shirmax2931@gmail.com)

Saturday 20 May- Australian National Botanic Gardens – beginners' outing

This morning walk will be the first for 2023 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.

Anthony Overs

Sunday 28 May – Queanbeyan Bush Cemetery

Meet at 9am in the carpark of the main Queanbeyan Cemetery on Lanyon Drive. The bush cemetery next to the lawn cemetery hosts a variety of bush birds - I have visited nine times and listed 50 species in this fairly small area of bush. This will be an easy walk. Leader: Sandra (shirmax2931@gmail.com)

Saturday 3 June and Sunday 4 June – Eden pelagics

COG will run two one day pelagic trips out of Eden. Departure time is likely to be 7am with arrival back at the wharf about 3pm. The boat holds 12 participants. This winter trip should give us the chance to see more albatross species as well as a variety of petrels and shearwaters. Cost will be approximately \$150 each day.

There are currently 5 places available on each day. Please contact Sue Lashko **no later than May 4** at smlashko@gmail.com, with your name, mobile number and the name and number of an emergency contact. Please state whether you prefer Saturday, Sunday or either day.

Saturday 11 June - Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve - Superb Lyrebird survey

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

This outing will be a repeat of the very successful surveys conducted at this time of the year since 2004. For previous survey results see *Gang-gang* p11, July 2022.

Chris Davey (chris_davey@aapt.net.au) MOB 0418679 847 and Peter Fullagar

Sunday 25 June - The Pinnacle Nature Reserve, Hawker

Description: The Pinnacle is a 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. It forms an important link in the chain of Belconnen Hills reserves that connect Black Mountain to the Molonglo River corridor. Possible birds include **Scarlet Robin, Speckled Warbler, Varied Sittella**, various thornbills, **Weebill, White-throated Treecreeper, Golden Whistler**, various honeyeaters, etc.

eBird hotspots: The Pinnacle Nature Reserve

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 Street.

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

Field trips from July to December 2023

Despite several emails to the COG chatline requesting leaders for trips for the rest of 2023, I have not had a single reply, other than from the leaders of annual trips like the Campbell Park nest workshop and the ANBG beginners outing. This lack of volunteers is very disappointing, given COG has almost 400 members. To make it easier, I have compiled a list of places that COG has not visited for several years. If you would be prepared to lead an outing to one of these places, or anywhere at all, please contact me at smlashko@gmail.com

Callum Brae NR
Goorooyarroo NR
Kama NR
Rob Roy NR
Nursery Swamp
Micalong Swamp
Kelly Road

Coolamon Ridge
Jerrabomberra Hill, Queanbeyan
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Field Trip Reports

Sunday 2 April – Weston Ponds - Day of the Darters

After an extra hour's sleep, ten extra wide-awake birdwatchers gathered at the lower Coombs Pond, in the Molonglo urban complex, where the watching started with a good range of waterbirds and more than 50 **Welcome Swallows** hawking over the water – and a single **White-plumed Honeyeater** foraging leaf lerp on a young planted eucalypt by the pond. Across, then above, and finally alongside the Molonglo, the highlights were flocks of **Silvereyes** passing overhead and foraging on weedy fleabane and pyracantha berries, and small groups of **Double-barred Finch**. *Piece de resistance* was more than 25 **Australasian Darters** by the river in all stages of post-breeding plumage, with some very large fluffballs still bound to the nest and demanding to be fed. A total of 35 species was recorded.

Doug Laing

Friday 7 to Monday 10 April – Easter camp at Tumut

Tom and Sharon Stacy kindly made their shearers' quarters, and plenty of space for campers, available to COG over Easter. The sheep and cattle property has been in the same family since the 1830s and over the weekend we were regaled with fascinating tales while being fed a roast dinner on the first night and freshly baked cakes and afternoon tea on other days. Who needs Easter eggs?

Perhaps it was the inauspicious forecast that resulted in just six hardy souls joining Sandra on this camp. No-one regretted the decision. On our drive to Tumut, Sandra and Prue were lucky enough to see two **Crested Shrike-tits** at Jessop's Lagoon.

On Friday we wandered around the farm and along Shelley's Creek where we spotted a large number of **Australasian Darters** including many juveniles and young being fed as well as a **Pink-eared Duck**, **Little Pied Cormorant** and **Yellow-billed Spoonbills**. The farm has many beautiful, very old red river gum and yellow box trees with excellent breeding hollows. In Tumut in the afternoon a **Whistling Kite** and **Nankeen Kestrel** were among the 34 species observed.

Early Saturday morning we joined Sharon and other members of the Tumut Wetlands Survey team to conduct their quarterly survey with **Golden** and **Rufous Whistlers** and an **Olive-backed Oriole** (a first for the surveys) included in the 36 species. **Rainbow Bee-eaters** were a surprise – we thought they'd have left by now. Walking along the Tumut River in the afternoon we observed a **Whistling Kite**, **Nankeen Kestrel**, **Rainbow Bee-eater** and **Double-barred Finch**, as well as 32 other species. A **White-faced Heron** was seen catching a fish. Late in the afternoon a violent storm descended and resulted in a black-out for a couple of hours, so we enjoyed drinks and cake in the homestead by kerosene lamp!



Tumut Camelot

Julian Robinson



Easter Camp at Tumut. **Australasian Darter** - *Sandra Henderson*; **Reed Warbler**, **Golden Whistler**, **Restless Flycatcher**, **Whistling Kite**, **Superb Fairy-wren** - *Julian Robinson*; **White-faced Heron**, **Striated Thornbill**, **Eastern Spinebill** - *Marcus Hellyer*.

En route to Talbingo on Sunday, we stopped to explore the Cliffords Creek Trail which led us into a beautiful valley where two **Emus** walked out of the bush in front of us. We heard **Superb Lyrebirds** and saw **Wedge-tailed Eagles** and **Brown Falcons**. We enjoyed freshly baked pies from the café in Talbingo before heading off to the Tumut 3 Power Station and viewing area where we had a brief glimpse of a **White-bellied Sea Eagle**. Some were lucky enough to see **Scarlet** and **Flame Robins** and **Double-barred Finch** on the way home. Julian made a last-minute trip to the creek and spotted a platypus.

The birding, company and food were excellent and we were barely inconvenienced by the weather.
Prue Watters and Sandra Henderson

Easter Saturday 8 April - Narrabundah Hill - morning outing

Thirteen members and guests, including a couple from North Queensland, joined me on this outing on a surprisingly dry (given the 35 mm of rain at my nearby place the day before), relatively mild and sunny morning. We walked for about 2.0 km along the northern and about one half of the western boundaries of this reserve, returning by the same route. The aim was to observe the honeyeater migration, as well as to find any mixed feeding flocks (MFF), autumn altitudinal migrants and any late departing summer migrants.

The honeyeater migration season had been off to a very slow start this year, with the first reports only on Tuesday of that week. I was hopeful that the very wet day before and the relatively cool conditions would have led to good numbers coming through but, as often been the case in my now 9 years of leading this walk, we were again disappointed. We did see a total of about 18 **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** (YFHE), in groups of no more than 8, moving east along the northern fence line but when we reached the spot on the western boundary through which most usually move, there was only a single YFHE feeding in a flowering gum, and it then flew west, in the wrong direction! Based on this we moved on further than we have in recent years to try to find the **Scarlet Robins** Patrick Cox had told us about. While we were unsuccessful, we did find another 3 YFHE which again were not clearly moving in the expected direction.

We did find the best mixed feeding flock of the day there. While overall numbers were not high, species numbers were with around eight different ones including **White-throated Treecreepers**, **Buff-rumped** and **Yellow-rumped Thornbills**, **Grey Fantails**, the altitudinal migrants a female **Golden Whistler** and a **Grey Shrike Thrush**, a **Willie Wagtail** and a small number of **Silvereyes**. The latter, which are partial migrants in the ACT (not all birds leave over winter), were much more numerous (often feeding on blackberries) on the northern boundary with a conservative estimate of at least 70 birds. Other partial migrants in largish numbers were up to 16 **Grey Fantails** and around 35 **Red Wattlebirds** seen moving in small loose groups of



At Janey's Creek
Sandra at Tumut 3 Power Station

Sandra Henderson
Julian Robinson



White-faced Heron, Tumut trip

Julian Robinson

up to 8 birds along the northern boundary, and then observed feeding together in the north-west corner with around 10 **Noisy Friarbirds**, a much more complete migrant in the ACT, more so than the **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** of which only 3 were seen.

Apart from the **Golden Whistler** and **Grey Shrike-thrush**, of which several were seen (including a female with very white lores), the only other altitudinal migrant (comes from the mountains and higher ground to the urban and peri-urban areas of Canberra over autumn and winter) was the single **White-eared Honeyeater** seen. Other species seen moving were **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** flying east, high over, singly or in small groups along the northern boundary. A **Wedge-tailed Eagle** soaring over the western boundary was the only raptor seen during the morning.

At 35 species, this was equal to the second lowest number in the now 9 trips I have led at this timing (the lowest was 31 species in 2021, but there have usually been between 42 and 50). The reason for this very low count isn't clear, as the conditions looked very good and I had expected birds to be active after the heavy rain in the previous day. Nevertheless, participants enjoyed the morning, and I was reminded again of how important COG outings can be as social occasions.

Jack Holland

Wednesday 19 April - Glendale Depot

I joined COG a couple of days before this walk and duly met walk leader Sandra Henderson at 8:00 at Namadgi National Park Visitor Centre. Actually I was running a little early and Sandra was already there; she admitted she got there about 7am, and had done a list. I can see why COG gets Sandra to lead walks; eBird revealed Sandra started at 6:40 and put in a list of 40 species, just around the Visitor Centre.

We gathered for carpooling in the cool morning air and drove on to Glendale Depot, where 14 of us walked for 2 and a half hours in almost perfect birding conditions, cool to start and then warming under full sun and light breeze.

In total 319 individuals across 38 species were recorded. Highlights for a visitor from the Illawarra included: **White-naped** and **White-eared Honeyeater**, **Weebill** and **Scarlet Robin**. It was also interesting to hear a distant **Superb Lyrebird** calling, a bird we associate with subtropical rainforest in the Illawarra.

We had obscured views of a female flycatcher and despite the expertise of experienced members, we couldn't settle on Satin or Leaden. Unfortunately a male didn't make an appearance. Close inspection of the birds on the dam revealed a single **Hoary-headed Grebe** with 3 **Australasian Grebe**.

Fleeting views of a **Speckled Warbler** were had by most, but I wasn't quick enough and dipped on that, as well as a **European Goldfinch** and **Striated Thornbill**, and I failed to hear a **Satin Bowerbird** calling.

A most enjoyable first outing with COG. Many thanks to Sandra for leading and other members for making me welcome.

Ralph Stadus
Illawarra Birders



Easter camp at Tumut. Australian Shelduck, Clifford Creek Firetrail, Straw-necked Ibis

Julian Robinson

Woodland Surveys – Autumn 2023 survey round

compiled by Jenny Bounds

Note: not all sites are reported.

Mulligans Flat NR

With good light early, after the end of daylight saving, the team did the survey on Sunday 2 April in fairly good conditions, cool, mostly overcast and no wind. Mixed feeding flocks of small birds were fairly scarce, but a large flock around the Woolshed area, consisting of **Buff-rumped** and **Striated Thornbills**, **Weebills**, **Grey Fantails**, a few **Striated Pardalotes** and a **Scarlet Robin**, was a notable exception. The total species count of 44 was about average for an autumn survey. Highlights included **Superb Parrots**, with a group of 6 birds recorded in site 6 on the western ridge, as well as a few around the carpark entrance area and in trees near the main Sanctuary gate, possibly the same group of birds moving around that area. One **Superb Parrot** was also recorded on the NE sites' transect. **Scarlet Robins** were recorded at 4 sites. Three **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** were around site 10 at the northern end of the reserve, but otherwise no honeyeater migration was observed. The large dam area had a range of the usual ducks, coot and small cormorants, including 2 **Pink-eared Ducks**. A **Brown Goshawk** was the only raptor species recorded, around site 16 on the eastern side of the reserve. **White-eared Honeyeaters** were recorded at several sites, a seasonal (autumn/winter) increase. Most of the spring migrants had gone, but a few **Noisy Friarbirds** were still around. It was nice to see a good ground layer of grasses in the reserve after reasonable rains over spring/summer.

Mt Majura NR

Peter and Natalie Miller did the survey on the morning of 31 March, filling in for John Goldie & Kathy Walter. The weather was cool and sunny with light winds. No mixed feeding flocks were encountered on any of the site surveys although a small flock was encountered near site 5. Highlights included a small family flock of **Dusky Woodswallows**, several **Superb Parrots** on sites 1 and 2, a male **Rufous Whistler** and a flock of **Red-browed Finches**. Twenty-three species were recorded over the 9 sites. In addition, the following were seen between sites: 1 **White-eared Honeyeater**, 2 **Speckled Warblers**, 1 **White-browed Scrubwren**, 2 **Common Bronzings**, 3 **Buff-rumped Thornbill**, 1 **Australian Raven** and 1 **Black-faced Cuckooshrike**.

Mt Ainslie NR /Campbell Park

The autumn survey at the 9 sites on the lower eastern slopes of Mt Ainslie was carried out on 3 April by Robin Hide and Michael Lenz. It was an overcast and calm day. Birdlife was very quiet. The most widespread species were **Noisy Miner** (at 6 sites), **Crimson Rosella** and **Spotted Pardalote** (each at 5 sites). Three to six species were recorded at site, only the last one had higher numbers with 11 species. Many smaller bush birds were either missing or present in small numbers/at a few sites only. Species of note include **Mistletoebird**, **Western Gerygone**, **Speckled Warbler** and **Rufous Whistler**. Honeyeaters were represented by **Noisy Miners** and a lone **Yellow-faced Honeyeater**. It was good to see that many mistletoes had recovered and were covered in fresh foliage.

Majura Field Range

Kim Farley and Barbara Allan surveyed the Defence training range sites on Friday 31 March. It was a beautiful autumn morning, slightly chilly at 7 degrees for the start at 7.30am, but sunny and clear. At the previous survey in November the wildflowers were a real treat, but this time it was the turn of the trees to be in blossom. They recorded 48 species at the seven sites surveyed, with highlights being a **White-necked Heron** at a small dam, several **Scarlet Robins** including a juvenile, and a young **Speckled Warbler** being fed by an adult. **Honeyeater** species were not in short supply and included **Brown-headed**, **White-plumed**, **White-eared** and **Yellow-faced**, as well as **Noisy Friarbird**, **Red Wattlebird**, a few **Noisy Miners** and 1 **Eastern Spinebill**.

Newline

Sue Lashko surveyed on 10 April, a cool, fine and still morning. The Newline paddocks continue to deteriorate in quality with head high fleabane showering Sue with seeds, and blackberries spreading at an alarming rate, necessitating long detours to some sites. **Silvereyes** were the most common birds and were enjoying the fruit of boxthorn, while rosellas were feasting on rosehips on briar rose. A gathering of 8 **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes**, with adult and immature birds, and a few **Grey Fantails** were the only migrants seen. A **Brown Falcon** and a **Wedge-tailed Eagle** added interest to the morning. Only one pair of **Rainbow Lorikeets** was seen, the lowest number for some years. A silent **Grey Shrike-thrush** was an unusual sighting for Newline. The 33 species was about average for an autumn survey.

Jerrabomberra West NR

Jenny Bounds had to spread the survey over two fine mornings, 4 and 5 April and recorded 32 species, around the average for autumn. There was no marked honeyeater migration, although a couple of **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** were recorded. Spring migrants had departed. There were a couple of **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes** around, a **Golden Whistler** heard, and the usual common small birds including **Buff-rumped Thornbills** and **Speckled Warbler** (heard). **White-plumed Honeyeater** was recorded near site 4, and a **Common Bronzewing** at site 1 were highlights (uncommon sightings there).

Tuggeranong Hill NR

Lia Battisson surveyed on Monday 3 April, an overcast, mild and still morning. Honeyeaters were represented by **White-eared**, **Yellow-faced**, **Noisy Friarbird**, **Red Wattlebird** and **Eastern Spinebill**, but all in very low numbers. There were several eucalypts flowering, but **Rainbow Lorikeets** were the dominant species in most of them. Two mixed feeding flocks were observed between sites. One consisted of: **Willie Wagtail**, **Brown**, **Yellow-rumped** and **Buff-rumped Thornbills**, **Superb Fairywren**, **White-browed Scrubwren**, **Grey Fantail**, **Weebill**, **Eastern Spinebill**, **Spotted Pardalote** and **White-eared Honeyeater**, whilst the other had **Red-browed Finch**, **White-browed Scrubwren**, **White-throated Treecreeper**, **Brown Thornbill**, **Weebill**, **Grey Fantail**, **Spotted Pardalote**, **Superb Fairywren** and **Buff-rumped Thornbills** feeding together. In all, 20 species were observed in sites, and a further 15 on the transects in between, which is close to the average for autumn at this site.

Naas Sites

Julie McGuiness conducted the survey on this rural lease south of Tharwa on 26 March on a cool, calm, though completely overcast morning with low cloud. Species diversity and species numbers remain lowish. A total of 20 species was observed in the sites. Two **Jacky Winters** were heard calling in the outside 50m areas of two separate sites; and one **Scarlet Robin** was seen within a site. While the former are residents on the property, the latter are now rarely seen. The only summer migrant observed was a male **Rufous Whistler**. As for honeyeaters, the resident **Noisy Miners** were observed, as well as a **White-plumed Honeyeater**. Once again, the species with highest numbers were the parrots, especially **Eastern Rosellas** and **Red-rumped Parrots**.



White-faced Heron

Marcus Hellyer



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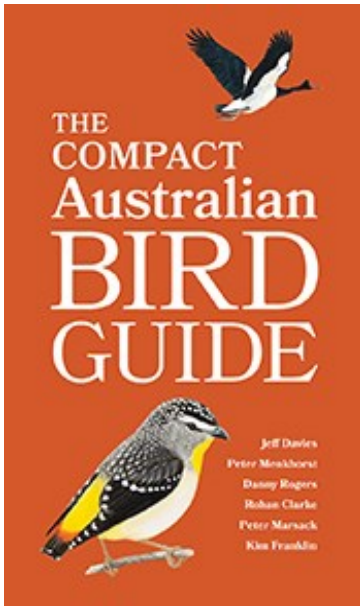
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COG provides a range of birdwatching related publications for sale to members at discounted prices (around 10-30% off RRP).

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



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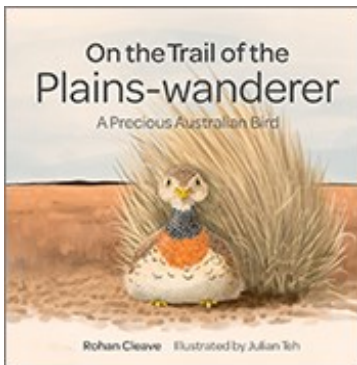
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2022-2023 memberships:

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

New members

COG welcomes the following new members:

L Rupcic
Z Flegg
R Stadus
D Godden
L Booth
E Koromilas
C Setterfield
A Tipton
S Collier

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for June 2023 edition:

Wednesday 31 May 2023

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

gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au

or

c/- The Secretary, COG,

PO Box 331, Jamison Centre, ACT 2614.

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

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

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

ISSN 2208-018X

