



Gang-gang

MAY 2022

Newsletter of the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc.

MAY MEETING

Wednesday 11 May 2022

7.30 pm

Normal face-to-face meeting

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

The May meeting will again be a normal face-to-face one held at our usual venue, but as school virus rules have remained unchanged you will still 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 (canberrabirds.org.au)).

The short presentation will be by **Julian Teh** from the Australian National Wildlife Collection, CSIRO on “**Introducing the Plains-wanderer**”.

Julian’s talk will cover an introductory overview of the Plains-wanderer’s biology, life history, and what makes them such an interesting and unique species. He will talk a bit about his experiences with them in the field, discuss how best to find one in the wild, and briefly touch on some of the illustration work he has done with them over the last three years.

The main presentation will be by **Julian Reid**, an Honorary Lecturer at the Fenner

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

The weather over the 4 weeks from 30 March covered by this column has stayed cloudy and mild, with so far minimums not below 3°C. However, it was a bit wetter than in March, with one 10-day dry spell in the middle. Again, while my impression was that bird activity in the COG Area of Interest (Aoi) had been relatively quiet, my analysis below shows that there has been plenty to report, including that many spring/summer migrants are delaying their departure and staying quite late.

The latter is clearly illustrated by the seemingly poor honeyeater migration season. This is based on my own observations, personal reports to me by Michael Robbins and posts on the COG chat line. It did not seem to start until 5 April, when we had our first coldish minimum of 5°C. This is by far the latest I can recall in recent years, and with then more warm nights there was a further lull until nearly a week later. The most reported since then have been of flocks moving over/through in the hundreds rather than the thousands that are usually recorded each autumn, with the highest reported total being around

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Victor Bragvine

Rose Robin

Everyone welcome

School of Environment and Society, ANU, with the title: “**Long-term Trends of Birds in the Cowra District, central Western Slopes, NSW.**”

A *BirdLife Australia* project, the Cowra Woodland Birds Program (CWBP) arose from growing concerns over the conservation prospects of birds in the woodlands of south-eastern Australia. After a Cowra local businessman, farmer and birdwatcher, John Rankin, attended a Scientific Day in Sydney, he met with the late Dr Sue Briggs and Julian to raise concerns about the loss of small woodland birds in his local area. From small things big things grow. Julian will briefly describe the range of activities the CWBP has undertaken, focussing on the long-term dataset of systematic bird observations taken at numerous sites from autumn 2002 onwards. The results of statistical modelling of the population trajectories (“trends”) of 105 species and 18 community indices are summarised for the first 17 years, and comparisons made with the results of similar long running programs including those of COG. Illustrating the divergent trends shown by various species, Julian will highlight the most significant findings from a bird conservation perspective and make a few comments about the limitations of unfunded citizen-science research.

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

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2000 birds (biggest flock of 250) over about 100 minutes passing over Jean Casburn’s house in Duffy late morning on 21 April. Most of these were **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters**, with just some **White-naped Honeyeaters** amongst them. Again, this is very late in the season for such a mix, so please keep an eye out for any remaining movement in early May, when the latter species is expected to dominate any flocks.

In respect of the usually departed spring/summer migrants still present in March there have been no further reports of the **White-winged Triller** (last reported on 14 March), but a **Rufous Songlark** was still reported from the K2C surveys on 10 April, typically skulking low in the bushes as those overwintering in very small numbers tend to do.

There have been no further reports of the **Dollarbird** (last reported on 19 March), but 4 **Rainbow Bee-eaters** were still reported from Oak Hill (Bonner) on 30 March, and then from Black Mountain NR on 12 April by Rob Magrath who first heard their distinctive calls, then after a brief period hawking for insects saw them fly overhead. He had a clear view of two perched birds before they flew away. This is very late for this species. The **Sacred Kingfisher** was still reported from three locations during the period, the most recent being one photographed at Parkwood Road by Christine D on 9 April, again late for this species.

There were no further reports of the **Pallid Cuckoo** (last reported on 9 March) and the only **Horsfield’s Bronze-cuckoo** report during the period was from the COG outing at the Namarag-Molonglo River Reserve on 20 April. This compares with the **Shining Bronze-cuckoo** still being reported from 4 locations, the most recent being from Mt Ainslie NR on 25 April. A **Brush Cuckoo** was still reported from the Shepherds Lookout walk by Michael F on 3 April.

These reports are quite late for the species still present during the period, in contrast to the **Eastern Koel** which seemed to leave relatively early as there were no reports of adults during the period, but still a few late fledglings (see below). Again in contrast, the **Fan-tailed Cuckoo**, which I’ve mentioned many times is the least migratory of our local cuckoos, was still reported from around 25 locations up to the time of writing.

In my previous column I missed the most significant observation for the season of the **White-throated Needletail**. On 21 March Richard Allen saw a large flock of Needletails near Mt Ginini from the Cotter River. He noted it was the largest flock he’d ever seen in the ACT for many years, with four of his photos shot having between 130-140 individuals in view. His conservative estimate was 200 but possibly as many as 300 birds across the sky. The mist had just cleared the ranges and initially a couple of birds were zooming past at tree top height. This was also the last report for this species (which can sometimes still be reported early in April) this season. There has also been a second report for 2022 for the related **Fork-tailed Swift** by Shorty in Charnwood on 30 March. He was alerted by a call he did not know, then one bird flew low over the yard to give good views. He noted he did not know they called, as he had never heard one before.

There have been no further reports of the **Latham's Snipe** which was last reported on 28 March. On 22 April Lori Gould posted that of two Canberra satellite tagged birds one was in Cape York and the other in Southern Queensland.

Of the other birds that mostly leave by the end of March/early April, the **Leaden Flycatcher** was still reported from a surprising 11 locations, most recently single birds, both females or immatures, from the Sanctuary at the Tidbinbilla NR and the Sherwood Forest on 16 April. There have been no further reports of **Satin Flycatchers** (last reported on 28 March), but again in contrast, the other passage migrant, the **Rufous Fantail**, was still reported from five locations, most recently from the Lyrebird Trail in the Tidbinbilla NR on 16 April. Again, this is quite late for the relevant species, particularly to still be in the ranges.

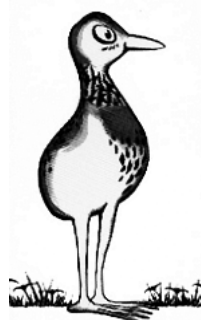
The **Australian Reed-Warbler** was still reported from 10 locations up to the time of writing, and **Tree Martin** similarly from around 14 locations, whereas six **Fairy Martins** were only reported from the Western Foreshores of the Googong Dam on 17 April.

Of the birds which usually leave during April, the **Western** and **White-throated Gerygone** were still reported from around 11 and 10 locations, respectively, during the period, with both still being reported up to the time of writing. The **Noisy Friarbird** was still similarly reported from close to 50 locations, and the **Rufous Whistlers**, **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** and **Grey Fantails** from a remarkable around 60, around 100 and well over 100 locations, respectively. It may be expected that quite a few of these last four species will overwinter, as will the **Mistletoebird** and **Superb Parrot** still reported from 14 and close to 40 locations (only five south of LBG), respectively.

During May please keep a lookout for the above species, many of which are staying later than usual, as well as the **Dusky Woodswallow** and **Olive-backed Oriole**, some of both which may also overwinter.

Of the species that move from the mountains and higher country into Canberra and its surrounds in autumn/winter, both the **White-eared Honeyeater** and the **Golden Whistler** have now been reported from many urban and peri-urban locations. The **Scarlet Robin** was reported from around 30 such locations of the over 50 total locations it was reported from during the period, indicating it has clearly moved back, whereas the **Flame Robin** has still been reported only from four such locations of the 23 total locations, indicating it still has to move in closer.

The **Rose Robin** has been reported from 10 locations in the period, only two of which may be described as urban/peri-urban, and surprisingly for a species which is often considered to be a passage migrant through Canberra in autumn, still six spots from West of the Murrumbidgee River. Again, there were no reports of the **Pink Robin** during the period. Of the total of six locations during the period, there has only been the single urban/peri-urban report of the **Crescent Honeyeater**, a single bird in Cook on 9 April. The **Yellow-tufted Honeyeater** has only been reported from a single location over the period, with a number of observers recording up to four birds at Gigerline NR between 4-26 April.



Australian Ornithological Services P/L

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Good birding, good food

2022

The Gulf Country

9 — 26 May 2022

Cairns, Karumba, Burketown,
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Atherton Tablelands and/or

Iron Range NP

30 May — 12 June 2022

One place has become available
on this long booked-out tour
Good discount available.

Central Australia

21 — 31 August 2022

Alice Springs, West MacDonnell Ranges,
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2022 Plains-wanderer Weekends

Check website for available places.

2023 tours

Atherton Tablelands & Iron Range

In two parts May 2023

Pilbara WA

Winter 2023

2023 Plains-wanderer Weekends

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21 & 22 October 2023

04 & 05 November 2023

18 & 19 November 2023

Contact Patricia Maher for itineraries.

www.philipmaher.com

While there was only one further report of two **Swift Parrots** from Soward Way Tuggeranong, on 31 March, that morning Kathy Walter and John Goldie posted that there was a group of about six **Swift Parrots** at their usual spot near the water tank in Hackett. Subsequently quite a few observers recorded up to eight birds there to 6 April, with then further sightings of a single bird in Higgins and two birds in Griffith on 15 and 16 April, respectively. So, please keep an eye out for these autumn/winter species, particularly the last-named which may now have moved on if they find there is much less flowering or lerps available this winter.

There have been a few “unusual birds” reported over the period which deserve a special mention, the first and most important being the report of two **Magpie Geese** at Wet Lagoon Breadalbane which I was alerted to by the post by Martin Butterfield on the COG chat line on 9 April. Kim Farley then noted two were first reported from there in early January and were then reported several times up until late February. Interestingly, neither the 2018-2019 COG Annual Bird report (ABR) or Steve Wilson’s book *Birds of the ACT: Two Centuries of Change* include this species. However, COG’s Annotated Checklist of the Birds of the Australian Capital Territory available on the web site notes, “Previously extinct, now reintroduced. Rare, breeding resident. Although restricted to the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve Sanctuary, the birds are free-flying and so may, in the future, establish wild populations.” It is therefore a very significant find for COG’s AoI, very unlikely to be associated with the birds at Tidbinbilla.

In respect of the **Red-backed Button-quail** mentioned in my previous column, on 14 April Philip Veerman posted that there is a mention of the species in CBN. Vol 2(10) 13-15 (1974) “Red backed Quail in the Braidwood Area”, with M D Bruce describing finding a pair there in grassland on 30 November 1973. While not in the COG AoI, this would appear to be the closest previous report of this species.

While nowhere near as rare as the above two, on eBird on 5 April Julian Teh described a very interesting interaction with a grey morph **Grey Goshawk** which he (and Anna Kearns/Leo Joseph) had spotted flying over the road within the Crace CSIRO site, and then observed perched in a tree. Later that day Julian found a female (based on size) flapping against a fence - in hindsight he noted probably hunting in the undergrowth. He flushed it as he walked by, and it hit the fence. Assuming it was trapped, he extracted it and found it uninjured. The bird was released healthy and happy moments after capture, with Julian noting that the blood on the bird’s foot in his marvellous photograph was his own.

Again, **Plumed Whistling Ducks** were reported only from the Trucking Yard Lane Dam with a maximum of five reported on 15 April, but no **Freckled Ducks** were reported during the period. Again in contrast, **Australian Shelducks** were from around seven locations to the E and NE of Canberra during the period, with a remarkable 700 seen on Wollogorang Road on 3 April. One or two **Blue-billed Ducks** were reported from three locations in the period, and up to five **Musk Ducks** from five locations, not including the Sanctuary at Tidbinbilla NR.

Stubble Quail were reported from just five locations, a further indication of their lesser extent of calling post the breeding season. In contrast the **Brown Quail** was reported from around 17 locations, but the **Painted Button-quail** was reported from just three locations in the period, the lowest number for some time. Again, no **Little Button-quail** have been reported. A single **Great Crested Grebe** was reported from the Cotter Dam on 25 April, but there were also single birds reported from the Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR on 11 April and from the West Belconnen Pond between 5-25 April.

A **White-headed Pigeon** was reported from Mawson on 4 April. No **Diamond Doves** have been reported during the period, and the only report of a **Peaceful Dove** was one heard at the Yankee Hut car park and track on 24 April.

An **Australian Spotted Crake** was reported from Lade Vale Road on 4 April and on 13 April John Leonard reported one in the almost completely bare concrete drain next to the bike track running between Schlich Street and Alexandria Drive Yarralumla. The crake was picking its way along the drain flicking its tail, and when it became aware it was being watched it scooted up the near vertical side of the drain under the low boughs of a small oak. Two **Spotless Crakes** were observed at Lade Vale Road on 4 April, as well as a single one at the Jerrabomberra Wetlands on 14 April (I apologise for having overlooked birds seen here as well as four other ACT locations earlier in 2022 in my previous column). No **Baillon’s Crake** or **Lewin’s Rail** have been reported during the period, whereas **Buff-banded Rails** were reported from three locations.

No **Banded Lapwings**, **Red-necked Avocets** or **Sharp-tailed Sandpipers** were reported during the period, but 17 **Red-capped Plovers** were reported from the Wollogorang Road on 3 April. No **Australian Little Bittern** was reported during the period, though a **Caspian Tern** was reported from the V C Anderson Rest Area on Lake George on 10 April. An **Intermediate Egret** continued to be reported from the Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR up to 1 April.

The **Common Sandpiper** was still reported from the N end of Lake Tuggeranong at the silt/gross pollutant trap slightly to the W of where Village Creek flows under Drakeford Drive, as well as from the lake itself on 8 and 9 April, and most recently photographed at the former on 20 April by Sandra Henderson following the heavy rain on the evening before. This is a very late sighting. Checking the eBird map in 2021 it was last seen at this very same spot on 2 April before being seen again very early at the Isabella Pond on 20 August 2021. So, we've been wondering whether it might be overwintering, though on a quick Google search I can only find reference to that it may "remain in the north of Australia throughout the Australian winter." So, it's well worth keeping a continued eye out for it (I couldn't locate it on 26 April). It was last reported from the Isabella Pond on 10 March, so it appears only one bird was still present during the period.

No **Barn Owl** was reported during the period, but an amazing statistic was Kim Farley informing me that Manuela (the Red-backed Button-quail carer) told her that she had personally cared for 60 **Barn Owls** from the start of 2021 to 8 April. Amazing, and even more so when she said that her 60 were part of a total of 118 **Barn Owls** brought to ACT Wildlife Rescue over the same period. These were mostly from road injuries and dog attacks. It illustrates again what a marvellous voluntary service they are providing, as well as that sightings reported to eBird may only be the tip of the iceberg of the birds actually present.

The **Black-shouldered Kite** was reported from 35 locations (double those in March), and the **Nankeen Kestrel** from around 45 locations (also up from March) during the period. Both reflect the reports in the press of lots of mice being around and entering houses as winter approaches. Apart from the one mentioned above a **Grey Goshawk** (again a grey morph) was reported by two observers perched on one of the lampposts on the Parkway on the western side of Black Mountain on the afternoon of 24 April, and a similar at Ginninderra Creek Evatt on 26 April. A **Spotted Harrier** was reported on 15 April flying low and slow over the grassland at the Coppins Crossing--Pipeline track.

There have been no reports of the **Azure Kingfisher**, **Glossy Black-Cockatoo**, **Cockatiel**, **Turquoise Parrots** or **Scaly-breasted Lorikeets** during the period. Two **Little Lorikeets** were reported from Hawker on 26 April, and up to two **Musk Lorikeets** were reported from the Wanniasa Hills Primary School or the nearby Shackell PI between 6-21 April, with a further one from Belconnen on 9 April, and Scullin on 25 April, and two from Hawker on 21 April.

A **Blue-faced Honeyeater** was reported from Mawson on 16 April, as well as two birds in Wanniasa on 17 April. A **White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike** was reported from the Capital Country Holiday Park (just N of the ACT border) on 22 April, but no **Spiny-cheeked**, **Scarlet** or **Singing Honeyeaters**, **Little Friarbirds**, **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 the known locations, with two birds at the Namadgi NP Visitors Centre only on 3 April, with two birds at Naas Road at Apollo Road on 24 April. While this is disappointing Kym Bradley reported a family of 4 from her patch to the S of Canberra. Better news is that **Hooded Robins** were reported from eight locations during the period. These include up to five birds (an adult male and female at the intersection, and three other birds hunting from a tree 700 m down Apollo Road) at the known location of the Naas Road at Apollo Road between 19-24 April. As far as I can recall all the others are new locations, a male photographed at Bracks Hole on the Cotter Dam on 25 April, another bird at the Tidbinbilla NR Sanctuary on 23 April, a male and a female at the Scottsdale Reserve on 19 April, as well as reports from four properties during the K2C surveys on 10 April (the northern Monaro seems to remain a stronghold for them). Together with Kym Bradley reporting two male and two female juveniles from her patch to the S of Canberra this is very encouraging.

Two **Restless Flycatchers** were reported from the known location the Nelanglo TSR on 16 April, and a single bird from the new spot at the Good Hope Resort on Lake Burrinjuck on 19 April. However, most of the attention has again been on the single bird seen at the Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR throughout the period, as well as the adjacent Fyshwick Sewage Treatment Plant on 22 April.

The still moist conditions have continued to provide a very good and extended breeding season particularly for waterbirds. Apart from the **Jacky Winter** and **Hooded Robin** records above, my current tally of **Eastern Koel** fledglings for the 2021-2022 season is 177, close to half of the previous bumper season when a few possibly new ones are added. Two were still reported first on 31 March and I thought they would be the last until Victor Braguine photographed one in his garden in Kaleen on 9 April, and then on 10 April a further one at the ANBG, from where a number have been reported this season. These were quite late, though not as late as in 2020-2021.

More reports of mixed feeding flocks (MFF) have come to my attention, so please continue look out for this autumn phenomenon especially for the unexpected species often quietly feeding in amongst all the activity.

Apart from the **Yellow-faced** and **White-naped Honeyeaters** mentioned above Jean Casburn reported a group of 30 **Red Wattlebirds** moving over her house in Duffy on 21 April. Steve Holliday also mentioned 14 **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes** moving together during their woodland survey at Goorooyaroo NR on 3 April. However, it seems like the large autumn-winter cockatoo flocks have yet to form, at least in my local patch where I keep a pretty close eye on them.

On 21 April Anthony Overs reported that he had finally taken the opportunity the previous day to get out for an evening stroll and track down the **Rainbow Lorikeets** roost in Hawker. They were roosting in a tall eucalypt with dense foliage, about 250 m to the east of his home. It's a planted street tree, probably a Spotted Gum, so it's coming up to about 50 years old. The roost must have at least 50 birds, possibly more. By the time he got there, most birds were in it and screeching away. He waited and watched for 15 minutes, and more birds arrived in twos and fours. The noise was incredible, even the dozen or so **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** roosting in the same tree looked like they were having trouble putting up with the racket! He planned to sit and watch the tree one evening in the next few days prior to sunset to try and make an accurate count.

On 8 April John Leonard posted that at about 7:00 am that morning he saw 30 to 40 **Yellow-tailed Black cockatoos** (YTBC) perched in the block of pine trees to the north of Cotter Road opposite the great wall of Curtin. When he came back along the bike track behind the wall a little while later they were dispersing from there in pairs, mainly flying westwards. Richard Allen clarified that they were a recurring trend of YTBC returning in early autumn from Brindabellas and further afield. They were regular at the north Curtin horse paddocks at this time of the year feeding in the pines, drinking at the horse troughs and roosting in large poplars (until the leaves drop). He noted there were quite large numbers this year, though the largest flocks were post the 2003 fires.

The **Common Mynas** roosting in my GBS site since early January have moved to roosts outside of my GBS zone, and as a consequence have been much less conspicuous over the past fortnight. However, the **Common Starlings** that joined them in one of their roosts are still there, with over 130 of these birds flushed from it early on 22 April.

So please watch out for the last of the spring/summer migrants mentioned above, including those that usually leave by the end of April/early May, for the still arriving altitudinal migrants, for MFFs and single species 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.

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

Jack Holland

Tawny Frogmouth, Narrabundah Hill NR trip
Victor Braguine



Committee News

The COG committee met by Zoom on 21 April.

The May members' meeting will be held at Canberra Girls Grammar School. Everyone is welcome.

As you may already know from Jean Casburn's posts to the chat-line, there is an on-line petition asking the ACT Government to protect Bluetts Block. The petition is open until 7 July and can be found here – <https://epetitions.act.gov.au/CurrentEPetitions.aspx?Index=1>. The COG committee encourages members, who are willing, to individually sign the petition to support the protection of this important bushland. COG will also be signing the petition in its own right.

The Draft Action Plan – Loss of Mature Trees Threatening Process is open for consultation, and submissions close on 27 May. The Plan can be found here – <https://yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/action-plan-prevent-loss-mature-native-trees>. The committee is preparing a submission.

The ACT Government is also consulting on the Urban Forest Bill 2022 which if passed will replace the *Tree Protection Act 2005* (see <https://yoursayconversations.act.gov.au/urban-forest-bill>). Consultation closes on 2 June. The Bill deals with issues related to the Draft Action Plan and the committee is preparing a submission on this also.

Neil Hermes *President*

Alison Mackerras *Minutes Secretary*



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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

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Enquiries at

neil@neilhermes.com.au

COG's cogs No 11 – Kevin Windle

Our series about the volunteers in COG continues this month with Kevin Windle, Assistant Editor of *Canberra Bird Notes*.

Kevin has been a bird-watcher from earliest youth. Growing up in Canterbury, England, at the age of ten he constructed a bird-box which was home to many broods of blue-tits for several years. (It eventually fell down when he was away and he never got round to reattaching it.) A water-colour which survives from about that time - framed by his mother - is his childish representation of a great crested grebe.

He has watched birds in all the various places he has lived in or visited, including Canada, Brazil and various parts of Eastern Europe.

Kevin first came to Australia in the mid-1970s, and gradually familiarised himself with the birds of a new continent. He joined COG while temporarily in Canberra in 1980-81, and resumed membership on his return to live permanently in 1987.

His former day job as an academic involved much translation from various languages, in particular the Slavonic languages. In that capacity he was responsible for an English translation of Sergei Aksakov's *Notes of a Provincial Wildfowler* (1849, translation 1998), which is in effect the first Russian bird guide. He once spoke at a COG meeting on that topic. More recently, COVID led to the cancellation of a COG meeting at which he was to report briefly on another project, the bird notes of Ivan Sokolov-Mikitov (1892-1975).

Kevin has been a regular participant in the Jerrabomberra Wetlands surveys organised by Chris Davey.

His experience of translating and editing led to an interest in the production of *Canberra Bird Notes*, expertly produced by Michael Lenz. For the last several years he has worked closely with Michael as assistant editor of *CBN*, and learned more about local avifauna, as well as serious ornithology, by reading many informative contributions from members.

Acknowledgements

Nathan Finger and Kevin Windle



White-browed Woodswallows, Round Hill trip

David Cook

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 1 May- Picaree Hill Conservation Area

Location: Dick's Creek Road, New South Wales, about 30 mins drive from Canberra. The general location can be found at - 35.0056 149.1532. Note incorrect road name in March Newsletter

Description: The outing will be to a private conservation area not accessible to the general public. Bird surveys were conducted by the outing's leader in autumn 2003, 2004 and 2005 and twice in spring 2003 and 2004. Our target species will be **Spotted Quail-thrush, Superb Lyrebird** and **Chestnut-rumped Heathwren**

Meeting time and place: Meet at the Hall Primary School, Hoskins Street, Hall at 7:15am Standard Time. We will carpool from there in four four-wheel drive vehicles.

Walking distance: A circular route of approximately 5-6 km

Degree of difficulty: The walk will be along vehicle tracks. Easy-medium, the terrain is hilly but general fitness would be adequate. There will be a down-hill section with loose gravel so the use of a walking pole is advised.

End time: We hope to start the walk around 8:00am with the walk taking about 2 ½ to 3 hours

What to bring: Water, morning tea, hat, sunscreen, sturdy shoes, insect repellent.

Numbers: Limited to 16.

Register with Chris Davey chris_davey@aapt.net.au Please provide your name, mobile number and the name and number of an emergency contact.

Name of leader and contact details: Chris Davey. MOB 0418 679 847.

Sunday 8 May – Farrer Ridge

Meeting point: There is an entry into the reserve on Sulwood Drive, near the Sainsbury St intersection roundabout. Park on the grass near the reserve fence.

Time: 9am

Walk information : about three hours, three kms.

Bring: sturdy shoes, water, sunscreen, hat.

Farrer Ridge is an odd-shaped reserve, but we will take a wander along some of the tracks and go to the trig for spectacular views across the Tuggeranong Valley. There are some steps, but we'll go slowly.

Please register with Sandra at shirmax2931@gmail.com, with your name and phone number, and the name and number of an emergency contact.

Sunday 15 May 2022 - Brooks Creek TSR

Description: This will be an exploratory visit as I believe that it will be the first time that COG has had a field trip to this site. The Brooks Creek Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR) is rarely visited. It is located between Shingle Hill Way and Brooks Creek, in the rural locality of Gundaroo. A gold rush occurred there in 1861.

eBird hotspots: <https://ebird.org/australia/hotspot/L16413251>

Meeting time and place: Netball Centre, Lyneham at 8.00 am for optional carpooling. Sealed roads all the way. Suggested contribution to drivers from each passenger: \$5.

Walking distance: perhaps 4 km or so

Degree of difficulty: medium, as mostly off-track in open forest

End time (approx.): 12 noon

What to bring: water & morning tea, wear sturdy footwear

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

Numbers limited: yes, maximum 15

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

Wednesday 18 May - Mulligans Flat.

It has been a couple of years since we've visited Mulligans Flat.

Meet at 9am near the entry close to Eric Wright St and Justice Kelly St - there are some parking areas on both these streets.

We will walk mainly on tracks, so quite easy walking.

Wear sturdy shoes, bring water, a hat.

Walk distance: about three km

Time: three hours

Register with Sandra :shirmax2931@gmail.com, with name, phone number, and an emergency contact name and number.

Saturday 21 May- Australian National Botanic Gardens – beginners' outing

This morning walk will be the first for 2022 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 29 May - The Pinnacle Nature Reserve

Description: Peri-urban Canberra Nature Park reserve with a mixture of vegetation types, including remnant dry sclerophyll (Red Stringybark) forest, grassy box woodland, planted woodland and areas of open grassland. Possible birds include **Scarlet Robin**, **Speckled Warbler**, 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 St.

Walking distance: 4-5 km

Degree of difficulty: Easy to medium

End time (approx.): 11.30

What to bring: Water, morning tea

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

Numbers limited: Yes (15)

Name of leader and contact details :

John Brannan Email: johnbrannan@tpg.com.au Mob.: 0405 331 405

Sunday 5 June – Mt Arawang

Description: Mt Arawang is part of Cooleman Ridge Nature Reserve, between Tuggeranong and Weston Creek. We will walk around the base of the hill. It is an easy walk, mainly flat. Seventy species have been recorded in Cooleman Ridge Nature Reserve, including 4 species of raptor, **Speckled Warbler**, **Restless Flycatcher**, and **Golden and Rufous Whistler**.

eBird hotspots: Nearby hotspots include Kambah Horse Paddocks and Cooleman Ridge Nature Reserve.

Meeting place: There is space for a few cars near the gate to Cooleman Ridge Nature Reserve, on the western side of Namatjira Drive, Chapman, next to Number 204. This is where we will meet. There is also space for a few cars on the eastern side of Namatjira Drive, at the end/beginning of Fisher.

Meeting time: 9am.

Walking distance: 3 kms around the base. If there is interest, we could walk the track over the summit as well.

End time (approx.): 10:30 for the base loop, and an extra 45 mins to an hour to traverse the summit.

What to bring: Water, sunscreen, a hat and sturdy shoes. Wet weather gear if considered necessary.

Name of leader and contact details: Please **register** with the leader, Lia Battisson by email to liabattisson@grapevine.com.au, providing your name and mobile number, and the name and mobile number of an emergency contact. Do so **before 7pm on Friday 3 June 2022** as numbers will be limited to 15.

Saturday 11 June – Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve -Superb Lyrebird surveys

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

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

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

Sunday 19 June – McQuoids Hill

Over 110 species have been seen at McQuoids Hill.

Meeting time and place : Meet at 9.00am. Entry to McQuoids Hill is on Kambah Pool Rd, across from the golf course.

Walking distance: 2km

Degree of difficulty: easy. **End time (approx.):** 11am

What to bring: water, sturdy shoes, sunscreen, hat.

Register with Sandra on shirmax2931@gmail.com, with your name and contact number, plus name and contact number for an emergency contact.

Sunday 26 June – Yanununbeyan SCA

Description: The Yanununbeyan SCA is a very nice area of woodland near to Captains Flat. I propose to visit two sites within the SCA - one being Apple Box Flat and the other being the south end of Woolcara Lane, near the junction with Spring Creek Trail. Note that Woolcara Lane is unsealed, narrow and a little uneven in places. The road is best suited to AWDs/4WDs. We may see a good range of woodland birds, including **White-eared Honeyeater** and **Scarlet Robin**. As it is mid-winter, please bring warm clothes. Please bring some morning tea.

Meeting time and place: We will meet at 7.30am at the Spotlight Car Park in Queanbeyan for carpooling.

Name of leader and contact details: To participate, please register with David Dedenczuk by email of david.dedenczuk@gmail.com or text to 0417 222 154 – please include your name, mobile number, and emergency contact name and number.

Field Trip Reports



Narrabundah Hill, Saturday 3 April 2022

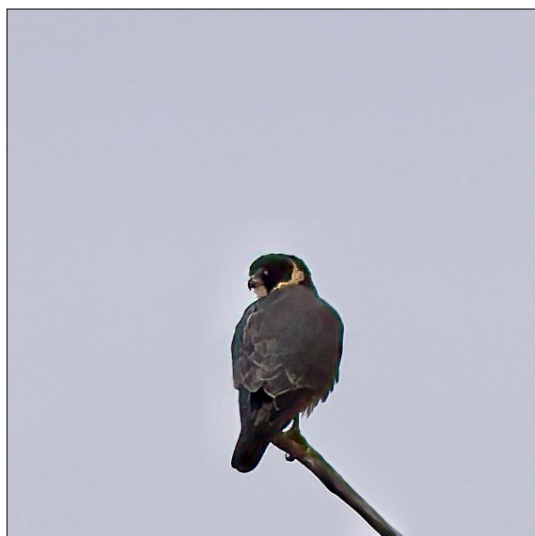
Nineteen members and guests joined me on this outing on, given the forecast, a surprisingly dry and quite mild and reasonably calm morning. We walked for about 1.5 km along the northern and about one third of the western boundaries of this reserve, returning by the same route. The aim was to observe 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, and we were very fortunate to see some right at the start of the walk, including a flock of 50, which moved quite slowly from tree top to tree top, allowing quite good views for everyone of some birds setting out. In total over 80 were seen, all being **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** with no **White-naped Honeyeaters** confirmed as travelling with them.



In fact, most of the best birds were seen early with our only largish MFF seen just over 0.5 km along the track. This consisted predominantly of **Silvereyes**, but with some **Superb Fairy-wrens**, **Yellow-rumped Thornbills**, **Weebills**, **Red-browed Finches**, a couple of **Striated Pardalotes** and a single **Grey Fantail**. We later saw a much smaller MFF with a similar set of species but also a **Brown Thornbill**. The highlight there was 3 **Silvereyes** feeding together at the top of a very flexible fleabane plant which was bending through nearly 180° in the wind, with the birds seeming completely unconcerned.

The first spot turned out to be the best for the morning, with the highlight being an adult **Australian Hobby** perched high in a dead tree allowing all participants good views, including the diagnostic half collar, before it flew off as we got too close. Earlier we had seen it flying through quickly on very pointed wings closer to the honeyeaters, which we suspected it was hunting. Also in this area were 2 **Tawny Frogmouths** sitting very close together, and a male **Satin Bowerbird**, again sitting exposed in a dead tree and allowing good views for all.



Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Silvereye, Australian Hobby
Victor Braguine

Even though we stopped and had morning tea for around 30 minutes under the 100 m wide flight path/route on the W fence line a few 100 m from the NW corner where most of the migrating honeyeaters are usually seen, no more were seen for the day. Here the highlights were a **Brown Goshawk** soaring very high, and then 2 **Wedge-tailed Eagles** slowly circling much lower above the ridge line. Also very noticeable around here were noisy **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** and **Pied Currawongs**.

A feature of the morning was the paucity of late summer migrants, with apart from the **Grey Fantail**, of which there were only several, just a single **Noisy Friarbird** seen moving through. No winter altitudinal migrants were observed at all. This resulted in only 31 species, the lowest ever in the now 8 trips I have led at this timing (the second lowest was 34 species in 2018, but they 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 very strong winds followed by rain in the previous few days. In many places the main movement came from butterflies, in particular the many female Common Browns.

Nevertheless, participants enjoyed the morning, and I was reminded again of how important COG outings can be as social occasions. Special thanks go to Lia Battisson for keeping the bird list and entering this into eBird – this is always a difficult task with so many participants seeing and calling out different birds they see.

Jack Holland

Round Hill Easter Camp, 14-18 April 2022

I am unsure as to how many trips COG has made to Round Hill. The original one has been lost in the mist of time. Each visit is similar but unique, like bards of old retelling a familiar saga, losing some of the tale with each retelling and adding new details, so that the story does not grow stale.

With each retelling there is a familiar theme - birds. The birds of the mallee are some of the nicest and some of the hardest birds to be seen in Australia. But I digress, I must return to the tale.

It all began well before we arrived there. There has been a change of management structure at the NPWS. This required patience and careful navigation by our leader (Sue Lashko) in order for the necessary approvals to be received.

The Thursday evening get together was also a bit different when it was announced that this outing was going to be organized on a consensus basis. This could be interesting.

Friday was spent around the campground at Whoey Tank. Nice birds included **Red-capped Robin**, **Little Buttonquail**, **Speckled Warbler**, **Zebra Finch** and **Double-barred Finch**. There was spotlighting in the evening using John and Kathy's heat-seeking gizmo. A number of geckos were found.

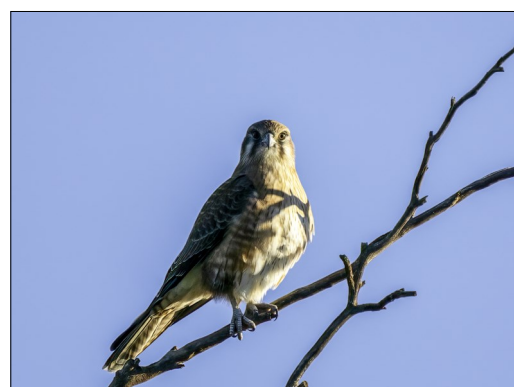
Saturday involved a visit to the "wheatfield" in the morning and to a new site where White-browed Treecreepers had been seen in the past (but not on that day). The mallee at the "wheatfields" yielded some of the mallee specialities – **Southern Scrub-Robin**, **Chestnut Quail-thrush**, **Shy Heathwren**, **Gilbert's Whistler** and **Yellow-plumed Honeyeater**. Evening drinks were taken at the dam where **Common Bronzewings** congregate.

Sunday was the all day loop. One of the highlights of the trip was a puddle beside the railway line which attracted lots of birds, including **Yellow-fronted Honeyeater**, **Grey-fronted Honeyeater**, **White-fronted Honeyeater**, **Mulga Parrot** and **Mistletoebird**. Booberoi Creek was relatively quiet with **Nankeen Night Herons** being the nicest birds seen. Lake Cargelligo Sewerage Ponds had a nice suite of birds. Lunch was beside the actual lake and then there was the traditional ice cream at Euabalong.

Special mention should be made of Lia Battisson for her record keeping and also of Steve Halliday for his expertise on all things natural. The final counts for the outing were birds 115, reptiles 11 and butterflies 12.

And so the saga ends. How did the consensus work out? Well, the consensus was that it was a great outing and thank you Sue for organizing it.

Noel Luff



Masked Woodswallow and White-browed Woodswallow, Zebra Finch

Sandra Henderson

Brown Falcon

David Cook



Clockwise from top left: Chestnut Quail-thrush, Southern Scrub-robin, Inland Thornbill, Shy Heathwren, Spotless Crake, White-fronted Honeyeater

David Cook

Namarag Reserve, Wednesday 20 April

22 members explored the quite new reserve, which forms part of the Molonglo River Reserve. The site is still under construction, and is quite different to the usual bushland reserves we visit. A wander down the river track revealed a pair of Scarlet Robins. The female posed nicely, while the male was less confiding. A couple of **Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos** flew along the river right in front of us, and two **Black-shouldered Kites** were seen at the same spot. A **Nankeen Kestrel** and a pair of **Wedge-tailed Eagles** rounded out the raptor list. A cuckoo was identified as a **Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo**, and sharp-eyed observers found three **Australasian Pipits**. The very new dam added **Australian Wood Ducks** and a **Black-fronted Dotterel** to the bird list.

Sandra Henderson

Private property, Lade Vale, NSW, Sunday 24 April

Ten COG members joined property owners Rosemary and Bob and friend Kate of the Gunning Landcare group at the property on Iron Mines Road. The first site we looked at was vegetated by direct seeding just over ten years ago. A large group of **White-winged Choughs** drew our attention initially. The woodland area proved very attractive to the smaller birds, with four species of thornbills, families of **Superb Fairywrens** and four **Scarlet Robins** among the birds moving through the trees. We moved up to the beautiful gardens around the house, and the adjacent wetland dam, where no less than eight **Common Bronzewings** flew across the dam, and an even larger group of **White-winged Choughs** (52) were counted. Distant raptors were identified as **Brown Falcons**. We enjoyed a lovely morning tea, and look forward to another visit to explore other areas of the property.

Sandra Henderson

New Places: April 2022

Sandra Henderson

Private property, Iron Mines Rd, Lade Vale NSW

Sue, Lia and I had previously visited the home of Rosemary and Bob, the organisers of the regular bird surveys at Mundoonen NR which we assist with. They invited us to explore the property further with a COG group, so Lia and I led an outing on April 24. The revegetated area proved to be a haven for small birds, and the wetland dam, while not hosting any water birds on the day, was an interesting area. We also had a visit to the old shearing shed. We are assured there are other areas of the property which would be good for another COG outing in the future.

Valour Park, Federal Hwy

I've passed this park on the way into Canberra numerous times, but have never explored it, so on the way to Mt Majura recently I called in. It is a long, narrow park, between Mt Majura and the Federal Highway. It can be accessed from the highway or from Tay St. I was there on a dull, overcast morning. I saw only ten species, with the most numerous birds being the **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** feeding on acorns.

Deadmans Point, Lake Cargellico

This Point is well away from the usual vantage point from which we view the Lake. A local had mentioned it when our group was at Lake Cargellico the previous day, so Lia and I called in on our way through the town the next morning. From the lake shore we could see, on a narrow spit to the left, a **White-necked Heron**, a **White-faced Heron**, and a **Great Egret**. Two **Great Crested Grebes** were not far off the shoreline, and three **Pied Butcherbirds** were a matter of metres from us. We managed to see 24 species in our half hour stop.

Mount McDonald

It appears only five COG members have visited Mt McDonald in the past two years. It's a 2.5km track to the summit of the mountain from the Cotter Lookout carpark on Brindabella Road. A couple of energetic walkers powered past me on the way up, but it was not particularly difficult and was a very pleasant walk. There were numerous small groups of migrating **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** flying over the track, and a few groups of **Silvereyes**. I could hear **Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos** most of the time, but sighted only one. I heard a **Superb Lyrebird**, possibly the same one I'd seen on the lookout track a little earlier.

K2C surveys

Nicki Taws

The K2C surveys this autumn were able to be held in the usual format of small teams surveying several sites on multiple properties before meeting up for lunch at Scottsdale Reserve. We covered 36 sites across 21 properties on a fine, mild partly cloudy morning (two of the properties were surveyed on a different morning).

A total of 87 species were recorded which is a typical number for the autumn surveys. After the extremely wet summer, most sites had long rank grass (and weed) growth, and plenty of new shoots on the trees and shrubs at planted sites. It was exciting to see the bountiful growth reflected in a great breeding season for many species, particularly the threatened species. Small family groups or immature birds were recorded for **Hooded Robin** (4 properties), **Diamond Firetail** (4 properties), **Brown Treecreeper** (4 properties), **Scarlet Robin** (6 properties) and **Dusky Woodswallow** (7 properties). Other threatened species recorded were **Speckled Warbler** (3), **Gang-gang** (2), **Varied Sittella** and **Flame Robin** (1). Interestingly the **Double-barred Finch** was recorded at 4 properties which is the most we have recorded during the surveys. A few summer migrants were still present including **Noisy Friarbird**, **White-throated Gerygone**, **Rufous Whistler**, **Olive-backed Oriole**, **Tree Martin** and **Rufous Songlark**. Although the weather was fine it wasn't ideal for the honeyeater migration and only small flocks of **Yellow-faced** and **White-naped Honeyeaters** were recorded. The weather on the following day when the remaining two sites were surveyed was clearer and calmer and honeyeater migration was much more pronounced with several hundred birds counted during the 20 minutes.

We would like to thank the landholders who allow us onto their properties, several of them joining in for the surveys. And thanks to Bush Heritage for allowing us to meet up at Scottsdale and covering the cost of lunch.

Most of all I would like to thank all the COG participants who have helped out since the first surveys in 2010. The consistency of the biannual surveys has created a valuable dataset which we recently shared with the University of Queensland and the NESP Threatened Species Research Hub for analysis of which management actions can benefit woodland birds. [Evidence-based management protocols for recovery of multiple threatened woodland birds \(nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au\)](https://doi.org/10.1111/rec.13610). The K2C surveys as well as data from the Greening Australia Birdwatch project (which COG also assisted with) were analysed and resulted in a publication last year [http://doi.org/10.1111/rec.13610](https://doi.org/10.1111/rec.13610). This paper highlights not only the benefit of particular management actions (replanting and control of stock grazing) for birds but also the valuable role of citizen scientists in documenting this.

Canberra Community Chorale

Birdsong

Three centuries of music celebrating birds

North Belconnen Uniting Church Melba

22 May 2022 at 3 pm

Musical Director: Dan Walker

Accompanist: Lucas Allerton



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<https://www.trybooking.com/BYCJB>

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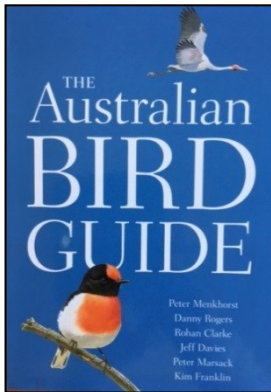
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Publications for Sale

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



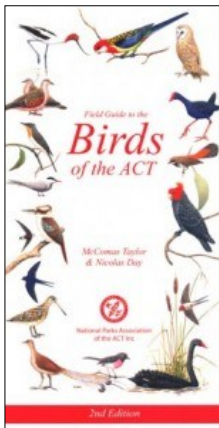
The Australian Bird Guide

2nd 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).

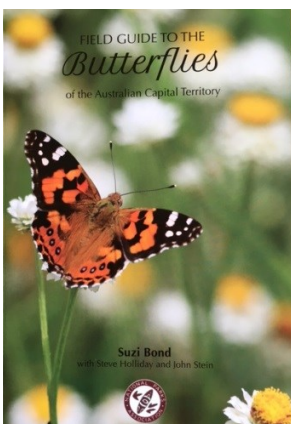


Field Guide to the Birds of the ACT

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:

N Todd
D Wright
B Howland
M McCabe
S Young
J Rose

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for June 2022 edition:

Wednesday 25 May 2022

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

gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au

or

c/- The Secretary COG,

PO Box 301 Civic Square, ACT 2608

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

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

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