



# TOOWOOMBA BIRD OBSERVERS

To encourage the observation and study of the birds of the Toowoomba area.

No. 442  
Dec '15

## Editorial Sandy Robertson

Welcome to the final edition for 2015. Unfortunately I have had to hold over the Census Report and so will hopefully have that for you in the first edition for next year.

We have lots of photos this edition. Our new Secretary, Col Hughes has been busy snapping away, as has Kev Williams and Alan Young. Billy Jolly has also shared a bathing fairy wren and advice regarding the Abberton website.

We also have a bunch of photos of the clubs 40th anniversary celebration with a key message from the event being that the Toowoomba Bird Observers Club is *Alive and Well!*

The committee are busy pulling together a calendar of outings for 2016 and will finalise a list of proposed outings early in the new year. The first three have been proposed (see right) and the more will be advised in the next edition.

Some of the suggestions so far include Bunya Mountains, Queen Mary Falls, Linthorpe Valley and plenty of other closer local spots.

There is no shortage of wonderful places to visit, but what we need most is for people to put up their hands and volunteer to lead outings. So if you have a favourite birding spot, near or far, that you know well and are confident that you could lead an outing to, I would love to hear from you. I have offered to coordinate the outings in the interim (hoping that someone out there might be interested in taking on this role???) so please email any suggestions or offers to me

[sandy.robertson6@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.robertson6@gmail.com) or call me 46972133 (evenings).

I hope you all have a very merry Christmas and I look forward to seeing or meeting many of you at one of next years outings or at a general meeting of the club.

Regards

Sandy

## 2015 Challenge

207 as at 1st Nov 2015



TOOWOOMBA  
BIRD OBSERVERS

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## Outings calendar

Jan 30/31 Queen Mary Falls

Feb 28 Ravensbourne

March 19/20 Brisbane  
wetlands



P.O. Box 4730, Toowoomba East 4350  
[www.toowoombabirdobservers.org](http://www.toowoombabirdobservers.org)

MEMBERSHIP: Adult/family \$45  
Pensioner/student \$40

# TBO 40th Anniversary Celebrations



Founding member Rod Hobson with youngest member Dakota Dyson Holland cut the cake



Wendy Henman, Helen McKilligan



Derek Wilson, Rob Collyer, Barb Collyer, Margaret Krimmer



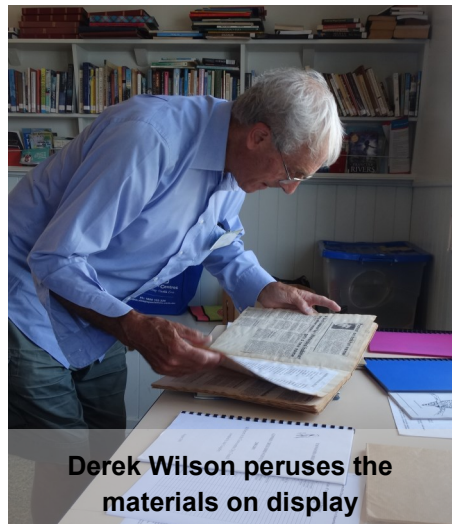
Olive Both, Sandra Wilson, Michael McGoldirck, Ross Easton



Incoming Secretary Col Hughes, Outgoing Secretary Sue Jewell, Website Convenor Mick Atzeni



Sacha and Dakota Dyson Holland



Derek Wilson peruses the materials on display

# MEMBERS PHOTO PAGE

For any who don't already know it, I have to admit that I have an addiction.

I'm compelled to photograph Variegated Fairy-wrens. I just can't resist them. Or Speckled Warblers.

And having photographed them, I have to share them!

Just look at this bloke! He's bursting with character and colour – and do you see all the splashes as if there are a dozen others in the bird-bath? Well, there aren't. He's the only one there, and he's solely responsible for all of it! Just a bundle of attitude and action!

The news is that I've just updated the Abberton website. It has been much-needed for quite some time!

I invite you to scour it anew. There are around four years-worth of new photos – but do please bear in mind that if by chance there are any older versions of Abberton pages in your cache there could be some issues when loading the new ones. If so, just click on the refresh button from time to time and all should proceed well.

I suggest the best place to start would be <http://www.abberton.org/birds2014-15.htm>

And do please feel free to let me know if any of the links don't work as they should, or if you spot any hidden typos.

I'm off for a rest.....

Bill Jolly  
Abberton, Helidon, Qld  
(27° 34' 21' S; 152° 08' 21' E)



White-naped honeyeater (adult)



White-naped honeyeater (immature)



Crested Shrike-tit

## DURIKAI BIRDS - Alan Young

Yellow faced honeyeater



Yellow-tufted honeyeater



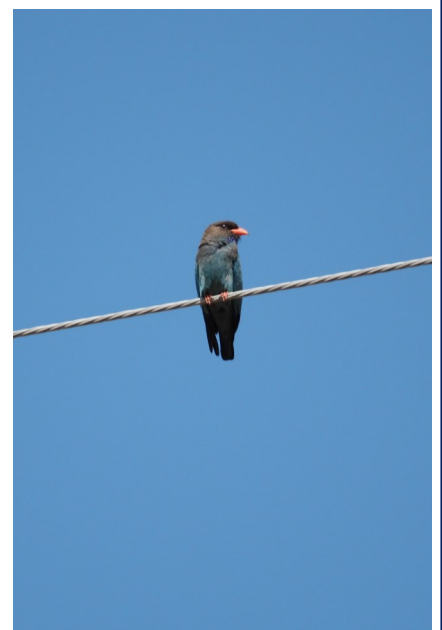
Fuscous honeyeater



# ***MORE MEMBERS PHOTOS***



**Clockwise from top left:  
Crested Shrike-tit;  
Sacred Kingfisher;  
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater;  
Dollarbird  
Superb fairywren  
Doublebar finch  
Brown Honeyeater.  
Photos: Col Hughes**



# AND EVEN MORE MEMBERS PHOTOS



Clockwise from top left: Owllet Nightjar; Black-faced Monarch; Painted Honeyeater; Spectacled Monarch; White Magpie; White-eared Monarch; Rose-crowned Fruit Dove; Little Shrike-thrush'

Photos: Kev Williams



# MEMBERS BIRD NOTES

**MEMBERS' BIRD NOTES:** All sightings seen by, or reported to members of the Toowoomba Bird Observers. Accuracy not vouched for by the TBO. Please check with observer before citing.

Species	Date	Location	Observers
Pink-eared Duck	26/08/2015	Wyreema STP	MA, RJ
Grey Goshawk	29/11/2015	Bunya Mountains	PM, KO
Gull-billed Tern	24/10/2015	Back Flagstone Ck Rd.	MG, EC, MA
Red-kneed Dotterel	24/10/2015	Helidon Spa	MG, EC, MA
Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove	13/10/2015	Highfields Falls	KW
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	29/08/2015	Sawpit Gully, Rockmount	TBO
White-throated Nightjar	26/08/2015	Rockmount Rd Rockmount	JM
Australian Owlet-nightjar	14/09/2015	Highfields Falls	KW
Large-billed Scrubwren	29/08/2015	Sawpit Gully, Rockmount	TBO
Spotted Quail-thrush	25/10/2015	White Mountain Road	MA
White-eared Monarch	26/10/2015	Redwood Park	KW, MG, MA
Varied Triller	29/08/2015	Sawpit Gully, Rockmount	TBO
White-browed Woodswallow	30/11/2015	Highfields	PM, KO
Paradise Riflebird	29/11/2015	Bunya Mountains	PM, KO
Green Catbird	29/11/2015	Bunya Mountains	PM, KO
Regent Bowerbird	29/08/2015	Sawpit Gully, Rockmount	TBO
White-winged Chough (6)	22/11/2015	Highfields	PM, KO
Brown Songlark	26/10/2015	Felton	MA
Blackbird	12/11/2015	Withcott	K & KM

**MA**, M. Atzeni; **EC**, E. Caudell; **MG**, M. Gittins; **RJ**, R. Jenkins; **JM**, J. McAlpine; **PM**, P. McConnell; **K & KM**, Ken & Kim McKeown; **KO**, K. O'Donnell; **KW**, K. Williams.

**TBO** – Toowoomba Bird Observers outing.

If anyone wishes to submit bird notes they can do this directly to me at [mccommel@usq.edu.au](mailto:mccommel@usq.edu.au) or via the Club's mailing address.

Thanks

Pat McConnell

# ***BITS AND PIECES***

## **AGM**

A new committee was voted in at the October AGM (See last page for details)

A motion was put forward and passed at the AGM enabling the Executive Committee to make the necessary changes to the constitution to bring it into line with the Model rules whereby the Executive Committee is required to meet at least once per quarter. This will remove the onerous requirement to meet on a strictly monthly basis and will give the Executive the flexibility to meet (at least quarterly, more as needed) as and when required to most effectively manage the business of the club.

Hopefully this may also enable more people, who found it difficult to commit to regular monthly meetings, to put their hand up and volunteer for a role on the Executive Committee.

Changes to the constitution will also enable the recognition of remote communication tools e.g. phone and email as legitimate tools for conducting meetings and official club business.

## **WANTED LIST**

### **Outings Leaders**

Do you have a favourite birding spot that you can share with club members. Leading an outing is not as hard as you may think. In a nutshell as an outing leader you are required to (with the assistance of other members and the executive) have some knowledge of the site being visited—with particular attention to any safety or access issues; coordinate car pooling if possible/required, record attendance for the day; make a bird list and write a report about the day to send to the newsletter editor. The club also has equipment including scopes and first aid kit which you should arrange with the executive to be brought along.

If you are interested in leading an outing please contact Sandy Robertson and put forth your suggestions so that they may be considered in the final outings list for 2016

### **Presenters**

Have you been on any interesting birding trips lately? Do you have some birding tips you could share or bird photography tips to share with other members? Do you know of any other people who might make an interesting guest speaker for TBO members. Please share with an Executive Committee member so that we can arrange more variety and interesting things for TBO club members to participate in.

## **TBO Online**

Are you interested in contributing to the clubs internet presence?

We are looking to hold a workshop early in the New Year to look at boosting the clubs website presence and making it easier for prospective and existing members to access information about the club and planned events.

If you are interested in being involved, please contact Sandy (Editor) or Col Hughes (Secretary) and let us know so that we can include you in planning a time and date etc.

TBO Website and facebook:

[toowoombabirdobservers.org.au](http://toowoombabirdobservers.org.au)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Toowoomba-Bird-Observers/175472075881350>

## COMING EVENTS

No outing for December

### **JANUARY 30/31 Queen Mary Falls**

#### **Outing Leader...TBA**

This can be a day trip or an optional overnight trip if you are interested. Not all details have been finalised yet so it is imperative that you let Sandy know if you are coming so that you can be kept up to date with logistical details. A special bulletin will be issued in January with more details about this trip.

If car pooling, a fair and reasonable contribution to the drivers fuel costs (approx. \$10 for one passenger, \$15 for two) would be expected. Queen Mary Falls is a 250km round trip from Toowoomba.

**For all club outings, please advise the Outing Leader if you will be attending so that car pooling can be arranged where possible and Leaders can start the outing when all attendees have safely arrived, (or advise every one of any last minute cancellations due to inclement weather).**

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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**Deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is Monday 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2016**

Please e-mail or post articles and photos to the Editor.

**If undeliverable return to**

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**PO Box 4730, Toowoomba East Q 4350**

**Surface Mail**