



TOOWOOMBA BIRD OBSERVERS

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

No. 446
Aug '16

Editorial Sandy Robertson

Hi all,
Welcome to the August edition.

As always, Al Young has some great photos to share. Also Charles Dove attended the June outing and has shared some of his photos of that event. Olive Booth, Margie Easton and Col Hughes have also shared some of their great photos.

As always the AGM is fast approaching. Annual subscriptions are due and need to be paid up asap as only financial members can nominate and/or

vote at the AGM.

All positions will be declared vacant, so please consider putting up your hand to take on a role to ensure the continuity of your club.



Kookaburra, Duggan Park
Photo: Sandy Robertson

No recent update sorry

2016 Challenge

127 as at Feb 22, 2016

Recent full moon rising through
the trees around my dam.
Photo: Sandy Robertson



In This Issue

[Outing Report](#)

[Outing Report](#)

[Members Photos](#)

[Bits and Pieces](#)

[Coming Events](#)

Proposed Outings Calendar

Sunday 28th August. Mt Edwards Gorge and Moogerah Dam

Saturday 24th September TBC

October 19th at the Uniting Church Hall (Cnr North and Tor)

Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October. Census outing

Sunday 6th November. Dwyers Scrub outing jointly with Toowoomba Field Naturalists

December. Breakfast with the birds TBC



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

June Outing Report

By Olive Booth

It was a cold but fine morning for the outing to Cooby Dam. There were 18 keen birders there including two visitors from Ulladulla, N.S.W. We met at the last picnic area beyond the dam wall. After waiting for the fog to clear we set off to see some birds. On the way there was a Koala in one of the trees. At the picnic area there were quite a few Choughs. We then went to Loveday Cove for morning tea, then checked out the Water birds. All together we got 55 bird species. List below.

Black swan, Australian wood duck, Pacific Black duck, Grey teal, Hard head, Australian Grebe, Little Pied and a little black Cormorant. Pelican, White faced heron, Little, Intermediate and a Large Egret, Royal and Yellow Spoonbill, Whistling Kite, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Dusky Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, Black-winged Stilt, Black-fronted Dotterel, Masked Lapwing, Spotted Dove, Bar-shouldered Dove, Galah, Little Lorikeet, Pale-headed Rosella, Red-rumped Parrot, Azure Kingfisher, Laughing Kookaburra, Superb Fairy-wren, Variegated Fairy-wren, Spotted and Striated Pardalote, Noisy Friarbird, Noisy Miner, Yellow-faced Honeyeater and a Brown Honeyeater, Rose Robin and an Eastern Yellow Robin, Golden and Rufus Whistler, Magpie Lark, Grey Fantail, Willy Wagtail, Grey and Pied Butcherbird, Pied Currawong, Magpie, Crow, White-winged Chough, Red-browed Finch, Welcome Swallow and a Fairy Martin. Total number 55 species.

We finished about 11.30 a.m. but some birders wanted more so they went to Highfields Falls.

Spoonbills (Yellow and Royal), Grey Butcherbird, Highfields Falls

Photos: Charles Dove



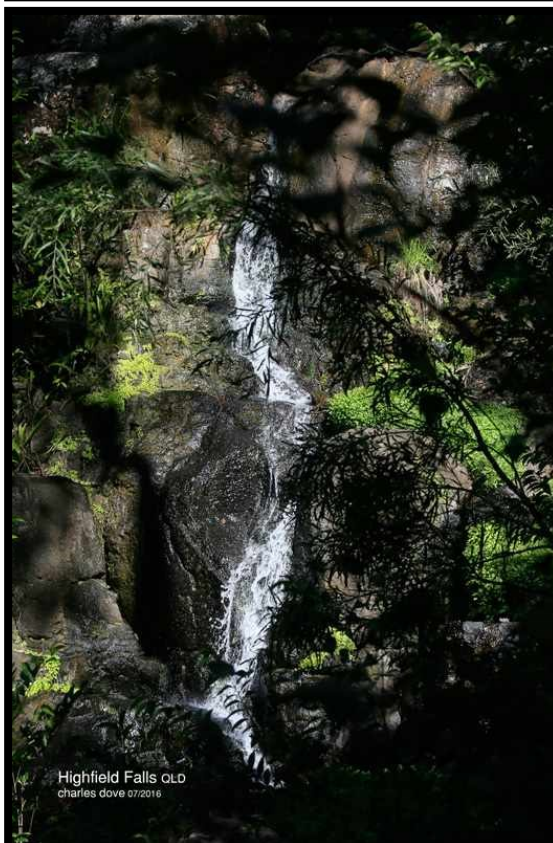
Yellow n' Royal Spoonbill
Cooby Creek Reservoir, Groomsville, QLD
charles dove 07/2016



Grey Butcherbird
Cooby Creek Reservoir, Groomsville, QLD
charles dove 07/2016

White-winged Chough

Photos: Olive Booth

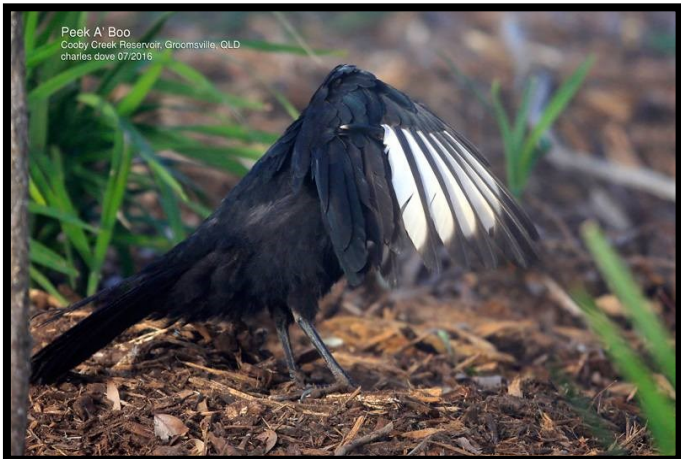


Highfield Falls QLD
charles dove 07/2016



More photos from the Cooby Dam Outing by Charles Dove (Clockwise from top)

- Brown Quail
- Great Egret
- Koala
- Pelicans
- Foggy Arrival
- White-winged Chough
- Jewelled web



MEMBERS PHOTO PAGE



Yellow-throated Scrubwren



Male Golden Whistler

Photos: Allan Young



Male Yellow-throated Scrubwren...at whose bower?



Eastern Whipbird

MEMBERS PHOTO PAGE



Bowerbirds
Photos: Margie Easton
Grey-crowned Babbler



Common Bronze-wing
Photo: Col Hughes

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
Glossy Ibis	11/07/2016	Cooby Dam	MA et al
Australasian Shoveler (2 pair)	11/05/2016	Cooby Dam	DB, GG
Australasian Shoveler	28/03/2016	Wyreema Sewage Treatment Plant	MA
Australasian Shoveler	27/05/2016	Helidon Spa	MA
Antarctic Prion	18/06/2016	Off Southport	RH
Fairy Prion	18/06/2016	Off Southport	RH
Wilson's Storm-petrel	18/06/2016	Off Southport	RH
Kermadec Petrel	18/06/2016	Off Southport	RH
Providence Petrel	18/06/2016	Off Southport	RH
Australasian Gannet	18/06/2016	Off Southport	RH
Spotted Harrier	1/08/2016	Gowrie Creek	DB, GG
Spotted Harrier	13/07/2016	Lake Clarendon	MA et al
Swamp Harrier	28/03/2016	Wyreema STP	MA
Swamp Harrier	13/07/2016	Lake Clarendon	MA et al
Little Eagle	2/07/2016	Old Goombungee Road	PM, KO
Little Eagle	16/07/2016	Wyreema STP	MA, AS
Grey Goshawk	31/07/2016	Highfields	PM, KO
Black Falcon	24/06/2016	Old Goombungee Road	PM, KO
Peregrine Falcon (pair)	16/07/2016	Scenic Rim Dr, Upper Flagstone	MA
Red-winged Parrot (pair)	26/07/2016	Kulpi	PM, KO
Bluebonnet (2)	-/05/2015	Irongate	AS
Bluebonnet (4)	-/06/2015	Linthorpe	AS
Bluebonnet (2)	-/09/2015	Biddeston	AS
Bluebonnet (2)	-/05/2016	Scrubby Mt (SW of Pittsworth)	AS
Bluebonnet	30/04/2016	Downlands College Rural Centre	BW
White-headed Pigeon	22/06/2016	Kitchener St Toowoomba	RH
White-headed Pigeon (5)	1/08/2016	Mt Kynoch Toowoomba	PM, KO
White-headed Pigeon (juv) *	4/08/2016	Murphy's Creek	MA
Barn Owl	28/05/2016	Wyreema STP	MA
Noisy Pitta	30/06/2016	Ravensbourne NP	MA, RH, JH
Eastern Spinebill	1/06/2016	Webb St Toowoomba	RH
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	-/08/2016	Gowrie Junction	DB, GG
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	13/07/2016	Redbank Ck Rd, Adare	MA et al
Black-chinned Honeyeater	13/07/2016	Adare Rd, Adare	MA et al

MEMBERS BIRD NOTES continued

Red-capped Robin (pair)	26/07/2016	Kulpi	PM, KO
Crested Shrike-tit (2)	27/05/2016	Helidon Spa, Ashlands Dr	MA
Spotted Quail-thrush	30/04/2016	Torrington NP, NSW	NM
Paradise Riflebird	11/07/2016	Ravensbourne NP	MA et al
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	11/07/2016	Ravensbourne HP	MA et al
Chestnut-breasted Mannikin (6)	16/07/2016	Wyreema STP	MA
Plum-headed Finch (30+)	14/05/2016	Upper Lockyer – Thomas Rd	MA
Australian Raven	3/07/2016	Cooby Dam	PM, KO
Horsfield's Bushlark	28/03/2016	Wyreema STP	MA

* First record for this sector.

** This is a large number of Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters for our local area. I can't remember hearing of this many at one location before. There seems to be a small influx into our local study area at the moment.

MA, M. Atzeni; **DB**, D. Beal; **GG**, G. Glass; **JH**, J. Hoyle; **RH**, R. Hobson; **PM**, P. McConnell; **NM**, N. McKilligan; **KO**, K. O'Donnell; **AS**, A. Silcock; **BW**, B. Weller.

If anyone wishes to submit bird notes they can do this directly to me at mccannel@usq.edu.au or via the Club's mailing address.

Thanks

Pat McConnell

BITS AND PIECES

TBO Website and Facebook:

Forum - toowoombabirdobservers.org.au

Website - currently under construction <http://birdobservers.wix.com/tboc>

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

August Outing details:

Meet at the car-park of the Aratula Hotel/Motel at 8.15 am to leave there at 8.30 am sharp. As the forecast is for a cool morning I don't think we need to start any earlier than that. The drive will take about 1½ hrs from the centre of Toowoomba, and means people have to leave Toowoomba at about 6.45 am depending on where they live.

For people coming from the west: from Toowoomba travel the New England Highway south for about an hour and turn onto the Cunningham Highway towards Brisbane at the Glengallan junction. The hotel is on this highway, 15 minutes from Cunningham's Gap on the western side of Aratula. If you go through Aratula you have gone too far. Coming from the east: travel the Cunningham Highway from Ipswich or Amberley to Aratula and it is 1 km further on the left-hand side. **Upon Arrival: Please register on the Sign-on Sheet, and pay Lesley \$1 for access to 'The Gorge'.**

After meeting, greeting and housekeeping we will leave the car-park and travel the Charlwood Road to 'The Gorge Camping Grounds', a private business. We will go birding in the Mt Edwards Gorge and have morning tea here. I've booked a picnic area until 11.30 am. It will cost \$1 per person which I will collect at the Aratula meeting place. There are toilets here.

From there we will drive 10 minutes to Lake Moogerah. The lower picnic area is at the southern end of the Gorge and there's plenty of birding in the picnic areas below and above the dam wall. I suggest we have lunch here. There is a good kiosk/café and toilets.

After lunch we can continue around Lake Moogerah stopping at any vantage points to check out the water birds. This road eventually returns to the Cunningham Highway.

What to bring: Hats, sunscreen, insect repellent, binocs, cameras, etc., water, morning tea, lunch and chairs. You will need your own drinking water and firewood if you wish to use the BBQs.

Level of fitness: This outing will suit all levels of fitness. At the Gorge Camping Grounds we will be walking on bush tracks beside Reynolds Creek. More active members can go bush. All of the paths at the Lake are easy and flat, however the grassed areas can be quite steep. The road to the lower picnic area is steep and it would be better to drive down and back. Around the lake we'll be stopping at the roadside.

Be aware: Snakes are active but should not be a problem, but watch your step when rock-hopping. There is a possibility of ticks. Watch out for traffic when stopping beside the road.



COMING EVENTS

August Outing

Leader: Lesley Beaton

Date: Sunday 28th August

Meet at the car-park of the Aratula Hotel/Motel at 8.15 am to leave there at 8.30 am sharp.

The drive will take about 1½ hrs from the centre of Toowoomba, and means people have to leave Toowoomba at about 6.45 am.

Further details on this outing are on the previous page.

If car pooling, please pay a fair and reasonable contribution to the drivers fuel costs.

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).

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Deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is Friday 30th SEPTEMBER 2016

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

If undeliverable return to

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