



# TOOWOOMBA BIRD OBSERVERS

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

No. 457  
Dec '18

## Editorial Sandy Robertson

Hi all,

First and foremost I would like to acknowledge work of Margie Easton who spent many tedious hours at the Landcare Discovery Centre scanning old copies of the clubs newsletter so that we have a digital record. We now have a digital copy of volume 1 through to 191. Unfortunately the Landcare Discovery Centre has closed down and this facility, as well as the housing of our library in this facility is no longer available to us. I currently have the library (with nowhere convenient to store it) so if there is anything from the library that you would like to borrow, please let me know. I will endeavour to include some titles and/or book reviews in future newsletters to highlight some of the resources available.

I am also going to include in the newsletter a new section 'Looking Back' in which I will include snippets from the clubs historical newsletters. This edition includes the inaugural club newsletter, It is only a two

paper so I have taken the liberty of including the whole thing. It is a little difficult to read in spots, but I hope you enjoy it

Lastly, we have a new executive committee, not many changes. Marie Gittins remains in the Treasurer position (for the last time she assures us, please, anyone out there willing to take on this role, please consider putting your hand up next October. We don't do a lot of transactions, so it is not a huge role, but one that will need to be handed over after this year). Nicci Thompson has taken on the role of Secretary and I am sure that will keep her busy. I have taken on the Presidents Position but will also remain as newsletter editor, at least until someone else puts their hand up to take it on.

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## Proposed Events Calendar

Unless advised otherwise all outings are scheduled for the last Saturday of the month

**January 26th**

Ravensbourne NP

**February**

Lockyer Valley Wetlands

**March**

Crows Nest Bushland Reserve

**April**

Redcliffe/Victoria Point

**May**

Bunya Mountains Campout

**June**

Raptor workshop and Raptor Census

## Annual Challenge

230 species as at October  
2018



TOOWOOMBA  
BIRD OBSERVERS

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

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

# ***July Outing Report***

## **OUTING TO ROGERS RESERVE AND CHARMAINE COURT RESERVE IN HIGHFIELDS**

***BY MIKE MCGOLDRICK***

As part of their monthly outing the members of the Toowoomba Bird Observers met up at 8:00am on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July to enjoy the local birds of the Highfields area. There was a good turn out on this lovely fine day with 13 members and 4 guests coming along. The group started at Rogers Park Bushland Reserve, just near the Highfields Library and then went to Charmaine Court Bushland Reserve at Kleinton, before finishing at Cooby Dam for morning tea. Luckily both the Reserves have been saved so far from council development and provide an array of birds for all to enjoy.

Right from the start at Rogers Park there was a symphony of calls as the birds were starting to get their nests ready for the coming breeding season. An **Australian Magpie** was observed building its spring nest at the beginning of the walk. Throughout the Reserve, **Rainbow Lorikeets**, **Scaly-breasted Lorikeets**, **Australian King Parrots** and **Galahs** could be seen coming and going from tree hollows. The Galahs in particular were hard at work expanding hollows and in one case tearing into a trunk at the juncture with a branch to create their nest. **Brown Cuckoo-Doves** flew over the group a couple of times being chased at one stage by a pair of **Noisy Miners**. A pair of **Eastern Whipbirds** were fossicking just off the path but their unique call surprisingly wasn't heard during the walk. This is a bit of a change for a bird that is often heard but difficult to spot at times. Other birds seen there included the **Little Corella**, **Spotted Pardalote**, **Pied Currawong**, **Grey Butcherbird**, **Pale-headed Rosella**, and **Noisy Miner**.

The group then moved onto Charmaine Court Bushland Reserve. This Bushland Reserve is a small gem of remnant dry rainforest saved from the development bulldozers by the previous Crows Nest Shire Council which was probably representative of much of the Highfields area vegetation before development and which is home to many native species of plants and wildlife including birds and butterflies according to the season. There were a number of smaller bird species to be seen flitting about. The first bird seen was the **Grey Fantail** which was chasing and catching the early season Caper White butterflies. A section on the eastern side provided a concentration of birds with **Golden Whistler**, **Brown Honeyeater**, **White-browed Scrubwren**, **Double-barred Finch**, **Superb Fairy-wren**, **Pied Currawong**, **Figbird**, **Little Friarbird**, **Yellow Thornbill**, **White-throated Gerygone**, **Rainbow Lorikeet**, **Australian Magpie**, **Yellow-rumped Thornbill**, **Grey-crowned Babbler** and **White-winged Chough** being spotted.

The group finished off by heading to Cooby Dam for morning tea during which we were entertained by a pair of **Laughing Kookaburras** having a vigorous territorial dispute!

### **Bird List: Rogers Reserve**

Spotted Dove, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Little Corella, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Australian King Parrot, Pale-headed Rosella, Laughing Kookaburra, Eastern Whipbird, Noisy Miner, Spotted Pardalote, Grey Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, Torresian Crow

### **Bird List: Charmaine Court Reserve**

Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Rainbow Lorikeet, Pale-headed Rosella, Laughing Kookaburra, Superb Fairy-wren, Striated Pardalote, White-browed Scrubwren, White-throated Gerygone, Brown Thornbill, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Brown Honeyeater, Noisy Miner, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Little Friarbird, Grey-crowned Babbler, Golden Whistler, Rufous Whistler, Grey Shrike-thrush, Magpie-lark, Grey Fantail, Figbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, White-winged Chough, House Sparrow, Double-barred Finch, Silvereye

# September Outing Report

## OUTING TO RAVENSBOURNE NATIONAL PARK

By Mike McGoldrick

Photos by Kev Williams

Six keen birders from Toowoomba Bird Observers met at the Black Bean Day-Use Area of the Ravensbourne NP on a fine cool Saturday morning and we also welcomed two members of the Blue Mountains Bird Observers who were holidaying in the area to accompany us on the walk.

The first birds we encountered as we moved along the track were Grey Shrike-thrush, Brown Thornbill, Pied Currawong and Lewin's Honeyeater. We then had excellent views of a male Regent Bowerbird resplendent in his black and gold livery foraging for his breakfast in one of the black bean trees lining the track.

An Australian King Parrot flashed through the foliage while the ubiquitous Brown Gerygones called incessantly as they fossicked among the vines. A pair of male Golden Whistlers regaled us with their liquid notes and posed conveniently for photos.

Then one of the group spotted a female Paradise Riflebird probing under the bark of trees for her breakfast with her long decurved bill. All agreed this was the bird of the day! After much snapping of cameras to capture images of the unique scalloping of the breast, we moved further along the track and spied Rufous Fantail and Eastern Yellow Robin.

Next, Tyde's keen eyes spied a Spectacled Monarch flitting through the foliage. A group of LBJs caused some confusion but were eventually identified as a mixed flock of Brown Gerygone and Large-billed Scrubwren.

Rainbow Lorikeets screeched overhead while a lone Green Catbird called from down in the forest on the lower track. Again Tyde's eyes spotted a Crested Shrike-tit high up in the foliage of a large eucalypt tree which resulted in cricked necks as we craned our necks to get a view.

We then added Varied Triller on the return trip to the picnic area and were entertained by Leaden Flycatcher and Spotted Pardalote while enjoying our well-earned morning tea.



Regent Bowerbird Male



Golden Whistler Male



Paradise Riflebird Female



Paradise Riflebird Female

**Bird List:** Australian Brush-turkey, Grey Goshawk, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Horsfields Bronze Cuckoo, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Laughing Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Australian King Parrot, Pale-headed Rosella, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Green Catbird (h), Regent Bowerbird, White-throated Treecreeper, Lewin's Honeyeater, Spotted Pardalote, White-browed Scrubwren, Large-billed Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone, Brown Thornbill, Eastern Whipbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Varied Triller, Varied Sittella, Crested Shrike-tit, Australian Golden Whistler, Grey Shrike-thrush, Grey Fantail, Rufous Fantail, Spectacled Monarch, Black-faced Monarch, Leaden Flycatcher, Torresian Crow, Eastern Yellow Robin, Silvereve



Photos by  
Kev Williams



# Census Report

## Census October 2018

Eighteen people participated in this year's Annual Census held 26<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> October. 190 species were seen in total, which is an impressive total, especially since the weather on a couple of days was not great bird watching weather! So congrats to all who made a survey.

Sectors W 2,3, and 4 were not surveyed but all other sectors were covered to a greater or lesser degree. Sector C7 was most prolific, yielding a total of 136 bird species!

Some of the less common birds for our area that were turned up on the day were the Hoary-headed Grebe, Baillon's Crake, and a Spotless Crake. Masked and White-browed Woodswallows also turned up in a number of places.

So thanks again everyone. With a few more participants next year, who knows what sort of total we might achieve!

### Thanks to the following Participants:

- N1 Sacha & Dakota Dylan-Holland
- S2,S3,S4 Al Young, Mike McGoldrick
- C1 Jan Christensen
- N2, C3,C4 Pat McConnell Kath O'Donnell
- C3,4,5,6,7,8 Steven Doyle, Olive Booth, Col Hughes, Jan Christensen
- N2 Kevin & Kay Williams
- W1, N1, N3, C3, C4,C5, C6, C7, C8, S1, S2, S3 Mick Atzeni, Tyde Bands, Martin Clark
- S3 John McAlpine
- C6 Helen Scanlan
- C3,C7 Bill Jolly

# A BIRDING BONANZA IN REDWOOD PARK DURING THE DROUGHT IN 2018.

Text and photos by Al Young

Redwood Park is probably the premier bushland reserve (243 ha) in Toowoomba because it contains a variety of habitats, including a significant area of endangered dry rainforest (semi-evergreen vine scrub) plus areas of dry eucalypt open forest with a grassy/shrubby understory.

Over the years about 145 species of birds (Pat McConnell, 1996) have been recorded in the park, a number of which are considered to be uncommon/endangered/vulnerable. These include: Black-breasted Button-quail (endangered), Powerful Owl, Barking Owl, Sooty Owl, Masked Owl and just recently in August, 2018 several Turquoise Parrots.

Black-breasted Button-quail have not been sighted in the park for many years until recently (winter-spring, 2018) when feeding scrapings, called platelets on the forest floor and dropping indicative of BBBQ were found in the vine scrub. Also confirmed by camera trap footage. The return of the BBBQ to Redwood is most certainly due to the efforts of a small dedicated band of Friends of the Escarpment (FEP) volunteers who have made significant progress to remove invasive weeds, such as Madeira Vine and Cat's Claw Creeper which adversely affect the foraging behaviour of the quail.

The appearance of Turquoise Parrots in 2018 was very unusual but strange things often happen during periods of prolonged droughts.

As the drought intensifies in the Toowoomba Region during winter and early spring of 2018 the local birds are drawn to the last remaining water sources in those creeks that still have some water left. Gatton Creek in Redwood Park still has a few accessible small pools and if you are prepared to sit and wait for several hours and risk a numb bum you might be rewarded with some great birding moments!

Between 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 and 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2018 I have sat quietly by Gatton Creek in Redwood Park on 13 occasions for a total of 32 hours recording and photographing those species of birds that came to the water to 'skinny dip' and/or drink. Most observation occurred between 8:30 am and about 11:00 am with one session each in the early and late afternoon.



The frequency of occurrence (f%) of each species, expressed as a % (rounded to the nearest whole number) is shown in the following table.

Species	f(%)	Species	f(%)
Brown Goshawk	8(1)	Golden Whistler (male, female, imm)	54
Collared Sparrowhawk (juv)	8	Rufous Whistler (male, female)	46
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	23(3)	Grey Shrike-thrush	54
Peaceful Dove	23	Spectacled Monarch	23
Shining Bronze Cuckoo	8	Black-faced Monarch	8
Spotted Pardalote (male, female)	62	Leaden Flycatcher (female)	23
Striated Pardalote	23	Rufous Fantail	39
White-browed Scrubwren	39	Grey Fantail	77
Large-billed Scrubwren	15(2)	Willie Wagtail	8
Brown Thornbill	15	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike*	23
Lewin's Honeyeater	100	White-winged Triller (female)	8
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	100	Varied Triller (male, female)	15
Brown-headed Honeyeater	46	Olive-backed Oriole	62
White-throated Honeyeater	39	Australasian Figbird	54
White-naped Honeyeater	100	Dusky Woodswallow	23
Brown Honeyeater	31	Regent Bowerbird (male, female)	8
Scarlet Honeyeater (Myzomela)	100	Double-barred Finch	23
Rose Robin (male)	23	Red-browed Finch	39
Eastern Yellow Robin	23	Silvereye	92

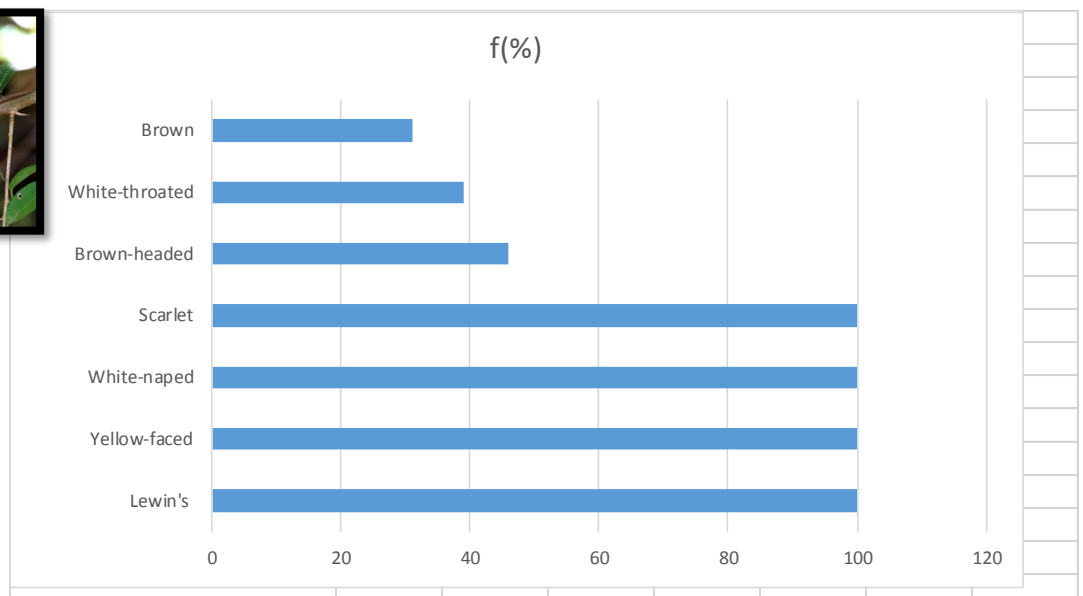
\*Adult. subspecies *robusta* dark morph

During these 'stake-outs' a total of 38 species were seen coming to the waterhole to drink and/or dip or to look for a snack! (E.g. Brown Goshawk and Collared Sparrowhawk). Other species of birds heard or seen in the general area of the 'stake-out' position are not included in this summary.

Some species, like Lewin's Honeyeaters, Silvereyes and White-naped Honeyeaters were not too nervous by my presence but others, like Monarchs, Rose Robin, Leaden Flycatcher and Finches were very wary. Most birds arrived in waves usually led by a vanguard of Silvereyes, followed by Lewin's, White-naped, Yellow-faced and Scarlet Honeyeaters.



**Frequency of Occurrence (f%) of Honeyeaters Drinking at Gatton Cr. Redwood Park, 2018.**



Seven species of honeyeaters were observed which represents 18% of all species recorded. Over the years I have birded in Redwood Park many times but I can't recall ever seeing or hearing Brown-headed, White-throated or Brown Honeyeaters before. Pat McConnell (1996) recorded Brown but not Brown-headed or White-throated Honeyeaters, so these latter two species might be new records for the park. Juvenile Brown-headed and White-naped Honeyeaters were both seen which suggests despite the drought some honeyeaters are in breeding mode. Juvenile White-naped Honeyeaters could be easily mistaken for adult Brown-headed Honeyeaters, especially if they are seen flitting through the forest canopy. Quite often there would be three or four different species drinking together, usually Silvereyes plus two or three different honeyeaters.

White-bellied Cuckoo-shrikes which are apparently quite rare in the park appeared on three different occasions. They were all, except for one bird, the dark morph of the subspecies *robusta*. The odd looking bird had plumage somewhere between the light and dark morph of the *robusta* subspecies (See photos below). Maybe it was just a plumage transition phase during the moult. No Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes were seen, even though they are generally more common in the park than White-bellied.

On two different occasions raptors (Brown Goshawk and Collared Sparrowhawk) appeared in the stake-out area which sent all the birds fleeing in great haste. Both raptors then sat quietly (on different occasions) nearby for about 20 minutes by which time many birds were returning to drink. The Brown Goshawk took flight from its perch and crash landed into the shrubs near the waters' edge but was unsuccessful in snatching a morning snack. The Collared Sparrowhawk which was a juvenile used a similar hunting technique and was also unsuccessful.

There were a number of taxa that are quite common in the park but were not seen during this study. They were: lorikeets, parrots & rosellas, fairy-wrens, gerygones, Torresian Crow and Pied Currawong.

It was impossible to estimate the relative abundance of most species because I couldn't tell whether some individuals returned to the water more than once (All Lewin's Honeyeaters and Silvereyes look the same to me!). However, assuming individual birds only appeared once (Probably an incorrect assumption) then the most abundant species were Silvereyes, Lewin's, White-naped, Yellow-faced and Scarlet Honeyeater in that order.

Other animals seen near the creek were: Eastern Brown Snake (*Pseudonaja textilis*), Carpet Python (*Morelia spilota*), Lace Monitor (*Varanus varius*) and Short-beaked Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*).

## References:

McConnell, P (1996). The Birds of Redwood Park Toowoomba *an annotated checklist*. USQ Press.

Menkhorst, P., Rogers, D., Clarke, R., Davies, J., Marsack, P. and Franklin, K. (2017). The Australian Bird Guide. CSIRO Publishing.





# **ANNUAL CHALLENGE**

Can you add to this list?

The following pages are the Toowoomba Bird Observers Challenge Checklist.

Over 300 species have been reported with a 20 km radius of Toowoomba City since 1975.

In any given year we can expect to record 220+ species with a combined effort (= the yearly challenge).

So far this year 230 species have been recorded.

Birds listed in Red, have not yet been sighted/reported for the 2018 year.

Email your sightings asap to the Records Officer or Newsletter Editor

[janfay@westnet.com.au](mailto:janfay@westnet.com.au); [sandy.robertson6@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.robertson6@gmail.com)

## **Toowoomba Bird Observers Checklist as at October 2018 (306 species)**

Observer \_\_\_\_\_ Month & Year \_\_\_\_\_

Magpie Goose	Australian Bustard	White-winged Black Tern
Plumed Whistling-Duck	Tawny Frogmouth	White-tailed Tropicbird
Wandering Whistling-Duck	Spotted Nightjar	Gould's Petrel
Blue-billed Duck	White-throated Nightjar	Wedge-tailed Shearwater
Pink-eared Duck	Australian Owlet-nightjar	Black-necked Stork
Black Swan	White-throated Needletail	Australian Pelican
Hardhead	Fork-tailed Swift	Australian Little Bittern
Australasian Shoveler	Lewin's Rail	Black Bittern
Pacific Black Duck	Buff-banded Rail	Nankeen Night-Heron
Northern Mallard	Australian Spotted Crake	Striated Heron
Grey Teal	Baillon's Crake	Eastern Cattle Egret
Chestnut Teal	Spotless Crake	White-necked Heron
Freckled Duck	Pale-vented Bush-hen	Great Egret
Musk Duck	Australian Swamphen	Intermediate Egret
Australian Wood Duck	Dusky Moorhen	White-faced Heron
Cotton Pygmy-goose	Black-tailed Native-hen	Little Egret
Australian Brush-turkey	Eurasian Coot	Australian White Ibis
Stubble Quail	Brolga	Straw-necked Ibis
Brown Quail	Bush Stone-curlew	Yellow-billed Spoonbill
King Quail	Red-necked Avocet	Royal Spoonbill
Australasian Grebe	White-headed Stilt	Glossy Ibis
Hoary-headed Grebe	Pacific Golden Plover	Little Pied Cormorant

Great Crested Grebe	Red-capped Plover	Great Cormorant
Rock Dove	Black-fronted Dotterel	Little Black Cormorant
White-headed Pigeon	Banded Lapwing	Pied Cormorant
Spotted Dove	Masked Lapwing	Australasian Darter
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	Red-kneed Dotterel	Osprey
Wonga Pigeon	Australian Painted-snipe	Black-shouldered Kite
Squatter Pigeon	Comb-crested Jacana	Square-tailed Kite
Common Bronzewing	Whimbrel	Pacific Baza
Crested Pigeon	Black-tailed Godwit	Wedge-tailed Eagle
Diamond Dove	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Little Eagle
Peaceful Dove	Curlew Sandpiper	Swamp Harrier
Bar-shouldered Dove	Red-necked Stint	Spotted Harrier
Pacific Emerald-Dove	Latham's Snipe	Grey Goshawk
Wompoo Fruit-Dove	Common Sandpiper	Brown Goshawk
Superb Fruit-Dove	Common Greenshank	Collared Sparrowhawk
Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove	Marsh Sandpiper	Red Goshawk
Topknot Pigeon	Red-necked Phalarope	White-bellied Sea-Eagle
Pheasant Coucal	Red-backed Button-Quail	Whistling Kite
Eastern Koel	Black-breasted Button-Quail	Brahminy Kite
Channel-billed Cuckoo	Painted Button-Quail	Black Kite
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	Red-chested Button-Quail	Sooty Owl
Black-eared Cuckoo	Little Button-Quail	Masked Owl
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Australian Pratincole	Eastern Barn Owl
Little Bronze-Cuckoo	Silver Gull	Powerful Owl
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Sooty Tern	Barking Owl
Brush Cuckoo	Gull-billed Tern	Southern Boobook
Pallid Cuckoo	Caspian Tern	Rainbow Bee-eater
Oriental Cuckoo	Whiskered Tern	Dollarbird
Azure Kingfisher	Eastern Spinebill	Spangled Drongo
Forest Kingfisher	Lewin's Honeyeater	Willie Wagtail
Sacred Kingfisher	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	Rufous Fantail
Red-backed Kingfisher	Little Wattlebird	Grey Fantail
Laughing Kookaburra	Red Wattlebird	Torresian Crow
Nankeen Kestrel	Fuscous Honeyeater	Australian Raven
Australian Hobby	White-plumed Honeyeater	Leaden Flycatcher
Brown Falcon	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Satin Flycatcher
Grey Falcon	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	Restless Flycatcher
Black Falcon	Bell Miner	Magpie-lark
Peregrine Falcon	Noisy Miner	Spectacled Monarch
Cockatiel	Yellow-throated Miner	White-eared Monarch
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	Spotted Pardalote	Black-faced Monarch

<b>Glossy Black-Cockatoo</b>	<b>Striated Pardalote</b>	<b>White-winged Chough</b>
<b>Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo</b>	<b>Brown Gerygone</b>	<b>Apostlebird</b>
<b>Galah</b>	<b>White-throated Gerygone</b>	<b>Rose Robin</b>
<b>Long-billed Corella</b>	<b>Western Gerygone</b>	<b>Scarlet Robin</b>
<b>Little Corella</b>	<b>Weebill</b>	<b>Red-capped Robin</b>
<b>Sulphur-crested Cockatoo</b>	<b>Speckled Warbler</b>	<b>Jacky Winter</b>
<b>Australian King-Parrot</b>	<b>White-browed Scrubwren</b>	<b>Eastern Yellow Robin</b>
<b>Red-winged Parrot</b>	<b>Large-billed Scrubwren</b>	<b>Mistletoebird</b>
<b>Red-rumped Parrot</b>	<b>Yellow-rumped Thornbill</b>	<b>Chestnut-breasted Mannikin</b>
<b>Blue Bonnet</b>	<b>Yellow Thornbill</b>	<b>Diamond Firetail</b>
<b>Crimson Rosella</b>	<b>Striated Thornbill</b>	<b>Red-browed Finch</b>
<b>Pale-headed Rosella</b>	<b>Brown Thornbill</b>	<b>Plum-headed Finch</b>
<b>Eastern Rosella</b>	<b>Buff-rumped Thornbill</b>	<b>Zebra Finch</b>
<b>Swift Parrot</b>	<b>Grey-crowned Babbler</b>	<b>Double-barred Finch</b>
<b>Turquoise Parrot</b>	<b>Varied Sittella</b>	<b>House Sparrow</b>
<b>Musk Lorikeet</b>	<b>Ground Cuckoo-shrike</b>	<b>Horsfield's Bushlark</b>
<b>Little Lorikeet</b>	<b>Barred Cuckoo-shrike</b>	<b>Australasian Pipit</b>
<b>Rainbow Lorikeet</b>	<b>Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike</b>	<b>Golden-headed Cisticola</b>
<b>Scaly-breasted Lorikeet</b>	<b>White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike</b>	<b>Brown Songlark</b>
<b>Budgerigar</b>	<b>Cicadabird</b>	<b>Rufous Songlark</b>
<b>Noisy Pitta</b>	<b>White-winged Triller</b>	<b>Tawny Grassbird</b>
<b>Regent Bowerbird</b>	<b>Varied Triller</b>	<b>Little Grassbird</b>
<b>Satin Bowerbird</b>	<b>Spotted Quail-thrush</b>	<b>Australian Reed-Warbler</b>
<b>Spotted Bowerbird</b>	<b>Rufous Whistler</b>	<b>White-backed Swallow</b>
<b>White-throated Treecreeper</b>	<b>Golden Whistler</b>	<b>Fairy Martin</b>
<b>Variiegated Fairy-wren</b>	<b>Little Shrike-thrush</b>	<b>Tree Martin</b>
<b>Superb Fairy-wren</b>	<b>Grey Shrike-thrush</b>	<b>Welcome Swallow</b>
<b>Red-backed Fairy-wren</b>	<b>Crested Shrike-tit</b>	<b>Silvereve</b>
<b>White-winged Fairy-wren</b>	<b>Eastern Whipbird</b>	<b>Common Starling</b>
<b>Black Honeyeater</b>	<b>Australasian Figbird</b>	<b>Common Myna</b>
<b>Scarlet Honeyeater</b>	<b>Olive-backed Oriole</b>	<b>Russet-tailed Thrush</b>
<b>Painted Honeyeater</b>	<b>Pied Currawong</b>	<b>Common Blackbird</b>
<b>Striped Honeyeater</b>	<b>Australian Magpie</b>	
<b>Noisy Friarbird</b>	<b>Pied Butcherbird</b>	
<b>Little Friarbird</b>	<b>Grey Butcherbird</b>	
<b>Brown Honeyeater</b>	<b>Masked Woodswallow</b>	
<b>Blue-faced Honeyeater</b>	<b>White-browed Woodswallow</b>	
<b>Black-chinned Honeyeater</b>	<b>Dusky Woodswallow</b>	
<b>Brown-headed Honeyeater</b>	<b>Black-faced Woodswallow</b>	
<b>White-throated Honeyeater</b>	<b>Little Woodswallow</b>	
<b>White-naped Honeyeater</b>	<b>White-breasted Woodswallow</b>	

# Looking Back TBO newsletter No.1

Marilyn Jacobs

## Toowoomba bird club.

We are here - all sixteen of us, with the aim of doing some useful birding in the Toowoomba area and hopefully, enjoying ourselves in the process.

The inaugural meeting of the Toowoomba Bird Club was held on Monday, 6th. October, 1975 when officers as advised below were elected and the annual subscriptions was set at \$2 per family payable each 1st October.

We intend to meet for the time-being in member's homes, where a list of Toowoomba bird sightings for the month can be compiled and published as an appendix to our monthly News-sheet. From this we hope we will build up a picture of the bird movement (and residence) within our areas.

We hope we can provide an atmosphere in the club which will encourage young members to stay with us and become useful birdwatchers at the same time increasing our own knowledge of ornithology through communicating our sightings and experiences whilst assisting each other with the clarification of any doubtful sightings.

So - a club where we can exchange bird books (with ourselves and with other clubs), photos, stamps, feathers or whatever; where we can plan bird outings and camps; where members can drink cups of coffee and have a good yarn, and most importantly gather, record and publish some serious data on the ornithology of Toowoomba.

Members attending our inaugural meeting are listed below. Names of new members will be advised through our monthly News-Sheet.

David & Kath Blackburn, 3 Cecil St., Toowoomba. (32.7340)  
Alan & Sylvia Graham, 132 Perth Street, Toowoomba. (32.8975)  
Dianne Hayden, 4/31 Isabel St., Toowoomba. (32.9251)  
Rod & Kerrie Hobson, c/o 57 Rowbotham St., Toowoomba.  
Marilyn Jacobs, 4/34 Isabel St., Toowoomba. (32.9251)  
Bill & Eileen Jolly, 1 Sweenen St., Toowoomba. (32.9421)  
Colin Kent, 34 Arthur St., Toowoomba. (32.4971)  
Aska & Mal Perere, 33 Ramsay St., Toowoomba. (32.5155)  
Veri Simon, 22 Isabel Street, Toowoomba. (32.5404)  
Steve & Gloria Temple-Matts, M.S. 918, Toowoomba. (91.1615)

### Club Officers:

President - Bill Jolly. Secretary/ Treasurer - Allen Graham.  
Editor - Steve Temple-Matts

### Outings for October, 1975.

Friday, 17th October, 1975 - Girraween National Park.  
Camp for the weekend at the Camp Area. Arrive when you can during the weekend.

Saturday 25th October, 1975 - Perseverance Den.  
Meeting 10 a.m. at the first car park with associated B.B.Q. area.

### Meeting for November, 1975.

Monday 3rd November 1975, 7.30 p.m. at 3 Cecil Street, Toowoomba.  
(David and Kath Blackburn)

Birds listed below are those I have personally recorded within 10 km of the General Post Office since 19.6.73. This list has been accepted by the club as a base upon which to build a comprehensive Toowoomba bird list, with the addition of new birds observed in the area by at least two club members, such observations being notified in the club's monthly News-sheet. Future editions of the News-sheet will incorporate a summary of all Toowoomba bird sightings during each month.

Bill Jolly.

Little grebe	Fan-tailed cuckoo	Spec. flycatcher
Little bl. cormorant	<u>Gold. Bronze cuckoo</u>	Golden whistler
Little p. cormorant	Koel	Rufous whistler
White-necked heron	Pheasant coucal	Grey shrike-thrush
White-faced heron	Barn owl	Eastern whipbird
Cattle egret	Boobook owl	Eastern shrike-tit
White egret	Powerful owl	Wh.-headed sittella
White ibis	Tawny frogmouth	Wh.-thr. tree-creeper
Straw-necked ibis	Sp.-tailed swift	Mistletoe bird
Royal spoonbill	L. kookaburra	Spotted pardalote
Black duck	Sacred kingfisher	Bl.-headed pardalote
Grey teal	Rainbow bee-eater	(*) Grey-br. silvereye
Wood duck	Dollar bird	Brown honeyeater
Black-sh. kite	Noisy pitta	Scarlet honeyeater
Grey goshawk	Wh.-backed swallow	Lewin honeyeater
Brown (Aust) goshawk	Welcome swallow	Yel.-faced honeyeater
Wedge-tailed eagle	Tree martin	Wh.-naped honeyeater
Black falcon	Fairy martin	Blue-f. honeyeater
Little falcon	Aust. pipit	Little friarbird
Dankeen kestrel	Bl.-f. cuckoo-shrike	Noisy friarbird
Brown falcon	Cicada bird	Eastern spinebill
Stubble quail	Varied triller	Noisy miner
Eastern swamphen	Grey-or. babbler	Spiry-sh. honeyeater
Coot	G.-h. fan. warbler (C. 10/10)	Red wattle-bird
Spur-w. plover	Brown songlark	Red-br. finch
Masked plover	Superb blue wren	Banded finch (Bill. Bw)
White-headed pigeon	Variiegated wren	Zebra finch
Paral pigeon	Red-backed wren	Chestnut-br. finch
Brown pigeon	Wh. thr. warbler	House sparrow
Spotted turtle-dove	Weebill	Indian mynah
Bar-shouldered dove	Striated thornbill	Starling
Peaceful dove	Brown thornbill	Olive-backed oriole
Green-winged pigeon	Yellow-r. thornbill	Southern figbird
Crested pigeon	Wh.-br. scrub-wren	Spangled drongo
Rainbow lorikeet	Speckled warbler	Maggie-lark
Scaly-br. lorikeet	Jacky winter	Dusky wood-swallow
Mask lorikeet	S. yellow robin	Pied currawong
Red-t. bl. cockatoo	Rose robin	Pied butcher-bird
Galah	Grey fantail	Grey butcher-bird
Cockatiel	Rufous fantail	Black-backed magpie
King parrot	Willie wagtail	Satin bower-bird
Crimson rosella	Satin flycatcher	Regent bower-bird
Pale-h. rosella	Leadon flycatcher	(131) Australian crow
44 Red-rumped parrot	89 Bl.-f. flycatcher	

I've taken the liberty of retyping the last bit here, to make it easier to read....

Where's the glasses? - Ahh... Orange-breasted cocktail glass!! It can't be—It must be—No, I've only had one rum. QUICK—where are those telephone numbers? The first one will do!

"I've found an Orange-breasted cocktail-glass—a new bird for Toowoomba—please come and verify it"

"Right. Keep your eye on it, I'll be right over."

Please members, lets keep each other in the picture, and if you do see a bird which is new to our Toowoomba list, MAKE SURE IT IS VERIFIED BY AT LEAST ONE OTHER MEMBER.

# Members Photo Page



Oliver-backed Oriole  
Redwood Park 14/08/2018  
(Al Young)



Shining Bronze Cuckoo.  
Redwood Park 16/09/2018  
(Al Young)



Juvenile White-naped Honeyeater  
Redwood Park 23/09/2018  
(Al Young)



White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike - ssp. robusta  
dark morph in moult? Redwood Park 22/08/2018  
(Al Young)



Red-kneed Dottarels  
Cooby Dam  
K.Williams 29/09/2018



Whiskered Tern  
Cooby Dam  
K.Williams 29/09/2018

# ***BITS AND PIECES***

## **Editorial continued...**

Sascha Dyson Holland is continuing in the Media Officer role and thanks to his efforts over the past year, a couple of enquiries and new members have resulted from his published articles.

Jan Christiansen is also continuing in her role as Records Officer. Please support her by sending her your significant sightings and/or your monthly checklists.

Much thanks to the previous Executive members, Olive Booth, Col Hughes and Mike McGoldrick for their efforts over the past few years.

## **Membership**

If you have received this newsletter, that means you are currently an up to date financial member of the club. If you have any friends or associates who have not received the newsletter, please advise them to update their club membership

## **Proposed Calendar of Events and Outings**

The executive team have created a proposed calendar of outings and events for the first 6 months of 2019. We are now looking for people to lead those outings. You do not need to be an expert birder to lead an outing, just have a passion for an area and a willingness to share it with others. If more of our members were willing to lead an outing, there would be less burden on any one individual. Members would only need to lead only **ONE** outing per year and the load would be adequately shared around.

Responsibilities of an outing leader:

- Be a contact point for attendees and advise preferred start time, meeting point and weather contingencies;
- Advise of the level of difficulty of the terrain at the outing destination, as well as access to amenities etc;
- Obtain and ensure attendees sign the attendance book;
- Coordinate the groups activity and movement on the day;
- Lead the bird call at the end of the day and ensure someone writes up an outing report for the day.

Please review the draft outing schedule and advise the President or Secretary ASAP if you would like to lead one of the proposed outings or have an alternative site that you would like to lead an outing to.

## **TBO Online**

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

## **TBO Library**

The Library is no longer housed at the Landcare Discovery Centre. Please contact the President Sandy Robertson if you would like to borrow any resources from the library.

## **Club Checklist**

If you would like the excel file to use for recording birds for club records please contact the Club Secretary

## COMING EVENTS

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).

Also if car pooling, please offer fair monetary compensation to the driver to be put towards fuel costs for the day.



To all members

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

I hope you all have a wonderful festive season and a Happy New Year



## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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<b>Librarian</b>	vacant	
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Deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is Friday 1st February 2019

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

If undeliverable return to

Toowoomba Bird Observers Inc  
Surface Mail

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