

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

President: Bill Jolly,

17, Herries St., Toowoomba.
Ph: 32.9421

Sec./Treasurer: Alan Graham,
Naliandrah, M.S. 224, Helidon.
Ph: 30.3138

Editor/Librarian: Rod Hobson,
8, Sir Street, Toowoomba.



NEWS-SHEET No. 11 - SEPTEMBER, 1976.

On 10th October, 1976, the club will be undertaking its first local Bird Count within our 10km area. On the same day members of the Queensland Ornithological Society will be involved in their annual count over a survey area extending in an 80km radius around Brisbane. The Q.O.S. has expressed interest in the outcome of our Toowoomba count and a full summary of our survey will be passed on to that Society.

The purpose of the count will be to set up base-line information as to population densities in our area without which we will never be in a position to do more than hypothesise about population trends, the effects of environmental changes on local species and so on. Censuses of birds in other countries have been seen to serve as monitoring devices, providing a means by which year to year fluctuations can be assessed and impending catastrophes recognised. This might be a short term climatic effect, or accumulative effects of pollution, either through pesticides or as a result of industrial development. (The government-backed Common Birds Census of the British Trust for Ornithology has for 14 years been recording changes in the numbers of British birds and was able to reveal the loss, nation-wide, of 76% of the population of one species following the harsh winter of 1963.)

This first count of Toowoomba birds may well be seen as the most important we will undertake because it will be providing us with a starting point against which future trends may be measured. Your help would be valued, be it in the capacity of driver, counter, ticker, moral supporter or whatever. Club Secretary, Alan Graham will be co-ordinating the count and full details of procedures, areas to be covered etc. will be discussed at our October meeting.

Our October meeting is also that at which our constitution requires us to elect our officers for the ensuing twelve months. All three incumbents have expressed their willingness to continue to work together in their present capacities for that period. Nominations for office-holders, countersigned by the nominee should be in the Secretary's hands prior to commencement of the October meeting.

Acting Editor,
Bill Jolly.

NEW TOOWOOMBA BIRDS.

Common Bronzewing (Phaps chalcoptera). 19.9.76. Withcott. Jeff Nolan and other members.

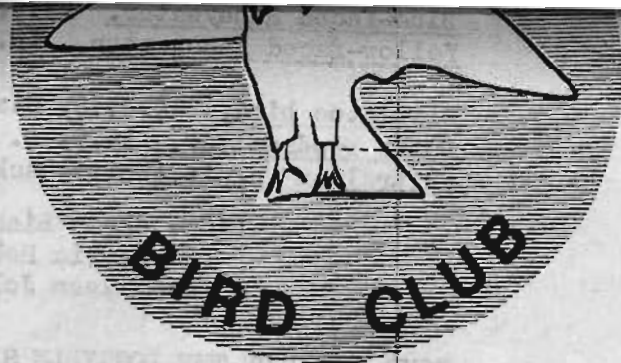
Well seen by all members attending the September outing. The distinctive curving white stripe along the face and light forehead confirmed the identification of this large pigeon.

MEMBERS' BIRD NOTES.

Australian Pelican. 13.9.76. Dyers Lagoon. CB.
Little Black Cormorant. 29.9.76. Mackenzie St. (4 birds). EJ, WJ.
Nankeen Night Heron. 26.9.76. Flagstone Creek. CB, VS.
Yellow-billed Spoonbill. 25.9.76. Herries St. CB, EJ, WJ.
Spotted Harrier. 19.9.76. Stanley Pk., Withcott. AG, IC, RH, SMG, VS. (Club outing).
Black Pelican. 19.9.76. South St. KH. RGH. 22.9.76. Kulpi. RGH.

Sec./Treasurer: Alan Graham,
Naliandrah, M.S. 224, Helidon.
Ph: 30.3138

Editor/Librarian: Rod Hobson,
8, Sir Street, Toowoomba.



NEWS-SHEET No. 11 - SEPTEMBER, 1976.

On 10th October, 1976, the club will be undertaking its first local Bird Count within our 10km area. On the same day members of the Queensland Ornithological Society will be involved in their annual count over a survey area extending in an 80km radius around Brisbane. The Q.O.S. has expressed interest in the outcome of our Toowoomba count and a full summary of our survey will be passed on to that Society.

The purpose of the count will be to set up base-line information as to population densities in our area without which we will never be in a position to do more than hypothesise about population trends, the effects of environmental changes on local species and so on. Censuses of birds in other countries have been seen to serve as monitoring devices, providing a means by which year to year fluctuations can be assessed and impending catastrophes recognised. This might be a short term climatic effect, or accumulative effects of pollution, either through pesticides or as a result of industrial development. (The government-backed Common Birds Census of the British Trust for Ornithology has for 14 years been recording changes in the numbers of British birds and was able to reveal the loss, nation-wide, of 76% of the population of one species following the harsh winter of 1963.)

This first count of Toowoomba birds may well be seen as the most important we will undertake because it will be providing us with a starting point against which future trends may be measured. Your help would be valued, be it in the capacity of driver, counter, ticker, moral supporter or whatever. Club Secretary, Alan Graham will be co-ordinating the count and full details of procedures, areas to be covered etc. will be discussed at our October meeting.

Our October meeting is also that at which our constitution requires us to elect our officers for the ensuing twelve months. All three incumbents have expressed their willingness to continue to work together in their present capacities for that period. Nominations for office-holders, countersigned by the nominee should be in the Secretary's hands prior to commencement of the October meeting.

Acting Editor,
Bill Jolly.

NEW TOOWOOMBA BIRDS.

159 Common Bronzewing (Phaps chalcoptera). 19.9.76. Withcott. Jeff Nolan and other members.

Well seen by all members attending the September outing. The distinctive curving white stripe along the face and light forehead confirmed the identification of this large pigeon.

MEMBERS' BIRD NOTES.

Australian Pelican. 13.9.76. Dyers Lagoon. CB.
Little Black Cormorant. 29.9.76. Mackenzie St. (4 birds). EJ, WJ.
Nankeen Night Heron. 26.9.76. Flagstone Creek. CB, VS.
Yellow-billed Spoonbill. 25.9.76. Herries St. CB, EJ, WJ.
Spotted Harrier. 19.9.76. Stanley Pk., Withcott. AG, IC, RH, SMG, VS. (Club outing).
Black Falcon. 1.9.76. South St. KH, RGH. 22.9.76. Kulpi. RGH.
Little Falcon. 30.9.76. James St. EJ.
Brown Falcon. 19.9.76. "Piggotts" Road, Withcott. AG, SG.
Banded Plover. Throughout Sept. DDIAE. MJ. At least one pair nesting, possibly more.
White-headed pigeon. 26.8.76. Queens Pk. (3 birds). RH.
Brown Pigeon. 15.9.76. Warrego Highway nr. Redwood Pk. SG.
Leadon Flycatcher. 12.9.76. Prince Henry Drive. KH.

(cont/d.)

MEMBERS' BIRD NOTES. (cont/d.)

Golden-headed Cisticola. 19.9.76. Gatton Creek, Withcott. AG, SC.

Red Wattlebird. 15.9.76. Picnic Point, Twba. CE, RE.

Blue-faced Honeyeater. 23.9.76. Withcott. EJ, WJ.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater. 19.9.76. Stanley Pk., Withcott. AG, IC, RH, SG.

Mistletoe bird. 19.9.76. Stanley Pk., Withcott. AG, IC, RH, SG. (Club outing).

Dusky Woodswallow. 15.9.76. Picnic Pt., Twba. CE, RE.

Australian Magpie. (White-backed race). 19.8.76. Ramsey St. RH.

(CB: Chris Bianchi. IC: Ian Cowan. CE: Chris Eley. RE: Reg Eley.
KH: Kerrie Hobson. RGH: Rod Hobson. RH: Ron Hopkinson. VS: Vera Simon.
EJ: Eileen Jolly. WJ: Bill Jolly. AG: Alan Graham. SG: Sylvia Graham.
MJ: Marilyn Jacobs.)

SOME NOTES ON THE POSSIBLE SIGHTING OF A SOUTHERN GIANT-PETREL (MACRONECTES GIGANTEUS).

At Caloundra on 25th June, 1976 the weather was showery and heavily overcast with a moderate to fresh breeze from the south-east. Whilst visibility was reduced at a distance it was reasonable at close range.

In the company of my son, a university student on vacation, a count was being made of Australian Gannets (*Morus serrator*) fishing in a particular area off Caloundra Head when my interest was suddenly aroused by a large dark coloured bird with a large yellow bill on the "calm water" of Pumistone Passage at the eastern end of Bulcock Beach and facing out to the surf. On coming closer and moving onto Bulcock Beach we observed a bird that appeared to be an immature Southern Giant-petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*).

The closest the bird approached the beach whilst paddling parallel with it was approximately 100 metres and it remained in the area for about 10 minutes after our arrival. 7x50 binoculars were used to endeavour to establish the "key" field marks.

The bird took off into the wind with slow strokes of its wings which appeared to have a spread of about two metres, covering some distance over the water before becoming airborne by using the feet as paddles to increase propulsion across the water.

In colouration the bird was blackish or dull sooty grey with the legs and feet appearing black or dark green and the very large bill, yellow or dry wheaten straw colouring blending to a green tip. One of the distinctive field marks of the Giant-petrel is the size and shape of the large bill, particularly the breathing passage on the top and the colouration of the tip.

Saturday the 26th June, 1976 at Caloundra, was clear and calm but developed to a cloudy but clear day with the wind rising to nothing more than a light breeze, and study of the Giant-petrel on this day covered a period from 9.50 a.m. till 11.30 a.m. with 7x50 glasses and at times as close as 30 metres to the beach.

The birds with which the Southern Giant-petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*) may be confused are the Shoemaker Petrel (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*) or the Northern Giant-petrel (*Macronectes halli*) and most of the morning was spent in identifying field marks to substantiate that the bird was neither a Shoemaker nor the Northern Giant-petrel. In immature birds this is extremely difficult.

On the water the birds "humped up" appearance gave an impression of some high ship sailing with the tide; whilst in chasing after food thrown from a number of the small fishing boats in the Passage, the bird rose with beating wings and pattered across the water with its feet to the food before settling back on the water again much like a "hydrofoil" settling down after the power has been eased off. Pieces of food thrown from the small boats were quickly eaten and the bird appeared to show little fear toward the occupants of the fishing boats and in one instance followed a boat around

Particular points of interest were the very deliberate manner in which the bird turned into the wind before flying off, the characteristic "head down" attitude when airborne and then turning downwind to glide before making a sweeping curve, dropping over on one wing to face back into the wind, alighting with the webs of the feet spread out to act as air brakes and a very noticeable "fanning" of the tail just prior to touching the water.

Red Wattlebird. 15.9.76. Picnic Point, Twba. CE, RE.
Blue-faced Honeyeater. 23.9.76. Withcott. EJ, WJ.
Yellow-faced Honeyeater. 19.9.76. Stanley Pk., Withcott. AG, IC, RH, SG.

Mistletoe bird. 19.9.76. Stanley Pk., Withcott. AG, IC, RH, SG. (Club outing).
Dusky Woodswallow. 15.9.76. Picnic Pt., Twba. CE, RE.
Australian Magpie. (White-backed race). 19.8.76. Ramsey St. RH.

(CB: Chris Bianchi. IC: Ian Cowan. CE: Chris Eley. RE: Reg Eley.
KH: Kerrie Hobson. RGH: Rod Hobson. RH: Ron Hopkinson. VS: Vera Simon.
EJ: Eileen Jolly. WJ: Bill Jolly. AG: Alan Graham. SG: Sylvia Graham.
MJ: Marilyn Jacobs.)

SOME NOTES ON THE POSSIBLE SIGHTING OF A
SOUTHERN GIANT-PETREL (MACRONECTES GIGANTEUS).

At Caloundra on 25th June, 1976 the weather was showery and heavily overcast with a moderate to fresh breeze from the south-east. Whilst visibility was reduced at a distance it was reasonable at close range.

In the company of my son, a university student on vacation, a count was being made of Australian Gannets (*Morus serrator*) fishing in a particular area off Caloundra Head when my interest was suddenly aroused by a large dark coloured bird with a large yellow bill on the "calm water" of Pumistone Passage at the eastern end of Bulcock Beach and facing out to the surf. On coming closer and moving onto Bulcock Beach we observed a bird that appeared to be an immature Southern Giant-petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*).

The closest the bird approached the beach whilst paddling parallel with it was approximately 100 metres and it remained in the area for about 10 minutes after our arrival. 7x50 binoculars were used to endeavour to establish the "key" field marks.

The bird took off into the wind with slow strokes of its wings which appeared to have a spread of about two metres, covering some distance over the water before becoming airborne by using the feet as paddles to increase propulsion across the water.

In colouration the bird was blackish or dull sooty grey with the legs and feet appearing black or dark green and the very large bill, yellow or dry wheaten straw colouring blending to a green tip. One of the distinctive field marks of the Giant-petrel is the size and shape of the large bill, particularly the breathing passage on the top and the colouration of the tip.

Saturday the 26th June, 1976 at Caloundra, was clear and calm but developed to a cloudy but clear day with the wind rising to nothing more than a light breeze, and study of the Giant-petrel on this day covered a period from 9.50 a.m. till 11.00 a.m. with 7x50 glasses and at times as close as 30 metres to the beach.

The birds with which the Southern Giant-petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*) may be confused are the Shoemaker Petrel (*Procellaria aequinoctialis*) or the Northern Giant-petrel (*Macronectes halli*) and most of the morning was spent in identifying field marks to substantiate that the bird was neither a Shoemaker nor the Northern Giant-petrel. In immature birds this is extremely difficult.

On the water the birds "humped up" appearance gave an impression of some high ship sailing with the tide; whilst in chasing after food thrown from a number of the small fishing boats in the Passage, the bird rose with beating wings and pattered across the water with its feet to the food before settling back on the water again much like a "hydrofoil" settling down after the power has been eased off. Pieces of food thrown from the small boats were quickly eaten and the bird appeared to show little fear toward the occupants of the fishing boats and in one instance followed a boat around.

Particular points of interest were the very deliberate manner in which the bird turned into the wind before flying off, the characteristic "head down" attitude when airborne and then turning downwind to glide before making a sweeping curve, dropping over on one wing to face back into the wind, alighting with the webs of the feet spread out to act as air brakes and a very noticeable "fanning" of the tail just prior to touching the water.

On all occasions that the bird was under observation the tide was outgoing and the bird left the area for the open sea shortly after the tide turned on the run in.

Whilst the bird was frequently "mobbed" by the Silver Gulls in the area it was "divebombed" singly by any low flying, passing tern.

Observation extended to Sunday, June 27th after which, with the change of the tide, the bird flew out to sea and did not reappear during our time at Caloundra which ended on 11th July, 1976. (cont/)

SOME NOTES ON THE POSSIBLE SIGHTING OF A SOUTHERN GIANT-PETREL (MACRONECTES GIGANTEUS). (cont/d.)

From my observations and reference to material on the subject the bird appeared to be an immature Southern Giant-Petrel (*Macronectes giganteus*), a bird of the southern ocean and a bird more likely to be observed than the rarer Northern Giant-Petrel (*Macronectes halli*), but even so it would seem rather a good deal further north than is generally the case.

Probably the closest point where both the Southern and Northern Giant-petrels breed could be Macquarie Island so that the bird under observation was a long way from its home nesting ground.

My son studied the bird independently and he is in agreement with my field observations and additionally the bird was under observation for some time by Mr. Colin Kent a member of our club and with whom I discussed the observations at the time.

Size approx. through binoculars : wingspread 2m.
body length 0.9m.

Ron Wilson.

For those interested information may be found in:-

Bennett, Isobel. 1971. "Shores of Macquarie Is." Rigby Ltd.
 McDonald, J.D. 1973. "Birds of Australia". A.H. & A.W. Reed Pty. Ltd.
 Serventy, D.L., Serventy, Vincent, Warham, John. 1971.
 "The Handbook of Australian Sea Birds". A.H.&A.W. Reed Pty. Ltd.
 Simpson, K. 1972. "Birds in Bass Strait". " " " " " for BH
 Slater, P. 1970. "A Field Guide to Australian Birds" Non-Passerines.
 Rigby Ltd.

BIRDS AROUND PORT MORESBY.

(As a number of the birds found in Papua New Guinea do not appear on the R.A.O.U. Checklists, I have for the sake of consistency followed the nomenclature of Rand & Gilliard's Handbook of New Guinea Birds. Where there is a discrepancy between this and R.A.O.U. vernacular, reference will be made to such in the list of birds following this item.)

Should the reader suppose that a trip to Papua New Guinea could not be worthwhile unless one was able to spend some time in the Highlands or on the North Coast, please read on. Of course those areas would hold many experiences unique to those parts which one would not encounter in the Southern lowlands, but should one be able to visit the Sepik or the Goroka Show, one must not assume that Papua New Guinea has no more to offer.

Our eight-day holiday in May was based on Port Moresby. (If you are wondering why, just enquire the air-fare for a family of four from Moresby to Wewak and you will need to ask no further questions in that area). After contacting friends of friends, we were lucky enough to meet several members of the P.N.G. Bird Society who straight away alleviated our fears that staying in Port Moresby might be somewhat akin to seeing Australia by spending a week in Brisbane. In fact they suggested that for a bird-watcher with a limited amount of time the best base from which to explore a variety of habitats holding a variety of birds, always within a day's journey of home, was where we were, and they proceeded to offer us much welcome advice on where to go and when, and were even good enough to invite us to join them on one or two outings. Fortuitous it may have been, but we appeared to be in the right place at the right time and we embarked upon eight days of exploration, much of it in pursuit of birds, in the course of which we encountered a number of familiar Australian species, a selection of those Northern Australian species which are responsible for some of the blobs around Cape York on the distribution maps, and several New Guinea specialities, some of which modesty compels me to admit I hadn't heard of. (Lowland Peltops!?)

Our hotel was at Ela Beach, about 2km from the centre of Moresby, and we were separated from the beach itself by a busy road and a grassy strip, perhaps 20 metre in width which supported two or three rows of unidentified mature trees, very populated with Lesser Wood-swallows, Singing Starlings and Peaceful Doves. The hotel's swimming pool was always attended by a few Pacific Swallows and at least one Willie Wagtail. To the best of my hazy recollection of that first exhausting day these were the only birds we were able to see without leaving the security of the air-conditioning. The Lesser Woodswallow was to prove to be easily the most common bird almost everywhere

Probably the closest point where both the Southern and Northern Giant-robins could be Macquarie Island so that the bird under observation was a long way from its home nesting ground.

My son studied the bird independently and he is in agreement with my field observations and additionally the bird was under observation for some time by Mr. Colin Ken a member of our club and with whom I discussed the observations at the time.

Size approx. through binoculars : wingspread 2m.
body length 0.9m.

Ron Wilson.

For those interested information may be found in:-

- Bennett, Isobel. 1971. "Shores of Macquarie Is." Rigby Ltd.
McDonald, J.D. 1973. "Birds of Australia". A.H. & A.W. Reed Pty. Ltd.
Serventy, D.L., Serventy, Vincent, Warham, John. 1971.
"The Handbook of Australian Sea Birds". A.H.&A.W. Reed Pty. Ltd.
Simpson, K. 1972. "Birds in Bass Strait". " " " " " for BH
Slater, P. 1970. "A Field Guide to Australian Birds" Non-Passerines.
Rigby Ltd.

BIRDS AROUND PORT MORESBY.

(As a number of the birds found in Papua New Guinea do not appear on the R.A.O.U. Checklists, I have for the sake of consistency followed the nomenclature of Rand & Gilliard's Handbook of New Guinea Birds. Where there is a discrepancy between this and R.A.O.U. vernacular, reference will be made to such in the list of birds following this item.)

Should the reader suppose that a trip to Papua New Guinea could not be worthwhile unless one was able to spend some time in the Highlands or on the North Coast, please read on. Of course those areas would hold many experiences unique to those parts which one would not encounter in the Southern lowlands, but should one be able to visit the Sepik or the Goroka Show, one must not assume that Papua New Guinea has no more to offer.

Our eight-day holiday in May was based on Port Moresby. (If you are wondering why, just enquire the air-fare for a family of four from Moresby to Wewak and you will need to ask no further questions in that area). After contacting friends of friends, we were lucky enough to meet several members of the P.N.G. Bird Society who straight away alleviated our fears that staying in Port Moresby might be somewhat akin to seeing Australia by spending a week in Brisbane. In fact they suggested that for a bird-watcher with a limited amount of time the best base from which to explore a variety of habitats holding a variety of birds, always within a day's journey of home, was where we were, and they proceeded to offer us much welcome advice on where to go and when, and were even good enough to invite us to join them on one or two outings. Fortuitous it may have been, but we appeared to be in the right place at the right time and we embarked upon eight days of exploration, much of it in pursuit of birds, in the course of which we encountered a number of familiar Australian species, a selection of those Northern Australian species which are responsible for some of the blobs around Cape York on the distribution maps, and several New Guinea specialities, some of which modesty compels me to admit I hadn't heard of. (Lowland Peltops!?)

Our hotel was at Ela Beach, about 2km from the centre of Moresby, and we were separated from the beach itself by a busy road and a grassy strip, perhaps 20 metres in width which supported two or three rows of unidentified mature trees, very popular with Lesser Wood-swallows, Singing Starlings and Peaceful Doves. The hotel's swimming pool was always attended by a few Pacific Swallows and at least one Willie Wagtail. To the best of my hazy recollection of that first exhausting day these were the only birds we were able to see without leaving the security of the air-conditioning. The Lesser Woodswallow was to prove to be easily the most common bird almost everywhere we went, there being no House Sparrows, English Starlings or Common Mynahs, in fact no introduced fauna at all in Papua New Guinea.

On the second day we hired a car in order to explore the road leading to Sogeri, about 40 km to the East, and some 700 metres in altitude. Much of the country proved to be eucalypt savannah and deciduous woodland, but the country's first National

(con

BIRDS AROUND PORT MORESBY. (cont/d.)

Park at Variarata on top of the Astrolabe Mountains escarpment held much rain-forest and a variety of parrots quite new to us, including the little Red-cheeked Parrot. The Blue-winged Kookaburra was a regular in the savannah country and we were surprised to make the acquaintance of a new kookaburra, the third of the tribe, a slimmer bird than either of his Australian brethren, generally blue above, with a white throat and collar and chestnut underparts, and known as Gaudichaud's Kookaburra or the Rufous-bellied Giant Kingfisher. Once up in the hills we encountered large numbers of the fast-flying Glossy Swiftlet, much smaller than swallows or martins, very glossy above and with white bellies. Our map indicated that the road ended at the large new Surinumu Dam, but it didn't and we were able to cross the dam wall and strike off into the eucalypt forests which abounded there, meeting noisy gangs of large brown and orange Dusky Lorys and small fast-flying groups of the Red-capped Streaked Lory, a small green lorikeet with a bright red crown.

One of the highlights of the trip followed an invitation to visit the Waigani Sewerage Treatment Ponds. The ponds are on the edge of the permanent swamp bearing that name and situated about 12km from the city. We were to record thirty-two species on, over and adjacent to the ponds including dozens of Pied Herons, as many White-winged Black Terns, no less than ten Whistling Kites over the ponds at one time and some interesting passerines such as the Chestnut-banded Honeyeater, Grey-headed Mannikin and the White-throated Butcherbird this being close to a darker version of our own Grey Butcher-bird. The swamps hold large numbers of crocodiles and I understand that when visiting the ponds in the early-hours of the day it is as well to be alert to the possibility of finding crocs on the banks.

Another trip was an escorted outing to the Brown River rain-forests some 40/50 to the North of Moresby. What is the dividing line between rain-forest and jungle. We were somewhat tentative when our party stopped some few kilometres after crossing the Brown River. There were no paths to be seen, indeed it was jolly difficult to see any distance into the greenery at all, so thick was it, so how were we going to tackle this exciting but daunting habitat? Well, we just leaned on the roofs of the cars. We didn't take so much as one step off the road. And such is the richness of the avifauna of Papua New Guinea that during the next hour or so we watched Frilled Flycatchers, Orange-bellied Fruit-doves, Lowland Peltops (a small flycatcher, black, with deep red lower back, rump and vent, white nape and white face-patch), Raggiana's Bird-of-paradise (magnificent male bird), Pitchouls, Greybirds, Sunbirds and more. Yet the Bird-of-paradise was not to be our bird-of-the-day. After continuing to drive North-West and crossing two more rivers we saw overhead four or five very large swifts showing in flight a bold white stripe along the underwing. To our relief they settled in an isolated tree and allowed us to gain good views of four of their number, proving to be boldly grey and black with white eyestripes and distinctive long white moustaches, Moustached Swifts. We were well satisfied that day and on our journey home we took the liberty of introducing ourselves to some of the native people in roadside huts, taking Polaroid photographs on a one-for-you, one-for-me basis, which was very well received. I was even commandeered to try to start an ailing diesel-engine Passenger Motor Vehicle (one of the trucks which serve as buses outside the city) about which I knew nothing whatever, but how else can one respond to such confidence?

There are not many roads leading out of Port Moresby and we traversed all of them during our stay there. The furthest distance we ventured in any one day was approximately 130km in a Southerly direction, along appalling roads, which destroyed an Avis shock-absorber, (fortunately the friendly Avis girl treated the occurrence as a somewhat everyday matter, which I don't doubt it is). Most of that journey was through open savannah, but eventually we entered into rolling hill country and as one might well see a Stonechat or Whinchat in very similar countryside in South Wales, so we found a Pied Chat, generally black with white wing-patches and white rump and undertail sitting high on a roadside bush. Our map indicated the end of the road at Kwikila, but finding a plantation road leading towards the Kemp Welsh River we had to pursue it. The road speedily degenerated and entered a river-bank village, by now little more than two dirt tracks, whereupon it led up to a mighty suspension bridge, (Barron Bridge) crossing the considerable Kemp Welsh River and leading thence we knew not where. Time turned us for home and dusk was upon us long before we found the security of our hotel room, but somewhere to the North of a locality shown on the map as Rigo we enjoyed views of a party of four hawking Large-tailed Nightjars.

A return visit to the Variarata National Park was even more rewarding than our first look. At one time having just enjoyed a small party of Red-cheeked Parrots which left a tree as two Papuan King Parrots settled into it, we caught sight of what we thought was another Red-cheeked Parrot off in another tree. Moving to gain closer

bellied Giant Kingfisher. Once up in the hills we encountered large numbers of the fast-flying Glossy Swiftlet, much smaller than swallows or martins, very glossy above and with white bellies. Our map indicated that the road ended at the large new Surinumu Dam, but it didn't and we were able to cross the dam wall and strike off into the eucalypt forests which abounded there, meeting noisy gangs of large brown and orange Dusky Lorys and small fast-flying groups of the Red-capped Streaked Lory, a small green lorikeet with a bright red crown.

One of the highlights of the trip followed an invitation to visit the Waigani Sewerage Treatment Ponds. The ponds are on the edge of the permanent swamp bearing that name and situated about 12km from the city. We were to record thirty-two species on, over and adjacent to the ponds including dozens of Pied Herons, as many White-winged Black Terns, no less than ten Whistling Kites over the ponds at one time and some interesting passerines such as the Chestnut-banded Honeyeater, Grey-headed Mannikin and the White-throated Butcherbird this being close to a darker version of our own Grey Butcher-bird. The swamps hold large numbers of crocodiles and I understand that when visiting the ponds in the early-hours of the day it is as well to be alert to the possibility of finding crocs on the banks.

Another trip was an escorted outing to the Brown River rain-forests some 40/50^{km} to the North of Moresby. What is the dividing line between rain-forest and jungle? We were somewhat tentative when our party stopped some few kilometres after crossing the Brown River. There were no paths to be seen, indeed it was jolly difficult to see any distance into the greenery at all, so thick was it, so how were we going to tackle this exciting but daunting habitat? Well, we just leaned on the roofs of the cars. We didn't take so much as one step off the road. And such is the richness of the avifauna of Papua New Guinea that during the next hour or so we watched Frilled Flycatchers, Orange-bellied Fruit-doves, Lowland Peltops (a small flycatcher, black, with deep red lower back, rump and vent, white nape and white face-patch), Raggiana's Bird-of-paradise (magnificent male bird), Pitohuis, Greybirds, Sunbirds and more. Yet the Bird-of-paradise was not to be our bird-of-the-day. After continuing to drive North-West and crossing two more rivers we saw overhead four or five very large swifts showing in flight a bold white stripe along the underwing. To our relief they settled in an isolated tree and allowed us to gain good views of four of their number, proving to be boldly grey and black with white eyestripes and distinctive long white moustaches, Moustached Swifts. We were well satisfied that day and on our journey home we took the liberty of introducing ourselves to some of the native people in roadside huts, taking Polaroid photographs on a one-for-you, one-for-me basis, which was very well received. I was even commandeered to try to start an ailing diesel-engine Passenger Motor Vehicle (one of the trucks which serve as buses outside the city) about which I knew nothing whatever, but how else can one respond to such confidence?

There are not many roads leading out of Port Moresby and we traversed all of them during our stay there. The furthest distance we ventured in any one day was approximately 130km in a Southerly direction, along appalling roads, which destroyed an Avis shock-absorber, (fortunately the friendly Avis girl treated the occurrence as a somewhat everyday matter, which I don't doubt it is). Most of that journey was through open savannah, but eventually we entered into rolling hill country and as one might well see a Stonechat or Whinchat in very similar countryside in South Wales, so we found a Pied Chat, generally black with white wing-patches and white rump and undertail sitting high on a roadside bush. Our map indicated the end of the road at Kwikila, but finding a plantation road leading towards the Kemp Welsh River we had to pursue it. The road speedily degenerated and entered a river-bank village, by now little more than two dirt tracks, whereupon it led up to a mighty suspension bridge, (Barron Bridge) crossing the considerable Kemp Welsh River and leading thence we knew not where. Time turned us for home and dusk was upon us long before we found the security of our hotel room, but somewhere to the North of a locality shown on the map as Rigo we enjoyed views of a party of four hawking Large-tailed Nightjars.

A return visit to the Variarata National Park was even more rewarding than our first look. At one time having just enjoyed a small party of Red-cheeked Parrots which left a tree as two Papuan King Parrots settled into it, we caught sight of what we thought might be two more King Parrots some way off in another tree. Moving to gain closer views of these two showed them to be a male and a female Red-sided Eclectus Parrot, and to make the moment even more memorable for us we were then privileged, while our glasses were still on the parrots, to watch a male Raggiana's Bird-of-paradise move out into the open on another branch of the same tree! (You wouldn't believe it if you saw it on a greetings card would you?) We found time to head up to the start of the

(cont/d.)

BIRDS AROUND PORT MORESBY. (Cont/d.)

Kokoda Trail, where a road is presently being constructed which will eventually link Port Moresby with Lae, but a considerable storm descended upon us and we weren't able to explore this area which holds a number of birds which don't occur nearer to Moresby.

We spent one other day exploring the coastal roads to the North-West of Port Moresby, but we failed altogether to locate the village we were seeking, although we did stumble upon a few villages close to the dirt/mud roads. We encountered one Swamp Harrier and some Brush Cuckoos as we floundered around before our mystery tour eventually deposited us on a beautiful tropical white-sand and blue-water beach. We found this haven one full hour before we had to leave for the airport. For the children it was the highlight of the entire trip and Isobel has made me promise that our next holiday will be at the Gold Coast. (But I'm working on Bali for the one after).

List of species identified. Rand & Gilliard nomenclature.
(R.A.O.U. variations in parenthesis).

- Little Grebe. *Podiceps novaehollandiae*. (Tachybaptus)
- Brown Booby. *Sula leucogaster*.
- Little Black Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*.
- Little Pied Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*.
- Darter. *Anhinga rufa*. (A. melanogaster)
- Pied Heron. *Notophoxyx picata*. (Ardea)
- Greater Egret. *Egretta alba*. (Large Egret)
- Lesser Egret. *Egretta intermedia*. (Plumed Egret)
- Little Egret. *Egretta garzetta*.
- Rufous Night-heron. *Nycticorax caledonicus*. (Nankeen Night-heron)
- Black Duck. *Anas superciliosa*.
- Brahminy Kite. *Haliastur indus*.
- Whistling Kite. *Haliastur sphenurus*.
- Australian Goshawk. *Accipiter fasciatus*. (Brown Goshawk)
- Little Eagle. *Hieraaetus morphnoides*.
- White-bellied Sea-eagle. *Haliaeetus leucogaster*. (White-br. Sea-eagle)
- Swamp Harrier. *Circus approximans*. (C. aeruginosus)
- Brown Quail. *Synoicus ypsilophorus*. (Coturnix australis)
- Dusky Moorhen. *Gallinula tenebrosa*.
- Purple Swamphen. *Porphyrio porphyrio*. (Swamphen)
- Jacana. *Irediparra gallinacea*. (Lotusbird)
- Masked Plover. *Lobobyx miles*. ((g) Vanellus)
- Japanese Snipe. *Capella hardwickii*. ((g) Gallinago hardwickii)
- Wandering Tattler. *Heteroscelus incanus/brevipes*. (Tringa incana)
- White-winged Black Tern. *Chlidonias leucoptera*.
- Common Tern. *Sterna hirundo*.
- Little Tern. *Sterna albifrons*.
- Orange-bellied Fruit Dove. *Ptilinopus iozonus*.
- Peaceful Dove. *Geopelia striata*.
- Amboina Cuckoo-dove. *Macropygia amboinensis*. (Brown Pigeon)
- Bar-shouldered Dove. *Geopelia humeralis*.
- Dusk-orange Lory. *Pseudeos fuscata*.
- Rainbow Lory. *Trichoglossus haematodus*. (Rainbow Lorikeet)
- Red-capped Streaked Lory. *Psitteuteles goldiei*.
- Red-sided Eclectus Parrot. *Lorius roratus*. (Eclectus Parrot)
- Red-cheeked Parrot. *Geoffroyus geoffroyi*.
- Papuan King Parrot. *Alisterus chloropterus*.
- Grey-breasted Brush Cuckoo. *Cacomantis variolosus*. (Brush cuckoo)
- Indian Koel. *Eudynamis scolopacea*.
- Common Coucal. *Centropus phasianinus*. (Pheasant Coucal)
- Large-tailed Nightjar. *Caprimulgus macrurus*.
- Glossy Swiftlet. *Collocalia esculenta*. (White-bellied Swiftlet)
- Moustached Swift. *Hemiprocne mystacea*.
- Blue-winged Kookaburra. *Dacelo leachii*.
- Rufous-bellied Giant Kingfisher. *Dacelo gaudichaud*.
- Forest Kingfisher. *Halcyon macleayii*.
- Sacred Kingfisher. *Halcyon sancta*.
- Rainbow Bee-eater. *Merops ornatus*.
- Dollar Bird. *Eurystomus orientalis*.
- Pacific Swallow. *Hirundo tahitica*.
- Tree Martin. *Hirundo nigricans*.

stumble upon a few villages close to the dirt/mud roads. We encountered one Swamp Harrier and some Brush Cuckoos as we floundered around before our mystery tour eventually deposited us on a beautiful tropical white-sand and blue-water beach. We found this haven one full hour before we had to leave for the airport. For the children it was the highlight of the entire trip and Isobel has made me promise that our next holiday will be at the Gold Coast. (But I'm working on Bali for the one after).

List of species identified. Rand & Gilliard nomenclature.
(R.A.O.U. variations in parenthesis).

- Little Grebe. *Podiceps novaehollandiae*. (Tachybaptus)
Brown Booby. *Sula leucogaster*.
Little Black Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*.
Little Pied Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*.
Darter. *Anhinga rufa*. (A. melanogaster)
Pied Heron. *Notophoxyx picata*. (Ardea)
Greater Egret. *Egretta alba*. (Large Egret)
Lesser Egret. *Egretta intermedia*. (Plumed Egret)
Little Egret. *Egretta garzetta*.
Rufous Night-heron. *Nycticorax caledonicus*. (Nankeen Night-heron)
Black Duck. *Anas superciliosa*.
Brahminy Kite. *Haliastur indus*.
Whistling Kite. *Haliastur sphenurus*.
Australian Goshawk. *Accipiter fasciatus*. (Brown Goshawk)
Little Eagle. *Hieraetus morphnoides*.
White-bellied Sea-eagle. *Haliaeetus leucogaster*. (White-br. Sea-eagle)
Swamp Harrier. *Circus approximans*. (C. aeruginosus)
Brown Quail. *Synoicus ypsilophorus*. (Coturnix australis)
Dusky Moorhen. *Gallinula tenebrosa*.
Purple Swamphen. *Porphyrio porphyrio*. (Swamphen)
Jacana. *Irediparra gallinacea*. (Lotusbird)
Masked Plover. *Lobobyx miles*. ((g) Vanellus)
Japanese Snipe. *Capella hardwickii*. ((g) Gallinago hardwickii)
Wandering Tattler. *Heteroscelus incanus/brevipes*. (Tringa incana)
White-winged Black Tern. *Chlidonias leucoptera*.
Common Tern. *Sterna hirundo*.
Little Tern. *Sterna albifrons*.
Orange-bellied Fruit Dove. *Ptilinopus iozonus*.
Peaceful Dove. *Geopelia striata*.
Amboina Cuckoo-dove. *Macropygia amboinensis*. (Brown Pigeon)
Bar-shouldered Dove. *Geopelia humeralis*.
Dusk-orange Lory. *Pseudeos fuscata*.
Rainbow Lory. *Trichoglossus haematodus*. (Rainbow Lorikeet)
Red-capped Streaked Lory. *Psittenteles goldiei*.
Red-sided Eclectus Parrot. *Lorius loratus*. (Eclectus Parrot)
Red-cheeked Parrot. *Geoffroyus geoffroyi*.
Papuan King Parrot. *Alisterus chloropterus*.
Grey-breasted Brush Cuckoo. *Cacomantis variolosus*. (Brush cuckoo)
Indian Koel. *Eudynamis scolopacea*.
Common Coucal. *Centropus phasianinus*. (Pheasant Coucal)
Large-tailed Nightjar. *Caprimulgus macrurus*.
Glossy Swiftlet. *Collocalia esculenta*. (White-bellied Swiftlet)
Moustached Swift. *Hemiproctes mystacea*.
Blue-winged Kookaburra. *Dacelo leachii*.
Rufous-bellied Giant Kingfisher. *Dacelo gaudichaud*.
Forest Kingfisher. *Halcyon macleayii*.
Sacred Kingfisher. *Halcyon sancta*.
Rainbow Bee-eater. *Merops ornatus*.
Dollar Bird. *Eurystomus orientalis*.
Pacific Swallow. *Hirundo tahitica*.
Tree Martin. *Hirundo nigricans*.
Black Greybird. *Edolisoma melaena*.
Rufous-underwing Greybird. *Coracina boyeri*.
Australian Greybird. *Coracina novaehollandiae*. (Black-f. Cuckoo-shrike)
Papuan Greybird. *Coracina papuensis*. (White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike)
Pied Chat. *Saxicola caprata*.

(cont/d.)

List of species identified. (cont/d.)

- Black & White Wren Warbler. *Malurus alboscapulatus*.
- Great Reed Warbler. *Acrocephalus arundinacus*.
- Lowland Peltops. *Peltops blainvillii*.
- Willie Wagtail. *Rhipidura leucophrys*.
- Grey-winged Monarch Flycatcher. *Monarcha melanopsis*. (Black-f. monarch)
- Friilled Flycatcher. *Arses telescophthalmus*. (Friilled Monarch)
- Leaden Myiagra Flycatcher. *Myiagra rubecula*. (Leaden Flycatcher)
- Grey Shrike-flycatcher. *Colluricincla harmonica*. (Grey Shrike-thrush)
- Rusty Pitohui. *Pitohui ferrugineus*.
- Lesser Woodswallow. *Artamus leucorhynchus*. (White-br. Woodswallow)
- Singing Starling. *Aplonis cantoroides*.
- Metallic Starling. *Aplonis metallica*.
- Yellow-faced myna. *Mino dumonti*.
- Black-headed Butcherbird. *Cracticus cassicus*.
- White-throated Butcherbird. *Cracticus mentalis*. (Black-backed Butcherbird)
- Spangled Drongo. *Dicrurus hottentottus*.
- Papuan Crow. *Corvus orru*. (Torresian Crow)
- Raggiana Bird of Paradise. *Paradisaea raggiana*.
- Yellow-bellied Sunbird. *Nectarinia jugularis*. (Olive-backed Sunbird)
- Black Sunbird. *Nectarinia sericeus*.
- White-naped Honeyeater. *Melithreptus albogularis*. (White-thr. Honeyeater)
- Rufous-breasted Honeyeater. *Conopophila albogularis*. (Rufous-banded Honeyeat.)
- Yellowish Honeyeater. *Meliphaga flavescens*. (Yellow-tinted Honeyeater)
- New Guinea Friarbird. *Philemon novaeguineae*. (Helmeted Friarbird)
- Red-capped Flowerpecker. *Dicaeum geelvinkianum*.
- Grey-headed Mannikin. *Lonchura caniceps*.
- Chestnut-breasted Mannikin. *Lonchura castaneothorax*.

Bill Jolly.

WITHCOTT OUTING - 19.9.76.

Long awaited rain in the Withcott area almost washed out our intended visit to the area north of the Withcott Hotel - an area, within our Toowoomba 10km radius, which has received very little attention to date with regard to bird sightings. Our initial intention was to visit the "Koorootang" plateau, halfway up the Great Dividing Range just below Prince Henry Drive but the recent rain left the approach road thick in mud and extremely slippery.

However, several club members and visitors rendezvoused at the Withcott Hotel and proceeded to the Withcott School area where, to everyone's surprise and enjoyment, the first official club-sighting of a Common Bronzewing Pigeon was made. The bird was a single, somewhat lonely-looking, individual sitting, very well camouflaged, in the centre of a large paddock. Other noteworthy sightings included close observations of a White-throated Warbler showing the characteristic white throat and yellow breast, flocks of Banded Finches, Pale-headed Rosellas and the sight of two Wedge-tailed Eagles circling what appeared to be their nest perched high in a dead tree half-up the Range escarpment.

Lunch was taken beside Little Oakey Creek and a group of us proceeded to 'investigate' the scrub along the creek bank across the "Naliandrah" (Graham) and "Stanley Park" (Talbot) properties. In this area we had several noteworthy sightings including a lone Spotted Harrier hawking silently across open grassland, Mistletoe Birds feeding in the mistletoe *Amyema cambegi* currently flowering and parasitic to *Casuarina cunninghamiana*, a single Yellow-faced Honeyeater feeding in the Lantana, several Grey Fantails, the locally nesting Black-headed Pardalotes and a flight of six Wood Duck.

After quite a lengthy investigation of this area and the subsequent departure of other members, Sylvia and I continued our coverage of the area back to the Warrego Highway by investigating the land once owned by the Piggott family. This foray produced sightings of White Ibis, a Brown Falcon, Peaceful Doves and finally many Fairy Martins flying in and out of a culvert and landing, to drink, in the muddy floor of the small creek. A similar investigation of Gatton Creek near the Highway produced the sighting of a Golden-headed Cisticola preening itself in the late afternoon sunshine.

In all the outing seemed quite successful with one new Toowoomba bird-sighting and several new sightings for the Withcott area, north of the Highway. It was a pity to have missed the "Koorootang" area, where Varied Trillers, Eastern Whipbirds, White-

Leaden-winged Flycatcher. *Ptilinopus leadeni*. (Leaden Flycatcher)
 Grey Shrike-flycatcher. *Colluricincla harmonica*. (Grey Shrike-thrush)
 Rusty Pithui. *Pithui ferrugineus*.
 Lesser Woodswallow. *Artamus leucorhynchus*. (White-br. Woodswallow)
 Singing Starling. *Aplonis cantoroides*.
 Metallic Starling. *Aplonis metallica*.
 Yellow-faced myna. *Mino dumonti*.
 Black-headed Butcherbird. *Cracticus cassicus*.
 White-throated Butcherbird. *Cracticus mentalis*. (Black-backed Butcherbird)
 Spangled Drongo. *Dicrurus hottentottus*.
 Papuan Crow. *Corvus orru*. (Torresian Crow)
 Raggiana Bird of Paradise. *Paradisaea raggiana*.
 Yellow-bellied Sunbird. *Nectarinia jugularis*. (Olive-backed Sunbird)
 Black Sunbird. *Nectarinia sericeus*.
 White-naped Honeyeater. *Melithreptus albogularis*. (White-thr. Honeyeater)
 Rufous-breasted Honeyeater. *Conopophila albogularis*. (Rufous-banded Honeyeater)
 Yellowish Honeyeater. *Meliphaga flavescens*. (Yellow-tinted Honeyeater)
 New Guinea Friarbird. *Philemon novaeguineae*. (Helmeted Friarbird)
 Red-capped Flowerpecker. *Dicaeum geelvinkianum*.
 Grey-headed Mannikin. *Lonchura caniceps*.
 Chestnut-breasted Mannikin. *Lonchura castaneothorax*.

Bill Jolly.

WITHCOTT OUTING - 19.9.76.

Long awaited rain in the Withcott area almost washed out our intended visit to the area north of the Withcott Hotel - an area, within our Toowoomba 10km radius, which has received very little attention to date with regard to bird sightings. Our initial intention was to visit the "Koorootang" plateau, halfway up the Great Dividing Range just below Prince Henry Drive but the recent rain left the approach road thick in mud and extremely slippery.

However, several club members and visitors rendezvoused at the Withcott Hotel and proceeded to the Withcott School area where, to everyone's surprise and enjoyment, the first official club-sighting of a Common Bronzewing Pigeon was made. The bird was a single, somewhat lonely-looking, individual sitting, very well camouflaged, in the centre of a large paddock. Other noteworthy sightings included close observations of a White-throated Warbler showing the characteristic white throat and yellow breast, flocks of Banded Finches, Pale-headed Rosellas and the sight of two Wedge-tailed Eagles circling what appeared to be their nest perched high in a dead tree half-up the Range escarpment.

Lunch was taken beside Little Oakey Creek and a group of us proceeded to 'investigate' the scrub along the creek bank across the "Naliandrah" (Graham) and "Stanley Park" (Talbot) properties. In this area we had several noteworthy sightings including a lone Spotted Harrier hawking silently across open grassland, Mistletoe Birds feeding in the mistletoe *Amyema cambegi* currently flowering and parasitic to *Casuarina cunninghamiana*, a single Yellow-faced Honeyeater feeding in the Lantana, several Grey Fantails, the locally nesting Black-headed Pardalotes and a flight of six Wood Duck.

After quite a lengthy investigation of this area and the subsequent departure of other members, Sylvia and I continued our coverage of the area back to the Warrego Highway by investigating the land once owned by the Piggott family. This foray produced sightings of White Ibis, a Brown Falcon, Peaceful Doves and finally many Fairy Martins flying in and out of a culvert and landing, to drink, in the muddy floor of the small creek. A similar investigation of Gatton Creek near the Highway produced the sighting of a Golden-headed Cisticola preening itself in the late afternoon sunshine.

In all the outing seemed quite successful with one new Toowoomba bird-sighting and several new sightings for the Withcott area, north of the Highway. It was a pity to have missed the "Koorootang" area, where Varied Trillers, Eastern Whipbirds, White-naped Honeyeaters and White-throated Tree-creepers have been recorded, but a return visit to this locality under appropriate road conditions will be arranged at a later date.

Alan Graham.

(cont/d.)

Bird List - Withcott, School, Jones & Gittins Roads.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Little Pied Cormorant | Golden-headed Cisticola |
| White-necked Heron | Superb Blue Wren |
| White-faced Heron | Red-backed Wren |
| White Ibis | White-throated Warbler |
| Straw-necked Ibis | Yellow-rumped Thornbill |
| Black Duck | White-browed Scrub-wren |
| Wood Duck | Grey Fantail |
| Black-sh. Kite | Willie Wagtail |
| Wedge-tailed Eagle | Mistletoe Bird |
| Spotted Harrier | Black-headed Pardelote |
| Nankeen Kestrel | Silvereye |
| Brown Falcon | Brown Honeyeater |
| Spur-winged Plover | Yellow-faced Honeyeater |
| Domestic Pigeon | Little Friarbird |
| Bar-shouldered Dove | Noisy Friarbird |
| Peaceful Dove | Eastern Spinebill |
| Common Bronzewing | Noisy Miner |
| Crested Pigeon | Double-barred Finch |
| Galah | Common Starling |
| Cockatiel | Common Myna |
| Pale-headed Rosella | Australian Magpie Lark |
| Kookaburra | Pied Currawong |
| Welcome Swallow | Pied Butcherbird |
| Fairy Martin | Grey Butcherbird |
| Black-f. Cuckoo-shrike | Australian Magpie |
| Grey-crowned Babbler | Torresian Crow. |

MEETING FOR OCTOBER, 1976.

Friday, 8th October, 1976. 7.30 p.m. at 17, Herries Street, Toowoomba.

Meeting to discuss arrangements for Bird Count and the election of officers for next year.

FIELD ACTIVITIES FOR OCTOBER.

Sunday, 10th October, 1976. Toowoomba Bird Count.

Members will be working in groups. Details to be finalised at October Meeting.

Saturday, 16th October, 1976. Q.O.S. Wader Outing, Thornside.

Members who have recovered their energies after the Bird Count are invited to join the Q.O.S. wader outing. Depart Warrego Highway outside Withcott Hotel at 9.30 a.m. Lunch at Thornside, before Q.O.S. start time of 12 noon (as decreed by the tides).

NEW MEMBERS.

The club is pleased to welcome Maree Jenner, 20, Wentworth St., Twba. Ph: 35.2749 and Jeff Nolan c/o (above address).

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Q.O.S. Newsletter, July, August, September.

Urimbirra Newsletter, August, September.

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER.

Annual subscription (\$3) for 1977 falls due on 1st January next but remittances will be accepted at any time from now

Straw-necked Ibis
Black Duck
Wood Duck
Black-sh. Kite
Wedge-tailed Eagle
Spotted Harrier
Nankeen Kestrel
Brown Falcon
Spur-winged Plover
Domestic Pigeon
Bar-shouldered Dove
Peaceful Dove
Common Bronzewing
Crested Pigeon
Galah
Cockatiel
Pale-headed Rosella
Kookaburra
Welcome Swallow
Fairy Martin
Black-f. Cuckoo-shrike
Grey-crowned Babbler

White-browed Scrub-wren
Grey Fantail
Willie Wagtail
Mistletoe Bird
Black-headed Pardelote
Silvereye
Brown Honeyeater
Yellow-faced Honeyeater
Little Friarbird
Noisy Friarbird
Eastern Spinebill
Noisy Miner
Double-barred Finch
Common Starling
Common Myna
Australian Magpie Lark
Pied Currawong
Pied Butcherbird
Grey Butcherbird
Australian Magpie
Torresian Crow.

MEETING FOR OCTOBER, 1976.

Friday, 8th October, 1976. 7.30 p.m. at 17, Herries Street, Toowoomba.

Meeting to discuss arrangements for Bird Count and the election of officers for next year.

FIELD ACTIVITIES FOR OCTOBER.

Sunday, 10th October, 1976. Toowoomba Bird Count.

Members will be working in groups. Details to be finalised at October Meeting.

Saturday, 16th October, 1976. Q.O.S. Wader Outing, Thornside.

Members who have recovered their energies after the Bird Count are invited to join the Q.O.S. wader outing. Depart Warrego Highway outside Withcott Hotel at 9.30 a.m. Lunch at Thornside, before Q.O.S. start time of 12 noon (as decreed by the tides).

NEW MEMBERS.

The club is pleased to welcome Maree Jenner, 20, Wentworth St., Twba. Ph: 35.2749 and Jeff Nolan c/o (above address).

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Q.O.S. Newsletter, July, August, September.

Urimbirra Newsletter, August, September.

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER.

Annual subscription (\$3) for 1977 falls due on 1st January next but remittances will be accepted at any time from now on. (Treasurer's details at head of first sheet of News-sheet).