



NEWS-SHEET No. 110

FEBRUARY 1985

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

Postal Address

P.O. Box 67  
DARLING HEIGHTS, Q, 4350

# toowoomba bird club

Club Officers

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Annual Subscription

Ordinary/Family membership	\$8.00
Student membership	\$4.00

Activities

Field Outings and Monthly Meeting - 4th Sunday of each month usually leave from Pigotts' car park at 7.30 am

Camping trips, film and slide evenings.

News-Sheet

Published monthly, before the outing. Articles have a deadline of the last day of the month, and should be mailed to the Editor.

EDITORIAL

I apologise for the lateness of this Newsletter, but - with holidays, late executive meeting, and a new grand-daughter, everything seemed to get out of hand.

I got a few hours' birding in while at Monto, being woken about 5 am by Blue-faced Honeyeaters in the tree outside my window. "The call was too much", and I had to investigate. Then a short time later we set off for my favourite birding swamp about 3 km out of town, the 'we' being my three year old grand-son and myself. Malcolm loves to go and see the ducks with Nana. Never too young to learn about birds! The swamp was alive with birds, and the noise they made was amazing.

Greening Australia is in need of help in Toowoomba. If we don't do something about the closing of the Toowoomba Office (the only one to be closed in the State) I think in time we will regret our inaction. Brisbane, Rockhampton and Townsville are all keeping their offices. To close the only office west of the Great Dividing Range is nothing short of ludicrous, especially when the Darling Downs is so prone to soil erosion, and the indiscriminate felling of trees makes our need so great. So will you please write to one or both of the following addresses, and protest for the benefit of us all:

The Hon. Barry Cohen  
Minister for Home Affairs and Environment  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA. 2600

The Hon. R. Willis  
Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA. 2600

We are happy to announce that the DARLING DOWNS KOALA SOCIETY has come into being. Meetings are held in the Kingsthorpe Hall on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Everyone is welcome. Membership is \$5 per family. We wish the D.D.K.S. all the best, and happy tree planting. More trees means more blossom, more birds, and more koalas - and a better life for all.

The Executive wishes to thank all members who have sent donations with their membership fees. They do help to keep fees down.  
Thank you, again.

Angela Kilmartin, Editor

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A new ENVIRONMENT PARK - 14 km SW of Helidon - donated to the Crown by Mr Harold Corbould - covers 115 ha and is his 13th donation in the last two years. The land comprises high sandstone ridges bisected by deep gullies draining to Flagstone Creek. The habitat supports fauna such as Lewin's Honeyeaters, Currawongs, Wallabies and Echidnas. Special signs on the parks recognise his contributions.  
"Ringtail", Sept 1984

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MEMBERS BIRD NOTES

Pied Honeyeater, 24.9.84, Kalbarri NP, WA - RRB, PB  
 Noisy Pitta, 19.11.84, Redwood Park - DC  
 White-throated Needletail (100+), 18.11.84, Gatton-Esk Road - LB, JB  
 Rufous Night Heron, 17.11.84, Hoods Lagoon - LB, JB  
 Red-chested Quail, 23.11.84, Wilson's property, Withcott - JW, LW  
 Magpie Goose (5), 9.12.84, Karrasch's Lagoon - MA, DG  
 Powerful Owl, 31.12.84, Redwood Park - MA, GG  
 Plum-headed Finch, 13.12.84, Murphy's Creek - DG  
 Plum-headed Finch, 8.12.84, Back road to Hood's Lagoon - LB, JB  
 Rose-crowned Fruit-dove, 31.12.84 & 1.1.85, Redwood Park - LB  
 Little Egret, 9.12.84, Hoods Lagoon, DG, MA  
 Square-tailed Kite, 5.1.85, Clairmont, DC  
 Crested Hawk (nesting), 20.12.84, Jubilee Park - DG, DC  
 Little Whimbrel, 5.2.85, Koeyongs, Oakey - DG  
 Wittle Whimbrel, 20.11.84, Dalby, PM  
 Powerful Owl, 23.1.85, Redwood Park, DG  
 Masked Owl (dead), 12.10.84, Hampton - PM  
 Spangled Drongo, 5.1.85, Nelson St, east, JD  
 Sanderling, 21.1.85, Sarina - DC  
 White-backed Magpie, 28.1.84, Gentle St, AK  
 White-breasted Robin, 10.11.84, Pemberton WA - RB, PB  
 Black-breasted Button Quail, 27.1.85, Ravensbourne NP - DG  
 Rufous Tree-creeper, 10.11.84, Pemberton WA - RRB, PB  
 Red-tailed Tropic Bird, 14.11.84, Cape Naturalist NP, WA - RRB, PB  
 White-tailed Black Cockatoo, 27.11.84, Albany WA - RRB, PB  
 Bustard, 12.1.85 - Peak Downs - DC  
 Little Falcon, 25.1.85, Green Lagoon, Clairmont - DC  
 Peregrine Falcon, 19.1.85, Watalla - AK  
 Peregrine Falcon, 4.1.85, Roof of Strand Cinema, Toowoomba - LB, JB

MA Michael Atzeni	RRB Roy Beaton	GG Gloria Glass	LW Lorraine Wilson
JB John Ball	DC Dean Collins	AK Angela Kilmartin	JW John Wilson
LB Lesley Beaton	JD Joe Deuble	PM Pat McConnell	
PB Peggy Beaton	DG Don Gaydon		

My apologies for not having any Members' Bird Notes in last month's Newsletter. Hopefully, this month makes up for it, as there are some interesting sightings.

DON GAYDON, Records Officer

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION - in conjunction with Green Week -  
 23-28 April - conducted by Toowoomba Photographic Society -  
 (1) "Gardens" , (2) "Nature" - see Angela for brochure and entry form.

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The Secretary  
 Toowoomba Bird Club  
 P.O. Box 67  
 DARLING HEIGHTS, Q, 4350

Please renew my membership of the Toowoomba Bird Club for the year 1985. I enclose the fee of \$8.00 (\$4.00 for students).

Signed .....

Name .....

Address .....

EASTER CAMP-OUT with the TOOWOOMBA FIELD NATURALIST CLUB

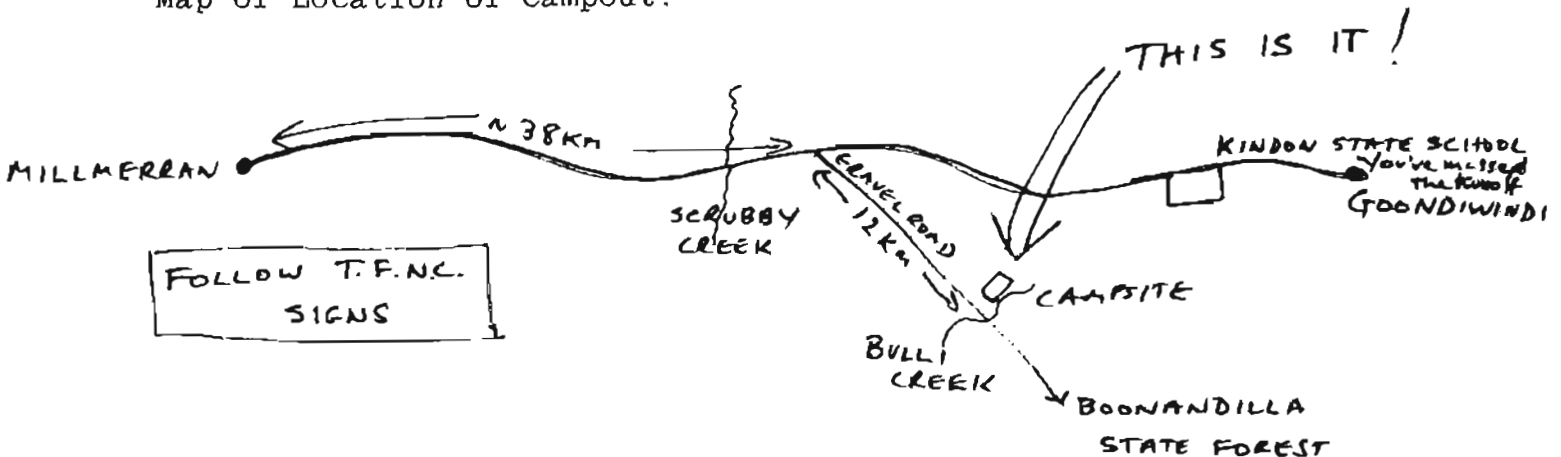
Date: 5th to 8th April 1985

Place: BULLI CREEK

Near BOONANDILLA STATE FOREST

Assembly Point: 9.00 am Ruthven Street entrance to K-Mart

Map of Location of Campout:



What to bring: Drinking water  
Insect repellent  
Raincoat (past experience at Easter)

Entertainers required: Talented musicians, singers, tale tellers, we'd appreciate your company.

There should be plenty to interest bird-watchers. Recently a black bittern was sighted close to the campsite, and black glossy cockatoos were seen feeding in the casuarinas.

Bulli Creek consists of a series of deep waterholes which are suitable for swimming and canoeing, but not for drinking water. The vegetation could be described as Open Box Belah forest with an understorey of mainly wattles.

We plan to spend the first two days exploring the creek and Boonandilla State Forest. On Sunday, an optional outing to Bendidee State Forest has been arranged. This will be of particular interest to bird-watchers. A bore in the centre of the forest services a large area for water. It is a great place to sit and watch birds coming and going.

If you intend joining the Field Nats, could you contact Ray Viljoen 382212, or Mary Ann Law 351571.

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FIELD DAY REPORT - GOOMBURRA STATE FOREST PARK

It was a great pleasure to welcome Frank and Nancy Belcher on their first Club outing, when they joined us on the trip to Goomburra. The sky was overcast when we met at Pigotts' Carpark, and this was to continue for most of the day. We made our departure about 7.45 after concluding the sale of bags, and the borrowing of library books.

First stop was the Lions Park just south of Toowoomba - for the last of the S.S.S. birds in sector 4, then on to Goomburra, or so we thought. A short distance along, Gloria spotted a patch of white, which turned out to be a pair of Yellow-billed Spoonbills, on a small dam, and everyone was able to get a good look at them.

Off again in true Birdo fashion, to the next stop where Gloria and I have always seen Red-rumped Parrots, but not on this day, not one Red-rumped all day.

Goomburra is a lovely park, and well worth the trip, but not on a long weekend, as the campers had taken over. At our first stop, we got Red Wattlebirds and Little Wattlebirds, 'new' birds for some of the party, and we thought we had lost Marilyn. Well, she turned up a short time later to tell us that her party had found a very obliging Australian Brown Goshawk that didn't mind being studied.

A quiet spot was found for lunch, and then we crossed the creek and walked as far as the falls. Not many birds, but plenty of other interesting things to see, and on the way back we were able to get a good view of a Black-faced Monarch and Bell Miners, and the reported call of a juvenile Noisy Pitta (??).

Well, back to the cars, and a quick cuppa and off home, arriving back at Pigotts at 5 pm. Fifty-seven species were seen, and a good day was had by all.

Present were Marilyn Jacobs, Nancy and Frank Belcher, Dell Proud, Gloria Class, Lyn Rowan and Lee-Ann Rowan (Noisy Pitta), and Angela Kilmartin.

Species List: On the way to and from: Little Pied Cormorant, White-faced Heron, Straw-necked Ibis, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, Grey Teal, Black-shouldered Kite, Australian Kestrel, Masked Lapwing, Common Bronzewing, Crested Pigeon, Galah, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Pale-headed Rosella, Laughing Kookaburra, White-backed Swallow, Welcome Swallow, Tree and Fairy Martin, Richard's Pipit, Willie Wagtail, Golden-headed Cisticola, Noisy Miner, Common Starling, Australian Magpie-Lark, Dusky Woodswallow, Pied Butcherbird, Aust. Magpie, Torresian Crow.

At Goomburra: Australian (Brown) Goshawk, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Aust. King Parrot, Crimson Rosella, Pale-headed Rosella, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Azure Kingfisher, Laughing Kookaburra, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Jacky Winter, Grey Shrike-thrush, Black-faced Monarch, Restless Flycatcher, Rufous and Grey Fantail, Willie Wagtail, Grey-crowned Babbler, Large-billed and White-browed Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone (Warbler) Brown Thornbill, White-throated Treecreeper, Red and Little Wattlebird, Noisy and Little Briarbird, Bell and Noisy Miner, Lewin's and Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Spotted Pardalote, Silvereye, Red-browed Firetail, Aust. Magpie, Pied Currawong.

ANGELA KILMARTIN

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*           F I L M   E V E N I N G
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*   Date:   THURSDAY, 14 MARCH 1985
*   Time:   7.15 pm for 7.30 start
*   Place:  Toowoomba Education Centre, Baker Street
*
*   FILMS:  A Property in the Country   British R.S.P.B. Film
*           Year of the Kings           Alaska Film
*           Flight of the Snows         Canadian Film
*           Great Blue Heron           Canadian Film
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*           Please bring a Plate
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FIELD DAY FOR FEBRUARY

Date: Sunday, 24 February 1985    Place: MURPHY'S CREEK & HOODS LAGOON  
 Assembly Point: Pigotts' Car Park  
 Time:            7.15 am for departure at 7.30 am SHARP

Murphy's Creek and Hood's Lagoon are always good for birding, so bring your lunch and enjoy the beauty of both the birds and the bush.

Anyone wishing transport, please phone Ann on 30 3207 or  
 Gloria 38 2404 (evenings)

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FIELD DAY FOR MARCH

Date: Sunday, 24 March 1985        Place: REDCLIFFE WADER OUTING  
 Assembly Point: Pigott's Car Park  
 Time:            7.15 am for departure at 7.30 SHARP

For this outing, it is hoped to hire a Mini-bus. If we can get 15 members and/or visitors, the cost per person will be only \$6 plus share of petrol cost. Because the bus is going to cost \$90 to hire we will have to know in advance just who is coming.

This is an outing I can recommend to all members. Ian Venables is giving us his time and expertise, and I hope we can repay him with a good roll-up.

Just think, a day at the beach for \$7 approximately, plus lunch; no driving, no walking, and good birding. Could anyone ask for more?

Only one! The Editor is asking for one volunteer with a "C" class license, to drive the bus. Surely we must have one "C" class driver in the Club. Don't be shy, we need your help!!! Naturally, the driver gets a FREE trip.

Because of the bus hire, we must have all moneys paid in by 15 MARCH, so please let us know as soon as possible.

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R.A.O.U. Congress is to be held in Toowoomba, from the 27th to 29th September 1985, at the D.D.A.I.E. More news of this at a later date.

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