



TOOWOOMBA BIRD OBSERVERS INC

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

No. 363

April / May 2007

Editorial

By Darren Fielder

Due to unforeseen circumstances (like me taking a holiday), an April newsletter just wasn't possible. So to make it up to you, here is an extended edition.

Speaking of holidays, I did have a very good time with my family on Kangaroo Island (south of Adelaide). We did all the usual touristy things such as looking at Australian Sea Lions lounging around on the beach and New Zealand Fur Seals playing in and around rocky shores. I managed to 'tick' a bird that perhaps not many have seen before: feral American **Wild Turkeys** – two flocks of about 15 birds. They can persist on Kangaroo Is. because of the lack of foxes and dingos.

Fairy Penguins were also abundant at some locations – very endearing creatures. An immature **Yellow-nosed Albatross** was washed up on an isolated beach from the recent cold front across southern Australia. I also saw **Hooded Plovers**.

I can also recommend staying at the historic lighthouse cottages located at various points around the island. Staying in remote areas was quite relaxing!

We also have a new bird for the Toowoomba bird list – the **Australian Pratincole** (2/05/2007 Abberton, Helidon). Other recent additions to the 2007 challenge include **Brown-headed Honeyeater** 15/04/2007 Murphy's Creek, **White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike** 15/04/2007 Airforce Rd, Helidon, **Red-capped Robin** 12/04/2007 Echo Valley South Pk and **Barn Owl** 11/04/2007 Flagstone Creek.

The *Autumn: locally ('within' target)* has 140 species and the *Autumn: non-local ('beyond' target)* has recorded 219 species. We are running out of time for Autumn. The species to target have been included in the newsletter.

Visit our website for more information.

**2007
Challenge**
200 spp as at 17 May



TOOWOOMBA
BIRD OBSERVERS INC

(An affiliated Group of the Bird Observers Club of Australia)

P.O. Box 4730, Toowoomba East 4350

www.toowoombabirdobservers.org

MEMBERSHIP: Adults/Families \$22, Students \$11

(Subscriptions due 31 August)

This Issue

A close encounter with a White-faced Heron!

By Esther Townsend

Beginners outing – Prince Henry Heights

By Michael Atzeni

Lockyer Wetlands.

By Rosalie Rudduck

COMING EVENTS

27th May 2007 – **Toowoomba's southern escarpment.** Meet at Echo Valley South Park at 7 am. Contact Mike McGoldrick (07) 46357371.

23/24 June 2007 – **Annual Raptor Survey.** Each survey is conducted on either the Saturday or the Sunday and involves driving the same route as in previous years. BYO everything. Pat McConnell (Northern Section) Tel: 4631 5573 (wk); Darren Fielder (Western Section) Tel: 4636 0174; Michael Atzeni (Eastern Section) Tel: 4639 2761; Ken Wells (Southern Section) 4661-2547

A close encounter with a White-faced Heron

By Esther Townsend

I had just started mowing the lawn when I glanced around to see a **White-faced Heron** standing on the grass only about a metre away from me. I had never seen a White-faced Heron this close before so I stopped mowing and took the opportunity to have a good look at it at close range. It was an adult as seen from its very white face and chin but probably not a breeding bird because it lacked obvious nuptial plumes and the white colour did not extend down the front of its neck. It did however have a small crest, a few dark grey feathers sticking out and down from the back of its head, rather like the crest of a **Striated Heron** but smaller. The bird's breast was buff brown but centrally smeared with black, perhaps from something that it had bumped into since it had last preened itself. It was so close to me that I could clearly see its black pupil, yellow iris and the outer black eye ring, also its grey lores. It had a black bill, yellow legs and feet and, apart from its breast, its plumage was dark grey. However no description of its various parts can convey the sheer beauty and elegance of White-faced Heron when seen close up.

After this short period of what turned out to be mutual inspection, I started off mowing again and to my surprise the bird moved off with me. Round and round the back yard we went together with me pushing the mower and heron following alongside and slightly behind me and often only a metre or two away from the mower. It was like having a toddler loose in the back yard and I had to go very slowly and keep it always in sight so as not to run into it or tread on it during a tricky turn. On the whole the bird seemed less concerned about its welfare than I did. The only time when it seemed unsettled was when I stopped mowing briefly to hitch up my shorts which had slipped a bit after becoming very sweaty. Perhaps my jerky movements startled it because it jumped backwards but soon regained its composure and started following me again. I like to think that it was there because it enjoyed my company but I know that it was only after the tucker, the little animals in the grass that had been shaken senseless by the mower going over them. Several times in the past there has been a **Pied Butcherbird** or a **Grey Butcherbird** drop by while I was mowing and for exactly the same reason but having a White-faced Heron for company while I was mowing the lawn was quite special.

Every now and again the heron would stop still with its neck outstretched and sometimes wobbling slightly from side to side and peer intently into the grass. Then it would lunge at some poor unsuspecting garden skink or worm which it would catch in its bill and swallow whole. On a couple of occasions I could see wriggings in the bird's neck as the prey was being swallowed. On the whole the heron had easy pickings at my place but on one occasion it did have quite a tussle with a snakey thing (perhaps a legless lizard) in the grass. The bird pulled and pulled with its bill but just could not dislodge this prey and succeeded only in severing about five centimeters of its tail which was still wriggling as the bird swallowed it. The bird tried again and again to get at the owner of the tail and then, instead of blatant aggression, it tried a different technique. It would stand on one leg, put out its other leg in front of it and move its foot round and round horizontally in the grass. Then it would swap legs and do it again. To me this seemed like something straight out of the Hokey Pokey song: "You put your right foot in, you put your right foot out, you put your right foot in and you shake it all about" Heron aficionados call it *Foot Stirring*, a technique that a heron is more likely to use when feeding in water than on land. No matter what you call it, it just did not work and the creature in the grass might have lost its tail but at least it kept its head.

I finally finished mowing the back yard and the heron walked stately behind me as I pushed the mower down the concrete path between the house and the fence into the front yard. The front yard must not have been to its liking because it stayed for only one lap then walked off by itself up the path back to the back yard. So I finished mowing the front without any distractions and the bird was still up the back when I went to put the mower away. It stayed around pecking here and there at things in the grass and then after about an hour it disappeared as unobtrusively as it had come.

White-faced Herons are reasonably common birds here in Brisbane but on only one or two occasions have I seen them around my place. I usually see them down in the local creek (Kedron Brook), along the banks of the Brisbane River or just flying over. Sometimes I see them perched on the roofs of houses and there is one particular house down by Kedron Brook whose roof has been partially white-washed by the droppings of the White-faced Herons that perch on it. I have seen them breeding high up in a big gum tree in someone's back yard in a nearby suburb.

The morning after I mowed the lawn I set off early on my weekly bird walk from home. When I got to the top of the hill about 150 m away I saw a White-faced Heron being chased by some **Noisy Miners**. It flew up the road to an intersection, then turned left and was lost from view. I wonder if this was my White-faced Heron.

Call for birding properties...

By Michael Wood

During the recent TBO monthly meeting the committee discussed compiling a database of properties that the club could put together and insert them into the outings itinerary. There is a great deal of territory out there, both within the local survey area and outside, that we may possibly get access to, which in turn means bolstering our birdlists. With this, I am asking everyone here whether they could forward on to me the contact details of any property owners/managers who would be happy for us to visit. And, if anyone knows of others who might have such permission and they would feel comfortable sharing locations, it would likewise be appreciated.

For instance, I visited two properties owned by a chap called George McKnight - Highfields and Meringandan - over the weekend. Without him answering the call in the local paper for such interest, the two blocks may have gone unknown and unvisited, which would have been a shame as both have some extremely interesting and diverse habitat on them. I can't wait to revisit them once it rains.

Any assistance is appreciated in advance.

Regards,
Michael Wood
0402 283 856
mswode@hotmail.com

New Toowoomba Bird

By Pat McConnell, Club Records Officer

Species: Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella*

Observers: Eileen Jolly & Owen Jolly

Date: 2 May 2007

Location: "Abberton" Helidon

Habitat: Riparian, adjacent to open paddocks and lightly forested.

Comments: Two birds seen for approximately one minute at a distance of 30 – 40 metres. Excellent views were obtained as the birds flew in from the south and around above the dry creek bed, before heading off to the north. Full description and details have been submitted and accepted by the Rarities Committee.



Australian Pratincole, Lockyer Valley (September 03). Photo: Bill Jolly.

Club records

By Pat McConnell, Records Officer

I would just like to clarify a statement made about my article on the Club Records. As was stated in my article I was referring to "The Atlas of Australian Birds" that ran from 1977 – 1981 and not "The New Atlas of Australian Birds" that collected data between August 1998 and December 2001. As such I am happy to stand by my previous comments and still think the Club Records are an excellent scientific resource.

Beginners Outing – Prince Henry Heights – 27/01/07

By Michael Atzeni

About 20 attended our Beginners Outing, which had been advertised in The Chronicle. It was a nice mix of visitors who had seen the ad, and current members, some seasoned, some fairly new. All there to indulge in one of life's most simple and enjoyable pursuits.

And as the leader there's the added bonus of helping others become more competent birders. It's a very satisfying feeling. We all know of people who say they appreciate and enjoy seeing the birds around them, but have never observed them through binoculars and haven't a clue about the identity of most species. I always wonder whether things would have been far different had they attended a proper outing. If you're like me, your first bird watching outing with experienced birders was one of those defining moments which opened your eyes and changed your life for the better ... forever.

The pivotal event for me was way back in 1979, on my first club outing. I was 17yo. It was to "Mango Vale", the Withcott property of Maggie Drabsch - one of our now deceased members - adjoining the eastern boundary of Redwood Park. I distinctly remember two birds: my first **Yellow-faced Honeyeater** and my first **Rose Robin** - a male too! The former just hit home to me that these species are out there - but you do need to go beyond your yard! The male **Rose Robin** close up through binocs - well need I say more?

Until then my interest in birds had been mostly bird books, buried in all manner of references and exotic field guides borrowed from the library - some more than once. Or absorbing Cayley's

"What Bird is That?" which my dad's boss had passed on to me, until eventually obtaining my own cherished copy of Peter Slater's first field guide (Vol 1. Non-Passerines). Several years later, Vol 2, finally hit the shelves ... and mine soon after! Before that first outing, I religiously read the City library copy of the club newsletter. Why I hesitated for four years to contact the club, I'll never know! So many missed birding opportunities ... and all that free time!!

So perhaps it was the **Red-backed Fairy-wren** or one of my favs - the **Variiegated Fairy-wren** - that did it for our newcomers this outing. Or the extremely obliging **Barred Cuckoo-Shrike** that perched in the open for several minutes allowing everyone a marvelous view, including their first look at a bird through a spotting scope. (Perhaps they'll only come to fully appreciate this hard-to-see one, retrospectively!? A bit like those lucky buggers who jagged a **Freckled Duck** on their first outing. Hey, Greg?) Or maybe it was the very peculiar hybrid **Crimson x Pale-headed Rosella** (that had everyone guessing!), or seeing all the salient features of the perched **Australian Hobby** at the close of the outing, just when they thought the birding was done?



Michael Atzeni explains the finer points of bird watching. Photo: Daniel Begent.



Crimson x Pale-headed Rosella. Photo: Colin Lorbrack

The greatest gift for me was my book in 1978, which had been written by the
 to "change the world" - the author's name is Margaret Atwood - and I was
 members - including the eastern boundary of the United States - I think it was
 back in the Yellow



back in the Yellow
 back in the Yellow
 my first Robin
 a male and the female
 just sit down to eat
 these people are not
 there - but you do
 need to go beyond
 your yard. The more
 Rose Robin does up
 through space - well
 read - say more

fill in my interest in
 birds has been mostly
 and books about in all
 kinds of magazines
 and with that guide
 borrowed from the
 library - some more
 like one of
 attending Coyote's

"What is that?" which my dad's book had started on to me. The author's name
 my own checked copy of Rose Robin's first book (I'll have to check that out)
 went into the library on the shelves - and my own copy of the book that I
 religiously read the City library copy of the book. Why I read it so often
 is beyond me. I never know. So many mind-bending and brilliant - but in that
 first time.



So perhaps I was the Red-backed Fairy-wren
 the one of the five - the Variegated Fairy-wren
 - that did it for me. I was the one who
 to a very early morning. I was the one who
 that I was in the open for several minutes
 allowing myself a panoramic view. I was
 that first time of a bird through a window
 scene. I was the one who was in the
 perspective. I was the one who was
 independently. A bit like those who
 as I added a Red-backed Fairy-wren to
 calling. Hey, guys? Or maybe it was the way
 smaller (I'm) Chamonix. I was the one
 Rosetta that had everyone's attention, or
 went up all the usual features of the bird
 Australian Hobby in the case of the author,
 (I don't know if that's the right bird or not).

Following the disappointment of not seeing a **Regent Bowerbird**, perhaps it was having the knowledge of where to find them, then going back and tracking them down for themselves – even photographing them - as I know some new members have since done.

Whatever it was, welcome to the club! We know exactly how you feel!

Species (47)

Australian Brush-turkey, Straw-necked Ibis, Australian Hobby, Spotted Turtle-Dove, Emerald Dove, Crested Pigeon, Peaceful Dove, Bar-shouldered Dove, Wonga Pigeon, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Crimson Rosella x Pale-headed Rosella hybrid, Pale-headed Rosella, Channel-billed Cuckoo, Pheasant Coucal, Laughing Kookaburra, Dollarbird, Variegated Fairy-wren, Red-backed Fairy-wren, Spotted Pardalote, Striated Pardalote, Large-billed Scrubwren, Noisy Friarbird, Little Friarbird, Noisy Miner, Lewin's Honeyeater, Eastern Yellow Robin, Eastern Whipbird, Grey Shrike-thrush, Leaden Flycatcher, Spangled Drongo, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Barred Cuckoo-shrike, Cicadabird, Olive-backed Oriole, Figbird, Grey Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, Torresian Crow, Regent Bowerbird, Double-barred Finch, Red-browed Finch, Mistletoebird, Welcome Swallow, Silvereye.

Lockyer Wetlands Outing Report 29th April 2007

By Rosalie Rudduck

With the impact of the drought heavily upon us all, it was with mixed feelings I went to bed the night before the outing. On one hand we needed the light rain that was falling to build up further and hoped for a wet Sunday; and on the other hand, the Lockyer wetlands bird outing, with John Hadley's excellent local knowledge, is always a great day out.

The day dawned a clear perfect Autumn day and 14 members gathered at Lake Apex for our walk around the Lake. On the Historical Village side of the Lake was the first highlight of the day – the early morning sun picked up the rich chestnut brown of a **Chestnut-breasted Mannikin** at fairly close range. It happily flittered around on the grass-tops for some minutes to enable a good look at it.



What a photo! Yellow-billed and Royal Spoonbill in full flight. Photo: Kevin & Kay Williams

Darters were busily swimming around having breakfast and were later seen standing on the island with their wings hanging out to dry in typical Darter pose. **Plumed Whistling-Ducks** were in abundance and some animated interchanges sparked the comment "It sounds like there's a Committee Meeting of the Plumed Whistling-Ducks over there".

Coming back into the picnic area **Little Friarbirds** were actively moving about some treetops when someone spotted a lone **Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater** – only the second one that Michael Atzeni has seen east of the Dividing Range in 30 years! It was obliging enough to allow us all a good look – a really beautiful little bird.



Al Young giving everyone a Wedgie! (We were actually discussing the differences between wedgies and Black Falcons). Photo: Kevin & Kay Williams.

Onto Lake Galletly and Lake Lenore at the UQ Gatton Campus, where the development of board walks and two bird hides as well as the permanent water makes this a “not to miss” spot. These two adjoining lakes form part of the total hydraulic system for the college designed by Jim Galletly in 1955. The highlights here included a very noisy fly-in of a large flock of **Magpie Geese** with the scattering of most of the smaller birds to accommodate the new arrivals and the sheer numbers of **Pink-eared Duck** on Lake Galletly and surrounds, with two or three

solitary individuals on Lake Lenore providing a perfect view of their pink “ears”. **Black Falcons** were spotted in the distance, much to our delight. New 9 year old Nicholas Matheson-Kozakus was excited about the feathers he found – one was cream with a brown edging all around it, the other was barred: both were possibly from Plumed Whistling Ducks.

On to Forest Hill for a morning tea break and a look over a private dam with a huge **White-bellied Sea-eagle’s** nest, with a pair of birds either sitting near it or wheeling over the dam causing some re-arrangement of the other birds. Up one end of the dam were a couple of **Glossy Ibis** with the sun highlighting their brown-red plumage.

With levels in Lake Dyer low, the usual weekend water sports were at a minimum. Mud spits provided an ideal resting place for pelicans, cormorants and egrets. Three **Great Crested Grebes** were spotted while **Whiskered Tern** flew over the lake.

The outing finished after lunch and the final total for the was 78 species. This year Lake Galletly topped the count with 53 species recorded, followed by Lake Apex with 45, Lake Dyer with 28 and Forest Hill area 23. All up – a very enjoyable day, and our thanks again go to John for his guidance.

Species List: Magpie Goose, Plumed Whistling-Duck, Black Swan, Australian Wood Duck, Pacific Black Duck, Australasian Shoveler, Grey Teal, Pink-eared Duck, Hardhead, Australasian Grebe, Great Crested Grebe, Darter, Pied Cormorant, Little Pied Cormorant, Little Black Cormorant, Great Cormorant, Australian Pelican, White-faced Heron, Little Egret, White-necked Heron, Great Egret, Intermediate Egret, Cattle Egret, Glossy Ibis, Australian White Ibis, Straw-necked Ibis, Royal Spoonbill, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, Black-shouldered Kite, Square-tailed Kite, Whistling Kite, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Brown Falcon, Black Falcon, Nankeen Kestrel, Purple Swamphen, Dusky Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, Comb-crested Jacana, Black-winged Stilt, Black-fronted Dotterel, Masked Lapwing, Silver Gull, Whiskered Turn, Rock Dove, Spotted Turtle-Dove, Crested Pigeon, Galah, Cockatiel, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Pale-headed Rosella, Red-rumped Parrot, Superb Fairy-wren, Striated Pardalote, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater, Striped Honeyeater, Little Friarbird, Noisy Miner, Lewin’s Honeyeater, Magpie-lark, Willie Wagtail, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Figbird, Grey Butcherbird, Pied Butcherbird, Australian Magpie,



White-bellied Sea-eagle, soaring over Forest Hill. Photo: Kevin & Kay Williams

Torresian Crow, Double-barred Finch, Chestnut-breasted Mannikin, Welcome Swallow, Tree Martin, Fairy Martin, Golden-headed Cisticola, Common Starling, Common Myna, Gull-billed Tern

Species Census, 27-29 October 2006

By Michael Atzeni

Participants: Olive Booth, Pat McConnell, Kath O'Donnell, Ken McKeown, Michael Atzeni, Laurie Atzeni, Gloria Glass, Esther Townsend, Bill Jolly, Michael Wood, Gayle Lee, Dave & Pat Cleary, Mike McGoldrick, Richard & Carol Colclough, Al & Helen Young, Alan & Carol German (Canadian visitors).

Thanks to the 20 participants above, we collectively visited 13 grids, surveying 10 of these comprehensively, as indicated by the species seen in each grid (see below), and recorded a total of **167 species**. As surveys go it was on par with previous years and once again we did best around Helidon (98spp) and the Highfields (90spp) and NE Toowoomba/escarpment area (84 spp). Given the drought, we didn't do too badly with the waterbirds but raptors were a bit light on compared to previous years.

Surveyed grids (shaded)* and number of species recorded in each during October census

Grid W1 (Kingsthorpe) 27°27'30"S 151°47'30"E 41 spp	Grid N1 (Gowrie Junction) 27°27'30"S 151°52'30"E 79 spp	Grid N2 (Highfields) 27°27'30"S 151°57'30"E 90 spp	Grid N3 (Murphy's Ck) 27°27'30"S 152°02'30"E 74 spp	Grid N4 (Helidon North) 27°27'30"S 152°07'30"E 98 spp
Grid W2 (S&W Gowrie Mtn) 27°32'32"S 151°47'30"E 10 spp	Grid C1 (NW Toowoomba) 27°32'30"S 151°52'30"E 19 spp	Grid C3 (NE Toowoomba) 27°32'30"S 151°57'30"E 84 spp	Grid C5 (Withcott) 27°32'30"S 152°02'30"E 57 spp	Grid C7 (Helidon) 27°32'30"S 152°07'30"E 98 spp
Grid W3 (Athol-Umliram) 27°37'30"S 151°47'30"E 10 spp	Grid C2 (SW Toowoomba) 27°37'30"S 151°52'30"E 19 spp	Grid C4 (SE Toowoomba) 27°37'30"S 151°57'30"E 67 spp	Grid C6 (Upper Flagstone Ck) 27°37'30"S 152°02'30"E 50 spp	Grid C8 (Lower Flagstone Ck) 27°37'30"S 152°07'30"E 36 spp
Grid W4 () 27°42'30"S 151°47'30"E 6 spp	Grid S1 (Cambooya) 27°42'30"S 151°52'30"E 6 spp	Grid S2 (Ramsay) 27°42'30"S 151°57'30"E 6 spp	Grid S3 (Rockmount) 27°42'30"S 152°02'30"E 6 spp	Grid S4 (Fordsdale) 27°42'30"S 152°07'30"E 6 spp

*Each sector is a 2.5 minute block. For Atlas purposes, each has been assumed to approximate a search within a 5km radius of the given central reference point.

Highlights: Australasian Shoveler, Little Egret, Grey Goshawk, Peregrine Falcon, Buff-banded Rail, Topknot Pigeon, Little Bronze-Cuckoo, Yellow-tufted Honeyeater (new location – Thomas Rd, Murphy's Ck), White-browed Woodswallow, Masked Woodswallow. **"Clayton's Highlights":** Long-billed Corella, Common Blackbird. **Big dips:** Latham's Snipe, Bush Stone-Curlew (known site), White-headed Pigeon, Brush Cuckoo, White-throated Needletail (too early?), Large-billed Scrubwren, Barred Cuckoo-Shrike, White-winged Chough, Tawny Grassbird

Species	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	N1	N2	N3	S4	W1	W3
Australian Brush-turkey		Y	Y	Y					Y				
Brown Quail						Y							
Plumed Whistling-Duck						Y	Y			Y	Y		
Australian Wood Duck		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Pacific Black Duck		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
Australasian Shoveler						Y							
Grey Teal						Y	Y	Y					
Pink-eared Duck						Y							
Hardhead			Y			Y	Y						
Australasian Grebe						Y	Y	Y	Y				
Darter						Y							
Little Pied Cormorant						Y				Y			
Little Black Cormorant		Y				Y		Y					
Great Cormorant						Y							
Australian Pelican						Y							
White-faced Heron						Y		Y				Y	
Little Egret						Y							
White-necked Heron		Y		Y									
Great Egret						Y							
Cattle Egret		Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	Y				
Nankeen Night-Heron						Y			Y	Y			
Australian White Ibis	Y	Y	Y			Y		Y				Y	
Straw-necked Ibis		Y		Y		Y		Y	Y	Y			
Royal Spoonbill						Y	Y						
Yellow-billed Spoonbill													
Pacific Baza									Y				
Black-shouldered Kite	Y					Y		Y				Y	
Grey Goshawk						Y			Y				
Wedge-tailed Eagle					Y	Y		Y	Y				
Brown Falcon			Y										
Australian Hobby					Y			Y				Y	
Peregrine Falcon		Y											
Nankeen Kestrel	Y					Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
Buff-banded Rail			Y			Y							
Purple Swamphen			Y										
Dusky Moorhen			Y			Y							
Eurasian Coot			Y				Y						
Black-winged Stilt		Y				Y	Y						
Red-necked Avocet						Y							
Black-fronted Dotterel						Y	Y						
Red-kneed Dotterel						Y							
Masked Lapwing		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
Rock Dove		Y						Y	Y			Y	
Spotted Turtle-Dove		Y	Y			Y		Y	Y			Y	
Brown Cuckoo-Dove		Y			Y				Y				
Common Bronzewing				Y					Y				

Species	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	N1	N2	N3	S4	W1	W3
Crested Pigeon	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
Peaceful Dove		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y			
Bar-shouldered Dove		Y				Y		Y		Y			Y
Wonga Pigeon		Y											
Topkt Pigeon		Y											
Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo									Y				
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo									Y				
Galah	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
Long-billed Corella									Y				
Little Corella								Y	Y			Y	
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo		Y	Y	Y				Y	Y				
Cockatiel					Y			Y				Y	Y
Rainbow Lorikeet		Y	Y	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y			
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet		Y	Y	Y		Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	
Musk Lorikeet								Y	Y				
Little Lorikeet		Y				Y			Y				
Australian King-Parrot		Y		Y		Y			Y				
Pale-headed Rosella		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	
Pallid Cuckoo					Y	Y							
Fan-tailed Cuckoo				Y					Y				
Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo		Y				Y							
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo		Y											
Little Bronze-Cuckoo			Y		Y								
Common Koel		Y	Y	Y	Y				Y	Y			
Channel-billed Cuckoo		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y			
Pheasant Coucal		Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y			
Southern Boobook		Y	Y										
Tawny Frogmouth				Y				Y					
Laughing Kookaburra		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Sacred Kingfisher		Y	Y			Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	
Rainbow Bee-eater			Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y			
Dollarbird			Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y			
White-throated Treecreeper		Y							Y	Y			
Superb Fairy-wren		Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
Variigated Fairy-wren		Y	Y			Y		Y	Y	Y			
Red-backed Fairy-wren					Y	Y	Y		Y	Y			
Spotted Pardalote		Y							Y	Y			
Striated Pardalote		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y			
White-browed Scrubwren		Y	Y			Y		Y	Y	Y			
Large-billed Scrubwren													
Speckled Warbler				Y		Y							
Weebill		Y		Y	Y			Y	Y	Y			
Brown Gerygone		Y											
White-throated Gerygone			Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	
Brown Thornbill		Y		Y				Y	Y	Y		Y	
Buff-rumped Thornbill								Y	Y				
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	Y	Y				Y	Y	Y	Y				

Species	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	N1	N2	N3	S4	W1	W3
Yellow Thornbill						Y		Y		Y			
Striated Thornbill									Y				
Red Wattlebird		Y	Y										
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater								Y					
Striped Honeyeater		Y			Y	Y		Y					
Noisy Friarbird			Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y			
Little Friarbird					Y	Y		Y		Y			
Blue-faced Honeyeater		Y	Y	Y		Y		Y		Y			
Bell Miner			Y										
Noisy Miner	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
Lewin's Honeyeater		Y	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	
Yellow-faced Honeyeater		Y	Y	Y					Y	Y			
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater										Y			
Fuscous Honeyeater						Y							
Brown-headed Honeyeater				Y									
White-throated Honeyeater				Y		Y				Y			
White-naped Honeyeater		Y							Y	Y			
Brown Honeyeater		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	
Scarlet Honeyeater		Y	Y			Y			Y	Y			
Jacky Winter										Y			
Eastern Yellow Robin		Y	Y	Y		Y			Y	Y			
Grey-crowned Babbler				Y				Y	Y	Y			
Eastern Whipbird		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y			
Spotted Quail-thrush				Y									
Varied Sittella		Y								Y			
Crested Shrike-tit		Y											
Golden Whistler		Y								Y			
Rufous Whistler		Y	Y	Y		Y		Y		Y			
Grey Shrike-thrush		Y	Y		Y	Y			Y	Y			
Black-faced Monarch		Y											
Leaden Flycatcher		Y	Y	Y		Y			Y	Y			
Restless Flycatcher								Y					
Magpie-lark	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Rufous Fantail		Y							Y				
Grey Fantail		Y	Y					Y	Y				
Willie Wagtail		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
Spangled Drongo		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y	Y			
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y	
White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike						Y							
Cicadabird					Y				Y	Y			
White-winged Triller		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y			
Varied Triller		Y							Y				
Olive-backed Oriole		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Figbird	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Masked Woodswallow										Y			
White-browed Woodswallow									Y	Y			
Dusky Woodswallow			Y										

Species	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	N1	N2	N3	S4	W1	W3
Grey Butcherbird		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
Pied Butcherbird	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y		Y	
Australian Magpie	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Pied Currawong	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Torresian Crow	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Apostlebird								Y	Y			Y	
Regent Bowerbird		Y											
Satin Bowerbird			Y						Y				
Singing Bushlark								Y				Y	
Richard's Pipit								Y					
House Sparrow	Y	Y				Y		Y				Y	
Zebra Finch						Y	Y	Y				Y	
Double-barred Finch		Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Plum-headed Finch										Y			
Red-browed Finch		Y	Y			Y			Y	Y			
Chestnut-breasted Mannikin						Y							
Mistletoebird			Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Welcome Swallow	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
Tree Martin												Y	
Fairy Martin						Y		Y					
Clamorous Reed-Warbler			Y			Y		Y	Y				
Rufous Songlark					Y	Y							
Golden-headed Cisticola						Y		Y				Y	
Silvereeye		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
Common Blackbird									Y				
Common Starling	Y	Y			Y			Y	Y			Y	
Common Myna	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y

Wildlife Welfare Carers

By Judi & Brendon Gray

Source: toowoombabirdobservers.org/forum

Just in case anyone comes into contact with an injured reptile, mammal, bird or any wild animal, there is a voluntary organization locally that will take injured wildlife with the aim of helping them and releasing them back to the wild if possible. Brendon and myself are looking to get our wildlife-carer's licence in the near future. Here is the contact number for the organization if anyone needs it:

Wildlife Welfare Carers : 24 hour wildlife care and rescue service
12 Hamlyn Rd Oakey Qld
Ph: 46 912675 Mobile: 0417 070 337

If you have any queries about this don't hesitate to contact us, we may be able to help or get you in contact with someone who can.

Forum survey updates: unreported species

Check out the Forum [toowoombabirdobservers.org/forum] for full details

Autumn 2007: not reported within the local survey area. [Note: Nearly all these species yet to be reported for the 2007 Challenge. Those marked with an * have been seen in the summer 07]

King Quail	Whimbrel	Barking Owl
Wandering Whistling-Duck	Marsh Sandpiper	Sooty Owl
Blue-billed Duck	Common Greenshank	Masked Owl
Musk Duck	Common Sandpiper	White-throated Nightjar*
Freckled Duck	Red-necked Stint	Spotted Nightjar
Cotton Pygmy-goose	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Australian Owllet-nightjar
Mallard	Curlew Sandpiper	Fork-tailed Swift
Australasian Shoveler*	Red-necked Phalarope	Forest Kingfisher
Chestnut Teal	Painted Snipe	Noisy Pitta
Pink-eared Duck*	Comb-crested Jacana	Striated Thornbill*
Hoary-headed Grebe	Red-necked Avocet*	Yellow-throated Miner
Great Crested Grebe	Red-capped Plover	Black-chinned Honeyeater
Pied Cormorant	Red-kneed Dotterel	Painted Honeyeater
Australian Pelican*	Banded Lapwing	Black Honeyeater
Little Egret	Silver Gull	Spotted Quail-thrush*
Intermediate Egret*	Gull-billed Tern	Spectacled Monarch
Little Bittern	Caspian Tern	White-eared Monarch
Black Bittern*	Sooty Tern	Satin Flycatcher
Glossy Ibis*	Whiskered Tern	Barred Cuckoo-shrike
Black-necked Stork	White-winged Black Tern	Cicadabird*
Osprey	Emerald Dove*	Ground Cuckoo-shrike
Pacific Baza	Squatter Pigeon	White-winged Triller*
Square-tailed Kite*	Diamond Dove*	Varied Triller*
Brahminy Kite	Wompoo Fruit-Dove	White-breasted Woodswallow
Red Goshawk	Superb Fruit-Dove	Masked Woodswallow
Brolga	Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove	White-browed Woodswallow
Buff-banded Rail	Topknot Pigeon	Black-faced Woodswallow
Bush-hen	Glossy Black-Cockatoo*	Little Woodswallow
Baillon's Crake	Red-winged Parrot	Australian Raven
Australian Spotted Crake	Crimson Rosella	Diamond Firetail
Spotless Crake	Eastern Rosella	White-backed Swallow
Black-tailed Native-hen	Blue Bonnet	Fairy Martin*
Red-backed Button-quail	Swift Parrot	Tawny Grassbird
Little Button-quail	Budgerigar	Little Grassbird
Red-chested Button-quail	Turquoise Parrot	Rufous Songlark*
Painted Button-quail	Oriental Cuckoo*	Brown Songlark*
Black-breasted Button-quail	Black-eared Cuckoo	Russet-tailed Thrush
Latham's Snipe	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo	
Black-tailed Godwit	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo*	

Autumn 2007: not reported in the non-local survey area. [non-local : outside the local Toowoomba survey area, but within 250km radius]

Stubble Quail	Broad-billed Sandpiper	Red-backed Kingfisher
King Quail	Red-necked Phalarope	Dollarbird
Wandering Whistling-Duck	Painted Snipe	Albert's Lyrebird
Freckled Duck	Bush Stone-curlew	Superb Lyrebird
Australian Shelduck	Beach Stone-curlew	Rufous Scrub-bird
Cotton Pygmy-goose	Red-necked Avocet	Brown Treecreeper
Green Pygmy-goose	Grey Plover	White-winged Fairy-wren
Mallard	Red-capped Plover	Southern Emu-wren
Southern Giant-Petrel	Double-banded Plover	Eastern Bristlebird
Northern Giant-Petrel	Lesser Sand Plover	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren
Cape Petrel	Greater Sand Plover	Speckled Warbler
Tahiti Petrel	Oriental Plover	Mangrove Gerygone
Great-winged Petrel	Red-kneed Dotterel	Western Gerygone
Providence Petrel	Banded Lapwing	Inland Thornbill
Fairy Prion	Oriental Pratincole	Chestnut-rumped Thornbill
Streaked Shearwater	Australian Pratincole	Southern Whiteface
Wedge-tailed Shearwater	Great Skua	Regent Honeyeater
Buller's Shearwater	Pomarine Jaeger	Yellow-throated Miner
Flesh-footed Shearwater	Arctic Jaeger	Fuscous Honeyeater
Short-tailed Shearwater	Long-tailed Jaeger	White-plumed Honeyeater
Fluttering Shearwater	Kelp Gull	Black-chinned Honeyeater
Hutton's Shearwater	Lesser Crested Tern	Brown-headed Honeyeater
Wandering Albatross	Roseate Tern	White-throated Honeyeater
Black-browed Albatross	White-fronted Tern	Painted Honeyeater
Shy Albatross	Black-naped Tern	New Holland Honeyeater
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	Common Tern	Black Honeyeater
Red-tailed Tropicbird	Little Tern	Dusky Honeyeater
Australasian Gannet	Bridled Tern	Scarlet Honeyeater
Masked Booby	Sooty Tern	Crimson Chat
Brown Booby	White-winged Black Tern	Scarlet Robin
Great Frigatebird	Common Noddy	Red-capped Robin
Lesser Frigatebird	Black Noddy	Flame Robin
Striated Heron	Grey Ternlet	Hooded Robin
Little Bittern	Emerald Dove	Pale-yellow Robin
Black Bittern	Brush Bronzewing	Spotted Quail-thrush
Australasian Bittern	Squatter Pigeon	Crested Shrike-tit
Letter-winged Kite	Superb Fruit-Dove	Olive Whistler
Black-breasted Buzzard	Long-billed Corella	White-eared Monarch
Collared Sparrowhawk	Musk Lorikeet	Satin Flycatcher
Red Goshawk	Double-eyed Fig-Parrot	Shining Flycatcher
Little Eagle	Australian Ringneck	Barred Cuckoo-shrike
Grey Falcon	Blue Bonnet	Cicadabird
Peregrine Falcon	Swift Parrot	Ground Cuckoo-shrike
Buff-banded Rail	Budgerigar	White-winged Triller
Lewin's Rail	Turquoise Parrot	Masked Woodswallow
Bush-hen	Ground Parrot	White-browed Woodswallow
Baillon's Crake	Oriental Cuckoo	Black-faced Woodswallow
Australian Spotted Crake	Pallid Cuckoo	Paradise Riflebird
Spotless Crake	Brush Cuckoo	Australian Raven
Black-tailed Native-hen	Black-eared Cuckoo	Regent Bowerbird
Red-backed Button-quail	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	Spotted Bowerbird
Little Button-quail	Little Bronze-Cuckoo	Singing Bushlark
Red-chested Button-quail	Channel-billed Cuckoo	Richard's Pipit
Black-breasted Button-quail	Pheasant Coucal	Diamond Firetail
Little Curlew	Powerful Owl	Nutmeg Mannikin
Common Redshank	Masked Owl	White-backed Swallow
Marsh Sandpiper	Barn Owl	Tawny Grassbird

Wood Sandpiper
Ruddy Turnstone
Asian Dowitcher
Red Knot
Sanderling
Red-necked Stint
Pectoral Sandpiper
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Grass Owl
Marbled Frogmouth
Spotted Nightjar
White-rumped Swiftlet
Fork-tailed Swift
Azure Kingfisher
Blue-winged Kookaburra
Forest Kingfisher

Little Grassbird
Rufous Songlark
Brown Songlark
Bassian Thrush
Common Blackbird

Members' Bird Notes

All sightings seen by members of the Toowoomba Bird Observers. Accuracy not vouched for by the TBO. Please check with observer before citing.

Curlew Sandpiper (4)	27/03/07	Coal/Gas Dam, 10km S of Lake Broadwater	MW
Peregrine Falcon	31/03/07	Glen Lomond Park	AY
Brown Goshawk	31/03/07	Glen Lomond Park	AY
Dusky Woodswallow	01/04/07	Redwood Park	AY
Pallid Cuckoo	01/04/07	Redwood park	AY
Fan-Tailed Cuckoo	01/04/07	Redwood Park	AY
Spotted Harrier	02/04/07	Cressbrook Dam	NS, WS
Spotted Harrier	05/04/07	Federation Park, via Drayton	AY
Powerful Owl	21/04/07	Highfields Falls	MWood
Hoary-headed Grebe (1)	15/04/07	Lake Gallately, UQ Gatton	MA,OB
Black Falcon (1)	15/04/07	Gatton	MA, OB
Black Falcon (1)	16/04/07	North St, North Toowoomba	MA

MA - Michael Atzeni; **OB** - Olive Booth; **NS** - Norma Sturdee; **WS** - Wes Sturdee; **MWood** - Michael Wood; **MW** - Malcolm Wilson; **AY** - Al Young

A perfect home for a birdwatcher!

Highset Timber Home on ½ an acre available for Rental at Stockyard Creek nestled at the top end of the Lockyer Valley approx 15 minutes drive via bitumen road east of Toowoomba. Situated on a 100 acre grazing property with pleasant country outlook and creek.

Kitchen / Lounge combined, 3 Bedrooms with polished floors, Shower over Bath
Closed in Veranda / Sunroom, Laundry and Utility Room are downstairs, Double Carport + accommodation for smaller vehicles under house, 5000 Rain Water Tank plumbed to house, Access to Bore water (strictly limited during current drought conditions), Fenced Yard – outside pets OK although a limit of 1 dog is necessary due to presence of grazing cattle. Daily Mail Service, Bus to local Primary School passes, 1 Km to choice of 2 buses servicing Toowoomba and Gatton Secondary Schools, Ideally suited for up to 4 residents

COST: \$150 per week

In advance + 4 Weeks rent (\$600) for lodgement with Rental Bond Authority. Minimum 6 month Lease – Long term lease preferred. References Required

Available from 26/05/07

Contact Details: Bill & Helen Scanlan 46975252; Mob 0447182033 or 0429469752.

COMING EVENTS

27th May 2007 – Toowoomba's southern escarpment. Meet at Echo Valley South Park at 7 am. Travel south on Ramsay St until you reach the Echo Valley Motocross Racetrack - the park is located on the southern side of the racetrack and parking is available along the southern boundary fence adjacent to the park. Contact Mike McGoldrick (07) 46357371.

23/24 June 2007 – Annual Raptor Survey. Each survey is conducted on either the Saturday or the Sunday and involves driving the same route as in previous years. BYO everything.

Leaders :-

Pat McConnell (Northern Section) Tel: 4631 5573 (wk); Darren Fielder (Western Section) Tel: 4636 0174; Michael Atzeni (Eastern Section) Tel: 4639 2761; Ken Wells (Southern Section)

28th July 2007 – Helidon region

26th August 2007 – Warwick area

29/30 September 2007 – Karara/Lake Coolmunda
- overnight (optional)

Executive Committee Members

President:	Ross Begent	4697 7198 (h) 4696 7900 (wk)
Vice-president:	Michael Atzeni	4688 1318 (wk) matzeni@westnet.com.au
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Committee Members:	Richard Colclough	4688 6654
	Mike McGoldrick	4635 7371
	Michael Wood	0402 283 856 mswode@hotmail.com

Deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is 11 June 2007.

Please e-mail or snail- mail your articles to Darren Fielder, our Newsletter Editor.

**If undeliverable return to
Toowoomba bird Observers Inc
PO Box 4730, Toowoomba East Q 4350**

Surface Mail