



# TOOWOOMBA BIRD OBSERVERS INC

No. 371  
February 2008

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

## Editorial

By Plaxy Barratt & Michael Wood

Well, isn't time flying! Already we are nearing the end of summer, but it's great to see so much rain about. With any luck it'll keep coming and fill some of our local wetlands.

We have decided to put this month's newsletter out a little earlier than usual because of the shorter month, and to correspond with the spotlighting outing at Ravensbourne NP this Saturday (looking forward to that one!).

Another reason for the early publication is that well-known Australian wildlife photographer and ornithologist Graeme Chapman has kindly offered to conduct a bird photography workshop on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2008 for TBO members (see details below).

It's been a good month for additions to *The Challenge -2008* total. An Oriental Cuckoo was seen at Prince Henry Drive, and another at West Creek on the same day. This species may be a regular visitor to the escarpment, so keep your eyes peeled. Also on the same day a pair of Little Grassbird were seen at West Creek...possibly breeding? There

were the breeding White-throated Nightjars at Rockmount, Fork-tailed Swifts at Highfields, and, the return of the White-headed Pigeons, at Prince Henry Drive.

Over the coming months you may notice a gradual change to the names of a small number of bird species. This will bring them into line with the new Christides & Boles (2008) Australian Checklist. Bill Jolly has kindly presented a summary of some of the changes that will appear in the new list.

TBO welcomes Angela Matheson the newest members to our ranks.

And again, a big thanks to everyone for their contributions this month. We certainly have not been short of articles - keep them coming!

## 2008 Challenge

165 spp as at 18/2/08



TOOWOOMBA  
BIRD OBSERVERS INC

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

P.O. Box 4730, Toowoomba East 4350  
www.toowoombabirdobservers.org

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## This Issue

### Was it a Hobby or a Peregrine?

By Gloria Glass

### Nightjars, Pebbles & Round Things

By Michael Wood

### Beginner's Outing: Prince Henry Drive

By Kay Williams

### Update of Australian Bird Taxonomy

By Bill Jolly

## COMING EVENTS

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2008  
**Spotlighting Ravensbourne NP**  
Meet lower picnic area 4.30pm  
Leader: Pat McConnell

Sat 29<sup>th</sup> March 2008  
**Goomburra State Forest**  
Leader: Michael Wood  
(Details to be advised)

Sat 1<sup>st</sup> – Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2008  
**Photography Worksp**  
Graeme Chapman  
(See p13 for details)

## Was it a Hobby or a Peregrine?

By Gloria Glass

On 28<sup>th</sup> December I went for a walk up the hill behind our house, partly to look again at the regrowth of the scrub trees and bushes after the August 2006 bushfire that burnt a wide path up onto the top before the stalwarts of the bush fire brigade put it out. I also wanted to check out Diana's assertion that she'd seen **Variiegated Fairy-wrens** there recently when she was killing tiger pear.

I was pleased to see that many trees and shrubs continue to grow on from the flush of new growth, thanks to the good rain soon after the burn, and the spring rain last year too; green foliage amongst the dead branches and a great flush of shoots from the lower trunk of many shrubs.

I noted a few of our perennial pests, 'as one does!' – lantana, boxthorn and tiger pear – on which we continue to wage war whenever we can summon the energy. I mooched around on the escarpment, finding a small fig tree taking root part-way up the trunk of a big tree, and I became quite excited to find a **Tingle-tongue *Melicope erythrocoeca***, a second one on the block; for quite a few trees on our species list, we have only one specimen, but here was a *second* of this attractive species. It was its orange-reddish fruit that drew my attention. I know that it has blue seeds and I've tried unsuccessfully to grow them before. I thought I might try again when the seeds are ready.



Tingle-tongue *Melicope erythrocoeca*.  
Photo Gloria Glass

While I was pondering all this, there was a fluttering amongst the leaves of another tree below me, so it was up with the binoculars and I was surprised to discover that my bird was a **Rufous Fantail**. It must be many years since we had last seen one here. They don't seem to like the dry country. Then, just as I was about to descend, with a noisy outburst through the foliage just along to my right, out flew a raptor! Oh, what could it be? Flying too fast for me to waste time getting the binoculars up. What was it? What were its features? ... Ah, yellow legs and talons ... bowed wings yet flying fast across in front of me ... falcon-looking head ... yellow bill ... was it a Hobby? ... Could be ... but probably not small enough ... a Peregrine, then? ... probably not *big* enough ... how big are they anyway? ... Oh, dear Gloria, you've forgotten all you ever knew!

So back home, bird book out, to confirm that only the **Peregrine Falcon** has a yellow bill! And as for size – there's not much difference between the largest Hobby and the smallest Peregrine! So that was that. Definitely a New Bird for our farm although I remember seeing one some years ago about 5 km to the north in an open paddock with many dead and alive trees.

...d the Variegated Fairy-wrens? Yes, I think I saw some females on my careful descent of the grass-and-rocky slope. Their eyes seemed right, but I wasn't sure about the tails – which didn't seem long enough. So I haven't confirmed them, although Diana said she saw some males and they were definitely Variegateds.

And yesterday's birding news [14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2008] for 'Magpie Lane' is the successful chasing-off of a Bearded Dragon by the pair of **Olive-backed Orioles** who are raising their brood in a pendant nest in the jacaranda tree near the house. There was a terrible commotion of birds 'screaming' for some minutes, which drew our attention. We found one parent bird was positioned firmly on a small branch, and the dragon also positioned firmly only a metre away, heading *down* the trunk. Its head was at right



Variegated Fairy-wren. Photo Bill Jolly

angles to its body and pointing at the parent bird, with the nest perhaps two metres behind the bird. The other parent bird was further away. Over a period of more than an hour, the birds continued to 'scream' for some minutes from time to time, until eventually the dragon acknowledged defeat and noisily descended. What could we give him? Poor dragons have to eat too! Those little Orioles would have been quite tasty! Diana picked it a hibiscus flower, which we had found in past years dragons quite liked, but ours yesterday scorned it, apparently having its heart set on meat, not veg.



Fledgling Olive-backed Oriole.  
Photo Gloria Glass

**But there's more!** Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> January - there was another terrible kafuffle in Oriole-land! I raced out to find a flying humming-bird-like **Lewin's Honeyeater** pecking at a little bird perched on a branch. The little bird flew... over the vegie garden fence into the pumpkin patch, with the Lewin after it. The Lewin continued to peck at it, now on the ground. Well, one couldn't let nature take its course this time, could one?

Taking a tea towel with me to throw over it, I crept through the pumpkin vines, but in the end it was quite easy just to pick up the fledgling Oriole. I stepped over the tumbling fence and got his little feet to fasten onto a branchlet of the jacaranda, as close as I could to the nest. *Then* I saw the second fledgling safely sitting a little higher. So there had been two in the nest. For the next couple of days we could hear them

being fed and occasionally what could have been the Lewin back at his tricks. But silence now for some days. Have they survived...?  
[Keep us posted Gloria! Ed.]

## Nightjars, Pebbles & Round Things

By Michael Wood

Responding to a recent report of a nesting pair of **White-throated Nightjar** *Eurostopodus mystacalis* near Rockmount, I made a phonecall to a fella named John McAlpine (the landholder) and asked for permission to visit his property and look for the birds – he gave readily. Another phonecall later, and Mick Atzeni and I were travelling down along Rockmount Road with great anticipation.

We met John and his father-in-law, Stewart Beveridge, in the driveway of 'Cooran' where both were bent over an up-turned lawnmower. Everyone was introduced to one another and we were just getting settled into the relaxed environment when..... all of a sudden.... out of nowhere, all hell breaks loose. A mad explosion of birds disappeared behind the house, followed immediately by a god-awful crash!!! What on earth.....? One of the birds involved in the frenzy had hit the roof with such force that we feared for its existence. Surely, there was no possible way it could have survived such a collision.

Needless to say, the uproar well and truly caught our attention, so we rushed around the front to see what had just happened and the only evidence of any commotion was a cluster of long, barred tail feathers hanging over the guttering of the house. It appeared as though the bird had been travelling so fast and hit the roof with such force that the corrugated iron had stripped its backside off. Not so! For jammed up inside the guttering was a visibly shaken and worse-for-wear female **Eastern Koel**. John pulled her out, and incredibly she did not appear to be all that badly hurt, apart from favouring her right wing a little. She certainly looked as though she would survive. Mind-boggling!

Concern for the koel soon abated, though, when after the initial shock she started to struggle and opened her mouth for the first time. After that, she wouldn't shut-up! A loud, grating noise came from her mouth-hole and went straight through my head. I knew if she kept it up I'd be in for a "biggen". She was horrible! And what's more, it seemed she was now the responsibility of either Mick or I. All the possible scenarios flashed through my mind. One in particular was disturbing; I'd have to take her home and live with her crankiness until someone was found to look after her. Horrible...., and Trouble! (We have since learnt that the "little darling" is doing fine.)

What's this got to do with nightjars? Well, once we had placed the koel inside a cardboard box – forgotten there, we went off looking for the nesting birds. John moved on ahead and made a path through the cobwebs that overwhelmed just about



Eastern Koel. Photo Stewart Beveridge (19/01/08)

every inch of the track. Then, when we got close to the location where the nightjars were last seen we took soft, slow, deliberate steps...., and of-course ended up making one hell-of-a-noise! It was then a matter of studying every single leaf, stone, rock and branch on the track ahead. But after ten or fifteen minutes of inches and intense searching, nothing! Not one of us was prepared to say the birds weren't there, though. In the end, we came to the conclusion that they weren't, and approached. Just as we did a flash of wings unexpectedly burst up from somewhere beneath the earth. The two adults were gone before we realised they were there!

The four of us decided against going after the two adult nightjars. Rather, we began searching for the chick which John had also located previously. But all we were able to find were bits and pieces of eggshell here and there. Surely, a dependant chick couldn't have travelled too far? We soldiered-on, when someone said: "There it is!" "Where...? I can't see a thing!", and from somewhere else "Still I can't see anything!" There, between two pinkish, pale russet-red coloured rocks was another rock, this one with fur...., thighs...., a beak and a small opening where there appeared to be an eye. Something wrong here!



White-throated Nightjar chick (background), and eggshell. Photo Stewart Beveridge (19/01/08)

After some discussion, we decided the best thing to do was to leave the adult birds to return to the chick, and come back a little later. In the meantime, we followed a narrow track through the dry woodland and came across many other gems, some of the more notable being **Brown Falcon**, a handful of **Brown-headed** and **White-throated Honeyeaters**, and a small party of foraging **Varied Sittellas**. But the most interesting of the "others" was the **Leaden Flycatcher**; there were four or five - possibly as many as six - of these birds and, unusually, every one of them were female or immatures, and at least one



Close-up of White-throated Nightjar chick, perfectly camouflaged between two rocks. Photo Stewart Beveridge

had a reasonably vivid and consistent chestnut-orange colour down through the chin, throat and chest. But by a long way the nightjars were the most exciting find for the day!



Pair of White-throated Nightjars. Can you see them both? Photo Bill Jolly (21/01/08)

Next day, this time equipped with a scope, I set out once again down Rockmount Road. I was determined this time to get good views of the adult nightjars at their daytime roost. Had it not been for John's assistance I might have gone away empty-handed. For the birds had moved to a spot a few metres to the side, a little more within the scrub. John managed to locate them for us, and we enjoyed the unique experience of seeing these slippery customers, for its not everyday one gets to. The next day Bill Jolly also rocked-up, for it was a photographic opportunity "too-good-to-be-true". With directions from Georgia and Sandy McAlpine he found the birds and took several photographs, including this ripper! See if you can spot the second bird.

Observers: John McAlpine, Stewart Beveridge, Michael Atzeni, Bill Jolly, Michael Wood

Brown Quail, Pacific Baza, Brown Falcon, Peaceful Dove, Bar-shouldered Dove, Galah, Australian King Parrot, Brush Cuckoo, Eastern Koel, Channel-billed Cuckoo, Pheasant Coucal, White-throated Nightjar (pair with chick), Laughing Kookaburra, Dollarbird, Superb Fairy-wren, Variegated Fairy-wren\*, Striated Pardalote\*, Spotted Pardalote, White-browed Scrubwren, Weebill, White-throated Gerygone, Brown Thornbill, Noisy Friarbird, Little Friarbird, Noisy Miner, Lewin's Honeyeater, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Brown-headed Honeyeater\*, White-throated Honeyeater, Brown Honeyeater, Eastern Yellow Robin, Eastern Whipbird, Varied Sittella\*, Rufous Whistler, Grey Shrike-thrush, Leaden Flycatcher, Spangled Drongo, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Cicadabird, Olive-backed Oriole, Figbird, Grey Butcherbird, Pied Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, Torresian Crow, Double-barred Finch, Red-browed Finch, Mistletoebird, Welcome Swallow, Silvereeye (\*New for 2008 Challenge)

## Beginner's outing, Price Henry Drive

By Kay Williams

Attendees: Mick Atzeni, Brad Barratt, Plaxy Barratt, Olive Booth, Greg and Toni Campbell and their twins Joel and Hayden, Gloria Glass, Anne-marie Heckscher, Rod Hobson, Chris and Ray Ladyko, Gayle Lee, Mike McGoldrick, Neil McKilligen, Michael Roche, Michael Ryan, Kev and Kay Williams, and Michael Wood. Apologies if we've missed anyone.

What a difference a year makes. This time last year Kevin and I were the first-time visitors to the group, meeting a whole lot of like-minded people who enjoy observing and photographing birdlife in this region. Today I discovered (but already knew) that I still have a lot of learning to do

With a turnout of near to 20 people we started the day with a meet and greet as this was our first outing for the year. Once the Win News interview was over we were able to set out on our walk down the Drive. With the help of members mixing in with first timers we set off with eyes peeled and ears open.



Olive Booth, Mick Atzeni and Mike McGoldrick preparing for the outing. Photo Kevin Williams

Along the road a discussion started up as to where Katoomba Point actually was. Some said it was at the gateway; others thought the first rest area past the culvert and rubbish bin. If this is the latter we have a new name for it. A member relayed a story about a previous visit to the said resting spot. They were there at the spot one day when a family arrived with young children. The children ran to the edge of the forest growth and one little fellow looked around and stated "**This is where you can see the wide, wide world!**" How wonderful to be so innocent and see things so simply. I will always think of this when I go there now.

Today an **Oriental Cuckoo** drew a lot of attention as it had not been seen by many, and not in this area. To me seeing a member of the group of many, many years, get animated about seeing this bird told me about birding. You can see birds every day of your life and still get excited about seeing one in an unknown area of habitation.

At one stage I was asked what the **Regent Bowerbird** call was like; I could not describe it, but as soon as I heard it I knew it - I can identify by sight better than by call.

The Michaels, Atzeni and McGoldrick, did a great job of finding and letting people



Australian Brush-turkey. Photo Kevin Williams

view the birds through the telescopes. Thank you both for all your help guys. There were five Michaels on our outing - a record I would say.



Everyone watches hopefully for the return of the Oriental Cuckoo. Photo Kevin Williams

We had gone quite a distance around the drive and were thinking of returning to the cars when we found **Red-browed Finches**, **Red-backed Fairy-wrens**, and **White-browed Scrub-wrens**; this picked up the enthusiasm again. Alas, the walk was too much for some, so we slowly returned, picking up sightings of more birds on our return to the car park.

I thank you all who attended and hope we see you all on many more outings.

Australian Brush-turkey, Peaceful Dove, Grey Goshawk, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Bar-shouldered Dove, Little Lorikeet, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, King Parrot, Pale-headed Rosella, Oriental Cuckoo, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Channel-billed Cuckoo, Pheasant Coucal, Laughing Kookaburra, Dollarbird, Variegated Fairy-wren, Red-backed Fairy-wren, Spotted Pardalote, Striated Pardalote, White-browed Scrub-wren, Lewin's Honeyeater, Brown Thornbill, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Blue-faced Honeyeater, Noisy Miner, Brown Honeyeater, Eastern Yellow Robin, Eastern Whipbird, Grey Shrike-thrush, Leaden Flycatcher, Magpie-lark, Rufous Fantail, Grey Fantail, Spangled Drongo, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Barred Cuckoo-shrike, Cicadabird, Olive-backed Oriole, Figbird, Grey Butcherbird, Pied Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, Torresian Crow, Regent Bowerbird (f), Satin Bowerbird, Double-barred Finch, Red-browed Finch, Mistletoebird, Silvereye.

[Ed: My Dad, Brad Barratt, enjoyed the outing immensely - so much so he signed up and paid his membership on the spot! He told me he had really enjoyed mixing with such a friendly group of people. I know too he was chuffed (chough-ed?) to have spotted the last bird of the morning - a solitary **Double-barred Finch** - which brought the outing total to 50 species!]



**Summary of some of the changes to the Australian Checklist  
contained in the 2008 'Christides & Boles' taxonomy**

*By Bill Jolly*

**1 At species level**

- **Six species have been added to the Australian list by virtue of domestic splits:**

Kalkadoon Grasswren split from Dusky Grasswren  
Short-tailed Grasswren split from Striated Grasswren  
Western Wattlebird split from Little Wattlebird  
Kimberley Honeyeater split from White-lined Honeyeater  
Pacific Robin (on Norfolk Island) split from Scarlet Robin  
Buff-sided Robin split from White-browed Robin

- **Four species have been removed from the list through lumping with other species:**

Snares Penguin lumped with Fjordland Penguin  
Gould's Bronze-Cuckoo lumped with Little Bronze-Cuckoo  
Lesser Sooty Owl lumped with Sooty Owl  
Black-backed Wagtail lumped with White Wagtail

- **Another 54 new species have been added to the Australian list** - mostly by virtue of vagrant specimens turning up at far-flung islands or reefs, but including Barbary Dove, which has been accepted as having become established in some locations from introduced or escaped individuals.

- **The following species have been renamed, consequent upon splits from overseas species:**

White-rumped Swiftlet becomes Australian Swiftlet (*Aerodramus terraereginae*)  
Little Bittern becomes Australian Little Bittern (*Ixobrychus dubius*)  
Great Egret becomes Eastern Great Egret (*Ardea modesta*)  
Darter becomes Australasian Darter (*Anhinga novaehollandiae*)  
Osprey becomes Eastern Osprey (*Pandion cristatus*)  
Bush-hen becomes Pale-vented Bush-hen (*Amaurornis moluccana*)  
Painted Snipe becomes Australian Painted Snipe (*Rostratula australis*)  
Great Skua becomes Brown Skua (*Stercorarius antarcticus*)  
Common Koel becomes Eastern Koel (*Eudynamis orientalis*)  
Moluccan Hawk-Owl becomes Christmas Island Hawk-Owl (*Ninox natalis*)  
Barn Owl becomes Eastern Barn Owl (*Tyto javanica*)  
Grass Owl becomes Eastern Grass Owl (*Tyto longimembris*)  
Logrunner becomes Australian Logrunner (*Orthonyx temminckii*)  
Clamorous Reed-warbler becomes Australian Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus australis*)  
Richard's Pipit becomes Australasian Pipit (*Anthus novaeseelandiae*)  
Yellow Wagtail becomes Eastern Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla tschutschensis*)  
or Green-headed Yellow Wagtail (*M. taivana*) – depending on where you see it.

- **The following species have also been renamed:**

Mallard becomes Northern Mallard  
 Pied Oystercatcher becomes Australian Pied Oystercatcher  
 Laughing Turtle-Dove becomes Laughing Dove  
 Spotted Turtle-Dove becomes Spotted Dove  
 Short-billed Black-Cockatoo becomes Carnaby's Black-Cockatoo  
 Long-billed Black-Cockatoo becomes Baudin's Black-Cockatoo  
 Figbird becomes Australasian Figbird  
 Singing Bushlark becomes Horsfield's Bushlark  
 Skylark becomes Eurasian Skylark  
 European Greenfinch becomes Common Greenfinch  
 Yellow-bellied Sunbird becomes Olive-backed Sunbird

## 2 Changes to the composition of Passerine Families

- **Pardalotidae** has been split into three families:

Pardalotidae	Pardalotes
Dasyornithidae	Bristlebirds
Acanthizidae	Scrubwrens, Heathwrens, Warblers, Gerygones, Thornbills, Whitefaces, etc.

- **Cinclosomatidae** (Whipbirds, Wedgebills, Quail-thrushes) has been renamed **Psophodidae**.
- **Dicruridae** (Monarch Flycatchers, Fantails, Willie Wagtail, Spangled Drongo) has been split into four families:

Monarchidae	Monarch Flycatchers
Rhipiduridae	Fantails, Willie Wagtail
Laniidae	Shrikes
Dicruridae	Drongos

- **Passeridae** (Sparrows and Australian Finches) has been split into two families:

Passeridae	Sparrows
Estrildidae	Australian Finches

- **Dicaidae** (Mistletoebird) has been deleted, and Mistletoebird has been included in **Nectariniidae** (Sunbirds and Mistletoebird)
- **Sylviidae** (Reed-warblers, Arctic Warbler, Grassbirds, Songlarks, Cisticolas) has been split into four families:

Cisticolidae	Cisticolas
Acrocephalidae	Reed-Warblers
Megaluridae	Grassbirds, Songlarks
Phylloscopidae	Arctic Warbler

- **Zosteropidae** (White-eyes) has been deleted and White-eyes have been placed in **Timaliidae**
- **Muscicapidae** has been split into two families:

Turdidae	Thrushes
Muscicapidae	Blue Rock Thrush, Isabelline Wheatear, Old-world Flycatchers

### 3 Changes to the composition of Non-passerine Orders

- **Cassowaries and Emu** have been removed from the Struthioniformes, and placed in a new Order Casuariiformes
- **Pelicans** have been removed from the Pelecaniformes (which has been renamed Phalacrocoraciformes) and placed in the Ciconiiformes
- **Falconiformes** has been split into two Orders:

Falconidae	Falcons
Accipitridae	Other Australian raptors

- The Order Turniciformes has been deleted, and **Button-quail** have been placed in the Charadriiformes
- **Owlet Nightjar** has been removed from the Caprimulgiformes and placed in the Apodiformes

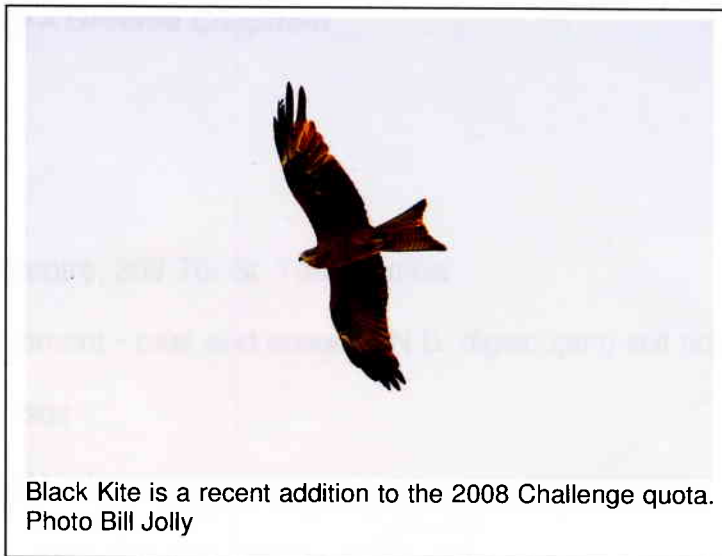
**“Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds”**  
**Les Christidis and Walter Boles – ISBN 9780643065116**

## **The Challenge – 2008**

**Pat McConnell – Records Officer**

This year's Challenge is progressing well. As of 18<sup>th</sup> February the Club has recorded 165 species. That is pretty good going for under one and a half months. Some of the more interesting species seen locally include Australian Shoveler, Grey Goshawk, Fork-tailed Swift (not recorded last year), Barred Cuckoo-shrike, White-throated Nightjar, Nankeen Night-Heron, Peregrine Falcon, Pied Cormorant, Glossy Black-Cockatoo and Black Kite. Three species are of special interest. These are Forest Kingfisher, Oriental Cuckoo and Little Grassbird. These species are very rarely recorded locally. Add to this Bush-Hen, a species that is quite difficult to see and we have made a great start to the year.

There are still a lot of species to get that should be quite easy although for some of these we will have to wait until winter approaches. Keep up the good work and hopefully, especially if the rain continues we will beat that illusive 250.



Black Kite is a recent addition to the 2008 Challenge quota.  
Photo Bill Jolly

## **Snippets from Highfields...**

### **Grey Shrike-thrush nesting behaviour - By Yvonne Cowan**

Recently, a pair of Grey Shrike-thrush built a dish-shaped nest in a pot plant under the verandah beside my front door. The female laid three eggs - all of which hatched. Both parents would be away from nest at the same time getting insects. One parent would fly in to a nearby tree with its insect, wait for some minutes, then shudder and shake (a sign to the mate?); No. 2 would then fly in and go straight to nest with an insect, fly out, then No. 1 would fly in! Approximately two weeks after hatching they were gone.

### **Eating habits of the Eastern Whipbird at home - By Kemp Teesdale**

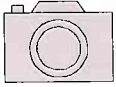
The Eastern Whipbird at my home comes to eat grey-striped sunflower seed - it will at times just pick at the seeds, but at other times it will grasp the seed in its claws and position its lower legs flat on the eating surface and proceed to pick at the seed in its claw.

[Thanks to Kemp and Yvonne – both non-members – for sharing their observations. Ed.]

## Photography Workshop

Graeme Chapman

Well-known Australian natural history photographer and ornithologist Graeme Chapman has kindly offered to conduct a bird photography workshop on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2008 for TBO members.



### **Photography Workshop – Graeme Chapman**

Proposed Agenda:

#### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2008**

Time: 9.00am start

Venue: DPI&F Conference Centre, 203 Tor St, Toowoomba

1. A review of photographic equipment - past and present. N.B. digiscoping will not be covered
2. Photo techniques with long lenses
3. Working from hides
4. Know your subject - the lives of birds
5. Computers and Photoshop
6. How to look after your pictures, both film and digital

#### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2008**

Weather permitting, a morning field outing to compare equipment and techniques may be possible. Location and time to be advised.

You can visit Graeme's comprehensive library of bird photos (more than 540 species) together with a wide range of images of the flora, fauna and environment of Australia, at [www.graemechapman.com.au](http://www.graemechapman.com.au) .

If you are interested in participating in Graeme's Photography Workshop please contact Olive Booth (07) 4633 0553. The workshop will be limited to 15 attendees so be quick to avoid disappointment. Attendance Fee: \$12

## COMING EVENTS

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2008** – Spotighting; Ravensbourne NP. Leader: Pat McConnell.  
Meet at 4.30pm at bottom picnic area.

**29<sup>th</sup> March 2008** – Goomburra State Forest.  
Leader: Michael Wood (Contact: 0402 283 856) (Details to be advised)

## Executive Committee Members

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**Deadline for articles for the next Newsletter is 15<sup>th</sup> March 2008**  
Please e-mail or snail-mail your articles to Plaxy Barratt or Michael Wood.

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