

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

President: Ron Hopkinson,
50 Bass St., Toowoomba. 4350
Ph: 35 4952

Secretary/Treasurer: Ann Shore,
"Shorelands", Withcott, M.S. 224,
Toowoomba, 4352.
Ph: 30 3207.

Records Officer: Michael Atzeni,
2 Memory St., Toowoomba 4350.
Ph: 35 1933.

Please address all correspondence to:
The Secretary, Toowoomba Bird Club,
"Shorelands", Withcott, M.S. 224
Toowoomba 4352.



NEWS-SHEET No. 66-JUNE 1981

In last month's issue we tried to correct any confusion arising from the mix-up in the Club's address. Having, we hoped, done that, Australia Post has now joined in the fun and re-arranged the Secretary's address. Correspondence to the Club should now be addressed as follows:

The Secretary, Toowoomba Bird Club,
"Shorelands",
Withcott, M.S. 224
Toowoomba, 4352.

Plans are being made to share the August field trip with members of the Q.O.S. Further details will be advised but the trip would be to somewhere in the Club's local study area and probably on August 23rd.

Preliminary advice can also be given that it is hoped to make the September trip a camp-out. Goomburra is an interesting spot and has the virtue of being close enough for members who cannot make it for the whole week-end to visit on the Sunday. More details later.

Ron Hopkinson

WATER BIRD FIELD DAY. 24/5/81.

The Club's field trip to watch water birds on the various bodies of water to the east of Toowoomba was ideally timed, following the unseasonal but very welcome rain in the Lockyer valley and elsewhere. Although a bleak and windswept morning with only occasional gleams of sunshine to bring the wintry landscape to life and light up the clouds in the valley and the superb backdrop of hills to the south, members were rewarded with a large count of waterbirds, including some of the not-so-common ones like the Australasian Shovellers, Pink-eared Ducks and Black Swans.

Travelling east along the Warrego Highway we turned off just short of Gatton, along the old Toowoomba road and had our first good sightings to the left of the road and well within view on what had recently been a water-hyacinth choked swamp and now was once more a respectable body of water. Black-winged Stilts, Swamphens and Eurasian Coots foraged in the foreground while ducks aplenty could be seen further off; numbers of Grey Teal and among them several Australasian Shovellers and quite a number of Pink-eared Ducks. A pair of Whistling Kites quartering the far side of the water were creating a disturbance and a party of Plumed

FIELD DAY REPORT c/td.

whistling Ducks came into view as we moved off.

Straw-necked Ibis were feeding in damp cultivation beside the road and on arrival at Lake Clarendon, where again, due to the rain there was good water, we were glad to see big numbers of Black Swans. Another pair of Whistling Kites performed aerobatics overhead for our enjoyment and there were plenty of duck, grebes and coots etc. to be seen, together with a small number of egrets.

Driving south to Dyer's Lagoon, near Laidley, we stopped to watch a pair of Brown Falcons and were again pleased to find a good variety of waterbirds on our arrival. Apex Lake at Gatton was designated for lunch but as this turned out to be a particularly bleak spot with little bird life visible, we decided to call it a day and be content with our good earlier sightings.

Ann Shore.

SPECIES LIST-24/5/81.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Australasian Grebe | Eurasian Coot |
| Great Cormorant | Masked Lapwing |
| Little Pied Cormorant | Pink-eared Duck |
| White-faced Heron | Black-winged Stilt |
| Cattle Egret | Feral Pigeon |
| Great Egret | Crested Pigeon |
| Intermediate Egret | Galah |
| Sacred Ibis | Cockatiel |
| Straw-necked Ibis | Pale-headed Rosella |
| Royal Spoonbill | Welcome swallow |
| Plumed Whistling-duck | Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike |
| Black Swan | Willie Wagtail |
| Pacific Black Duck | Little Friarbird |
| Grey Teal | Noisy Miner |
| Australasian Shoveller | House Sparrow |
| Hardhead | Common Starling |
| Maned Duck | Common Mynah |
| Black-shouldered Kite | Australian Magpie-lark |
| Whistling Kite | Grey Butcherbird |
| Brown Falcon | Pied Butcherbird |
| Australian Kestrel | Australian Magpie |
| Dusky Moorhen | Torresian Crow |
| Purple Swamphen | |

FIELD DAY FOR JUNE.

Date: Sunday, June 28/6/81. Place: Persistence State Forest.

Assembly Point: Pigott's Car Park.

Time: 7.15am for departure at 7.50am sharp.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Bird Observer. May 1981.

The Darling Downs Naturalist. June 1981.

ooo OOO ooo