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NEWS-SHEET No. 9 - JULY, 1976.

The Editor, on behalf of the Toowoomba Bird Club, would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Don Vernon, Curator of Birds, Queensland Museum, for his excellent delivery on Queensland birds. Mr. Vernon spoke at some length to members and visitors gathered to hear him at the Teachers' Centre, Lawrence St., on the night of 16th. July, 1976. All present will recollect this night as a highlight in our club's short history. If the Editor seems over enthusiastic in his praise, he assures readers that it is well warranted.

Mr. Vernon illustrated his talk with distribution maps and a large and excellent array of museum study skins. Most Queensland families of birds were represented by specimens, there being about 160 singular bird skins on display. Members were allowed to handle the specimens for closer inspection. Space does not allow for a complete list of skins to be reproduced but following is a list of especially notable bird skins on display:- Kerguelen Petrel, Red-tailed Tropic Bird, Musk Duck, Letter-winged Kite, Spotted Harrier, Black Falcon, Grey Falcon, Australian Courser, Sooty Tern, Plumed Pigeon, Flock Pigeon, Fig Parrot, Swift Parrot, Paradise Parrot, Ground Parrot, Hooded Parrot, Channel-billed Cuckoo, Masked Owl, Sooty Owl, Powerful Owl, Rufous Owl, White-throated Nightjar, White-tailed Kingfisher, Noisy Pitta, Blue-breasted Pitta, Albert Lyrebird, Crested Bellbird, Gibber Chat, Regent Honeyeater, Star Finch, Gouldian Finch, Golden Bower-bird, and Paradise Rile-bird. As may be seen from this list the display was comprehensive and of great interest.

Mr. Vernon constantly counselled listeners throughout his talk to be on the look-out for particular birds in our area. He suggested that such birds as the Swift Parrot, the Red-backed Kingfisher, the Sooty Owl and the Albert Lyrebird were birds whose distribution falls well within the ambit of our club's activities. We were also reminded that should the Paradise Parrot still exist, then Toowoomba was a central point of the known distribution of this beautiful creature. Mr. Vernon indicated that he would be willing to again visit us, this time showing us how to prepare a study skin. This should be another evening not to be missed. Once again, our thanks to Don Vernon.

The Editor would like to remind members of publications received by our club from other ornithological bodies. These are available for any member's perusal and are obtainable from our Records Officer/Librarian. A list of the publications received during the month is published in each month's news-sheet. An item from "The Bird Observer - June 1976" received this month may be of interest and is reprinted here:

"Another first for Australia ... Magellan Penguin (*Spheniscus magellanicus*).

A Fisheries and Wildlife Officer, Mr. Charles Mearns, Rhyll, Phillip Island, found a Magellan Penguin washed up at Summerland Beach, Phillip Island on 31/3/76. The bird was handed to the National Museum of Victoria. The skin can be used as the bird was in a pretty good condition.

The Magellan Penguin is about 70 cm long, wings (flippers) 17-18 cm. It is found from latitude 41° south to latitude 30° south. On the Pacific side from Cape Horn along the coast of Chile up to southern Peru and on the Atlantic side along the Patagonian coast up to Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, also around the Falkland Islands. It found its death a long way from home!"

Please members avail yourselves of our publications received - they're full of good reading material.

Rod Hobson,  
Editor.

NEW TOOWOOMBA BIRDS.

As no new birds were added to our Toowoomba Bird List during July, the Editor has offered me this space in which to discuss some aspects of that list and the area it covers.

The area within which our club endeavours to maintain a comprehensive list of species recorded is a small one. We do not have a sufficient number of regularly active recorders to pretend that we can maintain a comprehensive record of species over, say, the Darling Downs or any other large topographically valid area, but we are able to do a first-class job in recording those birds which are in Toowoomba at any given time. The area in respect of which we keep these detailed records is that contained within a circle of radius 10 km based on the main Post Office in Margaret Street. (This circle includes the whole of both Redwood and Jubilee Parks, Withcott, Blanchview, much of the Flagstone Creek Road at the foot of the Range, just excludes the Lions Park on the Warwick Road to the South of town, and includes Drayton, Gowrie Junction and the Blue Mountain Estate area off the Crows Nest Road.)



Within this area we have records of 154 species reliably identified within the last three years together with full details of dates, locations and observers. We are also maintaining and regularly publishing a list of all members' sightings within this area for each month of the year, and we will soon be publishing our first annual summary of this information, a truly local Toowoomba List.

This should not be taken to infer that we are ignoring records of birds outside this area. This month's list of members' bird sightings will bear witness to the club's interest in ALL sightings by members no matter where they occur.

I believe that this listing activity of ours is a valuable means of establishing reliable base-line data for future use by any of many amateur or professional bodies who may need at some time to know just what the status of various birds really was here in Toowoomba in the 1970s. To my knowledge this hasn't been done before and it would be much appreciated if members would help in this work by keeping in touch with any of the club's officers at least once a month in order to pass on your sightings

Even if you have only seen some house-sparrows, magpies and starlings, we would like to hear about it and would value knowing. Please join in.

Bill Jolly.

MEMBERS' BIRD NOTES.

Southern Giant Petrel. 25-28.6.76. Pumistone Passage. CK, RW. The less common Southern bird, showing green on the bill. Detailed notes to follow.

Fluttering Shearwater. 4.7.76. off Cape Moreton (Q.O.S. sea-bird outing) RH.

Australian Gannet. 25.6.76. Pumistone Passage. RW. Fishing only 10 metres from shore. 4.7.76. off Cape Moreton (Q.O.S. outing) RH. Gannets plentiful in area.

Brown Booby. 4.7.76. Mouth of Brisbane River (Q.O.S. outing) RH. Two birds.

Large Egret. 24.7.76. Withcott. KH, RH.

Plumed Egret. July, 1976. Alderley Street swamp. Single bird observed by several members on several occasions this month.

Chestnut Teal. 4.7.76. Brisbane River (Q.O.S. outing) RH. Large numbers.

Crested Hawk. 8.7.76. Withcott. AJG. Male bird showing characteristic chest and barred breast. Very rounded wings noticeable in flight. Bird being harassed by Noisy Miners.

Spotted Harrier. 28.6.76. East Greenmount. RH.

Osprey. 4.7.76. Mouth of Brisbane River (Q.O.S. outing) RH. Lone bird observed resting on mooring pile. Massive legs and dark line through eye very conspicuous.

Black Falcon. 28.6.76. Greenmount. KH. Conspicuous flight pattern- fast, fluttering wing beat.

Peregrine Falcon. 29.6.76. Gore Street, Toowoomba. RH. Bird being harassed by Nankeen Kestrel, Magpies and Currawongs. (A new bird for Toowoomba but unfortunately unconfirmed by another member.)

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Brown Falcon. 28.6.76. Greenmount. 30.6.76. Cambooya. RH. These birds numerous at this time in Cambooya-Greenmount area.

Land Rail. 25.7.76. Helidon. Ron Hopkinson. Dead specimen retrieved from highway, (to be exhibited at August meeting).

White-headed Pigeon. 11.7.76. Herries St., Toowoomba. KH, RH, EWJ, WH.

Wonga Pigeon. 4.7.76. Tannymorel. AJG, SG.

(Cont./1.)



King Parrot. 28.7.76. Flagstone Creek. KH, RH.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo. 2.7.76. Herries St., Toowoomba. EVJ. In garden.

Brush Cuckoo. 17.7.76. Helidon. IC. Single bird in house yard.

Brown Warbler. 4.7.76. AJG. Tannymorel. Single bird. Brown above, grey beneath with characteristic white stripe over eye and tail spots.

Mangrove Honeyeater. 4.7.76. Lytton Quarantine Station (Q.O.S. outing) RH. Several birds noted in mangroves.

Eastern Yellow Robin. 22.7.76. Herries St., Toowoomba. EVJ. In garden.

Blue-faced Honeyeater. July, 1976. D.D.I.A.E. CK.

Bell Miner. 4.7.76. Tannymorel. AJG.

Satin Bowerbird. 10 & 12.7.76. Herries St., Toowoomba. EVJ, WHJ. In garden.

Australian Regentbird. 10 & 12.7.76. Herries St., Toowoomba. EVJ, WHJ. In garden.

15.7.76. One bird on telephone wires Stamer/Ramsey Streets. EVJ, WHJ.

(IC: Ian Cowan. AJG: Alan Graham. SG: Sylvia Graham. KH: Kerrie Hobson. RH: Rod Hobson. EVJ: Eileen Jolly. WHJ: Bill Jolly. CK: Colin Kent. RW: Ron Wilson.)

N.B.

Off Cape Moreton, on Q.O.S. sea-bird outing, members were afforded an excellent view of a magnificent Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea schlegelii*) resting on the surface of the sea.

CASUAL BIRD OBSERVATIONS - NORTH QUEENSLAND, JANUARY, 1976.

Our trip to North Queensland last January was unusual in several respects. First and foremost was the weather - three weeks of continuous sunshine during the wet season! This fact alone enabled us to reach certain areas which may have been inaccessible during the normal 'wet'. Three such areas were the rainforests of the Paluma range (south and inland from Ingham), Wallaman Falls (west of Ingham) and Cardstone/Kareeya Power Station (west of Tully). Another aspect of the trip was that so many species were 'casually' observed whilst being engrossed in the main aim of the trip viz. insect collecting. In any of the rain forest areas, visited primarily for the abundance of insect life, many species of birds were encountered.

The most exciting of sightings were:- the large and very beautiful Wompoo Pigeon which suddenly appeared from nowhere in the rain forest at Kuranda; the small but very beautiful male Yellow-breasted Sunbird in the early morning sun at Kareeya; and the sight of a Brahminy Kite patrolling the Tully River at Kareeya some 25 miles inland. Our noisiest reception was laid on by a flock of a dozen or so Sulphur-crested Cockatoos in the rain forest canopy near Paluma. One member of the flock acted as a 'sentry' and was first to break into raucous screeching to alert the remaining members - then all would become 'raucous'. Once we retreated from their 'territory' all became silent again.

Below is a list of the species seen and positively identified - many other birds were seen but briefly and were therefore not identified. It would be extremely exciting to arrange a return trip to these areas specifically to bird-watch but I must admit that I would find it hard to keep my attention away from the insects.

Interesting sightings (R.A.O.U. nomenclature).

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Black-faced Monarch/Paluma Range/10.1.76.    | Spotted Catbird/Paluma Range/10.1.76.   |
| Pied Monarch/Paluma Range/10.1.76.           | Apostle Bird/Lotus Creek/7.1.76.        |
| Helmeted Friarbird/Barron River/17.1.76.     | Wh.-br. Woodswallow/Ingham/9.1.76.)     |
| Macleay's Honeyeater/Tully Heads/12.1.76.    | Cairns - very common)                   |
| Graceful Honeyeater/Paluma Range/10.1.76.    | Black Butcherbird/Barron R./12.1.76.    |
| Varied Honeyeater/Tully Heads/24.1.76.       | Aust. Cassowary/Tully Heads/14.1.76.    |
| White-eared Honeyeater/Paluma Range/10.1.76. | Jabiru/Biloela/6.1.76. )                |
| Olive-backed Sunbird/Kareeya/14.1.76. )      | Rockhampton/7.1.76.)                    |
| Barron R./19.1.76. }                         | Brahminy Kite/Kareeya/14.1.76.          |
| Crimson Finch/Paluma Range/10.1.76.          | Red-necked Rail/Cardstone/14.1.76.      |
| Chestnut-breasted Mannikin/Biloela/7.1.76. ) | Dusky Stone-curlew/Tully Heads/15.1.76. |
| Mt. Morgan /7.1.76. }                        | Wompoo Pigeon/Kuranda/18.1.76.          |
| Lotus Creek/8.1.76. }                        | Torres Strait Pigeon/Cardstone/14.1.76. |
| Metallic Starling/Barron River/18.1.76.      | Topknot Pigeon/Paluma Range/10.1.76.    |
| Yellow Pigbird/Barron River/17.1.76.         | Brown Pigeon/Cardstone/14.1.76.         |
| Spangled Drongo/Paluma Range/10.1.76.        | Emerald Dove/Cardstone/14.1.76.         |

CASUAL BIRD OBSERVATIONS - NORTH QUEENSLAND (cont/d.)

Sulphur-cr. Cockatoo/Paluma Range/10.1.76.)	Little Kingfisher/Paluma Range/10.1.76.)
Kareeya/14.1.76.)	Blue-w. Kookaburra/Lotus Creek/7.1.76.)
King Parrot/Paluma Range/10.1.76.	Barron River/17.1.76.)
Red-winged Parrot/Lotus Creek/7.1.76.	Forest Kingfisher/Paluma Range/10.1.76.)
Boobook Owl/Tully/14.1.76.	Wallaman Falls/11.1.76.)
	Kuranda/17.1.76.)

Common sightings (no specific locations - seen everywhere).

E. Yellow Robin	House Sparrow	Whistling Kite
Golden Whistler	Common Mynah	Wedge-tailed Eagle
Grey Fantail	Aust. Magpie	Quail (species not known)
Willie Wagtail	Pied Currawong	Crested Pigeon
Variiegated Wren	Torresian Crow	Rainbow Lorikeet
Red-backed Wren	Royal Spoonbill	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet
Bl.-f. Honeyeater	Y.-b. Spoonbill	Pheasant Coucal
Noisy Miner	Bl.-shouldered Kite	Laughing Kookaburra
Silvereye	Black Kite	Rainbow Bee-eater
		Dollar Bird.

Alan Graham.

OLD FRIENDS IN NEW PLACES. (OR - YET MORE TROUBLE WITH VERNACULAR NAMES).  
(Originally published in the Darling Downs Naturalist - April, 1974.)

The newly arrived birdwatcher cannot help but realise as soon as he comes into contact with Australian birds that whereas many bear familiar English names such as magpie, wren or robin, their Northern namesakes are almost never the same species and indeed are rarely members of even the same family. It takes a little longer to come to the realisation that there are none-the-less plenty of birds common to both Australian and European lists and that some of these endeavour to mask their true identities by adopting different vernacular names at each end of their range. All of which can lead to hours of enjoyable confusion for the innocent birdwatcher who is merely trying to establish just what he is looking at in relation to what he has seen elsewhere.

Clearly it is desirable that the newcomer should discover as soon as possible just which birds comprise this exclusive international group. I have to admit that when I sat down with the CSIRO Index of Australian Bird Names on the one hand and a couple of European Field Guides on the other I hadn't examined the possibilities and I was by no means prepared for the extent of the list which appeared. Four main categories came to light:

- a) Those resident Australians who arrived as colonisers in recent geological time from the Palaeotropical and Palaeartic regions to the North.
- b) North/South migrants from the Orient (the majority of Western European species occurring throughout Northern Eurasia as far East as China and Japan).
- c) A few renowned globe-spanners, such as petrels and shearwaters, waders and terns.
- d) Introduced species.

The catalogue opens with one albatross, two shearwaters and two petrels. No real surprises there. One master-mariner of a black-browed albatross has re-appeared on the Bass Rock in the Firth of Forth in several recent Northern Summers. It's difficult to know what to make of the Australian gannet. I shall count him in because although he appears to be often regarded as a separate species from the almost identical Northern and Cape gannets. The black cormorant and great crested grebe are widespread throughout Europe, as is the little egret in the South. The cattle egret which is expanding its range here is also doing so in the other direction and is now to be found in the extreme S.W. of Spain, having crossed from North Africa. The little bittern occurs throughout Europe and the glossy ibis in the East of the continent, both as Summer visitors from Africa.

Old World Anseriformes occur here only as introduced species in the case of the mute swan and mallard, or rare visitors from Asia such as the garganey teal and Northern shoveler.

Surprisingly, the birds of prey muster only three representatives for inclusion, but two of these are members also of an even more exclusive set. The peregrine falcon and

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Surprisingly, the birds of prey muster only three representatives for inclusion, but two of these are members also of an even more exclusive set. The peregrine falcon and the osprey number among those few birds which are as near as makes no difference world-wide in their distribution. (Landsbrough Thomas's New Dictionary of Birds suggests that the distribution of species in broad terms of range as distinct from local distribution within the limits of the range, is governed by diverse factors including climate, and its effects on terrain, in relation to the conditions to which

(Cont/2.)

10.1.76  
1.16  
1.16  
1.16

the ... of the Toowoomba area."

OLD FRIENDS IN NEW PLACES (Cont/d.)

particular kinds of birds are adapted; the configuration of the land masses in relation to the original area of habitation; and the presence of competitive forms in areas otherwise suitable and accessible. Thus we find less than twenty genera and little more than a handful of species which can be described as having achieved cosmopolitan status or nearly so. To the peregrine and osprey we may add the barn owl, the red-capped dotterel (more of him shortly) and perhaps the barn swallow). Returning to our main theme, Australia's fork-tailed kite proves to be none other than the black kite of Europe, said to be the most numerous bird-of-prey of its size in the world, (one of those statements with so many qualifications it may have no significance at all).

Which brings us to the most wide-spread game-bird in the world, the ring-necked pheasant, native in Eurasia, but introduced into Britain some 900 years ago and here more recently.

Of the rails, the marsh crake and corncrake visit Europe in the Summer, the former being known over there as Baillon's crake, the swamphen (purple gallinule) is to be found only in the South of Spain and Sardinia, and the coot as you may imagine is very widespread.

It is the Charadriiformes which contribute most to this list with 38 representatives the majority being migratory waders including several sandpipers and dotterels. In England the term dotterel is reserved for just one scarce wader from the stony heights and tundra who drops into certain favoured spots on migration. He is a beautiful, plump bird, much the size of the large dotterel but not the same genus at all. He is *Eudromius marinellus*, whereas the chubby little fellows known to Australians as dotterels are mainly *Charadrius*, birds which in England are termed plovers (along with the larger *Vanellus*). Thus, the red-capped dotterel, said not to be unusual along our coastal strip is at the same time the very scarce Kentish plover, breeding in protected reserves in South-East England, while the large dotterel, Mongolian dotterel and Oriental dotterel have just a toe-hold in the very East of Europe as the greater sand-plover, lesser sand-plover and Caspian plover. The other waders are mostly straightforward about their identities, apart from the little greenshank (marsh sandpiper). Eight terns and three skuas appear on opposite sides of the globe, but no gulls. Gulls are very much coastal scavengers, and are rarely to be found far from the land although occasional European birds have wandered across the Atlantic, unwittingly one would think. The feral pigeon must be included along with just one other member of his family, the Senegal dove or laughing dove, introduced here and just clinging to Europe on the Western side of the Bosphorous. The Oriental cuckoo extends just a little further West than the laughing dove and the barn owl as previously indicated is as widespread over there as he is here, in Africa and in the Americas.

Other than the introduced skylark, thrushes, sparrows, finches and starling (no Indian mynahs over there) I can relate only seven Australian passerines to European friends and of these the barn swallow, yellow-headed (citrine) wagtail, yellow wagtail and great reed warbler are at best occasional visitors here. There remain three resident Australian passerines I had for years hoped to see. One is the fan-tailed warbler of the Mediterranean coast, Italy, Southern Spain and Portugal. He proves to be the streaked-grass-warbler of the North of Australia. Another is White's thrush, a large, strikingly marked bird occurring in the British Isles only as a vagrant from Siberia. I never had the good fortune to stumble across any of the few that did occur but have hopes of now catching up with him in his guise of the Australian ground thrush.

The last of these three and indeed the final bird on my tentative list of seventy-three is Richard's pipit, who like White's thrush wanders Westwards from Siberia in the Autumn. He appears on East Anglian coasts in small numbers most years, but he too had always eluded me on my regular September excursions. Autumn migration on the East coast of England is an exciting time, all manner of birds of passage are to be found and given a little luck a lot of early morning effort the occasional rarity too. But for me, no Richard's pipit.

Although pipits might be said to be reasonably distinctive as a group by virtue of their very drabness, they are not easy birds to separate from each other. In Europe there are four basic pipits to sort out, plus three or four rather similar rarities, but no such problems in Australia. Here Richard's has the field to himself, and is



relation to the original area of habitation; and the presence of competitive forms in areas otherwise suitable and accessible. Thus we find less than twenty genera and little more than a handful of species which can be described as having achieved cosmopolitan status or nearly so. To the peregrine and osprey we may add the barn owl, the red-capped dotterel (more of him shortly) and perhaps the barn swallow). Returning to our main theme, Australia's fork-tailed kite proves to be none other than the black kite of Europe, said to be the most numerous bird-of-prey of its size in the world, (one of those statements with so many qualifications it may have no significance at all).

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It is the Charadriiformes which contribute most to this list with 38 representatives the majority being migratory waders including several sandpipers and dotterels. In England the term dotterel is reserved for just one scarce wader from the stony heights and tundra who drops into certain favoured spots on migration. He is a beautiful, plump bird, much the size of the large dotterel but not the same genus at all. He is *Eudromius marinellus*, whereas the chubby little fellows known to Australians as dotterels are mainly *Charadrius*, birds which in England are termed plovers (along with the larger *Vanellus*). Thus, the red-capped dotterel, said not to be unusual along our coastal strip is at the same time the very scarce Kentish plover, breeding in protected reserves in South-East England, while the large dotterel, Mongolian dotterel and Oriental dotterel have just a toe-hold in the very East of Europe as the greater sand-plover, lesser sand-plover and Caspian plover. The other waders are mostly straightforward about their identities, apart from the little greenshank (marsh sandpiper). Eight terns and three skuas appear on opposite sides of the globe, but no gulls. Gulls are very much coastal scavengers, and are rarely to be found far from the land although occasional European birds have wandered across the Atlantic, unwittingly one would think. The feral pigeon must be included along with just one other member of his family, the Senegal dove or laughing dove, introduced here and just clinging to Europe on the Western side of the Bosphorous. The Oriental cuckoo extends just a little further West than the laughing dove and the barn owl as previously indicated is as widespread over there as he is here, in Africa and in the Americas.

Other than the introduced skylark, thrushes, sparrows, finches and starling (no Indian mynahs over there) I can relate only seven Australian passerines to European friends and of these the barn swallow, yellow-headed (citrine) wagtail, yellow wagtail and great reed warbler are at best occasional visitors here. There remain three resident Australian passerines I had for years hoped to see. One is the fan-tailed warbler of the Mediterranean coast, Italy, Southern Spain and Portugal. He proves to be the streaked-grass-warbler of the North of Australia. Another is White's thrush, a large, strikingly marked bird occurring in the British Isles only as a vagrant from Siberia. I never had the good fortune to stumble across any of the few that did occur but have hopes of now catching up with him in his guise of the Australian ground thrush.

The last of these three and indeed the final bird on my tentative list of seventy-three is Richard's pipit, who like White's thrush wanders Westwards from Siberia in the Autumn. He appears on East Anglian coasts in small numbers most years, but he too had always eluded me on my regular September excursions. Autumn migration on the East coast of England is an exciting time, all manner of birds of passage are to be found and given a little luck a lot of early morning effort the occasional rarity too. But for me, no Richard's pipit.

Although pipits might be said to be reasonably distinctive as a group by virtue of their very drabness, they are not easy birds to separate from each other. In Europe there are four basic pipits to sort out, plus three or four rather similar rarities, but no such problems in Australia. Here Richard's has the field to himself, and is thus not unreasonably known as the Australian pipit. I must confess that on our first encounter, near Gowrie Creek, I said to myself "Oh yes, a pipit", found I had a choice of one, and thought no more of him. But now I know who he really is. I treat him with considerably greater respect. I stalk him. I carefully observe every detail about him that marks him out from the legion of meadow pipits I have been watching for years. I refer to my trusty European Field Guide. And momentarily, I pretend that I'm back in Norfolk and I've at long last found my Richard's pipit. Bill Kelly

LAKE CLARENDON/DYERS LAGOON OUTING - 25.7.76.

We were happy to welcome several new faces to our water-bird outing and I am especially pleased to report that members and visitors enjoyed a good day's bird-watching in various wetland localities.

Lake Clarendon provided us all with the opportunity to compare the Large, Little and Plumed Egrets, but unfortunately the Cattle Egrets which have been thereabouts recently were not on hand to complete the set of the 'four most-likely egrets' in our area. (Incidentally two locally-used volumes, Slater's Field Guide and Don Vernon's Guide to Birds of Brisbane and Environs, do not agree in all details regarding the smaller egrets - beware!).

A White-breasted Sea-eagle favoured members briefly with his presence whilst at Clarendon, relieving temporarily the struggle some of us were having with the identification of some distant terns, which later proved to be Whiskered Terns.

As expected Dyers Lagoon was all but covered with Coots (none at Clarendon), Dusky Moorhens, Black Duck, Grey Teal and Little Grebes, with a few White-eyed Duck interspersed and a goodly number of Plumed Tree-ducks watching from the far bank. Everyone managed to get a good look at the two Shovelers which were found hiding away at the Southern end of the lagoon, but the combined scanning of at least 15 pairs of eyes (not counting the five smaller pairs which, to be honest, were mostly cow-watching) could not locate any White Pygmy-geese, birds which we have almost come to consider to be in residence at Dyers over the last 12-18 months.

The locality did however have one more pleasurable surprise in store. As we lingered for our last look at the Northern swamp on our way out, three Australian Pelicans glided in over the adjacent water, divesting themselves speedily of the majesty they wear so well in flight by clattering into the top of one dead tree, which contrary to all expectations remained upright despite its ludicrously top-heavy load.

Our homeward route took us to the Apex Park at Gatton, (where we added some Black Cormorants and Black-fronted Dotterels to our sightings for the day) and thence along a meandering dirt road which was new to most of us and eventually proved to link Gatton with Grantham via some more well-populated lagoons. Not an alternative to the Warrego Highway if one is in a hurry, but admirably suited to a bird-club convoy which likes to pull up in the middle of the road to watch a Wedge-tailed Eagle passing over.

Some members saw some new birds, many members became more familiar with birds they already knew, but the credit for the undoubted success of our July outing belongs to all those who attended and who made their contribution to an enjoyable and successful family-day.

Bird list for the day:

- |                      |                        |                         |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Little Grebe         | Shoveler               | Scaly-breasted Lorikeet |
| Aust. Pelican        | White-eyed Duck        | Cockatiel               |
| Barter               | Wood Duck              | Pale-headed Rosella     |
| Pied Cormorant       | Black-sh. Kite         | Red-rumped Parrot       |
| Little P. Cormorant  | Whistling Kite         | Kookaburra              |
| Black Cormorant      | White-br. Sea-eagle    | Welcome Swallow         |
| Little bl. Cormorant | Wedge-tailed Eagle     | Richard's Pipit         |
| White-necked Heron   | Nankeen Kestrel        | Black-f. Cuckoo-shrike  |
| White-faced Heron    | Dusky Moorhen          | Grey-crowned Babbler    |
| Large Egret          | Swamphen               | Golden-headed Cisticola |
| Little Egret         | Coot                   | Willie Wagtail          |
| Plumed Egret         | Lotusbird              | Little Friarbird        |
| White Ibis           | Masked Plover          | Noisy Friarbird         |
| Straw-necked Ibis    | Black-fronted dotterel | Noisy Miner             |
| Royal Spoonbill      | Pied Stilt             | Common Starling         |
| Yellow-b. Spoonbill  | Whiskered Tern         | Olive-backed Oriole     |
| Plumed Tree-duck     | Domestic Pigeon        | Australian Magpie Lark  |
| Black Swan           | Crested Pigeon         | Pied Butcherbird        |
| Black Duck           | Galah                  | Australian Magpie       |
| Grey Teal            | Rainbow Lorikeet       | Torresian Crow.         |

Bill Jolly.

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Darter	Wood Duck	Pale-headed Rosella
Pied Cormorant	Black-sh. Kite	Red-rumped Parrot
Little P. Cormorant	Whistling Kite	Kookaburra
Black Cormorant	White-br. Sea-eagle	Wedge-tailed Swallow
Little bl. Cormorant	Wedge-tailed Eagle	Richard's Pipit
White-necked Heron	Nankeen Kestrel	Black-f. Cuckoo-shrike
White-faced Heron	Dusky Moorhen	Grey-crowned Babbler
Large Egret	Swamphen	Golden-headed Cisticola
Little Egret	Coot	Willie Wagtail
Plumed Egret	Lotusbird	Little Friarbird
White Ibis	Masked Plover	Noisy Friarbird
Straw-necked Ibis	Black-fronted dotterel	Noisy Miner
Royal Spoonbill	Pied Stilt	Common Starling
Yellow-b. Spoonbill	Whiskered Tern	Olive-backed Oriole
Plumed Tree-duck	Domestic Pigeon	Australian Magpie Lark
Black Swan	Crested Pigeon	Pied Butcherbird
Black Duck	Galah	Australian Magpie
Grey Teal	Rainbow Lorikeet	Torresian Crow.

Bill Jolly.

OUTING FOR AUGUST, 1976.

Sunday, 22nd August, 1976. Flagstone Creek.

Meet at corner Mackenzie and Stenner Streets. 9.00 a.m. Rod Hobson (leader).  
Rod Turner's property and Trail Park, Flagstone Creek - excellent area for small passerines.

(Cont/d.)