



NEWS-SHEET No. 96
DECEMBER 1983

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

toowoomba bird club

Postal Address

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Club Officers

President:

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Secretary/Treasurer:

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Editor:

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Annual Subscription

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

Activities

Field Outing and Monthly Meeting - 4th Sunday of each
month - usually leave from Pigott's Car Park at 7.30 am.

Camping trips, film and slide evenings.

News-sheet

Published monthly, before the outing. Articles have a dead-
line of the last day of the month and should be mailed to
the editor.

EDITORIAL

There was a good turn-up at the last outing for the year. It was particularly beaut to see so many new members. Ravensbourne was a little disappointing as not very many species were seen. However, the company was good, and the day was very pleasant. We managed to miss the rain by the skin of our teeth.

The film evening is on the 13th, remember, and as it is also our break up for the year I hope a fair few of you will be able to make it. So far Marilyn has had only one confirmation of the films she hopes to screen, and that is about the Wandering Albatross.

John and I, plus other members, have been to see the Wildlife Artists Exhibition at the Downs Gallery and were really impressed. There is a large range of paintings and ceramics covering a variety of styles. Birds do dominate as far as the subject of most pieces are concerned. I think most people would find something that would delight them. I recommend a visit.

This, of course, is the last news-sheet for the year and I shall take the opportunity to wish all members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Good birding in 1984.

Lesley Beaton, Editor.

--ooOoo--

NEW TOOWOOMBA BIRD

239. Red-necked Stint (Calidris ruficollis). 19.11.83. Hood's Lagoon, Helidon. Don Gaydon, Ray Viljoen.

A pair of birds. Slightly smaller than Black-fronted Plover which was also present. Bill and legs dark; streaked crown; mottled back; slight dark mark from bill through eye; forehead, cheeks and under parts white; brown from back - extending to the side of the neck; white eyebrow. In flight, white median wing-bar; rump and upper tail white with black stripe down middle.

(It is possible Emu will be added to our list following a sighting in the Flagstone Creek area in October. Further details later.)

Michael Atzeni, Records
Officer

--ooOoo--

SEASONAL SURVEYS AND LONG-TERM PLANS

Let's go "all out" and carry out seasonal species surveys (S.S.S.'s). To date, the only comprehensive coverage of the whole club area has been in October as a result of bird counts cum species surveys.

It would be of great benefit if the entire area was covered once a season in recognition of the fact that different species are present at different times of the year.

I've proposed that January, April, July and October become our S.S.S. months. Throughout these four months members should try to cover certain areas so that the joint result is a coverage of all eight sub-divisions in these months. In this way we can obtain a seasonal picture of species present and their distribution. By devoting the entire month to each S.S.S. we shall obtain a far more comprehensive list of species for each sub-division for that season and the previous practice of a Bird Count weekend will become redundant. We still do need your commitment and assistance that you've shown on the

SEASONAL SURVEYS AND LONG-TERM PLANS CONT'D

past Bird Counts if this scheme is to work.

.....Long Term Goals.

By seasonal coverage of the eight sub-divisions agreed on for the recent October survey we can begin to piece together a far more accurate and interesting "data bank" for each species. The data for each species would include;

1. Details of the Club's first record of the species (if applicable).
2. Its local status, e.g. common resident.
3. Specific sites (where useful).
4. Habitat preference within the Toowoomba/Helidon region.
5. A map showing local distribution with an indication of the frequency with which the species occurs in each sub-division. (Information source - S.S.S.'s and monthly checklists.)
6. Tabulated monthly occurrence based on Club records.

How Can You Help?

For simplification of records and further information I would appreciate you do the following:

1. For interesting or unusual species on your checklists, indicate the number of the sub-division you observed it in. If unsure of the sub-division note the locality.
2. Indicate nesting records.
3. Contact one of the executive as soon as possible if you see a rare or new bird in this area, preferably the same day. In such a case we require careful, detailed identification.

And What Of All This Information?

It is envisaged that the Club will produce a small publication on the range and status of the birds in the Toowoomba/Helidon region.

Michael Atzeni, Records
Officer

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FIELD DAY REPORT - RAVENSBOURNE NATIONAL PARK 27.11.83.

Although there was a good number of members on our outing there was not a particularly good number of birds. The weather was cool and overcast and perhaps this deadened bird enthusiasm rather than the birds. Pigeons were far and few between with many of the common species for Ravensbourne missed.

Michael Atzeni, Joyce Bartenstein, Lesley Beaton, Ron Colpus, Graham and Jane Corbin, Will Cormack, Gloria Glass, Marilyn Jacobs, Angela Kilmartin, Ann, Craig and John Shore were the members on this outing.

Species list:

Ravensbourne: Wedge-tailed Eagle, Brush Turkey, Brown Cuckoo-dove, Bar-shouldered Dove, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Crimson Rosella, Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Dollarbird, Noisy Pitta, Tree Martin, Richard's Pipit, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Cicadabird, Varied Triller, White's Thrush, Eastern Yellow Robin, Golden Whistler, Grey Shrike-thrush, Black-faced Monarch, Spectacled Monarch, Leaden Flycatcher, Grey Fantail, Rufous Fantail, Eastern Whipbird, Superb Fairy-wren, Large-billed Scrubwren, White-browed Scrubwren, Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone, Brown Thornbill, White-throated Treecreeper, Lewin's Honeyeater, Eastern Spinebill, Scarlet Honeyeater, Green Catbird, Paradise Riflebird (heard), Pied

FIELD TRIP REPORT CONT'D

Currawong, Crow.

40 species.

En route & Ravensbourne State Forest: Australasian Grebe, Straw-necked Ibis, Maned Duck, Australian Kestrel, Masked Lapwing, Brown Cuckoo-dove, Peaceful Dove, Common Bronzewing, Crested Pigeon, Galah, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Pale-headed Rosella, Red-rumped Parrot, Pheasant Coucal, White-throated Needletail, Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Dollarbird, Welcome Swallow, Fairy Martin, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, Willie Wagtail, Eastern Whipbird, Golden-headed Cisticola, Superb Fairy-wren, White-throated Gerygone, Noisy Friarbird, Common Starling, Common Mynah, Magpie-lark, Grey Butcherbird, Magpie, Pied Currawong, Crow, Shining Bronze-cuckoo, Noisy Pitta, White's Thrush, Crested Shrike-tit.

38 species

Total 66 species.

Lesley Beaton

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MEMBERS BIRD NOTES

- Great Crested Grebe. 31.10.83. Seven Mile Lagoon. MA, PM.
- Cotton Pygmy Goose. 31.10.83. Atkinson's Dam. MA, PM.
- Collared Sparrowhawk. 20.11.83. Hood's Lagoon. MA, LB.
- Grey Goshawk. 19.9.83. Redwood Park. DC, DG.
- Collared Sparrowhawk 31.10.83. Glenore Grove. MA, PM.
- Green-winged Pigeon (Emerald Dove). 11.9.83. Redwood Park. DG.
- Sooty Owl. 21.9.83. Goomburra. PM, DS, JS.
- Powerful Owl (2). 19.11.83. Goomburra. PM, TR.
- Rainbow Bee-eater. 9.9.83. 1983 arrival, Withcott. MD.
- Blue-winged Kookaburra. 31.10.83. Janke's Lagoon, Lawes. MA, PM.
- Noisy Pitta. 27.11.83. Ravensbourne. AHS.
- White's Thrush. 11.9.83. Redwood Park. MA, DG.
- Spectacled Monarch (N). 30.10.83. Redwood Park. GG.
- Painted Honeyeater. 11.10.83. Eulo. PM.
- Latham's Snipe. 19.11.83. Hood's Lagoon. DG, RV.
- Red-necked Stint. 19.11.83. Hood's Lagoon. DG, RV.
- Plum-headed Finch. 20.11.83. Lockyer Ck, Helidon. MA, LB.
- Spangled Drongo (N). 29.10.83. Picnic Point. GG.

MA: Michael Atzeni, LB: Lesley Beaton, DC: Dean Collins, MD: Maggie Drabsch, DG: Don Gaydon, GG: Gloria Glass, TR: Terry Reis, DS: Debbie Sullivan, JS: John Sullivan, AHS: Ann Shore, RV: Ray Viljoen. N = Nesting

ERRATUM: from News-sheet 95.

Western Whistler 22.7.83. Lincoln Nat. Pk (S.A.). MA, BF, PM, TR. should be Western Whipbird.

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FUTURE CLUB OUTINGS

There is no outing in December, but here are the dates for the 1984 field trips.

- January 22nd - Helidon Hills. June 24th.
- February 26th. July 22nd.
- March 5th - with Field Nats. August 26th.
- March 25th. September 23rd.
- April 22nd. October 28th.
- May 27th. November 25th.

NEW MEMBERS

It is with great pleasure that we introduce three new members this month. Perhaps we may see them at the film evening.

Mrs Lorraine Wilson. Upper Withcott. P.O. BOX 602, Toowoomba, 4350.
John & Debbie Sullivan. Umbiram. M.S. 499, via Toowoomba, 4350.

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FILM EVENING

Date: Tuesday, 13th December 1983.

Time: 7.15 pm. for 7.30 pm. start.

Place: Toowoomba Education Centre, Baker St, T'mba.

Members, please bring a plate for light refreshments.

All members, family, friends and interested people are welcome. If you need assistance with transport, phone Ann on 30 3207.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The Bird Observer. November 1983. (Newsletter of the Bird Observers' Club)

Birds. Autumn 1983. (Magazine of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds)

The Darling Downs Naturalist. December 1983. (Newsletter of the Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club)

Urimbirra. November 1983. (Newsletter of the Chinchilla Field Naturalists' Club)

Sarus Cranes, birds of India and a spider outing feature in these additions to our Club library. Anyone wishing to borrow these or other publications should contact Michael on 35 9433.

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* Michael would like ALL members to note that January is an *

? ?

* S.S.S. Month. *

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* Please be more aware of the birds in your area and on any *

? birdwatching jaunts you may take in our study area and *

* record them. If you don't know what S.S.S. stands for *

? read Michael's article inside. *

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SUPPLEMENT TO NEWS-SHEET 96 DECEMBER 1983

OCTOBER SPECIES SURVEY, 1983

The Club's first species survey results are shown in this news-sheet. I find it a very interesting source of information and the start of an exciting and valuable information-collecting era for our Club, if we can adopt the proposed Seasonal Species Surveys enthusiastically.

I will not elaborate on the results, but will point out that the poor waterbird and raptor representation resulted in a rather low total of 127 species. A few species which were not seen, would have been, had the whole month been used. Similarly, many of the gaps for observed species would have been filled e.g. no Crested Pigeons in sub-division 3?!

Numbers 1 to 8 on the report refer to the number of the new sub-divisions in our area.

Michael Atzeni, Records Officer

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SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE

January is the month for the renewal of annual subscriptions. Ann would appreciate these as early as possible as it makes her budgeting so much easier. Thank you.

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

Please renew my membership of the Toowoomba Bird Club for the year 1984. I enclose a fee of \$8.00 (\$4.00 for students).

Signed.
Name.
Address.

NON-PASSERINE

Great Crested Grebe	.....	.....
Hoary-headed Grebe	.....	7.
Australasian Grebe	... 4.	56.78
Australian Pelican	.....	.....
Darter	.....	.....
Great Cormorant	.....	.....
Pied Cormorant	.....	.....
Little Black Cormorant	.....	.....
Little Pied Cormorant	12.	5.
Pacific Heron	1.	8.
White-faced Heron	1234	5.7.
Cattle Egret	.....	7.
Great Egret	.....	.....
Little Egret	.....	.....
Intermediate Egret(Plumed)	.....	.....
Rufous Night-heron	.....	.....
Little Bittern	.....	.....
Black Bittern	.....	.....
Black-necked Stork(Jabiru)	.....	.....
Glossy Ibis	.....	.....
S. red Ibis	.....	.....
Straw-necked Ibis	.....	.....
Royal Spoonbill	.....	.....
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	.....	.....
Magpie Goose	.....	.....
Wandering Whistling-duck	.....	.....
Plumed Whistling-duck	.....	.....
Black Swan	.....	7.
Freckled Duck	.....	.....
Pacific Black Duck	1234	56.78.
Mallard	.....	.....
Grey Teal	.....	7.
Australasian Shoveller	.....	7.
Pink-eared Duck	.....	.....
Hardhead(White-eyed Duck)	.....	7.
Maned Duck (Wood Duck)	12. 4.	7.
Cotton Pygmy-Goose	.....	.....
Black-shouldered Kite	.....	56.8.
Pacific Baza(Crested Hawk)	.....	6.
Black Kite	.....	.....
Square-tailed Kite	.....	.....
Whistling Kite	.....	.....
Brown Goshawk	.....	.....
Collared Sparrowhawk	.....	.....
Grey Goshawk	.....	.....
Red Goshawk	.....	.....
Wedge-tailed Eagle	.....	.....
Little Eagle	.....	.....
Spotted Harrier	.....	.....
Marsh Harrier (Swamp)	.....	.....
Black Falcon	.....	.....
Peregrine Falcon	.....	.....
Australian Hobby	.....	.....
Brown Falcon	.....	.....
Australian Kestrel	1234	56.8.
Australian Brush-turkey	.....	.....
Stubble Quail	.....	.....
Brown Quail	.....	.....
Painted Button-Quail	.....	.....
Little Button-Quail	.....	.....
Red-chested Button-Quail	.....	.....
Buff-banded Rail	.....	.....
Baillon's Crake (Marsh)	.....	.....
Black-tailed Native-hen	.....	.....

Dusky Moorhen	.....	5.78
Purple Swamphen	.....	5.
Eurasian Coot	.....	7.
Comb-crested Jacana	.....	.....
Painted Snipe	.....	.....
Masked Lapwing	1. 34.	56.7.
Banded Lapwing	.....	.....
Red-kneed Dotterel	.....	.....
Black-fronted Plover	.....	.....
Black-winged Stilt	.....	8.
Marsh Sandpiper	.....	.....
Latham's Snipe (Japanese)	.....	.....
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	.....	.....
Curlew Sandpiper	.....	.....
Silver Gull	.....	.....
Whiskered Tern	.....	.....
Sooty Tern	.....	.....
Rose-crowned Fruit-dove	.....	.....
Top-knot Pigeon	.....	.....
White-headed Pigeon	.....	3.
Feral Pigeon	1234.	78.
Spotted Turtledove	.....	5.7.
Brown Cuckoo-dove	.....	.....
Peaceful Dove	.....	56.78
Bar-shouldered Dove	34.	56.78
Emerald Dove	3.	.....
Common Bronzewing	.....	.....
Crested Pigeon	12. 4.	56.78
Squatter Pigeon	.....	.....
Wonga Pigeon	.....	3.
Red-tailed Black Cockatoo	.....	.....
Glossy Black Cockatoo	.....	.....
Galah	1234.	56.78
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	.....	.....
Rainbow Lorikeet	.....	3.
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	1234.	56.78
Musk Lorikeet	.....	6.7.
Little Lorikeet	1. 34.	5.78.
Australian King Parrot	.....	.....
Cockatiel	12.	.....
Crimson Rosella	.....	.....
Eastern Rosella	.....	.....
Pale-headed Rosella	1234.	56.78
Red-rumped Parrot	1234.	.....
Turquoise Parrot	.....	.....
Oriental Cuckoo	.....	.....
Pallid Cuckoo	.....	5.7.
Brush Cuckoo	.....	3. 6.
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	.....	.....
Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo	.....	78.
Shining Bronze-cuckoo	.....	3. 7.
Common Koel	1234.	56.78
Channel-billed Cuckoo	.....	2. 5.
Pheasant Coucal	.....	3.4. 56.78
Powerful Owl	.....	.....
Southern Boobook	.....	.....
Barking Owl	.....	.....
Barn Owl	.....	.....
Tawny Frogmouth	.....	4. 6.
Australian Owlet-nightjar	.....	.....
White-throated Nightjar	.....	.....
White-throated Needletail	.....	.....
Fork-tailed Swift	.....	.....
Azure Kingfisher	.....	6.
Laughing Kookaburra	1234.	56.78
Red-backed Kingfisher	.....	.....

Species	Local Study Area	
	Up	Down
Sacred Kingfisher	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Rainbow Bee-eater	4	5,6,7,8
Dollarbird	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
<i>Yellow-tailed Black Cuckoo</i>		
<u>PASSERINE</u>		
Noisy Pitta	.....	.....
Singing Bushlark	2	.....
White-backed Swallow	.....	5,7
Welcome Swallow	1,4	5,6,7
Tree Martin	2	7,8
Fairy Martin	1	5,6,7,8
Richard's Pipit	1,2,4	5,6,7,8
Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Wht-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	.....	.....
Yellow-eyed Cuckoo-shrike	.....	.....
Cicadabird	3	7,8
Ground Cuckoo-shrike	.....	.....
White-winged Triller	4	5,7,8
Varied Triller	.....	5
White's Thrush (Scaly)	.....	.....
Rose Robin	.....	.....
Scarlet Robin	.....	.....
Red-capped Robin	.....	.....
Eastern Yellow Robin	3	7
Jacky Winter	.....	.....
Crested Shrike-tit	.....	.....
Golden Whistler	3	5,7
Rufous Whistler	3,4	5,6,7,8
Grey Shrike-thrush	3,4	5,7,8
Black-faced Monarch	3	.....
Spectacled Monarch	3	.....
Leaden Flycatcher	3,4	7,8
Satin Flycatcher	3,4	.....
Restless Flycatcher	.....	5,7
Rufous Fantail	1,2,3	.....
Grey Fantail	3	6
Willie Wagtail	2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Eastern Whipbird	.....	.....
Spotted Quail-thrush	.....	.....
Grey-crowned Babbler	4	5,6
Clamorous Reed Warbler	2,4	7,8
Tawny Grassbird	.....	.....
Little Grassbird	.....	.....
Golden-headed Cisticola	1,3,4	5,6,7,8
Rufous Songlark	1	.....
Brown Songlark	2,3	.....
Superb Fairy-wren	2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Variegated Fairy-wren	3	5,6,7
Red-backed Fairy-wren	4	5,6,8
Large-billed Scrubwren	.....	.....
White-browed Scrubwren	2,3,4	6,7,8
Speckled Warbler	3	7
Weebill	1,3	7,8
Brown Gerygone (Warbler)	3	.....

Species	Local Study Area	
	Up	Down
White-throated Gerygone	2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Brown Thornbill	3,4	6,8
Buff-rumped Thornbill	.....	7
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	1,4	5
Yellow Thornbill	.....	.....
Striated Thornbill	.....	.....
Varied Sitella	.....	7
Wht-throated Treecreeper	3,4	7
Red Wattlebird	.....	.....
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	.....	5,6,8
Striped Honeyeater	.....	.....
Noisy Friarbird	3,4	.....
Little Friarbird	3,4	5,6,7,8
Blue-faced Honeyeater	3	5
Noisy Miner	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Lewin's Honeyeater	3,4	5,6
Yellow-faced Honeyeater	4	.....
Fuscous Honeyeater	.....	7
White-throated Honeyeater	.....	6,7
White-naped Honeyeater	.....	6
Brown Honeyeater	1,3,4	5,7,8
Eastern Spinebill	.....	.....
Scarlet Honeyeater	1,3	5,8
Mistletoebird	.....	5,7,8
Spotted Pardalote	2,4	7,8
Striated Pardalote	1,3,4	5,6,7,8
Silvereye	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
House Sparrow	1,2,3,4	7,8
Red-browed Firetail	3,4	6,7,8
Zebra Finch	.....	6,7,8
Double-barred Finch	4	5,6,7,8
Plum-headed Finch	.....	.....
Chestnut-breasted Mannikin	1,2	6,7,8
Common Starling	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Common Mynah	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Olive-backed Oriole	3,4	5,6,7,8
Figbird	3,4	5,8
Spangled Drongo	3,4	8
Satin Bowerbird	4	.....
Regent Bowerbird	3	.....
White-winged Chough	.....	.....
Australian Magpie-lark	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
White-breasted Woodswallow	.....	.....
Masked Woodswallow	.....	.....
White-browed Woodswallow	.....	.....
Black-faced Woodswallow	.....	.....
Dusky Woodswallow	.....	8
Grey Butcherbird	1,3,4	5,8
Pied Butcherbird	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Australian Magpie	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Pied Currawong	1,2,3,4	5,6,8
Australian Raven	4	.....
Torresian Crow	1,2,3,4	5,6,7,8
Brown-headed Honeyeater	.....	.....
Hostle bird	.....	.....