
JARMAN—Bird Observations.

Some Bird Observations about the City of Adelaide, etc.

By Howard E. A. Jarman.

Podiceps sp., Little and/or Hoary-headed Grebes.—These birds visit the Torrens Lake and the small lake in the Botanic Garden during autumn and winter. Torrens Lake, 18/3/1935., two birds; 27/3/35, three birds; 8/5/35, six; 20/5/35, four; 29/6/34, one; 10/6/35, four. Botanic Garden, two birds, last seen on 3/7/35, after a month's stay.

Geopelia placida, Peaceful Dove.—9/7/1935, a small flock of five birds were in the Botanic Park; six birds were there on 13/8/35.

Ocyphaps lophotes, Crested Pigeon.—5/9/1934, two birds in the North Parklands, and on 20/9/1934 a bird was at the Memorial Drive lawn tennis courts.

Porzana pusilla, Marsh-Crake.—One to three birds were in a swamp on the Torrens River on various dates between 20/8/1935 and 9/9/1935.

Porphyrio melanotus, Eastern Swamphen.—A bird was seen on the Torrens River on 20/8/35.

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Halcyon sanctus, Sacred Kingfisher.—This bird is only rarely seen along the Torrens or in the Botanic Garden, and is always alone. Noted in the Botanic Garden on 29/6/34, 16/7/34, 22/3/35, 10/6/35.

Rhipidura flabellifera, Grey Fantail.—A bird was seen on 10/9/34; two birds on 16/8/35—these birds have begun nesting in the Botanic Park 10/9/35. A third bird was observed on 17/9/35.

Seisura inquieta, Restless Flycatcher.—A bird was seen in the Memorial Drive, at the rear of the Zoo, on 16/8/35.

Pomatostomus superciliosus, White-browed Babbler.—This species is seen on rare occasions in the Botanic Park. One bird on 23/1/35 and 18/6/35; three on 14/6/34; two on 11/7/35.

Epthiamura albifrons, White-fronted Chat.—A flock of 16 birds was noted on the North Parklands on 3/5/35.

Acrocephalus australis, Reed-Warbler.—There are usually several birds to be seen or heard in the beds of reeds along the Torrens River between November and February; however, despite the fact that this species is nomadic, an occasional bird is noted during the colder months. One bird, at rear of Botanic Park, on 10/4/35. One on the following dates:—1/5/35; 3/5/35; 14/5/35; 27/6/34; 18/6/35; 6/7/34; 5/7/35; 9/8/35; 20/8/35. Two birds on 2/8/34; and 7/8/34. Apparently the birds begin to return in September for the summer—two noted 12/9/35; three 13/9/35; seven 17/9/35.

Artamus cyanopterus, Dusky Wood-Swallow.—These birds are always to be seen in the Botanic Park, and breed freely there. 23/6/35.—A number of these birds were eagerly searching among the pods of the Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*) trees and were busily devouring some undiscernible objects. A yellow berry dropped on the ground and a Dusky Wood-Swallow immediately pounced upon it and gulped it down without hesitation. 16/7/35.—Several of the birds fed off some sodden bread on the ground, and further on a few others ate cake. 12/7/35.—33 Dusky Wood-Swallows were settled on the newly-mown Jubilee Oval, while 40 were there on 23/7/35.

Dicaeum hirundinaceum, Mistletoe-Bird.—The mistletoe lures this beautiful little creature to the Botanic Park in varying numbers between February and August. Whilst the number has reached as many as 40, they are usually far short of that number, 12 being about the average figure.

Melithreptus gularis, Black-chinned Honeyeater.—Two birds were seen along the River Torrens on 21/8/35, and on several of the following days.

Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris, Eastern Spinebill.—During March and April, 1935, there were usually about six of these birds to be seen in the Botanic Park, and three to four in the Botanic Garden. A bird was seen in the Botanic Garden on 4/6/35, and two were there on 4/9/35. One bird was noted in the Botanic Park on 17/9/35.

Oriolus sagittatus, Olive-backed Oriole.—A bird was about the Botanic Garden from 4/7/34 to 22/8/34, and one was noted in the Botanic Park on 14/6/35.

Turdus merula, Blackbird.—On 17/9/35 two partial albino Blackbirds were together in the Botanic Park. Their heads were white, and there were irregular splashings of white on their bodies.

Petroica goodenovii, Red-capped Robin.—A pair, ♂ ♀, was seen on the South Parklands, corner of Cohen Avenue and Park Terrace, on 22nd June, 1935.

Petroica phoenicea, Flame Robin.—A ♂ was seen at Colonel Light Gardens on 18th May, 1935.

Platycercus eximius, Eastern Rosella.—Four birds were seen at Happy Valley on 28/7/1934, and two were there on 25/8/1935.
