

SOUTH COAST BIRDWATCH

Dec
AUG 1995

Meetings: Anglican Church Hall, Goolwa, begins 8.00pm.

Outings: Meet at 8.30 am. Bring lunch and chairs.

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Report on Meeting, 10th Nov 1995, Anglican Church Hall

We had a full house for this fascinating evening, and thanks to everyone who brought a friend! We had 18 members and 12 visitors (two of whom are now members!). I'm sure our guests from SAOA, David Close, and David and Minnie Robertson, found us a lively and enthusiastic group. David Close's talk has been summarised on a separate page, together with Jim Marsh's information on tides at the Murray Mouth. David Robertson told us that the RAOU has issued a bird list of Australian birds with name changes. The SAOA has for sale bird-lists for SA for 20c each.

Steering Committee Report, 17th Nov.

Pageant. Our projected float has been cancelled, due to lack of interest by members. Instead, we propose that whoever is interested should walk together, perhaps with binoculars, bird-lists, advertising board, bird costumes - whatever. Please come and let us make our presence felt!

Meeting and Outing Times. In order to simplify people's time-tabling, we would like to have these on regular days of the month. Our meeting remain on the second Friday of ~~odd~~ months. *We propose that Outings should be held on the fourth Thursday or Friday of each month*, and will ask for your choice at our Christmas Barbecue (see **Dates**). Especially to accommodate our weekend visitors, we suggest holding a Sunday Outing immediately following our Meeting. Thus this weekend Outing would occur every second month.

Members' Night. Our Meeting on Jan 12th will be an evening when you have a chance to talk for a short time (10 -15 mins) on your pet hobby-horse (-bird?). You may show slides, play tapes.....only limited by your enthusiasm! We already have suggestions for mini-presentations on: 'The Well-Equipped Birdwatcher', 'Mallee Fowls', and 'Essential Body-Language for Describing Birds' - with practical examples. Also, everyone may attempt to answer everyone else's questions. We plan to have fun, so please fluff up your thinking feathers!

Outings Reports.

Tues, Oct 31st, Mt Compass Boardwalk.

A fine cool morning, in contrast with our last attempt! Attendance was disappointing, but this may have helped the birdwatching from the confines of a narrow boardwalk. The Southern Emu-wren eluded us, but we were amazed to record 28 species including: Cockatiel, Elegant Parrot, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo and Cattle Egret. There were plenty of Superb Fairy Wrens, also Little Grassbird, Brown Falcon, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo and Goldfinch for good measure. The morning was concluded at Coles Crossing Rd (off Nankita Rd) where Kit eyeballed a big, recently-fed black snake for twenty minutes! The birds were around, but not obvious, although the Crescent Honeyeaters sat in the branches over us as we drank our coffee and summed up. A very pleasant and rewarding morning

Sun, Nov 12th, Hindmarsh Island Wader Outing.

As a follow-up to his talk on Friday night, David Close and nine members covered the southern shore and Bird Island from the shore and the water using the services of Jack Miller and his punt. The weather was ideal, and although bird numbers generally were not great, the variety exceeded expectations, with 37 species recorded. Migratory waders included the more common Greenshank, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Red-necked Stint, together with Eastern Curlew, Bar-tailed Godwit, Red Knot, Curlew-Sandpiper and Sanderling (usually found on the ocean beach). Other sightings of note were Black-faced Cormorant and Fairy Terns. Summing-up over coffee on Jack Miller's balcony concluded a great morning.

Other Sightings.

Azure Kingfisher (mid-September, on river), Fan-tailed Cuckoo (Oct, Goolwa), Pallid Cuckoo (Beach Road), Swans nesting on Mundoo and Ewe Island, Ravens taking young or eggs on Hindmarsh Island, two Hooded Dotterels at Waitpinga (Nov). (Apologies for not taking fuller notes - Pam).

For Your Diary



CHRISTMAS BBQ AND TWILIGHT OUTING

AT THE BARRAGE

6.30 PM

**PARKING IN GROUNDS. BARBECUE FACILITIES, TEA AND COFFEE SUPPLIED. BRING FOOD, TABLES, CHAIRS, CUPS, CHRISTMAS CHEER, FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
4.30PM - INFORMAL BIRDWALKS IN AREA. MEET AT CAR-PARK.**

Dec 16th Saturday (PAGEANT)

Please see comments under Steering Committee Report.

Jan 12th Friday (Meeting)

Members' Night. Please see comments under Steering Committee Report.

Jan 14th (Sunday, (Outing).

Scott Conservation Park, North Boundary. Meet at intersection of Deep Creek Road and access road (see map).

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Jan 25th Thursday (Outing)

Winery Road, Currency Creek. Meet at Winery car-park.