Birds of the Hundred of Encounter Bay listed by John W Crompton from 1909 to 1925

PENNY PATON AND JOHN CROMPTON

ABSTRACT

We present an annotated list of bird species observed by John William Crompton in the Hundred of Encounter Bay between 1909 and 1925. After allowing for taxonomic changes and uncertain species, Crompton recorded 131 species, of which four were introduced. There are two published lists from roughly comparable periods and areas. Cleland's (1924, 1929) bird lists included 136 native and the same four exotic species, while Symon (1940) listed 123 native species and the same exotic species. We discuss the vegetation of the Encounter Bay district at the time of these sightings and bird species that are likely to have declined or increased in the last one hundred years.

INTRODUCTION

John Crompton (JC) possesses a list of birds observed by his father in the Hundred of Encounter Bay between 1909 and 1925. This list in John William Crompton's (JWC) hand-writing is believed to have been provided to his friend John Cleland for the use of South Australian Ornithological Association (SAOA) members. As there is little published information on the birds occurring on the southern Fleurieu Peninsula from the early 1900s, we have provided a transcript of this list as well as a discussion about the bird species recorded.

John William was the youngest son of Joseph and Susan Mary Crompton and brother of Alfred, Owen, Robert, Martha, Caroline and six other children (Whittell 1954, Reid 2000). The family lived at Stonyfell and Robert and Alfred were prominent members of the SAOA in the early part of the last century. Their contributions were acknowledged by their election as Honorary Members in 1954 (Reid 2000).

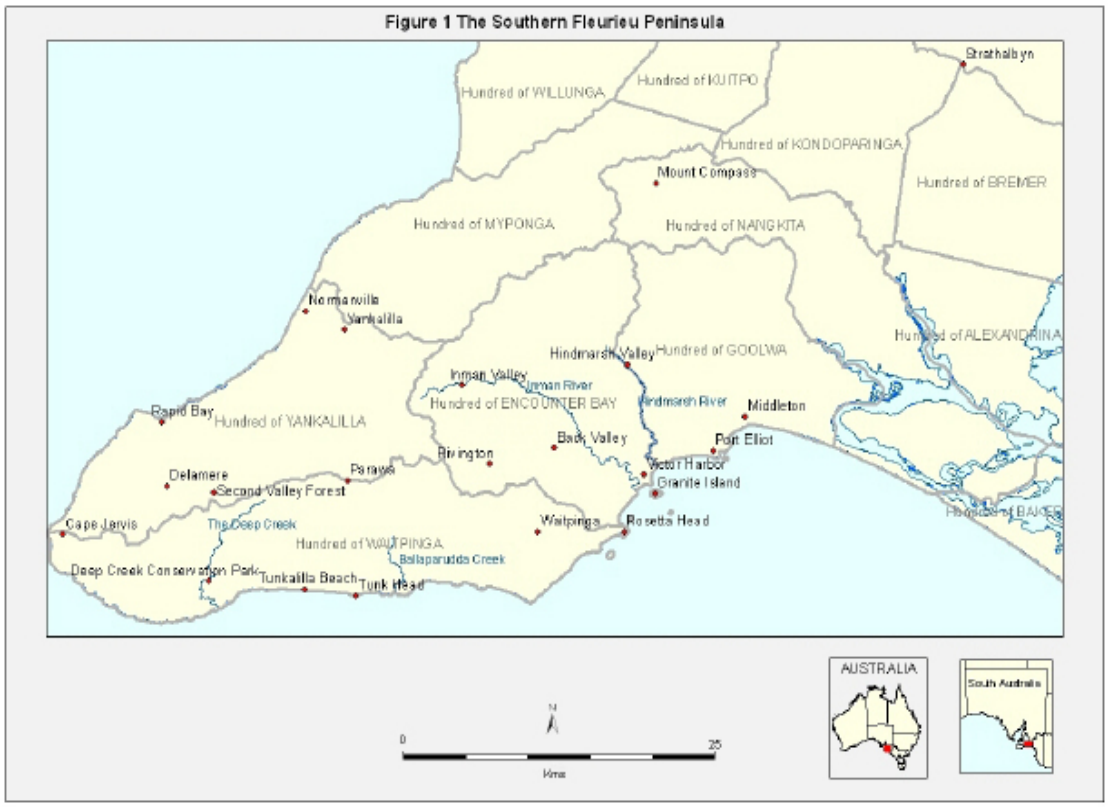
JWC leased, and later purchased, 'Rivington' at Back Valley in 1909 after a time at Roseworthy College. Along with his older brothers he clearly had an interest in birds and we deduce that he was a careful observer by the variety of birds that he observed, presumably without binoculars. The area of the Hundred is 28,275 hectares and its boundaries are roughly: southern – Rosetta Head (the Bluff) and the Range Road; western - Mount Robertson Road; northern - James Track through to Nettles Hill along the Spring Mount Ridge line; and eastern - the Hindmarsh river. Granite Island, Seal Rock and Wright Island are included, but not West Island.

METHODS

Birds

A transcript of JWC's original handwritten list forms Appendix 1. Some words were difficult to decipher and we made an educated guess at some and italicised and put a '?' after these words.

JWC's bird list was compared with published information from the 1920s and 1930s. There are several papers in the *South Australian Ornithologist (SAOrn)* that deal with the birds of the southern Fleurieu Peninsula for the period of interest. Cleland (1924, 1929) wrote about the birds of the Encounter Bay district, an area that he visited regularly when holidaying with his family. Slightly later Symon (1940) wrote an annotated list of the birds he recorded from the western Fleurieu Peninsula when he lived



there between January 1937 and March 1939. In addition there are records from the southern Fleurieu Peninsula listed or written up in the *SAOrn* from time to time by various observers, but notably J. B. Cleland.

Cleland (1924) described the area that his bird observations covered. His definition of the Encounter Bay district extended from Middleton through Port Elliot, Victor Harbor and Waitpinga Beach to Tunkalilla Beach opposite The Pages. On the landward side the area included the hills between Middleton and Port Elliot, the Hindmarsh River to its upper waterfall, the Inman Valley to the Victor Harbor side of the Bald Hills and the country between Waitpinga and Tunkalilla Beaches and the Inman Valley. This area extends further east than Crompton's but otherwise is roughly comparable. By comparison, Symon's (1940) bird records of 1937 to 1939 are from the western half of the Fleurieu Peninsula, covering the region south and west of a line drawn from Normanville to Yankalilla and then southerly through Mount Hayfield to Tunk Head on the coast. Parts of the Hundreds of Yankalilla and Waitpinga are included in this region. Figure 1 shows the southern Fleurieu Peninsula which includes the areas covered by the observations of Crompton, Cleland and Symon.

Vegetation

It is difficult to reconstruct the habitat and vegetation communities that occurred in the Hundred of Encounter Bay in the early years of the twentieth century, as most accounts of the vegetation of South Australia provide very generalised maps and information (e.g. Specht 1972). However early issues of *The South Australian Naturalist* include many short papers by J. B. Cleland and J. M. Black on the plants of the Encounter Bay district (Cleland and Black 1925a, 1925b, 1927, 1929, 1932; Black and Cleland 1937, 1941, 1951; Cleland 1959). The area covered in these papers extends from Middleton in the east to Tunkalilla Beach and Road in the west.

Thus Inman Valley to the Bald Hills are included, as well as the upper waterfall at Hindmarsh Valley, but not the Mount Compass and Myponga districts (Cleland and Black 1925a). This area is larger than the Hundred covered by Crompton's bird list as it extends further west, south and east but is still fairly comparable. In addition to these lists of plants there is a series of papers by Cleland (Cleland 1926a, 1926b, 1927a, 1927b, 1928a, 1928b, 1928d) on the habitats found within the Encounter Bay area as defined above.

DISCUSSION

Vegetation

By the late 1950s the total plant list for the Encounter Bay district was 962 species and 22 varieties, of which 709 species and 22 varieties were native (Cleland 1959).

The following summary of the habitat types found within the Hundred of Encounter Bay was derived from Cleland (1926a, 1926b, 1927a, 1927b, 1928a, 1928b, 1928c). Cleland (1926a) recognized 15 habitats:

- marine;
- saltwater estuaries, e.g. the Inman and Hindmarsh mouths;
- littoral and coastal sandhills;
- cliffs overlooking the sea, westwards from The Bluff (Rosetta Head) towards Newland Head;
- the granite formation – The Bluff, Wright, West and Granite Islands;
- the country behind the cliffs towards Waitpinga, still covered with mallee eucalypts and low shrubs;
- the now grassy hill-slopes, passing into country with scattered trees still remaining amongst the grass;
- hill-slopes with gravelly sandy loam and clay subsoil with widely dispersed *Eucalyptus fasciculosa* etc.;
- gravelly hills with undershrubs, especially low casuarinas;
- hills and valleys with deeper soils and merchantable *Eucalyptus obliqua* forests;
- glacial sands, varying from pure white to sandy loams;
- river banks, passing into the vegetation lining creeks, often in rocky valleys and sometimes with waterfalls;
- small upland swamps in or near glacial sands with flora resembling that of the Mt Compass area;
- lowland swamps, often near the sea;
- the flats behind the sandhills at Encounter Bay, once covered with shrubs and semi-swamps, but now cleared and covered with grass, but still liable to flooding.

From the descriptions of these habitats given in Cleland (1926a, 1926b, 1927a, 1927b, 1928a, 1928b, 1928c), all are included in Crompton's area except the country behind the cliffs towards Waitpinga and the lowland swamps at the mouth of Waitpinga Creek. For the purposes of describing the vegetation relevant to Crompton's bird records, the marine area can also be discounted, leaving 12 habitat types. A brief description of these follows, based upon Cleland's descriptions, including remarks about the extent of clearance at the time of his articles. This coincides with the latter part of the observation period for JWC's bird records.

The saltwater estuaries of the Hindmarsh and Inman Rivers were bordered with low clay cliffs close to their mouths (Cleland 1927a). In areas liable to inundation grew Paperbark Teatree, *Melaleuca halmaturorum*, rushes, reeds, samphires and native grasses. The vegetation subtly changed as higher ground was reached, with common plants being Drooping She-oak, *Allocasuarina verticillata*, Boobialla, *Myoporum insulare,* Christmas Bush, *Bursaria spinosa*, Swamp Wattle, *Acacia retinodes* and Coastal Wattle, *A. sophorae*. Cleland's description of the littoral and coastal sandhills covered the area from The Bluff to Port Elliot and is mainly a species list (Cleland 1926b). The steep sides of The Bluff supported a variety of low windswept shrubs and grasses, while its neck and shoulder were grazed by sheep and rabbits (Cleland 1926b). The original vegetation here had been replaced largely by introduced grasses and clovers, interspersed with small native plants.

Rising above Encounter Bay, Port Elliot and Middleton were hills already cleared in the 1920s and only a few remnants showed what these areas were originally like (Cleland 1927b). One such remnant behind Encounter Bay was a very open forest of South Australian Blue Gum, *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* with some Pink Gum and, in places, Drooping She-oak and an occasional native cherry, *Exocarpos cupressiformis* interspersed with a few small shrubs. Small numbers of a range of shrubs and groundcovers survived on roadsides and rocky areas, and native grasses like Kangaroo Grass, *Themeda triandra* and spear grasses, *Austrostipa* spp were still found in uncropped areas. Behind the sandhills of Encounter Bay and the foothills were flats "about two miles in each direction" (Cleland 1927b). These flats were much altered and the swamps drained, and Cleland surmised that they would have been covered with a thick low scrub with teatree, *Leptospermum* spp a dominant feature along with sedges and rushes.

The Hindmarsh and branches of the Inman Rivers began as creeks draining small swamps, and then cut their way through hill tops before proceeding through clay to alluvial soils. Eventually they opened out into alluvial flats and occupied wide valleys, before narrowing and deepening with evident banks close to the sea (Cleland 1928a). The vegetation of the rivers and creeks varied according to the size and configuration of their water channels. This habitat type had a long plant list, varying from aquatic plants in the water bodies, through rushes, sedges, grasses and shrubs to large eucalypts. Swamp Gum, *E. ovata* grew at Back Valley and Hall's Creek (now Hall Creek; both near 'Rivington'), South Australian Blue Gum grew on the Back Valley flats, Manna Gum, *E. viminalis* grew on flats near water in the lower Inman and sheltered hill slopes further up and River Red Gum, *E. camaldulensis* grew in or near creek beds in the lower river areas.

The small upland swamps where the creeks originated held plants similar to those in the swamps at Mt Compass. One such swamp was at Back Valley and Cleland (1928a) lists all 30 plant species found in this swamp, which was dominated by a teatree, *Leptospermum* sp, Pink Swamp-heath, *Sprengelia incarnata* and a species of *Lepidosperma*. There were several areas of glacial sands on hill slopes or ridges behind The Bluff and north of Victor Harbor. There were other glacial sands from the Inman Valley road west to Back Valley, and along the Back Valley track (Cleland 1928a). The characteristic plants of these sandy areas were Brown Stringybark, *E. baxteri*, Cup Gum, *E. cosmophylla*, Coastal Mallee, *E. diversifolia*, Silver Banksia, *Banksia marginata* and Desert Banksia, *B. ornata*.

An example of the gravelly hills with undershrubs was found between the Waitpinga Road and Back Valley near Hall's Creek (Cleland 1928c). The predominant feature of this habitat type was the abundance of low casuarinas of three species - Small Bull Oak, *Allocasuarina striata*, Dwarf She-oak, *A. pusilla* and Slaty She-oak, *A. muelleriana*. Many other shrubs occurred including Silver Banksia, Beaked Hakea, *Hakea rostrata* and Cone-bush, *Isopogon ceratophyllus*. Areas of more fertile soils on high hills and sheltered valleys supported forests of Messmate Stringybark, *E. obliqua*; one such area was the Hindmarsh Tiers, which is on the northern outskirts of Crompton's area. Cleland describes the trees as being of "merchantable size" so they were presumably very tall trees. He also noted that the trees were 20 to 40 feet apart which he attributed to frequent fires. The understorey was often dominated by Grass-trees, *Xanthorrhoea semiplana* and Bracken Fern, *Pteridium esculentum*, but in places Myrtle Wattle, *A. myrtifolia* and Large-leaved Bush-pea, *Pultenaea daphnoides* were common.

Birds

Nomenclatural changes and dubious records

Taxonomy and nomenclature have changed considerably in the one hundred years since JWC's observations were made. To avoid confusion, we have used the English names from

Christidis and Boles (2008). Readers interested in the names that JWC used can find these in the transcript of his original list (Appendix I). Many of the species recorded by JWC still occur in the district, some are extinct or now rarely recorded and others are doubtful records, perhaps the result of observing without binoculars and also with Leach (1912) as the only field guide. In total 144 species are listed.

Some of these are now considered subspecies rather than full species, thus reducing the list by six, and there was such confusion with the corvids that it is no wonder that JWC listed three species when most likely he observed the Little Raven, *Corvus mellori* only. In addition, confusion at the time over the different sizes of the Brown Goshawk, *Accipiter fasciatus* led JWC to record a Lesser Goshawk (Leach's No.156). This bird is no longer on the Australian list and neither is the Bronze-Cuckoo (Leach's No. 235), which JWC listed, as well as Horsfield's, *Chalcites basalis* and Shining, *C. lucidus*. Twelve species are unlikely or doubtful records, as two have not been recorded for South Australia (Eastern Bristlebird, *Dasyornis brachypterus* and Red-browed Treecreeper, *Climacteris erythrops*) while the others are either not recorded or infrequently recorded or unlikely for the southern Fleurieu Peninsula. These are the Grey Goshawk, *Accipiter novaehollandiae* and the White Goshawk (now regarded as the same species), Inland Thornbill, *Acanthiza apicalis*, Rufous Bristlebird, *Dasyornis broadbenti*, White-breasted Woodswallow, *Artamus leucorynchus*, Pied Butcherbird, *Cracticus nigrogularis*, Crested Bellbird, *Oreoica gutturalis*, Olive Whistler, *Pachycephala olivacea* and White-browed Treecreeper, *Climacteris affinis*.

There is uncertainty over the identity of one species in JWC's list, as he mentions seeing 'the Black Oystercatcher on Inman once' but with the number 77, which is the number in Leach (1912) for the Pied Oystercatcher, whereas number 78 is the Sooty Oystercatcher. Cleland (1924) reports the Sooty Oystercatcher but not the Pied, while Symon (1940) does not record either. The common oystercatcher at Encounter Bay near the mouth of the Inman River in the present day is the Sooty Oystercatcher. So it seems more likely that the bird in question was the Sooty Oystercatcher and JWC gave the wrong number for it.

When these taxonomic anomalies and unlikely birds are removed, 131 species remain, including four introduced species: Common Blackbird, *Turdus merula*, European Goldfinch, *Carduelis carduelis*, House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus* and Common Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris*. By comparison, Cleland's (1924, 1929) bird lists included 136 native and the same four exotic species. This included two species that Cleland was unsure of, which should be considered unconfirmed sightings – the Regent Parrot, *Polytelis anthopeplus* and the Azure Kingfisher, *Ceyx azureus*. Symon (1940) listed 123 native species and the same exotic species.

JWC himself queried a few species that he recorded. He listed the Australian Little Bittern, *Ixobrychus dubius* but added some question marks after it and the words "don't know" so he was obviously not certain of his identification. Neither Cleland nor Symon listed this species nor has it been recorded from this region (e.g. Parker *et al.* 1979, Carpenter *et al.* 2003). Thus it must be considered a dubious record, as there is no description of the bird or its habitat. JWC also seems uncertain of his recording of the Little Eagle, *Hieraaetus morphnoides*. He wrote after this bird "Not sure but seems nothing else is right beside a nest". Neither Cleland nor Symon recorded this species and, while it is not unlikely, the doubt in the observer's mind and our inability to correctly interpret his notes throw doubt over this species as well. The Southern Boobook, *Ninox novaeseelandiae* is recorded and then there is a comment that "Other owls are known but not named and probably include: Powerful, Spotted, Barn and Masked". The Spotted Owl is another name for the Southern Boobook; the Powerful Owl, *Ninox strenua* is only recorded in the Lower South East in South Australia and the Masked, *Tyto novaehollandiae*

is extremely rare and superficially similar to the Eastern Barn Owl, *Tyto javanica*. Thus the only other owl that JWC is likely to have recorded (and both Cleland and Symon listed) is the Eastern Barn Owl.

JWC and Symon both record Orange-bellied Parrot, *Neophema chrysogaster* with JWC simply describing it as uncommon. Symon notes: " N. Coastal, Hundred of Waitpinga". N. means that he recorded the species nesting, so immediately his record is suspect, because this species only breeds in Tasmania. Doubt must also exist as to the authenticity of JWC's record, given that the Neophemas are a difficult group to distinguish, compounded by the problem of using Leach (1912) for identification. Cleland (1924), JWC and Symon (1940) all record the Elegant Parrot, *N. elegans* but only Cleland (1924) reports the Rock Parrot, *N. petrophila*, a record passed on by F.E. Parsons. It is probable that both JWC and Symon misidentified the Rock Parrot or Elegant Parrots, some of which have orange bellies, as the Orange-bellied Parrot.

Birds recorded by JWC that no longer occur or are rare in the district

The Little Lorikeet, *Glossopsitta pusilla* is described as "seldom recognised" by JWC and was not listed by Cleland (1924, 1929). However Symon (1940) describes "numerous flocks throughout the "gum country" in the Hundred of Yankalilla during 1938" and, as he also lists the other three common lorikeet species (and all three as nesting), there seems little doubt as to the correct identification of this species. A recent paper summarises the skin and egg records as well as published sight records for the Little Lorikeet in South Australia (Horton and Black 2006). Their paper concludes that the Little Lorikeet was a moderately common breeding species in South Australia before the end of the 19th century, with its distribution extending to the Mt Lofty Ranges, Adelaide Plains and southern Flinders Ranges, and at least occasionally Kangaroo Island. Since that time it has declined critically, so that it is a very rare visitor or almost extinct in all of its former range apart from the South East. Breeding in South Australia has not been documented since 1959. Little Lorikeets prefer dry, open sclerophyll forests and woodlands usually dominated by Eucalyptus (Higgins 1999) and most feeding records from South Australia are of birds in flowering eucalypts (Horton and Black 2006).

JWC records the Azure Kingfisher, but with no annotation, so we do not know if this species was always present nor exactly where it was recorded. Cleland (1929) has a possible record of one individual on the Waitpinga Road from 1929. There are records of this species in the Mt Lofty Ranges until the mid 1920s, e.g. Blackfellow's Creek, Meadow's Creek and Ambleside (Morgan 1925, Heysen 1926, Morgan 1927) and from the Adelaide region, e.g. along the River Torrens up to 1940 (Rix 1940) and it still occurs in the Lower South East of the State along the Glenelg River. Symon (1940) recorded this species from the western Fleurieu Peninsula, saying: "Deep Creek and Rankang (probably Rarkang) Creek. Note both these creeks have small fish in them". The Azure Kingfisher was apparently widely distributed in the Mt Lofty Ranges/Adelaide region but probably in small numbers until the 1940s, but we can find no records beyond 1944 in the near-Adelaide region. It was late in this year that Rix (1945) recorded an apparent nesting of this species along the Onkaparinga River near Noarlunga.

The Restless Flycatcher, *Myiagra inquieta* is recognised as one of the declining birds of the Mt Lofty Ranges and the records from the last ten years are from a few locations, including two at Newland Head Conservation Park (D. Paton pers. comm.). JWC describes it as "frequently" seen, Cleland (1924) merely lists it as present and Symon (1940) records it as a breeding species. Even the second bird atlas of the Adelaide region shows the species as having been recorded from 1984-85 in nearly 60 grids, including some on the southern Fleurieu Peninsula (Paton, Carpenter and Sinclair 1994). However it was noted that they were recorded from fewer grids in 1984-85

compared with the first atlas of 1974-75 (Paton, Carpenter and Sinclair 1994). Their decline in the Mt Lofty Ranges since the mid-1980s has been swift and widespread.

JWC includes the White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike, *Coracina papuensis* (which he called by its old name of Little Cuckoo-shrike) on his list but notes "perhaps" so he was unsure of his identification. Neither Cleland (1924, 1929) nor Symon (1940) list this species. Given the confusion between this species and immature Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes, *C. novaehollandiae* this must be considered a doubtful record.

JWC lists Spotted Quail-thrush, *Cinclosoma punctatum* but with no extra information. Fortunately Cleland (1924) is more forthcoming, describing a small number met with in two consecutive years in two localities about a mile apart, which led him to believe it might be the same pair or family party. He described them as "moving about in the scanty undergrowth beneath small Eucalypts, taking every advantage of the cover and disappearing from observation with remarkable ease". He also took a specimen in January 1922 (Cleland 1924; SAMA B47113). Cleland's daughter, Joan Paton, remembered seeing a few birds in Pink Gum scrub between The Bluff at Victor Harbor and Waitpinga some time in the 1930s (D. Paton pers. comm.). Symon (1940) had evidence of breeding and noted that the birds were "Not uncommon in the big timber and scrub country in both Hundreds" [i.e. Yankalilla and Waitpinga]. A further record from this area was made by Francis (1949) who saw two near the Second Valley Forest in May 1946. The Spotted Quail-thrush was described by Condon (1962) as "in reduced numbers, in the wetter parts of the Mt. Lofty Ranges". Glover (1966) notes that in the three years of Bird Reports 1963-65 this species is one of a number that have surprisingly not been recorded. The last published records of Spotted Quail-thrush from South Australia were in 1977 from near Ashbourne, Waitpinga Conservation Park, Spring Mount Forest and Parawa (Higgins and Peter 2002).

Julian Reid (pers. comm.) provided his recollections of what is believed to be the last sighting of the Spotted Quail-thrush in the Mt Lofty Ranges. He visited Meyer's Scrub near Ashbourne in the autumn of 1977 with John Cox and David Close. On his return to the cars when walking along the northern fence line, he heard the Quail-thrush contact/alarm call and briefly saw one or two birds silhouetted under a Kangaroo Thorn, *Acacia paradoxa* bush. The birds were doing the usual 'ducking and bobbing' quail-thrush 'anxious routine' before they were lost to view and could not be relocated.

One bird is listed by JWC without a name, describing it as probably the Striated Fieldwren, *Calamanthus fuliginosus* (by number) with a note that it was "Among trees and grass". This bird was more likely the Rufous Fieldwren, *Calamanthus campestris* with which it was often confused. Cleland (1924) appears to have only located the Rufous Fieldwren in one spot near Victor Harbor – a bottlebrush (now *Callistemon rugulosus*) semi-swamp a few miles from The Bluff, where the birds were more easily heard than seen. A female specimen was taken in January 1924 (SAMA B28388), no doubt the same one referred to in a discussion of this group at an SAOA meeting, where another specimen from Balaparudda Creek, near Victor Harbor (October 1903) was also displayed (SAOA Monthly Proceedings 1924).The Rufous Fieldwren was recorded by Symon (1940) from the gullies between McEachern's Hill and Boat Harbour Creek mouth "higher up the water courses, where the scrub is denser and the timber bigger and forest-like". This appears to be the last published record of the fieldwren from the Fleurieu Peninsula/Mt Lofty region. As JWC also records the Chestnut-rumped Heathwren, *Hylacola pyrrhopygia* in his list, we are fairly confident that he is talking about the fieldwren and not another 'small brown bird'.

Regent Honeyeaters, *Anthochaera phrygia* once visited south-eastern South Australia at various times of the year, but with a peak in autumn

and winter, and sometimes in large numbers (Franklin and Menkhorst 1988). Most records come from the Mt Lofty Ranges, with few and isolated records from the Lower South East, the Coorong, Kangaroo Island, the mid-North and southern Flinders Ranges. There are no published records from the Fleurieu Peninsula, with neither Cleland (1924, 1929) nor Symon (1940) reporting them. It is therefore of great interest that JWC lists this species, with the note that the "Regent or Wartyface visits in numbers". This bird has striking plumage which, together with its habit of turning up in large numbers, makes this record very plausible. Regent Honeyeaters are nectar-seeking birds of eucalypt woodlands and drier open forests (Franklin and Menkhorst 1988), so it is likely that these visitors to the southern Fleurieu were searching for blossoming eucalypts. The paucity of recordings from the Fleurieu Peninsula may be due to the relative lack of observers when irruptions were at their peak from 1910-1940, as suggested by Franklin and Menkhorst (1988). The species is now considered extinct in the Mt Lofty region; there have been few records since the 1950s, with the last record in 1977 (Franklin and Menkhorst 1988).

The Diamond Firetail, *Stagonopleura guttata* is listed by JWC and Cleland (1924) but with no annotations. Symon (1940) gives the information only that he had recorded them nesting. The lack of details is usually an indication that birds were considered common enough not to warrant any detail. However by the early 1960s Condon (1962) noted that this once common and widespread species "in the savannah woodlands" was now in scattered populations only. In the 1984-85 second bird atlas of the Adelaide region the closest Diamond Firetail records to the area of interest were about 20 km to the northeast in the Scott Conservation Park region (Paton, Carpenter and Sinclair 1994). The local extinction of Diamond Firetails from southwestern Fleurieu Peninsula is supported by the lack of records in the Bird Report for 1982-1999 (Carpenter *et al.* 2003).

The White-winged Chough, *Corcorax melanorhamphos* is recorded by JWC as "always" present and it was recorded as nesting by Symon (1940). Cleland (1924) gives locations of Waitpinga and the Inman Valley Road and Cleland (1939) reports two birds and two nests from near the Second Valley Forest Reserve in December 1938. A later record from this location was 6 May 1946, when L. S. Francis observed three birds (Francis 1949). Cleland (1948) saw a family party of choughs in Hindmarsh Valley on 21 August 1947. Graham Carpenter (pers. comm.) remembers choughs from his uncle's scrub off Waitpinga Road and in the Second Valley Forest in the 1960s. By the early 1960s Condon (1962) recorded the White-winged Chough as a declining species and observed that it only survived "in roadside clumps or on the outskirts of government pine plantations (e.g. in Mt. Lofty Ranges)." The second bird atlas of 1984-5 recorded choughs from near Willunga and in one grid southeast of Strathalbyn but not from south of or southwest of Willunga (Paton, Carpenter and Sinclair 1994), indicating that by the mid-1980s choughs had largely disappeared from the southern Fleurieu Peninsula. This is confirmed by the lack of records from the 1982-1999 Bird Report (Carpenter *et al.* 2003). The nearest record to this area from this period was four birds 2 km north of Echunga on 18 December 1982. A more recent record of a party of four White-winged Choughs near Scott Conservation Park (16 km northeast of Victor Harbor) on 21 December 2010 suggests either a small hitherto unrecorded resident population or a wandering group out of their normal range (P. and D. Paton pers. obs.).

Birds with probably no change in area of occupancy

JWC lists the Beautiful Firetail, *Stagonopleura bella* with no extra information, but Cleland (1924) observed that this species is found in the mallee and low eucalyptus forests near Waitpinga where he took two specimens in February 1921 and January 1924 (SAMA B28493 and B28494 respectively). Symon (1940) reported two only – one in May 1937 one mile east of Delamere and one in June 1938 in Brougham's Scrub, adjoining

Table 1. Bird species listed by Cleland (1924, 1929) and Symon (1940) that John W Crompton did not list. X(P) – recorded by F.E. Parsons and not Cleland himself; (S) - recorded for Encounter Bay on Sutton's list (see Sutton 1923).

Bird species (common and scientific name)	Cleland	Symon
Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes*	?	X
Australian Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*	X	X
Wandering Albatross *Diomedea exulans*	X	
Giant-Petrel species *Macronectes sp.*	X	X
Cape Petrel *Daption capense*	X	X
Fairy Prion *Pachyptila turtur*	X	
White-headed Petrel *Pterodroma lessonii*	X	
Little Penguin *Eudyptula minor*	X	X
Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator*		X
Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*	X	X
Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*		X
Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*	X	X
Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*		X
Crake species		X
Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis*	X(P)	
Bush Stone-curlew *Burhinus grallarius*	X	X
Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*		X
Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*	X	
Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*	X	X
Double-banded Plover *Charadrius bicinctus*	X	X
Black-fronted Dotterel *Elseyornis melanops*	X	X
Hooded Plover *Thinornis rubricollis*	X	X
Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*	X	X
Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*	X(P)	
Little Curlew *Numenius minutus*	X(S)	
Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*	X	
Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*	X	
Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*	?	
Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*	X	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*		X
Arctic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus*		X
Fairy Tern *Sternula nereis*	X	X
Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia*	X	X
Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*	X	
Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*	X	X
Pacific Gull *Larus pacificus*	X	X
Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*		X
Rock Parrot *Neophema petrophila*	X	

Bird species (common and scientific name)	Cleland	Symon
Eastern Barn Owl *Tyto javanica*	X(P)	X
White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*	X	X
Weebill *Smicrornis brevirostris*	X(P)	
Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata*	X	X
Southern Whiteface *Apehelocephala leucopsis*	X(P)	X
Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis*		X
Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris*	X	X
Striped Honeyeater *Plectorhyncha lanceolata*	X(P)	
White-browed Babbler *Pomatostomus superciliosus*	X	X
Horsefield's Bushlark *Mirafra javanica*	X	X
Little Grassbird *Megalurus gramineus*	X(P)	

Sapper's Flat, west of Cape Jervis Road. Beautiful Firetails were recorded by Condon (1962) as being in the wetter heath and coastal swamps of the Mt Lofty Ranges, including near Adelaide to Mt Compass and Victor Harbor. The 1984-85 atlas (Paton, Carpenter and Sinclair 1994) has records from three locations near the south coast, most likely from Newland Head Conservation Park and locations in Deep Creek Conservation Park. The 1982-1999 Bird Report (Carpenter *et al.* 2003) lists Beautiful Firetails in Newland Head Conservation Park, Second Valley Forest, Talisker Conservation Park and Deep Creek Conservation Park from 1986 to 1999. So it seems that this is one species that has not changed a great deal in distribution, possibly due to retention of the less productive coastal heaths and low eucalypt vegetation in reserves.

Birds that have increased in range or abundance

Some birds are either more common now or have moved into the area since JWC's observations. Two obvious species are the Galah, *Eolophus roseicapillus*, and the Crested Pigeon, *Ocyphaps lophotes* – both species colonised the more temperate parts of South Australia in the 1900s, following vegetation clearance in these areas and the provision of additional permanent watering points over their range in arid Australia. The Crested Pigeon was not recorded by JWC but Cleland (1929) reported that a pigeon-like bird with a crest was seen on The Bluff in August 1928. He suspected that it had been blown out to sea and made land on The Bluff. Symon (1940) says that this species was not recorded in the district before 1935. One was shot about Christmas time of that year on Yohoe Station, 3 miles west of Delamere, and a small flock of three to five birds (presumably the same birds) was seen by several observers around Yankalilla, Normanville and Rapid Bay in November and December 1936. JWC reported two Galahs in 1915 for a week and Cleland (1924) listed two birds three miles from Victor Harbor on the Adelaide Road in April 1924. Galah numbers built up reasonably quickly, as Symon (1940) noted a flock of 23 over the summer of 1938-39, and that they could be found between Yankalilla and Cape Jervis, and had nested in the Delamere and Second Valley area. Crested Pigeons and Galahs are now very common in the district and breed locally.

It is possible that the Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo, *Calyptorhynchus funereus* has become more abundant on the southern Fleurieu, as Symon (1940) recorded that the largest flock that he encountered was 23 birds, of which half were juvenile or immature. Larger flocks than this are seen in the district now, but it may be that pine plantations, with their large food resources, lead to larger flock sizes, without an overall increase in numbers.

Birds not recorded by JWC

There are a number of birds that JWC did not record that are now found in this district, and that Cleland (1924, 1929) and Symon (1940) did record (Table 1). It is impossible to say whether JWC did not see them or did not identify them. They include the White-browed Babbler, *Pomatostomus superciliosus*, White-browed Scrubwren, *Sericornis frontalis*, and Striated Thornbill, *Acanthiza lineata*. While the latter two are small, fairly nondescript and easy to overlook, the babbler is a noisy, flocking and easily-identifiable species and not easy to overlook. Under White-browed Babbler Symon (1940) wrote: "One colony at Normanville and another of about fifteen birds between Fishery Cove and Cape Jervis were the only ones observed" and recorded them breeding. Cleland (1924) simply lists this species with no annotation.

Cleland (1924) wrote a long paragraph on the White-browed Scrubwren, partly because its taxonomy was confused, and took two specimens from Waitpinga in order to shed some light on the population (SAMA B28380 on 23/1/1923 and B28378 on 23/1/1924). He recorded it from several locations near Waitpinga and mentions them as occurring in the "Cape Jervis and Encounter Bay districts". Symon (1940) simply lists them as being present but not as breeding. Scrubwrens are common still in suitable habitat in the area that JWC covered so it seems likely that he was unable to identify this species or perhaps misidentified the Chestnut-rumped Heathwren, as the two species are fairly similar. Likewise the Striated Thornbill is still common in eucalypt woodland and forests of the southern Fleurieu but is notoriously difficult to identify unless one is familiar with the call. While giving the details of two Striated Thornbill specimens collected, Cleland (1924) does not give the location for these birds nor any other information about the species in this district. Symon (1940) is no more forthcoming and lists the bird as nesting but with no other details. Many other species are seabirds or waders that possibly required more specialist knowledge than JWC possessed or reflect little time spent on the coast.

CONCLUSION

JWC recorded 127 species of native birds over a period of fifteen years while resident on the southern Fleurieu Peninsula. Cleland recorded 136 native species from roughly the same area on regular visits to the region over a period of about thirty years, and Symon reported on 123 native species from his two years residence on the western Fleurieu Peninsula. All three observers recorded the same four exotic species. They mostly recorded the same species but there are differences, particularly in the range of seabirds and waders that Cleland reported, as his house was on the coast and he regularly walked the beaches looking for beach-washed birds (D. Paton pers. comm.). JWC, while interested in birds, was a farmer with little contact with other ornithologists, few books, and as far as we know, no binoculars, which restricted his identification of some of the 'small brown birds'. Nevertheless his list is fairly complete and a tribute to his observational skills and aptitude and no doubt benefited from his intimate knowledge of the country and outdoors lifestyle. Together, the three lists give us a solid background on the avifauna of a geographic area that has been little reported in the literature.

Using the three lists as a basis, we can determine that a number of bird species have declined, some to extinction. Birds believed to be extinct in the region include the Azure Kingfisher, Spotted Quail-thrush, Rufous Fieldwren, Regent Honeyeater, Diamond Firetail and White-winged Chough, while the Little Lorikeet and Restless Flycatcher are now rarely reported. There are other species that must have declined due to preferential clearance of their woodland habitat and fragmentation of native vegetation (Paton *et al*. 1999), but this historical paper cannot offer comment on these.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank David Paton, Julian Reid and Bob Brown for their valuable comments on an earlier draft of the manuscript. We are indebted to the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources for the production of Figure 1.

REFERENCES

Black, J.M. and Cleland, J.B. 1937. Plants of the Encounter Bay district. Fourth list of additional records. *South Australian Naturalist* 16: 52.

Black, J.M. and Cleland, J.B. 1941. Plants of the Encounter Bay district. Fifth list of additional records. *South Australian Naturalist* 21: 15-17.

Black, J.M. and Cleland, J.B. 1951. Plants of the Encounter Bay district. Sixth list of additional records. *South Australian Naturalist* 26: 24-27.

Carpenter, G., Black, A., Harper, D. and Horton, P. 2003. Bird report, 1982-1999. *South Australian Ornithologist* 34: 93-151.

Christidis, L. and Boles, W.E. 2008. *Systematics and taxonomy of Australian birds.* CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Victoria.

Cleland, J. B. 1924. The birds of the Encounter Bay district. *South Australian Ornithologist* 7: 172-184.

Cleland, J.B. 1926a. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. II Notes on the ecology. *South Australian Naturalist* 7: 50-52.

Cleland, J.B. 1926b. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. II Notes on the ecology (continued). *South Australian Naturalist* 7: 80-84.

Cleland, J.B. 1927a. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. Notes on the ecology (continued). *South Australian Naturalist* 8: 53-56.

Cleland, J.B. 1927b. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. Notes on the ecology (continued). *South Australian Naturalist* 9: 7-10.

Cleland, J.B. 1928a. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. Notes on the ecology (continued). *South Australian Naturalist* 9: 27-30.

Cleland, J.B. 1928b. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. Notes on the ecology (continued). *South Australian Naturalist* 9: 45-48.

Cleland, J.B. 1928c. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. Notes on the ecology (continued). *South Australian Naturalist* 9: 57-60.

Cleland, J.B. 1928d. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. Notes on the ecology (concluded). *South Australian Naturalist* 10: 16-20.

Cleland, J. B. 1929. Birds of the Encounter Bay district – additional records. *South Australian Ornithologist* 10: 54-56.

Cleland, J. 1939. Birds seen by the Ralph Tate Society, December 1938. *South Australian Ornithologist* 15: 59-61.

Cleland, J. B. 1948. Bird Notes. *South Australian Ornithologist* 19: 9.

Cleland, J.B. 1959. Plants of the Encounter Bay district. Seventh list of additional records. *South Australian Naturalist* 34: 22-24.

Cleland, J.B. and Black, J.M. 1925a. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. *South Australian Naturalist* 6: 22-30.

(Untitled but likely to be) Cleland, J.B. and Black, J.M. 1925b. The plants of the Encounter Bay district. *South Australian Naturalist* 6: 46-51.

Cleland, J.B. and Black, J.M. 1927. Plants of the Encounter Bay district, additional records. *South Australian Naturalist* 8: 39-41.

Cleland, J.B. and Black, J.M. 1929. Plants of the Encounter Bay district. Second list of additional records. *South Australian Naturalist* 10: 37-40.

Cleland, J.B. and Black, J.M. 1932. Plants of the Encounter Bay district. Third list of additional records. *South Australian Naturalist* 13: 118-120.

Condon, H.T. 1962. A handlist of the birds of South Australia. *South Australian Ornithologist* 23: 86-150.

Franklin, D.C. and Menkhorst, P.W. 1988. A history of the regent honeyeater in South Australia. *South Australian Ornithologist* 30: 141-145.

Francis, L. S. 1949. Bird notes. *South Australian Ornithologist* 19: 21.

Glover, B. 1966. Bird report, 1965. *South Australian Ornithologist* 24: 99-107.

Heysen, J. 1926. Bird notes. *South Australian Ornithologist* 8: 343.

Higgins, P.J. (ed). 1999. *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic birds, Volume 4: Parrots to Dollarbird*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Higgins, P.J. and Peter, J.M. (eds). 2002. *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic birds, Volume 6: Pardalotes to shrike-thrushes*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

Horton, P. and Black, A.B. 2006. The Little Lorikeet in South Australia, with notes on the historical status of other lorikeets. *South Australian Ornithologist* 34: 229-243.

Leach, J.A. 1912. *An Australian bird book*. Second edition. Whitcombe & Tombs, Melbourne.

Morgan, A.M. 1925. Bird notes. *South Australian Ornithologist* 8: 128.

Morgan, A.M. 1927. Bird notes. *South Australian Ornithologist* 9: 103.

Parker, S.A., Eckert, H.J., Ragless, G.B., Cox, J.B. and Reid, N.C.H. 1979. *An annotated checklist of the birds of South Australia. Part one: emus to spoonbills*. South Australian Ornithological Association, Adelaide.

Paton, D.C., Carpenter, G. and Sinclair, R.G. 1994. A second bird atlas of the Adelaide region. Part I: Changes in the distribution of birds: 1974-75 *vs* 1984-85. *South Australian Ornithologist* 31: 151-193.

Paton, D.C., Prescott, A.M., Davies, R.J.-P. and Heard, L.M. 1999. The distribution, status and threats to temperate woodlands in South Australia. In *Temperate Eucalypt Woodlands in Australia: Biology, Conservation, Management and Restoration*, R.J.Hobbs and C.J.Yates (eds). Surrey Beatty & Sons, Chipping Norton, pp 57-85.

Reid, M. 2000. Honorary members of the SAOA. In *Birds, birders and birdwatching 1899-1999*. R. Collier, J. Hatch, B. Matheson and T. Russell (eds). South Australian Ornithological Association, Adelaide, South Australia, pp. 76-93.

Rix, C.E. 1940. Bird Notes. *South Australian Ornithologist* 15: 111.

Rix, C.E. 1945. Bird Notes. *South Australian Ornithologist* 17: 55.

SAOA Monthly Proceedings. 1924. *South Australian Ornithologist* 7: 206-208.

Specht, R.L. 1972. *The vegetation of South Australia*. Second edition. Government Printer, Adelaide.

Sutton, J. 1923. Birds of South Australia. *South Australian Ornithologist* 7: 92-107.

Symon, O. 1940. Some birds of the western part of the Fleurieu Peninsula, 1937-39. *South Australian Ornithologist* 15: 68-72.

Whittell, H. M. 1954. *The literature of Australian birds*. Paterson Brokensha Pty Ltd, Perth, Western Australia.

Penny Paton
47 Gilbert Street
Gilberton, South Australia 5081

John Crompton
PO Box 321
Victor Harbor, South Australia 5211

Appendix I A Transcript of the List of Birds by John W Crompton

List of Birds Recognised Inland on Hundred of Encounter Bay During 15 years ending January 18th 1925 John W Crompton

Birds Seen Inland in Hundred of Encounter Bay Between 1909 to 1925, with index number in Leach's book Second Edition.
Mark + = definite signs of breeding
Mark - = No signs noticed and they are not (*sort?*)

			Leach	Authors' comments
Stubble Quail in Numbers	Often	+	3	
Brown Quail or Scrub Q	Always	+	4	
Painted Quail	Once	-	8	Painted Button-quail
Peaceful Dove few	Often	-	13	
Bronzewing Pigeon	Always	+	16	Common Bronzewing
Little Bronzewing	Once	-	17	Brush Bronzewing
Pectoral Rail, Landrail,	Probably Always	+	21	Buff-banded Rail
Little Crake or Water crake	One Season	-	23	Baillon's Crake
Black Moorhen Big Coote	One Season	-	26	Dusky Moorhen
Black-headed Grebe	Regularly	-	29	Australasian Grebe
Silver Gull	at Rivington seldom but in Inman Valley often (100)	-	72	
Black breasted Plover		+	81	Banded Lapwing
Black Oystercatcher	on Inman once	-	77	Australian Pied Oystercatcher
Snipe	Nearly every year	-	106	Latham's Snipe
Black Ibis	Occasional flock usually on swamped crops	-	114	Glossy Ibis
Blue crane	Always	+	119	White-faced Heron
Large White necked crane	Winter	-	120	White-necked Heron
Egret smaller than Blue crane	Once	-	121	Little Egret
Nankeen Heron	rare	-	123	Nankeen Night-Heron
Minute Bittern *perhaps wrong?*	Once	-	124	Australian Little Bittern
Brown Bittern	1915	-	125	Australasian Bittern
Black Swan	Flying only	-	126	
Cape Barrengoose	Flying & 1 settled once	-	128	Cape Barren Goose
Maned Goose	twice settled in numbers		129	Australian Wood Duck
Black Duck (*Lower?* Murray)	Occasional	+	133	Pacific Black Duck
Teal	Occasional	+	134	Chestnut Teal
Grey Teal	One visit only & uncertain	-	135	
Widgeon	Flying only but low once	-	137	Pink-eared Duck
Black Large Cormorant		+	142	Great Cormorant
Black Small Cormorant		+	143	Little Black Cormorant
Black & White Large Cormorant		-	144	Black-faced Cormorant
Sea Shag, Pied Cormorant		-	145	Pied Cormorant
Black & White Small Cormorant		+	146	Little Pied Cormorant
Swamp Hawk (fowls once)	Always	+	152	Swamp Harrier

			Leach	Authors' comments
Gray Goshawk	Always	-	153	Grey Goshawk
White Goshawk	Once	-	154	Grey Goshawk
Australian Goshawk (fowls)	Always	-	155	Brown Goshawk
Lesser Goshawk	recorded & forgotten but was probably shot	-	156	Not recognised as a species
Collared Sparrowhawk		-	157	
Wedgetail Eagle	Always	+	158	Wedge-tailed Eagle
Little Eagle	Not sure but seems nothing else is right beside a nest		159	
Little Falcon (fowls)	Always	-	170	Australian Hobby
Nankeen kestrel (*no harm yet?*)	Always	-	173	
Boobook Owl		-	175	Southern Boobook
Other owls are known but not named and probably include: Powerful, Spotted, Barn, Masked				
Blue Mountain Parrot	probably always	+	184	Rainbow Lorikeet
Green Keet	frequent in numbers	+	185	Musk Lorikeet
King Keet, PurpleCrown	seldom recognised	-	186	Purple-crowned Lorikeet
Little Keet	seldom recognised	-	187	Little Lorikeet
Black Cockatoo common	Always	+	188	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo
White Sulphur crest	Once flying & probably escaped captive		192	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Galah	2 in 1915 for a week	+		
Crimson Rosella v common	Always	+	200	
Yellow Rosella	uncommon	-	201	Now considered a subspecies of Crimson Rosella
Rosella	Once	-	202	Eastern Rosella
Red-rumped Grass parrot	Always	-	206	Red-rumped Parrot
Orange-bellied Grass parrot	uncommon	-	210	Orange-bellied Parrot
Shell parrot	occasional in numbers	-	214	Budgerigar
Elegant Grass parrot	Always cleared swamps & sorrell	-	209	Elegant Parrot
Podargus (Locally Doughfool, Schoolmaster)		+	217	Tawny Frogmouth
Swift		-	228	Fork-tailed Swift
Azure Kingfisher		-	220	
Laughing Jack	Friendly & always here	+	221	Laughing Kookaburra
Sacred Kingfisher			223	
Pallid Cuckoo	Regularly	+	229	
Fantail Cuckoo	Regularly	-	230	Fan-tailed Cuckoo
Narrow billed Bronze Cuckoo		-	233	Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo
Broad billed Bronze Cuckoo		-	234	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo
Bronze Cuckoo		-	235	This spp is no longer on Australian list
The Bronze Cuckoos seem to be distinctly different & yet no clear reason to support the distinction being more than variation. They fly one with the other.				

			Leach	Authors' comments
Welcome Swallow	Always	+	238	
Tree Martin		+	240	
Fairy Martin		+	241	
Jacky Winter	Post Sitter	-	242	242 & 243 are now
Jacky Winter	Post Sitter	-	243	one species
Scarlet breasted Robin	Always	+	244	Scarlet Robin
Flame breasted Robin	Regularly except 1923 & 1924	-	245	Flame Robin
? Pink breast if seen was in wet place near big trees & grass, but it probably was some young bird.				
Pied Robin	probably always	-	249	Hooded Robin
White shafted Fantail, Gray Wagtail		+	254	Grey Fantail
Willie Wagtail	Always	+	256	
Leaden Flycatcher probably	Once	-	257	
Scissor Grinder	Frequently	-	259	Restless Flycatcher
Black faced Cuckoo Shrike (Blue Fella)		-	262	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Little Cuckoo Shrike	perhaps	-	263	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike
Ground Thrush		-	266	Spotted Quail-thrush
Ground Wren Red rumped		-	270	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren
? Among Trees & grass	Probably number	-	276	Striated Fieldwren
English Blackbird	Scarce	+	279A	Common Blackbird
Mountain Thrush	Probably always	-	280	Bassian Thrush
Tintac	Probably always	-	281	White-fronted Chat
Tomtits Yellow Bellied		+	288	Yellow Thornbill
Tomtits Ruddy Abdomen		+	289	Brown Thornbill
Tomtits Red Rump		-	290	Inland Thornbill
Tomtits Yellow round tail		-	293	Yellow-rumped Thornbill
Tomtits Buff Rump		-	294	Buff-rumped Thornbill
Blue Wren	Always	+	300	Superb Fairy-wren
Emu Wren	Probably always	-	304	Southern Emu-wren
Scrub Wren Bristlebird	Probably always	-	306	Eastern Bristle-bird
Scrub Wren Bristlebird Buffheaded		-	307	Rufous Bristlebird
Wood Swallow White rump			310	White-breasted Woodswallow
Wood Swallow White brow			311	White-browed Woodswallow
Wood Swallow Masked			312	Masked Woodswallow
Wood Swallow Dusky			313	Dusky Woodswallow
Mudpie lark, Murray magpie			314	Magpie-lark
Harmonious Thrush	Friendly, known to nest in a much used shed	+	315	Grey Shrike-thrush
White backed Magpie	v common	+	317	Australian Magpie
Large Butcher bird	in 1915	-	318	Pied Butcherbird
Common Butcher bird	frequent singly appears to go away during height of spring	-	319	Grey Butcherbird
Shriketit yellow breasted (Crest)		-	320	Crested Shrike-tit
Crested Bellbird		-	321	
Thickhead		-	322	Golden Whistler
Thickhead		-	323	Rufous Whistler

			Leach	Authors' comments
Thickhead	Probably Olivaceous	-	325	Olive Whistler
Tree Runner		-	328	328 & 329 are now lumped as
Tree Runner Black capped		-	329	Varied Sittella
Tree creeper Brown		-	330	Brown Treecreeper
Tree creeper White throat		-	331	White-throated Treecreeper
Tree creeper Red browed		-	332	Red-browed Treecreeper
Tree creeper White browed		-	333	White-browed Treecreeper
Silvereye common	Apparently always	-	334	
Red Johnny. Mistletoe berry eater		-	336	Mistletoebird
Pardalote Aphis eaters		-	337	337 & 339 now lumped as
Pardalote		-	339	Striated Pardalote
Pardalote		-	340	340 & 341 now lumped as
Pardalote		-	341	Spotted Pardalote
Honeyeater Blackcap		-	342	White-naped Honeyeater
A Black honeyeater, probably number		-	347	Black Honeyeater
Spinebill Sunbird		-	348	Eastern Spinebill
Tawny crowned	Always	+	347	Tawny-crowned Honeyeater
Pied		-	352	Pied Honeyeater
Regent or Wartyface	visits in numbers	-	353	Regent Honeyeater
Greeny	seen common in red gums, gives various calls	-	363	White-plumed Honeyeater
Phylotis Sonora	coastal bird	-	356	Singing Honeyeater
Tasmanian or Crescent Honeyeater		+	364	
New holland	Always	+	365	New Holland Honeyeater
Noisy Miner	uncommon	-	368	
Wattlebird common	Always	+	370	Red Wattlebird
Brush Wattle bird	Always	-	371	Little Wattlebird
Spiny cheeked	uncommon	-	372	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater
Ground lark		+	376	Australasian Pipit
English Goldfinch		+	377B	European Goldfinch
English Sparrow		+	377C	Leach 4th Edition has 377C as Tree Sparrow & 377D as House Sparrow – we assume that the bird he means is House Sparrow
Diamond Sparrow		+	378	Diamond Firetail
Firetail Finch		+	379	Beautiful Firetail
Zebra Finch Chestnut-eared		-	380	
Waxbill Finch Red browed		-	382	Red-browed Finch
European Starling		+	382A	Common Starling
? Hazeleyed Crow	perhaps			There was much confusion about crows & ravens at this time –the bird is probably the Little Raven which was not in Leach at this time
? Smallbilled Crow	probably once			
Raven or Black Crow	visits	-	389	
White winged Chough	Always	+	391	

			Leach	Authors' comments
"Black Magpie"	Always	-	392	392 & 393 now lumped
Bellmagpie Black winged *or?* broad head	seldom seen here	-	393	as Grey Currawong
A bird of the lark sort that sings loudly while he flies, "Chitaweela" by name about Aldinga. Found about crops or thick grass. Brown all over, heavily built. Sounds like a wheelbarrow that had deeper tone than a Greenfinch.				This is clearly a male Brown Songlark

January 18th 1925

Please return this list, because I have no copy and I don't wish to write one now.

John W Crompton

Explanation of the annotations used:

Words that are italicised and followed by a question mark e.g. (*sort?*) are words that we were unsure of but made an educated guess.

Authors' comments indicate taxonomy or the current recommended English names for the species indicated by JWC, where these are different from his names.