

Birds SA



Newsletter

No 215

August 2010



Birds SA is the operating name of The South Australian Ornithological Association Inc.

c/- South Australian Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000

The Aims of the Association are:

To promote the conservation of Australian birds and their habitats.

To encourage interest in, and develop knowledge of, the birds of South Australia.

To record the results of research in regard to all aspects of bird life.

To maintain a public fund called the "Birds SA Conservation Fund" for the specific purpose of supporting the Association's environmental objects.

A Page of Colourful Parrots

For bird identification, photographers, locations and dates, see page 17.



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CENTRE INSERT

SAOA HISTORICAL SERIES NUMBER 33,
ERHARD FRANZ BOEHM PART 6.

DIARY

Following is a list of Birds SA activities for the next few months. Further details of all these activities are given later in the newsletter.

Aug 29	Sunday	Excursion to Rocky Gully *****
Sept 11	Saturday	Excursion to Black Hill CP
Sept 16	Thursday	Excursion to Moorundie Wildlife Park
Sept 24	Friday	General Meeting
Sept 26	Sunday	Excursion to Redbanks CP *****
Oct 9	Saturday	Excursion to Bakara CP
Oct 14	Thursday	Excursion to Cox Scrub CP
Oct 29	Friday	General Meeting
Oct 31	Sunday	Excursion to Monarto CP *****
Nov 13	Saturday	Excursion to Mark Oliphant CP
Nov 18	Thursday	Excursion to Inman River estuary
Nov 26	Friday	General Meeting, Members' Night
Nov 28	Sunday	Excursion to Pooginook CP *****
Dec 11	Saturday	Excursion to Reedy Creek
Dec 16	Thursday	Excursion to Laratinga Wetlands

Cover photo: White-winged Fairy-wren, photographed by John Turner near Caroon Creek CP on 28/04/2010

General meetings are held in the Hawker Centre at the Waite Institute, Waite Road, Urrbrae at 7.45pm. Doors open at 7.00pm.

Committee meetings are held at the above venue on the second Monday of each month, starting at 7.30pm.

Donations to the Birds SA Conservation Fund are tax-deductible

New Members

We welcome 12 new members who have recently joined the Association. Their names are listed on p6.

SAOA COMMITTEE 2010 – 2011

President	Jeremy Robertson	8278 1217
Vice President	Stuart Hull	8391 0007
Vice President	Rodney Attwood	8264 1527
Secretary	Brian Blaylock	8370 3349
Treasurer	Brian Walker	8263 3433
Assistant Secretary	Robert Rowland	83881790
Journal Editor	John Hatch	8362 2820
Newsletter Editor	Cynthia Pyle	8264 5778
Field Program Coordinator	Trevor Cowie	8263 2531
Bird Record Secretary	Colin Rogers	8336 3325
Member	Lou Bartley-Clements	0418858037
Member	Merinda Hyland	8337 3616
Member	David Robertson	8278 7866
Member	Merilyn Browne	8339 6839

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Librarian	Karen Donkin	0402123960
Image Librarian	John Spiers	8333 0272
	email imagelibrarian@birdssa.asn.au	
Ongoing Atlas	Pat Bowie	8278 6048

RELATED ASSOCIATIONS

Birds South-east

Chair	Bryan Haywood	8726 8112
Publicity Officer	Bob Green	8725 0549
Email	shriketit@bigpond.com	

Fleurieu Birdwatchers

Contact Person	Judith Dyer	8555 2736
Email	dyer.jm@gmail.com	

WEBSITE www.birdssa.asn.au

2010 SAOA SUBSCRIPTIONS

Single membership	\$45
Family/household membership	\$55
Single concession*	\$40
Family/household concession*	\$50

Student members (full-time students under 25 years) \$10

*Pensioners and people experiencing financial hardship can obtain concessions. Apply in writing to the Treasurer, Birds SA.

ABN 76 339 976 789

ADVERTISING IN THE Birds SA NEWSLETTER

SAOA relies on the integrity of advertisers for the quality and nature of their products and services. We cannot guarantee them. Advertising is charged as follows: \$1.00 per line, up to \$20.00 per quarter page and 10c per inserted leaflet (single sheet). The committee reserves the right to lower or waive these fees.

COPY DEADLINE

Copy for the November Newsletter is due by the October General Meeting (Oct 29). Contributions, 'Word' format preferred, can be made on CD, or emailed to one of my email addresses:

- newslettereditor@birdssa.asn.au
- cpy62284@bigpond.net.au

or typed/handwritten neatly.

Printed by Abbott Printers and Stationer

President's Letter

I'm sitting in a warm office on a cold and blustery day with rain beating against the windows – not the sort of day for birding, not even for seabirds as the wind is in the wrong direction. I have had too many commitments at work to do much birding recently, but I am pleased to reflect on how well things are going for the Association. Our recent Members' Night was, as usual, great fun with excellent food, good conversations, interesting talks and first-rate videos.

Many thanks to Stuart Hull for organising it, to the three speakers for stimulating presentations, and for the sterling efforts of all the caterers shepherded by Karen and Lynton Huxley. I am very pleased that we now have two of these nights each year as they give us an opportunity to mingle and have several shorter presentations.

I am also delighted to see that the *South Australian Ornithologist* (SAO), after some erratic years is now back on track with two issues appearing each year as expected. We have received much positive feedback about the last three issues. The Editorial Board is now satisfied that they now have a good format and can effectively use all the technology and the complex *Adobe InDesign* publishing software to lay out and produce the journal without external consultants. It has been a steep learning curve, but very worthwhile because we now understand the process and thus can apply it consistently, and if necessary adapt the style. To avoid future editors having to repeat this long complex process I have prepared a 25-page manual that is extensively illustrated with step-by-step instructions on each stage of the production of the journal. The work has all paid off because, unlike similar small journals around Australia, we are receiving a steadily

growing stream of manuscripts for consideration. The next issue is almost ready for publication and we almost have sufficient material for the first issue of 2011. I have had an extended book review accepted for publication in the next issue, which gave me the opportunity for a wide-ranging discussion of *Speciation in Birds*, because I think it is a landmark publication for all ornithologists and should be widely read.

Our recent Members' Night was, as usual, great fun with excellent food, good conversations, interesting talks and first-rate videos.

The journal has been further strengthened by its recent inclusion on the list of journals recognised by the Australian Research Council. This recognition may seem irrelevant to many members, but it is significant because it makes the journal attractive to professionals as well as the many amateur contributors. Professionals avoid an unrecognised journal because any contributions they make will not be recognised in their research efforts. The recent publication of an international collaboration in the journal reflects this status and we were delighted to receive much complimentary feedback from those authors on the layout of the journal. Naturally, we want the journal to continue to attract contributions from amateurs because these observations are the fundamental basis for our knowledge and are often the catalyst for future research. The mix of amateur and professional papers makes a very worthwhile publication and the Association should be proud of continuing to support a long-

running journal that has provided the basis for much ornithological knowledge in Australia. Some members might feel that a journal is an expensive indulgence for what is essentially a bird watching club, but the founders had loftier ideals and journals such as the SAO are essential repositories of accumulated observations. This is especially important in Australasia, which despite being the cradle of the evolution of songbirds has a relatively unstudied avifauna. It is

very striking how many times the SAO is used as a reliable source in the *Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds* (HANZAB). Given the importance of this accumulated knowledge the Management Committee is currently considering scanning papers from previous issues so they can be readily available as portable document files (PDF) on the Association's website.

Another recent important development has been the mobilisation of funding to support projects. The Association has long provided funding for projects on South Australian birds, especially projects that enhance their conservation. In the last few years we have advertised the availability of this funding and made the application process more transparent. This is because the membership indicated in a survey that they regarded this as the most worthwhile way to use the available funds to support local birds. The recently established Birds SA Conservation Fund also provides a means for supplementing the available funds with tax-free donations and bequests. In this newsletter we publish the request for such funding and I urge all members to consider contributing. Even small donations all add up and can make a big difference in supporting projects that increase our knowledge of vulnerable species and can ensure their conservation for future generations.

Jeremy Robertson

Birds SA Notes & News

MAKE A LASTING CONTRIBUTION TO BIRDS SA

Birds SA (or The South Australian Ornithological Association) is the oldest organisation in Australia dedicated to birds. From its beginning in 1899 Birds SA has been a major force in increasing our understanding of Australian birds and preserving them for future generations. We are a voluntary Association, depending mainly on goodwill and membership fees to undertake our aims. We currently support projects and research on vulnerable birds in South Australia.

Birds SA recently established the Birds SA Conservation Fund, which allows us to accept tax-deductible donations and bequests. Please consider taking advantage of this Fund to make a lasting contribution to birds in the following ways:

Make a Donation — any amount of \$2 or over is tax-deductible and will make an important contribution to furthering our aims and significantly contributing to our work. This can be a single payment or a regular deduction that can be cancelled at any time.

Remember us in your Will with a Bequest — if you have had a lifetime of pleasure from birds why not contribute to ensuring their future by remembering Birds SA in your will. The Committee would be pleased to help in drafting an appropriate legacy. Perhaps you would consider mourners contributing to Birds SA as a more fitting memorial than flowers. These would be significant acts for conservation that are not just for the wealthy because any amount will make a difference and will be put to good use in furthering the preservation of birds.

In Memoriam — donate a tax-deductible contribution to celebrate the life and commemorate someone who loved birds. Again this could be regarded as more fitting than the contribution of ephemeral flowers at the funeral.

Please consider using any or all of these options to further the work of Birds SA in preserving our heritage of wild birds. All are practical and worthwhile measures that will help the future of birds in South Australia. Contributions can be anonymous or celebrated in the Birds SA Newsletter. We will also honour your wishes on how the money is to be used. Please use the form That will be on the Birds SA website

<http://www.birdssa.asn.au/index.htm>.

Jeremy Robertson

ADVANCE NOTICE BIRDS SA CONSERVATION FUND GRANTS 2011

Applications for \$3000 (maximum) grants towards the cost of Field Work associated with bird related research projects undertaken during 2011 will open on November 15th 2010 and remain open until March 1st 2011. The Guidelines for these grants and the Application Forms are published on Birds SA's website or can be obtained on request to Rod Attwood ph 82641527 or 0408264103

Rodney Attwood

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Following changes to Birds SA's Internet Service Provider we are now able to send notices to members using a webmail facility. A recent mailing to members resulted in quite a few messages being 'bounced' due to the fact that the email address did not exist. If you have not already informed us of your email address, or if you have and you did not receive an email advising the topic and speakers for the August meeting, would you please send an email with your name and address to membership@birdssa.asn.au. This will enable us to keep you informed of any changes to the published programme for meetings or outings. Thank you for your co-operation.

Brian Walker

CONSERVATION MATTERS

Since the last Newsletter, several conservation issues have been addressed on behalf of Birds SA.

During July a submission was prepared on the Draft Management Plan for Fire Management of the Parks and Reserves of the Onkaparinga Valley. Birds SA's submission focussed on the consequences for bird life resulting from Prescribed Burning activities. Professional and informed information on the location and status of 'Vulnerable' and 'Endangered' bird species should be obtained before burning is undertaken.

In August, a submission was prepared for the Mount Barker Urban Growth Development Plan Amendment (DPA), which had been issued for public comment by the Planning Minister of the Government of South Australia. Birds SA provided comment and information in its submission relating to the potential impact of the proposed urban development on the composition of bird species in the Mount Barker region.

These two submissions are posted with the meeting minutes at the August General meeting and copies can be obtained on request from Rodney Attwood.

Mr Lawrence Berry, a Masters student from the Australian National University, has been awarded a grant from the Birds SA Conservation Fund towards fieldwork concerning fire regime recovery rates of birds at Pinkawillinie Conservation Park in northern Eyre Peninsular. Mr Berry's work is supervised by Professor Don Driscoll of the ANU and is to be completed by June 2011. The results will be made available to Birds SA.

Rodney Attwood

GROUP ATLAS SITES

All you need to know...

Group Atlas Sites are the latest development to be added to Birds Australia's Atlas Project. Participants in the project are encouraged to

Birds SA Notes & News (cont)

establish survey sites that other birdwatchers can visit. This will create a network of community sites, thus optimising the amount of data that can be generated at individual sites and addressing the uneven distribution of regularly atlased sites. We are looking for Atlassers to nominate sites to be included in this network.

Choosing your Group Atlas Site

Choose your site so that it is representative of the particular habitat you are surveying. Avoid mixing habitat types in the search area. Though it is tempting, do not automatically select a site that you think will yield the most birds, and try to introduce a degree of randomness into your site selection.

Select the most suitable survey method. Although most Group Atlas Sites will require 2-hectare searches, sometimes this method is not the best survey option, and another technique will be more appropriate at the site. For example, monitoring a wetland may best be carried out by using an area search, or, when monitoring a threatened species, surveying along transects may be preferred. Guidelines for monitoring threatened species will be available soon.

Registering your Group Atlas Site

For a site to be registered as a Group Atlas Site, there are a few things we need to know. When registering a site, please provide us with:

- GPS co-ordinates of the site

- A mud map of the site, showing its boundaries and including instructions on how to get there
- A description of the site that mentions any special survey characteristics, such as if the site is a wader roost
- Instructions on the preferred survey method to be used at the site. This will usually be a 2-hectare search
- A photo of the site, although this is an optional extra
- Who owns the land the site is on; are there any visiting restrictions and is special permission required? If so, provide contact details.

This information will be included on the Birddata website to enable other birdwatchers to visit the site and conduct Atlas surveys there. When compiling this information, put yourself into the shoes of a stranger to make sure that a future visit by others will be as painless as possible.

PAT BOWIE

BIRD DISPLAYS

I'm sure all bird admirers agree that some bird displays are quite extraordinary! Two displays that I have seen, alas only on VCR or TV, fit this class.

The first is of a male Riflebird from Australia's east coast standing on a tree stump, wings fanned and arched above its head while bobbing its whole body rhythmically and

swaying from side to side.

The second is the astonishing display of a male Bird of Paradise in Papua New Guinea. I don't know which species it is, but the bird climaxes its display by hanging upside down beneath a horizontal limb, fanning and quivering its iridescent blue and black chest shield while uttering an amazing extended metallic buzzing noise! I recall the bird having a vivid white spot above each eye.

I am keen to obtain copies of these two filmed displays. It is likely that both were parts of one of David Attenborough's documentaries, although neither is in his The Life of Birds DVD series, which I have recently checked.

If any Birds SA member is familiar with either of these filmed displays, can they please tell me of the format in which they are recorded, so that I can obtain them commercially?

It is one of the blessings of modern technology that such rare treasures of nature are available for everyone to see.

John Smyth, Ph. 8847 2152

Email, megjohn@chariot.net.au

LOST EMAIL ADDRESSES

Penny Paton lost her black-chinned honeyeater group email contact list when changing computers recently, so if you usually receive Chinwag by email and haven't done so in the last few weeks, please let her know so she can re-instate you. Her email is pennypaton@adam.com.au. If you haven't received the newsletter in the past and would like to get it in future, feel free to email Penny.

Penny Paton

We welcome the following new members, who have joined the Association in the past few months.

Peter James Jacobs	WAIKERIE
Graeme Paul Clark	ADELAIDE
Simon James Brealey & Nicole Rebecca Holt	GREENHILL
John Newman	HIGHTON (Vic)
Peter Wadmore & Maria Kourtesis	SOMERTON PARK
Colin & Kerry Parker	KENSINGTON PARK
Mr Deane Morgan	WANGARY
Helen Rexene & Peter Grantley Gill	MITCHAM

If your name has inadvertently been omitted from this list, please contact our treasurer. His 'phone number is on page 2.

Giving them wings

conserving threatened species

BANDED STILT ALERT

I am sure that everyone has heard the wonderful news by now! Banded Stilts have enjoyed an extremely successful breeding event at Lake Torrens. Alex Clarke, of the Department for the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Port Augusta,

advises us that over 200,000 chicks were hatched. In a visit to Lake Torrens on 8th July he reported seeing thousands of juvenile stilts spread across the lake — either fully fledged or just about to fledge. Very few adult stilts were present. And that brings me to the challenge of the moment – **where are they????** As Lake Torrens and Lake Eyre dry up, and the inland feeding grounds disappear, it will be interesting to map the dispersal of this huge breeding flock and their offspring, as they return to non-breeding sites. Observers are asked to check flocks carefully for immature birds, which are recognisable by their grey lores, pale edges to the wing coverts (less obvious) and grey legs as shown in attached photo taken by Graham Carpenter at Lake Torrens in 1989. Do not be surprised to see flocks with a high proportion of juveniles. In September 2000 Tony Russell reported on Birding Australia that a

flock of ‘hundreds and hundreds, possibly thousands’ of Banded Stilts at Penrice Saltfields contained only about 30% adults.

News of flagged birds is especially sought and observers are being asked to make careful note of the configuration of any flags seen:

Mandurah and Bunbury, on the coast. This is the first recorded movement of Banded Stilts from eastern Australia to Western Australia. One was seen accompanying a group of chicks to the water at Lake Torrens in June, 2010 – see photograph.



Banded Stilts, one Coorong flagged
 photographed by Clare Manning at Lake Torrens in June 2010

A single yellow flag on the right upper leg was flagged as a chick in 1995 at Lake Ballard in WA. Several of these were seen at Lake Eyre in 2000 and one at Lake George in April 2001.

A single orange flag on the right upper was flagged in Victoria, the majority at Werribee in 2000. Several of these have been seen in the Coorong in February 2005 and August 2007.

Orange above yellow flags on the right upper was flagged as a chick in the Coorong in 2006. There have been several sightings of these in Victoria. In Feb 2008 one was seen at Yalgorup National Park, Western Australia — about half way between

Orange above yellow flags on the left upper was flagged as a chick at Lake Torrens in June 2010.

In April of this year it was the rising water levels in Lake Torrens, and the apparent absence of Banded Stilts in the

Coorong, that led to the DENR conducting a thorough aerial search, and finding the breeding colony on Lake Torrens. A sizeable flock had been present in the Coorong regularly since July 2005, the main exception being when they all moved to Corangamite, Vic in August 2006. Will they return to the Coorong?

Please report Banded Stilt observations to either the Australasian Wader Study Group mintons@ozemail.com.au or to Maureen Christie twinpeppers@icisp.net.au Carpenter Rocks, 5291 Ph; 87380014

Past & Future Meetings

PAST GENERAL MEETINGS

Friday April 30

Stuart Hull introduced the speaker for the evening Nicholas Birks. Before moving to Walkerville in 1994 Nicholas was a farmer at Willalooka in the southeast and had started photographing animals at the age of 10. He won the 1990 Nikon Australian Wildlife Photographer of the Year award, which provided him with some serious equipment and encouraged him to adopt a more professional approach to his hobby. Since then he has concentrated photographing animal and bird behaviour, selling images to books and magazines. He now volunteers at the S.A. Museum sorting arachnids.

Nicholas spoke about his early days as a student when he went trapping rats and rabbits with Colin Lendon to feed the Wedge-tailed Eagles at the Adelaide Zoo. He showed a large number of photographs, mostly of raptors and their habits; and explained how he was able to take close-up pictures from his hide. Birds shown were Australian Hobby, Australian Raven, Black Falcon, Black Kite, Black-shouldered Kite, Brown Falcon, Brown Goshawk, Grey Falcon, Nankeen Kestrel, Letter-winged Kite, Eastern Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Whistling Kite, White-faced heron and Silver Gull.

Nicholas concluded his presentation by showing a series of bird photographs he had taken in Southern Africa.

Friday May 28

Stuart Hull conducted the quiz night, which consisted of identifying birds from photographs provided, courtesy of Rohan Clarke. There were 40 birds altogether, and their presentation was interspersed with short verbal questions for which the member received a chocolate for giving the correct answer. Jeremy Robertson answered the most correct questions and Lynn Gould won the members prize.

Friday June 25

Rodney Attwood introduced the speakers, Karen Bascombe and Ron Pinkenvan from the Adelaide Optical Centre. They had brought a range of binoculars, telescopes and adapters from Swarovski, Leica and Steiner for members to view. Ron detailed the differences between roof prism and porro prism binoculars. A roof prism is a reflecting prism in which the reflecting surface is in two parts that are angled like the two sides of a pitched roof. A pair of binoculars using two roof prisms is an instrument with parallel sides and objective lenses that are the same distance apart as the eyepieces. Porro prism binoculars use two such prisms at right angles, resulting in a conventional instrument with objective lenses that are further apart than the eyepieces.

He then explained the meanings of the following optical parameters:

- **Magnification** — The ratio of the focal length of the eyepiece divided into the focal length of the objective gives the linear magnifying power of binoculars.
- **Objective diameter** — The diameter of the objective lens determines how much light can be gathered to form an image.
- **Field of view** — the area in the eyepiece of an optical instrument in which the image is visible — is determined by the optical design of the binoculars.
- **Exit pupil** — Binoculars concentrate the light gathered by the objective into a beam, the exit pupil, whose diameter is the objective diameter divided by the magnifying power.

With the help of a Powerpoint presentation provided by Swarovski he showed the features of their new EL binoculars.

Adelaide Optical will come along to a field trip on 11 September 2010 to Black Hill to show their binoculars and telescopes.

FUTURE GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held at 7.45pm in the Hawker Centre at the Waite Institute on the last Friday of each month except December, (provided there is no clash with a public holiday). The doors open at 7pm. The speakers and topics for the next four months meeting are given below.

24th September

Jody O'Connor

Ensuring the Iconic Darwin's Finches Survive on the Galapagos Islands."

29th October

Jeremy Robertso n

Sex and Violence in Birds

26th November

Sean Dooley, The Big Twitch"

Sean's talk will be preceded by the Christmas breakup supper. Please bring a plate of food to share.



Boobook Owl

photographed by
Terri Randle at Tothill Ranges
on 26th April 2010

Past Excursions

Saturday May 15

Talbot & Rockleigh Reserves (MM)

The morning saw 27 members braving the chill and meeting early at Talbot Reserve. A quick look around the reserve gave us 32 species, the highlights of which were Jacky Winter, Red-capped and Hooded Robins and numerous Mistletoebirds. A Restless Flycatcher was heard by all and seen by some of the luckier ones. White-browed Babblers seemed to be busy building nests. After our brief look around we went on to Rockleigh Reserve, which was a little further along the road, where we were immediately greeted by a large flock of Striated Pardalotes. Splitting into many small groups we managed to survey most of the reserve. Abundant species were Crimson Rosella, Diamond Firetail, White-plumed and New Holland Honeyeaters, Mistletoebird, White-browed Babbler, Tree Martin and a large flock of mainly White-browed Woodswallow, with a few Dusky and Masked Woodswallows mingling in. Several members heard Fan-tailed Cuckoo and Australian Owllet-Nightjar. A pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles was observed circling in the distance and a disused nest was located near the creek. Also seen were Brown Falcon, Nankeen Kestrel and a young Swamp Harrier. In all 51 species were seen here during the morning's walk and the species count for the day was 53. The warm and fine conditions, with very little wind, made for a very pleasant day.

Martyn Price

Thursday May 20

Aldinga Scrub CP (AP)

The walk started from the usual entrance next to the Aldinga Holiday Park, then headed south next to the no through road. Just inside the entrance several Eastern Rosellas perched prominently at the top of a tree and two Tawny Frogmouths could be seen in the Holiday Park. The southern section of the conservation park resulted in a

disappointing number of species sighted, and proceeding back through the middle of the park to the northwestern corner did not provide many more. Where were all the birds? Near the new Hart Rd Wetlands on the northern boundary a Peregrine Falcon swooping into Aldinga Scrub chasing Crested Pigeons attracted everyone's attention. Then throughout the eastern side quite a number of birds were found. An Elegant Parrot sporting a very orange belly received a lot of notice, then Black-winged Stilts and Black-fronted Dotterels were seen by several sharp eyed observers on a small area of water amongst the trees. Other highlights from this area included Crested Shrike-tit, Hooded Robin, Dusky Woodswallow, Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo and a tree full of Peaceful Doves. Despite a slow start to the morning, the 25 members and friends who enjoyed the walk saw 51 species altogether. After lunch about 10 people received permission for a closer look at the Tawny Frogmouths in the Holiday Park.

Peter Gower

Sunday May 30

Arid Gardens. Port Augusta

This field trip was originally planned for Winninowie CP. However three of us travelled up there on the Saturday afternoon and it rained all the way. Nevertheless we walked around the park for about two hours, finding a total of seven or eight species and 75% of the birds seen were Yellow-throated Miners. The road into the park was closed for entry, there had been a king tide overnight and we had not thought to bring gumboots to navigate the road, now a muddy river. Several people arrived on Sunday morning, bringing our number to eight, including Peter Langdon. We went to the Port Augusta Arid Gardens instead of our planned venue, but even there the species number was just 23 for the day. However Mulga Parrots, Variegated Fairy-wrens and

Chirruping Wedgebills were good to see and for one person it added a new species for her list. An enjoyable day was achieved despite the cold wet conditions.

Trevor Cowie

Saturday June 12

Narrinyeri Hills (Forestry SA)

This was the first Birds SA walk in this old growth area to the west of Murray Bridge. The 24 members on site spread out over the area recording 41 species – even though it was winter. This suggests that spring and summer visits could be very interesting, especially since the area is closer than Browns Road to the River Murray. We will find out in due course. The species seen were Australian Ringneck, Red-rumped Parrot, Peregrine and Brown Falcons, Variegated Fairy-wren, Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater, Red-capped and Hooded Robins, Dusky Woodswallow and the final bird for the trip list, seen only by two people was a Restless Flycatcher. After lunch at a car parking area further west, many members went on to walk along the southern side of the railway lines. Along this area we found several Southern Scrub-robins. All in all it was a good day at a new site that has future potential to reveal many more species.

Trevor Cowie

Thursday June 17

Wings Retreat – Private Property, near Springton.

This trip had been planned for Kaiser Stuhl CP. However due to the rain and low cloud combined with water on the tracks we moved to a property we were going to visit after Kaiser Stuhl. The property is basically the size of Altona Reserve, with lots of older trees, a large amount of regrowth plantings and a reasonable sized dam occupied by an Australasian Grebe. The owner, a birdwatcher, showed us around the area where the ten of us recorded 25 species, six of Honeyeaters, being Yellow-faced, White-plumed, White-naped, Crescent, New Holland and.

Past Excursions (cont)

Eastern Spinebill. Red-browed Finches dropped in for water and Buff-rumped and Striated Thornbills mixed with Weebills were around the house. We enjoyed our lunch in a large garage area with wine supplied by our host. Our final record was of three Pelicans flying through the back garden very close to the ground.
Trevor Cowie.

Sunday June 27

Nurragi Conservation Park and Milang Foreshore

On a cool morning, 29 birders arrived for the walk. Forty one species were recorded at each site and the total number of species seen was 65. At Nurragi, Australian Magpies and Southern Whitefaces appeared to be nest building. No Robins were seen at all. Some people saw a single male Variegated Fairy-wren, and the Brown-headed Honeyeaters entertained everyone. We returned to Milang for lunch where a Pallid Cuckoo was close by in the open and many people photographed it. At both locations Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoos were both seen and heard. On the lake there were Yellow-billed and Royal Spoonbills, Little and Great Egrets and a few Hardheads. The water is still out a bit from the boat ramp area but close enough for us to see most of the species. We saw six raptor species, the final one being a Black Falcon which swept across from the north to the west of us.

Trevor Cowie.

Saturday July 10

Jenkins Scrub, SA Forestry

This was the day following the night when the electricity went off for a long time for a lot of people. Many thought this was a good excuse for not turning out to enjoy the birds, which I admit were not abundant. We saw 117 birds covering 24 species. A single Scarlet Robin, four species of Thornbill and White-throated Treecreeper provided the joys of the day. The roads to and from the scrub were littered with vegetation and

some very large branches have now become ground dwellers. For lunch, the six of us, well rugged up, found a spot that was almost sheltered from the wind.

Trevor Cowie

Thursday July 15

Kenneth Stirling (Wotton Scrub) CP & Mt George CP

Martyn Price was leader of this Birds SA field trip on which 21 members were present. Despite the high winds and rain of the past week we were greeted by a mainly fine although overcast and chilly morning. Underfoot was quite wet in places and waterproof shoes were a must. Some fancy gumboots were observed. None of the regular Black Cockatoos were seen or heard but the same could not be said for the noisy Sulphur-crested Cockatoos. Also seen were Crimson Rosellas, Galahs and Rainbow Lorikeets. No raptors were recorded. As usual White-throated Treecreepers were vocal as they picked the stringy barks hunting for insects. Several Laughing Kookaburras were seen and heard calling. Honeyeaters recorded were Red Wattlebird, Yellow-faced, Brown-headed, White-naped, Crescent, New Holland and Eastern Spinebill. Striated Thornbills were numerous as were Silvereye. Four White-winged Choughs were observed moving through the park. Australian Magpies and Grey Currawong were quite vocal. Two groups of Scarlet Robins were seen and a single Fan-tailed Cuckoo was heard to call occasionally. In all 32 species were recorded. *For lunch we moved from Kenneth Stirling CP, to Mt George* Observations were made during lunch at the picnic area and a short walk around the dam and up the hill on the western side of the park by 4 members recorded 21 species, including Long-billed Corellas and Sulphur-crested Cockatoos in the car park area, two Scarlet Robins, a few Red Wattlebirds and Crescent Honeyeaters. It was a similar habitat,

containing a similar array of species to those observed in the morning.

Martyn Price

Sunday August 1

Anstey Hill Recreation Park

Despite a forecast of rain, hail and showers 12 members turned out. There was just one short shower plus a few spots here and there, but it was very cold. The bird life was quite prolific, and 44 species had been recorded before lunch, which was enjoyed at my residence nearby so that we could get out of the cold wind. We saw and heard at least four Fan-tailed Cuckoos, as well as at least 3 Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoos throughout the walk. We found two groups of Tawny Frogmouths the second group possibly consisting of three birds. It was difficult to ascertain whether there were one or two juvenile birds with an adult. In both groups the birds were huddled together against the cold. A Collared Sparrowhawk was seen very early in the walk and it sat on a low branch facing us displaying its long middle toes for all to see. A little later a Peregrine Falcon flew over. Other species included Long-billed Corella in a nesting hole that had previously been used by a Crimson Rosella, White-winged Chough, White-throated Treecreeper, eight species of honeyeaters including three Singing Honeyeaters positively seen flying and at rest and Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo. 15 black cockatoos were actually seen above a hill but the noise provided evidence of many more. A flock of between 150 and 400 birds has been seen feeding around here for some time.

Trevor Cowie

Future Excursions

Convener: Trevor Cowie

Email: fieldtrips@birdssa.asn.au

Tel: 08 8263 2531

Note: Lists of species recorded at the locations visited can be reviewed at www.birdpedia.com

HOT WEATHER PROTOCOL

If a fire ban is in effect or the forecast temperature is above 36C in the area of a scheduled walk, the walk is automatically considered cancelled. This does not apply to Salt Fields excursions, which will proceed whatever the temperature.

Sunday August 29

Rocky Gully (MLR) (70km)

This site is part of the Monarto Forest old growth area. Birds SA has been given access to record sighting on their behalf as well as for ourselves. We will meet at 8.30am. Starting from the South Monarto cross roads on the old Princes Highway, travel towards Murray Bridge for approx 5km. Turn left into Maurice Rd. Less than 2 km along this road you will note that you are beside a railway line and a rail crossing. Pull off here, this is the meeting point for Rocky Gully.

Saturday September 11

Black Hill CP (MLR) (12km)

This is quite a climb but worth it. Although it is uphill to start with, we will take a gentle pace. Meet at 8.30am at Addison Ave, which is the Athelstone entrance to the park. Parking space near the start is limited.

Thursday September 16

Moorundie Wildlife Park (MM) (97km)

We meet at Sedan in the car park by the general store at 8.30am. This wombat reserve of the Natural History Society is off the beaten track and has excellent bird life.

Sunday September 26

Redbanks CP (LN) (175km)

This can be a *weekend campout outing* as some camping facilities are available. There is a drop pit toilet and a limited, non-potable water supply. *Camping fees are not being applied.* Days for recording sightings will be from Friday to Monday. Travel to Burra and head east towards Morgan for approximately 5km then take a left turn to Redbanks/Coroona /Baldina Station. Keep on this road for 8km and Redbanks CP will be on your right. On entering the park, turn left to the camping area. Meet at 8.30 for the main Sunday walk.

Saturday October 9

Bakara CP (MM) (155km)

Meet at 8.45am. To get there, travel approximately 31km east from Swan Reach on the Loxton Road. This should bring you to a crossroad (left/north is to Waikerie) where we will meet. We will travel approximately 3km right/south from here.

Thursday October 14

Cox Scrub CP (MLR) (66km)

The park is situated on the Ashbourne to Goolwa road, about 6km south of Ashbourne. Meet at the northern end car park at 8.30am.

Sunday October 31

Monarto CP (MLR) (65km)

Meet at 8.15am in the car park. Take the SE Freeway from Adelaide. Leave the Freeway at Monarto South/Zoo ramp. Turn right across the bridge and proceed a few Km south. The car park is on the right at the beginning of the park.

Saturday November 13

Mark Oliphant CP. (Formerly Loftia) (MLR) (21km)

Meet at 8.30am at the entrance off Scott Creek Road, about 1.5km south of Heathfield.

Thursday November 18

Inman River estuary & old sewage area. (Victor Harbor – MLR) (105km)

Meet 8.30am at Barker Reserve car park, Victor Harbor, on the corner of Bay Rd and Victoria St, across the road from the Council Office. (enter from Bay Rd). UBD map 309 M15.

Sunday November 28: Pooginook CP (Riverland) (MM) (175km)

Meet at 8.45am on the Waikerie to Taylorville Road just across the ferry at Waikerie. Camping may be possible but individual permission should be obtained.

Saturday December 11: Reedy Creek (Waterfall Reserve) (MM) (85km)

Meet at 8.15am in the reserve's car park. The entrance road is on the Mannum side of the bridge over Reedy Creek, approximately 7km south of Mannum or 22km north of Murray Bridge.

Thursday December 16: Laratinga (Mt. Barker) Wetlands (MLR) (34km)

Meet at 8.30am at the car park on Bald Hills Road, Mt. Barker.

Future Excursions of Port Augusta BOCA Group

All Visitors Welcome

Sunday 15th August – Telowie Gorge meet in car-park 8.00am

Sat. 18th Sun. 19th September – Camp at Cooyerdoo Shearers Quarters — Bring swags & tucker. Meet at tanks near Iron Knob turn-off 9am.

Sunday 17th October – Whyalla Con Park/Pt. Lowly meet at turn off 7.30m

For further information contact

Peter: 8642 5723

or Greg: 8648 6882

or Shirley: 8642 4013

Bird Records

Records included here are of species listed as 'uncommon, rarely observed' or having not previously been recorded in the regions of South Australia as shown in the 4th edition of *A Field List of the Birds of South Australia*. Also included are interesting breeding or ecological notes, new records for a well known locality, and first of the season records of migratory species. Send all reports to C Rogers at *twitcheer_colin@hotmail.com* or 83363325 or MOB 0417 896 977

Malleefowl

05/05/2010. One was on the Royston Track, Innes NP, YP.

Teresa Jack.

Brown Quail

10/06/2010. Seven were in the Reedy Creek/Blackford Railway Reserve, SE.

Bryan Haywood & Phil Barron.

11/06/2010. Seven were in Butcher Gap, CP, SE.

Birds SE outing.

18/06/2010. Four were in the Onkaparinga CP, near gate 10.

Peter Pfeiffer.

24/06/2010. Four were in Mary Seymour CP, SE.

Jack Bourne.

18/07/2010. Four were 30km northeast of Kingston, SE.

Kevin Bartram.

9/08/2010. Six were on Granite Island, Victor Harbor.

Kevin Tracey.

Black-bellied Storm Petrel

09/05/2010. One was over the continental shelf on the pelagic from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

Grey-headed Albatross

26/06/2010. A first year bird was at 38 27 S 140 38E on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

Buller's Albatross

23/05/2010. Eighteen were over the continental shelf on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

Broad-billed Prion

23/05/2010. One was over the continental shelf on the pelagic from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

Antarctic Prion

23/05/2010. Several were over the continental shelf on the pelagic trip off Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers.

05/06/2010. One was found in Piccaninnie Ponds CP, SE.

Cathy Houston *et al.*

Slender-billed Prion

26/06/2010. At least one was over the continental shelf on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

18/07/2010. One was photographed on the pelagic trip from Cape Jaffa, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

Fiordland Penguin

16/07/2010. An immature bird was recovered from the beach at Victor Harbor, FP.

Aaron Machado.

This bird died on 20 July.

20/07/2010. A second immature was recovered from Victor Harbor beach but died later that day.

Aaron Machado.

Australasian Bittern

09/05/2010. One was at Greenfields Wetlands, Magazine Road, AP.

Kevin Tracey & Lizzie Dodd.

Two or three were at Greenfields Wetlands in July and August.

Intermediate Egret

05/07/2010. Two were at Pick Swamp, Piccaninnie Ponds area, SE.

Ken Jones & Gwen Young.

Eastern Reef Egret

26/11/2009. One was at Fowlers Bay CP, EP.

David Kowalick.

20/05/2010. One was at Aldinga Reef, MLR

Martyn Price.

Eastern Osprey

22/05/2010. One was at Old Noarlunga, Onkaparinga, FP

Teresa Jack.

16/07/2010.

One was on the Onkaparinga River, Port Noarlunga.

Teresa Jack.

18/07/2010. One flew over the Myponga River, MLR, near the bridge, and then flew 500m upstream.

Nathaniel & Jeremiah Doecke.

Letter-winged Kite

22/06/2010. Two pairs were nesting near the Strzelecki Track, NE.

Steve Potter.

17/07/2010. One was in a tree with a nest near the Strzelecki Track, NE.

Peter Waanders.

Grey Falcon

23/06/2010. A pair was at Rocky Gully, near Murray Bridge, MM.

Jeff Philcox.

25/06/2010. One was on a tower near the Birdsville Track, NE.

Peter Waanders.

Brolga

22/06/2010. Two were in Nangwarry NFR, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

05/07/2010. Four were in Topperweins Plantation, east of Tarpeena, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

05/07/2010. One was at Pick Swamp, Piccaninnie Ponds area, SE.

Ken Jones & Gwen Young.

11/07/2010. One was in a paddock near Cygnet River KI.

Josh Berris.

An unusual record for KI.

Bird Records (cont)

Lewin's Rail

20/07/2010. Two were calling at Lake Edward, Glencoe, SE.

Bryan Haywood & T. Horn.

Spotless Crake

21/05/2010. One was in the River Torrens about 250 m downstream from the Morphett St Bridge, AP.

John Turner.

Australian Bustard

27/09/2009. Two crossed the track in coastal heath, Wandilla Beach, EP.

David Kowalick.

28/11/2009. One was at Scotts Bay, Fowlers Bay CP, EP.

David Kowalick.

01/04/2010. Two were in a paddock near the Port Lincoln jail, EP, and remained for about a month.

Colin Gill.

Bush Stone-Curlew

10/06/2010. One was calling at Bordertown Railway Reserve, upper SE.

Bryan Haywood.

Hooded Plover

05/05/2010. Two were at Browns Lake, Innes NP, YP.

Teresa Jack.

07/05/2010. Six were at Hardwick Bay Township, YP.

Teresa Jack.

11/06/2010. Eleven were at Lake George, Middle Lake, SE.

Maureen Christie *et al.*

9/08/2010. One was at Waitpinga Beach, MLR.

Kevin Stracey.

Eastern Curlew

09/07/2010. Eight were roosting at Price Saltfields, YP.

Colin Rogers.

Whimbrel

25/11/2009. One was at Fowlers Bay CP, EP.

David Kowalick.

22/05/2010. One was at Ewe Island, Coorong.

Kay Parkin *et al.*

23/05/2010. One was in the Goolwa Channel, Hindmarsh Island, Coorong.

Teresa Jack & Peter Gower.

04/07/2010. One was seen from Chappel Road, Hindmarsh Island, Murray Mouth.

Nathaniel Doecke.

15/06/2010. Two were roosting in Dry Creek Saltfields. AP.

Colin Rogers.

Terek Sandpiper

06/06/2010. One was at Long Point, Coorong.

Teresa Jack.

Grey-tailed Tattler

9/07/2010. Four were in Price Saltfields, YP.

Colin Rogers.

South Polar Skua

26/06/2010. One was at 38S 140E on the pelagic from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

White-fronted Tern

23/05/2010. Two were over the continental shelf on the pelagic from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers. *et al.*

Gull-billed Tern

23/05/2010. A juvenile was at Chappel road, Hindmarsh Island.

Teresa Jack & Peter Gower.

15/06/2010. One, in basic plumage, was in Dry Creek Saltfields, AP.

Colin Rogers.

04/07/2010. Two, in basic plumage, were in the Goolwa Channel, off Chappel Road, Hindmarsh Island.

Nathaniel Doecke.

White-winged Black Tern

22/05/2010. One was over Lake Alexandrina, near Mulgundawa.

Hilary Thompson.

Red-tailed Black Cockatoo

05/04/2010. At least 22 were in Bangham CP, SE.

Cathy Houston.

29/04/2010. Fifty-six were in Wandilo NFR, SE.

M. Whan.

23/05/2010. Twenty-eight were at Wild Dog Valley Road, Naracoorte, SE.

per A Hansford.

Gang-gang Cockatoo

10/06/2010. One was at Kangaroo Island Wilderness Retreat, near Flinders Chase NP, KI.

Craig Wickham.

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo

01/07/2010. Two were 5.5km east of Mantung, MM.

Phil Barron.

Orange-bellied Parrot

23/05/2010. One and possibly two, were at Ewe Island, Coorong.

Kay Parkin *et al.*

23/05/2010. Two were just south of Port MacDonnell, SE.

Bob Green.

25-26/07/2010. Three, two adult females and an immature were with up to 20 Elegant Parrots between Mark Point and Long Point, Coorong.

Colin Rogers & John Cox.

25/07/2010. Two were at Piccaninnie Ponds CP, SE.

Bob Green.

Powerful Owl

14&20/05/2010. Two were in Honeysuckle NFR, SE.

Wayne Bigg.

21/05/2010. One was calling in Wombat Flat NFR, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

22/05/2010. Two were calling in Honeysuckle NFR, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

23/06/2010. One was in Wombat Flat NFR, SE.

Bryan Haywood *et al.*

24-25/06/2010. One was calling in Kay NFR, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

Azure Kingfisher

21/06/2010. One was at Piccaninnie Ponds CP, SE.

R. Anderson.

Bird Records (cont)



Southern Scrub-robin

photographed by John Donkin at Monarto CP on 12/06/10

Western Gerygone

05/06/2010. One was along the Loxton Nature Trail, MM.
Helga Kieskamp.

Striped Honeyeater

15/05/2010. One was at Headings Landing near Paringa, RM.
Tony Russell.

Pied Honeyeater

27/11/2009. At least fifty were at Fowlers Bay, EP.
David Kowalick.

Blue-faced Honeyeater

28/06/2010. One was in a garden at Grange, Adelaide, AP.
Gwen Shaughnessy.

Description provided as the bird is well west of its range.

24/04/2010. At least 3 were in Bangham CP, SE.
Cathy Houston.

04/06/2010. One was at Bordertown, upper SE.
Cathy Houston.

Yellow Chat

26/07/2010. One was near the Birdsville Track, NE.
Mark McLaren.

Black Honeyeater

25/06/2010. One was near the Birdsville Track, NE.
Peter Waanders.

Black-chinned Honeyeater

26/04/2010. At least one was calling in Bangham CP, SE.
Cathy Houston.

Calls suggested at least two birds were present at the same location on 7 July.

07/05/2010. One was feeding in a tree on Jessie Road, Paralowie, AP.
Bill Alcock.

09/06/2010. Several were in Cadzow Scrub, Bangham, SE.
Bryan Haywood & Phil Barron.

White-fronted Honeyeater

10/06/2010. One was at Kaurna Park, AP.
John Cox.

An unusual record for the Adelaide Plains.

Pied Butcherbird

29/07/2010. One was at Clayton, LA.
Nathaniel Doecke.

7/08/2010. One was near Long Point, Coorong.
Colin Rogers.

Somewhat unusual southerly records.

Spangled Drongo

23/07/2010. One was on Arkaba Station, FR.
Katherine Mee.

Red-capped Robin

24/06/2010. One was at Whites Road Wetlands, AP.

John Seymour.

Red-capped Robins are known to roam during the winter months.

Bassian Thrush

28/05/2010. One was in Long NFR, SE.
Sue Black.

01/06/2010. A pair was in Mark Oliphant CP, MLR.
Nathaniel Doecke.

04/06/2010. One was in the Woolwash NFR, SE.
Bryan Haywood.

05/06/2010. One was at Mt Lyon, N of Glencoe, SE.
Sue Black.

19/06/2010. One was in the Woolwash NFR, SE.
Birds SE outing.

23/06/2010. One was calling in Kay NFR, SE.
Bryan Haywood.

27/06/2010. Two were in the pines near Honeysuckle NFR, SE.
Bill Alcock *et al.*

06/07/2010. One was on the Mireen Track, Cleland, CP, MLR.
Hilary Thompson.

RANKINS SPRINGS
BIRDS OF THE BUSH FESTIVAL

2nd Weekend in October
Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th October

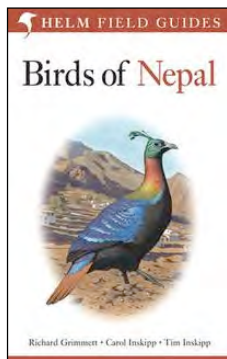
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Sean Dooley author of "The Big Twitch"
- Guided Bird Tours
- Spring Fair and Market Day
- Children's Rides and Activities
- Art and Photography Competitions and Exhibitions

A great family weekend

Enquiries Jenny: (02) 6965 3384
Stall Bookings Penny: (02) 6966 1259
Information: www.birdsofthebush.com
Email: birdsofthebush@yahoo.com.au



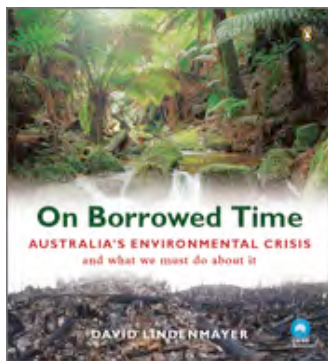
From the Library



Birds of Nepal, 2nd ed.

Grimmett, Richard, Inskipp, Carol & Tim Inskipp
London : Christopher Helm, 2009
ISBN 9780713651669

This is a field guide to 760 species of bird found in Nepal, which is one of the most popular trekking destinations in the world. It offers plates with text on facing pages for at-a-glance reference and covers identification, voice, habitat, altitudinal range, distribution and status.



On borrowed time

Lindenmayer, David
Camberwell, Vic : Penguin, 2007.
ISBN 9780143006961

In this powerful and passionate book, David Lindenmayer argues that Australia does have the knowledge and resources to tackle our environmental problems. He outlines creative and impressive solutions we can all be a part of. As one of Australia's leading ecologists, Professor Lindenmayer delivers a timely message about the scale and urgency of the crisis we face.



Shorebird management and conservation, July 2010

Adelaide & Mt Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board

This publication provides information on the long term management and conservation of shorebird sites and habitats of international significance between the Barker Inlet in the City of Port Adelaide Enfield and the northern boundary of the District Council of Mallala, near Middle Spit.



Birding Australia site guide: the South-East

Nielsen, Lloyd
Mt Molloy, Qld. : Lloyd Nielsen, 2006.
ISBN 0957988125

The regions covered in this guide include the area from north of Newcastle (NSW), across to the Flinders Ranges (SA), south to the western shores of the Eyre Peninsula (SA) and Tasmania. The sites listed are offered as a guide to regular birding sites but there is no guarantee that you will find the species listed.

From the Library (cont)



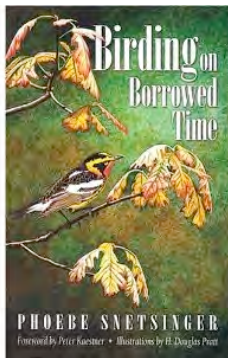
Invisible Connections: why migrating shorebirds need the Yellow Sea

Battley, Phil ...[et.al]

Collingwood, Vic. : CSIRO Publishing, 2010.

ISBN 9780643096592

This book invites you to discover the risks inherent in a shorebird's migratory lifestyle and the additional challenges created by expanding human populations. It reveals the crucial role that the shoreline of the Yellow Sea plays in shorebird migration and highlights the need for this unique and threatened habitat to be saved for future generations



Birding on borrowed time

Snetsinger, Phoebe

Colorado: American Birding Association, 2003.

ISBN 1878788418

This autobiography tells the remarkable story of Phoebe Snetsinger, the woman who succeeded in seeing over 8000 species of birds. This book is a chronicle of her birding adventures, detailing her quests and challenges, her passion and dedication to observing and learning about the world's thousands of bird species.

Photo Pages

Details of the photographs shown on pages 2, 18 and 19.

Photo No:	Bird Identification	Photographer	Location	Date
1	Eastern Rosella	Teresa Jack	Old Noarlunga	June 2010
2	Orange-bellied Parrot	Greg Dare	Melaleuca, Tasmania	28/12/2009
3	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos	John Pyle	Highbury	04/08/2010
4	Galah	Teresa Jack	Coorong	June 2010
5	Musk Lorikeet	John Donkin	Humbug Scrub	08/05/2010
6	Peregrine Falcon	Teresa Jack	Old Noarlunga	May 2020
7	Collared Sparrowhawk	John Turner	North Plympton	17/05/2010
8	Peregrine Falcon	Teresa Jack	Old Noarlunga	May 2020
9	Juvenile Spotted Harrier	Teresa Jack	Peeseey Swamp, near Warooka	July 2010
10	White-fronted Honeyeater	Margie Tiller	Wilmington, Wally Klau's garden	22/06/2010
11	Horsefield's Bronze Cuckoo	Teresa Jack	Coorong	June 2010
12	White-fronted Honeyeater	Greg Dare	The Grasswren Bird Hide, Gluepot	4/04/2010
13	Red-browed Firetails	Peter Mckenzie	Mount Compass	1/08/2010
14	Golden-headed Sisticola	Teresa Jack	Onkaparinga River	10/06/2010
15	Spotted Pardalote	Karen Donkin	Monarto	12/06/2010
16	Red Wattlebird	Greg Dare	The Grasswren Bird Hide, Gluepot	3/04/2010
17	Yellow-plumed Honeyeater	Greg Dare	The Grasswren Bird Hide, Gluepot	3/04/2010
18	Silvereye	John Spiers	Scott Conservation Park	11/07/2010
19	Redthroat	John Turner	Caroona Crk. Conservation Pk.	29/04/2010

Bird Articles from the 'Messenger'

The two articles below were published in the 'Your Garden' section of a recent edition of the 'Messenger'. Since they are of interest to members of Birds SA, the Association has obtained permission to reproduce them in this Newsletter.



Keep magpies off the attack

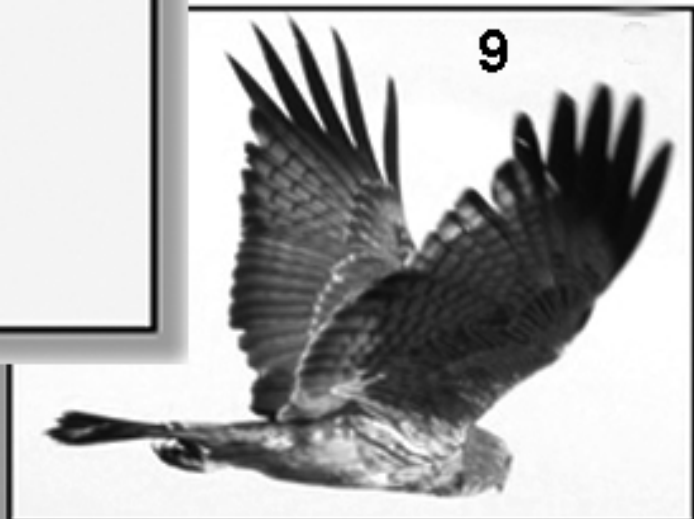
MAGPIE nesting season is almost here. When walking in open places, be on the alert for protective maggies that tend to swoop on anything that moves. I have found the best protection is a pair of sunglasses worn on the top of your head. I understand the birds think they are being watched, and that is enough to prevent them from attacking.



Food for birds

LARGE, winter-flowering gum trees are not the only plants that provide nectar to honeyeaters. Large native shrubs, such as *Grevillea 'Winpara Gem'*, *Hakea francisiana* and many callistemon, or bottlebrush, varieties grow well on heavy clay loam soils. Dryandras and banksias also have a rich nectar supply right now, but they grow best on light sandy soils.

Raptors Page



Bush Birds Page



Wally Klau OAM



Walter (Wally) Klau OAM and his 'Banding Assistant' wife Betty at their home gate Wilmington, South Australia

In the Queen's Birthday Honours for 2010 Wally Klau, a long-time member of Birds SA, was awarded the Order Of Australia Medal for his services to Ornithology through his work as a bird bander.

Wally was born in 1936 at Loxton in the Riverland into a farming family. Both his father and grandfather were born in Australia from Prussian migrants who arrived in South Australia in the 19th Century and farmed in the Adelaide Hills. Wally only spoke German until he was 7 years old when the school inspector turned up at the farm to find out why Wally was not attending school. He subsequently attended up to grade 7. His introduction to the world of ornithology was started when his family moved to a farm at Koolunga and the Country Lending Service of the State Library provided him with a copy of Neville Cayley's book *What Bird Is That?* Wally says he poured over that book for most of the six weeks allowed by the loan. Some years later he was stationed at Kalgoorlie in Western Australia and he was able to buy a second-hand copy from a colleague. By this time Wally was well and truly hooked on finding and observing birds. He was employed by South Australian Railways and later by Australian National Railways with whom he spent many years until his retirement as a driver on the trans-continental line between Sydney and Perth. He never tired of the extraordinary beauty of the Nullarbor.

In 1977, seeking to obtain a banding licence, he was advised by the CSIRO to join the South Australian Ornithological Association (now Birds SA) and he joined on 29th July. He obtained his banding licence in 1983 after training by Peter Congreve and others.

During a camping visit to Cape York he was recruited by David Baker-Gabb to undertake banding at the Gluepot Reserve in South Australia, an activity that has now been his focus for a long period of time. Wally is an essential and much loved component of life at Gluepot. He has banded many species of mallee birds there and conducted courses on bird identification and banding techniques.

We hope that Wally and Betty will come to one of the monthly meetings of Birds SA, so that we can hear at first hand some of his stories from the bush and even join with him as he plays his piano accordion in a session of 'foot stomping music'.

Prepared by Rodney Attwood

Opportunities for bird watchers to expand their activities

for the benefit of birds

1. Reporting of leg bands/flags
2. Shorebirds 2020 counts
3. Important Bird Areas (IBAs)
- 4 Bird Records

1. Reporting of leg bands/flags

Report leg bands/flags on any species of bird that you come across in your travels. Note the Location and species you have seen.

Report these sightings in South Australia to the Department of Environment & Natural Resources (DENR).

<http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/>. Birds SA supports the transfer of information to DENR and www.birdpedia.com

Leg flags on migratory shorebirds

The position of the metal band is not required to determine the flagging location, and may vary from that shown.

For two-colour flag combinations the flag position sometimes varies as follows:

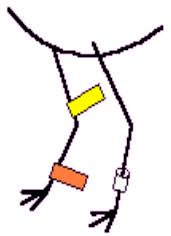
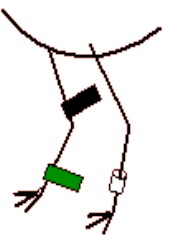

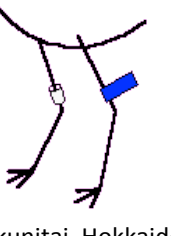

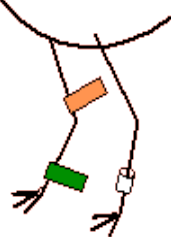
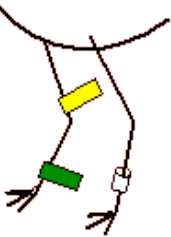
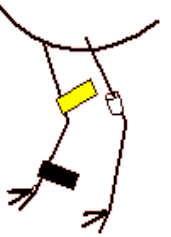
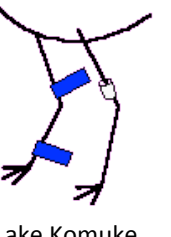

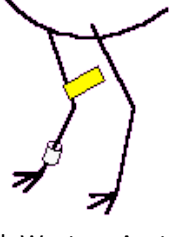




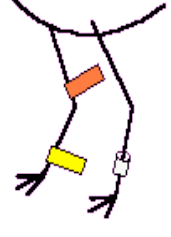
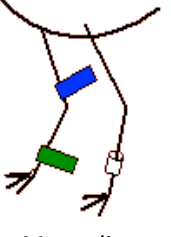


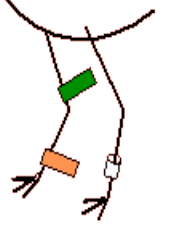
- On large waders, the flags are usually both placed on the tibia;
- On smaller waders one flag is placed on the tibia and one on the tarsus.



Examples of engraved number/letter types and combinations. image: © 2007 APSN.

Engraved numbers and/or letters are now being used on many of the new flags. These will identify the date and place where the bird was flagged. Please report all sightings.

<p>Victoria</p>	<p>New Zealand South Island</p>	<p>Phillipines</p>	<p>Wrangel Island – Siberia</p>	<p>North Chukotka - Siberia</p>
<p>Tasmania</p>	<p>Singapore</p>	<p>Chongmin Dao - China (old)</p>	<p>Taiwan</p>	<p>Cambodia & Inner Gulf Thailand</p>

 South Western Australia	 Thailand	 Chongmin Dao - China (new)	 Shunkunitai, Hokkaido - Japan	 Sakhalin Island - Siberia
 New South Wales	 Vietnam	 Kamchatka – Siberia	 Lake Komuke, Hokkaido - Japan	 Obitsu - Japan
 North Western Australia	 Alaska - USA	 Hong Kong - China	 Tong Jing - Korea	 Indonesia
 South Australia	 Mongolia	 New Zealand North Island	 Sumatra - Indonesia	 Northern Yellow Sea

Also view www.birdpedia.com for other information.

Trevor Cowie fieldtrips@birdssa.asn.au

2. Shorebirds 2020 counts

The Shorebirds 2020 counts will continue this 2010/2011 season and the intent is for at least 3 counts to take place. The activities of the previous 12 months period have been collated so we can look forward to some details in the near future.

I and the other SA coordinators are keen to have more counters out there enjoying these counts. After all why should we deprive you of the chance to enjoy, and learn more about, shorebirds and waterbirds generally. It is fair to say that many more SA birders now have a greater appreciation of shorebirds.

A little (very large!) problem I have is that my Excel file of all people involved and the location they counted has vanished from my computer. I do have loads of emails and papers with all this information, but it will take some time to rewrite who's doing what and where. I therefore **BEG** each of you to email to me exactly where you count and with whom. It will save me hours, so if you want to be nice to me feel free to do so.

I again ask for members all around the state to think about joining in and bringing someone else along to the shorebird counts. Anybody can contact me and I will ensure that the local coordinator is advised of your wish to join this project. As has been stated before, even if you have problems identifying shorebirds it's a great way to learn by recording the count on paper as they are called to you, and you can get help from the counters on how to identify species. Trevor Cowie

3. Important Bird Areas (IBAs)

IBAs have been created in Australia in areas vital to the survival of many threatened species.

This has been achieved in most countries around the world by BirdLife International and its partners, with Birds Australia being the Australian partner of BirdLife International. Rio Tinto Australia sponsored the project.

Many of you will be aware that Birds SA took on the challenge to get the groundwork done in liaison with Birds Australia. Birds South-East have taken on the surveys for five IBAs south of a line from Tailem Bend to Pinnaroo

As IBAs are now established there is an obligation to carry out a survey of the listed species during each four-year period. This will be more of a simple counting situation than a high-tech approach. It would be appreciated if those who have some skills in counting can also teach/train the rest of us in methods. This would increase our members' willingness and enjoyment in carrying out the task and have people out there doing something both enjoyable and for the benefit of the birds.

It therefore goes without saying too much that I am seeking members to sign up with me for this IBA surveying opportunity.

Following are the South Australian IBAs involved with basic information. I will send individual information sheets by email to those that request details of individual sites. I look forward to hearing from as many of you as possible.

Trevor Cowie. Tel: 08 8263 2531. Email: fieldtrips@birdssa.asn.au

IBA No & Location	Sit National Code and Area	Sit - Lat	Sit - Long	Location (distance approx)
24330 - Billiatt CP	SA001 59089	-34.97683333	140.4695	170 km east of Adelaide.
24333 - Boolcoomatta, Bindarra & Kalkaroo Stations	SA002 140232	-31.89633333	140.5976667	275 km east-north-east of Port Augusta.
25109 - Bulgunnia	SA003 1849104	-30.128	135.2513333	135 km south-south-east of Coober Pedy.
25112 - Coffin Bay	SA004 34582	-34.59333333	135.3323333	55 km west of Port Lincoln.
24445 - Coongie Lakes	SA005 59318	-27.09933333	140.1938333	80 km north-west of Innamincka.
23939 - Coorong	SA006 49697	-35.9875	139.4421667	150 km south-east of Adelaide.
25101 - Flinders Ranges	SA007 91840	-31.3935	138.6636667	140 km north-east of Port Augusta.
25102 - Gammon Ranges & Arkaroola	SA008 189228	-30.4	139.28	75 km north-east of Leigh Creek.
25103 - Gawler Ranges	SA009 166150	-32.5845	135.4456667	200 km west of Port Augusta.
23982 - Goose Island (Spencer Gulf)	SA010 35	-34.45833333	137.3718333	115 km north-west of Adelaide.
25115 - Goyder Lagoon	SA011 268419	-26.78433333	139.1336667	200 km north-west of the top of Lake Eyre.
25118 - Granite Downs	SA012 55183	-27.017	133.5208333	115 km north-west of Coober Pedy.
25116 - Gulf St Vincent	SA013 25557	-34.44366667	138.255	Eastern fringe of gulf north of Adelaide
26479 - Gum Lagoon	SA014 8866	-36.26783333	140.0733333	100 km north-west of Naracoorte.
24721 - Investigator Islands	SA015 4603	-33.72583333	134.502	350 km south-west of Port Augusta.
23940 - Kangaroo Island	SA016 441247	-35.828	137.242	180 km south-west of Adelaide.
24442 - Lake Eyre	SA017 930488	-28.59866667	137.3131667	450 km north of Port Augusta.
24823 - Lake Hawdon System	SA018 37420	-37.27616667	139.9263333	100 km north-west of Mount Gambier.
25117 - Lake Newland	SA019 8922	-33.4205	134.8588333	250 km west of Whyalla.

24826 - Lake Torrens	SA020	579674	-30.99433333	137.7465	160 km north of Port Augusta.
26483 - Lakes Alexandrina & Albert	SA021	130085	-35.4745	139.1806667	40 km south of Murray Bridge. 45 km north-east of Leigh Creek.
24558 - Mount Lyndhurst	SA022	9291	-30.192	138.6346667	
23983 - Nuyts Archipelago	SA023	10990	-32.329	133.6253333	415 km west of Port Augusta.
26492 - Peebinga	SA024	3369	-34.9875	140.8211667	175 km south-west of Mildura.
25121 - Seagull Lake (Eyre Peninsula)	SA025	88	-32.9595	134.214	17 km south of Streaky Bay.
23941 - Sir Joseph Banks Islands	SA026	1275	-34.594	136.2991667	230 km west of Adelaide in Spencer Gulf.
26480 - Southern Yorke Peninsula	SA027	34787	-35.18466667	137.0128333	150 km south-west of Adelaide.
25122 - Spencer Gulf	SA028	46038	-33.30316667	137.8945	Approx 90 km of the eastern fringe of the top of Spencer Gulf commencing opposite Whyalla.
24575 - Strzelecki Desert Lakes	SA029	234155	-29.06166667	139.3905	140 km north and east of Marree.
25123 - Tourville & Murat Bays	SA030	11689	-32.14366667	133.4946667	18 km west of Ceduna.
23984 - Troubridge Island	SA031	8	-35.123	137.8271667	20 km south-east of Yorketown on Yorke Peninsula.
25124 - Venus Bay	SA032	8259	-33.18816667	134.6465	310 km south-west of Port Augusta.
26318 - Watervalley Wetlands	SA033	13131	-36.29066667	139.9291667	145 km south-east of Murray Bridge.
23985 - Wedge Island	SA034	947	-35.1575	136.467	35 km west of the south-west tip of Yorke Peninsula.
24572 - Riverland Mallee	SA-NSW001	1221766	-33.44766667	140.8821667	140 km north-west of Mildura.
26495 - Simpson Desert	QLD-SA001	2284817	-25.0005	138.1898333	Section of the desert (Qld) along the NT border from Boulia in the north to Birdsville in the south.
25113 - Discovery Bay to Piccaninnie Ponds	VIC-SA001	10121	-38.179	141.2215	Coastal fringe from east of Port Macdonnell in South Australia to west of Portland in Victoria.
24578 - Wyperfeld, Big Desert & Ngarkat	VIC-SA002	974268	-35.63016667	141.3148333	180 km south-west of Mildura.
Indicates covered by Birds SE	Note: The above covers 61 bird species				Trevor Cowie

4. Bird Records

There has been an increase of bird lists being received following the article in the Birds SA Newsletter of May 2010 (page 6). The SAOA/Birds SA now has Birdpedia receiving bird lists on their behalf and to also forward these details onto DENR for state records.

Birdpedia has also arranged the direct transfer of bird list sightings information to RAOU/Birds Australia for the ongoing Australian Atlas. Other items are also being considered.

I extend special thanks to those already sending in details. Keep up the flow and encourage others to do so. It is of course understood that not all of our members have computers, and those that do may not feel at ease trying to follow the process on birdpedia. So perhaps if one of your birding friends needs help please give it to them, there are many lists out there with important data. Likewise if you need help, feel free to ask for it from those around you. They will not let you down.

For all your future lists please also consider entering a few notes such as time/date/bird numbers/weather conditions and a GPS reading if available. Not mandatory.

Trevor Cowie