

# Birds SA



# Newsletter

No 227

August 2013



**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 objectives.

# A Pair of Raptors

Details of these photographs will be found on p17



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### CENTRE INSERT

SAOA HISTORICAL SERIES NUMBER 45,  
JOHN SUTTON, Part 2

## SAOA COMMITTEE 2013 – 2014

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Member	Lou Bartley-Clements	0418858037
Member	Robert Rowland	83881790
Member	Jody Gates	83916342
Member	Rebecca Zanker	0413426355

## 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.

Sept 1	Sunday	Excursion to Narrinyeri Hills
Sept 14	Saturday	Excursion to Laratinga Wetlands
Sept 19	Thursday	Excursion to Manning Flora & Fauna Reserve
Sept 27	Friday	General Meeting
Sept 29	Sunday	Excursion to Black Hill CP

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Thurs Oct 3 to Mon 7	Campout at Bimbowrie	
Oct 12	Saturday	Excursion to Brookfield CP
Oct 17	Thursday	Excursion to Talisker CP and area
Oct 25	Friday	General Meeting
Oct 27	Sunday	Excursion to Clements Gap CP

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Nov 9	Saturday	Excursion to Reedy Creek
Nov 21	Thursday	Excursion to Kaiser Stuhl CP
Nov 29	Friday	General Meeting — Members' Night

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Dec 1	Sunday	Excursion to Scott Creek CP
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**Cover photo:** Mistletoebird photographed by Kay Parkin between Kununurra and Mitchell Falls in WA during July 2013.

*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 21 new members who have recently joined the Association. Their names are listed on p13.

## FURTHER USEFUL CONTACTS

Librarian	Karen Donkin	0402123960
Image Librarian	John Spiers	8333 0272
	email <a href="mailto:imagelibrarian@birdssa.asn.au">imagelibrarian@birdssa.asn.au</a>	
Campout Organiser	Graham Bate	8270 3041

## RELATED ASSOCIATIONS

### BirdLife Southeast SA

Convenor, — Bob Green      [shriketit@bigpond.com](mailto:shriketit@bigpond.com) 8725 0549  
IBA Coordinator/Newsletter Editor — Bryan Haywood  
[brytonwood@bigpond.com](mailto:brytonwood@bigpond.com) 8726 8112

### Fleurieu Birdwatchers

Contact Person Judith Dyer      8555 2736  
Email [dyer.jm@gmail.com](mailto:dyer.jm@gmail.com)

**WEBSITE** [birdssa.asn.au](http://birdssa.asn.au)

## 2013 SAOA SUBSCRIPTIONS

Single membership	\$50
Family/household membership	\$60
Single concession*	\$45
Family/household concession*	\$55

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 (October 25). Contributions, 'Word' format preferred, can be recorded on a CD, emailed to either of my email addresses, or typed/handwritten neatly.

- [newslettereditor@birdssa.asn.au](mailto:newslettereditor@birdssa.asn.au)
- [cpy62284@bigpond.net.au](mailto:cpy62284@bigpond.net.au)

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# President's Letter

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## LIFESTYLES, ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINTS AND SHOWING SOME LEADERSHIP

If you drive to the north, south or east of Adelaide, the one striking image you see as you traverse the landscape is the extent to which the original vegetation has been cleared. As a reasonable approximation something around 80% of the arable land has been cleared across south-eastern Australia. In South Australia, it is probably closer to 90%. The rate of change as well as the extent of change is staggering — it has happened in less than the generation time for a large river red gum. Even during some years in the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the amount of habitat cleared in a year was equivalent to clearing an 8km wide strip of native vegetation from Adelaide to Melbourne! Although broadscale vegetation clearance has now largely ceased at least in South Australia (with a few exceptions), this loss of habitat has left an extinction debt in many areas. An extinction debt is an area in which the quantity of habitat that remains is ultimately inadequate to support the full range of species that originally occurred within a district or region. The species do not disappear immediately but sometime after the clearing. The forerunner for these losses is the on-going declines in species. Even once widespread and common species have started to decline. The majority of you will have heard about a suite of woodland birds that are declining across southern Australia. In the Mt Lofty region, which is an isolated woodland system near Adelaide, the declines have resulted in some species already becoming regionally extinct. Species such as the Regent Honeyeater, Azure Kingfisher, Spotted Quail-thrush and Little Lorikeet are just some examples. We have been aware of this for some time but we are doing very little to reverse the likely losses of species.

For the Mt Lofty region the losses are likely to amount to the disappearance of about 50 species. Most of us would expect governments to lead the way in addressing large-scale regional problems, such as inadequate amounts of habitat. However, if we look at recent form, although there may be recovery plans and action plans for some species, the plans are not implemented or the few that are implemented are not given sufficient funding to succeed. In South Australia the state government continues to slash the environment budget, down from 3% of the state

*Those of us who care about the environment should take the lead. We all have a duty of care to look after our biodiversity.*

budget 6-7 years ago to 1.7% in the recent budget. The prospect of governments leading the way seems improbable and in the current climate we should not expect any changes. It is staggering to see how quickly concerns for the environment have slipped down the list of priorities. If governments are not likely to lead the way, the community needs to be the champion. How many of you, for example are offsetting your ecological footprints?

You might ask. "What is an ecological footprint?"

An ecological footprint is the quantity of natural resources (energy, water, land) needed to support our life-styles or businesses. Ecological footprints are often expressed as an area measured in global hectares, and the average Australian has an ecological footprint equivalent to 6.6-7.8 global hectares per person. This is up to 2.8 times the global average of 2.7ha per capita and well above the sustainable level for the

globe, which is estimated to be 2.1ha with the current global human population. About 50% of the ecological footprint is the carbon footprint.

What contributes to your ecological footprint? Just about everything you do, but let me put this into some broad categories:

- Your house – its size, the materials used for its construction, the extent of insulation, and how you heat and cool your living space.
- Your vehicle(s) – not just the size or capacity, but the extent of use and the numbers of them.
  - Your diet, in terms of the food that you eat, the beverages that you drink, and the food kilometres used in getting those foods and beverages to you. Yes one should consider the resources used to produce a steak, a bottle of wine and so forth.
- Your pets – a pet dog for example has a substantial ecological footprint.
- How you dispose of unwanted materials as well as the types of materials you use in the first place and whether they are recycled.
- Lastly, the frequency with which you fly adds substantially to your ecological footprint.

Now everybody will have a slightly different mix of these, and so everyone's footprint is slightly different.

So what about offsetting your ecological footprint and how much might this cost? Some of us might reduce our footprints by installing solar panels or sourcing green energy and some people will opt to pay a little extra to offset their carbon footprint when they fly, but these are just components of the footprint. As indicated earlier about 50% of an ecological footprint is the carbon footprint, and this can be used as a basis for calculating the costs of offsetting the ecological footprint. For most of us, our individual carbon footprints are probably in the range

# President's Letter (cont) | Birds SA Notes & News

of 5-20 tonnes per annum. The long-term carbon price will probably be in the range of \$10-20 per tonne, although it might be lower or higher than this at times. Thus offsetting an individual's carbon footprint would cost about \$200 per annum and so offsetting an ecological footprint will cost around \$400 per annum – just \$1 a day. This is equivalent to a about a quarter of one cup of coffee a day, or a few sips of wine per day, so most of us can afford to do this. So where should the \$1-a-day go. There are many organisations that offer tree planting as a way of sequestering carbon to offset carbon emissions, but simply planting trees does not eliminate or really address the area of land that is being used to support your way of life. Such plantings tend to consist of planting a few species in agroforestry-style plantings that are not overly valuable to wildlife. In these plantings one is simply locking up land to grow carbon and some would argue that this is still part of your footprint. A far better way would be to use the \$1-a-day offset to build habitat for wildlife. Habitats for wildlife are diverse plantings, diverse in both the numbers of plant species included, but also in how the plants are arranged into varying densities and dispersions. These diverse plantings still capture carbon, but the carbon is not the focus, the focus is on building habitats that address the shortage of habitat for wildlife such as the declining woodland birds.

A single person offsetting their ecological footprint in this way will not make a difference but if many people did, then this approach would make a difference. Those of us who have lived most of our lifespan probably have some catching up to do to offset our lifetime ecological footprint and that should really be our goal, but at the very least we should be willing to live out our lives in an ecologically neutral way. Instead of complaining about the lack of government investment in the environment, become part of the solution by offsetting your ecological footprint at \$1 a day. One place where you can do this and claim tax

deductibility is through a non-profit entity known as BioR ([www.bior.org.au](http://www.bior.org.au)). BioR builds habitat for wildlife and operates in South Australia. BioR currently works with DEWNR supporting habitat reconstruction on farming properties on Kangaroo Island. The web site provides methods for establishing regular automatic payments for offsetting ecological footprints, as well as other ways of contributing. Do it for the birds!

**David Paton**

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## **BIRDS SA NOTES & NEWS**

### **YOUR CONTACT DETAILS**

Please advise the Association of any changes to your name, address, email address or telephone number by emailing

[membership@birdssa.asn.au](mailto:membership@birdssa.asn.au)

**Brian Walker**

### **IMAGE LIBRARY REQUEST**

In the past six months the Image Library has provided images to be used by Seacliff Primary School and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources. Many of our images are to be used in a new phone App being developed by the South Australian Museum. It has also provided the images to be used in the Schools Education programme being developed by Merinda Hyland and Lou Bartley-Clements. The Image Library is playing its part in getting our birds known but we need more images. If you have any good bird photographs regardless of the species, will you please consider donating them to the library? There are gaps in our coverage of the less common birds and it is always useful to have several copies of commoner bird species. One does not want to be handing out the same photo of a Rainbow Lorikeet, for example, each time there is a request. The images are provided free to appropriate organisations but we ask that the photographers be acknowledged.

You can either e-mail your images to me at [john\\_b\\_spiers@hotmail.com](mailto:john_b_spiers@hotmail.com) or hand them to me on a CD or USB

drive at a General Meeting. The larger the file size the better. Some images are used to make posters or appear in magazines where a good quality image is important.

**John Spiers**

### **YOUR BIRD RECORDS**

I am sure that many of you keep records of the birds you see but what do you do with them? They are a valuable source of information and it is a pity if they are not put to good use. ALL your records can be added to the Birds SA database and subsequently the Biological Data Base of South Australia (BDBSA). In particular I am looking for the South Australian Birds - Field Cards i.e. "the little blue book" which many of you used to record sightings. You can bring them along to the general meetings or just post them to Brian Blaylock, Birds SA, c/- SA Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide, 5000.

If you have other records on a spreadsheet, database or just handwritten we would be happy to get them before they are lost. Electronic records can be sent to [secretary@birdssa.asn.au](mailto:secretary@birdssa.asn.au)

Your hard copy records will be returned to you after the data has been added to the database.

**Brian Blaylock, Secretary**

### **EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Education Sub Committee would like to invite any members that are interested in participating in a practice lesson, as part of the development stage of our School Education Program. Prior to the September General Meeting, at 7-7.30pm sharp, Merinda, Terri and Lou will run through a lesson about birds aimed at school children aged 5-7. You only need to be part of our "classroom" and think like a student; children, grandchildren etc also very welcome. We will appreciate feedback, questions and assistance with our professional development. We hope you can support us!

**Lou Bartley-Clements**

# Birds SA Notes & News (cont) | Miscellaneous Items

## CONSERVATION SUB-COMMITTEE

The past three months have been a busy period for the sub-committee. The chief items that captured our attention were

- **Permits from DEWNR to destroy wildlife.**

The sub-committee met with Mike Greig and Fiona Fuhlbohm of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR). A report of this meeting is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

- **Places You Love Campaign.**

As part of the campaign members were asked to e-mail or write to Mark Butler, the new Commonwealth Environment Minister and to Prime Minister Rudd to remind them of their environmental responsibilities and the fact that there are thousands of voters out there who are concerned about the actions of Liberal State Governments and the push by business to cut back on environmental assessments. A strategy for the election and afterwards is awaited from the executive of the Alliance

- **Threats to the Saltfields.**

The fact that salt production in South Australia had ceased as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013 was noted. Letters to the respective State and Federal Ministers for the Environment have been sent. These letters point to the high risk of habitat destruction in the short term if no action is taken and underlines the responsibilities of both the SA and Federal Governments to maintain the habitat provided by this important wetland.

- **Cox Scrub fire.**

A letter has been sent to the South Australian Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation Ian Hunter with a copy to the Federal Minister. Our President, David Paton, will be meeting Allan Holmes, Chief Executive of DEWNR to discuss the matter further.

**John Spiers**

## GLOSSY BLACK-COCKATOO CENSUS ON KANGAROO ISLAND

**27-29 September 2013**

South Australian glossies form an endangered cockatoo sub-species found only on Kangaroo Island. A Recovery Program was started in 1995 to reduce threats to their survival and increase the population size. Every year Natural Resources Kangaroo Island staff co-ordinate a census to monitor the size and structure of the population.

Volunteers are invited to take part in the census, which this year will be conducted between 27 and 29 September (Friday – Sunday). This is a fun event and no prior birding experience is required, as staff will provide all training. Volunteers are positioned in strategic locations across known glossy flocking sites in the mid-late afternoon and all the birds seen leading up to dusk are recorded.

Volunteers are welcome to take part in any or all of the census days!

Travel to the island is by either ferry via Cape Jervis (both passenger and car; [www.sealink.com.au](http://www.sealink.com.au)) or plane via Adelaide Airport ([www.rex.com.au](http://www.rex.com.au)). There are a number of accommodation options on the island, ranging from 5-star lodges to backpackers (check out <http://www.tourkangarooisland.com.au/accommodation/p85.aspx> for some hints). Unfortunately the Glossy Recovery Program has limited funding and cannot assist volunteers with travel or accommodation costs.

To register your interest, or obtain more information, please contact Dai Morgan [dai.morgan@sa.gov.au](mailto:dai.morgan@sa.gov.au); 08 85534406 [wk]; 0427291457 [mob].

**David Paton**

## SHOREBIRD ACTIVITIES

**Sat 21/Sun 22 Sept — Shorebirds 2020 I.D. Workshop/Bittern Survey**

Venue: The Bool (if there is water there!) – Based at Killanoola Shearers Quarters.

Alternative Venue: Pick Swamp – Based at the Shearing Shed.

Final decision on venue to be made in August.

Planning is still in early stages, but the tentative format at the moment is:

Sat: Bitterns. Commencing with afternoon tea at 2pm.

Sun: Waders and Wetland Birds and Optics. All day.

Register your interest with Golo from the Shorebirds 2020 team. [shorebirds@birdlife.org.au](mailto:shorebirds@birdlife.org.au)

## **Fri 1Nov – 6Nov. Retrieval of Geolocators From Turnstones.**

We put 20 geolocators on turnstones at Nene Valley in April. In November we hope to retrieve them! Based at Carpenter Rocks.

**Tues 12Nov – 19Nov. Eyre Peninsula.** Targets: turnstone, sanderling and oystercatchers. 12th & 13th Nov travel to Streaky Bay, catching 14th – 18th inclusive, and travelling to Thompsons Beach on 19Nov.

**Sun 17Nov – 25Nov Thompsons Beach.** Target Red Knot. Roger Standen (plus the Vic team) leave home on Sunday 17th Nov, arriving Thompsons Beach that evening. Reccie's Monday and Tuesday. The Eyre Peninsula team arrives Tuesday evening. We catch Wednesday. Through to Sunday. We all go home on Monday 25th November.

## **FLAG SIGHTINGS — PLEASE NOTE CHANGED REPORTING DETAILS**

Oystercatcher flag/coloured band sightings to be made to David Trudgen — [trudgen@iinet.net.au](mailto:trudgen@iinet.net.au). Turnstone engraved flag sightings and Hooded Plover colour flagged sightings made Vic coast through to Kingston — [twinpeppercorns@gmail.com](mailto:twinpeppercorns@gmail.com). All other flag sightings — whenever possible — via the AWSG website - <http://www.awsg.org.au/reportform.php>. If required, email contact - [flagging@aws.org.au](mailto:flagging@aws.org.au). Roger Standen has taken on the huge task of managing the AWSG flag data base.

## **DON'T FORGET OUR WEEKLY SHOREBIRD OUTINGS**

We usually go out each Tuesday. Ring on my landline (8738 0014) on Monday evening, so that I can tell you where and when the activity will take place.

**Maureen Christie, Friends of Shorebirds, SE.**

08 87380014, mobile 0427380014, [twinpeppercorns@gmail.com](mailto:twinpeppercorns@gmail.com)

# Miscellaneous Items (cont)

## e DATA ON WINGS

More than 300 bird species in the United States have their own migration maps generated with bird data in a 10 year old citizen science project. Citizen science involves public participation in research, marshalling lay people's observations, often by way of high-tech consumer devices and machines. Bird migration is an example.

In one month in the United States in 2012, 11 000 birdwatchers uploaded more than three sightings to the eBird data base, which then contained more than 110 million records. Some 90 000 people have participated and the number is increasing by 40% each year.

Birdos are already renowned for their compulsive commitment to and meticulous habits in recording their observations, but mostly they are shared haphazardly and are largely independent of research workers. A notable example is the current project co-ordinated by David Paton. In the United States the eBird project is a co-operative effort co-ordinated by the Cornell University Ornithology Laboratory and the National Audubon Society.

An example of the information generated by eBirds is the migration of the Western Tanager, a brightly coloured Starling sized bird. On a laptop screen a burst of orange suddenly appears in southern California in April and then spreads like flames to the north and east until the western one third of the United States is ablaze with colour. Then the colour recedes slowly and finally disappears by November.

Today eBird is almost like Facebook for birdos, a social network they can use to track and broadcast their birding lives. Bird watching is ultimately a form of list keeping, leading to friendly competition among birdos.

But eBird is not just all fun and games. Citizen science comes with serious challenges, the biggest of which is to ensure that the data is trustworthy. So regional experts are co-opted to vet the data.

There are many other areas of citizen science including astronomy, computer science and public health, but few are as exciting and rewarding as eBird.

**Bill Matheson.**

**Reference:** "Data on Wings" Scientific American, February, 2013.

## BANDED STILTS BREEDING

My flash new 'bluetooth' phone rang whilst I was on my way to the Hooded Plover Workshop at Queenscliff. It was Reece Pedler. He had just flown over Lake Torrens and



**Baby Red-tailed Tropic Bird held under supervision of banding expert. Photographed by Michelle Foster on Christmas Island in August 2011**

noticed some Banded Stilt on a small island. An excited conversation ensued – surely they can't be nesting, there is hardly any water anywhere! None-the-less, we were both well aware of just how canny Banded Stilt are – and so Reece cancelled all his other plans and headed for Lake Torrens. He arrived to discover that we too are improving – in 2011 we arrived the day the first eggs were laid, this year he appears to have arrived the day before!

And so Reece embarked on an intense period of fieldwork, which has resulted in the colony being closely monitored not only for

research, but also control of predators.

Already Reece has managed some wonderful flag sightings – perhaps the most exciting being of two individuals sporting plain orange flags – one positively identified as being a juvenile from a wonderful catch at Werribee in December 2000 of 151 Banded Stilt (89 Juvs), 40 Avocets (13 juvs) and some stints! I am sure anyone involved with Banded Stilts will remember the trauma of the 2000 breeding event at Lake Eyre! Predation by Silver Gulls caused the failure of two breeding attempts, after human intervention a third attempt successfully produced about 50,000 young, and a fourth attempt failed when the water ran

out. Now, 13 years later, at least one of these chicks is sitting on 3 eggs at Lake Torrens, only a couple of hundred kilometres from where it was hatched.

But for those of us involved with the banding in 2010, nothing compares with this spreadsheet entry:

1.7.2013. Lake Torrens breeding colony, left leg – plain square orange/plain square yellow, full breast band 100% – incubating 3 eggs.

We only flagged 54 chicks. It was at the very end of the breeding event and all present were concerned whether or not these 'tail-enders' would make it through to adulthood.

One of the highlights of the 2010 banding expedition had been the magnificent photos Clare managed to get of an adult, banded as a chick in the Coorong in 2006, escorting chicks to the water. The challenge is to see if we can get a photo of the Lake Torrens 2010 adult leading its chicks to the water! And the big question is: what of the chicks banded in 2011, are they breeding?????

**Roz Jessop**

**From AWSG NEWSLETTER No 99, July, 2013 – Banded Stilt**

# Permits to Destroy Wildlife

This article describes a meeting between members of the Conservation sub-committee of birds SA and officials of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) on 28 June 2013. The discussion centred on the issue of permits issued by the department to destroy wildlife.

## Background

On 8th January 2013 The Advertiser published a sensational article that claimed that the DEWNR was allowing 50,000 native animals to be killed each year. This was based on information obtained by Greens MLC Mark Parnell from a Freedom of Information Application. Birds SA obtained a copy of this report that confirmed that permits had been issued to destroy 56,499 native animals for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012. Of this number 38,681 were mammals, mainly kangaroos and wallabies, with the remainder being birds. Of these about 13,000 comprised species such as corellas and other parrots that are generally recognised as pest species in certain circumstances. However the reason for issuing a Destroy notice for other species was not clear. Birds SA accordingly wrote to Mr. Alan Holmes, chief executive of DEWNR expressing our concerns and specifically asking for an explanation for the destruction of a number of birds classified as rare — Cape Barren Goose, Little Egret — and Vulnerable — Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo; as well as for a number of other birds that are normally regarded as harmless or beneficial — 30 Little Egrets, 30 Barn Owls and 5 White-faced Herons.

In a detailed reply from the Department it was explained that:

The permits to destroy Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, White-faced Heron, Little Egret and Barn Owls were all issued to airports where they are regarded as a risk to public safety.

The numbers on the permits are the maximum that may be killed. The number actually killed was very often much lower.

The meeting described here was the result of an invitation to Birds SA to

discuss the issue more broadly with Mr Mike Greig, Senior Ecologist Abundant Species and Sustainable Use. Mike is responsible for overseeing the issue of such permits.

## Discussion.

In the meeting Mike explained that authority for issuing permits to destroy native animals is derived from the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 where the Minister is empowered to grant a permit allowing the destruction or removal of animals that are causing, or are likely to cause, damage to the environment or to crops, stock or other property (Section 53 (1)(c)). A permit may also be granted for other reasons, for example where wildlife presents a threat to human safety. Such a permit is in force for a maximum of 12 months (Section 2). Authority is delegated within the department depending upon the conservation status of the species in question. Wardens may issue permits for destroying common species, while Mike and his team at DEWNR Head Office deal with permits for rare or threatened species. Each application is assessed taking into account the following considerations:

- the extent of damage (either environmental or economic) being caused, or likely to be caused
- the underlying cause of the problem
- the level of threat that native animals present to human safety
- which non-lethal management methods are available, whether these methods have been carried out and their level of success
- whether destruction is the most effective method of reducing the damage
- whether an integrated approach (using non-lethal and lethal methods) will provide the best outcome
- whether the technique used to take native animals is humane and complies with the Animal Welfare Act 1985, appropriate codes of practice or animal welfare standards
- whether destroying or removing native animals would have a

detrimental effect on the conservation of the species or the environment.

A summary of animals destroyed under permit must be completed within 14 days of a permit expiring. A new permit is not issued until this information is provided.

Permits are not simply renewed. The person requesting a permit must re-apply and the application will be assessed anew.

Until now the department has not issued a report at the end of each year stating how many animals had actually been killed during the period. We suggested that it would be of benefit to the department if they were upfront with this information, which could be published on their website.

Two related issues were then discussed:

- We questioned the fact that Cape Barren Geese were on the list to be destroyed. It was explained that the birds are significantly destructive to crops chiefly within the Langhorne Creek area. Numbers of birds killed had reduced in recent years as farmers had learnt that crops were only vulnerable at a particular stage in their development and it was only at this stage that lethal control measures were necessary.
- The question of how DEWNR and Birds SA could improve their relationship was discussed. It was felt that the maintenance of personal contact where issues could be discussed in an informal manner was an important component. Offers to address Birds SA meetings (committee or general) on relevant topics would be welcomed by DEWNR. In addition issues arise from time to time where DEWNR would welcome input from experts within our association.

## Conclusion.

All participants thought the meeting had been well worthwhile. Much was learned and the foundation laid for fruitful collaboration in the future.

## John Spiers



# Past General Meetings

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## FRIDAY MARCH 22

John Hatch introduced the speaker for the evening Dr Greg Johnston, the Conservation Ecologist for Nature Foundation SA who would talk on Pelicans. Greg introduced his talk by providing the areas he would talk about: background, breeding, movements and conservation.

### Background

There are eight species of pelicans throughout the world – American White, Australian, Brown, Dalmatian, Great White, Peruvian, Pink-backed and Spot-billed. Three species are on the IUCN Red List – Dalmatian Pelican (Vulnerable), Peruvian Pelican and Spot-billed Pelican (Near Threatened). Brown Pelicans dive to get food whereas the others rely on co-operative feeding. Pelican fossils have been found in France dating back to 30 million years ago.

Pelicans have *totipalmate* feet i.e. all four toes are connected by webbing. They are most closely related to the Shoebill, Hamerkop, ibises and herons.

### Breeding

Over 600 breeding pairs of Australian Pelicans occur right on our doorstep at the mouth of the Port River. In the breeding season the iris becomes bright yellow and the colour of the gular pouch changes to pink. The American White Pelican develops a keratinous knob on the tip of the upper bill that disappears after the eggs are laid.

In Australia the birds in a colony is synchronous in laying within 10 days of each other. Each pair lays two eggs and the first laid egg is usually larger. The second egg is laid two days later and hatches two days after the first one. The first hatched chick is larger by the time the second egg hatches and it will usually kill the younger chick (siblingcide).

### Movements

Over 1800 Australian Pelicans have been wing tagged with large numbered yellow tags. Over 15000 birds have also been banded (11000 locally and 4000 at Lake Eyre). Less than 300 of the Lake Eyre birds have

been recovered from Australian coastal areas. Most of the recoveries of the birds banded at Outer Harbor have been from the south east of Australia.

In 2010 around 60000 birds were found at Lake Machattie in southwest Queensland. These birds flew 250-300km daily to feed at the northern end of Coongie Lakes in South Australia.

### Conservation

The Outer Harbour colony is growing due to the removal of foxes, whereas the numbers of pelicans in the Murray Darling Basin appear to be declining. Volunteers are continuing monitoring of the colony at Outer Harbour.

All reports of tagged pelicans should be made to:

<http://zoossa.com.au/conservation-ark/research/report-a-pelican-sighting>

## FRIDAY APRIL 23

Rodney was born in Britain and started birding at about the age of 8 years. He was inspired by a little book by Sanders. Rodney joined Birds SA in 1966 and has filled the role of Vice President of this Association as well as giving very interesting and humorous talks. The topic of the evening's talk was Buckland Lake

Buckland Lake is 9km west of Virginia and 30 km north of the Adelaide CBD, adjacent to the Port Gawler Conservation Park. It is about 80ha in area and 0.9m deep, however in 1935 it could have been 1.8m deep. The Lake is fed by fresh water from the Gawler River and saline seepage from the salt fields and the Gawler River delta. Buckland Lake is an artificial lake made possible by the damming of the Gawler River in approximately 1910. When it is full it is the largest freshwater lake on the Adelaide Plains. This lake is very attractive to bird life, in particular ducks and was identified as a bird sanctuary by Mr E A Brooks of Buckland Park Estate. Now the lake only fills occasionally in winter and is dry during the summer because not enough water

comes down the Gawler River. The feeder streams into the Gawler are diverted into reservoirs and viticultural and horticultural uses. Buckland Lake has had a historical interest for ornithology for over 100 years with 144 species identified in 1935. The birds are now depending on us to protect Buckland Lake.

## FRIDAY MAY 31

John Hatch said that the speaker and past President of the Association Jeremy Robertson grew up in India and is a Senior Lecturer at Flinders University.

In introducing his talk on "Technology and Ornithological Research" Jeremy said that it would not be about applications.

Charles Darwin said "The sight of a feather in a peacock's tail, whenever I gaze at it, makes me sick!" What is this about? The real test of Darwin's ideas on why the peacock has such an excessive tail had to wait about 100 years for a key invention – super glue.

To test Darwin's hypothesis that male secondary sexual ornaments evolve through female preferences is theoretically plausible. Malte Andersson used super glue to change the tail length of male Long-tailed Widowbirds. Males in which the tail was experimentally elongated showed higher mating success than males having normal or reduced tails but males with shortened tails held their territories as long as did other males. These results suggest that the extreme tail length in male Long-tailed Widowbirds is maintained by female mating preferences.

Jeremy said that his first PhD student, Jacob Höglund and himself studied leks of the Great Snipe in Swedish Lapland. After a couple of seasons they realised older males had more white on their tails. This led to the hypothesis that females may preferentially select males with whiter tails because they were proven survivors.

# Past General Meetings (cont)

This led to the hypothesis that females may preferentially select males with whiter tails because they were proven survivors. To test this hypothesis they added more white (TipEx) to the tails of half the captured males and monitored the effect on their reproductive success. It worked! The TipEx fooled the females but not the males. Later attempts to repeat this experiment failed.

Current research on Diamond Firetails suggests why the experiments could not be repeated. The number and colouration of the white flank spots on females predicts their fitness. Adding TipEx patches did not work because reflectance is not the same as the white feathers. Experimental manipulation of the number of spots required the glueing of extra white feathers in place using SuperGlue.

The Superb Fairy-wren is the most studied bird in Australia. Current research at Flinders University using an elaborate audio-visual system has found that female Superb Fairy-wrens produce an incubation call while sitting in the nest with eggs for the last 4-5 days of incubation. There is a significant difference of incubation calls between females. The female signature element is the basis of the nestling begging call. This enables the female to tell the difference between young fairy-wrens and young cuckoos in the nest. Use of audio-visual equipment has enabled us to uncover rapid evolution of novel behaviours that Darwin's Tree Finches use to mitigate the devastating effects of an introduced fly.

## **Conclusions**

Even seemingly trivial technologies if imaginatively applied can offer opportunities to answer questions that may have been unanswerable for a long time.

Future technologies and inventions are likely to help us solve theoretical problems we are only just beginning to comprehend.

## **Acknowledgements**

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Galápagos National Parks, Charles Darwin Research Station, Galápagos

## **Friday June 28**

John Hatch commented that more than 100 members were present, the most for a few months. He added that the speaker for tonight, David Paton, needed no introduction.

David said that he was standing in for Reece Pedler who had been planning to talk about his research into Banded Stilts. However, the stilts had started to breed again on Lake Torrens and Reece was taking the opportunity to observe them.

David's topic for the meeting was "Movements of Australian Birds."

David described various types of movement and where Australian birds fit in. They are Palearctic migrant, transequatorial migrant, seasonal migrant, altitudinal migrant, partial migrant, nomadic – blossom nomads, irruptive, natal dispersal and foraging sojourns. Other terms he introduced were sedentary, resident, transient and vagrant.

David then discussed the how, when, where and why birds move and the management implications.

## **Why move?**

Advantages — avoid inbreeding, escape a deteriorating environment, avoid competition for resources, exploit a better environment.

Disadvantages – costly, risky.

The avian dilemma is that flying is costly; birds need extra energy to migrate; costs to fly increase with a bird's weight; accumulating fat to fuel migration adds to the costs.

## **Movement strategies**

If food resources are available along the route, the birds move continuously and forage while moving.

If food resources are not available along the route, the birds move in bursts with stopovers along the way. They accumulate fat during

stopovers to fuel long-distance flights across inhospitable areas.

Red-necked Stilts move short distances in the Coorong for feeding, thus increasing their weight until they depart in the autumn. Adults weigh around 40g when they depart but first year birds less than 30g and they generally remain in Australia. Stilts stopover in northwest Australia and southeast Asia on their way to Siberia for breeding.

Short-tailed Shearwaters with trackers attached have been found to make only short foraging trips from their breeding grounds on Althorpe Island but travel as far south as Antarctica on long distance foraging trips.

Tagged Australian Bustards in the northern part of Australia stay in the same areas for most of the year, whereas the birds in the southern parts stay only for short periods.

Within a species the type of movement varies geographically and movements differ between individuals.

Honeyeaters like the Eastern Spinebill, Red Wattlebird and New Holland Honeyeater are all nectar feeders. Birds reach their maximum numbers when the number of flowers available for feeding is at its highest level particularly during the winter months.

Within New Holland Honeyeaters the populations consist of residents, short-term residents and transients. Males are less likely to move than females, and adults are less likely to move than juveniles.

Captured White-plumed Honeyeaters showed that there is a greater movement of first year birds during summer (89%) and autumn (79%) than in winter (54%) and spring (45%).

Silvereyes move from the woodlands and heaths of the Mount Lofty Ranges in winter to the coastal scrubs along the Coorong during the summer.

In summary there are many types of movement. Movements are related to changing environmental conditions; individuals within a population differ in their movement schedules; there are diurnal and seasonal patterns and a variety of strategies are used when migrating.

# *SAOA Historical Series No 45*

## *John Sutton – a biography by Philippa Horton Part Two*



**John Sutton on Eyre Peninsula in 1925 during a field trip with A. M. Morgan, J. N. McGilp and F. E. Parsons; pictured with John is the Hudson Six motor car they used.**

**Photo: SAMA Bird Section.**

In Part One we explored John Sutton's family background and his career in banking, finishing with his early retirement from the bank and his final move to South Australia in 1918. Now we continue the story with John's retirement activities and his development as an ornithologist.

The move to Adelaide seems to have restored John Sutton's health as he soon resumed his sporting interests and joined the Parkside Bowling Club. He became honorary treasurer in September 1918, then honorary secretary in September 1919, resigning the latter position in September 1921.

In addition to bowling John took up bird watching and among his notebooks now held at the South Australian Museum (SAMA) is his first, covering July 1918 to February 1920. The first entry, dated 28 July 1918, reads:

"On the beach between Henley and Glenelg saw a dottrell with one leg" (probably a Red-capped Plover). Reading through the entries it is clear that he started as a novice, slowly identifying species and their calls, working out that magpies with grey backs are females or young, gradually learning to separate wattlebird species, and so on. He went on extensive walks in the area by himself or with his wife Harriet or Russell King (his step-daughter Ida's step-son) and on each occasion made a list of birds observed. He also recorded birds wherever he travelled for other purposes, such as to the Parkside Bowling Club; his first record for the club was of Noisy Miners on 11 Oct. 1918. By July 1919 he was able to separate the lorikeet species and was recording Musk and Purple-crowned Lorikeets around Netherby. In that month he also recorded Little Lorikeets, including one that he found dead under a blue gum in a paddock behind his home

(unfortunately this didn't find its way into the SAMA collection).

John's thirst for ornithological knowledge grew and he joined the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union (RAOU) in 1919. At the meeting of the South Australian Ornithological Association (SAOA) held at the Royal Society of SA's rooms on 27 June 1919 "Mr. J. Sutton, of Netherby, Mitcham, was nominated for membership." At the same meeting, at which Captain S. A. White presided, John detailed his observations of a Brown Treecreeper at Mitcham that was in the habit of roosting in a vent pipe. His notebook reveals that the treecreeper would disappear into "the top of the tin air shaft of Aitchison's septic tank", the Aitchison family being next-door neighbours. There was no meeting of the SAOA in July owing to a restricted tram service because of the nationwide Seamen's Strike, so John had to wait until the meeting of 1 September 1919 to be elected a member of the association. He made immediate use of his membership by publishing his first ornithological paper in the *South Australian Ornithologist (SAO)*, on morning bird calls of 27 species at Netherby from 29 July to 1 September 1919 (Sutton 1919). These 27 species included Bush Stone-curlew, Jacky Winter, Black-chinned Honeyeater and Scarlet Robin, as well as the Brown Treecreeper, all of which have long vanished from Netherby. Now under the influence of SA's ornithological elite, including Captain White, Edwin Ashby, Robert Zietz, J. W. Mellor, A. M. Morgan, Frank Parsons and J. Neil McGilp, Sutton learned quickly. After the SAOA meeting of 26 September 1919 he wrote in his notebook: "Learned from Mr Ashby tonight that the bird heard for the first time on 16<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1919 and several times since was a Greenfinch and that the new bird yesterday was the Rufous Songlark."

September 1919 saw the welcome return of John's brother Harvey from the war. In the same month John accepted a position at the University of Adelaide as Lecturer in Banking and Exchange, as part of the University's Diploma in Commerce course. In this capacity he also gave a public lecture on 30 October 1924 on "The New Commonwealth Banking Act", given under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Association. John's university appointment was for six years, commencing in 1920, with a year's extension, but he did not re-apply thereafter and he retired at the end of 1927, aged 62. In his reply to Sutton's letter of resignation, the Registrar noted that the University Council expressed "their hearty appreciation of the services you have rendered in the Commercial Course during the period you have acted as lecturer in Banking and Exchange."

The start of John's lectureship in early 1920 must have been particularly difficult however, because of a double tragedy that struck the Sutton family. On 14 February 1920 William Sutton junior was on a hunting trip with a friend when a wheel of their buggy jolted in a rut and William's loaded gun slipped and fired, shooting him in

the chest and killing him instantly. William was 43 years old, an age of considerable significance for Sutton family births, marriages and deaths (see Part One). Only four days later, on 18 February, John and William's sole surviving sister Mary died at their mother's home in Perth, following an operation. Neither William nor Mary was married and neither had any children; in his will William bequeathed a yearly sum of £200 to John and a yearly sum of £100 to their mother Hannah, with the balance of the income from his considerable estate going to Harvey. After Mary's death Hannah left Perth and moved to Sydney to be close to Harvey and his young family. At the SAOA meeting of 28 February 1920 the Secretary reported "that Mr. J. Sutton had suffered a double bereavement by the death of a brother and sister, and it was resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mr. Sutton."

Some relief for the family came with the safe return of John's step-son Leonard after he was discharged from war duty on 24 February 1920. During the war Leonard's wife Alice had lived with her family in Meadows but on Leonard's return they lived with John and Harriet at 12 Fullarton Road, Netherby. Leonard returned to his job at the National Bank of Australasia but resigned a little over five years later, joining the many men who left their bank jobs soon after returning from active service (H. Cadzow, NAB Group Archives, pers. comm.). Leonard's resignation was in unfortunate circumstances but the bank looked after him generously. We can only guess that Leonard had unresolved issues arising from his horrific experiences in the trenches and that these may have affected him for the rest of his life.

After missing the February 1920 meeting of the SAOA, John returned for the March meeting and probably rarely missed a meeting thereafter. Although we do not have any of his Netherby notebooks for 1920 to 1927 at SAMA, John was definitely keeping home bird records as shown by his frequent contributions to "Bird Notes" in the *SAO* during those years. The RAOU Congress and campout for 1921 were held in October in Sydney and at Wallis Lake (between Newcastle and Port Macquarie) and John attended along with Captain S. A. White. After the campout John returned to Sydney and stayed for several days with his brother Harvey at his home "Lynton" in Rose Bay; we can assume he also visited their mother who lived nearby. John gave an account of both the Congress and campout at the SAOA meeting of 26 November 1921. The trip to Wallis Lake seems to have whetted John's appetite for field work as shortly afterwards he began day trips around SA in earnest, starting with the Belair National Park in December 1921.

Including an earlier visit to Belair National Park in August 1919, John made 66 day trips to the park up to August 1930, with one more in each of 1931 and 1933. The first few visits he made by walking there and back from his home in Netherby, but thereafter he walked to the Mitcham railway station and caught the train. He

made a tabulated summary of most of these visits, now held in the SAMA Bird Section, and he published some of his observations in the *South Australian Naturalist* (Sutton 1928, 1936). Despite his many visits there, John saw only one Spotted Quailthrush in the National Park, on 11 May 1929; unfortunately he didn't write a description so its gender is unknown. He had seen another nearby on 5 Sept. 1922 during a trip to Upper Sturt and the Sturt River. This one was on the steep side of a valley and from the description was a male. On the same day John "Slipped into the Sturt, off a stone, onto my back when crossing & got fairly wet from waist down." This was not the only occasion when he suffered for his hobby, at other times getting soaked with rain or broiling in the heat; the weather didn't deter him.

On Thursday 23 December 1926 John visited Belair National Park in company with a 22-year old Dominic L. Serventy, by then already a keen birdwatcher and Western Australian state secretary for the RAOU (Erickson 2012). Mid-week trips such as this were relatively infrequent however, as Saturday was John's usual day for visiting Belair National Park. Saturday was likewise his usual day for trips to Kinchina, a now abandoned railway siding between Monarto South and Murray Bridge. John's first visit to Kinchina was on 5 June 1922 with the Field Naturalists' Section of the Royal Society of South Australia which he joined around that time, and he published the results in the *South Australian Naturalist* (Sutton 1922). He must have felt this was a good site for long-term observation as he made 186 more visits until mid-December 1928, with a peak of 54 visits in 1924. He made five more visits from 1929-1934 and again made a tabulated summary of birds recorded on all visits, now held in SAMA. On most trips he walked to Mitcham railway station and caught an early train to Kinchina, returning in the evening. On a few occasions he caught a late night goods train so that he could be dropped off at Kinchina in time for the dawn chorus. Taking this a step further, on Friday 2 February 1923 he caught a 5 pm train at Mitcham, arriving at Kinchina at about 8 pm, and "stayed up all night in the signal box" so that he could record overnight and morning bird calls. He did the same in June 1923 but on a later visit had the luxury of spending the night in the signalmen's residence. For his Belair and Kinchina trips John wrote his observations on individual sheets of paper, not in notebooks. Many of these sheets were his former University banking students' exam papers, usefully blank on one side. John always wrote in pencil and with incredibly neat writing, so neat as to suggest that he wrote them afterwards from field notes made during the day.

By 1930 John had found a new group of birds to study and a new location: sea and shore birds at Outer Harbor. He was able to reach Outer Harbor by train and he visited on most Saturdays from April 1930 to April 1935 (not 1926-1935 as stated by Condon 1939), with a total of 249 trips. From the Outer Harbor station John walked around Fisherman's Bay (a place name no longer in use) to

Pelican Point and nearby areas and "took off my boots & socks" so he could walk across the mud flats. All his Outer Harbor observations are written on individual quarto sheets (he had by now run out of exam papers to re-use) and he pinned each year's worth of sheets together. These, together with his tabulated summary of birds recorded on each visit, are also in the SAMA Bird Section; unfortunately he never published any of the observations. Among the most notable of species he recorded at Outer Harbor was the Eastern Curlew (now Far Eastern Curlew), which he regularly recorded in the hundreds over spring and summer, numbers never recorded today in SA. On 20<sup>th</sup> September 1930 John counted 251 curlews at 10.40 am, seen from the end of the wharf. Meanwhile the Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven) was inspecting the "Java", flagship of the visiting Netherlands East Indies fleet, and at 10.53 "a salute of guns was fired and every curlew flushed at the first gun." John's tally rose to 572 and, together with others seen further along the shore, he eventually counted 900 curlews for the day, the most he ever recorded.

In addition to Saturday train trips, on Sundays, long weekends or occasionally mid-week from 1922 to the early 1930s John was often picked up by other ornithologists in their motor cars, mostly Dr A. M. Morgan, F. E. Parsons, J. N. McGilp and H. Brewster Jones. Together they made birding trips to locations including Woods Point (between Murray Bridge and Tailem Bend), Sellicks Beach, Happy Valley, Camden Swamp (presumably now obliterated by the suburb of Camden Park), Bridgewater, and various others. Given that John always walked, caught the train or was driven by others, it is likely that he himself did not drive.

Only two and a half years after joining the SAOA John became Honorary Secretary in March 1922, replacing J. N. McGilp. At the same meeting Prof. J. B. Cleland was elected President and F. E. Parsons Vice President. As noted by Paton (2002) the position of secretary at the time included the duties of treasurer so it involved a lot of work, although the membership was still relatively small (51 members in October 1922). By April 1927 John was held in sufficient regard by his fellow ornithologists as to be elected to the editorial committee of the *SAO*, joining J. B. Cleland and F. M. Angel, and these three remained as the editorial committee until John's death.

Early last century SAOA members were of course without the benefits of fully illustrated field guides and colour photography. Talks at SAOA meetings were therefore often illustrated with study skins from the private collections of members and from SAMA. The latter were brought along by the SAMA Ornithologist F. Robert Zietz. Tragically however, Robert Zietz died in April 1922 of cancer, at the age of 47. The Board of Governors of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery of SA invited Dr A. M. Morgan to replace Zietz but in an honorary capacity. At their meeting of June 1922 the President of the Board reported that Dr Morgan had

agreed to become Honorary Ornithologist. He joined four other honorary curators (and two more the following year), with only the entomologist being a salaried curator at that time; the financial saving to the Museum would have been considerable. In his annual report for 1922-1923 the Museum Director (Edgar Waite) noted that the Honorary Ornithologist “is being ably assisted by Mr J. Sutton, a voluntary worker.” John’s work was recognised formally when he was offered the position of Honorary Assistant Curator of Ornithology; his acceptance was reported by the President of the Board at its meeting on 16 November 1923.

Morgan and Sutton continued Robert Zietz’s contributions of Museum study skins to SAOA meetings for many years. Their appointments also began a remarkable period in the history of ornithology at the Museum. Together they completed the transition, begun by Zietz, from an uncatalogued collection with a primary focus on display, to a fully catalogued collection with an emphasis on scientific research. Apart from occasions when he was away interstate or on field trips, John went in to the Museum every Monday to Friday from the time he was appointed until, according to Condon (1939), a month before he died. Around lunch time he would walk to the Highgate terminus of the electric tram at Cross Road and catch the tram along Fullarton Road and into town. His hours at the Museum were 2-4 pm (Bradley 2004) and he would return home around 5 pm, often adding observations to his notebook of birds seen on the walk between the terminus and his house. In those two highly productive hours at the Museum he registered and labelled the entire “Old Collection” of birds both Australian and foreign (acquired before Robert Zietz began registration in 1911), and set up a card index by species, with a code for the cabinet each specimen was housed in. John’s printing on labels, cards and registers was beautifully precise, honed from his many years as a bank clerk. Even though the bird collection is now fully databased, John’s registers and card index are a lasting legacy and are still in frequent use today.

### To be continued in Part Three.

### Acknowledgements

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# Future General Meetings/Past Excursions

General meetings are held in the Charles Hawker building of the Waite Institute on Waite Road Urrbrae on the last Friday of every month except December, public holidays or prior to a long weekend. The doors are opened at 7pm and meetings start at 7.45pm..

## **FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27**

John Fennell will give a talk entitled, 'Getting all hot and steamy in Borneo'.

## **FRIDAY OCTOBER 25**

It is hoped, but not confirmed as yet, that Reece Pedler will give his postponed talk from June entitled, 'Investigating Banded Stilt movements and ecology using satellite telemetry'.

## **FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29**

Christmas Members' Night. Ten to fifteen minute talks and slide shows etc. I am open to all offers for one of these popular evenings. Please don't be shy and you have plenty of time to prepare and think about it! The talks will be preceded and followed by drinks and nibbles, so please bring a plate of food to share.

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## **PAST EXCURSIONS**

### **Swan Reach Conservation Park 2 June**

Following record rains in Adelaide just prior to this trip, it was pleasing to see that 16 members and guests trusted that there would be fine weather for the day. Whilst the day was overcast there was no rain, although it was evident that there has been a reasonable amount of rain in the past few days. The rain had already resulted in a green coating of lichens and mosses, but there was very little blossom anywhere.

A pleasant morning's survey covering two areas of the park resulted in 41 species being recorded for the day, although there were not large numbers of any species and only 5 species of honeyeater were recorded. The most common species for the day were Southern Whiteface

(30) followed by Chestnut-rumped Thornbill, White-winged Chough, Weebill and White-browed Babbler all with 20.

### **Brian Walker**

(The total number of sightings for this conservation park from 7 previous visits since 1995 is 70 species)

### **Porter Scrub CP 15 June**

Nineteen members and visitors participated on this excursion near Gumeracha in the Adelaide Hills. The weather was cool with only a little cloud cover after lunch. A modest total of 26 species was observed with the predominant species being 20 Crimson Rosellas, 20 Striated Thornbills 12 Yellow-faced Honeyeaters and 10 each of Galah, Striated Pardalote, Scarlet Robin, Grey Fantail and Australian Magpie. Other interesting species included Musk Lorikeet, White-throated Treecreeper, Silvereye, Little Raven, Grey Currawong, Grey Shrike-thrush, White-browed Scrubwren, Golden Whistler and White-naped Honeyeater.

### **Lynton Huxley**

(A total of 50 species has been sighted in this conservation park from 7 previous visits since 2004.)

### **Charleston CP 20 June**

The day started off very cold, with most members wearing gloves, although it did warm up a little as the day progressed. Rain threatened but did not eventuate, but the rains from a few days earlier did mean that several areas were quite wet and pools of water were across the perimeter track in several spots. During the drive to the park, we passed through areas of thick fog, especially near the reservoir. The 19 members walked the park as a group in a counter-clockwise fashion around the perimeter track. At the main gate Sulphur-crested Cockatoos were noisy and were also seen in the fields to the south of the park, along with numerous Little Corellas, some of which flew into the park. Striated

Pardalotes were calling everywhere and there were some quite large groups moving through the canopy. A single Spotted Pardalote was seen. Honeyeaters included Red Wattlebird, Yellow-faced, White-plumed, Brown-headed, White-naped and Eastern Spinebill. Buff-rumped Thornbill were observed at close range as they darted through the low shrubs and foraged on the ground. Yellow and Striated Thornbills were also moving through in small numbers. Several Red-browed Finches were observed in the usual spot in the north-east corner of the park and a noisy group of White-winged Choughs moved ahead of us as we came back along the northern track near the road. Other highlights included Australian Wood Duck, perched in the trees, Purple-crowned Lorikeet flying through, Golden Whistler and Grey Shrike-thrush. Tree Martins were observed flying over the park late in the morning. A pleasant lunch was enjoyed at the park entrance although it was still quite chilly. In all 33 species were counted for the morning.

### **Martyn Price**

(A total of 75 species has been sighted in this conservation park from 12 previous visits since 1994.)

### **Lowan Conservation Park 30 June**

A fine day saw 17 members and guests arrive for the trip. Conditions were varied within the park, with flowering of shrubs and trees largely confined to one area. Fortunately the observers spread out widely within the park and covered most of the habitats resulting in 41 species being recorded for the day.

The list for the day included eight species of honeyeater, although none were in particularly large numbers. Coverage of a large area of low vegetation resulted in one person seeing two Banded Lapwings. Thanks to the diligent search for these birds by Lyn Gould, later in the day, a joey was located in the pouch of its dead mother, an Eastern Grey Kangaroo. It appeared that the mother may have been shot the

# Past Excursions (cont)/Future Excursions

previous evening. Lyn and Terry Gould were kind enough to transport the joey to Fauna Rescue.

The most common species for the day was Galah (50), although only two other species of parrot were recorded. The second most common species were White-winged Chough (30), followed by 20 each of Weebill and White-browed Babbler. It was also nice that Gilbert's, Golden and Rufous Whistler were recorded.

**Brian Walker**

## **Browns Road Reserve**

### **13 July**

With dire forecasts for heavy rain, during the night and morning, those who attended were pleased not to have to endure any rain. A total of fifteen people attended, including two visitors from Queensland.

Although the clouds were dark and low there was plenty of bird activity, particularly honeyeaters because many eucalypts were flowering. White-fronted, Tawny-crowned, and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters were the highlights of the nine species seen. A very large number of Purple-crowned Lorikeets were also feasting on the blossom. A total of forty-three species were seen.

**Peter Gower**

(A total of 89 species has been sighted in this conservation park from 12 previous visits since 2004.)

## **Horsnell Gully**

### **18 July**

The morning began quite cool, but sunny, in stark contrast to the previous day. The heavy rains of the prior evening no doubt kept most people away. The ten members that showed up enjoyed a pleasant morning. A walk up the gully eventually became a climb with only two of the group venturing above the waterfall. A few turned back very early on to pursue their luck along the easier tracks. Large numbers of Rainbow Lorikeets were busy checking out hollows. For the most part birds were scarce but New Holland Honeyeaters were in abundance, as were Crimson (Adelaide) Rosellas and Crescent

Honeyeaters. Several groups of Eastern Spinebill were seen chasing each other and often approached quite close. A large group of Dusky Woodswallows was seen high up the gully. Two male Golden Whistlers were both seen and heard calling, a female remaining silent. Other species included Wedge-tailed Eagle (soaring high above the gully), Striated Pardalote, Striated and Brown Thornbills, White-throated Treecreeper, Silvereye, and even a couple of Mistletoebirds. In all 29 species were observed. A group lunch in the shelter of one of the barns near the car park off Horsnell Gully Road finished off the morning and helped to keep us warm, as the temperature began to drop quite suddenly.

**Martyn Price**

## **Ridley Conservation Park**

### **28 July**

21 members and guests arrived at Ridley Conservation Park, undeterred by the foreboding cloud cover. They were rewarded later in the morning by clear skies, some sunshine and a gentle breeze. The outing covered both the northern and southern ends of the Park and 48 species were recorded for the day.

Fourteen species recorded were either only heard or one or two individuals sighted. The most commonly recorded species was Chestnut-crowned Babbler (30) with smaller numbers of White-browed Babbler also recorded. There was some discussion as to whether the Crimson Rosellas recorded were the "yellow" sub-species or some variant between the "yellow" and "Adelaide" sub-species. Five other species of parrot were recorded.

The most commonly recorded Thornbill was Chestnut-rumped, with a small number of Yellow-rumped being the only other Thornbill. Eight species of honeyeater were recorded, with Singing Honeyeater being the most common. Eight Gilbert's Whistler were recorded, although they were calling throughout the northern area of the park and so numbers may be somewhat higher

than this. This species of Whistler has been recorded on all the three most recent field trips to mallee areas.

**Brian Walker**

## **FUTURE EXCURSIONS**

### **Sunday September 1: Narrinyeri Hills (MLR) (72km)**

This site is part of the Monarto Forest old growth area. Birds SA has been given access to record sightings on the owners' behalf as well as for ourselves. We will meet at 8.30am pulling off as much as possible along the road side, as no actual car park exists. To get there 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 2km along this road you will note that you are beside a railway line. Approximately 2km further from there, on the right, is where this site starts. If you miss the entry point you will see a lot of commercial buildings on your left. The entrance is not obvious unless you are on foot.

### **Saturday September 14: Laratinga Wetlands (Mt. Barker) (MLR) (34km)**

Meet at 8.30am in the dirt car park on Bald Hills Rd, a little to the West of the original parking area.

### **Thursday September 19: Manning Flora & Fauna Res (MLR) (32km)**

Meet at the square/reserve in Old Noarlunga. We move on to Manning Res in convoy. ([The contact number for Joan Beer, President, FNS is 83446287.](#)) They like to be advised of our presence.

### **Sunday September 29: Black Hill CP (MLR) (12km)**

We start with quite a climb but it is worthwhile. We take it at a gentle pace. Meet at 9am at the Addison Ave, Athelstone Entrance. Parking space near the start is limited.



# Future Excursions (cont)

## **October Long Weekend Campout Thursday, October 3 to Monday, October 7**

The campout will be held around the Antro Woolshed, Bimbowrie Conservation Park from Thursday, 3 October to Monday, 7 October 2013. Limited accommodation (single beds) is available at Antro along with showers, toilets, laundry and kitchen. There will be a nominal charge of \$5.00 per head to help maintain these facilities.

Antro Woolshed is about 13.5km west of Bimbowrie Homestead, which is about 32km northwest of Olary. Olary is 400km from Adelaide along the Barrier Highway. See map on p18. The road from Olary to Antro is dirt but is passable to a two-wheel drive car with reasonably high clearance. If you are unwilling to drive your car all the way it can be left at the Bimbowrie HS and arrangements can be made to transport you to Antro.

More information about Bimbowrie Station can be seen found on the Birds SA website.

For further information contact me on 83703349 or 0448822374.

**Brian  
Blaylock**

## **Saturday October 12: Brookfield CP (MM) (123km)**

Meet at 8.30am just inside the gate, approx 35km east of Truro. The entrance is 2km past "8 mile corner" at a gentle left bend on an otherwise straight road.

## **Thursday October 17: Talisker CP and area (MLR) (95km)**

Meet at the General store in Delamere at 8.15am. From there we will drive onto Talisker, a small park based on the old silver-lead mine area. A side trip to another area for lunch and birdwatching will fill the day.

## **Sunday October 27: Clements Gap CP (YP) (185km)**

Meet at 8.30am. Head north through Port Wakefield to Redhill. Make a left hand turn onto a dirt road about 3km north of Redhill. Drive about 8km turn left onto Bitumen for 3km. The park camping area is on the right and opposite a Church. Camping is permissible in the open area behind the pine fence. A toilet is available, but no water. You can arrive at any time on the Saturday.

## **Saturday November 9: 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, approx. 7km south of Mannum or 22km north of Murray Bridge.

## **Thursday November 21: Kaiser Stuhl CP (BV) (60km)**

Meet at 8.30am at the Tanunda Creek Road CP gate. The Park is located 12Km south east of Tanunda in the Barossa Valley. From Tanunda take the main Tanunda to Angaston Road (Mengler Hill Road) for 8km to the southerly turn off onto Tanunda Creek Road. The Park is approximately 4km along this road.

## **Sunday December 1: Scott Creek CP (MLR) (28km):**

Meet at 8.30am at the Almanda Mine Site car park area on Dorset Vale Road. Use the SE Freeway leaving it for Stirling. Turn right at the roundabout to Longwood. After approx. 2.5 to 3 km turn right towards Cherry Gardens, turning left into Dorset Vale Road approx. 2km before reaching Cherry Gardens.

## **NEW MEMBERS**

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

Margaret Bemes & Ian Steven	MEDINDIE GARDENS
Debbie, Sam & Ashley Dunn & John Mausolf	HACKHAM WEST
Elizabeth Barry	FLAGSTAFF HILL
Merle Clarke	CAMBRAI
Ian Milverton	COROMANDEL VALLEY
Jeanne Lesley Sayers	ONE TREE HILL
Daniel James Rogers	ADELAIDE
Amy Lee Slender	GLENELG NORTH
Lisa Girdham	GAWLER
Ben McHenry	SOUTH BRIGHTON
Diego & Iballa Garcia-Bellido	ROSE PARK
Dai Morgan	KINGSCOTE
Terry John & Raelene Ann Easton	FULLARTON
Mark Betros	ADELAIDE
Robin Lucinda Woods	MAGILL

If your name has inadvertently been omitted from this list, please contact our treasurer. His telephone number is on p2.

# Bird Records

## Collated by Graham Carpenter

Records included here are of species listed as rarely observed or unrecorded in the regions listed in the *Field List of the Birds of South Australia*. Also included are interesting breeding or ecological notes, new records for a well-known locality or first of the season reports of migratory species.

Please send all reports to the Bird Records Secretary at [birdrecords@birdssa.asn.au](mailto:birdrecords@birdssa.asn.au) or phone 8297 5463.

Note that the list includes reports of rare or vagrant species to South Australia that may yet to have been submitted or formally accepted by the Birds SA Rarities Committee (SARC). Members are encouraged to submit records of rare and vagrant species in SA to the Committee (refer to list of species and information on the website).

## Brown Quail

1, 16/6/2013. 2 km S Wilmington, FR.

Langdon, P.

1 gp of 14, 29/6/2013. 4.5km SE Eden Valley, MLR. Feeding among Perennial Veldt-grass in revegetation area.

Carpenter, G.

7, 1/7/2013. Shoal Bay Winery, Bay of Shoals, KI.

Baxter, C.

## Musk Duck

9, 24/7/2013. Port Augusta Power Station, LN. In sea.

Langdon, P.

Frequently reported from sheltered coasts in winter.

## Pink-eared Duck

1 bird at reported at Rymill Park lake, AP on 30/5/2013.

Davies, M. & McHenry, B.

21/6/2013. Reid, I.

22/6/2013. Sparks, K.

Rarely reported from the city area.

## Blue-billed Duck

105, 9/5/2013. Lake Edward, Glencoe, SE.

Haywood, B.

## Freckled Duck

9, 23/5/2013. Lake Leake, SE.

Several reports from Goolwa Sewage Works, MM.

25, 24/7/2013.

45, 27/7/2013.

100+, 14/7/2013.

Also reported widely in coastal eastern Australia in autumn-winter 2013.

Haywood, B.

Cutten, D.

Sothman, B.

Dare, G.

## Cape Barren Goose

2, 29/1/2013. Erudinna Woolshed, LN.

McEntee, J.

## Flock Bronzewing

3, 15/7/2013. 5km W Andamooka, NW.

Pedler, R.

## Grey Petrel

1, 16/6/2013. Off Port MacDonnell, MO.

Rogers, C. *et al.*

First report of a live bird from South Australia, with few previous beach-washed specimens (*Vivonne Bay KI 1971, Middleton Beach MM 1977, Sleaford Bay EP 1978*).

## Australasian Darter

1, 5/7/2013. Hindmarsh River mouth, MLR.

Carpenter, G.

1, 3/6/2013. River Torrens, Morphett St., AP.

Allen, J.

## Black-faced Cormorant

600 nests, 26/6/2013. Busby Islet, KI.

Baxter, C.

## Pied Cormorant

200 nests, 26/6/2013. Busby Islet, KI.

Baxter, C.

## Nankeen Night Heron

15, 14/6/2013. River Torrens, Adelaide Zoo, AP.

McHenry, B.

Largest group reported from this locality.

## Straw-necked Ibis

1 nest, 26/6/2013. Busby Islet, KI. With 100 nests of Australian White Ibis.

Baxter, C.

## Spotted Harrier

1, 17/7/2013. Wright Island, Encounter Bay, MLR. Hassling roosting Rock Doves.

Crocker, J.

1 imm, 16/7/2013. Port Noarlunga cliffs, MLR.

Crocker, J.

## Letter-winged Kite

20, 31/5/2013. Moomba, Big Lake, NE.

Adams, J. & Jervois, M.

45, 1/5/2013. Moomba area, NE.

Harvey, M.

13, 8/5/2013. Gidgealpa Oil Field, NE.

Drogemuller, Z.

1, 3/6/2013. Moomba, Della Rd, NE.

Adams, J. & Jervois, M.

## White-bellied Sea-eagle

Adult, 25/6 – 1/7/2013. Port Augusta Power Station, LN.

Langdon, P.

Adult, 10/6/2013. Middleton Beach, MM.

Price, M.

Adult, 1/7/2013. Wellington, MM.

Doecke, N.

2 imms, 26/5/2013. Point Sturt Rd, MM.

Doecke, N.

1 imm, 7/5/2013. Wellington, Low Point, MM.

Doecke, N.

*These records suggest possible nesting in the Lake Alexandrina area.*

## Black Kite

20+, 12/5/2013. Big Swamp, EP.

Christian, C.

Sev, 14/5/2013. Tumbly Bay to Cowell, EP.

Bebbington, L.

*An unusual accumulation in the region from which there are few previous reports.*

## Grey Falcon

2, 4/6/2013. Moomba, NE.

Adams, J.

2, 3/5/2013. Whyalla, EP.

Smith, E.

*Several reports in the Whyalla – Middleback Ranges area over the past few years.*

# Bird Records (cont)

## Spotless Crake

1, 10/5/2013. Amata Sewage Works, NW. with 13 Australian Spotted Crakes.

Hartland, D.

1, 21/7/2013. Woorabinda Reserve, Stirling, MLR.

Collard, S.

## Banded Stilt

10,000 nests, June 2013. W side Lake Torrens, NW.

Pedler, R.

## Black-winged Stilt

350, 3/7/2013. St Kilda foreshore, AP.

Syson, W.

## Australian Painted Snipe

1, 10/8/2013. 8 km NE Eudunda, LN. At farm dam.

Taylor, P.W.

## Double-banded Plover

15, 25/6/2013. Bald Hill Beach, AP.

Taylor, P.W.

37, 3/7/2013. Cygnet River, KI.

Baxter, C.

42, 20/7/2013. Black Point, YP.

Tiller, M.

## Royal Spoonbill

160, 3/7/2013. St Kilda foreshore, AP.

Syson, W.

## Hooded Plover

5, 29/6/2013. Moonta Bay, YP.

Langdon, P.

10, 6/5/2013. S of Moonta Bay, YP.

Collier, R.

*Close to its northern limit in Spencer Gulf.*

## ?Arctic Tern

1, 28/4/2013. Wittlebee CP, EP.

Klau, W.

*Description submitted to Birds SA Rarities Committee.*

## White-fronted Tern

45, 11/6/2013. Port MacDonnell breakwater, SE.

Rogers, C. *et al.*

## Musk Lorikeet

2, 29/6/2013. Moonta Bay, YP.

Langdon, P.

*The status of this species on northern YP is poorly known.*

## Little Lorikeet

2, 26/5/2013. North Adelaide, Kermode St, AP.

Stracey, K.

Also possibly heard on 19/4/2013.

Fullarton, Cremorne St, AP.

Horton, P.

*Few recent reports from the Adelaide area. See Horton, P. & 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.*

## Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo

9, 18/7/2013. Mount Damper, EP. Feeding in Aleppo Pines.

Jericho, M.

*The EP population breeds in Sugar Gums in the Koppio Hills near Port Lincoln and migrates to western EP each winter. It now comprises only 9 birds.*

## Superb Fairy-wren

2, 21/7/2013. O'Halloran Hill, Glenthorne Farm, MLR.

*First report from this locality.*

Burns, A.

## Blue-faced Honeyeater

2, 13/7/2013. Nairne, MLR.

per B. Snell

*See note in Feb 2013 NL.*

## Brown Honeyeater

1, 18/5/2013. Amata, NW.

Hartland, D.

## Crescent Honeyeater

1+, 16/6/2013. Murray Bridge, Rocky Gully, MM.

Tiller, M. *et al.*

4, 14/7/2013. Monarto, Browns Rd, MM.

Tiller, M. *et al.*

*Rarely reported away from the stringybark forests of the Mount Lofty Ranges.*

## Striped Honeyeater

1, 11/7/2013.

Monarto, Browns Rd, MM.

Snell, B. & M.

## Golden Whistler

Male, 23/5/2013. North Plympton, AP.

Bates-Brownsword, C.

## Olive-backed Oriole

1, 12/5/2013. Banrock Station boardwalk, MM.

Allen, J.

## Grey Fantail

1, 26/7/2013. Rose Park, AP.

Hansman, D.

## Apostlebird

50, 19/6/2013. 2km E Melrose, FR.

Pedler, L.

12, 16/5/2013. Brinkworth, LN.

Pedler, L.

*Continues to extend range in this region.*

## Southern Scrub-robin

1, 14/7/2013. Monarto, Browns Rd, MM.

Tiller, M. *et al.*

## Hooded Robin

Male, 28/7/2013. Manning Reserve, McLaren Vale, MLR.

Page, A. & Voits, S.

*A woodland species now rarely reported from the MLR.*

## Flame Robin

1, 5/5/2013. Greenwith, AP. In suburban garden.

Kernot, G.

2 prs, 30/6/2013. Strathalbyn, Langhorne Creek Rd, MM.

Fennell, J.

3, 10/5/2013. Stipiturus CP, MLR.

van Weenan, J.

## Bassian Thrush

2, 30/4/2013. Glencoe, Lake Edward, SE.

Haywood, B.

Adult, 29/6/2013. Chowilla Floodplain, MM. Photographed in Black Box woodland.

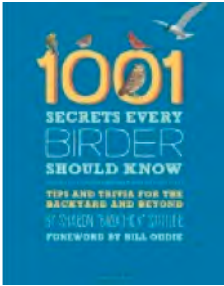
Kieskamp, H.

1, 18/7/2013. Second Valley Forest, near Waitpinga CP, MLR.

Carpenter, G.

*First report from the MM region. This species is normally confined to the wetter forests of the MLR, KI and SE, with a small population in the southern FR. It is generally considered sedentary, but with some dispersal into more open areas in autumn-winter*

# From the Library



598.07234 STI

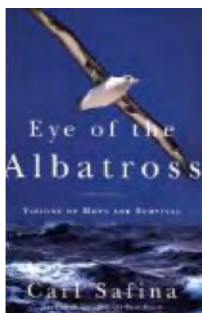
Stiteler, Sharon.

**1001 secrets every birder should know: tips and trivia for the backyard and beyond/** Sharon "Birdchick" Stiteler; foreword by Bill Oddie.

Philadelphia, PA: Running Press, c2013.

ISBN 9780762447343

This accessible guide includes fun facts, such as where certain birds got their names, how birds eat, how they find a life partner, and how they build a home for the chicks. Other useful information includes identification tips, migration patterns, and where the best birding vacation spots are. It is a fun, informative read for every bird watcher.



598.42 SAF

Safina, Carl

**Eye of the albatross: visions of hope and survival/** Carl Safina

New York: Henry Holt, 2002.

ISBN 0805062289

"At the lonely centre of the largest ocean lies a group of islands brimming with wildlife. And there, like a feathered nation, half a million goose-size albatross chicks await foraging parents who may be gone for weeks in search of food. Our narrator is Carl Safina. His guide and inspiration is Amelia, a hardworking parent albatross wearing a state-of-the-art satellite tracking transmitter."--BOOK JACKET



DVD 48

**John Young & The Search For The Goshawk**

[Eagle Mile Plains, Qld.] Marcom Projects [distributor], 2004.

This is the story of one man's passion for the magnificent Red Goshawk. For wildlife cinematographer John Young, getting up close and filming the great bird became an obsession that drove him for over thirty years in a search that saw him travel for thousands of kilometres from one end of the state of Queensland to the other. Many times over the years he got very close, only to walk away empty handed and disappointed. Then on a September afternoon in 2002 his quest became a reality.



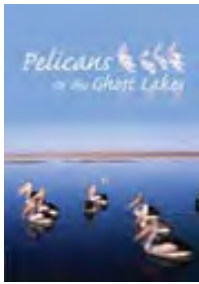
DVD 49

**The Kingfishers**

Loganholm, Qld. John Young Wildlife Enterprises, 2004.

In this DVD, John Young presents footage on Forest Kingfisher, Yellow-Billed Kingfisher, Buff-Breasted Paradise Kingfisher, Little Kingfisher, Collared Kingfisher, Blue-Winged Kingfisher, Red-Backed Kingfisher, Sacred Kingfisher, Azure Kingfisher, Laughing Kookaburra, and Rainbow Bee-Eater.

## *From the Library (cont) / Members' Photographs*



### **DVD 50**

#### **Pelicans Of The Ghost Lakes**

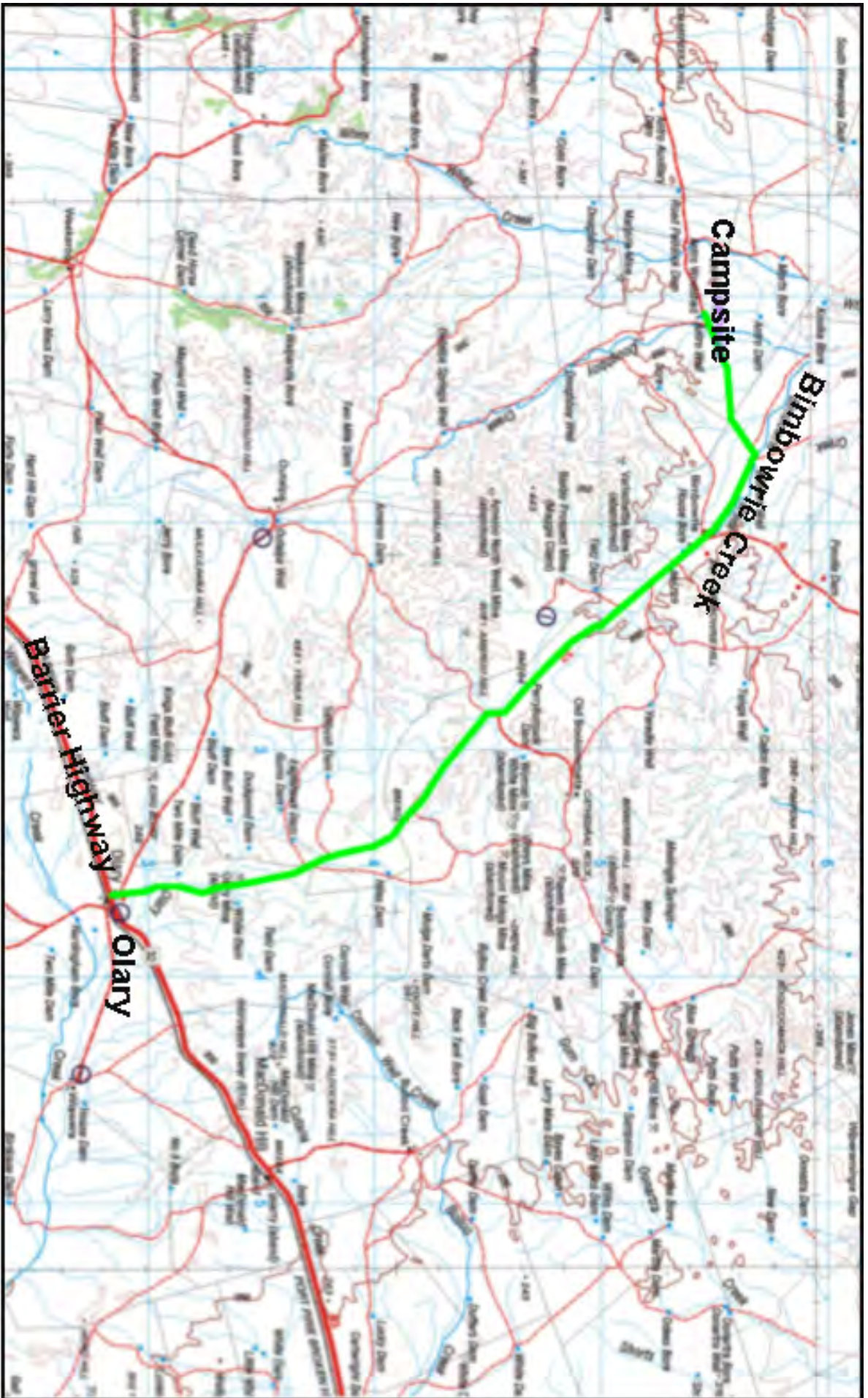
Eight Mile Plains, Qld. Marcom Projects [distributor], 2005.

Pelicans of the Ghost Lakes is a photographed chronicle of a teeming pelican colony at South Australia's Lake Eyre. The birds face great challenges as they fly thousands of kilometres to the ghost lakes of the arid centre. Here, in a race against time, they attempt to raise their young before the water evaporates in the sweltering heat. The film's narration offers a wide range of interesting facts and insights into Australia's largest seabird and the landscape of Lake Eyre.

### **Details of Members' Photographs**

<b>No:</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Photographer</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	Red Goshawk	Robert Rowland	Cape York, Qld	17/08/2013
2	Brown Falcon	Peter McKenzie	Alice Springs	October, 2012
3	Brown Quail	Burt May	Black Heath	Easter, 2013
4	Elegant Parrot	John Spiers	Burnside	10/06/2013
5	Rainbow Lorikeet	John Spiers	Cox Scrub (unburnt)	10/05/2013
6	Western Bowerbird	Kay Parkin	Alice Springs	May 2013
7	Yellow Chat	Kay Parkin	Kimberley region	July 2013
8	Brush Turkey	Barbara Bansemer	Byron Bay, NSW	June 2013
9	Barn Swallow	Barbara Bansemer	Kathmandu, Nepal	13/5/2013
10	Kestrel	Chris Thomas	Back Point	21/07/2013
11	Black Grasswren	Kay Parkin	Kimberley region	July 2013
12	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Peter McKenzie	Cheynes Beach, WA	August 2012
13	Grey-crowned Babbler	Michelle Foster	Broome Bird Observatory	July 2013
14	Brush Bronzewing	Peter McKenzie	Cheynes Beach, WA	April 2013
15	White-throated Laughingthrush	Barbara Bansemer	Near Thimpu, Bhutan	24/4/2013
16	Dusky Gerygone	Michelle Foster	Broome Bird Observatory	July 2013





Location of October Campout

# A Page of Colour

4



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6



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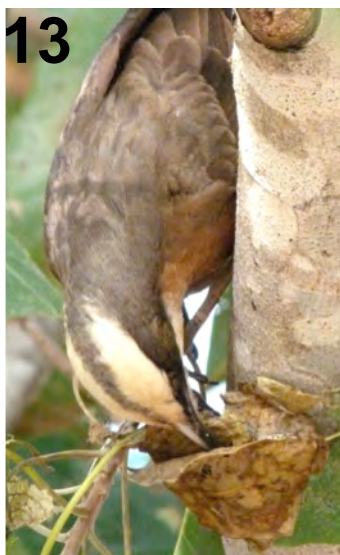


8



See P17 for details of these photographs.

# All Shapes, Sizes & Locations!



See p17 for details of these photographs