

# Birds SA



# Newsletter

No 214

May 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.

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*Photos From Members — Some Well Camouflaged Birds*



**Tawny Frogmouth**  
photographed by Burt May  
on 28/10/2009 at Tea Tree Gully



**Little Curlew**  
photographed by Teresa Jack on 27.02.10 at Wallaroo



**Spotted Nightjar**  
photographed by John Turner on 01/03/2010 at Coultong CP



**Rufous Fieldwren**

Both birds photographed  
by Kay Parkin  
over Easter 2010  
on the Strzelecki Track  
Near Mt Lyndhurst Station



**Inland Dotterel Chick**

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Since Penny Paton is away, there is no SAOA HISTORICAL SERIES article.

## 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.

May 30	Sunday	Excursion to Winninowie CP	
		*****	
June 12	Saturday	Excursion to Narrinyeri Hills	
June 17	Thursday	Excursion to Kaiser Stuhl CP	
June 25	Friday	General Meeting	
June 27	Sunday	Excursion to Nurragi CP	
		*****	
July 10	Saturday	Excursion to Jenkins Scrub	
July 15	Thursday	Excursion to Kenneth Stirling CP	
July 30	Friday	Winter Members' Night	
		*****	
August 1	Sunday	Excursion to Anstey Hill	
Aug 14	Saturday	Excursion to Scott CP	
Aug 19	Thursday	Excursion to Brown's Rd. Monarto	
Aug 27	Friday	General Meeting	
Aug 29	Sunday	Excursion to Rocky Gully	

**Cover Photo: Brolgas, photographed by Teresa Jack on 19/04/10, at from Magpie Swamp Road SE.**

*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 a pleasing number of 19 new members who have recently joined the Association. Their names are listed on p9.

## 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 john_b_spiers@hotmail.com	
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](http://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 August Newsletter is due by the July General Meeting (July 30). Contributions, 'Word' format preferred, can be made on CD, or emailed to either of my email addresses:

- [cynthia\\_p@iprimus.com.au](mailto:cynthia_p@iprimus.com.au)
- [cpy62284@bigpond.net.au](mailto:cpy62284@bigpond.net.au)

or typed/handwritten neatly.

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# Birds SA Notes & News

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## **BIRDS SA Honorary Membership**

The Constitution of Birds SA allows for the election of up to ten Honorary Members. Those elected hold that privilege for life. The present Honorary Members are:

Robert F. (Bob) Brown, Dr Andrew Black, Dr David Paton AM, Penny Paton AM and Dr Richard Schodde OAM. All have been elected to Honorary Membership on the basis of their outstanding contributions in the field of ornithology. Birds SA is proud to be in a position to recognise outstanding contributions made by its Honorary Members.

Your Management Committee has identified a further four persons for Honorary Membership on the basis of their outstanding contributions in the field of ornithology and will allocate part of our normal General Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2010 as a Special General Meeting at which these four persons can be confirmed as Honorary Members. For each of the candidates, the Constitution requires the approval of two thirds of the attendees at the Special Meeting. The four candidates are:

Dr Leo Joseph

Lynn Pedler

Max Waterman

Graham Carpenter

Citations for each of these candidates follow

### **Rodney Attwood**

### **LEO GEORGE JOSEPH**

Leo first became associated with The SAOA as a teenage student in 1971. He completed a Bachelor of Science (majoring in Zoology and Genetics), at the University of Adelaide, South Australia in 1979 and an Honours degree in Genetics, also from the University of Adelaide, in 1981. In 1994 he was awarded a Ph.D. from the Department of Zoology, University of Queensland. His doctoral thesis was entitled "*A molecular approach to species diversity and evolution in eastern Australian rainforest birds*". He undertook postdoctoral research on *Phylogeny, evolution of migration and population structure in South*

*American migratory shorebirds* at the Universidad de la Republica in Uruguay from 1994-97.

His research is museum-based evolutionary biology especially in the integration of systematics, population genetics, phylogeography, biogeography and ecology of Australian and Neotropical birds, (e.g. habitat specialisation; migration; host specificity in brood parasites). He maintains a special interest in phylogeography, conservation and natural history.

From May 1997 to June 2005 he was Assistant Curator, and then Chair, Department of Ornithology, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia (Acting Chair December 1997 to September 1999). Since November 2005 he has been the Director, Australian National Wildlife Collection, CSIRO, Canberra.

Leo has published over 130 papers and reviews.

### **MAXWELL HOWARD WATERMAN OAM**

Max Waterman joined the South Australian Ornithological Association in the 1950s. He was a member of the Management Committee for many years and was Treasurer for four years.

From 1961 to 1996 Max was the Regional Organiser of the Australian Bird and Bat Banding Scheme (ABBBS), in South Australia. As coordinator of bander training, and as a valued technical adviser to the ABBBS, he was an important link between working banders and the ABBBS. He is probably South Australia's most prolific bander, with over 350,000 bandings attributed to him and his team during his active period from December 1961 until the early 1990s. He was Vice-President (1965-1966) and President (1967) of The Bird Banders' Association of Australia.

Through his banding activities in September 1963 he established that the eastern Australian race (*Pardalotus striatus striatus*, Yellow-tipped Pardalote) of the Striated

Pardalote occurred in the upper southeast of South Australia and in October 1965 confirmed with Mr Herb Condon (then Curator of Birds at the South Australian Museum) that the Western Whipbird occurred at Pondalowie Bay. For four years Max worked as an Honorary Assistant to Mr Herb Condon virtually on a full time basis.

Max recalls with some distaste the unsavoury work of banding Cormorants but with pleasure the voluntary work he did with inmates from the Magill Reformatory teaching the boys the skills necessary to set and operate banding nets

In 1990 he received a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his service to ornithology.

Max has published articles in the *South Australian Ornithologist*, *The Australian Bird Bander*, *Corella* and *Emu*.

### **LYNN PHILIP PEDLER**

A childhood interest in birds included trying to identify species using Cayley's '*What Bird is That?*' The best reference then available. Soon after leaving school in 1973 Lynn joined the SAOA where he was advised by Bob Brown to attend excursions and campouts and to report observations. He was also encouraged by Shane Parker to help fill gaps in knowledge of the distribution and taxonomy of Australian birds and to support this with detailed data and specimens where needed. He has provided hundreds of specimens to the South Australian Museum either as salvaged road kills or collected by permit. In collaboration with Dick Schodde and more recently with Leo Joseph he has provided tissue samples for DNA research to CSIRO Australian National Wildlife Collection.

Lynn's photographs of birds have been used extensively in many articles and publications. Through his efforts in investigating various clues and reports of grasswrens from the Flinders and Gawler Ranges and much searching of likely habitats

# Birds SA Notes & News (cont)

over some years has resulted in a better understanding of the Short-tailed Grasswren. In 2008 the Gawler Ranges subspecies was named in his honour – *Amytornis merrotsyi pedleri*

In 1995 he began working with Glossy Black-Cockatoos on Kangaroo Island with the project initiated by Terry Dennis (following brief participation in Leo Joseph's earlier surveys). Success in increasing cockatoo numbers is through reducing possum predation in nests. This work continues part-time, maintaining nests and artificial hollows and identifying long-term trends from over 350 cockatoos banded as nestlings, by reading band numbers with a telescope.

Lynn is currently a member of the Birds SA Vetting and Rare Birds Sub-committee. He has written and/or co-authored many articles for the *South Australian Ornithologist*, the World Wide Fund for Nature and government departments.

## GRAHAM ALFRED CARPENTER

Graham Carpenter joined The SAOA as a junior in 1977. At that time there were a number of younger members in the Association, which has led to many long lasting friendships and eventful field trips to such iconic birding areas as the Gawler Ranges. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree (Botany and Zoology) from the University of Adelaide in 1985. His main interest is in bird habitats and their distribution. Graham was Bird Records Secretary of the Association from 1985 to 1995. He served on the Editorial Panel of the *South Australian Ornithologist* from 1996 to 2008 and served on the Committee of Management during 2007-2008. He is currently a member of the Birds SA Vetting and Rare Birds Sub-committee. Graham was responsible in part for the latest edition of the Field List of the Birds of South Australia and has made available a great deal of his birding knowledge for inclusion in biological survey reports and management

plans for various government agencies and has written and/or co-authored many articles for the *South Australian Ornithologist*.

## Migratory Shorebirds Conservation and Management Workshop, May 5<sup>th</sup> 2010

The Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board (NRM) organised a Workshop held at the 'Watershed Function Centre' in the Greenfields Wetlands on May 5<sup>th</sup>. I was invited to speak at the Workshop on behalf of Birds SA. The NRM had targeted an interesting range of organisations to attend this workshop including Councils, Government agencies, Developers, private landholders and business representatives. The speakers were arranged by Birds Australia and apart from me representing Birds SA there were speakers from Victoria representing Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria and Birds Australia and from South Australia Delta Environmental Consulting (Authors of 'Shorebird Management and Conservation Report' copies of which are now held in our Library).

The morning was taken up with presentation from the interstate speakers who reported on the challenges tackled at the Werribee Sewage Treatment Works and at the abandoned Cheetham Salt Evaporation Ponds. The encroachment of the urban environment into what had become prime Migratory Shorebird habitat was, and is, a matter of real concern matching closely the developing situation in South Australia.

The afternoon presentation covered identification and mapping of Shorebird habitats in Gulf St Vincent, the threats and opportunities for migratory shorebirds and the work done by the many volunteers including those from Birds SA on the Birds Australia annual 2020 Shorebird Count Project.

It is clear that migratory shorebird numbers are declining in Gulf St Vincent after peaking in the 1970s

and early 80s. This may well be largely due to loss of habitat along the flyways between the northern hemisphere breeding grounds and their summer destinations in the southern hemisphere. The situation is extremely serious for some species.

I came away from the workshop knowing that Birds SA has a vital role to play in advocacy with respect to the protection and maintenance of migratory shorebird habitats in Gulf St Vincent and that the ongoing involvement of our members in the annual 2020 shorebird count is critical. If you are not yet involved in this and wish to take part please make yourself known to Trevor Cowie who will be delighted to bring you into the project.

The workshop was an excellent opportunity for me to meet and talk to people who I would not normally interact with and to learn something about how the problems we may soon face at Dry Creek and elsewhere have been tackled interstate.

## Rod Attwood Vice President Conservation



**Greater Sand Plover**  
in breeding plumage  
Photographed by Margaret Tiller  
at Black Point on 08/03/2010

# Miscellaneous Items

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## NOMAD INVASION OF THE CLARE VALLEY DURING LATE OCTOBER TO NOVEMBER 2009

During spring 2009 a number of bird species migrated in large numbers to the Clare Valley no doubt due to the very dry conditions further inland.

Thousands of Black-tailed Native Hens were observed, with at least 2,000 birds grazing around one dam adjacent to the Riesling Trail about 8 km north of Clare. Many immature birds were seen which I presume were hatched in the Valley. Many birds became road kill. By early December all the hens had gone.

Three species of honeyeaters not usually recorded for the area were also seen. Probably hundreds of Black and Pied Honeyeaters were observed, generally feeding together on *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* ssp *pruinosa* (SA Blue Gum) blossom from 10 km north of Clare to the Polish Hill area. A pair of Black Honeyeater stragglers was also seen feeding on the same subspecies of SA Blue Gum at Leasingham. This subspecies of SA Blue Gum has a long flowering period starting from a few in March through to a few stragglers flowering in early December. There was a heavy spring flowering in 2009 and many immature Black Honeyeaters were seen. A local naturalist reported he had not seen Black Honeyeaters in the area for 25 to 30 years. I understood that he had never previously seen Pied Honeyeaters in the area. I had seen two Black Honeyeaters in spring 2008 on a western ridge. Only a couple of Pied Honeyeaters were seen by mid December 2009, feeding on *Eremophila longifolia* flowers.

Also seen was the odd White-fronted Honeyeater and one was photographed sitting on a nest in a dense one metre high olive sapling in SA Blue Gum woodland. The nest contained three eggs.

White-browed and Masked Woodswallows also appeared in many hundreds if not thousands throughout the whole area. A White-browed Woodswallow was photographed on a nest in loosely peeling bark of *E. leucoxylon*, SA

Blue Gum. Many immatures of both woodswallow species were seen. The appearance of a few birds of these two species is not uncommon but these large numbers are. The White-browed Woodswallows in particular were quite noisy with their chattering. The more sedentary Dusky Woodswallows seemed overpowered by so many of their relatives. By mid December the numbers of the migratory woodswallows had decreased to just a few but the numbers of Dusky Woodswallows had also dropped, to me, below their usual numbers. Perhaps their food had been eaten down to such a level that they had to migrate back north.

Every year is different. I can't wait to see what next year brings.

**Dave Potter**

## BIRDPEDIA — FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Do you make lists when you go birding? Why not let others know what you are seeing by posting a Field Trip report on Birdpedia?

Birdpedia handles two types of Field Trip Report:

**First:** The most common are those that concern a particular birding site (or Reserve as we call them on Birdpedia). The region for the report is a defined area and corresponds with one of the birding sites that can be selected in the Reserves section (see top or left menu). We call these 'Reserve Field Trips'.

If you cannot find the birding site in the list you can add one. You then become the initial owner of that site and can help by giving details of how to get there, advice on locations to see particular species, upload photographs, etc, of site areas. You can add a full description of the site, helping as an Administrator or Owner to maintain the site.

**Second:** This type of field trip covers many aspects/areas (e.g. a drive from Clare to Gawler) or an area that cannot be defined, such as your travels, a pelagic seabird trip, or a visit to see a particular species, where a travel log has been recorded. We call these 'General Field Trips'.

In both cases you can add a full species list with numbers seen or

estimated, breeding information and specific notes against each species and the weather conditions that may have influenced the number of species identified. We record numbers to give a better indication as to the state of the species in that area. A small number can indicate an uncommon species or a vagrant. A large number may indicate a common species or perhaps an irruption. The weather and the duration (start and finish) at the time of the observation are just as important. Wind and rain usually indicates that not many species will be observed, so a low species and individual count is more meaningful if the weather conditions are reported. As more data is gathered the more useful it becomes for predicting trends. You should include every species seen or heard.

If you frequent a site regularly don't forget to add a report even if you see nothing or nothing new. The absence of a species is just as important as its presence. Recording organisations like Birds SA and Birds Australia (Birdata) can use this data to argue for or against inappropriate developments or push for protection of a region or species.

All Birdpedia members can communicate directly with the contributor of the Field Trip Report via Birdpedia without having to request permission or personal information from Birdpedia.

Reports that can be downloaded include a list of locations (POIs), complete species lists for a birding site, single field trips or even a list created from merging several field trips, Reserve descriptions, etc, in several different orders and formats. A complete list of Birdpedia birding sites is also available for download as a POI file that can be uploaded into most GPS devices.

N.B. If you report species that members or Special Interest Groups are following (e.g. Black-chinned Honeyeater, Hooded Plover, Orange-bellied Parrot, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Osprey, etc), an email will automatically be sent alerting them of a sighting.

**Martyn Price**  
(www.birdpedia.com)

# *Giving them wings*

## *conserving threatened species*

### **A message from Rachel Sims, the Communications Coordinator for the Orange-bellied Parrot Recovery Team.**

You may have heard in the media that the OBP is not doing as well as we'd like. Monitoring by volunteers and researchers at key sites indicates that there are now only 50 wild Orange-bellied Parrots and that the species is likely to go extinct in the wild in the next three to five years. There is a captive population of around 160 birds; however the genetic variation (gene pool) of these birds is too small for long-term survival of a healthy captive population.

Our goal is therefore to boost the genetic variation of the captive population with the addition of more birds, caught from the wild population. In the longer term, a genetically healthy captive population gives us the opportunity to release more birds into the wild in the future.

Research suggests that many females in the wild are not breeding every year, so not enough young are produced to replace birds that die. Fortunately almost all females in captivity breed every year.

It is important to act urgently. The Recovery Team has recommended key actions to respond to this situation over the next 18 months. The Commonwealth Minister for Environment Protection has endorsed this plan, as have the Victorian and South Australian environment agencies. Owing to recent elections, the Tasmanian environment agency is currently considering the plan and will brief their incoming environment Minister as soon as practical. In the mean time, the Tasmanian Government has already made progress on some vital actions

in the plan. The important actions for the next 18 months include:

- Improving the genetic representation of the wild population in the captive population, by bringing new 'founder' individuals in from the wild. Two new birds have already been collected from Tasmania, with more captures anticipated on the mainland this winter. However, the major target will be juveniles produced in Tasmania next summer. A genetically healthy captive population is important to allow for re-introductions into the wild in the future.
- Attempting to improve the rate of breeding in the wild in the short term. This will help us to capture suitable founders for the captive population. Key activities are likely to include supplementary feeding, managing competition for nest boxes, and continuing existing activities and implementing new activities aimed at improving habitat quality.

Hundreds of volunteers have assisted the Recovery Team to monitor the population, collect important ecological information, and restore habitats. This work has contributed significantly to the success of the recovery program. Because of the many hours of volunteer work we now understand how the population is faring, and how we need to respond. We now have new priorities and the help of volunteers is essential to implement our new urgent actions. What this means for you: Volunteer monitoring of winter populations is essential. We need to know where the birds are so our new high priority winter actions can be achieved. In addition, on-going monitoring is

important so we can tell if our recovery efforts are having an impact on the population. Already, individual birds have been spotted at Lake Connemara and the Western Treatment Plant. This highlights the importance of doing opportunistic surveys when you can, and not just limiting the search effort to count weekends. Immediate notification of sightings is vital, even a day could mean a missed chance to follow up on sightings. Please contact your Regional Coordinator promptly if you find OBPs. We will explain the current situation in more detail at regional workshops (locations and dates to be confirmed). The support of volunteers as always is highly valued and extremely important. It is the quality of data collected by volunteers that helps us to be able to detect this problem, which gives us a chance to respond to it. More information will be presented to you at a regional workshop just before the winter survey season. There will also be an article in the next issue of Trumped Up Corella (due out soon). This is the time for action, and as always, the efforts and dedication of our valued volunteers will play a large part. We will continue to keep you informed as new information comes to hand.

**Bob Green**  
**Regional Coordinator**  
**South East, Coorong and Murray Lakes regions**  
**shriketit@bigpond.com**  
**Ph. 08 87250549**  
**Mob. 0407649909**  
**Feel free to ask me any questions you have about this news.**

# Past & Future Meetings

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## PAST GENERAL MEETINGS

### Friday February 26

Stuart Hull introduced the speaker for the evening, Terry Dennis, to talk on 'Birds SA – Threatened Coastal Raptor Survey Project 2009-10'. Prior to presenting his talk Terry thanked and acknowledged Birds SA Management Committee for their support in the project, Peter Copley, Threatened Species Unit, Department for Environment and Heritage, Sharie Detmar, Coastal Management Branch, (CMB) DEH, Eyre Peninsula, Natural Resource Management regional staff on Eyre Peninsula and the Riverland, the volunteers who have contributed more than 750 hours, his partner for IT and logistic support and the photographers.

Surveys started in 2008 west of Ceduna supported by DEH Threatened Species Unit and the Alinytjara Wilurara NRM. In 2009 Birds SA was successful in winning an Australian Government Community CoastCare scheme grant to survey the remaining mainland coastline but not including Kangaroo Island which had been surveyed in 2005.

### Why did Birds SA support a coastal raptor survey project?

- a. in recognition of their small and isolated populations, both the White-bellied Sea-Eagle and Eastern Osprey moved onto the Endangered Species listing in SA in 2008.
- c. degradation and loss of wilderness quality is of wide concern in remote coastal areas.
- d. population monitoring to determine stability and trends is fundamental to threatened species conservation and management.

### Birds SA project brief was to:

- a. re-assess the status and distribution of the White-bellied Sea-Eagle and Eastern Osprey on mainland SA by determining the number of occupied territories (pairs) for each coastal region;

- b. compare data with earlier population estimates to assess for stability and regional trends;
- e. identify prevailing threats in key habitats; and to
- f. increase community awareness of these species and their habitat requirements.

### How was the project actually carried out?

- a. by a literature search; looking for breeding records and examining museum oology records etc
- b. building project awareness through contact with community-based groups such as the Pt Augusta BOCA and Southern Eyre Peninsula Bird Group, together with NRM and DEH offices;
- c. establishing a volunteer network and project publicity.
- d. the survey pre-planning phase e.g. using aerial imagery made available to the project through the Coastal Management Branch of DEH
- e. Then, following a **minimum disturbance protocol**, putting the boots on and getting out there and doing it!
  - arranging private property or National Park management track access;
  - then the fun part – short and extended foot traverse cliff-edge surveys and/or near-shore boat surveys;

Extensive use was made of CMB oblique aerial coastline images and it was possible to do a 'virtual re-visit' to survey locations and actual nest sites and to plot actual nest site locations literally onto the correct rock using seamless aerial imagery (accuracy  $\pm 10\text{m}$ )! Surveying the Bunda Cliffs was made easier by a boat charter out of Elliston, which enabled 56km of coast to be surveyed before lunchtime. Boat-based surveys are the least intrusive means of surveying remote coastlines and islands.

There are some tree nests of the White-bellied Sea-Eagle in the upper Murray region and then there are the 'needle-in-the-haystack' nests in

mangroves. Locations are, not surprisingly, never too far from a seabird rookery or shearwater colony. There are only two sea-eagle nest sites over approximately 850km of coastline between Ceduna and Pt Culver in WA.

Threats to sea-eagle breeding habitat sanctity include 4WD tracks hugging the cliff-edge, residential development e.g. Boston Island and tourism development e.g. Cape Wiles. In the Lincoln National Park bushwalkers reported eggs in a sea-eagle nest in July. In October the nest was found abandoned and a 'frustration' nest had been built 600m further west.

On all continents Ospreys have adapted well to man-made structures and to artificial nest platforms. One nest is less than 250m from a row of shops in Coffin Bay township and has been in constant use since 1988. Artificial nest platforms have been in use at Denial Bay since 1991 and at Streaky Bay since 2007. Osprey will readily choose a man-made structure when suitable trees/sites are scarce or already occupied!

### So what does all this tell us?

The project has confirmed the population status of both the White-bellied Sea-Eagle and Eastern Osprey in SA. Although there is always more to discover, this study provides a baseline against which future monitoring and research can be compared. There is much evidence that increased human activity in the landscape has resulted in a loss of wilderness quality in remnant breeding refuge habitat causing sea-eagles in particular to be displaced. The Eastern Osprey appears to demonstrate an ability to habituate to human activity, but still requires a refuge area around 'wild nests' in remote areas.

### So what can Birds SA do?

- a. Lobby for the development of habitat management prescriptions, which include the concept of refuge buffer-zones around breeding sites. Sea-eagle refuge radii should be at least 2000m and 1000m for osprey.

# Past & Future Meetings (cont)

- b. Lobby for breeding refuge buffer-zone prescriptions to be adopted into planning policy and regulations at all levels of Government.
- c. Support an 'IBA concept equivalent' to gain recognition for remnant threatened coastal raptor habitats in SA.
- d. Consider commencing a fund to support the construction of osprey nest platforms across SA.

## Friday March 26

Stuart Hull introduced the speaker for the evening Dr Colin Rogers, who is an Associate Professor at the University of Adelaide, School of Economics. Colin has served for a number of years on the Birds SA Committee as Bird Record Secretary. Colin came to birding in a focused way about 20 years ago. His passion and skill for birding were soon evident to all who twitched with him, particularly when it came to sorting out the confusing formations of waders that invade our shores each summer. He has currently seen 409 South Australian species. Colin's talk was called 'Global pelagics, Mexico, December 2008, Chatham Island and New Zealand, December 2009'.

The pelagic trip to Mexico in December 2008 was centred on Puerto Angel on the west coast in southern Mexico. The target was to observe Townsend's Shearwater, which is on the IUCN Red List and is critically endangered. Although they did not see this bird, they saw many other bird species, including large flocks of Galapagos and Wedge-tailed Shearwaters, Black and Common Terns, Laughing, Sabine's and Franklin's Gulls, Grey and Red-necked Phalaropes, Brown, Red-footed and Blue-footed Boobies, Magnificent Frigatebird, Black and Least Storm-Petrels, Black and Least Shearwaters. They also observed turtles, sea snakes and a Blue Whale. In December 2009 they made a trip to the Chatham Islands to target the Chatham Albatross, and two petrels – Chatham and Magenta. Species observed were Northern Buller's, Salvin's and Chatham Albatrosses. Chatham Petrel young are being relocated to nearby Pitt Island. This is carried out at night prior to the young being fledged. The target species in the Hauraki Gulf was the New Zealand Storm-Petrel which has recently been rediscovered. It was not seen but the following species

were – Cook's Petrel, White-faced Storm-Petrel, Fluttering, Buller's and Little Shearwaters, Fairy Prion and Grey Ternlet.

What was learnt from the trips?

- December is a bad month for twitching rare seabirds
- Check the breeding cycle
- Check the local conditions
- Ensure that the berley is up to standard

## 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.*

### Friday June 25

Adelaide Optical – "Optics for Bird watching."

### Friday July 30

Winter Members' Night

### Friday August 27

TBA

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

Michelle & Jerry Foster	STRATHABLYN
Eric James Taylor & Judith Clare Roinich	WEST BEACH
John Seymour	BANKSIA PARK
Joanna & Gerald Gloster	NETHERBY
Samantha Mary Rothe	NAIRNE
David & Pauline Mann	GREENWITH
Barry Ian & Jennifer Whittington	NORWOOD
Bronwyn Williams & Rodney Dyke	CRAFERS
Peter, Robert & Sue Gilchrist	GRANGE
Trixie Tan	ENFIELD

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



**Black-winged Stilt, juvenile**

Photographed by Greg Dare near Goolwa Barrage on 1/09/2009

# Past Excursions

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## Saturday February 13

### Dry Creek Salt Fields (AP)

It was yet another good day in the salt fields with 33 birders and a convoy spread out over a couple of km. The number of species was less than on previous visits as many of the larger waders seem to have found parts of the Gulf more suited to their needs. Nevertheless, it is always a pleasure to find the unexpected and we were quite surprised to see such large numbers of Blue-billed Ducks. The numbers of the usual waders — Sharp-tailed Sandpipers, Red-necked Stints, Red-capped Plovers were in the mid to low hundreds with around two hundred Curlew Sandpipers being identified. It is apparent that a large number of birds had flown off to the northern flooded areas. There were however a few Banded Stilts, Red-necked Avocets and Great Crested Grebes for us to see and enjoy. The species count for the day was 62, which unfortunately included more than 500 Common Starlings.

**Trevor Cowie**

## Thursday February 18

### Goolwa Barrage (MLR)

Sixteen members of Birds SA attended this Field Trip. We visited the area between the Yacht Club and the 19th Beacon. It was a fine and mild morning, with a cool southerly breeze. The water on salt side of Barrage was very low, so waders were thinly spread over large areas of sand, mud and rocks. Three Lewin's Rails performed well, providing excellent views, as did a Common Sandpiper. Fifty Great Egrets above the Barrage made an impressive sight. Mixed rafts of Pelicans, cormorants and Silver Gulls were very busy feeding, so presumably there were plenty of fish about. Fifty one species were recorded before lunch, and two more were added by visiting the Barrage Island after lunch.

A group of three quails was seen between the Barrage and the 19th Beacon. These were reported by their observer as Stubble Quail, but since previously all quail seen in this area

have been recorded as Brown Quail it was agreed to list these as quail species only. As always, Goolwa provided us with an excellent and relaxing morning's birding.

**Bob Snell**

## Sunday February 28

### Browns Rd, Monarto (MLR)

It was a pleasure to be at Monarto that morning as the temperature was ideal for birding. As is usual for this site people went forth in all directions until lunchtime, when we found that we had again managed not to lose any of the 25 birders. The species count for the day was 42 and after weeks of very little rain this was unexpected. Some of the highlights were Stubble Quails, Owlet Nightjar, Variegated Fairy-wrens, Diamond Firetails, Varied Sittellas, Restless Flycatchers and Rufous Whistlers, one of which had a complete white breast rather than the rufous colour one expects to see. This bird kept us occupied for some time as we confirmed what we thought we had seen from a distance.

**Trevor Cowie**

## Saturday March 13

### Laratinga Wetlands (MLR)

This proved to be yet another good day for birdwatching, with 34 birders, a number of whom were new to this location and to Birds SA. Although the ponds were being drained to remove polluting substances, it made little difference to the number of species seen as the final count was 61 — exactly the same number as were seen on a walk here on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2010. To the surprise of some we did record Spotless and Baillon's Crakes. Three Yellow-billed Spoonbills patrolled back and forth feeding on the pond being drained moving non-stop onto the mud being exposed as the water level dropped. Seven duck species, which included Australian Shoveler, Chestnut Teal and Hardhead were busy feeding. We also recorded Black-shouldered Kite, Australian Hobby, Nankeen Night Heron and Greenfinch. **Trevor Cowie**

## Thursday March 18

### Hindmarsh River Estuary (MLR)

This was a new area for Birds SA members. The walking trails along the Hindmarsh River in Victor Harbor are unknown to many visitors, so fifteen members were excited to make a number of interesting discoveries along these trails. Before we left the cars at 8.30 a.m., a Nankeen Night Heron was seen flying around a pine tree across the river where on later inspection three were found. Within minutes of leaving the cars Black-chinned Honeyeaters were heard then two sightings were confirmed. After walking along the beach and nearby tea tree board walk, everyone headed upriver, to see two Spotless Crakes feeding in a small wetland next to the river, a pair of Mistletoebirds and four Crested Shrike-tits, which had cameras working overtime. The variety of attractive habitats produced a very interesting list of 51 species. It is particularly noteworthy that this is in the middle of Victor Harbor, surrounded by houses. Members agreed that this needs to become a regular excursion on the Birds SA list.

**Peter Gower**

## Sunday March 28

### Dry Creek Salt Fields (AP)

This was the last of the season's trips into Dry Creek Salt Fields for this migration and it has been a pleasure to be back at the Salt Fields to record the numbers of species and individuals, which appeared to be down for most species. The 17 birders in attendance did manage to record a total of 64 species. However only one Bar-tailed Godwit, five Sharp-tailed Sandpipers and three Curlew Sandpipers did leave a large gap of open ground. Terns were also missing with just two Caspian and two Crested being seen, although 10 Fairy Terns were feeding well. Fourteen of the species seen were represented by just a single bird. However one of these was a Greater Sand-Plover — a bonus. Because of the big wet in the north it seems likely that many birds have departed

# Past Excursions (cont)

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for better feeding areas. We await their return next summer.

**Trevor Cowie**

## Saturday April 10

### Porter Scrub CP (MLR)

It was a wet morning and only 12 members defied the rain clouds and basically succeeded. The species count was just 28 with Crimson Rosella being the most visible species, thanks to its size & colour. Conditions were overcast and dull but White-throated Treecreepers as well as Yellow-faced and Crescent Honeyeaters gave themselves away by calling. Eight Red-capped Robins and numerous Grey Fantails were found throughout the park. At the car park we saw 3 Fan-tailed Cuckoos and 2 Mistletoebirds.

Lunch was enjoyed in a little bit of sunshine. **Trevor Cowie**

## Thursday April 22

### Sandy Creek CP (MLR)

Martyn Price was leader of this field trip in which 18 members saw 43 species. Blossom was sparse and only a few lorikeets, Rainbow and Musk, and Honeyeaters were observed. These included Red Wattlebirds, Brown-headed and New Holland Honeyeaters. Only three White-plumed Honeyeaters and three Eastern Spinebills were seen. A Little Wattlebird was heard calling but eluded any attempt to observe it. Crimson Rosellas, White-winged Choughs, Grey Currawongs and White-browed Babblers were abundant, as were Grey Fantails (10) and Red-capped Robins (8). We also saw a pair of Hooded Robins. Several raptors were seen circling fairly high overhead, including Peregrine Falcon, Brown Goshawk and Whistling Kite. Yellow-rumped and Yellow Thornbills were common. After lunch a couple of us went for another stroll hoping to catch a glimpse of a Square-tailed Kite. However, luck was not with us.

**Martyn Price**

## Sunday May 2

### Altona CSR Landcare Reserve (MLR)

It was good mild day for a walk and 36 birders enjoyed the walk. The

group of course split into two groups at the T junction by the shipping container with a few doing their own thing, checking out the more secluded areas that exist at this location. The rewards comprised 53 species being recorded. Most of these were of course the expected species but some interesting species were still about such as a Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo, two Fan-tailed Cuckoos and 10 Eastern Spinebills. Most people also saw a Crested Shrike-tit — always a delight to spot. We recorded just 6 species of honeyeaters, which included Yellow-faced and Brown-headed. Other species seen included Red-capped and Hooded Robins, Dusky Woodswallow, Brown Treecreeper, Red-rumped Parrot, Golden & Rufous Whistlers. The largest number of an individual species was 50 Striated Pardalotes. Lunch and bird count were taken by the gate, the only space left apart from the middle of the road! We had all enjoyed a very good day in good company.

**Trevor Cowie**

## Easter Campout at Wirrabara Forest, 1-6 April 2010

We last camped at Wirrabara Forest in October 1988 so a re-visit was overdue. Most campers came for four to five days and a total of 19 people attended. The weather was warm and still with cool nights until Monday evening when lightning struck all around us, the rain came and several trees were heard to fall nearby.

The Ippinitchie Campground is in Grey Box-Blue Gum open forest with Red Gums along the creek, occasional Sugar Gums on higher ground and an understorey of grasses and heavy litter. Purple-crowned Lorikeets were abundant as were Dusky Woodswallows (with young) and Brown Treecreepers. On Good Friday an appropriately subdued twelve Apostlebirds were seen at the King Tree in similar habitat with adjacent plantation areas of *Pinus radiata*. Beyond the Ranger Station and between the Old Nursery and the start of the Bluff Track the woodland had a more generous understorey of Dog Wattle, *Bursaria*, *Exocarpos* etc. that accounted for Variegated

Fairy-wrens, Inland Thornbills, White-browed Babblers and Golden Whistlers, along with the local spinebills whose calls included one reminiscent of a *Gerygone* in Fantail style. Perhaps the most interesting area was at higher elevation to the north in unmodified 'heathy' sclerophyll woodland extending to the dividing ridge and boundary with Telowie Gorge CP. Elegant Parrots, Brush Bronzewing, Fantail Cuckoos and Tawny-crowned Honeyeaters were features, as were Scarlet and Red-capped Robin pairs in the one place. A Black Honeyeater, a Hooded Robin pair and a possible Crested Bellbird were all recorded near the crest, representing birds of drier habitats on the western slopes. Several observers had good views in a *Callistemon*-lined gully of the local Heathwren, *Hylacola pyrrhopygia pedleri* and may have noted distinctive features, a more extensive supercilium and a duller, less defined but more extensive rump patch compared with others of this species. From the forest area the 65 species with only three raptors and no wetland birds was a fair representation of its residents, summer visitors, including Bee-eaters, having mostly departed only a few days earlier. We did not locate the Bassian Thrush, recorded in the region between 1968 (B Glover, S A Orn. 25: 58) and 1999 (D Harper, W Klau, S A Orn. 34: 147, L Pedler - DEH), or (except by calls) the Southern Scrub-robin. The DEH Biological Survey of November 1999 recorded a total of 45 species with an additional 13 from the NCS Survey of Beetaloo Valley in October 2001. Gepp and Fife (S A Orn 27: 15-17) in a survey from Pines and native forests recorded 42 species in Wirrabara Forest. The total from all named sources is 80. Our additions were Rainbow Lorikeet, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Spiny-cheeked and Black Honeyeaters, Dusky Woodswallow, both Australian and Little Ravens and Apostlebird. Returning on the Tuesday Adelaide appeared freshly washed after 30-50 mm of rain had fallen that morning.

**Andrew Black**

# Future Excursions

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## **Sunday May 30: Winninowie CP (NW) (287km)**

Meet at 8.45am at the junction to Chinamans Creek on Highway 1 to Port Augusta, approximately 18km north of the right hand turn into Mambray Creek CP. Camping facilities are available at Mambray Creek. Contact the Ranger on 8634 7068 to make bookings. Winninowie has a wide and varied habitat. Camping in Chinamans Creek Township is also available but there are no facilities.

## **Saturday June 12: 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 behalf of Forestry SA Land Management 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 and

less than 2km along this road you will note the you are beside a railway line. The site starts approximately 2km further from here on the right. 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.

## **Thursday June 17: Kaiser Stuhl CP & Tanunda Ponds (MLR) (71km)**

Meet at 8.30am on Bethany Road, Tanunda just east of rail crossing by the Lutheran church. We will spend

the morning in the park, looking into the ponds later in the day.

## **Sunday June 27: Nurragi CP & Milang (MM) (80km)**

Meet at 8.30am at the western end of the waterfront park in Milang. We will look for birds on and near the lake before going onto Nurragi CP.

## **Saturday July 10: Jenkins Scrub (MLR) (61km)**

Meet at 8.30am. Travel about 10km from Williamstown towards Springton, turn right onto Mount Rd, which is directly opposite Wirra Wirra Rd on the left. We meet at the entrance to the scrub on the left opposite Murray Vale Rd.

## **Sunday August 1: Anstey Hill RP/CP (MLR)**

Anstey Hill is a park of hills and gullies. It is close to the city so we can make an early start at 8am. We meet at Gate 3 on Perseverance Road, Tea Tree Gully (0.8km from the North East Road end).

## **Saturday August 14: Scott CP (MLR) (79km)**

Meet at 8.30am at the right-hand turn-off into Gould Road (**not** Deep Creek Road). This is off the Strathalbyn/Ashbourne Road to Goolwa. If you reach the Canoe tree/railway crossing, you will have missed the turn-off by about 1.5km.

## **Thursday August 19: Browns Road, Monarto (MLR) (60km)**

Meet at 8.30am at Browns Road, Monarto, just off the old Murray Bridge Road. Leave the SE Freeway at the Callington exit. Drive through Callington and turn right onto the old Murray Bridge road. The junction is on the left at the top of the hill.

## **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 behalf of Forestry SA Land Management 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 2km along this road you will note that you are beside a railway line and a rail crossing. Pull off here as this is the meeting point for Rocky Gully.

### **CAMPOUT IN AUGUST**

**Birds SA members have been invited to join birders from the Southeast at a Campout /Outing to Messent Conservation Park from the 20th to 22nd August 2010. This would be a good opportunity to not only meet some of our birding colleagues from the Mt Gambier district but also some from western Victoria. Messent (near Meningie) is an excellent location to find Malleefowl as well as other mallee birds. Please register your interest in this activity by contacting Bryan Haywood by phone on 8726 8112 or by email at [brytonwood@bigpond.com](mailto:brytonwood@bigpond.com)**

## **Thursday July 15: Kenneth Stirling (Wotton Scrub) CP & Mt George CP (MLR) (27km)**

Meet at 8.30am. Take the SE Freeway and leave it at the Bridgewater exit. Turn left towards Carey Gully, travel about 3km and turn right into Gum Flat Road. Travel about 1.6km to gate 2 on the right. We will move onto Mt George CP for Lunch.

# Bird Records

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Records included here are species listed as rare, uncommon or not recorded for SA or a region of SA (refer to the SAOA Field List for the birds of SA) Also included are interesting breeding or ecological notes, new records for a well known locality, and first of the season records of migratory species.

These reports are not all authenticated records: researchers are advised to check with the observers before citing them. Send all reports to C Rogers at [twitcher\\_colin@hotmail.com](mailto:twitcher_colin@hotmail.com) or 83363325 or MOB 0417 896 977

## Malleefowl

13/11/2009. Two were 2km NW of Midgee, EP.

Andrew and Margaret Black.

22/11/2009. One was tending a mound at Parrakie Wetlands, SE.

Birds SE.

07/01/2010. One was on the northern boundary of Martin Washpool CP, Coorong.

Andrew Black.

26/01/2010. Three, two adults and a juvenile, were in Innes NP, YP.

Greg & Alana Dare.

07/02/2010. One was on private property near Ferries MacDonald Conservation Park, MM.

Rachel Weston.

*Previously sighted on this property on 20 December 2009.*

16/03/2010. Two were working the mound on the Salt Creek Loop track, Coorong.

Teresa Jack.

## Brown Quail

11/01/2010. One was in the scrub behind Thompson's Beach, AP.

Colin Rogers.

07/03/2010. Five were near beacon 19, Goolwa Channel, MM.

Teresa Jack.

*Three were at this location on 14 April.*

24/04/2010. One was at Butcher Gap CP, SE.

Teresa Jack.

08/05/2010. Six were along Salt Creek Road, Coorong.

Colin Rogers & Stuart Hull.

## Royal Albatross

14/02/2010. One was near 38S 140E on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers et al.

## Buller's Albatross

14/03/2010. Three were near 38S 140 E on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers et al.

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

Colin Rogers et al.

## Sooty Albatross

09/05/2010. At least four were over the continental shelf on the pelagic from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers et al.

## Soft-plumaged Petrel

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

Colin Rogers, et al.

## White-headed Petrel

11/12/2009. A beach-washed specimen was recovered near Blackfellows Cave, SE.

Jean Haywood.

## Gould's Petrel

14/02/2010. One made several passes near the boat on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers et al.

## Common Diving Petrel

31/01/2010. One was near 38S 140E on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers et al.

## Australian Bittern

17/10/2009. Two were at Pick Swamp, SE.

Bob Green & Jeff Campbell.

*These birds were reported regularly at this site over the summer and four, a pair with two young, were recorded on 15 November by Bryan Haywood and Ken Jones.*

24/10/2010. One was at Bool Lagoon Game Reserve, SE, and again on 1 November.

Jack & Pat Bourne.

31/10/2009. One was just north of Lake Frome Conservation Park, SE.

Sue Black et al.

12/03/2010. One was at Pick Swamp, SE.

Teresa Jack.

## Intermediate Egret

31/10/2009. One was near the Glencoe-Kalangadoo Road, SE.

Bob Green et al.

## Square-tailed Kite

19/02/2010. One was near Coppermine Road, Williamstown, MLR.

Amanda Pearce.

## Grey Falcon

29/04/2010. Two were at Algebuckina Waterhole, NW.

Phil Barron.

## Brolga

Over the period October to mid December 2009 there were ten reports of breeding pairs across the SE.

Birds SE Newsletter number 51.

18/11/2009. Thirty-three were at Bool Lagoon Game Reserve, SE.

Ken Jones.

26/12/2009. Eighty were at Bool Lagoon Game reserve, SE.

Jack & Pat Bourne.

21/01/2010. Twenty were at Bool Lagoon Game Reserve, SE.

Peter Tucker.

26/01/2010. Sixty-six were at Moyall Road, Naracoorte, SE.

Jack & Pat Bourne.

29/01/2010. Four were at Red Bank, Mount Burr.

S. Ballantyne.

27/03/2010. Fifty-five were at Magpie Swamp Road, SE.

Kay Parkin et al.

19/04/2010. One hundred and fifty were on Magpie Swamp Road, SE.

Teresa Jack.

## Lewin's Rail

25/02/2010. Two were on the saltwater side of the barrage at Goolwa.

Win Syson.

# Bird Records (cont)

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11/03/2010. One was just south of the barrage at Goolwa, MM.

Teresa Jack.

11-12/04/2010. One was in the creek near Watson's Gap, near Port Elliot.

Alan Burns.

## Spotless Crane

31/01/2010. One was on pond 4 Laratinga Wetlands, Mount Barker, MLR.

Bob Snell.

## Australian Bustard

27/11/2009. One was in Mokota CP, MN.

Andrew Black.

## Bush Stone Curlew

14/03/2010. At least three were near the Wildlife Park, Bordertown, upper SE.

Edward Smith & Kay Parkin.

## Lesser Sand Plover

11/01/2010. Three were at Thompson's Beach, AP.

Colin Rogers.

15/01/2010. Ten were at Thompson's Beach, AP.

Colin Rogers & John Cox.

23/03/2010. Five were at Thompson's Beach, AP.

Teresa Jack.

## Greater Sand Plover

31/10/2009. One was at Stony Point, Port MacDonnell, SE.

Bob Green *et. al.*

08/03/2010. One was at Black Point Reef, YP.

Margaret Tiller.

*This bird had been present since 23 December 2009.*

12/03/2010. Two, one in breeding plumage, were at Thompson's Beach, AP.

Jeff Philcox.

## Oriental Plover

12/02/2010. Four were in a paddock just south of Price Saltfields with 80 Banded Lapwing, YP.

Ian May.

*These birds remained at this site for several weeks and were joined by another in mid-March.*

## Hooded Plover

31/10/2009. Two were at French Point, Port MacDonnell, SE.

Peter Barrand *et al.*

31/10/2009. Two were in Piccaninnie Ponds Conservation Park, SE.

Bryan and T. Haywood.

30/01/2010. Two were at Stony Point, Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers.

13/03/2010. Ten were in the Coorong 6 km north of 42-mile Crossing.

Helen Monterola.

13/03/2010. Two were near Woods Well, Coorong.

Teresa Jack.

01/04/2010. Six were at Sleaford Mere Conservation Park, EP.

Teresa Jack.

18/03/2010. Two were at the Hindmarsh River Estuary, Victor Harbour.

Cynthia Pyle and Di Wiskich.

23/03/2010. Thirty-two were between Pt Marsden and Cape Rouge, KI.

Chris Baxter.

03/04/2010. Six, including two juveniles, were at Sleaford Mere, EP.

Teresa Jack.

17/04/2010. Two were at Woods Well, Coorong.

Teresa Jack.

11-12/04/2010. Two were at Hayborough, near Port Elliot.

Alan Burns.

## Plains-wanderer

27/11/2009. One, a male, was on the north-western boundary of Mokota CP, MN.

Meg Robertson & Pam O'Malley.

## Little Curlew

16/02/2010. Three were in a paddock on Bird Island Road, Wallaroo, YP.

Teresa Jack.

*These birds were seen at this site over a period of two weeks.*

## Whimbrel

19/03/2010. One was in Dry Creek Saltfields, AP.

Colin Rogers & John Hatch.

01/04/2010. Twenty were at Price Saltfields, YP.

Colin Rogers.

02/04/2010. Five were at Cape Rouge, KI.

Chris Baxter.

## Eastern Curlew

16/02/2010. Nine were at Port Arthur, Clinton Conservation Park, YP.

Teresa Jack.

20/02/2010. Forty one were at Port Arthur, YP.

Teresa Jack.

11/03/2010. One was south of the Barrage at Goolwa, MM.

Teresa Jack.

19/03/2010. Six were in Dry Creek Saltfields, AP.

Colin Rogers & John Hatch.

## Terek Sandpiper

18/03/2010. Two were in Dry Creek Saltfields, AP.

Colin Rogers.

10/04/2010. One was at Orchard Point, Port Augusta, NW.

Peter Langdon.

## Grey-tailed Tattler

10/04/2010. Two were at Orchard Point, Port Augusta, NW.

Peter Langdon.

## Pectoral Sandpiper

19/02/2010. One was in Dry Creek Saltfields, AP.

Colin Rogers.

28/03/2010. One was on St Kilda mudflats in front of the hotel, AP.

Martyn Price.

## Ruff

01-04/01/2010. Ruff was still present near the bird hide at Goolwa, FP.

Michael Wood.

## Long-tailed Jaeger

14/03/2010. One was near 38S 140E on the pelagic trip from Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers *et al.*

## Little Tern

07/11/2009. One was at Danger Point, Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers.

# Bird Records (cont)

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07/12/2009. Two were reported breeding at Danger Point, Port MacDonnell, SE.

Jeff Campbell.

*Still present on 15 December.*

## Fairy Tern

01/04/2010. A flock of at least 300 was in Price Salt fields, YP, at high tide.

Colin Rogers.

09/04/2010. A flock of 32 was at Point Sturt, Lake Alexandrina.

Nathaniel Doecke.

## Gull-billed Tern

19/03/2010. One in non-breeding plumage was in Dry Creek Salt fields, AP.

Colin Rogers & John Hatch.

## White-winged Black Tern

09/01/2010. One in partial breeding plumage was near Point Sturt, Lake Alexandrina.

Nathaniel Doecke.

## White-fronted Tern

31/1/2009. One was west of the breakwater at Port MacDonnell, SE.

Peter Barrand et al.

## Kelp Gull

15/11/2009. Seven were at Pick Swamp, Piccaninnie Ponds area, SE.

Ken Jones.

30/01/2010. Eight were at Danger Point, Port MacDonnell, SE.

Colin Rogers et al.

## Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo

05/10/2009. At least twenty were in Grundy's Lane Native Forest Reserve, SE.

K. Richardson.

*Fifteen were present on 31 October.*  
*Bob Green.*

12/10/2009. Two were in Boolara Native Forest Reserve, and one in Topperwein Native Forest Reserve, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

## Princess Parrot

02/05/2010. Eight were filmed and photographed at Nyapari, NW.

David Dartland.

*Reported on Birdline Australia.*

## Scarlet-chested Parrot

14/08/2009. A male was 8km north of Wilmington, FR.

Wally Klau.

## Dollarbird

26/04/2010. One was in a small patch of scrub north east of Brown's Road, Monarto, MLR.

Mike Potter.

## Powerful Owl

19/10/2009. One was calling in Snow Gum Native Forest Reserve, SE.

Bryan Haywood et al.

## Short-tailed Grasswren

08/02/2010. Several were in Triodia habitat on Mt Ive Station, EP.

Phil Barron & Nathaniel Doecke.

## Chestnut-breasted Whiteface

04/04/2010. A small flock was near the old mine shafts on Mt Lyndhurst Station, NE.

Edward Smith.

## Black-chinned Honeyeater

31/10/2009. Several were calling in Naracoorte Conservation Park, SE.

Bryan and T. Haywood.

20/02/2010. Four were along the Inman River, Victor Harbour.

Greg & Alana Dare.

29/04/2010. One was in Joy Street, Lonsdale, MLR.

David Newman.

04/05/2010. At least two were at Middle Creek Strathalbyn, MLR.

Nathaniel Doecke.

## Fuscous Honeyeater

03/02/2010. Two were in Honeysuckle Native Forest Reserve, SE.

John Berggy.

## Black Honeyeater

06/02/2010. Two were at Sugarloaf Hill, Keith, upper SE.

David Sando.

09/02/2010. Two were in sGum Lagoon Conservation Park, SE.

David Sando.

13/02/2010. At least three were at Mount Monster Conservation Park, upper SE.

John Turner.

*One was also present in Kelvin Powrie CP near Keith.*

## Blue-faced Honeyeater

26/11/2010. Six were near Atlantic Heath-Millicent Road, SE.

F. Ford.

13/03/2010. Four, two adults and two juveniles were near the service station on the Bordertown Mount Gambier intersection, Keith, upper SE.

Colin Rogers et al.

*Although recently fledged young were present the adults appeared to be sitting on a second brood. These birds were also present at this location on 27 March.*

*Two adults, two immature birds and two juveniles were present on 17 April.*

## White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike

08/10/2009. Several were in Grundy Land Native Forest Reserve, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

30/10/2009. One was in Snow Gum Native Forest Reserve, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

29/11/2009. At least one was in Telford Scrub Conservation Park, SE.

John Berggy.

## Little Woodswallow

07/02/2010. Four were at Peter's Pillars, Mt Ive Station NW.

Phil Barron & Nathaniel Doecke.

## Pied Currawong

31/10/2009. Several were in Dry Creek Native Forest Reserve, SE.

H. Bawden et al.

## Satin Flycatcher

31/10/2009. One was in Snow Gum Native Forest Reserve, SE.

Bryan Haywood.

31/10/2009. One was in Telford Scrub CP, SE.

Bob Green & Gwen Young.

# Bird Records (cont) / From the Library

01- 07/02/2010. A male was 3km NE of Langhorne Creek, MM.

John Lawry & John Lawton.

22/03/2010. One, a female, was approximately 4km SE of Nairne, MLR.

Phil Barron.

## **Bassian Thrush**

19/11/2009. One was in Long Native Forest Reserve, SE.

Sue Black.

20/11/2009. Several were in Telford Scrub Conservation Park, SE.

John Berggy.

02/02/2010. Several were in Telford Scrub Conservation Park, SE.

John Berggy.

19/04/2010. One was at Telford Scrub CP, SE.

Teresa Jack.

## **Beautiful Firetail**

08/05/2010. Two were in Deep Creek CP, MLR.

Ester Breed.

## **Painted Finch**

13/11/2009. One was at Warraweena HS, NFR.

S. Steiner.

08/02/2010. Eleven were at a waterhole on Mt Ive Station, NW.

Phil Barron & Nathaniel Doecke.



## **Little Eagle**

photographed by Kay Parkin  
on the Srzlecki Track  
near Mt Lyndhurst  
Easter 2010

## **FROM THE LIBRARY**

DVD

16

Dare, Greg

Bowra bird trip October 2008

Locally produced, 2010

This DVD features 36 bird species including the Hall's Babbler, Bourke's parrot and Painted honeyeater

DVD

17

Where are ... the Barkers?

Wooragee, Vic.: Wooragee Landcare Group, n.d.

Entertaining and educational, this short docudrama features the 'endangered' Barking Owls of North East Victoria.

In this film we meet Betty, a Barking Owl, wildlife ecologist Dr Natasha Schedvin and local residents and children of the Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park area near Beechworth and Chiltern.

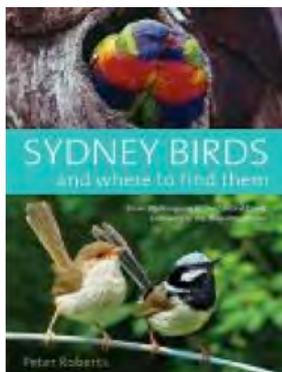
Filmed on location in the Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park and surrounding area, this short local film is based on the research of PhD student Natasha Schedvin and the owls she came to know and love.



## **Sacred Kingfisher**

photographed by Greg Dare near Goolwa Barrage on 13/02/2010

# From the Library (cont)



FIE-N

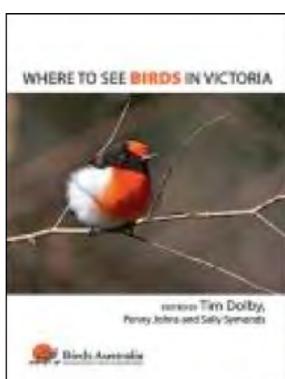
7

Roberts, Peter

**Sydney birds and where to find them : From Wollongong to the Central Coast and west to the Blue Mountains**

Crows Nest, N.S.W. : Allen & Unwin, 2009.

This book features the 30 top bird watching localities in and around Sydney. Each locality entry lists the key species to look out for and how to access the location. Precise details about where to look for certain birds is contained in the main section of this book.



FIE-V

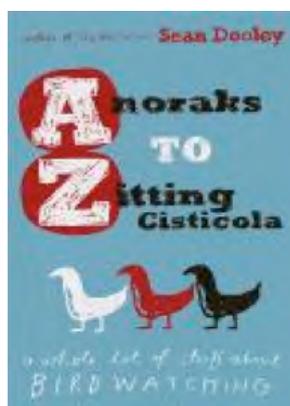
13

**Where to See Birds in Victoria**

Edited by Tim Dolby, Sally Symonds, Penny Johns

Crows Nest, N.S.W. : Allen & Unwin, 2009.

This book features the very best places in Victoria for seeing birds. Despite being Australia's smallest mainland state, its varied landscapes provide habitat for more than 500 bird species. It provides information on how to get to each destination, what facilities and accommodation to expect and, importantly, precisely where to look for those special or rare birds. The book also provides a comprehensive and up-to-date list of birds, with degree of rarity and where to see each species.



BIR

62

Dooley, Sean

**Anoraks to Zitting Cisticola: A whole lot of stuff about birdwatching**

Crows Nest, N.S.W. : Allen & Unwin, 2007.

Everything you wanted to know about bird watching but didn't know who to ask (in a convenient A-Z format). **ISBN: 9781741752724 ISBN-10: 1741752728**

Number Of Pages: 276

Publisher: Allen & Unwin Pty., Limited

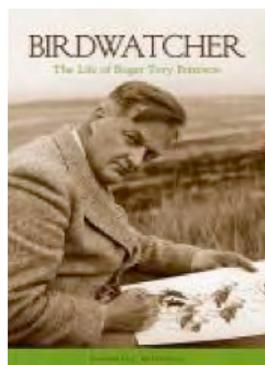
BIR

61

Rosenthal, Elizabeth J.

**Birdwatcher: The Life of Roger Tory Peterson**

Guilford, Connecticut. : The Lyons Press, 2010.



Roger Tory Peterson — the Renaissance man who taught Americans the joy of watching birds and who also invented the modern field guide. His 1934 landmark Field Guide to the Birds was the first book designed to go into the field and help people identify the elements of nature. Birdwatcher is a comprehensive, illustrated biography of Roger Tory Peterson — a hero in the conservation world.

w

# Large Wings!



**White-bellied Sea-Eagle**

Photographed by Greg Dare at Arthur River, Tasmania on 01/01/2010



**Shy Albatross**

Photographed by Teresa Jack off Rort Madonnell on 18.04.10

# Birds of More Arid Regions



**Cinnamon Quail-thrush**  
Strzecki Track  
Near Mt. Lyndhurst Station  
Easter 2010



**Cockatiels**  
Strzecki Track  
Near Mt. Lyndhurst Station  
Easter 2010



**Striated Grasswren**

Gluepot, 21/03/2020



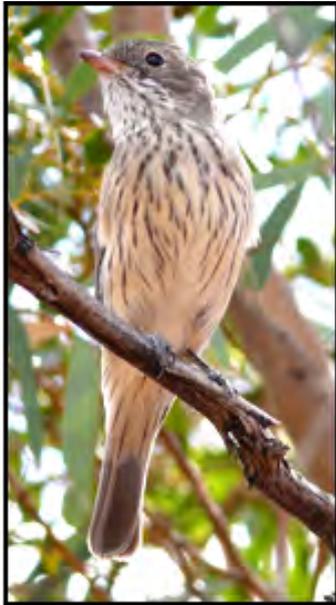
**Inland Dotterel**  
Strzecki Track, near Mt. Lyndhurst Station, Easter 2010



**Zebra Finch**

**Photographs taken by Kay Parkin**

# Woodland Birds



**Juvenile male Rufous Whistler**  
Photographed by John Turner  
at Gluepot Reserve on 19/04/2010



**Purple-gaped Honeyeater**  
Photographed by Greg Dare on 23/01/2010  
on Royston Head Track, Yorke Peninsula



**Musk Lorikeet**  
Photographed by John Spiers

Photographed by John Spiers  
at Scott Conservation Park  
on 01/05/2010, 2010



**Red-lored Whistler**  
Photographed by Kay Parkin  
at Gluepot, on 21/03/2010



**Black-chinned Honeyeater**  
Photographed by Greg Dare on 14/02/2010  
on Inman River Flood Plains, Victor Harbor