



Newsletter

Hunter Bird Observers Club

Issue No. 2/15 April 2015

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

- The Club aims to:
- Encourage and further the study and conservation of Australian birds and their habitat; and
 - Encourage bird observing as a leisure-time activity

A striking white phase individual of the Grey Goshawk, observed on 18th April.
Photo by Lene Parashou.



leneparashou

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President's Column

On the weekend I ran a “woodland bird identification and survey techniques” workshop at Mount Vincent, on a property owned by a couple of HBOC members. It wasn't an HBOC activity (it was part of the work I do for BirdLife Australia) but many of the objectives of the workshop were aligned with those of HBOC.

The main objective was to impress upon people (predominantly local landholders) the value of performing bird surveys, to contribute to a greater understanding of our local birdlife. The identification side of things focussed mostly on basics, with an emphasis on clues for recognising birds. This included looking beyond just the colours and shapes and taking closer note of other things such behaviour and “where in the tree was the bird?”. Of course, learning calls was also emphasised – particularly important when doing surveys in a forest environment and something that has been a topic of discussion in recent weeks.

But what impressed me the most was that there was a room full of non-birders all eagerly taking in the messages, keen to get out looking for birds and learning how to identify and recognise different species. It made me realise that we should always be looking outside of our own membership and birding peers to be promoting birdwatching, and all of the peripheral elements that it has. The interest is out there, we just need the vehicles to tap into it. The Club's presence at events like Tocal Field Days is a great way of trying to harness and increase this interest in birding, both as a leisure time activity and a way of contributing to our knowledge and protection of birds and their habitat.

Keep spreading the word everyone!

Mick Roderick

New Members

The Club extends a warm welcome to:

Graham Castles of Rathmines
Margaret Clarke of Lorn
Nick Cherrie of Wallsend
Julie Hazlewood of New Lambton Heights
Dick Holroyd of The Junction
Kevin Jones of Teralba

Andrej Karpiel of Rankin Park
Kim Pryor of Thornton
Fred Rainsford of Bar Beach
Chris Syme of New Lambton
Gai Winn of Marsfield

We hope to see you at club meetings and outings.

Health and Safety Awareness for Activities

When attending field outings, ensure you are wearing appropriate clothing, including wet weather gear in inclement weather, and suitable footwear. It is advisable to bring a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and to carry water.

Please sign the attendance register at field outings and also at meetings.

If you leave an outing early, please let the leader know before you go.

Participants attend at their own risk and should refrain from any behaviour that might put themselves or others at risk. That includes assessing whether they have the level of fitness required for the advertised outing. If in doubt contact the leader beforehand.

Hunter Pelagic Species Summaries

As many of you will know, pelagic trips have been run out of Port Stephens consistently now for over five years. The current vessel and climate of risk aversion means that inevitably a number of trips that are scheduled each year are cancelled. Nevertheless around eight trips a year typically get out. This has provided a dataset of over 40 trip reports from which some indicators of species' occurrence within the Hunter offshore waters can be drawn. A further 40 trip reports from pre-2009 pelagics have also been incorporated to provide a combined dataset of 80 reports. The chart below indicates the likelihood of observing a particular species in Hunter waters during any given month, based on the pelagic trip report statistics. Very rare species have been omitted to reduce the size of the chart. There is some noise present within the data analysis, driven principally by the relatively low number of trips for some months. However, it is a live dataset that will be updated after each trip and should become more robust as the dataset increases in size.

Common Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Little penguin												
Southern giant petrel												
Northern giant petrel												
Cape petrel (Australasian)												
Grey-faced (great-winged) petrel												
White-headed petrel												
Providence (Solander's) petrel												
Tahiti petrel												
Kermadec petrel												
White-necked petrel												
Cook's petrel												
Gould's petrel												
Antarctic prion												
Slender-billed prion												
Fairy prion												
White-chinned petrel												
Black petrel												
Streaked shearwater												
Wedge-tailed shearwater												
Buller's shearwater												
Flesh-footed Shearwater												
Sooty Shearwater												
Short-tailed Shearwater												
Fluttering Type Shearwater												
Fluttering shearwater												
Hutton's shearwater												
Wandering Type Albatross												
Black-browed Type Albatross												
Buller's albatross												
Shy Type Albatross												
Indian yellow-nosed albatross												
Wilson's storm-petrel												
New Zealand Storm-petrel												
White-faced storm-petrel												
Black-bellied storm-petrel												
White-bellied storm-petrel												
Australasian Gannet												
Brown Skua												
Pomarine Jaeger												
Arctic Jaeger												
Long-tailed Jaeger												
Silver Gull												
Caspian Tern												
Crested Tern												
White-fronted Tern												
Common Tern												
Sooty Tern												
Common Noddy												
White Tern												

Hunter Pelagic Species Summaries

Although useful, the above chart provides no indication of species abundance. The total counts for each species were therefore combined with the observation frequency data to produce a chart that provides an indication of the relative abundance of each species in any given month, as presented below. This chart provides more useful information for the more frequently recorded species which have large variations in the number observed, such as the Shearwaters.

Common Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Little penguin												
Southern giant petrel												
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Brown Skua												
Pomarine Jaeger												
Arctic Jaeger												
Long-tailed Jaeger												
Silver Gull												
Caspian Tern												
Crested Tern												
White-fronted Tern												
Common Tern												
Sooty Tern												
Common Noddy												
White Tern												

Frequency of Observation	
Rare (1 record in 20 trips)	
Infrequent (1-2 records in 10 trips)	
Frequent (3-5 records in 10 trips)	
Common (6-8 records in 10 trips)	
Very common (9-10 records in 10 trips)	

Relative Seasonal Abundance	
Sparse (<3% of average count)	
Reduced (3% to 9% of average count)	
Typical (9% to 50% of average count)	
Increased (50% to 150% of average count)	
Abundant (>150% of average count)	

If you are interested in going on a pelagic trip out of Port Stephens then contact Mick Roderick for further details.

Dan Williams

Save the Swift Parrot

Recent modelling published in Biological Conservation has predicted that the Swift Parrot could be facing imminent extinction in less than 20 years' time, large through predation by Sugar Gliders. In response to this a crowdfunding campaign is being launched to protect the Swift Parrot and two other Tasmanian birds – the Orange-bellied Parrot and the Forty-spotted Pardalote, all three of which are threatened by Sugar Gliders. You can read the full article here: <http://theconversation.com/lets-stop-tasmanias-swift-parrots-going-the-way-of-the-dodo-39570>

We can also do our bit for the Swift Parrot here in the Hunter by helping out with the annual Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater searches. Both species use our region for winter food sources and the latter sometimes breeds here. The searches are a good way of finding which areas the birds are utilising – assisting our

understanding of their movements and supporting conservation efforts. The first search of the year is undertaken over the weekend of the 16th and 17th of May and the week either side. For further details refer to the Club Activities page at the end of the Newsletter.



Swift Parrot by Chris Tzaros

Dan Williams

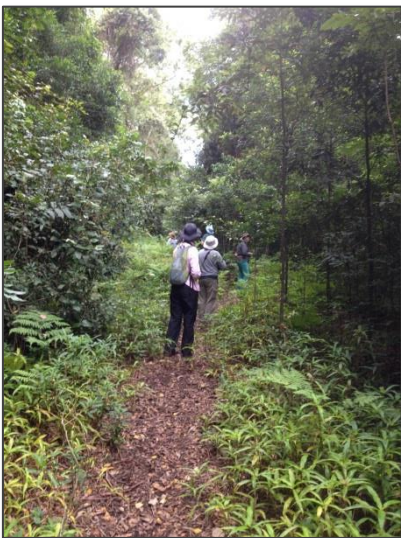
Club Activity Reports

Allyn River

15 February 2015

A 7:00 am start at Tucker Park in Paterson did not deter seventeen members turning up to begin their excursion to the White Rock Camp Area near the Allyn River.

The journey was well co-ordinated, the convoy rules were almost strictly adhered to and we eventually arrived at the White Rock Camp Area to begin our birding an hour and a half later.



Dr. Livingstone, I presume?

The rainforest was impressive and gave us the Noisy Pitta, Crested Shrike-Tit feeding fledged young and Rufous Fantail. Despite

his desire we could not morph the Yellow-throated

Scrubwren into an Australian Logrunner – sorry Peter the camera never lies.

Morning tea provided good viewings of the Russet-tailed Thrush, so the comparison with the earlier seen Bassian Thrush was possible. The 70 Topknot Pigeon (the most numerous seen bird) also joined in to disrupt the proceedings.

After lunch and with the sky now threatening rain, we decided to drive over the mountains to Barrington House. I suspect that driving through the hail and rain over a mountain top dirt trail was a new experience for some in our group. All up a total of 42 species were seen.

Rowley Smith

Port Stephens Waterbird Survey

20 February 2015

A group of us did the summer waterbirds survey of Port Stephens. A day or so beforehand, our prospects didn't look too flash – rain & wind were forecast. However, the weather gods smiled on us and we had very good conditions, and we saw lots of birds. We found around

Club Activity Reports

150 Australian Pied Oystercatchers (which is a typical count for Port Stephens – the most important site in NSW for this Endangered species). Also around 50 Sooty Oystercatchers (the highest count we've ever had, and it's a Vulnerable species in NSW) and 300+ Eastern Curlews (1% of the world population) plus all the usual shorebirds and waterbirds, in about normal numbers. My group of surveyors, while heading across the Port from Nelson Bay to Winda Woppa, also saw a raft of 4 Little Penguins and 6 floating Jaegers (Arctic, we decided).

Alan Stuart

Clean Up Australia Day

1 March 2015

A hot fine Sunday morning saw three HBOC members joined by a further volunteer, Verity, working hard on Tom Clarke's beloved Stockton Sandspit (SSS). Tom was away enjoying the birding delights of Rottneest Island.

Stockton Sandspit, as Hunter Birdos are aware is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA). The site is widely recognised for its migratory waders which roost there in large numbers.

Every year Tom organizes SSS as a registered 'Clean Up Australia' location. This is most important to keep the area free of rubbish for both the waders and the bird watchers.

We collected 28 bags of rubbish along with larger items – clothes dryer, several TVs, car parts and tyres plus a large lounge chair.



The spoils, spoiling the environment no more

Following 'elevenes' and the enthusiastic birding chat, Verity felt she may well join HBOC and attend meetings at the Wetlands Centre – she noted down dates and time for the meetings.

Realising that many members were committed to other sites and activities on Clean Up Australia Day – e.g. the Bird Photography Weekend – so volunteer numbers would be down, we were still disappointed that only three members of our club took part at the Stockton site.

We believe keeping local IBAs in as pristine and safe condition as possible is just as important a function for our club as that of undertaking bird surveys of these sites.

Max Blanch arrived during the morning and viewing two piles of rubbish obviously dumped from the back of a utility or station wagon, raised a suggestion for HBOC committee to consider. Could the HBOC (perhaps working co-operatively with NPWS) pay for and install a CCTV camera beneath the bridge superstructure? This may not catch the dumpers in action. However, it could be a deterrent if widely advertised.

Many thanks to Melva, Caryl and Verity for the huge effort they put in on Sunday. We hope next year many more club members will join Tom for this most important activity.

Paddy Lightfoot

Hexham Swamp

3 March 2015

Twenty three members of HBOC set out on the mid-week outing to Hexham Swamp. For many it was their first visit and they were in for a treat. Our first stop was at the northern end of the National Park, where everyone had great views of something between 20 and 50 Golden-headed Cisticolas, mixed with a lesser number of Tawny Grassbirds. Australian Reed-warblers and Little Grassbirds were often heard but not spotted. \

We then moved south along Pipeline Road. Probably the highlight of the day for many of us came when Dinah spotted a Black-necked Stork among the tyres. Two birds, a male and female, flew in. We all had magnificent views in two or three places as the birds moved south with us. A couple of Australian Hobbies were equally obliging, doing several flypasts and giving everyone close-up views. Other raptors sighted were a Black-shouldered Kite, two Whistling Kites, two Swamp Harriers, a Nankeen Kestrel and a Brown Falcon.

As we moved south we were amazed at the number of Sharp-tailed Sandpipers taking to the air. Ann gave us an

Club Activity Reports

instant count of about 2,000 and no one disagreed. Ann and Sue also helped us identify 25 Common Greenshanks. Some of the other waterbirds in good numbers were 180 Black Swans, 20 Australian Pelicans, 75 White-faced Herons, 100 Australian White Ibis, 50 Straw-necked Ibis and 15 Royal Spoonbills. White-fronted Chats were feeding on the exposed mud along the edges of the Juncus in several places.

Everyone had a great morning, largely thanks to Ann Lindsey's leadership, ably backed up by Sue Hamonet's encyclopaedic knowledge. We are very lucky in HBOC to have people who are willing to share their expertise with others.

Robert Stewart

Ash Island and Stockton Sandspit

15 March 2015

A total of 17 people turned up at Stockton Sandspit for the Club outing. We did not see the Great Knots worse luck, but we had fabulous Bar-tailed Godwits, many in breeding plumage, Curlew Sandpipers (some getting quite red) and about 195 Red-necked Stints, with some also in breeding plumage.



Red-necked Stints by Ann Lindsey

The Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were very active with many chasing in what is presumably mating behaviour. The Pacific Golden Plovers were hiding again in salt marsh, but you could see a lot of white and black showing up. We had two orange-flagged Bar-tailed Godwits and one Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. They were not there the previous week so it was evidence of birds moving through on migration from the south or east maybe.

Only 11 members then followed to Ash Island where it was blowing hard. Despite the weather we did manage to see several hundred Black-winged Stilts and 50 or so Black-tailed Godwits.

About 40 Common Greenshank were huddled on the far eastern side of Swan Pond trying to get out of the wind. We left and went to Hexham just in time for the storm so we all came home, after which the weather got darker and stormier.

Ann Lindsey

Durridgere SCA Camp

3 to 6 April 2015

The first comers on Thursday found the gate locked, but a few frenzied calls to our trusty President had us in and the gates unlocked. Thanks Mick.

Due to the inclement weather the number of campers fluctuated throughout the weekend. By Thursday afternoon there were 14 people camped beside a dry creek bed. However, the rainfall overnight on Friday resulted in six of them packing up and going home for fear of deteriorating road conditions. It continued to drizzle throughout Saturday, but another two campers were added to the gathering.

Friday brought overcast conditions but mostly dry and good birding with a species list of 56 and 13 heard. Some lucky ones saw a Diamond Dove - a bird not seen in the Hunter Region since 2003. A Black eared Cuckoo also showed for most of the weekend.

By Saturday evening, after almost continuous drizzle all day, except for a break in the weather in the middle when we went out, the list had grown to 69 species and 13 heard. A renewed enthusiasm came with the sighting of Jupiter and a few stars appearing late in the evening sky around our glorious campfire, but no moon and no Lunar eclipse.

Sunday morning brought sunshine, a little sleep in and the Easter Parrot dispensing Easter Eggs. Everyone scattered to do birding, despite some wet bedding and very damp tents. By Sunday we still had 14 people at camp and 94 species and 6 heard.

Durridgere is a State Conservation Area and HBOC was privileged to get permission from the governing body to camp there. The Habitat is brilliant with Smooth barked Eucalypt, Grey Box and great stands of Banksia and Calitrix. There is lots of undergrowth and lots of fallen timber. The creek was dry except for a few dish sized pools and the dams were dry also. Trying to make a living from this sandy soil, with a lack of ability for the

Club Activity Reports

dams and creeks to hold water was too great an expectation.



The "unmentionable" Diamond Dove by Lorna Mee

This camp has welcomed back Fred Van Gessel who has not been at an HBOC camp since 1982 and Tom Kendall (an old Stalwart of HBOC) who was attending his first camp. Some people did not move from the campsite and had good birding, including White browed Babblers, Red capped Robin, Speckled Warblers, Diamond Dove and Black-eared Cuckoo all at the camp site itself. A total of ten species of Parrots, 18 species of Honeyeaters and five species of Robin were recorded.

Despite the metal debris left behind from human settlement, the camp was brilliant and we all want to go back again and again. All up we had 104 species and 6 heards, with 27 people at various stages of the camp. Thanks to all of those who helped at campfire duties, toilet digging and general assistance, making it a successful camp, despite the rain.

Lorna Mee

Belmont South Foreshore

7 April 2015

The weather forecast was for showers, but the morning was 'glorious', as one participant commented. We met at the foreshore and notched up several birds: Australian Pelican, Red Wattlebird, Eastern Rosella, Caspian Tern, Blue-faced Honeyeater... before setting off along Cold Tea Creek, where some of us saw a Nankeen Night-Heron and most had good views of two Striated Herons sunning themselves in the mangroves. As we continued along the causeway between the lagoon and the creek, the path was covered with puddles from the recent heavy rain and made walking 'interesting'; here we saw Eastern Yellow Robins and Red-browed Finches, which were sighted often during the walk.

We continued out to the airshaft site, witnessing a Grey Goshawk being pursued repeatedly by Australian Ravens, along the way. From the path to the airshaft, we had good views of a Yellow Thornbill, Rufous Whistlers, Grey Fantails and White-browed Scrubwrens. There was a large number of Black Swans on the lagoon, but few other birds. Returning on the water board road, we were treated to photograph opportunities by White-breasted Woodswallows, which we had seen in a number of locations during the morning. As we walked back to our cars via Ocean Park Road, we saw Eastern Spinebills, and more Silvereyes, already noted on the way to the airshaft.

During morning tea and bird call, back on the foreshore where about 20 birds were present, our morning was rounded off by a White-bellied Sea-Eagle and an Eastern Osprey flying past. The total of birds seen was 59 and 8 were heard. There were numerous sightings of Red-browed Finches and White-breasted Woodswallows, as already mentioned and other noteworthy records are 70 Black Swans, 10 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes and 20 Australasian Figbirds.

A sighting of a 'different parrot' on the foreshore caused some excitement; on further looking and seeing it was preening a Rainbow Lorikeet, we realised it was a strange coloured Rainbow Lorikeet and there has been some discussion on Hunterbirding about what it might have been. The consensus seems to be a cinnamon colour mutation of the Rainbow Lorikeet and most probably an aviary escapee.



"Are you feeling alright? You're a little off colour!"

A few of us drove around to the Valentine end of Green Point; however it was very quiet along the track. We enjoyed lunch in the park before a menacing storm sent us home. Thank you to all those attended for a very pleasant morning of birding.

Beth Cockerell

Future Club Activities

June Long Weekend Camp

6 to 8 June 2015

The June long weekend camp is at the private property, “Wongalee”, via Apple Tree Flat. To get there drive through Jerrys Plains on the Golden Highway, but instead of following the highway around a sharp right hand bend (about 0.6 km past the service station) to go to Denman, go straight ahead for about 200 metres and then turn left onto Jones Reserve Road which may be called Queen Street at this point. From here it is about

4.2 km to Apple Tree Flat Road (left or south). This road ends at the “Wongalee” gate after a couple of kilometres and several bends. Make sure you close the gate and then follow HBOC signs to the camp site. There are a few dips but with care caravans should be OK. For further details contact me on 02 4951 2008 or email ann.lindsey@bigpond.com

Ann Lindsey

A Stormy Affair

As most people reading this will know, the Hunter was hit hard by severe weather recently, as an east coast low tracked south along the coast from the night of Monday 20th and throughout Tuesday 21st. The strong winds felled many trees across the region, blocking roads, damaging homes and cutting power lines.

Heavy rains also caused serious flooding in some locations, with the Williams and Patterson Rivers particularly hard hit. Tragically several lives were lost, including within in Dungog and Maitland, with the entire Hunter Estuary in flood. The event also impacted on the birds of the Hunter.

During the Tuesday afternoon a few observers braved the conditions and were able to witness pelagic (true oceanic) species in the estuary. They had been forced from the deep seas and on to the Hunter coast by the gale force winds and had sought shelter within the less exposed environment of the Hunter River.

Between Queens Wharf and Stockton Sandspit a number of pelagic species were recorded, including around 15 Short-tailed Shearwaters, five Gould’s Petrels, a Fairy Prion, a White-faced Storm-Petrel and a Fregetta Storm-Petrel sp. A few eager birders also got out on Wednesday morning in the wake of the storm but no more vagrants were to be found – either they’d already made their escape when the winds abated in the night or had not survived the night.

Back on land some of our members decided to provide food for the birds, which is not typically done by many – water is regarded as being a better resource to provide. However, with little chance of birds getting a feed on Tuesday it was thought that they could maybe do with a helping hand. The response from the birds to the provision of food certainly suggested that they were in need of some extra nourishment, as they seemed to be attracted in greater numbers than would usually be expected.

Comments were also made on Hunterbirding regarding the potential impact on the forthcoming winter blossom, with many tree branches lost and presumably additional buds as well. Here’s hoping that our members, friends and family have all survived the storm relatively loss free and that they and the birds of our Region bounce back quickly.

Dan Williams



Gould's Petrel by Mick Roderick

Recent Observations

Hunterbirding is an email group set up by HBOC that is run through the Yahoo Groups. It is a great way to keep in touch with the latest goings-on in Hunter Region birding. Members are able to report sightings, post questions to the group and get involved with group discussions on bird related issues. If you are interested in joining the group then the easiest way is to send an email to hunterbirding-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. You can choose either to receive individual emails or a single daily digest. Alternatively, email me at scythrops@yahoo.com.au and I'll sort it out for you – what could be easier?! In addition to being a forum for interesting discussions on issues such as bird identification and behaviour it is also a great place to report your observations. Some of the Hunterbirding observation highlights from the last couple of months include:

- Three Bush Stone-Curlews at Tilligerry Creek on 6th February;
- Noisy Pitta, Paradise Riflebird and Logrunner at Dingo Tops on 8th February;
- A King Quail at Ash Island on 15th February;
- A Spotless Crake heard calling at Cooperook Corner on 23rd February;
- A Common Noddy at Nobbys Head on 28th February;
- Six Freckled Ducks and Ten Pink-eared Ducks at Deep Pond on 6th March
- Noisy Pitta and Restless Flycatcher in Sugarloaf SCA on 8th March;
- An Australian Shelduck at Hexham Swamp on 10th March;
- A White Tern found near Muswellbrook on 13th March; and
- A White-winged Black Tern in Newcastle Harbour on 21st March.

Bird records are obtained by the club through a variety of means, In addition to bird records communicated via Hunterbirding others are received through the BA atlas database, club outing sighting sheets, the club night observations forum and direct communications with the record officers. Of particular interest to the club are those records of regional significance, including sightings of the more unusual species, observations of breeding activity, early and late records of migratory birds and significantly large counts. A selection of records of this nature reported at the club nights and through direct communications is provided below. Unfortunately, space limitations do not enable all of the records to be reproduced here. However, the club is appreciative of all records that are received and all contributors are acknowledged in the Annual Bird Report.

Species	Number	Date	Location	Observer
Australian Wood Duck	5+8dy	10/02/2015	Edgeworth	C. & R. Goodenough
Black-necked Stork	1	23/02/2015	Morpeth	F. van Gessel
Black-winged Stilt	1ad+3juv	31/01/2015	Dora Creek	H. Windon
Black-winged Stilt	4ad+1juv	8/02/2015	Dora Creek	C. & R. Goodenough
Collared Sparrowhawk	3	6/02/2015	Eraring	H. Windon
Eastern Koel	1	9/03/2015	Rankin Park	T. Kendall
Galah	20+4dy	19/01 - 3/02/2015	Dora Creek	C. & R. Goodenough
Little Penguin	1	10/03/2015	Swansea	J. Adams
Noisy Miner	15+1dy	27/01/2015	Dora Creek	C. & R. Goodenough
Pacific Baza	2ad+3juv	10/02/2015	Dunns Creek	P. Baird
Pheasant Coucal	1	24/02/2015	Dudley	D. Raine
Powerful Owl	1	1/02/2015	Myuna Bay	H. Windon
Rainbow Lorikeet	4+2dy	20/12/2014	Dora Creek	C. & R. Goodenough
Rainbow Lorikeet	2+1dy	4/03/2015	Dora Creek	C. & R. Goodenough

Club Activities April to June 2015

DATE	EVENT	MEETING PLACE & TIME	CONTACT
APRIL 2015			
Saturday 18 April	Hunter Wader Survey	7.30 am Ash Island 8.00 am Other locations as directed	Alan Stuart 0409 978 171 – Ash Island Dan Williams 0408 023 262 – Kooragang Jack Adams 4971 5334 – Swansea Jenny Powers 4944 7274 – Stockton Sue Hamonet 4958 1023 – Swan Bay Steven Cox 0409 848 390– Tomago
Sunday 19 April	Field Outing - Southern Port Stephens	8.00am Tilligerry Habitat (end of Peace Parade)	Lois Wooding 4919 1235
Tuesday 21 April	Tomago Wetlands Survey	7.30am Entry to Tomago House	Neville McNaughton 4951 1265 Please ring to confirm
MAY 2015			
Friday 1 - Sunday 3 May	Total Field Day	Volunteers organised	Alan Stuart 0409 978 171
Tuesday 5 May	Mid-week Outing - Butterwick / Green Wattle Creek	8.00am Seaham Swamp (cnr of East Seaham and Seaham Roads)	Ray McLean 4987 4512
Wednesday 6 May	Management Committee Meeting	6.30pm – 9.30pm Garden Suburbs School	Mick Roderick 0421761237 All members welcome
Wednesday 13 May	Club Meeting	7.30pm The Wetlands Centre, Shortland	Speaker: Richard Fuller (UQ) 'Shorebirds in the East Asian Flyway'
Saturday 16 May	Hunter Wader Survey	6.30am Ash Island 7.00am Various locations as directed	Alan Stuart 0409 978 171 – Ash Island Dan Williams 0408 023 262 – Kooragang Jack Adams 4971 5334 – Swansea Jenny Powers 4944 7274 – Stockton Sue Hamonet 4958 1023 – Swan Bay Steven Cox 0409 848 390– Tomago
Saturday 16 - Sunday 17 May	Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot Search	Various locations as desired or directed	Mick Roderick 0421 761237 mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au Or Steve Roderick 0409 452921 Please contact for information
Sunday 17 May	Field Outing - Seal Rocks Track north of Mungo Brush, Myall Lakes NP	8.00am in the car park off Marine Drive, just before the Myall River bridge, Tea Gardens.	Dan Williams 0408 023 262
Tuesday 19 May	Tomago Wetlands Survey	7.30am Entry to Tomago House	Neville McNaughton 4951 1265 Please ring to confirm
JUNE 2015			
Tuesday 2 June	Mid-week Outing - Rathmines	8.00am Styles Point, off Overhill Road, Rathmines	Di Johnson 4975 1777
Wednesday 3 June	Management Committee Meeting	6.30pm – 9.30pm Garden Suburbs School	Mick Roderick 0421761237 All members welcome
Saturday 6 - Monday 8 June	Long Weekend Camp	<i>Wongalee</i> , Appletree Flat, west of Jerrys Plains	Ann Lindsey 4951 2008
Wednesday 10 June	Club Meeting	7.30pm The Wetlands Centre	Speaker: Dick Jenkin - 'Tassie Tasters: Endemics and Seabirds of the Apple Isle'