



Newsletter

Hunter Bird Observers Club

Issue No. 4/16 June 2016

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 scarce winter migrant to lowland woodlands in the Hunter Valley, this male Scarlet Robin was photographed by Belle Farley at Tingira Heights on 15th June.



twinviv
photography

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Please send Newsletter articles direct to the Editor,
 Dan Williams at scythrops@yahoo.com.au
 Deadline for the next edition – 9 October 2016

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President's Column

Birding Basics

The greatest asset we have to improve our birding skills is our passion for birds, especially those close to home. Yes, I mean those birds that sometimes appear a little lackluster, because you've seen them all your birding life. Yet these common local birds are often the key to unlocking our recognition of rarer species elsewhere in the country. Just about everywhere we go in Australia we will find other representatives of the bird families we have in our own backyard, suburb and region. What will help make the different birds we see in other locations easier to identify is how well we know their relatives at home. Honeyeaters, Fairy-wrens, Whistlers, Robins, Shrike-thrushes, Parrots, Raptors, Terns, Waterfowl, Rails, Finches and Cisticolas, to name but a few, all have representatives strewn throughout the land.

We may have no trouble picking a Pale-headed Rosella from the Eastern Rosella we have at home, perhaps even a Red-collared Lorikeet from our local Rainbow Lorikeets. But what about a Zitting Cisticola from our local Golden-headed Cisticolas out of breeding plumage, or an Arctic Tern from the summer visiting Common Terns we get locally? Each of these comparative pairings have local representatives, so familiarity with the details of what defines our local birds makes their relatives

immediately stand out if we ever get to meet them. There will be many times where we will be able to pick-up rarer species of bird because we are familiar with our local species. Just a few of those I've seen that were only made possible because of more local species include the Rufous-crowned Emu-wren, because it's call was similar to our local Southern Emu-wren; Sandstone Shrike-thrush because it's voice was similar to our Grey Shrike-thrush; and the Grey Grasswren's call stood out from the Variegated and White-winged Fairy-wrens it shares its habitat with, because of the time I'd spent with these more widespread and far more 'common' birds over the years.

A desire of getting to know the locals better has helped me with much more difficult groups, such as 'commic' terns, and different seabird groups. On a recent seabird trip out of Port Stephens the presence of Antarctic and Slender-billed Prions was picked up quickly by some on board, due to their differences from our more regular Fairy Prions. So if your local birds are feeling a little too familiar to get the blood pumping, take a closer look at them. Your appreciation for them will grow you're your chances of picking up their rarer cousins, should you meet them, will increase manifold.

Allan Richardson

New Members

The Club extends a warm welcome to:

Cliff and Dianne Dent of Clarence Town
Penne Fredericks of Branxton
Lee Galloway of Maitland

Brenton Hays of Newcastle East
Stephanie Owens of The Junction

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.

BirdLife Australia Working List v2

The BirdLife Australia Working List v2 was released not long ago, replacing Working List v1.2, which we had been using as the basis for our own checklist.

As an affiliate of BirdLife Australia, we will now adopt the v2 checklist. The consequences of doing that flow through into:

- Revised taxonomic order and nomenclature in the bird reports; and
- Adopting v2 for all of our other publications.

The club's record sheet has been amended accordingly and should now be for generating lists at club outings and camps. The updated list can be downloaded from the HBOC website.

Alan Stuart

The image shows a 'HUNTER BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB RECORD SHEET' form. It includes fields for DATE, Start time, Finish time, and a note 'Area surveyed: (i.e. 2ha or 500m of flow)'. There are sections for WEATHER CONDITIONS, LOCATION, and Co-ordinates (WGS84 preferred). Below these are instructions and a large checklist of bird species with columns for counts. The checklist includes species like Magpie, Rufous Whistling Duck, and various other birds. At the bottom right, there is a logo for the Hunter Bird Observers Club and a note about downloading the list from the website.

Club Activity Reports

Hunter Region Botanic Gardens

7 June 2016

Thankfully the worst of the stormy weekend weather had passed for this outing, although there was still gusty wind blowing at times. Some of the Garden walking trails were closed because of the risk of falling branches. None the less, 26 members including one “newbie” turned out well rugged up.

There was quite a bit of blossom on the trees growing along the wetland edges, so not surprisingly six species of honeyeaters were sighted. These included White-cheeked, Yellow-faced, Eastern Spinebill, Lewin’s and Noisy Friarbird. A highlight for some lucky people was a brief view of a Crested Shrike-tit and longer views of a group of four White-headed Pigeons.

Other birds sighted were a beautifully coloured male Golden Whistler and three females, and many Brown Gerygones and White-throated Treecreepers. A White-bellied Sea Eagle, Whistling Kite and three Wedge-tailed Eagles represented the raptors. All together 37 species were observed in spite of the wind.



I didn't take it literally when I was told it was Rock Cake for morning tea!

The walking trails in the gardens are well maintained and while the birds were a little elusive it was very pleasant walking through the bush. The Botanic Gardens are well worth the occasional visit.

Margaret Clarke

Long Weekend Camp, Seal Rocks

11 to 13 June 2016

The camp at Yagon in the Myall Lakes National Park produced birds and much music...



This camp saw 24 HBOC members including a few day visitors (e.g. from Treachery Camp & Pacific Palms) over the course of the weekend. It was a very quiet, beautiful place on Thursday until about 3pm Friday, when the crowds and ghetto blasters

Tawny Frogmouth enjoying some of the 80s disco revival moved in, with several parties kick starting festivities until the early hours of the morning. (Every morning!) The disco and 80s music even "danced" a Red-bellied Black Snake out of his hibernation.

Despite the showers, some good birding was had by all, including short trips to Seal Rocks lighthouse and Neranie, with a tally of 75-80 species for the weekend. Friday was the most productive day, (pre-party time) some of the highlights were: White-naped Honeyeaters, Eastern Spinebills, New Holland Honeyeaters, Varied Sittellas, Bassian Thrush, Spangled Drongo, Brahminy and Whistling Kites, Forest Ravens, Tawny Frogmouth and plenty of Brush-turkeys.

The Emerald Dove was a 'tick' for several people, but I 'dipped' on the Crested Shrike-tit. On the water, White-fronted Terns and Gannets, both adult and immature, were noted – providing a great demonstration of key differences.



Red-bellied Black Snake leaving the dance floor

At Seal Rocks some of the high flyers saw some distant prion-like characters and even more distant dark sea birds, shearwater-like in appearance and behaviour, but too far away to identify. Needless to

say, we were missing the scopes. However, all was forgiven when an Eastern Reef Egret was noted hunting on the rocks below – a 300th tick for a very nice gentleman.

In addition to the birding, whale watching was an added bonus, sighting between 15 to 20 whales over the weekend, complete with several pods of dolphins providing the icing on the cake.

Sarah & Terry Fenning

Black Hill / Leneghans

5 July 2016

The July outing for the Mid-week Group was a great success, despite beginning in rain which threatened cancellation. Rain stopped after the first half hour and the day turned warm and sunny. Thirteen HBOC members took part and their enthusiasm discovered 65 species, much to the surprise of many who had not visited that small area of woodland before. We were also invited onto the adjoining property; the owner being known to club members who visit the area.



Wet, wet, wet

The woodland is a small reserve area adjoining sites set aside for development. It is next to 'Raptor Bluff' and overlooks Hexham Swamp. We had a vantage point from the property where we looked down on 52 Glossy Ibis, Black Swans, Grey Teal, Black-Winged Stilts, two other Ibis species, and active raptors keeping those birds in motion.

In all we recorded seven Raptor species: Wedge-tailed Eagle, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Whistling Kite, Black Kite, Grey Goshawk, Nankeen Kestrel and Black-shouldered Kite. A roosting Black Kite kept us occupied for a while as it was quite wet and we were not sure of the species.

Club Activity Reports

Other birds of particular interest were a pair of Rose Robins and five Grey-crowned Babblers. Parrots in the blossom were Rainbow, Scaly-breasted and Musk Lorikeets (8), Eastern Rosellas and Little Corellas. The 30 Red-rumped Parrots, were the most I have seen in the Black-Hill area. Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos also treated us to a fly over.

About 11am we moved to Blue Gum Hills Regional Park on Minmi Road for morning tea and birdcall. Enthusiasts continued to bird in the park but we didn't officially record those sightings.

Judi Thomas

Coorabakh National Park

17 July 2016

Thirteen eager club members met in the gloom of the Raymond Terrace McDonalds car park before car-pooling the lion's share of two hours up to Coopernook, where they met up with another two members. Fifteen all up seemed like a reasonable turnout for an early start on a dank, overcast winters day. However, one-third of the number consisted of the entire Williams clan!

After undertaking various pit-stop activities at the servo the assemblage proceeded along Lansdowne Road before taking Langley Vale Road up into the State Forest and National Park beyond. As the convoy ascended so the rain began to descend, having held off so far. However, not to be deterred, a brief stop was made at the lookout to confirm that indeed all that was visible today was a pool of mist. On better days it provides a commanding view of the Lansdowne Valley.



Gorillas in the mist

The first birding stop was made alongside the rainforest gully at the western base of Little Nellie – one of the three impressive rocky volcanic outcrops in the Park. The

troop braved the drizzle, walking up and down the road and hoping to spot something of interest. Unsurprisingly, given the weather, the birding was pretty slow. However, a few common wet forest species were gradually recorded and a brief encounter with some Red-browed Treecreepers was the stand out.

After morning tea the short descent was made to the Starrs Creek Picnic Area, which boasts a short boardwalk, picnic tables and a pit toilet. As the conditions grew drier, so the avian activity increased. White-browed, Yellow-throated and Large-billed Scrubwrens were seen and a Superb Lyrebird was observed scurrying away along the creek after having serenaded us with its myriad of vocal talents. The highlight of the trip for most however was seeing Australian Logrunner – with several birders 'ticking up'.



Surely there's a Cassowary just around the next bend?!

July is perhaps not the best time to visit the Park, particularly when combined with less than desirable weather. However, during the warmer months a number of rainforest specialties can be found there and the scenery is simply stunning. Hopefully knowledge of this site and the good birding it has to offer will encourage others to pay a visit when venturing to this northern extremity of the Hunter Region? The broader area has a number of top birding sites, including Harrington, Crowdy Bay National Park and Cattai Wetlands, which can be combined with Coorabakh for a great weekend trip.

Dan Williams

Wilma Barden Memorial Grant

Abernethy

2 August 2016

This was a new area for us to explore in the Cessnock woodlands. We started at a private property where we observed a flock of 19 Brown Cuckoo-doves, as well as Common Bronzings, Wonga Pigeons, King Parrots and Satin Bowerbirds. At least 30 Red-browed Finches and some Double-barred Finches were seen on a small feeder.

We then walked along the trail towards the former Aberdare South mine and picked up some more pigeons and doves – Peaceful, Bar-shouldered – as well as several species of honeyeaters in the blossom. Unfortunately, there were no Regents among them.

A good variety of small woodland birds were also spotted, including Rose Robins and Spotted Pardalotes. There is a dam at the mine site with Eurasian Coots and Dusky Moorhens on it. We were all very impressed with the buildings remaining at the site, including beautiful brickwork in the very tall chimney and the magnificent remains of the engine house. Our leader for the day and long-time resident of the area, Brian Laut, gave us a brief history of the mine, affectionately known locally as Siberia, for several reasons.

After morning tea, we wandered along tracks in another private property, where a large flock of Musk Lorikeets was seen. Some keen walkers climbed a steep path to a

heathland area, but their efforts were not rewarded with any great finds.

As we were having lunch the Wedge-tailed Eagle one of the landholders had promised us appeared. We saw 53 and heard two species for the morning.



The 'Mid-weekers' looking rather 'band photo'-esque

Our thanks go to Brian, who had approached the local residents to let them know we were coming, and for his efforts in leading the group for the day. Our thanks also to the landholders who gave us access to their properties.

Robert Stewart

Wilma Barden Memorial Grant

At the July club meeting, we were delighted to present this year's Wilma Barden Memorial Grant to Ross Crates from ANU. Ross is undertaking a PhD project on "The ecology and conservation of the Regent Honeyeater", a species vitally connected to the Hunter Region.



If Ross can't help save them, no-one can!

It is Critically Endangered nationally (and locally) and there has been a dramatic decline in numbers.

There are breeding records from many Hunter Region locations, the most easterly being from the Tomalpin Woodlands near Kurri Kurri, which are under threat from development. We hope Ross's project will help make some inroads into the dire outlook for Regent Honeyeaters.

Alan Stuart

Future Club Activities

October Long Weekend Camp

1 to 3 October 2016

This year's October Long Weekend Camp is to Baerami Creek in the lower Goulburn River Valley. The camp site is at the old mine site in Wollemi National Park, located at the far end of Baerami Creek Road. Baerami Creek Road is accessed from the Bylong Valley Way, the most straightforward route to which is to take the Golden Highway (B84) towards Sandy Hollow, some 16 km beyond Denman. The left turn onto the Bylong Valley Way is around 1.5 km before reaching Sandy Hollow. After travelling the Bylong Valley Way for around 13.4 km you will reach the left turn onto Baerami Creek Road. The camp is at the end of the road, after some 25 km. The last stretch of the road traverses private property, but can be used to access the National Park beyond, and is signed as such.

An alternative scenic (and birdier) route is a viable alternative to the Golden Highway. If opting for this option, then when leaving Jerrys Plains (situated along the Golden Highway) take the left turn on to Pagan Street as the highway bends sharply to the right and then left again onto Queen Street. Once out of town this becomes Jones Reserve Road and later Bureen Road, which after 28 km reaches a T-intersection at Martindale

Road. Take the right towards Denman and then after 4.2 km take the left turn onto Yarrowa Road. After driving a further 15.3 km Yarrowa Road ends at a T-intersection with the Bylong Valley Way (turn left) around 5.4 km short of Baerami Creek Road (turn left again).

Other Activities

Some important information regarding other club activities over the next two months include:

- The field outing to Ellalong Lagoon and adjacent bushland on Sunday 21 August requires a prior expression of interest and official registration in order to attend;
- The field outing to Glenrock SCA on Sunday 18 September is at an earlier than usual start time of 07.00 am;
- The meeting point for the Mid-week outing on Tuesday 4 October to Brunkerville is at the corner of the Branxton-Toronto Road (B82) and Lieberts Lane. It is around 5.2 km south of Mulbring and 5.2 km north of Freemans Waterhole, requiring a sharp right turn of the main road when approaching from the latter.



Baerami Valley from the air, sourced online from www.peterbellingham.com

Farewell Max

The birding community of the Hunter Region suffered a great loss with the passing of Professor Max Maddock in July 2016. He made an enormous contribution to the community; perhaps most notably for his key role in establishing the now internationally recognised Hunter Wetlands Centre.

The Hunter Wetlands Centre is the spiritual home of the Hunter Bird Observers Club. It provides a venue for our meetings, wonderful grounds where we can introduce new members to a variety of birds. School education programs with a focus on birds and natural history will we hope foster future generations of bird watchers. The Centre also provides a forum for more social bird orientated gatherings like the finish of the annual Twitchathon. This amazing wealth of opportunity stems from the vision, inspirational leadership and dogged determination of an exceptional person, Max Maddock.

Heather, Max's wife, says his life can be categorized in three phases (one might say obsessions); initially athletics, then horses and ultimately birds. Towards the end of the equestrian phase Max leased land at the Wetland Centre site for his horses and was fascinated by the egrets, attracted by the periodic flooding. The Egrets inspired not only the concept of the Wetlands Centre, but Project Egret Watch, a community project embracing all of Eastern Australia and even New Zealand.

Paddy Lightfoot provides the following account of the genesis of the Wetlands Centre.

"In 1983 I was on the committee of the Newcastle Group in The Society for Growing Australian Plants – now the Australian Plants Society. The Committee had received a letter from a certain Professor Max Maddock in the Education Faculty at Newcastle University.

Professor Maddock in his letter had requested that our Group attend a meeting in the Environmental Field Study Centre, Dudley to discuss an idea he had to purchase a property in Sandgate. He proposed to build an Environmental Education Centre on the property.

Reflecting and knowing Max now I feel that letter may have in fact commanded rather than simply requesting we send a representative.

The Plant Society suggested, as I was secretary, that I attend the meeting. My brief was that in the event this very unlikely project was to proceed only Australian Native Plants be planted around the proposed environmental centre.

We attendees sat in a circle around the room. Max whom I had never met before or whom I had never even heard about introduced himself. He asked us individually to stand and explain to the group who we were and why we were there.

"Paddy Lightfoot from the Society for Growing Australian Plants. Our group want to ensure that only Australian Plants be used in your proposed project".

"Right, you are on the Landscaping Committee".

I wasn't sure that I had heard Max correctly! He did not know me – we had just met. He did not ask, "Would you like to be?" or "have you the time to be?"

The site he had in mind was the defunct Hamilton Marist Rugby Club – the Club had made two mistakes. They developed playing fields away from their supporter base and breathalysers had been introduced in 1981. The Club was in liquidation.

As the events unfolded in the years ahead, Max with extraordinary vigour and strength of mind managed to bring most of Neville Wran's NSW Government to Newcastle and persuaded them that the project was worthwhile. As Max said it was a goer - and his dream of an Environmental Education Centre could become a Bicentennial project for Newcastle and for Education. Max then persuaded the Newcastle City Council to rescind their motion to extend the nearby Astra Street dump over the Rugby land and to re-route Motorway 23 to by-pass the Marist land instead of through it."

The Hunter Wetlands Centre is unique within Australia in providing an environmental hub in the middle of an industrial city. It is amazing that a single entity has an educational function, is a bird observatory in an internationally acclaimed wetland and a field study centre with projects embracing the spectrum of natural history.

Farewell Max

Max was the ultimate communicator, as exemplified by Project Egret Watch. He recruited teams of Hunter volunteers to band and tag egrets, both at the Wetlands Centre and at Seaham Swamp near his home. He then recruited observers throughout Eastern Australia to seek and find where the egrets went when they departed from their breeding colonies. Records were obtained from as far afield as southern Tasmania and even New Zealand. Max sustained his collaborators by continual feedback on the value and meaning of their sightings. To put this achievement into perspective one has to appreciate this was happening in the 1980s before the advent of email and today's instant communication systems (those were the days of snail mail). Seldom has a project been sustained in such personal manner; his were valuable collaborators not today's anonymous citizen scientists. Again we draw on Paddy Lightfoot's recollections to grasp the essence of his style.

"Birds seemed to have an affinity for Max. When he visited Seaham Egret Colony the birds stayed placidly on their nests – they recognized him wandering around with his telescope or binoculars, camera slung around his neck and note book. Any other birders visiting and the nesting colony erupted.

I well remember the Egret tagging sessions for his Project Egret Watch – thoroughly wet, mud and bird poo covered – Max in his zenith! He even taught surgical non-slip knots to those helping to attach tags to the birds.

Max had a network of tag watchers around Australia – one couple reported being approached by the police wanting to know why their binoculars were trained on a farmhouse – the sceptical men in blue took some persuading that they had their binoculars trained – on a number – on a tag – on a wing – on a bird – on a dam in front of the farmhouse!"

Max's concern for his Egrets progressively expanded to concern over their wetland habitats in the Hunter Estuary and beyond. He became deeply involved in the RAMSAR process for the wise management of wetlands.

Increasingly disillusioned by regulators' blatant disregard for wetlands, which were all too frequently seen as cheap and convenient land for industrial development, he became a passionate advocate for their conservation. Monumental dissertations were prepared, but of course they have to find their highly buffered target audience. Heather, describes how Max, now past his prime, gate-crashed a visit by Peter Garrett, the Federal Minister of the Environment to hand deliver his personal submission on the plight of the Hunter wetlands. It is fair to claim that the outstanding ongoing examples of wetlands rehabilitation and environmental advocacy, for which the Hunter Region is being increasingly renowned, stem from the awareness and culture Max generated. He encouraged some outstanding disciples.

Science-based evidence is the prerequisite of effective conservation and advocacy. Again Max provides a role model with his peer reviewed publications on his egret studies, becoming an acknowledged expert on herons and related species. Sadly, we have only one paper by Max in *The Whistler* "Breeding population decline in Cattle Egrets nesting at Seaham Swamp Nature Reserve and the Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia." The cover of this issue, Number 5, appropriately shows a Cattle Egret resplendent in its breeding plumage. We were privileged because that was the last formal paper Max produced. If Max was writing this his message would be: "Get your work written up while you can, time is short!"

While Max's ornithological productivity may have diminished in his final years his love of birds and fascination with their behaviour blossomed. An astonishing variety of birds were photographed in his small garden at Ashtonfield, attracted by native shrubs and supplied with copious quantities of meal worms. Can Superb Fairy-wrens suffer obesity? Max always tried to find patterns in and explanations for their antics; his mind inquisitive to the end.

Thanks Max for your legacy and to Heather for your support and encouragement of this remarkable person.

Mike Newman

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.au. 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:

- 10 Diamond Firetails reported at Medhurst Bridge on 12th June, with Flame Scarlet and Hooded Robins also;
- 30+ Plum-headed Finches near Denman and five Glossy Black-Cockatoos at Milbrodale on 12th June;
- A male Scarlet Robin photographed at Tingira Heights on 15th June and again on 7th August;
- A survey of over 133 Swift Parrots at the Singleton Training Area on 30th June, amongst other goodies;
- Four Lewin's Rails vocalising at Morisset Hospital on 9th July;
- An entirely white Noisy Friarbird photographed in King Edward Park, Newcastle on 16th July;
- A 'brown' Flame Robin observed along the old railway track at Hexham Swamp on 16th July;
- A report of two Regent Honeyeaters from Kearsley on 19th July;
- An immature Hooded Plover photographed on the Worimi survey on 22nd July, present until at least 9th August;
- An unseasonal Common Tern present amongst the typical gatherings at Newcastle Ocean Baths on 23rd July;
- An out-of-range Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater seen at Pambalong NR on 31st July and 1st August; and
- Slender-billed and Antarctic Prions photographed from the Port Stephens Pelagic Trip on 7th August, Southern Giant Petrel and Gibson's (Wandering type) Albatross also seen.

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
Black Swan	c.30+	July 2016	Warners Bay	R. Walker
Brahminy Kite	1	17/04/2016	Eraring	C. Goodenough
Little Corella	2+1dy	11/04/2016	Dora Creek	C. Goodenough
Little Wattlebird	2+2dy	15/05/2016	Morisset	C. Goodenough
Long-billed Corella	2+2dy	3-7/04/2016	Dora Creek	C. Goodenough
Long-billed Corella	2+1dy	2-7/06/2016	Dora Creek	C. Goodenough
Pacific Baza	1	23/06/2016	Hunter Wetlands Centre	F. van Gessel
Spotted Quail-thrush	3	17/05/2016	Awaba SF	C. Goodenough
Turquoise Parrot	heard	19/03/2016	Tomalpin Woodlands	C. Goodenough

Club Activities August to October 2016

DATE	EVENT	MEETING PLACE & TIME	CONTACT
AUGUST 2016			
Tuesday 16 August	Tomago Wetland Survey	7.30am Entry to Tomago House	Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 Please ring to confirm
Wednesday 17 August	The HBOC Brunch	10:00am Wallsend Swim Centre, Boscawen Street.	Max Blanch 4962 1793 / 0425 300 389
Saturday 20 August	Hunter Wader Survey	9.00 am Ash Island 9.30 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 Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 - Hexham
Sunday 21 August	Field Outing – Ellalong Lagoon and bushland	7.30 am outside the Paxton Hotel	Mick Roderick 0421 761 237 Mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au You must register to attend
SEPTEMBER 2016			
Tuesday 6 September	Mid-week Outing – Blackbutt Reserve	8.00 am Mahogany Drive car park	Joy Nicholls 4957 3612
Wednesday 7 September	Management Committee Meeting	6.30pm – 9.30pm Garden Suburbs School	Allan Richardson 0459 806 176 All members welcome
Wednesday 14 September	Club Meeting	7.30pm The Wetlands Centre, Shortland – please bring a plate to share	Speaker: Mick Roderick “Stanley to Cape Horn – Antarctic Birding”
Saturday 17 September	Hunter Wader Survey	8.00 am Ash Island 8.30 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 Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 - Hexham
Sunday 18 September	Field Outing – Glenrock State Conservation Area	NOTE 7.00 am car park on Burwood Road, Kahibah	Robert Kyte 0420 821 460
Mon – Wed 19 – 21 Sept.	Mid-week Camp	Seal Rocks	Robert and Margaret Stewart 4963 2029 / 0401 283 305
Mon – Sun 19 – 25 Sept.	HBOC Phototwitch	Photo as many species as possible in any consecutive 8 hours during this week	Robert McDonald 0408 877 827
Tuesday 20 September	Tomago Wetland Survey	7.30am Entry to Tomago House	Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 Please ring to confirm
Wednesday 21 September	The HBOC Brunch	10:00am Warabrook Wetlands, Eucalyptus Drive, Warabrook	Max Blanch 4962 1793 / 0425 300 389
Thursday 29 September	Biodiversity Day	10.00 am – 3.00 pm, Blue Gum Hills Regional Park	Paul Baird 4938 5039
OCTOBER 2016			
Sat – Mon 1 – 3 October	October Long Weekend Camp	Baerami Valley	Robert McDonald 0408 877 827
Tuesday 4 October	Mid-Week Outing – Private Property, Mount Vincent	8.00 am Cnr. Branxton-Toronto Rd (B82) and Lieberts Lane, Brunkerville.	Di Johnson - 4975 1777
Wednesday 5 October	Management Committee Meeting	6.30pm – 9.30pm Garden Suburbs School	Allan Richardson 0459 806 176 All members welcome
Wednesday 12 October	Club Meeting	7.30pm The Wetlands Centre, Shortland	Speaker: Tim Low “Where Song Began”