



# Newsletter

Hunter Bird Observers Club

Issue No. 5/17 October 2017

*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

*This spring has seen an unprecedented influx of inland birds, including at least eight known sightings of Red-backed Kingfisher*

*Photo taken by Dan Williams at Ulan Road on 2 October 2017.*



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## President's Column

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I recently spent 14 days in the wet tropics, which was a first for me. It's been a long time since I've been to an area where there was a possibility of a new species, but here I could see a lot of new species. Locally new species surprises are few and far between, as birds and their calls go for me, but prior to this trip I had never been to coastal North Queensland, so, including Cape York, there were some 80 species I had never encountered.

My trip began with a work engagement in Townsville and I had around 50 possibilities around Townsville and the rain-forested ranges to its north. However, some of those species are rare or not seasonally possible in that neck of the woods in August, so the list of 50 was only ever going to be a guide to what was unrealistically possible.

Now although this sounds like a twitching tale, it's not the list that is important to me, or just seeing the species – it's everything about the birds. Birds aren't just a species depiction in a field guide, they are an assemblage of characters that represent a niche. For example, there are three Lewin's Honeyeater-like species in the wet tropics; the Graceful, the Yellow-spotted and the Lewin's Honeyeater itself. I've seen posts in identification forums about how to tell the birds

apart by plumage and size, but some of those characters were variable in the field

Size difference is fine, but only if you have more than one species in view. However, their calls were completely different, they used habitat in different ways and at least one (the Graceful Honeyeater) was more gregarious, used drier habitats as well as being smaller than the other two. It was these combined characters that made the birds completely different to each other, which was what I was most excited to get in touch with. Not only that, there are many species we have here locally in the Hunter that also occur in the wet tropics, sometimes as different subspecies, and some use habitat in a different way. For instance, White-throated Treecreepers like high altitude rainforest in the wet tropics, which is an unlikely place to expect them in the Hunter.

I was fortunate to have more than a short time with most of the new species I encountered, so became well acquainted with each of them. However, there were a few that offered only a brief contact, so I can't wait to visit them again.

**Allan Richardson**

## New Members

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**The Club extends a warm welcome to:**

Linda Bostelaar of Blackalls Park  
David Bulbert of Hamilton South

Tom Schmidt of Newcastle East

**We hope to see you at club meetings and outings.**

## Health and Safety Awareness for Activities

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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.

## HBOC Bird of the Month

The "Bird of the Month" is a regular feature on the HBOC Facebook Page. If you're already on Facebook and not following the Club's official page, then why not?!

### August – White-browed Babbler

We have two species of babbler in our Region; this one is less common but it's still fairly easy to find them in dry woodland areas in the west of the Region, for example Goulburn River National Park, Doyles Creek, Giants Creek. They live in small family groups usually of 4-6 birds, and build a series of roosts (sometimes mis-interpreted by people to be nests) where they spend the nights squashed in together. That probably helps them get through the cold winter nights. By day they forage for insects in a loose group, keeping in noisy contact all the while (but they are the "quiet ones" compared with the other local babbler, the Grey-crowned)



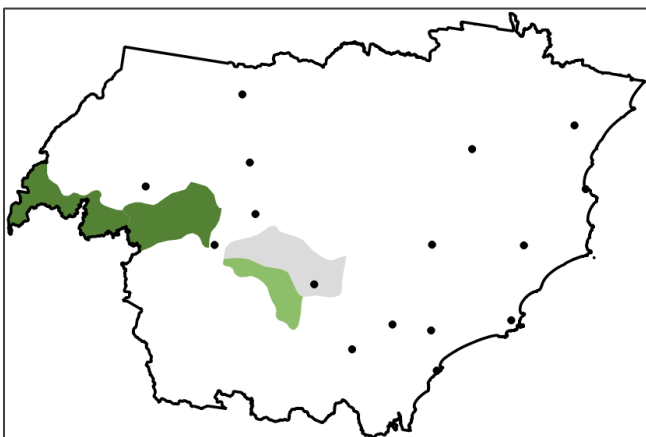
White-browed Babbler by Alan Stuart

### September – Osprey

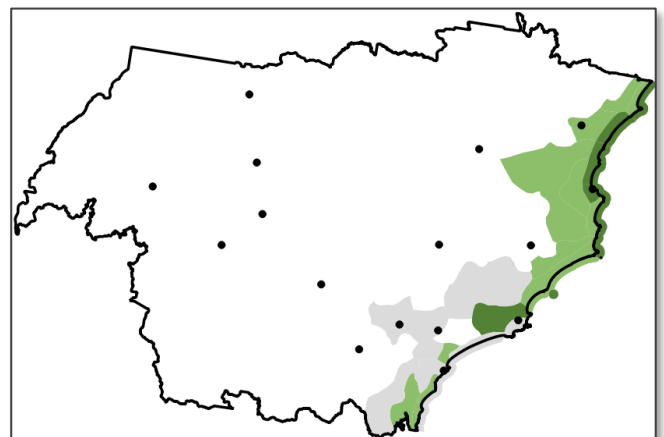
It's a threatened species in NSW but it's doing quite well in the Hunter Region. We estimate there are at least 30 breeding pairs, evenly distributed across Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens and Manning-Great Lakes. At this time of the year, breeding is underway and most pairs will be on eggs by now. This year we might even have the first confirmed breeding record for the Hunter estuary - we are watching with great interest to see if the pair produces a chick. Photos: Ann Lindsey, Alan Stuart.



Osprey by Ann Lindsey and Alan Stuart



HBOC White-browed Babbler Distribution Map



HBOC Osprey Distribution Map

## Club Activity Reports

### Tahlee

**20 August 2017**

On 20 August Tahlee was visited by 14 intrepid people from the Hunter Bird Observers Club. The weather was cold, windy and overcast. But it did not dampen the spirits of the people. The day commenced with Stuart Fleming giving a brief overview of what is going at Tahlee, and presented everyone with a bird list of the site.



*The ravenous rabble in need of refreshment*

Starting the bird walk in the Tahlee grounds, conversation was difficult over the raucous calls of Lorikeets feasting in the blossom around us. Wandering through the historic property we spotted a couple of Osprey on their nest, Whistling Kite and their nest, and along the track to Karuah we found a Sea-eagle nest – with an adult flying off from it as just as we had spotted the nest. There were several raptors that appeared and scattered the lorikeets – one was probably a Pacific Baza.

Four Whistling Kite were seen flying together over the group. The Osprey pair were seen either on their large nest or feeding on mullet on top of the diving platform at the swimming pool.

Bountiful flocks of Red-browed Finches were seen feeding along the trail. Plenty of honeyeaters were heard in the trees. An abundance of woodland birds was also observed. There were several hotspots along the way and despite the conditions, the visibility was good, and the bird calls clear. Several small nests were observed but no birds were seen on the nest to correctly identify the owners.

With hunger growing in the group we ventured back to the auditorium for lunch and warmed up. Most of the group wandered to see what was on the mudflats. Both species of Oystercatchers, Masked Lapwing and an Eastern Curlew were spotted before a rain shower came over and we called it a day.

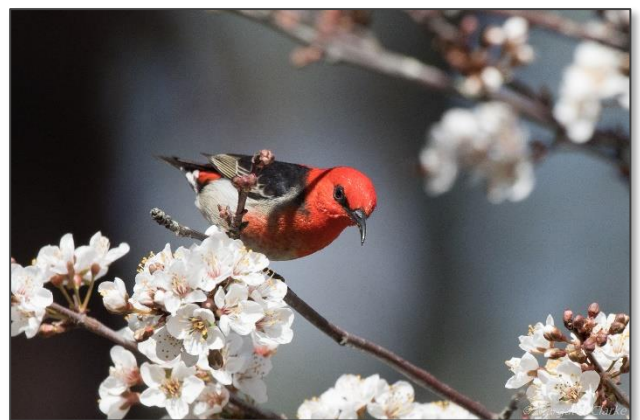
It was a very successful day with 77 species observed – being almost half of the number of birds that have been observed so far at Tahlee. Quite amazing considering the weather. There were no lifers for the intrepid birders, although the Crested Shrike-tit was a new one for Tahlee.

**Stuart Fleming**

### Walka Water Works

**5 September 2017**

It was our monthly Tuesday outing and 29 keen birders presented to Walka Water Works at 0800 sharp to check out the birdlife. We were on a mission as recent visits by HBOC members had reported some unusual sightings and unusually high numbers of species present.



*Male Scarlet Honeyeater by Margaret Clarke*

It's always a pleasure to walk around the lake at Walka and this outing was no exception. The conditions were less than optimal for birdwatching as it was blowing a

## Club Activity Reports

gale, an event that occurs regularly in Maitland at this time of the year. However, the sun was shining.

Not deterred we dispersed and made the pilgrimage around the Lake Trail. Altogether over 1037 birds were counted consisting of 86 species and in just 2.5 hours. The list included, Pink-eared ducks (230), Long-billed Corellas, Scarlet Honeyeaters, Australian Pelicans (31), all three species of Grebe and migrating flocks of Noisy Friarbirds.



*Male Red-capped Robin by Margaret Clarke*

The most delightful surprise of all and a show stopper for most people was the continuing presence of the Red-capped Robin. Quite a bit of time was spent watching and photographing this delightful visitor. All in all, a lovely morning.

## Margaret Clarke

### Bush Haven

#### 17 September 2017

We had a wonderful field outing to Bush Haven, a large block of wetland, forest and grassland, a few kilometres north of Raymond Terrace. Bush Haven is owned, loved and intimately known by Jenny Musika, our knowledgeable guide for the morning. The bird list grew through the morning to about 61 species plus two mating Green Tree Snakes and a big Red-bellied Black Snake.

Highlights included Leaden Flycatcher, Black-faced Monarch, Little Lorikeet, Shining Bronze-cuckoo, Regent Bowerbird, Collared Sparrowhawk, Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo, Pheasant Coucal, Southern Emu-wren, White-throated Gerygone and Varied Sittella.

## Greg Little

### Mid-week Camp to Murrurundi

#### 17 to 20 September 2017

Thirty-three members migrated north-west to Murrurundi on Sunday 17 September for the annual mid-week camp. A variety of roosts were chosen at Murrurundi Caravan Park and the nearby Valley View Motel. By the first bird call at 5.00 pm 48 different birds had been found within the area, the highlight was probably the nesting site of Yellow Thornbills within the grounds. There were also many tales of sightings along the interesting stops on route to the camp.



*The rear end of a Pallid Cuckoo*

Monday's outing to Timor caves began early but not as early as the local rooster crowed to wake everyone. Most members enjoyed the drive to the caves but a few lucky people were delighted to have a Painted Button-quail interrupt their journey by walking across the road. Also, Cockatiels were spied feeding in a paddock.



*The front end of a Fan-tailed Cuckoo*

At the area surrounding the caves 62 species were seen and five heard. The highlights were the Rockwarbler,

## Club Activity Reports

Little Lorikeets and a flock of 30 White-browed Woodswallows circling overhead. After lunch, most people made their way to Paradise Park which disappointingly was home to few birds. Some were lucky to see an echidna enjoying a walk along the edge of the golf course.

Tuesday's weather was windy but nevertheless the sheltered areas of Watering Lane TSR at Wingen provided excellent birding. The best of the 55-bird haul seen along this track were Brown Treecreeper, Speckled Warbler, Grey-crowned Babblers and possibly the entire Hunter Valley population of Grey Fantails!



*Rufous Songlark*

After morning tea, we travelled on to Washpools Picnic area in Towarri National Park. One very keen birder was heard to say "I don't care if I don't see any more birds. I just want to relax and enjoy being here." The birds were plentiful and a White-throated Gerygone seemed to be the designated ambassador as it sat out proudly and sang just above the picnic table. The best of the 43 birds seen here was a Black-chinned Honeyeater plus lots of Satin Bowerbirds along the creek. The camp concluded with a final bird call and the total for the camp was 102 seen plus an additional five heard.

The Motel Guests were very pleased to have regular visits from a pair of Rufous Songlarks and fortunately the Motel host welcomed others who wanted to see these too. Some added new birds to their Hunter Lists and some to their Life List. Others expressed a renewed interest in the joy of seeing woodland birds. Most campers enjoyed dinner together at the White Hart Hotel. Thanks everyone for making it a great camp.

## Lyn and Andrzej Karpziel

### October Camp to Windy Station

29 September to 2 October 2017

Mother nature used a broad brush and a rich palette of green, gold and blue when she painted the landscape at Windy Station which was the venue for the Hunter Bird Observers October long weekend camp.



*The campers arrive en-masse*

One can only imagine how this vast open space may have looked when the Kamilaroi people lived and hunted on this land. The large woodshed built in 1901 is a reminder of the success of the Australian Agricultural Company in developing the wool industry which was so important in the prosperity of our nation. As we drove into the station we glimpsed the current productivity of the site as we passed the herd of cattle feeding in the yards.



*Green and gold country*

Once the camps were set up attention of HBOC members turned to the finer details of the environment. Armed with binoculars, cameras and field guides we spread out to explore our surroundings. The 11 campers

## Club Activity Reports

on Friday were excited to find a resident Barn Owl close to the camp. Mixed flocks of woodswallows swirled overhead and numerous Musk and Little Lorikeets promised there would be much more to see.



*In the presence of a crippler – Red-backed Kingfisher!*

Saturday was overcast and cool but seemed to intensify the calls of birds flying overhead or competing for real estate as they investigated potential nests in the hollows of old growth trees. New arrivals swelled camp numbers to 24 and there were soon excited reports of Cockatiels, Fairy-wrens, Diamond Firetails and Rainbow Bee-eaters. At the bird call that evening 80 species had been seen. Some campers were so excited they suggested that there should be a 'levy payable' for each new bird that was added to a life list!

Sunday morning dawned with clear sky and sunshine which was ideal for birding. The dusty tracks were again traversed with honeyeaters and robins active amongst the varied habitat. The appearance of two Red-backed Kingfishers caused much excitement and then some lucky campers also spotted a Crimson Chat.



*Barn Owl and male Crimson Chat by George Voss*

Monday welcomed the arrival of a little well-needed rain, which ensured some quick packing up and an early departure for most of the campers. The total bird count for the camp was 94 species.

**Lyn and Andrzej Karpel**

## Stockton Sandspit

**3 October 2017**

Fourteen members met under Stockton bridge for our mid-week October outing. It was right on high tide. From in front of the carpark we were able to spend some time pointing out a variety of waders to a few people who had not been to Stockton Sandspit before. The predominant species were Red-necked Avocet (3000), Black-winged Stilt, Eastern Curlew, Black-tailed and Bar-tailed Godwits, a large number of Red Knots, and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. Other waterbirds were Chestnut Teal, Little and Great Egret and Striated Heron. We then walked along the bank towards Fern Bay and found 19 Grey-tailed Tattler under the bank in their usual roosting spot, and a Whimbrel in the lone mangrove. A variety of Cormorants were roosting in mangroves and gradually departed as the morning warmed up.



*Grey-tailed Tattlers at the roost*

We had morning tea and birdcall for the area, on the grass beyond the wreck. On the wreck were Pacific Golden Plover to add to our list, one Grey-tailed Tattler and 30 Little Black Cormorants. A surprising number. There was a Brown Songlark and two Double-barred Finches near the wreck. Our total for this first birdcall was 62 species, as we picked up a variety of species along the estuary bank.

After morning tea George led us on a walk in one of his favourite areas, the Worimi Conservation Reserve which starts at the corner of Vardon and Popplewell Roads in

## Future Club Activities

Fern Bay. It runs partly along the border of the golf course. It is quite an extensive area of native bushland adjoining the sandhills and contained quite a few summer migrants. Most vocal were White-throated Gerygones and Golden and Rufous Whistlers. Two white-throated Gerygones were attending a nest. We went back to the Stockton estuary site for lunch and had a second birdcall. This time the total species number was 41.

It was a very pleasant and relaxing day with plenty to see and plenty of listening practice as we tried to learn a few extra calls. Tricky one is Leaden Flycatcher which has both a loud song call, and the more familiar creaking call.



*Male Leaden Flycatcher by George Gillam*

Judi Thomas

## Future Club Activities

### Welcome Shorebirds

**18 November 2017**

Come and welcome migratory shorebirds returning from the northern hemisphere to our patch on the Flyway on 18 November at 12am at Stockton Sandspit under Stockton Bridge. It will be a couple of hours after high tide and the birds should be moving around on the mudflat before they fly off to Fullerton Cove to feed. Bring your lunch and enjoy an hour or so with the birds. Bring your friends and relatives too. There will be members with telescopes on hand to help with viewing and identification.

Contact Ann Lindsey for further details – [ann.lindsey@bigpond.com](mailto:ann.lindsey@bigpond.com)



*Bar-tailed Godwits by Dan Williams*



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**Contact: Dick Jenkin 0407 267207**

**E: [richardnjenkin@bigpond.com](mailto:richardnjenkin@bigpond.com)**

**W: [www.jenkinphotography.com.au](http://www.jenkinphotography.com.au)**



## Clicker's Corner

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In this regular Newsletter section, we profile one of our many talented photographers, including some background as to their photographic interests and techniques, as well as exhibiting a selection of their captures. This issue is none other than our esteemed President...

### Allan Richardson

Photography was not an early interest for me, but picturing birds always was. From my earliest recollections, I remember drawing animals and birds – Eastern Rosellas were a firm favourite early on. I grew up locally on the western side of Wallsend, so the bush was my playground, and much time was spent discovering the bush and its inhabitants.



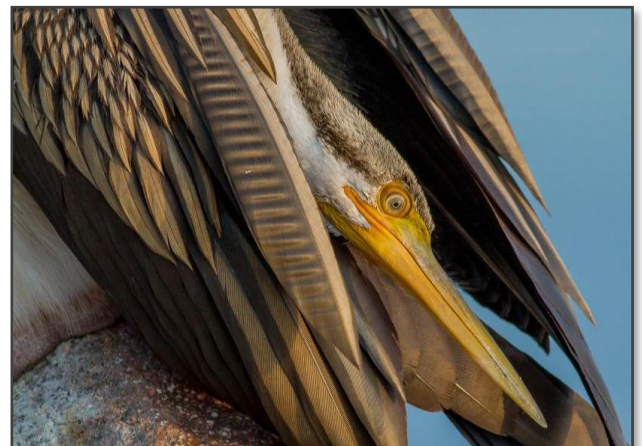
*Fan-tailed Cuckoo*

When I did eventually purchase an SLR camera in 1982, quite naturally it was natural history subjects, including birds, that I sought out with my camera. That camera was a Canon AE1 Program with a standard 50 mm lens – not an easy lens for bird photography, although I tried hard. I saved up and bought the best lens I could afford – a Canon 70-200 mm f/4 (which was the predecessor to all the great 70-200 mms Canon now has in their line up) and used it to photograph small birds. It was during hours in a photographic blind behind this lens that I got to know the thornbills, scrubwrens and fairy-wrens so well. The lens was tack sharp and served me well until it, two cameras (a T90 and A1) and another lens (a 20-35) were stolen in the Blue Mountains. It took me a long time to recover my gear after that set back.



*Black-chinned Honeyeater*

My current cameras are a Canon 5D3 and a Canon 7D2. I love the dreamy low noise images out of the 5D3, but when distance is an issue the crop factor of the 7D2 is a real benefit, especially for tighter images of the smaller birds. My current bird photography lens is the Canon 100-400 F/4.5-5.6L MkII, which when coupled with a 1.4x converter is very capable for birds, particularly if you're patient and use a quiet approach. It is perhaps the best all-round nature photography lens from Canon you can currently buy, as it is as good as a bag full of fixed focal length lenses and focuses down to below a metre. With a 1.4x extender and a set of extension tubes in the bag it can throw its capable hand across mammals, birds, reptiles, frogs, insects, flowers, and just about anything else you can think of in the natural world, apart from extreme close-up work and very long telephoto missions.



*Australasian Darter*

I love photographing birds, but rarely get the time to do them justice. The best bird photography is made when you get intimate with the daily regime of birds – where

### Clicker's Corner

they roost, feed, call territorially or sun themselves in the early morning light. When I used to build houses in a previously life, I built a permanent blind in the middle of a local swamp and the birds became accustomed to it. I'd don multiple pairs of socks and track pants to ward off the cold before pulling on my chest waders to walk out to the blind at four in the morning. When the dawn finally came the swamp would come to life around me and wild birds that would not usually allow a close approach would sit within a few metres of my camera completely unaware of my presence, so I could photograph them at my leisure.



*Australian Magpie*

For a long time in the beginning I was really groping in the dark about photography – I'd look at my results and look at the results of published photographers and clearly see a huge gap in quality between their work and my own paltry offerings. So, I worked hard on picking up tips here and there from pro nature photographers, through their books. They demystified so much about photography for me. John Shaw taught me that great gear doesn't guarantee great images and that you need to learn what your camera's light meter really means if you want to have any control over exposure. Leonard la Rue III taught me to always use the shortest focal length you can, as shooting through lots of air degrades your image and that if your photo doesn't excite you when you're looking through the viewfinder then it is unlikely to be any better for taking it. He also noted that animals are creatures of habit, if they do something once, they'll do it again, so next time you can plan to be ready. They all taught me that you can't really break the rules of photography unless you have an understanding of them, so get acquainted with the rule of thirds, the relationship between shutter speed and lens focal length and using aperture and shutter speed choices to get your message across with greater meaning.



*Hooded Robin*

Finally – a photographic tip torture session, I'll write it how it is and you might have to read it a few times to get on board (don't hesitate to ask if you need a hand getting your head around it, it can be difficult). In relation to exposure (i.e. how bright your image will look after you've taken it) your camera is calibrated to 18% grey (middle tone). What does that mean? In automatic mode your camera has to make a decision about how light or dark it must make your photo. It doesn't know what is in front of your camera it just reads the light coming in, so it tries to make everything it sees an average around middle tone, which is half way between black and white. The middle tone calibration of your camera's meter is the reason that a close-up of the plumage of a Black Swan and a separate close-up of a White Swan's plumage will both be exposed as middle grey in tone, since your camera is calibrated to make everything middle grey. Now if you can follow what that means, here is the kicker – if you want your Black Swan's plumage to be black you'll need to underexpose it and for the white swan to be truly white you'll need to over-expose it.



*White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike*

Enjoy the birds and be patient with them, they'll reward you for it with acceptance of your presence and natural behaviour.

## Recent Observations

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Hunterbirding is an email group set up by HBOC that is run through the Google 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. The home page of the Hunterbirding group is located at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#forum/hunterbirding> Instructions for joining a Google Group to sign up for Hunterbirding and take part in these discussions and benefit from up-to-date birding news in the region, can be found at <https://support.google.com/groups/answer/1067205?hl=en> and follow the on-site instructions 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:

- c.150 Pink-eared Ducks reported at Newcastle Wetlands Reserve on 5 August, with 721 present on 25 August;
- Four Banded Lapwings photographed at Belmont South on 7 August and eight at Redhead on 20 August to 1 September;
- 15 Swift Parrots observed at Pelton on 8 August and many more at Ellalong Lagoon on 10 August;
- A Spotless Crake seen at Hexham Swamp on 15 August;
- Three Swift Parrots and four Turquoise Parrots reported from Singleton Training Area on 15 August;
- Three Freckled Ducks seen at Newcastle Wetlands Reserve on 15 August, with 5 present on 25 August;
- 14 Freckled Ducks at Shortland Waters Golf Course on 18 August, with 53 present on 11 September;
- A Baillon's Crake photographed at Pambalong NR on 22 August and two at Lenaghans Drive on 1 September;
- A Ringed Plover photographed roosting at Worimi Conservation Lands on 25 August;
- A red-capped Robin photographed at Walka Water Works on 31 August;
- A Blue-billed Duck reported at Walka Water Works on 2 September;
- An Australian Painted Snipe reported from Ash Island on 14 September;
- 40 Spotted Crake, 23 Baillon's Crake and 4 Spotless Crake seen at Hexham Swamp on 22 September;
- Little Button-quail photographed at Durrigere Road on 24 September, plus Crimson Chat and Black Honeyeater;
- Two Australian Pratincole and at least 10 Oriental Plover seen at Hexham Swamp on 26 September, with three Little Curlew present on 30 September;
- Two Red-backed Kingfishers photographed at Durrigere Road on 26 September, with four birds present in the same area on 2 October, also 1500+ Masked and White-browed Woodswallows;
- Two Red-backed Kingfisher, four Black Honeyeater, Crimson Chat and Black-eared Cuckoo reported from Windy Station on 2 October;
- A Red-backed Kingfisher reported from Bureen Bridge on 3 October;
- A Red-backed Kingfisher and Red-winged Parrot seen near Denman on 5 October; and
- C.20 Brown Songlark, 30 Rufous Songlark, four Horsfield's Bushlark and 10 Banded Lapwing reported at Wallalong Road on 5 October.

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
Musk Duck	2	10/09/2017	Pokolbin	B. Laut

# Club Activities October to December 2017

DATE	EVENT	MEETING PLACE & TIME	CONTACT
<b>OCTOBER 2017</b>			
Sunday 15 October	Field Outing – Jerrys Plains	7.00am Jerrys Plains Community Hall	Tom Clarke 0418 411 785
Tuesday 17 October	Tomago Wetland Survey	7.30am Entry to Tomago House	Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 <b>Please ring to confirm</b>
Saturday 21 October	Hunter Wader Survey	9.30 am Ash Island and Tomago 10.00 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 Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 - Hexham
Sat – Sun 28-29 October	Twitchathon / Birdathon – join a team and help raise money for Aussie Bitterns	Various races / formats over the weekend (refer to website). Post-twitch BBQ at Blanch Street, Shortland ~4:00pm.	Race: Mick Roderick 0421 761 237 <a href="mailto:mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au">mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au</a> BBQ: Dan Williams 0408 023 262 <a href="https://www.birdlifetwitchathon.org.au/">https://www.birdlifetwitchathon.org.au/</a>
<b>NOVEMBER 2017</b>			
Wednesday 1 November	Management Committee Meeting	6.30pm – 9.30pm Garden Suburbs School	Allan Richardson 0459 806 176 All members welcome
Tuesday 7 November	Mid-week Outing – Dungog Common	7.30 am Meet inside cattle grid at start of the Common, just past Shelton's Bus Depot, at end of Common Road	Dick Jenkin 0407 267 207
Wednesday 8 November	Club Meeting	7.00 pm The Wetlands Centre, Shortland	<b>Speaker: Harry Battam “Partial migration of Silvereyes and Honeyeaters on the Australian East Coast”</b>
Saturday 18 November	Hunter Wader Survey	8.30 am Ash Island and Tomago 9.00 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 Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 - Hexham
Saturday 18 November	Welcome Shorebirds	Meet 12am under bridge at Stockton Sandspit after wader survey – bring own lunch	Ann Lindsey 4951 2008
Sunday 19 November	Field Outing – Upper Allyn rainforest	7.00am meet at John Tucker Park, Paterson	Lorna Mee 0499 015 500
Tuesday 21 November	Tomago Wetland Survey	7.30am Entry to Tomago House	Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 <b>Please ring to confirm</b>
<b>DECEMBER 2017</b>			
Tuesday 5 December	Mid-week Outing – Tilligerry Habitat	7.30 am King Albert Avenue, Tanilba Bay Lunch afterwards	Pam Hill 4984 5270
Wednesday 6 December	Management Committee Meeting	6.30pm – 9.30pm Garden Suburbs School	Allan Richardson 0459 806 176 All members welcome
Wednesday 13 October	Xmas Club Night	7.00 pm The Wetlands Centre, Shortland	<b>Members Night: - bring your slides, anecdotes, videos and a plate to share the festive spirit</b>