

A CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS OF KOORAGANG ISLAND.

BY

F. VAN GESSEL AND T. KENDALL

In addition to our previous article on the "Birds of Kooragang Island, (*Hunter Natural History*, Vol.4, No.2, 1972) we now present a supplementary checklist.

The checklist covers the whole of Kooragang Island including the sand and mudflats on either side of the new Stockton Bridge.

Fullerton Cove and associated foreshores (see map 1) have not been included and in view of the fact that this area is situated nearby and is partly similar in habitat, it is expected that the checklist will also be applicable to these surroundings, although several other species are known to occur on the outer fringes.

The checklist is mainly based on our own observations, but also incorporates information submitted by other observers and visiting ornithologists. We have tried to apply some critical judgement to visual observations of the less common species, on which we feel at least two observers are required to make a record acceptable. However, as this proves to be impossible, we have followed the principle that only those species are accepted in the numbered list, of which observations made are either:

- a - Specimens taken or derelicts
- b - Published records stating particulars
- c - Photographed or a detailed description given

Species, which on this basis have not acquired full status, but of which the observations seem trustworthy, have been marked with an asterisk (\*).

Taking into account five introduced species, the present list contains 157 numbered species of which 51 were found breeding. For comparative purposes these breeding species have been listed again in a separate table, which we hope to publish in a future issue of *Hunter Natural History*.

As the island ecology is subject to changes in the very near future, it is therefore anticipated that this will have a considerable effect on the status of many species.

However, we feel confident that for another four years at least, the status of many species will remain unchanged, unless the proposed industrialisation of the island is accelerated.

The status of three species (*Egretta garzetta*, *E. intermedia* and *Nycticorax caledonicus*) is already in doubt and awaiting further evidence, we have placed them in their original category. Based on our field observations and current information available, it has been noted that in certain cases the status of some species fluctuates from year to year, which makes it difficult to establish their correct classification, also the fluctuation in numbers of some breeding species indicates a possible migratory movement.

As we have not been able to ascertain whether some breeding residents depart from the area during this period, we have assumed that only a slight shift in population (dispersal of young birds mainly) from the southern parts of N.S.W. took place, and therefore accepted the resident status.

Some migratory species, i.e. *Limosa lapponica* and *Calidris acuminata*, have been found to remain throughout the year.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

As the need for a comprehensive checklist for the Hunter Valley has been expressed by many ornithologists and in view of the uniqueness of the area a checklist seems justified and we hope that this checklist will prompt comment and criticism from many other interested persons or bodies.

Nomenclature

Since we feel that the official checklist of the Birds of Australia, 1926, which the R.A.O.U. has allowed to become obsolete, is somewhat inadequate and since there is still no generally accepted classification of birds, we have adhered closely to the sequence of orders and families given in "An Index of Australian Bird Names" (1969), published by the C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife Division.

Where thought appropriate the use of English and scientific names were compared to those given in "A Handlist of the Birds in S.A." (Condon 1962) and "An Australian Bird Book" (Leach 1961).

Acknowledgements

We gratefully acknowledge the information supplied by Messrs D. Gosper, G. Holmes and I. & G. Standring which greatly assisted us in compiling this checklist.

References

- An Index of Australian Bird Names--C.S.I.R.O. Division of Wildl. Res. 20.  
 The Official Checklist of the Birds of Australia--2nd and revised edition  
 1926 R.A.O.U.
- Condon, H.T. 1962 A Handlist of the Birds of South Australia.
- Holmes, G. 1970 The Birds of the Hunter River Estuary, Hunter Natural History,  
 Vol.2, No.1:13-18.
- Leach, J.A. 1961 An Australian Bird Book.
- Serventy, D. and V. & Warham, J. 1971 The Handbook of Australian Sea-Birds.
- Voous, K.H. 1965 Checklist of the Birds of Aruba, Curaçao and Bonaire.  
 Ardea 53:205-234.

Abbreviations Used

- D.G. - - D. Gosper
- G.H. - - G. Holmes
- I. & G.S. - I. and G. Standring
- H.N.H. - Hunter Natural History
- A.S.B. - The Handbook of Australian Sea-Birds.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

The following faunistic categories have been distinguished:

Breeding resident--30 species.

Breeding summer visitor--16 species.

Irregular breeding visitor--not appearing each year, and only remaining to nest when conditions are favourable--5 species.

Regular non-breeding visitor--recorded in all months of the year and therefore, as a species, a non-breeding resident.

Winter visitor--migrants from New Zealand and Australia generally.

Passage migrant and non-breeding summer visitor--categories usually hard to differentiate and therefore mostly combined.

Irregular non-breeding visitor--not appearing each month, but occurrence on the island not exceptional in view of geographical distribution and migratory movement.

Casual visitor--including stragglers of exceptional occurrence and recorded less than five times.

Introduced breeding resident:

The abundance of breeding species has been indicated as follows:

Very common--*Porphyrio porphyrio*, *Petrochelidon ariel*.

Common-- *Acrocephalus australia*, *Gallinula tenebrosa*.

Rather common--*Colluricincla harmonica*, *Pachycephala rufiventris*.

Rather scarce--*Myiagra rubecula*, *Corvus coronoides*.

Scarce-- *Porzana fluminea*, *Cisticola exilis*.

Very scarce-- *Butorides striatus*, *Gerygone levigaster*.

The abundance of species (breeding and non-breeding has been indicated as follows:

Very large numbers	-	1,000 - More
Large numbers	-	200 - 1,000
Rather large numbers	-	50 - 200
Rather small numbers	-	20 - 50
Small numbers	-	5 - 20
Very small numbers	-	1 - 5

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)PELECANIFORMESPELECANIDAE1. *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small-large numbers.  
Maximum numbers recorded 270 on 8.1.72.

PELICANS

Australian pelican

ANHINGIDAE2. *Anhinga rufa*

Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 3 on 31.7.71, and an unusually large flock of 11 on 19.8.72 (DG).

DARTERS

Darter

PHALACROCORACIDAE3. *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 60 on 21.5.72.

CORMORANTS

Black cormorant

4. *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

Regular non-breeding visitor,  
Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 80 on 27.5.72,

Little black cormorant

5. *Phalacrocorax varius*

Irregular non-breeding visitor,  
Recorded in very small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 25 on 13.11.71,

Pied cormorant

6. *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

Regular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 60 on 27.2.71.

Little pied cormorant

PODICIPITIFORMESPODICIPITIDAE7. *Podiceps novaehollandiae*

Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
Recorded in small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 180 on 4.6.72.

GREBES

Little grebe

8. *Podiceps cristatus*

Casual visitor.  
One record of a single bird only on 31.7.71.

Great crested grebe

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)CICONIIFORMESARDEIDAE9. *Ardea pacifica*

Casual visitor.  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum numbers recorded 2 on 30.12.71.

10. *Ardea novaehollandiae*

Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
Recorded in small-rather large numbers,  
Maximum number recorded 160 on 29.5.71.

11. *Butorides striatus*

Breeding resident--very scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 4 on 20.3.71.

12. *Egretta alba*

Breeding summer visitor--very common.  
Recorded in small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 180 on 9.10.71.

13. *Egretta intermedia*

Breeding summer visitor--formerly common--breeding  
status now doubtful.  
Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 50 on 15.1.72.

14. *Egretta garzetta*

Regular non-breeding visitor.  
It is not known whether this species breeds in the  
Hunter region but it is possible that very small  
numbers may have bred in the former egret colony.  
Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 20 on 17.4.71.

15. *Ardeola ibis*

Casual visitor.  
Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 6 on 12.2.72 (GH) and 19.2.72 (DG).

16. *Nycticorax caledonicus*

Breeding summer visitor--formerly common, now very scarce.  
Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 200 on 13.9.70.

HERONS, EGRETS & BITTERNS

White-necked heron

White-faced heron

Mangrove bittern

White egret.

Plumed egret

Little egret

Cattle egret

Nankeen night heron

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)CICONIIDAESTORKS17. *Xenorhynchus asiaticus*

Jabiru

Casual visitor.

Recorded on several occasions, one on 30.1.72 (DG)  
and 8.7.72 (I&GS). On an earlier occasion by GH. (pers. comm.)THRESKIORNITHIDAEIBISES and SPOONBILLS18. *Threskiornis molucca*

White ibis

Regular non-breeding visitor.

Recorded in small-large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 350 on 6.3.71.19. *Threskiornis spinicollis*

Straw-necked ibis

Regular non-breeding visitor.

Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 150 on 17.4.71.20. *Plegadis falcinellus*

Glossy ibis

Casual visitor.

Recorded in small numbers.

A flock of 5-12 recorded during January, 1972 and 5 on 29.4.72.

21. *Platalea leucorodia*

Royal spoonbill

Irregular non-breeding visitor.

Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 100 on 19.2.72,22. *Platalea flavipes*

Yellow-billed spoonbill

Irregular non-breeding visitor.

Recorded in very small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 28 on 3.7.71.ANSERIFORMESANATIDAESWANS, GEESE and DUCKS23. *Cygnus atratus*

Black swan

Breeding resident--rather scarce.

Recorded in small-large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 260 on 8.4.72.24. *Anas superciliosa*

Black duck

Breeding resident--rather scarce.

Recorded in small-very large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 900 on 2.6.72.25. *Anas castanea*

Chestnut teal

Breeding resident--rather scarce.

Recorded in small-very large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 1,300 on 21.5.72.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

26. *Anas gibberifrons* Grey teal  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 70 on 23.4.72.
27. *Anas rhynchotis* Blue-winged shoveler  
 Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 10 in December, 1969.
28. *Malacorhynchus membranaceus* Pink-eared duck  
 Casual visitor.  
 Recorded on three occasions only: a group of 7 and 12 on 17.7.71 and 25.7.71 respectively and 3 recorded by G. Gosper on 8.4.72.
29. *Aythya australis* White-eyed duck  
 Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 50 on 24.7.71.
30. *Chenonetta jubata* Wood duck  
 Casual visitor.  
 Recorded on three occasions only.  
 Two records for December, 1969 of 50 and 30, and 4 recorded on 28.8.71.
31. *Biziura lobata* Musk duck  
 Breeding resident--very scarce.  
 Recorded in very small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 5 (200 and 300) on 2.10.71.

FALCONIFORMESACCIPITRIDAEEAGLES, GOSHAWKS, etc.

32. *Elanus notatus* Black-shouldered kite  
 Winter visitor.  
 Recorded in very small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 3 on 29.5.71.
33. *Haliastur sphenurus* Whistling kite  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 7 on 30.12.71.
34. *Accipiter fasciatus* Australian goshawk  
 Winter visitor.  
 All records of a single bird only.
35. *Accipiter novaehollandiae* Grey goshawk  
 Casual visitor.  
 One record of a single bird only (I.&GS) on 8.7.72.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

36. *Accipiter cirrocephalus* Collared sparrowhawk  
Casual visitor.  
Two records of a single bird only on 4.9.71 and 21.5.72.
37. *Aquila audax* Wedge-tailed eagle  
Casual visitor.  
Three records of a single bird only on 18.6.69, 11.1.70 and 19.1.72.
38. *Haliaeetus leucogaster* White-breasted sea eagle  
Regular non-breeding visitor,  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 6 on 6.5.72.
39. *Circus approximans* Swamp harrier  
Regular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum numbers recorded 3 on numerous occasions.

FALCONIDAEFALCONS and KESTRELS

40. *Falco peregrinus* Peregrine falcon  
Passage migrant.  
Has only been recorded during the months December-June  
in very small numbers.
41. *Falco longipennis* Little falcon  
Passage migrant.  
Four records of a single bird only on 18.6.69, 18.9.71, 10.6.72 and  
by DG 17.6.72.
42. *Falco berigora* Brown falcon  
Regular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 6 on 29.4.72.
43. *Falco cenchroides* Nankeen kestrel  
Regular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 6 on 11.1.70.

GALLIFORMESPHASIANIDAEQUAILS, PHEASANTS

44. *Coturnix pectoralis* Stubble quail  
Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
Two records of 3 and 1 on 7.3.70 and 31.10.70 (DG).  
Recorded by other observers--no details available.



A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (Cont.)

45. *Coturnix ypsilophorus* Brown quail.  
 Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded on 5.12.71.  
 Recorded by other observers--no details available.

GRUIFORMESRALLIDAE

46. *Porzana pusilla*  
 Irregular breeding visitor--very scarce.  
 Recorded in very small numbers.

47. *Porzana fluminea*  
 Breeding resident--scarce.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 8 on 28.12.69.

48. *Gallinula tenebrosa*  
 Breeding resident--common.  
 Recorded in small-rather large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 100 on 26.9.71.

49. *Porphyrio porphyrio*  
 Breeding resident--very common.  
 Recorded in very small-rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 50 on 25.6.72.

50. *Fulica atra* Coot  
 Irregular breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in small-large numbers, the larger numbers usually recorded during the months April-August.  
 Maximum number recorded 350 on 2.6.72.

CHARADRIIFORMESHAEMATOPODIDAE

51. *Haematopus ostralegus*  
 Winter visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 24 on 29.4.72.

CHARADRIIDAE

52. *Vanellus novaehollandiae*  
 Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
 Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.

RAILS, CRAKES, COOTS

Marsh crake

Spotted crake

Dusky moorhen

Eastern swamphen

Coot

OYSTER-CATCHERS

Pied Oyster-catcher

PLOVERS AND DOTTERELS

Spur-winged plover

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

53. *Vanellus tricolor* Banded plover  
 Casual visitor.  
 One record of a single bird only on 1.8.70 (DG).
54. *Charadrius cinctus* Red-kneed dotterel  
 Irregular breeding visitor--very scarce.  
 Recorded in very small--rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 50 on 29.4.72.
55. *Charadrius alexandrinus* Red-capped dotterel  
 Breeding summer visitor--very scarce.  
 Recorded in small--rather large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 90 on 7.8.71 and 14.8.71.
56. *Charadrius hiaticula* Ringed plover  
 Casual visitor.  
 A single bird recorded between February 18th and December 12th, 1967.  
 (GH, *Hunter Natural History*.)
57. *Charadrius bicinctus* Double-banded dotterel  
 Winter visitor.  
 Recorded in very small--rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 40 on 14.8.71.
58. *Charadrius mongolus* Mongolian sand-dotterel  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in small--large numbers,  
 Maximum number recorded 500 on 18.3.72.
59. *Charadrius leschenaultii* Large sand-dotterel  
 Casual visitor.  
 Three records only: 26.2.71 (1); 28.2.71 (2); 26.2.72 (1).
60. *Charadrius melanops* Black-fronted dotterel  
 Breeding summer visitor--very scarce.  
 Recorded in very small--small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 18 on 15.5.71.
61. *Pluvialis dominica* Eastern golden plover  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small--large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 250 on 11.3.72.
- SCOLOPACIDAE GODWITS, SANDPIPERS etc.
62. *Arenaria interpres* Turnstone  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small--rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 30 on 23.4.72.

## A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

63. *Gallinago hardwickii* Japanese snipe  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of 3 on 2.1.72.  
 G. Holmes in *Hunter Natural History* refers to this species as being numerous.
64. *Numenius minutus* Little whimbrel  
 Casual visitor.  
 Two records only.  
 3 birds in September 1968 (GH *Hunter Natural History*) and one on 12.12.69.
65. *Numenius phaeopus* Whimbrel  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 21 on 27.7.71.
66. *Numenius madagascariensis* Eastern curlew  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 300 on 21.11.70.  
 Mention of a flock of 600 has been made by GH (*Hunter Natural History*).
67. *Tringa stagnatilis* Marsh sandpiper  
 Casual visitor.  
 One record of a single bird on 4.6.72.
68. *Tringa nebularia* Greenshank  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in small-rather large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 200 on 23.10.71.
69. *Tringa glareola* Wood sandpiper.  
 Casual visitor.  
 Recorded on 3 occasions: 21.11.70 (3); 22.5.71 (3); 26.2.72 (6).
70. *Tringa hypoleucos* Common sandpiper  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 4 on 4.12.71 (DG).
71. *Tringa brevipes* Grey-tailed tattler  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 19 on 7.8.71.
72. *Xenus cinereus* Terek sandpiper  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in small-rather large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 600 on 1.1.70 (GH *Hunter Natural History*).

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

73. *Calidris canutus* Knot  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 30 on 16.1.72 and 18.3.72.
74. *Calidris tenuirostris* Great knot  
 Casual visitor.  
 Recorded during the month February-March 1972 with a maximum of 12 on 18.3.72.
75. *Calidris acuminata* Sharp-tailed sandpiper  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in small-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 400 on 28.12.69 and 11.9.71.
76. *Calidris melanotos* Pectoral sandpiper  
 Casual visitor.  
 One record of a single bird on 19,9.71.  
 Mention has also been made by GH (*Hunter Natural History*) of the occurrence of this species.
77. *Calidris ruficollis* Red-necked stint  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in small-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 500 on 1.1.72.
78. *Calidris ferruginea* Curlew sandpiper  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in small-large numbers,  
 Maximum number recorded 900 on 29.1.72.
- \* *Calidris alba* Sanderling.  
 Mention of this species has been made by G. Holmes (*Hunter Natural History*).  
 No details available.
79. *Limicola falcinellus* Broad-billed sandpiper  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small-rather large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 180 on 26.2.72 (GH pers. comm.).
80. *Limosa limosa* Black-tailed godwit  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in rather small-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 800 on 12.3.72 and 18.3.72.
81. *Limosa lapponica* Bar-tailed godwit  
 Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in rather small-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 800 on 7.12.71 (GH--BIRDS. Vol.6 No.6).

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

82. *Philomachus pugnax* Ruff  
 Casual visitor.  
 A single bird recorded in November 1967 (GH--*Hunter Natural History*) and one reeve on 27.2.72 (GH, DG and others).
- RECURVIROSTRIDAE STILTS, AVOCETS
83. *Himantopus himantopus* White-headed stilt  
 Breeding resident --rather scarce.  
 Recorded in small-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 350 on 15.5.72.
84. *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae* Red-necked avocet  
 Casual visitor.  
 Five birds recorded during May-December 1965 (GH *Hunter Natural History*).  
 One bird recorded from 22.4.72 to 27.6.72, and during the month of August, 1972 a maximum number of 19 were recorded.
- STERCORARIIDAE SKUAS
85. *Stercorarius parasiticus* Arctic skua  
 Casual visitor.  
 One immature recorded by G. holmes (*H.N.H.*) on 16.1.68.  
 A single bird recorded on 15.1.72 and 22.1.72.
- LARIDAE GULLS, TERNS
- \* *Larus dominicanus* Dominican gull  
 Recorded by GH. (pers. comm.) No details available.
86. *Larus novaehollandiae* Silver gull  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in rather large-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 800 on 15.5.72.
87. *Chlidonias hybrida* Whiskered tern  
 Casual visitor.  
 Recorded in small-rather small numbers,  
 Maximum number recorded 30 on 30.4.70.
88. *Chlidonias leucoptera* White-winged black tern  
 Non-breeding summer visitor.  
 Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 28 on 5.3.72.
89. *Hydroprogne caspia* Caspian tern  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 9 on 21.5.72.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

90. *Gelochelidon nilotica* Gull-billed tern  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 27 on 18.3.72.
91. *Sterna hirundo* Common tern  
 Non-breeding summer visitor.  
 Recorded in rather small-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 300 on 15.1.72.
- \* *Sterna paradisea* Arctic tern  
 Casual visitor.  
 One bird amongst a large group of *S. hirundo* was considered to be of this species. (GH *Hunter Natural History*, 1970, Vol.2, No.1.)
- \* *Sterna striata* White-fronted tern  
 The occurrence of this species has been discussed by GH (*Hunter Natural History*, 1970 Vol.2 No.1). No details available.
92. *Sterna niger* Black tern  
 Casual visitor.  
 Two records 13.1.68 (Rogers, 1963, *The Handbook of Aust. Sea-birds*) and 30.3.68 GH *Hunter Natural History*, 1970, Vol.2 No.1. The latter record is probably of the same bird.
93. *Sterna albifrons* Little tern  
 Non-breeding summer visitor.  
 Recorded in small-rather large numbers.  
 Recorded breeding on Walsh Island (*The Handbook of Aust. Sea-Birds.*)  
 Maximum number recorded 200 on 12.3.72.
94. *Sterna bergii* Crested tern  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 50 on 24.6.72.

COLUMBIFORMES

COLUMBIDAE

DOVES AND PIGEONS

95. *Lopholaimus antarcticus* Top-knot pigeon  
 Casual visitor.  
 Two records only, a flock of 23 on 11.7.70 (DG) and 25 on 17.4.71.
96. *Geopelia humeralis* Bar-shouldered dove  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 8 on 1.5.71.
- \* *Geopelia striata* Peaceful dove.  
 Recorded by GH (pers. comm.). No details available.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

97. *Ocyphaps lophotes* Crested pigeon  
 Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small numbers.
98. *Columba livia* Domestic pigeon  
 Introduced.  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.

PSITTACIFORMESPSITTACIDAECOCKATOOS AND PARROTS

99. *Glossopsitta pusilla* Little lorikeet  
 Casual visitor.  
 One record of a flock of 30 on 26.2.72.
100. *Cacatua roseicapilla* Galah  
 Casual visitor.  
 Recorded in very small numbers on 3 occasions: 14.2.71 (1); 17.4.71 (3)  
 and 29.5.71 (3).
101. *Nymphicus hollandicus* Cockatiel  
 Casual visitor.  
 Pair observed inspecting hole in oak tree on 3.10.70 (DG).
102. *Platycercus eximius* Eastern rosella  
 Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of two.
103. *Psephotus haematonotus* Red-rumped parrot  
 Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 55 on 15.5.72.

CUCULIFORMESCUCULIDAECUCKOOS

104. *Cuculus pallidus* Pallid cuckoo  
 Casual visitor.  
 One record of a single bird on 25.6.72.
105. *Cacomantis pyrrhophanus* Fan-tailed cuckoo  
 Winter visitor.  
 Recorded in very small numbers during the months April-October.
106. *Chrysococcyx osculans* Black-eared cuckoo  
 Casual visitor.  
 A single bird recorded on 2.1.72.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

107. *Chrysococcyx basalis* Horsfield bronze cuckoo  
 Casual visitor.  
 Two records of a single bird only on 25.9.71 and 9.10.71.
108. *Chrysococcyx plagosus* Golden bronze cuckoo  
 Breeding summer visitor --scarce.  
 Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of four on 13.11.71.
- \* *Eudynamys scolopacea* Koel  
 Recorded by GH (pers. comm). No details available.

STRIGIFORMESTYTONIDAEBARN OWLS

- \* *Tyto alba*

Barn owl

One bird believed to be of this species attacked by 20 *Corvus coronoides* in spring 1971. (J. & O. Ralston. Pers. communication.)

APODIFORMESAPODIDAESWIFTS

109. *Apus pacificus*

Spine-tailed swift

Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in rather large-large numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 500 (unusually large flock) on 22.1.72.

CORACIIFORMESALCEDINIDAEKINGFISHERS

110. *Alcyone azurea*

Azure kingfisher

Passage migrant.  
 Recorded in very small numbers.

111. *Dacelo gigas*

Laughing kookaburra

Regular non-breeding visitor.  
 Recorded in very small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 3 on 7.8.71.

112. *Halcyon sancta*

Sacred kingfisher

Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
 Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
 Maximum number recorded 20 on 12.2.72.

MEROPIIDAEBEE-EATERS

- \* *Merops ornatus*

Australian bee-eater

Recorded by GH (pers. comm.). No details available.



A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)PASSERIFORMESHIRUNDINIDAE113. *Hirundo neoxena*

Breeding resident--common.  
Recorded in large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 500 on 18.6.72.

114. *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 50 on 14.8.71.

115. *Petrochelidon ariel*

Breeding summer visitor --very common.  
Recorded in rather small-rather large numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 150 on 28.8.71.

MOTACILLIDAE116. *Anthus australis*

Breeding summer visitor --rather common.  
Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 40 on 14.2.71.

CAMPEPHAGIDAE117. *Coracina novaehollandiae*

Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small-small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 10 on 7.8.71.

118. *Coracina robusta*

Casual visitor.  
Recorded on two occasions: 24.6.72 and 25.6.72 being of five and two birds respectively.

119. *Edoliisoma tenuirostre*

Casual visitor.  
One record of a single bird only on 14.11.70 (DG).

\* *Lalage tricolor*

Recorded by GH (pers. comm.). No details available.

SWALLOWS

Welcome swallow

Tree martin

Fairy martin

PIPITS

Australian pipit

CUCKOO SHRIKES

Black-faced cuckoo-shrike

Little cuckoo-shrike

Cicada-bird

White-winged triller

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)SYLVIIDAEOLD WORLD WARBLERS

120. *Cisticola exilis* Golden-headed fantail-warbler  
Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
Recorded in small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 10 on 9.10.71.
121. *Megalurus gramineus* Little grassbird  
Breeding resident--very common.  
Recorded in small--rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 13 on 28.8.71.
122. *Acrocephalus australis* Reed warbler  
Breeding summer visitor--common.  
Recorded in small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 9 on 15.1.72.
123. *Cinclorhamphus cruralis* Brown songlark  
Breeding summer visitor--very scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum number of 3 recorded in  
December 1969.

MALURIDAEAUSTRALIAN WARBLERS

124. *Malurus cyaneus* Superb blue wren  
Breeding resident--rather common.  
Recorded in small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 16 on 29.5.71.
125. *Malurus lamberti* Variegated wren  
Irregular non-breeding visitor (formerly breeding resident).  
From 1969 only two records of a single bird on 23.8.70 and 19.9.71.
126. *Gerygone olivacea* White-throated warbler  
Casual visitor.  
One record of a single bird on 3.10.71. (DG)
127. *Gerygone levigaster* Mangrove warbler  
Breeding summer visitor--very scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of four on 3.7.71.
128. *Acanthiza nana* Little thornbill  
Breeding summer visitor--scarce.  
Recorded in very small--small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 9 on 24.4.71.
129. *Acanthiza pusilla* Brown thornbill  
Breeding resident--rather common.  
Recorded in very small--small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 7 on 7.8.71.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

130. *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa* Yellow-tailed thornbill  
Breeding summer visitor--scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 6 on 24.4.71.
131. *Sericornis frontalis* White-browed scrub-wren  
Irregular non-breeding visitor (status not clear).  
Recorded in very small numbers on several occasions with a maximum of  
2 on 22.5.71.

EPTHIANURIDAEAUSTRALIAN CHATS

132. *Epthianura albifrons* White-fronted chat  
Breeding resident--rather common.  
Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 50 on 14.8.71.

MUSCICAPIDAEOLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS

- \* *Petroica rosea* Rose robin  
Recorded by D. Gosper (pers. comm.) in June 1970. No details available.
133. *Rhipidura fuliginosa* Grey fantail  
Breeding resident--rather common.  
Recorded in small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 9 on 28.8.71.
134. *Rhipidura rufifrons* Rufous fantail  
Casual visitor.  
One record of a single bird on 12.12.69.
135. *Rhipidura leucophrys* Willie wagtail  
Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
Recorded in small numbers with a maximum of 13 on 28.8.71.

MONARCHIDAEMONARCH FLYCATCHERS

136. *Myiagra rubecula* Leaden flycatcher  
Breeding summer visitor--rather scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of 4 on 18.12.71.
137. *Seisura inquieta* Restless flycatcher  
Winter visitor.  
Has been recorded on several occasions in very small numbers.
138. *Monarcha melanopsis* Black-faced flycatcher  
Passage migrant.  
Recorded on several occasions in very small numbers.

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

PACHYCEPHALIDAE

WHISTLERS AND ALLIES

139. *Pachycephala rufiventris* Rufous whistler

Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of 4 on 9.10.71.

140. *Colluricincla harmonica* Grey shrike-thrush

Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of 3 on 9.10.71.

DICAEIDAE

FLOWER-PECKERS

141. *Dicaeum hirundinaceum* Mistletoe bird

Irregular non-breeding visitor.  
Recorded in very small numbers, notably during the month of January.

ZOSTEROPIDAE

SILVEREYES

142. *Zosterops lateralis* Grey-breasted silvereye

Breeding resident--rather common.  
Recorded in small to rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 30 on 15.5.71.

MELIPHAGIDAE

HONEYEATERS

143. *Lichmera indistincta* Brown honeyeater

Breeding summer visitor--scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of 6 recorded on 1.5.71.

144. *Meliphaga chrysops* Yellow-faced honeyeater

Passage migrant.  
Recorded in small numbers during the months March-May.

145. *Philemon corniculatus* Noisy friar-bird

Casual visitor.  
Two records only on 3.10.70 and 9.10.71 of 10 and 1 respectively. (DG)

146. *Plectorhyncha lanceolata* Striped honeyeater

Breeding summer visitor--very scarce.  
Recorded in very small numbers with a maximum of 2-3.

ESTRILDIDAE

GRASS FINCHES

147. *Poephila guttata* Zebra finch

Irregular breeding visitor--very scarce.  
Recorded on few occasions only.  
A flock of 30 was observed in December 1969--January 1970 with juveniles  
amidst. Breeding record in 1970. (D. Gosper)

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)PLOCEIDAE

148. *Passer domesticus*  
INTRODUCED  
Breeding resident--common.

FRINGILLIDAE

149. *Carduelis carduelis*  
INTRODUCED  
Breeding resident--very scarce.

STURNIDAE

150. *Sturnus vulgaris*  
INTRODUCED  
Breeding resident--rather common.
151. *Acridotheres tristis*  
INTRODUCED  
Casual visitor

ORIOOLIDAE

152. *Oriolus sagittatus*  
Casual visitor.  
One record of a single bird on 8.5.71. (DG)
- \* *Sphecootheres vieilloti*  
Casual visitor.  
Recorded but no details available. (GH pers. comm.)

GRALLINIDAE

153. *Grallina cyanoleuca*  
Breeding resident--rather scarce.  
Recorded in small-rather small numbers.  
Maximum number recorded 30 on 3.7.71.

WEAVER FINCHES

House sparrow

TYPICAL FINCHES

Gold finch

STARLINGS

Starling

Indian myna

ORIOLES

Olive-backed oriole

Southern figbird

MUD-NEST BUILDERS

Magpie lark

A Checklist of the Birds of Kooragang Island (cont.)

CRACTICIDAE

154. *Cracticus nigrogularis*

Casual visitor.

One record only of two birds on 4.4.70.

155. *Cracticus torquatus*

Irregular non-breeding visitor.

Recorded in very small numbers.

Maximum number observed 3 on 12.2.72.

156. *Gymnorhina tibicen*

Breeding resident--scarce.

Recorded in very small-small numbers.

MAGPIES, BUTCHERBIRDS

Pied butcher-bird

Grey butcher-bird

Black-backed magpie

CORVIDAE

157. *Corvus coronoides*

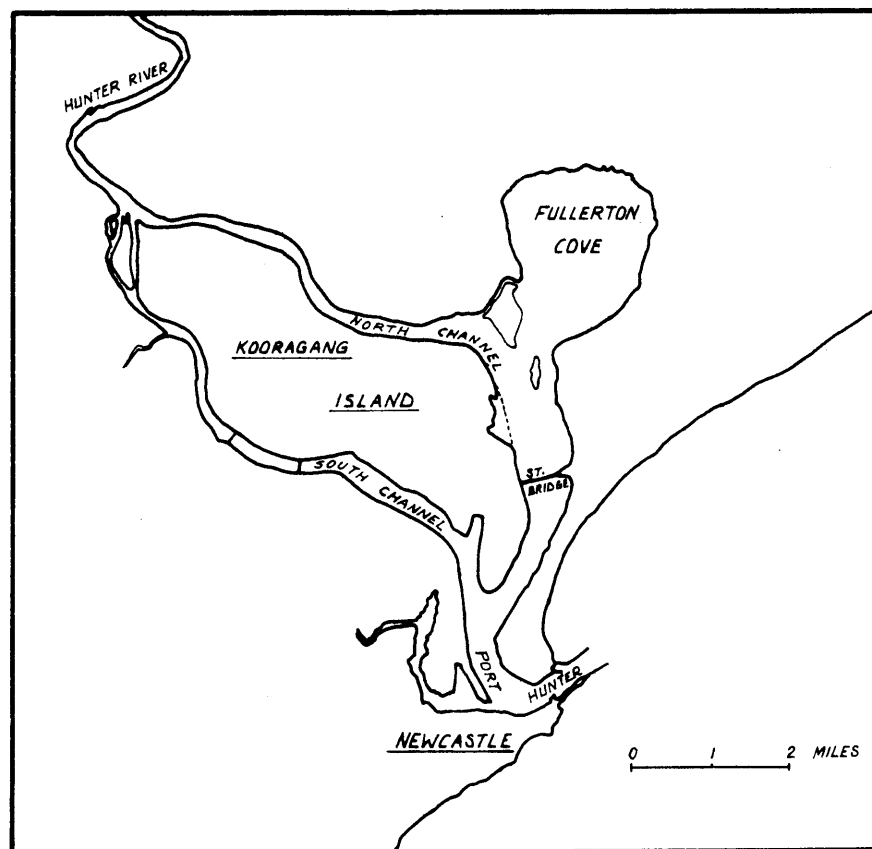
Breeding resident--rather scarce.

Recorded in small-rather small numbers.

Maximum number recorded 40 on 15.5.71.

CROWS AND RAVENS

Australian raven



MAP 1