

November 1978

## NEWSLETTER of the HUNTER (Newcastle) BIRD OBSERVER GROUP.

Issue No. 7 (Released monthly at General Meetings)

OFFICERS:

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MEETINGS:

2nd Wednesday each month at Garden Suburb Primary School.

Editor's Note: Our apologies for the non appearance of the October Newsletter - although all the material was prepared some how or other it didn't get printed. To compensate for this we have attached hereto the 'news' content of that issue.

October Meeting - attendance 20.

1979 Programme - further discussion took place on details and hopefully a final programme will eventuate at the November meeting.

Townsville Trip - The 1979 Annual Migration still appears to be a distinct possibility and interested members are to be invited to attend a meeting to finalise WHEN, WHERE and HOW.

Subscription Fees - Arrangements have now been made for Annual Subscriptions to the Flora & Fauna Society to be paid at our regular monthly meetings - Tom Kendall has kindly consented to liaise with the F. & F. Treasurer. Any member wishing to pay his/her subs in this manner, may do so by handing Tom the cash/cheque together with a slip of paper showing name and address.

Bird of the Evening - Very capably presented, as usual, by Bill Murphy. Bill spoke about the Restless Flycatcher and we were very pleased to hear his comments about this particular species.

KASHMIR & NEW ZEALAND Mavis and Allan Gillies who will be leaving us after Christmas gave two very informative and entertaining talks. Mavis spoke of her recent trip to Kashmir. Details of her illustrated talk gave us information relative to the country, its people, birds and modes of transport. Allan spoke at length about the Birds of New Zealand and after this talk we realised how fortunate 'Birdos' are in Australia with the number of species and the comparative ease with which we can locate and view same. Thank you very much 'Kiwis' for your valued and much appreciated contribution.

GRAHAMSTOWN OUTING - Attendance 11

Something like a record was established on this outing when 101 species were recorded as being sighted. Areas covered were the Grahamstown water storage area, the Balikera Canal and the Seaham swamp. A very enjoyable day - probably the most interesting sighting was the display by a male MUSK DUCK. Many thanks to Brian Gilligan who led our Group for the day.

Special Meeting - Tuesday 24 October - At this meeting we were privileged to hear a talk by that learned Ornithologist - Glen Holmes. Glen spoke about birds of the New England District and illustrated his talk with some excellent coloured slides - a very enjoyable evening.

Atlas Camp to Twin Rivers 4/5 November. Five members spent the week-end at Mr. Tom Geales' property at Twin Rivers (about 25 miles West of Gloucester) actually the junction of the Cobakh and the Dilgery rivers. Mr. Geales has really made friends with the birds in this area and we were entranced to see some 30 birds feeding on his lawns - King Parrots, Crimson Rosellas, Bar-Shouldered Doves, Currawongs, Magpies, Red-browed finches and Satin Bower Birds all mingled together on the front lawn whilst on a stump at the rear of the house, Mr. Geales fed six Kookaburras and four Magpies with pieces of meat. Anyone passing that way, may call in and see Mr. Geales - bird feeding times are 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. Altogether over the week-end we sighted over 50 different species. An interesting camp marred somewhat by the drizzling rain.

COMING EVENTS:

Sunday 19th November - FRASER PARK OUTING - Meet at the Fraser Park turn-off at 9 a.m.

Wednesday 13th December - Final meeting for 1978 - for this meeting it has been suggested that you bring along your favourite slides.

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