

NEWSLETTER of the HUNTER (Newcastle) BIRD OBSERVER GROUP.  
Issue No. 5/79 (Released monthly at General meetings)

MEETINGS: 2nd Wednesday of each month at Garden Suburbs  
Primary School at 7.30 p.m.

1. Notes from the May Meeting - attendance 12.

FIELD DAYS - it was agreed that intending participants try and notify the Activities Officer (Olive Hamonet, 581023) of their intention to attend the monthly outing or the Atlas outings. This will greatly assist our organisation and will save members waiting around for someone who may or may not turn up.

TOWNSVILLE TRIP - definitely on - departure date Saturday 15 September 1979 - participants to make own travelling arrangements - rendezvous points to be announced.

ATLAS OFFICE requires sketches to illustrate reports etc - any budding artists are asked to contact Wilma.

TALK BY TED FELTON - our most travelled 'Birdo' Ted Felton regaled us with an entertaining and informative talk about his wanderings in different parts of Australia. In turn Ted dealt with: types of vehicles; where to get information re places to visit and finally areas he had visited in N.S.W., Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. A very good dissertation and one which certainly whetted quite a few appetites. Our thanks to Ted Felton.

2. TELEGHERRY STATE FOREST - Week-end Camp 19/20 May.

Six campers and four day visitors participated in this outing. Apart from some fog and misty rain on the Sunday morning, the weather was fine and a happy week-end was thoroughly enjoyed. Over 50 species were recorded and this was considered to be quite good considering the time of the year. Two sightings of interest: (i) The BROWN PIGEON (*Macropygia phasianella*), a most obliging bird who stayed put for quite long periods and (ii) wonder of wonders a male PARADISE RIFLE BIRD and three females (*Ptiloris paradiseus*). To the best of my knowledge the male bird has never been recorded before by our Group. As a result of their 'activities' over the week-end, awards were won by the following: The Best Snorer - Fred; the most industrious camper - Kay Imrie; and the accolade for the best sighting (the Rifle Bird) Olive Hamonet.

3. ANNUAL DINNER Friday 25 May.

18 of the 19 acceptors attended this function at the Sulphide Welfare Club at Cockle Creek. The food was good, the conversation stimulating and all in all it was voted a jolly good evening. Tom Douglass was perhaps a little disappointed that he couldn't entice more of our female members onto the dance floor - no doubt they've heard of his reputation, especially after cleaning up a bowl of Pavlova and sinking the best part of two bottles of 'vodka'. Once again we finished up with a surplus with which we purchased two lottery tickets for the 18 Birdos - needless to say, we didn't win anything but the numbers for those involved were: Jackpot No. 1524; 73690 and Special No. 3132: 55195.

4. ATLAS OUTING to Warranulla - attendance 11.

Leaving Bulahdelah, our party followed the road along the Myall river and passed through Markwell, Upper Myall, Warranulla and Warrah. Interesting country with several pockets of rainforest. Over 50 species were logged in the grid, the most unusual being the BOOBOOK OWL (*Ninox novaeseelandiae*).

COMING EVENTS

June 16/17/18 Queen's Birthday week-end camp - details at the June meeting.

Sunday June 24. Outing to Chichester Dam area - meet at the OAK at Hexham at 8 a.m.

Sunday July 8. Atlas outing to Weston/Abermain/Greta area. Meet at 8.30 a.m.  
Glendale Rugby League ground.