

THE NOVOCASTRIAN WARBLER.

September 1979

NEWSLETTER of the HUNTER (Newcastle) BIRD OBSERVER GROUP.

Issue No. 8/79 - Released monthly at General Meetings.

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

OFFICERS: Chairman: Fred Van Gessell; Secretary: Mrs. Wilma Barden 19 Carisbrooke Ave. Kotara (573928); Activities Officer: Olive Hamonet (581023); Newsletter Editor: Ed. Hamonet.

1. NOTES FROM THE AUGUST MEETING - 8/8/79.

- a) Bird of the Evening - our very knowledgeable Secretary gave us an illustrated talk on the Buff-Breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*). This species breeds in the Arctic and during the northern winter (our summer) migrates to the Southern Hemisphere. A rare sighting has been recorded for Kooragang Island.
- b) Jim Ralston entertained us with some of his collection of coloured slides - over 80 species were viewed and our thanks are due to Jim for a very entertaining exhibition - some of the 'arrangements' made to get the pictures were, in some respects more interesting than the birds themselves.

2. Atlas outing to BLACK HILL - Sunday August 26. An additional Atlas outing was hastily arranged when we gained access to a private property at Black Hill. Some ten members participated and were all very impressed with the rugged scenery in this area. All told some 45 species were recorded, the most interesting being the Brown Pigeon (*Macropygia amboinenensis*) and the King Parrots (*Alisterus scapularis*) the latter being observed feeding on the young wild tobacco plants.

3. TOWNSVILLE/CAIRNS Trip. - The Townsville group take off on Saturday 15 September and will probably be out of the district for 3-4 weeks - we should hear of their activities at the November meeting.

4. SICK REPORT We were sorry to learn that three of our members have been indisposed - Ted Felton, Ted Jones and John (Dutchy) Van de Werken - we wish them all a speedy recovery and trust that they will soon be back in our midst.

5/ COMING EVENTS:

Sunday 23 September: BASIN CAMP (Watagan Mountains) Meet at the OAK, Freeman's Waterholes at 8 a.m.  
Leader: Tom Douglass

Monday 24 September: Flora & Fauna Meeting, No. 2 Committee Room City Hall - BIRD TALK by Gary Weber with outstanding colour slides.

Labour Day week-end: 29 Sept - 1st October. Week-end camp with Flora and Fauna at DOYLES CREEK. Ring John Dorman ( 581564 ) for details.

Sunday 7 October: Atlas Outing to the Stroud/Mill Creek area - meet at the OAK, Hexham at 7 a.m.  
Leader: Tom Douglass.

6. Editor's Note: As I shall be participating in the Townsville/Cairns expedition and Bird Week at O'Reilly's in the Lamington National Park, I will not be able to produce a Newsletter for October or November - hopefully a volunteer will eventuate to maintain continuity of the series.

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