

Issue No. 5/30 - Released monthly at General Meetings.

MEETINGS: 2nd Wednesday of each month (except January)  
at the Garden Suburb Primary School at 7.30 pm.

Principal Officers: Chairman: Fred van Geessel.  
Secretary: Mrs. Wilma Barden (573928)

1. Notes from the May Meeting.

- (a) Attendance 17
- (b) It was pleasing to see another new face, this time in the person of Tony Salfour - another Cooranbongite.
- (c) Project Leader, David Waterhouse, reported on arrangements for the Lyrebird survey being carried out in the Karuah State Forest.
- (d) Toronto SWAMP area (see May Newsletter) - reported that the F. & F. had referred the matter to the Dept. of Main Roads and to the Lake Macquarie Municipal Council.
- (e) Literature was tabled from the Cumberland Bird Group; the Australian Raptors' Association and O'Reilly's Bird Week.
- (f) Bird of the Evening was the beautiful Gouldian Finch (*Chloebia Gouldiana*) and was very capably presented by Mr. Gary Hainsworth, a local breeder of these birds. The speaker dealt, inter alia, with colouration, courtship behaviour, nest construction and production of young. So that we could see what he was talking about Gary had brought along several of his birds - both mature and immature. These birds may have a black, red or yellow head: the ratios in the wild being 3 blacks to 1 red while the yellow only occurs once in every few thousand. We are very much indebted to Gary for his presentation of this bird which has been described by an American agriculturist as "the most perfect and beautiful of nature's creation."
- (g) Study Session - Whistlers and Thrushes.  
Our Chairman introduced this session which began with a recorded talk by Howard Jackson of the Victorian B.O.C. and a tape of recorded calls. An interesting and informative discussion followed.

2. Fees for 1980/81

Subscriptions for the year 1/7/80 to 30/6/81 are now due and the contributions may be made to our Fees Officer - Tom Kendall. They are Single membership \$ 6.00 and Family membership \$ 7.00

3. Upper Allyn Week-end Camp 24/25 May

Seven adults and three children attended. 46 species were recorded for the area and highlights included Superb Lyrebirds, both seen and heard, large numbers of scrub wrens and Scaly Thrush.

June 1980

4. Annual Report ...  
...  
no one missed.

5. Atlas Outing Stroud/Mill Creek area.  
Only four persons attended. The survey was most successful with 75 species being sighted. Highlights included large numbers of King Parrots, Satin Bowerbirds (one with Bower), Whipbirds actively feeding, Yellow Robins, Brown Pigeons and a Darter.

6. Belated Notes on Howes Valley Atlas Outing 10/11 May.  
Two members working on private properties recorded 57 species for a grid which previously had no birds recorded. All the Hunter Valley Robins were seen as were a Turquoise Parrot and an immature Blue-faced Honeyeater.

7. Belated Notes on Cowparlour Creek camp 19/20 April.  
Only 4 members attended. Sixty-one species were seen and these included Rock Warblers, Gang Gang Cockatoo and 100+ Zebra Finches. The area had a large population of resident wombats.

8. COMING EVENTS

(a) June 14-16 Queen's Birthday Weekend Camp - Lostock.

(b) June 22 Sunday Outing to Rocky Glen near Corcoran (via Millfield) Meet Cessnock Swimming Pool 9 am.

(c) July 6 Atlas Outing to Waukivory - meet at Oak, Hexham at 7am. Check with Jim Inrie as some may be going for a camp weekend.

(d) 12 - 19 October Bird School at the Warrumbungles

(e) 9 - 16 November Bird Week at O'Reilly's Lawington National Park.

(f) Flora and Fauna Meetings/Outings  
Monday, 23rd June 'The Lakes of New Zealand'  
Speaker Brian Timms. 8 pm. Room 11 Wickham Public School.

Sunday, 29th June 'In the Steps of Threlkeld'  
Coastal area Dudley to Belmont.  
Meet at the Awabakal Field Studies Centre, Boundary Street, Dudley at 10.30 am.

(g) Next meeting Wednesday 9th July.