



THE NOVOCASTRIAN WARBLER.

December 1981



NEWSLETTER of the HUNTER (Newcastle) BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB.

Issue No. 11/81 - released monthly at Club Nights.

MEETINGS: CLUB NIGHTS: 2nd Wednesday of each month (except January) at the Garden Suburb Primary School at 7.30 p.m.
Committee Meetings: 1st Monday of each month (public holidays excepted) at Garden Suburb Primary School at 8 p.m.
Chairman: Fred van Gessel. Enquiries: Wilma Barden - 57 3928.

NOTES FROM THE NOVEMBER MEETING.

- a) Attendance - in addition to 22 members we had 7 visitors making in all a total of 29 for the evening.
- b) Cabbage Tree Island Trip - this is scheduled for 3rd January 1982. Arrangements are in the hands of Tom Kendall and anyone interested may contact Tom on 52 5279.

2. BIRD OF THE EVENING - the BLACK BUTCHERBIRD - Cracticus quoyi.

This was presented by the Blue-winged Babbler from Iron Range (Kay Imrie) - being one of the birds seen by our representatives on the Iron Range Safari. For comparison bird calls of the Black, the Pied and the Grey Butcherbirds were played for the meeting. This species is confined generally to a coastal strip extending from Central Queensland, North through the Gulf country to west of Darwin.
Thank you Kay for a well prepared talk on the Black Butcherbird.

3. MAIN FEATURE - the BIRDS OF IRON RANGE.

During the latter half of August 1981, four members of our Club participated in a two week Safari at Iron Range in the Cape York Peninsula. The trip was arranged by the B.O.C which has its headquarters in Melbourne. Speakers were Ed Hamonet and Jim Imrie. The talk was illustrated with some slides of the Camping area on the banks of the Claudie River and examples of the habitat in the area. By courtesy of the B.O.C. Slide Library, members were shown slides of most of the 25 species which are only found in the Cape York Peninsula area. A B.O.C. member had also kindly loaned a tape of many of the calls of these species and this helped to enhance the presentation.

4. UPPER ALLYN ATLAS OUTING - Sunday 8th November 1981.

As previously advised this outing was confined to one day but proved to be quite rewarding for the five members who attended. 62 Species were recorded.

5. FIELD DAY TO SWAN BAY - Sunday 23rd November.

Wet weather reduced attendance on this outing but the five who braved the watery elements were well rewarded for their efforts when 83 species were sighted for the day.

6. ATLAS WEEK-END TO CURRICABARK (Gloucester area) 28/19 November.

Nine members turned up for this outing and thanks to Mrs. Margaret Mason of Gloucester settled into camp on the banks of the Little Manning River. Apart from the stinging nettles, scotch thistles and myriads of flies, it was a very enjoyable week-end. All told 97 species were recorded for the grid and in addition another 53 were recorded for a neighbouring grid.

7. ATLAS WEEK-END TO WARRA, WARRANULLA, WAUKIVORY 5/6 December 1981.
Details next Newsletter.

8. REPORT FROM DECEMBER COMMITTEE MEETING.

As this was held only two days before the Club Night, details have been held over until the next Newsletter.

9. EXHIBITION OF AUSTRALIAN BIRD PAINTINGS. by Malcolm McNaughton.

This Exhibition will open at the Cooks Hill Galleries , 67 Bull St., Cooks Hill at 2 p.m. on Sunday 31st January 1982. In addition to the opening session the Gallery will be open at the following times:

Monday	11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday and Saturday	11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday	2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Closing date Monday 15 Feb. 1982.

10. The ANNUAL MEETING.

Will form part of the proceedings at the February Club Night 10/2/82. Included in the business will be the election of the following Officers for 1982:

President
Vice President
Hon. Secretary
Hon. Treasurer
Project Officer
Editor

Sufficient members have indicated willingness to accept nomination to fill all these positions - so please don't stay away for fear of being 'railroaded' into doing something you may not want to.

11. UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS.

D avid Waterhouse: an Osprey at Stoney Creek (Toronto)
: Marsh Terns at Hexham
Kay & Jim Imrie: Hylacola and Shy Heath Wrens at Hattah Lakes.
Upper Allyn Group : Black-faced monarchs very prevalent.

12. COMING EVENTS:

Sunday 13th December - Field Day to BLACKHILL
Meet at the junction of John Renshaw Drive and Minmi Drive
at 7 a.m. (to beat the heat). Leader: Fred van Gessel.

Sunday 24 January 1982 - Field Day to BULGA to locate the PAINTED H.E.
Details at December meeting.

Sat/Sun 6/7 February - Summer WADER COUNT.
Details at December meeting.

Wednesday 10th February 1982 - First Club Night for 1982.
Usual time 7.30 p.m - usual venue.