

E. Hamon 9

NEWSLETTER NO. 2/88 MARCH 1988

Hunter Bird Observers Club



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1. NOTES FROM FEBRUARY MEETING.

a) ATTENDANCE: 49. Apologies from Alan Stuart and Stan Kon, welcome to new members Paul and Irene Osborn, and to visitors.

b) ANNUAL MEETING.

President Jim Perry read the annual report for 1987. Club Night attendance averaged 48.5, and 21 for field day outings. He thanked those who had presented Bird Call and Bird of the Evening, and those who had filled the Feature spot. The full report, plus appendices, is available in the Library for any who wish to read it.

After the report had been presented and accepted, Peter McLauchlan took the chair to conduct the election of officers. This formality resulted in no change from last year, which reflected either continued enthusiasm of those re-elected, or disinclination of rank and file members to step forward.

President: Jim Perry
Vice President: Wilma Barden
Secretary: Rosemary Waymark
Treasurer: Alan Stuart

Other appointments were:

Committee Members: Peter McLauchlan, Kay Imrie,
Bevan McGregor, Roger Heading.

Activities Officer: Kay Imrie

Book Librarian: Ed Hamonet, assisted by
Bevan McGregor

Audio Librarian: Peter McLauchlan

Slide Librarian: Roger Heading

Public Relations Officer: Wilma Barden

Projects Officer: Diane Rogers

Newsletter Editor: Ruth Parker

Newsletter Printers: Bevan McGregor &
Roger Heading

Newsletter Distributor: Jim Imrie

Supper Officer: Margaret McLauchlan

Auditors: Watson & Doherty.

The Annual General Meeting was declared closed and usual Club Night programme resumed.

c) BIRD CALL presented by Sue Hamonet.

The Brown Honeyeater is a small, dull-brown bird, but what it lacks in bright plumage it makes up for with song. The first part of its scientific name Lichmera indistincta means

'playing with the tongue' and its strong sweet song can be heard all day and sometimes well into the night. In Sue's opinion it has the most joyful song of all Honeyeaters. The Brown Honeyeater is common north and west of Newcastle, and can be found in the mangroves at Kooragang, at Teralba and Shortland.

d) Observations: Among observations noted were three young Channel-billed Cuckoos being fed by one pair of Currawongs at Valentine, a pair of Dollar Birds raising four young at Buttaba, and a Blue-faced Honeyeater at Rankin Park. We were reminded that there are seven different Observation Books wherein members are asked to record sightings.

e) Main Feature: In place of Gary Weber who was unable to come, Bill Wohlreb volunteered to show some of the slides he has taken over the past ten years. His selection ranged from far afield to slides of Little Grebes nesting on the pond in front of the Club room. Slides of nesting Wrens, Pardalotes and Bee-eaters were particularly good, those of Rainbow Lorikeets were splendid, but everyone's favourite was a close-up shot of a nesting Yellow Robin. Thanks Bill, and we wish you well for your proposed move to Queensland.

2. FIELD DAY TO STRICKLAND FOREST, SUNDAY 21ST FEBRUARY.

Seven hardy members gathered at All Seasons Nursery, Ourimbah at 0700, two late-comers from the bush at 0706. Off we went to the Banksia Picnic Area via Dog Trap Road.

A meander on walking trails through rain forest down to Stoney Creek produced 41 bird species. On the return walk on a fire trail Ruth spotted a Rose Robin, the highlight of the day. This Robin is aptly described as 'a little gem of Birdlife'. Leeches were plentiful, some members being well blooded - George Rogers topscoring with eight. After morning coffee, a short walk yielded a Rock Warbler.

Lunch was at Woodberry's Inn Park, followed by a brief visit to Ourimbah State Forest and then home. Total species for the day 51, plus one bat.

Our thanks to Diane and her parents for a splendid outing.

-- Alan Keating.

3. SPECIAL MEETING.

Notice is hereby given that at the meeting of this Club to be held on Wednesday 13th April at the Shortland Wetlands Centre at 7.30 p.m. it is intended to propose the following resolutions:-

1. That the Club be incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 as the Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc.,
2. That the Secretary be authorised to take the necessary action to apply for incorporation,
3. That the constitution of the Club be repealed on incorporation, and
4. That the rules tabled at this meeting be adopted as the rules of the Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc..

4. COMING EVENTS.

SUNDAY 20TH MARCH

FIELD DAY TO SWANSEA SOUTH.
MEET: Swansea Park.
TIME: 7 a.m.
CONTACT: Rosemary Waymark 751819.

EASTER WEEKEND CAMP
1-4TH APRIL

PILLIGA STATE FOREST.
DETAILS: Kay Imrie 524524
CONTACT: Jeanette Stephenson 575255.

ANZAC WEEKEND CAMP
23/24TH APRIL

SMITHS LAKE (Bunkhouse accommodation
and facilities available).
CONTACT & DETAILS: Kay Imrie 524524.

SUNDAY 22ND MAY

FIELD DAY TO CLARENCETOWN.
MEET: McDonalds Hexham.
TIME: 7 a.m.
CONTACT: Kay Imrie 524524.

WEDNESDAY 13TH APRIL

CLUBNIGHT at Shortland Wetlands Centre
TIME: 7.30 p.m.
NOTE: Special Meeting.
FEATURE: Wilderness Films.

WEDNESDAY 6TH APRIL

Management Committee Meeting at
Garden Suburb School 5.30 p.m.

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