NEWSLETTER



Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc.

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President: Secretary: Ann Lindsey

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Peter Phillips Tom Clarke

The aims of the club are:

To encourage and further the study and conservation of Australian birds and their habitat. To encourage bird observing as a leisure time activity.

Birds Getting Ready For The Olympics June Club Night

Homebush Bay and Wentworth Bay, two hundred years ago, formed an estuary surrounded by intertidal mud flats fringed with mangroves, salt marshes and woodlands of *Eucalyptus* and *Casuarina*.

Since then of course the natural state of this area has changed dramatically with wetlands being drained and tidal influx barriers built to form farming land. Ultimately, the place had become land for industry which included flour mills, brickworks, and abattoirs. Additional to that has been the use of this site for 30 years of uncontrolled dumping of municipal and industrial waste.

The successful bid for the 2000 Olympics to be held on this 760 hectare site has prompted the start of the largest remediation project ever tackled in Australia. To better understand Homebush Bay's remnant natural communities, the Olympic Co-ordination Authority established a review panel of experts from many strands of environmental sciences.

In 1991, our guest speaker Phil Straw from the RAOU was given the task to review the current status of bird life around the site. This study has led Phil to some great discoveries which could not be predicted at the start.

The western section of this area has been locked up for the last 100 years from the public since its use as an armaments depot required high security. A feature of this "secret" area is a 20 hectare eucalypt woodland thought to be at least 140 years old.

Phil Straw's studies have shown that at least 18 species of native birds depend on this woodland for food and shelter. Tree hollows within this woodland remnant are used as nest sites for birds such as Eastern Rosella, Crimson Rosella, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo and the regionally rare Red-rumped Parrot. All these birds require other habitats as well to survive and the surrounding grasslands, stands of Swamp Oak and mangrove communities need to be

conserved as well.

Phil has identified 29 bird species using the mangroves as a corridor between the dense woodlands of Newington (ex armaments depot) and the parkland of Bicentennial Park. Species that inhabit the mangroves includes Yellow Thombill, White-fronted Chat, Silvereye, Superb Fairy-wren and European Goldfinch. Rufous Fantail and Brown Honeyeater were found exclusively in the mangroves.

Phil Straw also conducted a study of the wetland birds of Homebush Bay which revealed a diverse range of species. Areas of open saltmarsh attracts waders such as Pacific Golden Plover and Black-winged Stilt while other larger birds (egrets, herons etc) can be found closer to the mangrove fringe. A nice surprise for Phil was the discovery of about 100 Latham's Snipe that frequent a patch of cumbungi swamp.

Phil also described some of the massive land restoration processes taking place which include the construction of an extensive network of sub-surface drains to collect leachates and direct to a central collection point for pumping to a nearby liquid waste treatment plant.

Stabilisation of the slopes of landfill has been achieved by the construction of a gabion system of rock filled mesh cubes and capped with compacted clay. Top soil and various revegetation schemes follow to recreate the lost habitat for wildlife.

The Olympic Co-ordination Authority was formed to provide all facilities for the 2000 Olympic Games and to manage the rehabilitation of Homebush Bay. In addition, it must plan beyond the games with a view to providing a new suburb of Sydney with a unique mix of residential, commercial and recreational facilities in an extensive parkland environment.

Phil Straw points out that the lessons leant from this experience will serve as a valuable model for many other urban remediation projects. A two volume report of the various land and habitat management techniques used is yet to be published.

Beautiful One Day, Perfect The Next.

Club Camp at Smiths Lake June Long Weekend 1997

Jan and I travelled with Anne and arrived at camp before lunch on Saturday having glimpsed Seal Rocks for the first time after passing the turn-off to UNSW Field Station and retracing our route.

We were delighted with the accommodation and beautiful surroundings - Smiths Lake on our front doorstep and surrounded by bush with Noisy Friarbirds creating the background music.

There was an abundance of birds and early walks just along the access roads was very rewarding. The weather was superb, T-shirts being the order of the day and pot-belly stoves for the evening.

A bonus were our trips to Seal Rocks where whales were observed and the scenery was breath taking. Thanks to the organisers and to Anne.

Judith Westphal

Wetlands Day

Stockton Borehole Swamp & Newcastle Wetland Reserve 22nd June 1997

For me, this was the first time I had ever visited this area and I enjoyed every minute of it. Fourteen birdwatchers turned up at Teralba Post Office and headed up the road to Stockton Borehole Swamp.

When we arrived at the swamp we saw Black-winged Stilt, Chestnut Teal, Masked Lapwing and a juvenile White-breasted Sea Eagle. During morning tea we spotted a Grey Goshawk on a telegraph pole, quite happy to stay and give us a good look through the telescope.

After morning tea we went for a walk which produced no sightings so we headed off to the Newcastle Wetlands Reserve. There we saw Hardhead, Chestnut and Grey Teal, three Darters and Whistling Kites. Crossing over on to the golf course we saw Eastern Rosella, Red-rumped Parrot and Rainbow Lorikeet and on the golf course dam we saw Great and Intermediate Egret, Australasian Grebe and altogether we saw forty two Great Cormorants nesting.

All up we saw forty three species at Stockton Borehole Swamp and fifty seven species at Newcastle Wetlands Reserve.

Thankyou Anne Lindsey for taking me.

Grant Brosie

Weeding Day At Stockton Sandspit

Sunday 6th July 1997 saw the first of the official HBOC weeding days at Stockton Sandspit. Twelve hardy souls, comprising HBOC members and friends and representatives of the Kooragang Wetland Rehabilitation Project, braved the suspect weather to ensure that there is no return of the weeds that had previously resulted in this important wader roost being abandoned.

Fortunately the weather was "relatively" kind to us with the only significant rain falling conveniently at morning tea time. After three hours of weeding, mainly Spiny Rush seedlings and Bitou Bush as well as taller vegetation in those areas where this was going to impact on the birds critical "line of sight", you could see where we had been working although there is undoubtably much more to do. The removal of most of the Bitou Bush will need to be achieved by spraying and it is hoped that after this has been completed our next weeding day in November will be much easier.

Weeding was interupted several times by flocks of Eastern Curlew and godwits flying over the sandspit inspecting, and undoubtably approving of, our activities. The weather undoubtably resulted in many potential weeders deciding to stay at home but those that did gamble on the weather were all well satisfied with a good mornings work that will directly benefit the birds of the Hunter estuary. On behalf of the waders of the Hunter I would like to thank you, and I'm sure those tired legs and backs will soon recover.

Postscript: At an on-site meeting after the weeding day the works supervisor of the KWRP indicated he would give the control of weeds on the Stockton Sandspit site a high priority. Three days after our weeding effort a large area of tall weeds on the sandspit had been slashed, the first step in their control.

David Geering

The Birds Australia Murray Mallee Reserve.

For almost one hundred years Birds Australia has worked for the conservation of Australia's native bird species and their habitats, largely through scientific research. The chance discovery of six globally threatened birds at Gluepot Station in South Australia, under imminent threat from controlled burning, has galvanised the entire organisation.

In an unprecedented move, Birds Australia has purchased the property. To protect for all times the colonies of Black-eared Miners, Malleefowl, Red-lored Whistler, Scarlet-chested Parrot, Regent Parrot and Striated Grasswren, Birds Australia needs to raise funds to establish the new Murray Mallee Reserve.

At our June Clubnight a 'hat' was passed around to take up a collection for this worthwhile endeavour and a whopping amount was raised, \$152.95! Well done! The HBOC Management Committee then approved the additional amount necessary to take our final donation to \$300, the amount required to buy a home for a pair of Malleefowl.

A letter of thanks from Birds Australia has been subsequently received which includes the following;

"Your members are most generous and we agree that this purchase is outstanding in obtaining such a significant area of unspoiled mallee with such a diverse range of rare birds."

"Some day we hope ... your members will be able to visit the area, meanwhile you will be kept informed with articles in Wingspan and ... other occasional publications.

Thank you once again for your support."

What More Can You Do?

For many years birdlife had happily inhabited a swamp next to Windsor Road at McGraths Hill. Recently, the area was "beautified" to give the ducks and other birds a nicer home. Locals now report that the area is much nicer to look at but the birds don't seem to appreciate it - they're quite happily cruising around on another algae-covered, reed-infested swamp on the other side of the road.

Daily Telegraph 50/50 Column 28/7/97.

Bus Trip to Harrington Field Day, Sunday 21st September, 1997 \$25 per person return from

\$25 per person return from Shortland.

To avoid disappointment, secure your seat on the bus as soon as possible and join in the fun.

Tickets are available from Rowley Smith and it is a case of first in best dressed.

The bus will be leaving the Shortland Wetlands Centre at 6:00am sharp and returning by 5:00pm.

Nocturnal mix-up a hoot for owl lovers.

Neil Simmons could not have been more delighted when the owls, whose activities he had been recording each night in his back garden, began to hoot back when he mimicked their calls.

Mr Simmons ... logged each occasion when his imitations met with a hooted response. But, unknown to him, Fred Cornes, his neighbour in the Devon village, was enjoying the same experience.

For the best part of a year, the two men hooted in the darkness until one day their wives began talking. Kim Simmons told Wendy Cornes about her husband's nocturnal habits and how excited he was when the owls hooted back at him. Mrs Cornes said her husband had also taken to hooting in his garden.

Then they realised the truth.

"They stopped laughing only long enough to tell us what had happened" Mr Simmons said.

Mr Cornes said he was flattered that his neighbour, who had studied owls in great detail, had mistaken his calls.

"I never realised I sounded so realistic" he said.

The London Telegraph

NEW MEMBERS

The Hunter Bird Observers Club extends a very warm welcome to the following new members:

Leslie Finedon of Rathmines Steve Losch of Wahroonga

we look forward to meeting you at Clubnights and field outings during the year.

A Tale Of Two Summers - Godwits, Newcaste & Nome.

Our guest speaker at the July club night proved to be not only very interesting but also inspirational. Diane Fraser is an illustrator of wildlife and works primarily in environmental education. Diane believes in the value of accuracy to add to the visual impact of her work.

At the moment she is working on a book for children and looking for a subject with both a great story of migration and a Newcastle connection. From many likely prospects she finally chose the Bar-tailed Godwit, a summer visitor to the Hunter estuary after migration from its breeding grounds in Siberia and Alaska.

Diane is not necessarily a bird person but the lengths she has gone to collect field notes and photographs of this bird and its habitats is phenomenal. First of all, Diane got to know the Bar-tailed Godwits of the Hunter with the help of David Geering and NSW Wader Study Group activities on Kooragang Island. A couple of outings 'cannon netting' and wader counts along the Kooragang Island dykes was just the start of an incredible journey of investigation.

The Hunter experience gave Diane a pretty good picture of godwits in dull out-of-season plumage, following daily routines of tidal mud flat foraging and high tide roosting. But she had heard of the massive staging that takes place near Broome each year before many of these migratory shorebirds jump for the last time and take off to the northern hemisphere.

Not wanting to miss the action, Diane and her husband Don organised themselves into a seven week working holiday counting and banding waders at Broome. An Australian Wader Study Group expedition each year looks at the north west coast and relies on volunteers to help out with the leg work of processing birds to be banded and released. Because of the enormous numbers that can be encountered it is necessary to have many hands available so that birds are not held for any length of time.

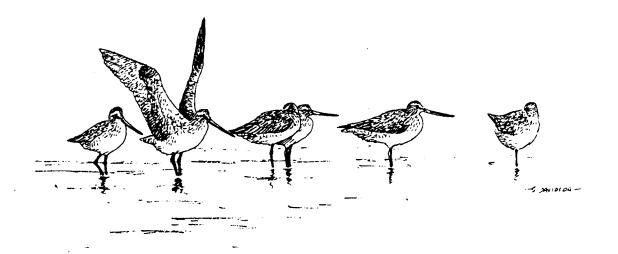
This was a fantastic experience for the Frasers as it proved to be an international effort with sixteen countries represented. Not satisfied with looking at godwits in Australia, they decided that a visit to the tundra was called for to observe these birds and their breeding efforts.

This eventually led them to Alaska and in particular to the town of Nome. Nome is unique in that it can only be reached from the rest of the world by air or sea. It is placed on the Seward Peninsular against the Bering Sea and one hundred miles from the Arctic Circle.

Looking for godwits that flock together, feeding and roosting in Australia is not that difficult but they nest in isolated pairs in Alaska and spread out all over the treeless tundra. Despite these limitations the Frasers pressed on and did actually finally discover some hatchlings. No nests were found and it is a tribute to the efforts of these birds to hide their eggs from predators.

Diane and Don spent four weeks based at Nome and searched all over the place before they realised that the best place to find breeding godwits was not that far from Nome at all. They also found from experience that a couple of hours after 'midnight' was the best time of the day to look as the low angle of the sun highlighted the fluffy down of the young chicks.

Other birds encountered included Golden Plover, Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, Long-tailed Jaeger, Canada Goose and Pacific Loon. An added bonus were sightings of Musk Ox, Caribou, Arctic Ground Squirrel, Moose and Grizzly Bear. One encounter not to be forgotten was when Diane was chased back to the car by a bull Moose which unexpectantly appeared on the tundra.



Bopping Your Way To Better Raptor Identification.

Wanting to improve your identification skills of birds of prey? Practic is the key! The Bird Of Prey Watch, or BOP Watch, is a Birds Australia project aimed at gathering information on the abundance of Australia's common diurnal birds of prey.

The current project is a follow up of an earlier BOP Watch conducted from 1986 to 1990. The current project aims to collect data on the distribution and relative abundance of birds of prey over the period when Rabbit Calicivirus will have its most dramatic effect on rabbit numbers - and consequently on the birds of prey.

The project relies heavily on volunteer observers to conduct roadside surveys of BOPs. All that is required are for birders to record the number of BOPs seen while driving for more than 50 kilometres. The project offers an excellent opportunity to become more familiar with this group of birds as you are forced to identify all BOPs seen (there is, however, always the *Unidentified diurnal raptor* category for those elusive birds) and practice makes (almost) perfect. A typical trip from Newcastle to Rylstone, for example, may result in up to fifty birds of six to eight species with the commonest birds being Nankeen Kestrel, Brown Falcon and Black-shouldered Kite with Wedgetailed Eagle and Little Eagle being regularly recorded. Trips along the Pacific Highway, however, invariably result in far fewer birds.

The project is perfect for those who undertake regular trips of, preferably, more than 50 kilometres or only occasionally on holidays or to bird outings. HBOC members Judith Smith and David Geering have both contributed large numbers of BOP Watch sheets under very different circumstances. Judith undertakes daily trips of about 62 kilometres from Woodberry to Dungog while David regularly travels several hundred kilometres through several BOP Watch zones. Regular short trips over the same route are as valuable as longer trips as they have the potential to provide data on changes in both abundance and species seen.

BOP Watch not only improves your identification skills but also means that the chances of seeing interesting BOPs are improved as you are looking for them. For example, over the last twelve months David has recorded three Black Falcons (two in the Hunter), Square-tailed Kites at Wauchope and near Kempsey, a White-bellied Sea Eagle west of Sandy Hollow and a Little Eagle at Nabiac.

David Geering & Judith Smith

Further information concerning BOP Watch can be obtained by contacting Will Steele at Birds Australia, 415 Riversdale Road, Hawthorne East, Victoria 3123.

1997 Birds Australia Twitchathon

Yes its on again, the Twitchathon! Once again as part of National Bird Week, members of HBOC will be "twitching" to raise money for native bird conservation. The Birds Australia Twitchathon will take place at the end of National Bird Week over the weekend of 25th-26th October.

This year will see the famous *Hunter Thickheads* at it again desperate for a piece of the glory in their 4th attempt at the main prize. Another goal for the team of Ann Lindsey, Jill Warner, David Geering & Peter McLauchlan is to break the elusive 200 species in 24 hours barrier.

In the "Champagne" event, the popular Lesticcum phoradae team has been resurrected to cater for those not quite up to the riggors of extreme twitching. This team will be taking a much more casual approach on the day but is determined to be just as ruthless in the sponsorship stakes.

To be successful, both teams need the sponsorship of members, family and friends of members and anyone else willing to part with a contribution. After all, this is what the Twitchathon is all about.

National Bird Week is not just about Twitchathon, it is also a chance for us to draw attention to the diversity, beauty and plight of Australian native birds.

This year the HBOC will be doing just that with various activities taking place at the Shortland Wetlands Centre over the weekend of 25th-26th October. Our club display board and other things will be featured at the centre and activities such as "bird walks" will be conducted. Of course none of this will happen without volunteers to manage the display, field questions about birds and the club, and offer some guidance to visitors with a burgeoning interest in birds and birdwatching. A recruitment program will commence in September to service this requirement.

Also on the Sunday of the Twitchathon weekend there will be things for children to do at the Shortland Wetlands Centre. From 2:30pm, in the expert hands of Marion Walker and Diane Rogers, children will be guided through various indoor and outdoor activities (fun & games) with a wetlands theme.

By 5:00pm on the Sunday afternoon many Twitchathon teams will be arriving at SWC to finish the race. Teams from HBOC as well as from other clubs will then enjoy a well deserved rest and BBQ. Everyone is welcome to join in for a donation of \$2 and its BYO everything. The money collected from the BBQ will be offered to the Shortland Wetlands Centre.

For further information regarding participation and/or sponsorship contact David Geering on 282636 (main race) or Tom Clarke on 513872 (champagne event).

OBSERVATIONS FROM JUNE MEETING.

Apr	Pacific Baza	2	Marragetta I Inirramita	II T
Apr. 15	Tawny Frogmouth	1	Newcastle University	H.Tarrant
17	Peregrine Falcon	2	Bayswater Colliery Aberdeen	G.Newling "
19	Tawny Frogmouth	1	5km South of Wingen	"
.,	Restless Flycatcher	1	Bolwarra STW	H. Tarrant
23	Little Corella	4	Scone Golf Club	G.Newling
	Australian Hobby	2	" " "	G.Newling
	Pied Butcherbird	5		44
26	Scarlet Robin	1	Diamond Head	H.Tarrant
-	Crested Shrike-tit	i	Barrington Guest House	11. 1 all allt
30	Australian Pelican	i	Parkville	G.Newling
May	Zebra Finch	6	Kooragang Island	M.Newman
, , , ,	Chestnut-breasted Mannikin	•	cc cc	171.11C WITH
	Blue-faced Honeyeater 3+1 is		Bolwarra	H. Tarrant
May 5	Royal Spoonbill	4	46	G.Newling
-	Yellow-billed Spoonbill	8	"	"
May 8	Tree Martin	3	Wingen village	66
·	Clamorous Reed Warbler	2	Hand's Lagoon	H. Tarrant
12	Rufous Whistler 1	lm.	66 66	66
	Golden Whistler	3	66 66	66
May 12	Eastern Spinebill	2	Wingen village	"
	White-throated Treecreeper	1	" "	44
	Yellow Thornbill	3	66 66	66
14	Rose Robin	Pr.	New Lambton Heights	M.Hamilton
	White-headed Pigeon	2		"
	Golden Whistler	1	66 66 66	•
18	Spangled Drongo	2	Belmont Golf Course	**
	Eastern Curlew	2	Lemon Tree Passage	M.Kearns
	Whimbrel	1	cc	66
	Sacred Kingfisher	2	" " "	"
	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	4	cc 6c 6c	"
May 19	Black-shouldered Kite	2	Wingen village	G.Newling
	Pacific Heron	1	Parkville	"
		14	Wingen village	66
	<u> </u>	24	٠٤	**
	Buff-rumped Thornbill	4	66 66	"
20	Little Pied Cormorant	1	Parkville	"
21	Powerful Owl	1	Eleebana	K.&E. Bradbury
24		10	Bayswater Colliery, Muswellbrook	G.Newling
25	•	90	Dough boy Hollow, Singleton	G.Newling
27		Pr.	New Lambton Heights	I. & M.Hamilton
	Eastern Curlew	1	Tanilba Bay	M.Kearns
	Bar-tailed Godwit	8	cc cc	"
	Sacred Kingfisher	1	«« ««	66
3.6 00	Blue-faced Honeyeater	5	Rutherford High School	J.Smart
May 28	Sacred Kingfisher	1	Stuart's Island	66
		10	cc cc	44
21	Eastern Curlew	6		"
31		00	Bolwarra STW	H. Tarrant
		21	Walka Water Works	
	Australian Hobby	2	Bolwarra S.T.W.	«
	Australian Kestrel	1	Bolwarra	66
Jun 1	Peregrine Falcon 1+1imi Pacific Baza		Bolwarra	
Jun 1	Common Blackbird	2	Steelworks Golf Club	I.& M.Hamilton
2	Grey Goshawk	2	East Maitland	J.Smart
Jun 3	Satin Bowerbird	4	University of Newcastle	H.Tarrant
Juli J	White-headed Pigeon	3	Adamstown Heights	P.Pountney
4	Grey Goshawk	1	Morisset Railway Stn.	G.McCulloch
6	Pacific Baza	-	University of Newcastle	H.Tarrant
U		1	University of Newcastle	
7	Southern Boobook	15	Hands Lagoon	
1		1	East Maitland	J. Smart
		-8	King Edward Park	R.Parker
8	m	16	Tanilba Bay	M.Kearns
o	Eastern Curlew	11	Piggy's Beach, Myall Lakes	"
	White-bellied Sea-eagle	2	Piggy's Beach	cc
	vinte-benned Sea-eagle	3	Piggy's Beach	"

			2	
	Torresian Crow	1	Malabula	"
8	Little Eagle	1	University of Newcastle	H.Tarrant
9	Torresian Crow	1	Tanilba Bay	"
	Torresian Crow	2	Fenningham's Island	"
	Peaceful Dove	10+	Tanilba Bay	"
	Spangled Drongo	2	New Lambton Heights	I.& M. Hamilton
10	Plumed Whistling Du k	c.200	Doughboy Hollow, Singleton	G.Newling
11	Pied Currawong	12	Nesca Park, Newcastle	J. Moyse
17	Swift Parrot	c.25	Cooranbong	P.Osborn
20	Southern Boobook	1	Bayswater Colliery, Muswellbrook	G.Newling
	9 10 11 17	8 Little Eagle 9 Torresian Crow Torresian Crow Peaceful Dove Spangled Drongo 10 Plumed Whistling Du k 11 Pied Currawong 17 Swift Parrot	8 Little Eagle 1 9 Torresian Crow 1 Torresian Crow 2 Peaceful Dove 10+ Spangled Drongo 2 10 Plumed Whistling Du k c.200 11 Pied Currawong 12 17 Swift Parrot c.25	8 Little Eagle 1 University of Newcastle 9 Torresian Crow 1 Tanilba Bay Torresian Crow 2 Fenningham's Island Peaceful Dove 10+ Tanilba Bay Spangled Drongo 2 New Lambton Heights 10 Plumed Whistling Du k c.200 Doughboy Hollow, Singleton 11 Pied Currawong 12 Nesca Park, Newcastle 17 Swift Parrot c.25 Cooranbong

OBSERVATIONS FROM JULY MEETING

Apr 4&13	Wompoo Fruit Dove	3	East Seaham	K.McDonald
May 18	White-headed Pigeon	1	Shortland	A.Lindsey
Jun 1	Peregrine Falcon	1	Warnervale airport	C.Herbert
8	Spangled Drongo	1	Shortland	K.Gibson
14	Eastern Curlew	4	Tanilba Bay	M.Kearns
	Bar-tailed Godwit	14	66	66
15	Grey Goshawk	1	Dora Creek	J.Stephenson
20	Pacific Baza	1	Rankin Park	"
21	Osprey Nest	1	Tanilba Bay	M. Kearns
22	Swamp Harrier	1	Maryland	44
	Little Corella	120	"	"
25	Mangrove Heron	2	Stockton sandspit	66
	Rufous Night Heron	8	cc cc	66
	Black-fronted Dotterel	30	Kooragang Is. Big Pond	66
28 &30	Rose Robin	1	" "	"
Jul 1	Brown Goshawk	1	Cardiff	"
3	Pied Butcherbird	1	Bonnell's Bay	D.Hallidav
7	Sacred Kingfisher	3	Stockton Sandspit	M.Kearns
14 15 20 21 22 25 28 & 30 Jul 1 3	Eastern Curlew Bar-tailed Godwit Grey Goshawk Pacific Baza Osprey Nest Swamp Harrier Little Corella Mangrove Heron Rufous Night Heron Black-fronted Dotterel Rose Robin Brown Goshawk Pied Butcherbird	14 1 1 1 1 120 2 8	Tanilba Bay Dora Creek Rankin Park Tanilba Bay Maryland Stockton sandspit Kooragang Is. Big Pond Cardiff Bonnell's Bay	M. Kearns J. Stephenson M. Kearns " " " " " D. Halliday

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Coming Events

Please check with the contact person for each outing in case of changed details or suitability of site for the camp or field day.

Sunday 24th August	Field Day: Meet: Leader:	North Arm Cove/Tahlee McDonalds Raymond Terrace 7:00am Graeme O'Connor 531304			
Saturday/ Sunday 30th/31st August	S.G.A.P. Wildflower Spectacular at Shortland Wetlands Centre HBOC volunteers required for display stand and/or Bird Walks. Recruitment: Tom Clarke 513872				
Tuesday 2nd September	Midweek Outing: Meet: Contact:	Belmont Lagoon Belmont Yacht Club, Ada St 8:00am Keith Woods 633070			
Wednesday 10th September	Clubnight: Main Feature:	Shortlands Wetlands Centre 7:30pm Pelagic Birds Off Our Coast - Tony Palliser			
Sunday 21st September	Field Day: Meet: Tickets:	Harrington (bus trip) Bus leaves SWC at 6:00am sharp. \$25 - see Rowley Smith 641389			
Weekend 4th-6th October	Camp: Contact:	Gloucester Tops Sue Hamonet			
Tuesday 7th October	Midweek Outing: Meet: Contact:	Awabakal/Dudley Bluff Car park at end of Ocean Street, Dudley 8:00am Margaret Woods 633070			
Wednesday 8th October	Clubnight: Main feature:	Shortland Wetland Centre 7:30pm Riversleigh Revisited - Walter Boles			
Sunday 19th October	Field Day: Meet: Leader:	Howes Valley Broke Fire Station 7:30am Ann Lindsey 512008			
Weekend 25th-26th October	1997 Birds Australia Twitchathon (See article in this Newsletter) This fundraising event will be followed by a club BBQ at the Shortland Wetlands Centre from 5:00pm on 26th October. Bring your own everything plus \$2 donation. For more details contact David Geering on 282636.				

If you have something you would like to share with other members then the newsletter could be the answer. Articles for our Newsletter are always welcomed.

Closing date for the next issue is 27th September, 1997

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