



# Newsletter

Hunter Bird Observers Club

*Affiliated with BirdLife Australia*

Issue No. 6/18 October 2018

The Club aims: To encourage and further the study and conservation of Australian birds and their habitat, and To encourage bird observing as a leisure-time activity.



© Peter Weinstock

**Recent arrivals: Rainbow Bee-eaters at Aberglasslyn**

**Photo: Peter Weinstock**

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Please send Newsletter articles direct to the Editor  
Judi Thomas at [judnich20@gmail.com](mailto:judnich20@gmail.com)  
Deadline for next edition 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018

HBOC postal address  
PO Box 24 New Lambton, NSW 2305  
Website: [www.hboc.org.au](http://www.hboc.org.au)

## President's Column October 2018

In September I was required to submit a report on the activities of this club to the Bird Interest Group Network on our activities in the previous six months. Here is an edited version of that report that will give you some idea of the variety of activities that this club has been involved with in just six months.

### Conservation Efforts

- Our Threatened Species Recovery Project was successfully completed using a \$20,000 grant from the Threatened Species Recovery Fund and an additional \$1,109 through club night raffles to support this project. Our fundraising raffle this year will support geolocators for shorebirds
- Black-necked Stork are breeding again in the Hunter and all seemed to be going well. We had some bad news when last year's juvenile was picked up in a very poor condition and was taken into care before being banded and released. The club raised \$485 in donations in one night to support the feeding of this bird. Unconfirmed reports indicate it may still be around.
- Our campaign to have an infestation of Water Hyacinth eradicated from the former Newcastle Wetland Reserve has been successful so far.
- On a positive note the club is a contributing partner in a major Cessnock Biodiversity Education Project and we will be taking part in a Bioblitz in September.

### Monitoring and Data Surveys.

- Our monthly surveys of Hunter Estuary waterbirds continued. Next year will mark the 20<sup>th</sup> year of these surveys.
- The club has formed a relationship with the Martindale Landcare group and is now doing surveys at selected sites on private properties in the Martindale area. An increasing number of members are doing surveys in the region and submitting records to Birddata, which we encourage them to do.
- All our surveys provide valuable data about the Hunter Region and generate income for the club as well as allowing us to provide data to support genuine research.
- Later this year we will be publishing our 2017 Annual Bird Report. This will be our 25<sup>th</sup> annual bird report and the publication is becoming increasingly sophisticated.
- We will also publish the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of our annual journal, *The Whistler*.
- Club members have also participated in Australasian Bittern surveys, Latham Snipe surveys, Regent Honeyeater surveys as well as Broughton Island and Port Stephens surveys, and of course the National Twitchathon.
- Club members have also acted as guardians for the various Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in the Hunter, coordinating surveys and performing the Easter Health Check in April.

### Activities

Since last report the club has organised twelve outings, both weekend and mid-week, and two camps with another one scheduled for September at Old Bar. We have held six club meetings with an interesting range of speakers.

### Education, Media and Promotion.

HBOC continued to raise awareness of birds and their importance throughout the whole Hunter Region. Some highlights were:

- We presented displays at Kooragang Estuary Festival and Tocal Field Day where we won the prize for best exhibit.
- Members have spoken to several community groups including Maitland Youth Forum, Wollombi, Congewai and Lake Macquarie Landcare groups and at various venues in Mid-Coast Council LGA
- We gave a talk about the importance of the birds of the Hunter Estuary to an Oil and Chemical Spills Response Team with participants from all over Australia.
- We are trialling a monthly rather than bimonthly newsletter to members.
- We have purchased two telescopes and seven pairs of binoculars for use at community events.
- We are funding the design and erection of bird identification signs at the Hunter Wetlands Centre and assisting for the same at Cattai Wetlands, and we have prepared a set of four portable pop-up banners (featuring woodland birds, rainforest birds, shorebirds and waterbirds) which we will use in public forums.
- HBOC members continue to contribute to the promotion of birds in the local media with interviews with ABC local radio, and community radio, the Newcastle Herald and a regular column in the Maitland Mercury.

### Organisational Matters

HBOC has continued to gradually improve its operating procedures for the benefit of all members. So far this year we have developed our approach to the use of call playback at club outings and finalised our Working with Children's Policy. Not a bad record for just six months.

**Robert Stewart**

## A Warm Welcome to New Members: We hope to see you at club meetings and outings.

Nicola Hirschhorn (s) - North Lambton  
Matt, Gina, Madeleine, Zoe, Joshua Hayward (f) - Nords Wharf  
Club membership currently stands at 343.

### Health and Safety Awareness for Activities

When attending field outings, ensure you are wearing appropriate clothing, including wet weather gear in inclement weather, and suitable footwear. It is advisable to bring a hat, sunscreen, insect repellent and to carry water. Please sign the attendance register at field outings and also at meetings. If you leave an outing early, please let the leader know before you go. Participants attend at their own risk and should refrain from any behaviour that might put themselves or others at risk. That includes assessing whether they have the level of fitness required for the advertised outing. If in doubt, contact the leader beforehand.

## Volunteer Activities Showcasing HBOC Cessnock Bushland BioBlitz 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2018



HBOC members made a contribution to Cessnock City Council's BioBlitz day on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September in Poppet Head Park, Kitchener. Described as a citizen science event where scientists and naturalist help us explore the local area. It was a lovely sunny morning so it was a great family turnout by local residents and with special activities for children. There were also bird and nature walks during which records were made of all the species observed.

Plenty of birds were found on the Bird Walks, including Yellow-faced and White-naped Honeyeaters coming in to drink at puddles on the track. HBOC had a display



with fantastic photos of birds provided by club members, attracting much attention from budding birders. Thanks to Paul, Jim and Rowley for manning the display, and to Mick and Lucas for guiding the bird walks.

There was a very large Regent Honeyeater lurking around (see photo by M. Clarke above left). At right is the **HBOC display** (photo by J. Thomas)

## Biodiversity Day Blue Gum Hills Regional Park 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018



Promoted by National Parks NSW as a place to learn about biodiversity and volunteering in nature, this event is supported by many community organisations. A good place to showcase our club and its activities.

It was a good day, bit wet, but a steady stream of people came through, especially kids with their booklets to be answered and stamped. Lots of children came by to answer our special question: name 3 black and white birds. They all got it right, some with a bit of prompting. As usual there was plenty of interest in birds and the activities of the club.

**Thanks to our hardy volunteers especially those who set up the display against the windy conditions.**

## Gloucester Tops September Spring Surveys



*Flame Robin photo by Alan Stuart*

A group of 11 of us did 3 days of surveys in the Gloucester Tops this week, starting after lunch on Monday after we'd set up our campsites in the morning. We were wet at times and cold at times, but we enjoyed ourselves throughout and even appreciated the brief bit of sunshine yesterday morning (before the hail storm arrived!).

Around the campsite we had Bassian and Russet-tailed Thrush, 2-3 each of Lyrebirds and marauding Brush-turkeys, several Satin Bowerbirds, 1-2 Catbirds, Rose Robins, as well as all the common low altitude residents found there. No Black-faced Monarchs had arrived back yet (nor the Pitta, which doesn't seem to arrive

until around mid-October). On Monday and to some extent Tuesday, there were many Grey Fantails around the campsite, and only a few up at high altitude. By Wednesday that situation seemed to have started to reverse.

Our main objective was to do surveys at high altitude. We got a lot done and we found a good variety of birds overall. It's not easy country for birding and often there are quiet periods ... but then something interesting turns up. Amongst the latter were Olive Whistler, Crescent Honeyeater, Red-browed Treecreeper, Bassian Thrush and Paradise Riflebird – all of these were seen from time to time and heard more often. We saw plenty of Flame Robins, which often were foraging in pairs along parts of the Kerripit and Gloucester Tops Roads. Unusually, we saw several Scarlet Robins too. We have found these to be uncommon in previous years – just a handful of sightings over 9 years of surveying. But this time we had them at three well-separated locations, two sightings of male birds and one extended sighting of a pair.

The high altitude spring surveys are designed for monitoring the local population of Rufous Scrub-birds. Most Scrub-birds were active and we found approximately 20 presumed territories (a territory can't be confirmed based upon a single visit). As usual the most productive areas were along the Glowang and Careys Peak Tracks but we found Scrub-birds in many other places too. And although the surveys are based upon hearing birds rather than seeing them, six members of the team had good sightings of a Scrub-bird at some time during the three days. For four of them it was a lifer – and I think they all were happy about that! They're on again next spring.

**Alan Stuart**

## September HBOC Club Meeting

Our Bird of the Evening was presented by Bruce Hosken who gave a thoroughly researched presentation on our iconic Golden Whistler. It included very entertaining video clips as well as some history of early bird records of Australia.

The guest speaker was Alan Stuart who spoke about Birds of Sri Lanka. Although Alan was on a general nature tour and not a specific birding trip he nevertheless informed and entertained us with a selection of photos of birds in various habitats. He concentrated on the endemic species and sub-species of Sri Lanka. We were treated to accounts of his encounters with hornbills, trogons and species starting with B– barbets, bulbuls and babblers.

**.Robert Stewart**



*Dark-fronted Babbler (left) and Scimitar Babbler (right) both from Sri Lanka photos by Alan Stuart*

## The BirdLife Australia Twitchathon for 2018 is open for registrations and Sponsorship

The Hunter has long been a stalwart region for the Twitchathon, providing many of the most competitive teams and highest fundraising individuals. BirdLife Australia are hoping this will continue in 2018 when NSW teams raise money for Regent Honeyeater conservation work on their breeding grounds (coordinated by Ross Crates, recipient of a Wilma Barden Grant). All of the details you need to know to participate or support are at <https://www.birdlifetwitchathon.org.au/>

As is tradition, there will be a post-Twitchathon BBQ held for teams finishing in the Hunter. In 2018, this is planned for Jesmond Park. We hope to have a table/BBQ shelter at the playground near the cycle path (park on Robinson Avenue).



For further information on anything Twitchathon, ask Mick Roderick [mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au](mailto:mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au) or 0421 761237.

Form a team, hit your friends and family up for some conservation sponsorship dollars and start planning your 2018 Twitchathon campaign. Good luck everyone!

**Ashwin Rudder and Mick Roderick, NSW Twitchathon Coordinators**

## One of many challenging birds for Twitchthon participants: Painted Honeyeater

Easy to identify but difficult to find, several reports of Painted Honeyeaters have been made this month. Please report if you see one. One of our favourite spots is Medhurst Bridge where some lucky Martindale camp participants, including Di and Eulah, sighted one recently. It does have a distinctive loud, far carrying call. It pays to learn the call. The Painted Honeyeater calls often in the breeding season, from tree canopies or in flight. It depends mostly on mistletoe berries, so look out for mistletoe, but it can adapt to nectar or insects.



A Painted Honeyeater was again reported on Hunterbirding by Derekc on 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct seen at Medhurst Bridge.

Mick Roderick provided the following information on Hb:

“Nice work on the Painted, Derekc. They are an uncommon species and nationally threatened. Medhurst Bridge is one of their favourite haunts. They have certainly arrived in the Upper Hunter; I found them at 7 sites around the fringe of Goulburn River NP on Monday

(Oct 1). Each bird was quite vocal and it felt like they’d just turned up in the area. Five birds were associated with Grey Mistletoe, in *Acacia* spp., which is what’s at Medhurst Bridge (though there is Needle-leaf mistletoe in the River Oaks too). Two were associated with Box Mistletoe (in *Eucalyptus* spp.)”.

## Club Activities

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September Field Outing to Mangoola Coal Mine



**Damien Ryba with group from HBOC. Photo Lucas Grenadier**

The HBOC September Sunday outing was held out at the Mangoola coal mine biodiversity offset areas within the Upper Hunter region near Denman. Eighteen (18) members turned up for what was a great day out with 76 species (mainly woodland birds) recorded.

The outing started with a quick tour of the mine operations and birding within some of the advanced mine revegetation. A healthy mix of species were observed within areas of 6-7 year old re-growth, including White-throated and Western Gerygones, Golden Whistler and Wedge-tailed Eagle. Some good citizen science was also on display with several plants and animals observed to be colonising the area, including Stone Gecko (*Diplodactylus vittalus*) and mistletoe (*Amyema* sp). These observations provide some valuable evidence of the ecosystem functioning processes which are beginning to play out within the mine rehabilitation areas.

Second stop on the day was a patch of remnant Spotted Gum forest along Ridgeland Road where we got six (6) threatened species including Little Lorikeet, Brown Treecreeper, Speckled Warbler, Varied Sittella (great views up close), Grey-crowned Babbler (+ White-browed Babbler) and Dusky Woodswallow. Other good birds observed in this location included Red-capped Robin, and returning migrants such as Rufous Songlark, and Masked and White-browed Woodswallows. We also spent about 30 minutes watching a White-throated Treecreeper going in and out of a small hollow with nesting material which made for another highlight.

The third and last stop for the day was further west along Ridgeland Road at a property known as 'Clematis'. At this location the group got some great views of Rainbow Bee-eaters, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, and a flying Pacific Baza. Several Grey Box trees were in flower and we were hoping to get onto some further honeyeater action, but they were almost exclusively being used by Grey Fantails (probably most common bird of the day), with up to 6 individuals recorded in a single tree. A few of us also trekked up onto a low ridgeline which offered some great views of the Wybong - Manobalal landscape.

Big thanks goes out to Mangoola staff (Damien Ryba and Nathan Lane) who organised a 4WD bus for the outing, put on lunch and cold drinks, and taught us all about the mine and its environmental restoration efforts. Thanks also goes out to Robert McDonald whose restoration efforts and knowledge of the birds of Mangoola also proved invaluable on the day. **Lucas Grenadier**

## Mid-week camp at Old Bar 17-19th September 2018

Twenty-seven members, including two all the way from Sydney, enjoyed some glorious birdwatching at Old Bar. Our first stop was Saltwater National Park, where male and female Regent Bowerbirds greeted us as we stepped out of our cars. Some people then walked around the open area spotting a Green Catbird, Forest Raven and Wonga Pigeon, while others walked down the track and along the creek to find a pair of Crested Shrike-tits among other bush birds. A walk down to Khappinghat Creek near the beach yielded a Common Sandpiper and both Sooty and Pied Oystercatchers.



*Crested Shrike-tit by Andrzej Karpel*

The afternoon was spent in the Muddishops Point area, with five hardy souls doing the long trek along the sand past the Little Tern nesting area to the lagoon. They spotted several different species of waders, three tern species (but no Aleutians) and three different raptors. Those who saved their legs and just walked around the park and track at the point itself were rewarded with a small flock of Rainbow Bee-eaters hawking above the trees



*Rainbow Bee-eater. Photo: Richard Nicholas*

The next day some of us visited Cattai Wetlands with its great new bird hide, while others decided to go back to Saltwater NP. At Cattai a Comb-crested Jacana was spotted on the lily pads along with several more common waterbird species. A good selection of bushland birds was also spotted, including three species of cuckoo and a Black-faced Monarch.



*Cattai Wetlands. Photo: Helen McCall*

The next stop was Harrington rainforest, where Sue Hamonet found a Varied Triller. Those of us who got there a bit later missed this but did spot a Brown Gerygone on a nest.

That evening many of us enjoyed a meal together at Old Bar Bowling Club to chat over a very productive camp where 104 species were seen and 4 heard over the two days.

**Margaret Stewart**

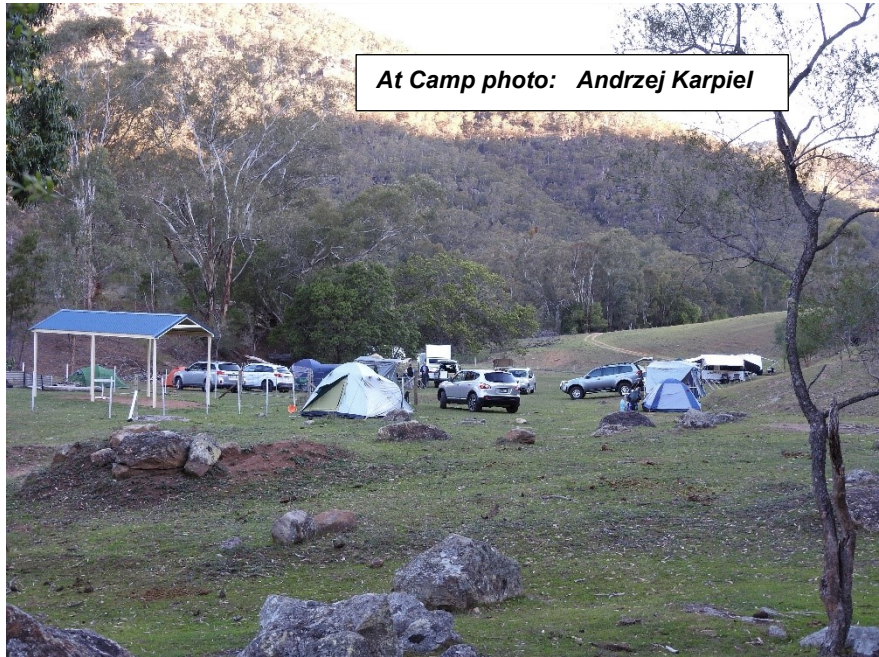
Thanks to Margaret and Robert Stewart for organising this excellent camp. (ed)

## Long Weekend Camp “The Ranch” Martindale

28th September 1<sup>st</sup> October 2018

A group of 10 or so tents, campervans and caravans were set up at ‘The Ranch’ property at the end of Martindale Rd for the October Long Weekend Camp.

An amazing backdrop amongst the escarpments of the Martindale Valley was backed up by some equally exciting bird sightings. Some of the group were lucky enough to see some of the 4 Rock Warblers that lived in the gully behind the camp. Red-capped Robins, a single White-backed Swallow, Double-barred Finches, Bee-Eaters and Babblers were seen in the farmland surrounding the camp.



At Camp photo: Andrzej Karpziel



Shining Bronze-Cuckoo. Rowley Smith

Shining Bronze-Cuckoos, Leaden Flycatchers, Orioles, Honeyeaters, Bowerbirds, Pardalotes and Whistlers filled the bushland on the surrounding slopes. Glossy-Black Cockatoos also provided a fly-over. Large flocks of Red-browed Finches and Spinebills feeding on the flowering Wonga Vine were seen along the creek, along with Common Bronzewings.

Trips were made to Medhurst Bridge during our stay and the highlights recalled at the campfire were Trillers, Diamond Firetails, Plum-headed

Finches, Painted Honeyeaters, Speckled Warblers and Hooded Robins. Songlarks, Pallid Cuckoos and Mistletoebirds were also very active around the bridge.

A big thank you to Adam and Pauline for letting us stay on their property, and with a bit more water and blossom it will surely be an even better camp the next time we visit. Thanks also to Rowley who very capably led the camp, as well as Andrzej who led the bird calls at happy hour (a challenging job)!

26 Campers plus 3 day visitors saw 76 different species and heard an additional 5 over the 3 days. More than 50 species were also seen at Medhurst bridge although a group birdlist was not done for there.

Krishna Nagarajan



## Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October Field day at Bishops Bridge



*One of four Pacific Baza with prey at Bishops Bridge. Photo: Rob Palazzi*

Twenty-three enthusiastic bird observers attended the mid-week outing to our bushland property at Bishops Bridge. Maps in hand, and with reminders to watch out for snakes and our many bull ant nests, the group quickly spread out, allowing everyone a chance to explore at their own pace. Our birds are a bit like me – that is, they don't tend to be early risers, but within half an hour bird calls were more prolific and sightings were being recorded all around.

Sightings of two separate Speckled Warblers near the little creek were rather special as I haven't seen this species on our property previously. Along the northern boundary our bush borders open paddocks for a 1km stretch, which provides a good location for raptor-watching. We weren't disappointed, with many of the group observing a pair of Pacific Bazas being repeatedly chased by a group of Noisy Miners. As we watched, this pair turned out to be 2 adults accompanied by 2 immatures, so this sighting was very rewarding. Other raptors seen during the morning were a Wedge-tailed Eagle and a Whistling Kite.



Three separate groups of Variegated Fairy Wrens were observed, with another highlight being good views of 2 Grey Fantails on nests in different locations. Rufous Whistlers were prominent with 8 sightings, and all 5 species of Thornbills were also observed. Sightings of 6 Leaden Flycatchers also included vigorous interaction between several of the males. (c't'd over)

***Photo at left by Rob Palazzi shows two displaying Leaden Flycatcher, male and female.***

After morning tea just under half the group went for a walk up to the western boundary in search of Varied Sittellas and actual sightings of White-throated Gerygones (which had been taunting us with their calls on our first walk). We were rewarded with sightings of both, along with good views of both a Spotted and a Striated Pardalote.



*Photo at left by Rob Palazzi is a White-throated Gerygone*

In all, 65 species were recorded with a total of 330 birds observed.

The property covers 37.5ha and is wedge shaped with slight elevation from east to west. Around 4ha is cleared and planted with olive trees. The bushland is predominantly ironbark and spotted gum with a smattering of blackbutt, and is around 50 years old. At present there are buds but

little actual blossom, and due to the drought, almost no mistletoe – so there are fewer honeyeater species around than we would usually see. While the dams are lower than usual, there are still plenty of adequate sources of drinking and bathing water accessible to birds and ducks. Our southside neighbour has a property almost identical to ours, so there is 75ha of bushland habitat available to local birdlife. The full list from the outing is entered in Birddata and can be accessed through the link: <http://birddata.birdlife.org.au/survey?id=2567586&h=04692143>

**Chris Cameron**

## Community Conservation of the Far Eastern Curlew

### When

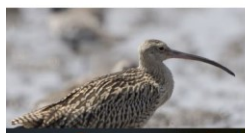
Friday 26th October 2018  
10am—12noon

### Where

Stockton Sandspit  
Meet at the information bay under the Stockton Bridge

### What to bring

- Sun smart clothes
- Binoculars if you have them



### Welcome Shorebirds!

Come along to welcome back the amazing Eastern Curlew and fellow shorebirds to the eastern shores of Australia. Each year these incredible birds travel more than 20,000 kilometres on their epic migration.

Hear engaging talks by bird experts, undertake a survey of the Eastern Curlew and other shorebirds and enjoy a delicious **FREE** morning tea. It's all about raising awareness of these incredible birds and their threatened habitat!

RSVP by Wednesday 24 Oct, contact Karynne:

(t) 02 4961 2358

(m) 0407 249630

(e) [newcastle@cva.org.au](mailto:newcastle@cva.org.au)



### Bird & Nature Photography Tours

#### Amazing Destinations!

- \*South Africa-Kruger Safari.
- \*Darwin, Kakadu, Katherine.
- \*Cairns, Daintree, Atherton.
- \*Flinders Ranges & Gluepot.
- \*Hunter Valley.
- \*Riverwood Downs Weekends.

Contact: Dick Jenkin 0407 267207

E: [richardnjenkin@bigpond.com](mailto:richardnjenkin@bigpond.com)

W: [www.jenkinphotography.com.au](http://www.jenkinphotography.com.au)

## Recent Observations: *Please report special observations*

Hunterbirding is an email group set up by HBOC that is run through the Google Groups. It is a great way to keep in touch with the latest goings-on in Hunter Region birding. Members are able to report sightings, post questions to the group and get involved with group discussions on bird related issues. The home page of the Hunterbirding group is located at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/hunterbirding> Instructions for joining a Google Group to sign up for Hunterbirding to take part in these discussions and benefit from up-to-date birding news in the region, can be found at <https://support.google.com/groups/answer/1067205?hl=en> and follow the on-site instructions In addition to being a forum for interesting discussions on issues such as bird identification and behaviour it is also a great place to report your observations.

Bird records are obtained by the club through a variety of other means. Others are received through the BA atlas database, club outing sighting sheets, the club night observations forum and direct communications with the record officers. Of particular interest to the club are those records of regional significance, including sightings of the more unusual species, observations of breeding activity, early and late records of migratory birds and significantly large counts. A selection of records of this nature is provided below.

### Some Observations from Hunterbirding:

Species	Number	Date	Location	Observer
Whiskered Tern	5	4/10/18	Bulbul Pde, Fletcher	J. Thomas
Latham's Snipe	3	11/9/18	Hexham Swamp	B. Kinsey
Grey-tailed Tattler	11	28/9/18	Pindimar	J. Connors
Ruddy Turnstone	1	13/8/18	Newcastle Baths	R. Nicholas
Plumed Whistling- Duck	2	12/8/18	Awabakal Reserve	C. Eastham
Wandering Whistling-duck	20	1/10/18	Newcastle Market Swamp	M. Blanch
Australasian Shoveler	12	10/9/18	Bulbul Pde Marylands	M. Blanch
Pink-Eared Duck	1500	15/9/18	Newcastle Wetland Reserve	M. Kearns
Baillon's Crake	1	11/9/18	Hexham Swamp	B. Kinsey
Painted Button-quail	2	2/10/18	HEZ Puddles Track	B. Watts
Brahminy Kite	1+1fy	9/9/18	Soldiers Point	M. Kearns
Pacific Baza	1	12/9/18	Green Point	G. Tong
Black Falcon	1	13/9/18	Wallalong Road	G. Brosie
Barn Owl	1	28/9/18	Belmont	J. Cockerell
Gossy Black-Cockatoo	2	25/9/18	Soldiers Point	T. Murray
Swift Parrots	2	23/9/18	Murrays Beach	T. Lambert
Turquoise Parrot	9	11/9/18	Ringwood Road	M. Roderick
Turquoise Parrot	3+	22/9/18	Martindale Road	T. Clarke
Turquoise Parrot	2	2/10/18	HEZ Puddles Track	B. Watts
Topknot Pigeon	13	13/9/18	Warners Bay	A. Brennan
Pallid Cuckoo	1	9/9/18	Wards River	D. Stuart
Horsefield's Bronze-Cuckoo	1	17/9/18	Belmont oval	B. Farley Ciezak
Eastern Koel	1	12/9/18	Adamstown Heights	S. McKay
Pheasant Coucal	1	26/09/18	Cedar Creek	B. Laut
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	10/9/18	Kotara South	R. Nicholas
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	8/9/18	Nulkaba	B. Laut
White-throated Gerygone	2	18/9/18	Salamander Waters	L. Wooding
White-throated Gerygone	1	23/9/18	Brush Farm Road, Pitnacree	K. Nagarajan
Brown-headed Honeyeater	1	10/9/18	Karuah	J. Connors
Painted Honeyeater	1	29/9/18	Medhurst Bridge	D. Johnson, E. McKane
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	1	4/10/18	Whistler Pde, Marylands	J. Thomas

Red Wattlebird	13	11/9/18	Wallsend	L. Parashou
White-winged Triller	2	11/9/18	Durrigere Road, Ulan	M. Roderick
Ground Cuckoo-shrike	1	28/9/18	Glenbawn Dam	M. Roderick
White-browed Woodswallow	c.100	15/9/18	Shortland	M. Roderick
Masked Woodswallow	c.30	15/9/18	Shortland	M. Roderick
Regent Bowerbird	1	12/9/18	Green Point	G. Tong
Black-faced Monarch	1	15/9/18	Main Creek, Dungog	D. Stuart
Spectacled Monarch	1	15/9/18	Main Creek, Dungog	D. Stuart
Rufous Fantail	1	25/9/18	Green Point	J. Stone
Brown Songlark	6	13/9/18	Wallalong Road	G. Brosie
Rufous Songlark	4	13/9/18	Wallalong Road	G. Brosie

## Club Activities October To November

Wed 10th Oct	Club Meeting	7.00pm The Wetlands Centre	Speaker: Akos Lumnitzer – raptor photography & the stories behind Bird of the Evening: Judy Little
Fri 12th Oct	Survey, Earthcare Park, Tenambit	Meet - 7.30am, main gate	Marg Clarke 0412 616030
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> – Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct (b'up 26-28 Oct)	Broughton Island bird banding	Nelson Bay NPWS TBA Fit only, numbers very limited: contact Alan for waiting list	Greg Little 0414 562169 Alan Stuart 0409 978 171
Tue 16th Oct	Tomago Wetlands Survey	7.30am Entry to Tomago House	Please ring to confirm Christine Cameron 49 319 388 or 0409 665 049
Sat 20th Oct	Hunter Wader Survey HT- 6.26am, 1.35m	6.30am Ash Island and Tomago 6.30am Various locations as directed	Alan Stuart 0409 978 171 – Ash Island Dan Williams 0408 023 262 – Kooragang Jack Adams 4971 5334 – Swansea Jenny Powers 4944 7274 – Stockton Sue Hamonet 4958 1023 – Swan Bay Steven Cox 0409 848 390 – Tomago
Sun 21st Oct	Field Outing: Bow Wow Gorge	Meet – 7am at oval, Child St, Mulbring	John Goswell 4930 7013
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Welcome Shorebirds	10-12 Stockton Sandspit	See flier on p10
Sat 27th-Sun 28th Oct	TWITCHATHON / BIRDATHON Join a team & help raise money for Regent Honeyeaters	Various races over the weekend (details TBC).	Mick Roderick 0421 761 237 <a href="mailto:mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au">mick.roderick@birdlife.org.au</a>
<b>NOVEMBER 2018</b>			
Tue 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Midweek outing – Boys walk Cooranbong	Meet – 7.30am, Cooranbong Park, Freemans Dve, Cooranbong	Rob McDonnell 4962 4258
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Management Committee Meeting	6.30pm – 9.30pm Garden Suburbs School	President - All members welcome
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Survey, Earthcare Park, Tenambit	Meet - 7.30am, main gate	Marg Clarke 0412 616030
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Snipe survey	Each volunteer's survey location	Peter Weinstock 0417 415 738
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Hunter Wader Survey HT- 10.48am, 1.81m	10.30am Ash Island and Tomago 11.00am Various locations as directed	Alan Stuart 0409 978 171 – Ash Island Dan Williams 0408 023 262 – Kooragang Jack Adams 4971 5334 – Swansea Jenny Powers 4944 7274 – Stockton Sue Hamonet 4958 1023 – Swan Bay Steven Cox 0409 848 390 – Tomago Ann Lindsey 4951 2008 - Hexham
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Club Meeting	7.00pm The Wetlands Centre	<b>Speaker: Dick Jenkin – Birding in Madagascar</b> <b>Bird of the Evening: Anne Lindsey Ringed Plover</b>