



Hunter Bird Observers Club

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc
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E-news

No. 9/December 2020

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.

Next edition: February 2021, deadline: 3 February; send contributions to newsletter@hboc.org.au



Bumper Christmas Edition

The Serious Stuff

Notice of HBOC Annual General Meeting on 10th February 2021, 7pm. It is anticipated that this meeting will be run partly at the Hunter Wetlands Centre conference room and partly on zoom. The club's annual reports will be presented and office bearers and committee members for 2021 will be elected. To nominate a club member for a management committee position please use the Nomination Form [Click Here](#)

2021 Fees Due

Club membership fees are due on 1st January. This has not been a typical year and, as it is still unclear when normal club nights will resume Electronic Funds Transfer is the preferred method of renewing your membership. For more details [Click Here](#)



HBOC shirts and fleecy jumpers NOW AVAILABLE!

HBOC monogrammed t-shirts, polo shirts and fleecy jumpers are now available for purchase through Hip Pocket Workwear For full details, designs and cost [Click Here](#)

Order Now

Upcoming Activities

HBOC activities still to run in December are the Wader and Tomago surveys. For upcoming activities in January, including the Snipe survey, Wattagans Outing and the February Awabakal Outing see the Activities page LINK: <http://www.hboc.org.au/activities/> Please continue to pre-register for all activities in 2021 as some COVID restrictions still apply.



November Field Outing Bush Haven

A small group enjoyed a profitable morning with Jenny and Kirsty Musicka at Bush Haven.

[Read More](#)

November Field Outing Ash Island

With the recent easing of restrictions on outdoor gatherings, the mid-week outing to Ash Island was very well attended with fine weather and wonderful company.

[Read More](#)

December Field Outing Tilligerry Habitat

The last outing for the year was a pleasant walk or two by the water. [Read More](#)

November Club Night by Zoom

Micha Jackson spoke about *Conserving Shorebirds in Human Dominated Landscapes* and Tom Clarke presented Bird of the Evening [Read More](#)

Xmas Outing Walka

About 50 members turned up for an end-of-year get-together at Walka Waterworks [Read More](#)

Twitchathon Report

Hunter teams filled the top 3 places in the 30 hour race. Read the report by the Dodgy Drongoes who came in first. More reports will follow in future editions. [Click Here](#)



To the Movies

Two members of the club, Bruce Hosken and Lene Parashou, have their own Youtube channels and have entertained us on club nights for many years with their very professional videos. Follow the links below to be entertained again by Lene, Bruce and others.

First up is Bruce Hosken's 7 minute video on budgies. Click this link to view the video [Budgies](#). There may be a brief ad before the video.

Next is Lene Parashou's video of [Birds of the Hunter Region](#)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tlld3eEnqPI&list=PLtoyfXh8AbVqwpe_eJcoNV6Rde2eTwE5q&index=46

There are 6 scrub-wrens in Australia all with an e-zitt call and here Bruce Hosken looks at their behaviour. Beginning with the White-browed ,Large-billed and Yellow-throated.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ty2YKtBIVvo>

Lene: Tomago storks <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtTPQET1oio&t=8s>

To view one of 12 documentaries about aspects of Newcastle's life and history made by Glenn Dormand on the Scott sisters of Ash Island follow this link:[The Scott Sisters](#)

For more Australian bird videos follow this link to [birds in Backyard videos](#)

That Was the Year That Was

2020 was a year like no other. To see how the year unfolded for HBOC [Click Here](#)



Travellers Tales

With travel curtailed this year a few members recall birding trips they have taken in past years. They might bring back memories.

Alwyn Simple Queensland Alwyn crossed into Queensland almost as soon as the border opened this year. For an account of his travels and some stunning photographs [Click Here](#)

Dick Jenkin Ghana More outstanding photos from Dick Jenkin in Ghana [Click Here](#)

Robert Stewart Ecuador and Galapagos Margaret and Robert discovered just some of the 1,674 bird species in Ecuador [Click Here](#)

Puzzles – Know your Birds

Liz's Quiz is based on Alan Stuart's Featured Bird Series from June to November this year. To access the quiz [Click Here](#)

Pick the Difference Look at the photos from HBOC's Bird Image Library of 5 groups of similar species and test yourself by picking the difference. [Click Here](#)

A virtual Mars Bar if you get them all right.

Your Observations

Some recent Observations

[Click Here](#)