



Hunter Bird Observers Club

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

Hunter Bird Observers Club Inc
PO Box 24, New Lambton, NSW 2305
www.hboc.org.au
ABN 62 415 889 446

E-news

No. 1/February 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.

From the President

Anyone who is interested in birds or wildlife in general could not fail to be aware of the potentially devastating drought and bushfires. Within our club we have had to cancel 4 outings, most recently our December outing to Mount Sugarloaf and our January outing to the Wattagans, and our January camp was a close call. This has been caused by the imminent threat of bushfires or the closure of various parks. We now have an established procedure for cancellation of outings. Members will be notified on hunterbirding, our web page, our facebook page and the E-news if appropriate. If you are still in doubt you can ring the outing contact or the activities officer.

HBOC is affiliated with Bird Life Australia which is very much occupied at the moment with assessing the effects of the bushfires on our native birds, including some endangered ones. You can see a recent report from BLA on ***Bushfires update: a message from BirdLife Australia*** ([READ MORE](#)). There have been many media articles about this, just 2 of them can be found elsewhere in this E-news.

Just a couple of reminders:

- 2020 membership fees are now due.
- The Whistler 13 is now available. If you would like a copy and have not yet received one contact Rob Kyte or a member of the committee and you will be sent one. The Annual Bird Report, No. 26 will be available shortly. We will deliver as many as we can but if you don't receive one ask a member of the committee.
- **A Very Important Reminder:** Access to land owned or claimed by Mindaribba Land Council is currently unavailable to HBOC members unless accompanied by a member of Mindaribba. This includes a large part of HEZ. I cannot emphasise how important it is to respect this requirement for the future of birdwatching in this area. For further details [CLICK HERE](#)

New Members

Darren Foster, Metford, single
Samantha Sanders, Swansea, single
Krishna Nagarajan, Lorn, student
Leanne Maffesoni, Salamander Bay, single
Virginia, Stephen, Emma, Ben, Sarah & Stacie
McDonald, Edgeworth, family
Joshi Sudhanshu, Gowrie, single
Hilary & Ric Barbour, Adamstown Heights, family

Liz Kilpinen, Waratah West, family
Jackie Chan, Maryland, single
Janardanan Mohandas Carlingford, single
Carol & Wil de Sain, Valentine, family
Kendall & Stephen Harrison, Lochinvar, family
Derek Collins, Berowra Heights, single
Ellen Hazelton, New Lambton Heights, single

Welcome. We look forward to seeing you at meetings and outings

Reminder of Upcoming Activities

Wed 12 Feb AGM & Club Night

7 pm Shortland Wetlands Centre
Speaker Gordon Campbell, Raptor
Conservation

Sun 16 Feb Outing Jerusalem Creek

8 am Hollywood Hill on right as you enter
Dungog Contact: David Stuart 4992 1899

Tues 3 Mar Outing Glenrock Lagoon

7.30am Yuelarbah Trail Car Park, Burwood Rd
Contact: Alan Stuart 0409 978 171

Wed 11 March Club Night

7pm Shortland Wetland Centre

For a full list of Club Activities [CLICK HERE](#)

For a summary of 2020 Club Activities [CLICK HERE](#)

Club Activities Reports

December Club Night



December club night is traditionally a members night on which members give informative or entertaining presentations.

[READ MORE](#)

January Camp



Smiths Lake – the only place to be on Australia Day weekend. Once again, a group of happy HBOC campers enjoyed the serenity, the beauty and the facility of the University of NSW Field Study Centre at Smiths Lake. Read Juliana and Tom's full report.

[READ MORE](#)

Articles

Birdwatching as Therapy



How birdwatching and photography can ease physical ailments

[READ MORE](#)



Shorebird Habitat Restoration in the Hunter Estuary

Read an abbreviated version of Tom Clarke's report on the wonderful rehabilitation work he has directed in the Hunter Estuary.

[READ MORE](#)

Media articles about the fate of our wildlife following the recent bushfires
[Revealed: Widespread species devastation following 'unprecedented' fires](#)

And a local story

['Solitary' lyrebirds band together to save themselves in 'incredible' show of unity under bushfire threat](#)

Your Observations

Some recent Observations

[CLICK HERE](#)

To keep track of the very latest sightings why not join hunterbirding.
To find out how [CLICK HERE](#)