

New Members Day

This year New Members Day was held at the Hunter Wetlands Centre on Sunday 16th June.

It was a cold but fine day with no sign of the rain that we have experienced on other years.

The event is held annually to welcome new members, introduce them to other members and hopefully give them some tips on birdwatching.

This year about 20 people attended and were welcomed by HBOC President Bob Stewart who also gave a run down on the aims of the Club.



Grey Fantail watching on



Greg Little conducted a Bird Walk, in his usual informative and energetic fashion, which was enjoyed by all. The history of the Wetland Centre was explained, along with many interesting facts about the flora. Overall about 62 species were identified and logged into the *Birdata* database.

The main highlights were the number of raptors present, including an Osprey, a fly-by from some beautiful Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos, a Drongo, many small insectivorous birds and the usual ducks and waterbirds. Sadly, the Magpie Geese have again flown elsewhere. The barb-be-que lunch was provided, as usual, by HBOC and ably cooked by Rowley Smith. Our thanks go to all those other members who contributed to the success of the day.



Grey Goshawk chased by Magpie



Margaret Clarke with photos by Lene Parashou