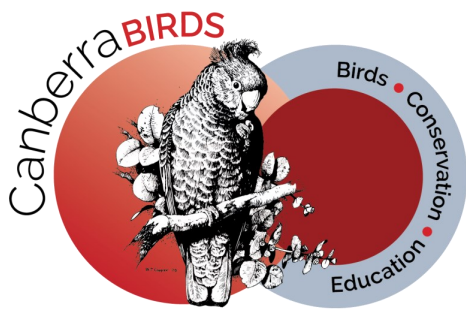




Gang-gang

OCTOBER 2024

Newsletter of the Canberra Ornithologists Group Inc.

OCTOBER MEETING

Wednesday 9 October 2024

*Canberra Girls Grammar School,
Multi-media centre, corner Gawler Cres and
Melbourne Ave, Deakin*

The October 2024 meeting will be a normal face-to-face one held at our usual venue. As COVID is still widespread in the community attendees should heed social distancing and good hygiene practice etc, and use their common sense and stay home if they have COVID symptoms. Mask wearing is recommended.

**Paul Russell - Learning from the Birds
(Birds on Farms project)**

Chris Davey, Peter Fullagar and Nick Nicholls - Potential impacts of a rodent eradication program on the Lord Howe Island lowland terrestrial avifauna.

Please note that construction is currently occurring around the Gabriel Drive parking area, and access to there is not available. So please use the Chapel Drive entrance and park there. Then proceed to the Multi-media Centre (MMT) using the alternative route the Canberra Girls Grammar School has provided as shown in the [map on p 11](#).

Once parked proceed down past the Chapel and smaller Admin Offices, keeping them to your [Continued Page 2](#)

Everyone welcome

Summary/analysis of the past month and what to watch out for in October

The much warmer (with temperatures well above average), cloudy, windy weather continued over the first half of the 4 weeks from 28 August to 24 September inclusive covered by this column. While it was cooler in the second half, with the resumption of some frosts (one of them very significant, the coldest morning on record for September), it remained windy, and with virtually no rainfall for the period conditions have dried out considerably. Despite this my analysis below again shows that bird activity in the COG Area of Interest (Aoi) remained relatively quiet. A surprise is that, with the exception of the **Noisy Friarbird** and **White-winged Triller**, the spring/summer migrants expected in September have been slow to arrive, in particular compared with September 2023, given similar dry conditions. As for winter there has again been a very low number of “unusual” species reported.

The only “unusual” species that allowed multiple observations during the period was the **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper**, four of which were first reported

[Continued Page 4](#)



Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

David Cook

left. Just past the latter turn left along a relatively flat and straight broad path keeping the columns to you left. Near to the end, go left up the 3 m wide steps, turn half right and you will find an open glass door. Go through this, across the empty room and past the toilets, and then either enter the MMT either through the bottom MMT door or go further along and up the steps where you reach the usual entry door. Though it is well lit, as it will be dark a torch for finding your way to the MMT and back to your car after the meeting is recommended.

The shorter presentation will be by **Paul Russell**, the Birdlife Australia Birds on Farms Project Officer (ACT-Yass), on **“Learning from the Birds.”**

Birds on Farms, run by BirdLife Australia, is a citizen-science monitoring program assessing woodland bird communities in agricultural landscapes. The original aim, in its first iteration in the 1990s, was to assess whether the environmental work carried out by organisations such as Landcare and Greening Australia was drawing birds back into our rural landscapes. Birds on Farms was re-established in 2017, and since then more than 5,000 bird surveys have been conducted across south-eastern Australia.

Paul will be presenting some of the research results of the national program and provide an update on the ACT-Yass Birds on Farms project. This project not only conducts woodland bird surveys, but also assists landholders with the development of Habitat Restoration Plans for their property. It shows how our research can be used in the field to extend, improve and connect woodland habitat on private property to the benefit of bird populations.

Paul has been the Project Officer with the ACT-Yass Birds on Farms team since September 2023. He was born and raised in the ACT with strong connections to land, nature and community. His upbringing imbued him with a special love of Australian birds and their habitats, particularly those of the ACT region. After leaving school, he worked in farming, studied Agriculture and later graduated as a Social Ecologist and has worked in the community sector for over 25 years.

The main presentation will be by **Chris Davey, Peter Fullagar and Nick Nicholls** on **“Potential impacts of a rodent eradication program on the Lord Howe Island lowland terrestrial avifauna”**.

In response to a request from the Lord Howe Island Board, spring surveys were conducted on the lowland terrestrial avifauna in the springs of 2013, 2014, 2016 to 2018 prior to the rodent eradication programme that commenced in 2019, and a final spring survey was conducted in 2022.

The spring surveys were based on 96 2 ha plots each surveyed four times during a one-week period and the number of individuals recorded. The plots were spatially stratified across the northern and western part of the Lord Howe Island lowlands. The count data were analysed using a generalized linear mixed model with Rodent control, Vegetation type and Time after sunrise as fixed effects and Observer, Plot and Year as random effects.

Of the 15 species recorded across the 96 plots only nine were recorded with sufficient frequency to permit analysis. Our emphasis here was to assess the extent to which the rodent control programme had caused a detectable change in abundance (were the numbers in 2022 outside the range of abundances recorded across 2013 to 2018?) and to match avian response to rodent removal in terms of the known biology of the species. Emphasis was placed on the **Lord Howe Island Woodhen** to see if this endangered species would show a positive response to rodent removal.

Summary of Presentations from the 11 September Meeting

The first presentation was a very interesting and important presentation on “**Mapping the ACT Woodland Bird Community Condition**” by Laura Rayner and Brett Howland.

This is a new ACT Government initiative that they hope COG/Canberra Birds members would find interesting. It is based on a 2019 paper from Hannah Fraser based at the University of Queensland entitled “Systematic definition of threatened fauna communities is critical to their conservation.”

Fraser *et al* used expert opinion to develop a definition of the *Australian Temperate and Subtropical Woodland Bird Community* and metrics of its condition. Using the available data, they assessed this community against criteria for listing as a threatened ecological community under national biodiversity conservation law and determined that a bird community would qualify as the woodland bird community if 70% or more of species were included in the appropriate regional list of woodland bird species.

Laura and Brett tested this approach on the ACT woodland bird community using the available data from the COG/Canberra Birds database as well as eBird for 99 species based on a 250 m grid cell and a canopy cover of >70%. This allowed them to produce maps where each cell is scaled from 0 to 1, where 1 represents highest community condition.

From this they then gave some examples of local woodlands that showed high community condition scores, including Mulligans Flat, Mt Ainslie/Campbell Park, Callum Brae and Bluett’s Block, some of COG/Canberra Birds members’ favourite places. Interestingly the woodland community which came out on top was Kambah Pool NR, well known but not quite as popular as the above.

An important result of their analysis was defining areas of the ACT where limited bird sightings restricted their mapping. One that was particularly highlighted was the Namadgi NP where, quite by accident, the following speaker Jim Hone presented on his 18 years of surveys there, which appears to be one of the few good data sets available.

Once again on behalf of COG/Canberra Birds members many thanks to Laura and Brett for this very interesting and important presentation on this new ACT Government initiative/product. They hoped that maybe COG/Canberra Birds members would like to help with ideas about how to improve the coverage and they certainly stimulated both the audience and the COG/Canberra Birds Committee to see how this might be achieved.

The main presentation was a very interesting one by **Jim Hone** on “**Birds of Namadgi National Park.**”

Jim described the results of his once yearly summer surveys, for 16 years between 1993 and 2008, of the bird community at seven sites in the eastern part of Namadgi NP. These surveys were carried out by Jim using sight and sound for 4 hours per site.

He recorded a total of 92 species, consisting of 47 resident birds and 45 summer migrants, 29 being non-passerines and 63 passerines. Of these, six species are now considered threatened. 22 species were recorded every year, and 18 in 1 year only.

Jim’s analysis of his results showed no trends for a number of factors, but very interestingly all groups declined after the removal of the pines at the Gudgenby site.

Also surprising was that there was no significant effect of the 2003 wildfire which significantly impacted 6 of the 7 sites. This may have been because the first survey following after did not occur until 11 months had elapsed.

Jim showed that two species, the **Common Bronzewing** and the **Common Starling**, increased over the study and six species declined, including the **Eastern Rosella** (a surprise), **Eastern Yellow Robin** and the **Scarlet Robin**. Many others, including the vulnerable species, showed no trends.

We particularly enjoyed learning about Jim’s examination of the structure of the bird community, with the ecological literature reporting that communities, including birds, have many more smaller than larger species. While his analysis

showed passerines of different lengths was consistent with most theory, there was no relationship for non-passerines of different lengths

Once again on behalf of COG/Canberra Birds members many thanks to Jim for his very interesting and informative presentation. The timing was very fortuitous given that the preceding talk on the Mapping the ACT Woodland Bird Community Condition had identified a lack of suitable survey data available for the Namadgi NP. So hopefully Jim's recommendation of monitoring of the birds in Namadgi NP as part of on-going Park management will be followed up.

Summary/analysis of the past month and what to watch out for in October

continued from Page 1

on 3 September by Christine D at the Fyshwick Sewage Treatment Plant (FSTP). Up to that number were subsequently reported and photographed by many observers to 9 September, with then a break until up to 2 were there from 21-24 September. COG's 2018-2019 Annual Bird Report (ABR) lists this as an uncommon (but the most common of the Scolopacidae – snipe, sandpipers and allies), non-breeding summer migrant, which can be seen between August and April on some wetlands.

Checking the eBird data to 1 January 2018, between 53-500 were reported from the Lake Bathurst, the Morass and Lake George East up to November 2021. However, like many waders, numbers have decreased since, with no previous reports in the COG Aol on eBird for 2024, and only a single report of 10 birds at Lake George in January 2022, and from only 4 locations in 2023, with a maximum of 10 from the Jerrabomberra Wetlands NR (JWNR) in October. I used to say for waders "when in doubt it's a Sharpie", but perhaps that no longer holds.

Most of the spring/summer migrants present in August are by now well established, including those reported from only a few locations such as the **Western Gerygone**, **Dusky Woodswallow** and the **Australian Reed-Warbler**. However, the inland species the **Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo** and **Pallid Cuckoo** were each reported from 7 locations only, surprising given the dry conditions. It appears it will be another poor season, particularly for the latter, which has not been present in good numbers for quite a few years.

Of the other species which had not yet been reported in August, on 28 August the **White-throated Gerygone** was reported from 3 locations, Goorooyaroo, Campbell Park and Majura Valley grass lands, and from over 40 locations at the end of the period. Similarly, the **Noisy Friarbird** was first reported from Garran and then Campbell Park on 2 and 3 September, respectively, with reports increasing thereafter to over 35 locations at the time of writing.

The **Latham's Snipe** was first reported from the West Belconnen Pond on 4 September, and then from the JWNR on 6 September. While there were subsequent reports from both these locations, it has been reported only from 1 further spot, from Ginninderra Creek at Giralang on 21 September. While 2 **Sacred Kingfisher** were photographed (one eating a caterpillar) by Christine D at Umbagog District Park (Latham) on 11 September, again this species has been reported from 1 other location, a single bird at the JWNR on 18-19 September. The **Rainbow Bee-eater** has not yet been reported this spring, and surprisingly the **Leaden Flycatcher** not until 1 bird was at the Curtin playing fields and bike path on 23 September.

On 17 September Shorty had a brief visit from a female **Eastern Koel** on his bird bath in Symonston. He also noted that later that day an ID post was on Facebook of another female on a bird bath in Canberra. Very interesting is that both were female as when the **Eastern Koel** was establishing in Canberra often the males would come first and give their "ko-el" calls for a long period before any females arrived. Interesting too both were at bird baths. There are not many such records, perhaps they were thirsty after the long flight in the dry conditions. They were also possibly moving through as there were no subsequent reports until one was recorded at the Goulburn Wetlands (just inside the COG Aol) on 24 September.

In contrast to these slow to arrive coastal species Kym Bradley photographed a very early male **White-winged Triller** at her patch to the S of Canberra on 28 August. A bird was then reported from Gungahlin Lakes Golf Club on 4 September, and from a further 9 locations since. The first report for a **Rufous Songlark** was one heard giving its distinctive "witchy-poo" call a couple of times at the JWNR on 7 September. However, there were no further records until one was there on 23 September and on the following day one was calling in a Kaleen back yard (see photo and note the diagnostic rufous rump with the black bill indicating it's a male).



Rufous Songlark

Victor Braguine

There has only been one report of the **White-browed** and **Masked Woodswallows**. On 6 September Julian Teh reported a large flock of at least 80 birds very quickly moving northwest at high altitude over Zosterops Corner in the Yass Valley. He noted they moved too fast to confirm any Masked, but certainly were mostly White-browed (10 of which were confirmed).

The above pattern for both coastal and inland species is very unexpected, in particular compared with the similarly dry September 2023, perhaps the cooler but still windy conditions have slowed both type of species' arrival. So in October please keep a lookout for the species mentioned above which have only arrived so far in small numbers, or have yet to be reported, as well as the **Channel-billed Cuckoo**, **Brush Cuckoo**, **Dollarbird**, **Horsfield's Bushlark** and **Brown Songlark** (one was reported on the Lake Bathurst survey on 21 September), and the passage migrants, the **Satin Flycatcher**, **Rufous Fantail** and **Common Cicadabird**.

Of the species that come to Canberra and its surrounds from the mountains and higher country to spend autumn/winter here, the **White-eared Honeyeater** and the **Golden Whistler** were each still present at around 17 (well down from over 50 in August) and over 50 (similar to August) urban/peri-urban locations. The latter results reflect how this species is often quite late leaving Canberra.

The **Scarlet Robin** has definitely moved away being reported just 9 such locations compared with over 55 in August, as has the **Flame Robin**, also reported from 9 such locations, compared with the 25 in August. The **Rose Robin** has still been reported from 11 such locations, together with 9 locations on or E of the Murrumbidgee River. However, there have been no further **Pink Robin** sightings, the closest on eBird being Baw Baw NP east of Melbourne.

There were reports of the **Crescent Honeyeater** from 5 urban/peri-urban locations, still including Cooleman Ridge and with up to 2 birds regularly from the ANBG to 20 September, from a total of 10 locations during the period. There were reports of **Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters** from 4 locations, an unusual location being 2 birds in a Dunlop garden on 9 September.

Coffee and Chat at the Gardens Tuesday, 8 October

You are invited to Canberra Birds monthly Coffee and Chat at the Australian National Botanic Gardens cafe.

Come along any time between 9:30 and 11:30 on the second Tuesday of the month.

All welcome — experienced birders, new and would-be birders, locals and visitors.

Look for the table with the binoculars on it.



Surprisingly **Bassian Thrush** were reported from only 2 locations, with up to 2 regularly from the ANBG, as well as 1-2 from Wamboin on 8-11 September. There were no **Swift Parrots** reported during the period, the closest being from around Grenfell or SW Sydney. The eBird map indicates it hasn't been a good year for them in NSW, certainly there has been very little gum flowering locally.

There have been no further **Brown Gerygone** observations at the ANBG, the last being on 25 August. However, an altitudinal migrant observed there which has escaped my attention has been the **Olive Whistler**, with one bird (occasionally 2) being reported from the ANBG between 31 March and 12 September. A bird was also reported from there in early May 2023, and in October-November 2022.

So please look out for the above species as they continue to move away from Canberra and its surrounds during October.

Again, few unusual birds were reported during the period with the main surprise being the **Red-backed Kingfisher** photographed by Graeme Austin at Campbell Park on 9 September. Despite some searching no-one else was able to locate it, so unlike the bird present there for about 6 weeks in September-October 2021 it doesn't seem to have stayed.

No **Magpie Geese** were reported in the COG AoI during the period, but a single **Freckled Duck** was reported from Lake Bathurst on 21 September. A single **Plumed Whistling Duck** was reported from the Trucking Yard Lane dam on 10 September. In contrast the **Australian Shelduck** was reported, as is usual, from 14 locations to the N through to the E of Canberra. However, numbers were low and further down from August, with the maximum being the 14 ducks seen on the Wollagorang Rd on 3 September.

Up to 2 **Blue-billed Ducks** were reported from 5 locations, Upper Stranger Pond, the JWNr and the FSTP, Lake Bathurst and Rowes Lagoon during the period. Apart from the Tidbinbilla NR Sanctuary, single **Musk Ducks** were reported from 3 locations, Greenwood Rd Murrumbateman, and the Wet and Rowes Lagoons. Two **Great-crested Grebes** were reported only from Lake Bathurst on 21 September.

A single **Stubble Quail** was reported only from the Arawang horse paddocks on 17 September, an indication they are not yet calling. Up to 9 **Brown Quail** were reported from 7 locations, well down from the 17 in August. Single **Painted Button-quail** were reported from 3 locations (Bluetts Block, the ANBG and Geoscience Australia) but again no **Little Button-quail** were reported during the period.

A **Brush Bronzewing** was reported from the New Pipeline Rd in Pierces Creek Forest on 14 September, but no **White-headed Pigeon**, **Brown Cuckoo-Dove**, **Peaceful** or **Diamond Doves** were reported during the period. There were also no further reports of the **White-throated Nightjar**.

Up to 4 **Baillon's Crake** were regularly reported only from the JWNr from 3 September, which is also the only location where up to 3 **Spotless Crakes** were reported from 9 September. This was also the sole location from which the **Australian Spotted Crake** was reported, 2 on 17 and one on 22 September. Single **Buff-banded Rails** were also reported from here, as well as up to 2 from Mulligans Flat NR. Up to 2 **Lewin's Rails** were reported from 4 widespread locations, the Orroral Valley in Namadgi NP, the JWNr, Croke Place wetlands (Evatt) and Lake Bathurst.

Pied Stilts were reported from 8 locations, with the 23 at the Farm Dam on Lake Rd, SW Lake George on 8 September easily the highest number. No **Red-necked Avocet**, **Australian Painted-**



Red-backed Kingfisher

Graeme Austin



**Australian
Ornithological
Services P/L**

PO Box 385
South Yarra 3141
Victoria

04173 10200

enquiries@philipmaher.com

Good birding, good food

2025 Plains-wanderer Weekends

25 & 26 October 2025
8 & 9 November 2025
22 & 23 November 2025
6 & 7 December 2025

The 2025 November weekends will be limited to 6 participants per weekend & the October and December weekends will have the usual 8 participants.

Personal tours to the Deniliquin district, Victorian mallee, NE Victoria, Gippsland and the Melbourne area.

Personal tours to anywhere you need to go to bolster your Australian bird list.

Please contact Patricia Maher for information, itineraries and costing.

www.philipmaher.com

snipe, Banded Lapwing, Comb-crested Jacana, Pectoral Sandpiper or Red-necked Stint were reported during the period (see above for the **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper**).

On 17 September Sandra Henderson reported that the **Common Sandpiper** had returned. She saw it that morning at Lake Tuggeranong flying towards the town centre end, allowing photos when it stopped briefly at a couple of beaches on the Eastern side. While this is now the sixth spring/summer it has been recorded in that area (first in October 2019), it has not been recorded since and whether it will spend this year at the gross pollutant trap at the outlet of Village Creek as in past years is unclear (Andrea and I could not find it there or down the E side on 24 September).

No **Caspian, Whiskered or White-winged Black Tern, Australasian Bittern or Australasian Little/Black-backed Bittern** were reported during the period.

No **Little or Plumed Egrets** were reported during the period, and single **Great Egrets** were only reported from NW Lake George on 9 September and from the Morass on 21 September. Mainly single **White-necked Herons** were reported from 12 locations except for 6 birds on the Wollogorang Rd on 3 September and 5 at Tirrannaville (S of Goulburn) on 4 September. A single **Royal Spoonbill** was reported from the JWNR, and 3 from the Morass on 21 September, but no **Yellow-billed Spoonbills or Glossy Ibis** were reported during the period.

Single **Barn Owls** were reported only from the Lawson Grasslands on 7 September, Gundaroo on 14 September and the JWNR on 20 September, but **Black-shouldered Kites** were reported from close to 50 locations during the period. Andrea and I saw a **Black Kite** circling high around the NW side of Barrer Hill on 4 September, but no-one else seems to have been able to locate it. While it's quite a long walk or bike ride to get to there, I do wonder how such big, obvious and mobile bird can escape further attention. The only other report was from the French VC Rest Area on the Hume Hwy to the W of Goulburn on 2 September. There were no reports of the **Pacific Baza, Spotted Harrier, Grey Goshawk or Black Falcon** during the period.

Two **Glossy Black-Cockatoos** were reported from the Scotts NR on 10 September. No **Azure Kingfisher, Cockatiel, Turquoise Parrot, Purple-crowned, Scaly-breasted or Little Lorikeets** were reported over the period, and only 2 **Musk Lorikeets** were reported from the University of Canberra on 5 September.

Single **Blue-faced Honeyeaters** were reported only from Turner and Curtin on 3 and 4 September, respectively, but no **Singing, Scarlet or Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters or Little Friarbirds** were reported during the period.

White-fronted Chats were reported from 2 locations, a single bird at the Namarag Reserve on 30 August and between 7-10 birds from the Wollogorang Rd on 7-10 September. However, no **White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike, White-browed Babbler, Spangled Drongo, Black-faced Monarch, Red-capped Robin, Tawny Grassbird or Zebra Finch** were reported during the period.

Despite the warmer weather and spring, during the period there have again been very few "unusual" bush birds reported, in particular pigeons/doves, parrots, honeyeaters or other passerines, continuing the low numbers from winter.

Of the birds I have continued to ask readers to keep a special lookout for in 2024, the only reports for the **Jacky Winter** were 2 birds at the known location, the Gambles TSR Sutton, on 27 August and 16 September. A single **Hooded Robin** was reported from the Naas Rd at Apollo Rd on 7 September, but at least 3 have been present at Kym Bradley's patch to the S of Canberra. A **Restless Flycatcher** has also continued to be present there, with the only other report being a single bird at the known location, the Nelanglo TSR, on 18 September.

The lack of reports for these three species may reflect that they are preparing to breed as they often become less conspicuous in spring.

Given the current dry conditions it is difficult to predict how good the breeding season will be. Some observations follow *but again I first need to remind readers of the care that needs to be taken around breeding birds as outlined the new [COG Ethical Birding Guidelines](#) which can be found through the Canberra Birds web site (in particular please read and follow the sections on Nesting Birds and Bird Photography)*:

- Renée Ferster-Levy reported that on 25 August there was a **Tawny Frogmouth** on a nest on a branch of a bare deciduous tree above the road in Campbell (see photo). She noted it was so lovely to see the joy of all the passers-by on seeing it! Stuart Rae replied it was an early nesting record for this year, the first he had was on the nest on the 21 August. Also, it was the first nest in a deciduous tree of which he had a record.

On 29 August Stuart checked the nest and there were the remains of two eggs on the road below it. The male was still on the nest but looked fidgety. Stuart noted there might still have been one egg in the nest, or he might be just covering the nest, not sure of what to do? The eggs may have been blown out in the strong winds the day before as the nest was not in a secure position. It was balanced on two small branches, one very thin, and in a strong wind the branches will separate, and the nest contents could be blown out.



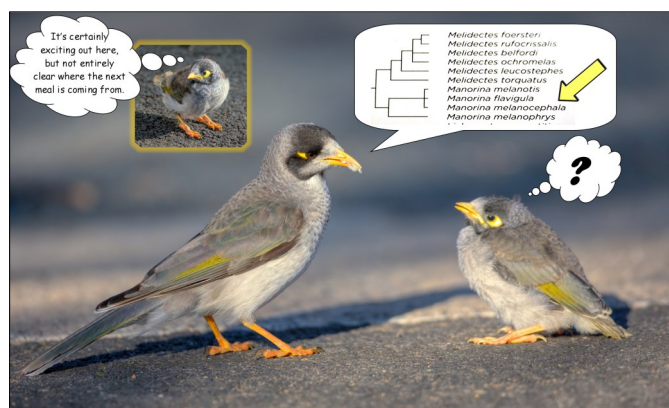
Tawny Frogmouth

Renée Ferster-Levy

Stuart noted that wind is possibly the main cause of their nest failure, but that **Tawny Frogmouths** can and will likely re-lay in a new nest nearby. However, Renée is not aware whether this has occurred. Stuart has later clarified that it's been a very mixed breeding season, possibly due to the very windy conditions.

- On the morning of 5 September Geoffrey Dabb's dog walk was interrupted by the sight of a very recently emerged **Noisy Miner** fledgling, temporarily trapped at the bottom of a steep driveway. Geoffrey was able to get a snap (see photo) of it being given the news that in spite of being fed beetles, moths, and lerps it was really a honeyeater, and should get used to it. His dogs had to put up with not only the deferment of walkies while he got a camera, but being swooped by a number of adult **Noisy Miners**.

It reminded Geoffrey of the annual talk on Magpie swooping the previous day on ABC radio by Darryl Jones, in which he declared Canberra to be the Magpie swooping capital of the world. Darryl was asked which other bird species swooped people, Geoffrey noted he might have mentioned the **Noisy Miner**, although it's a rather gentle fluttery swooper which tends to concentrate on dogs (my experience exactly). Geoffrey's nomination of another chap to watch out for would have gone to the **Brown Goshawk**, but there are a lot fewer of those about than the **Australian Magpie**.



Noisy Miner

Geoffrey Dabb

- On the peninsula of Lake Ginninderra on 6 September Kirsty Craven, Muriel Storey, Joan and Trevor Lipscombe observed a pair of **Olive-backed Orioles** exhibiting courtship behaviour. One bird had its wings displayed and there was considerable tail bobbing. This is a very early breeding observation for the **Olive-backed Oriole** as there is only 1 record of 'Display' for September in the breeding data under BIRD INFO on the COG/Canberra Birds web site, though there is also one for 'Nest Building' in September.
- On 17 September Denise Kay posted that she had a pair of **White Browed Scrubwrens** nesting in the large (40 years old) maiden hair fern on her deck. They raised one batch of two and proceeded to lay again a couple of weeks ago. The day before the resident **Pied Currawong** found the nest took both chicks then proceeded to demolish the nests. (She thought there may have been 2.)
- Denise also posted that the behaviour of her **Superb Fairy-wrens** was amusing. She was raising an orphan **Red Wattlebird** and one of the adults was annoyed enough by the constant chirping that it came into the house to

complain. It spent a minute or so in the lounge, Denise thought it was going to clean up the spiderwebs, but sadly not. It then flew back out and continued to complain.

- The **Crested Pigeons** in my GBS site each fledged 2 young, but one of the pair of **Australian Hobbies** was last heard early on 26 August, so they seem to have abandoned any thought of trying to nest in the old **Australian Raven's** nest (which is looking a bit more dishevelled) for a second time.

A possible sign of a delayed breeding season is that at Farrer Ridge on 17 September Andrea and I still found a loose mixed feeding flock (MFF) comprising of 6 species including the still to depart **Golden Whistler** (a female/immature was calling very loudly) and **White-eared Honeyeater**.

Finally, the return (spring) migration of **Yellow-faced** and **White-naped Honeyeaters** does not seem to have been conspicuous, with only a few small flocks coming to my attention.

October is the middle month of the spring significant bird activity in the COG AoI. So please watch out for more of the returning spring/summer migrants mentioned above, for the last of the leaving altitudinal migrants, for roost sites and flights, for any late MFFs or single species flocks, and for any breeding activity. Please also continue to keep a special look out for the **Restless Flycatcher**, **Jacky Winter** and **Hooded Robin**. As usual please ensure that all significant sightings are properly reported and end up on the COG database.

Once again, my sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to my two main data sources, posting on the COG/Canberra Birds e-mail Discussion List ("COG chat line") and the eBird Australia database, as well as direct correspondence with me. As always, I am very grateful to all involved for publishing this information without which it would not be possible to put this column together.

Jack Holland

Committee News

A special resolution to be put to our Annual General Meeting in November

Just as Canberra Ornithologists Group (our legal name) benefits from time to time from a bequest in a member's will and receives an inheritance, COG itself is required to nominate another organisation to receive our funds and assets in the unlikely event that we are ever dissolved or wound up. A recent careful reading of our constitution (canberrabirds.org.au/about-cog/cog-rules/) revealed that this nomination is a legal requirement under Clause 38. No-one considers a dissolution or winding up to be likely of course but we still need to make the nomination, as no record can be found of this having happened following COG's incorporation in August 1987.

The Committee has made a thorough review of local and national organisations, seeking one with a similar set of purposes to COG and which also has a similar provision in their own rules that would see their own funds and assets passed to another similar body in the event of their own dissolution. The committee found that the organisation with the most similar set of purposes to COG and which also has a similar provision for passing on funds and assets, is BirdLife Australia. The committee approached BirdLife and, following discussions, BirdLife have agreed that they can be the recipient of COG assets in the unlikely event of our dissolution or winding up. In making the approach it was very important to the committee that COG's funds and assets would be used to support bird conservation, research and/or education in the ACT and southern NSW. This has been agreed by BirdLife.

The committee will therefore be putting a special resolution to the Annual General Meeting on November 13 to formalise BirdLife Australia as the organisation in which COG funds and assets would be vested in the unlikely event of the dissolution or winding up of COG.

Canberra Birds Committee

Introducing the new Canberra Birds logo

Observant readers of this issue of *Gang-gang* will have noticed that our new Canberra Birds logo appears on page 1 for the first time.

In recent months a Working Group comprising Jenny Bounds, Julie Hotchin, Alison Mackerras and Steve Read have been working with a local graphic designer to develop a new design theme that visually reflects the Canberra Birds identity. Key elements of this design are:

Centring the Gang-gang image that was especially drawn for COG by renowned wildlife artist William T. Cooper in 1979.

Updating the colour palette.

Conveying a more contemporary 'look and feel' through a new typeface and graphics.

The Committee endorsed the new logo in August. It was presented to members at the September meeting, and formed the centrepiece of the cake celebrating COG's 60th birthday at the recent BIGnet workshop hosted at Wildbark by Canberra Birds. We expect to have a similar cake at the members' Christmas event in December.

The new logo is only one element of our new design theme. We'll progressively apply the theme across other forms of communication, such as a new banner and a suite of Canberra Birds brochures that are in progress.



COG'S BIRD BLITZ 2024

Saturday 26 October and Sunday 27 October

As many participants as possible are needed to conduct bird surveys across the whole of the ACT in an effort to obtain as complete a snapshot as possible of the birds in mid-spring.

Details are on the COG website www.canberrabirds.org.au under the heading "Observing and Reporting Birds". The list of sites adopted will be updated shortly. Please let me know, blitz@canberrabirds.org.au, where you would like to survey and I will put your name against that site.

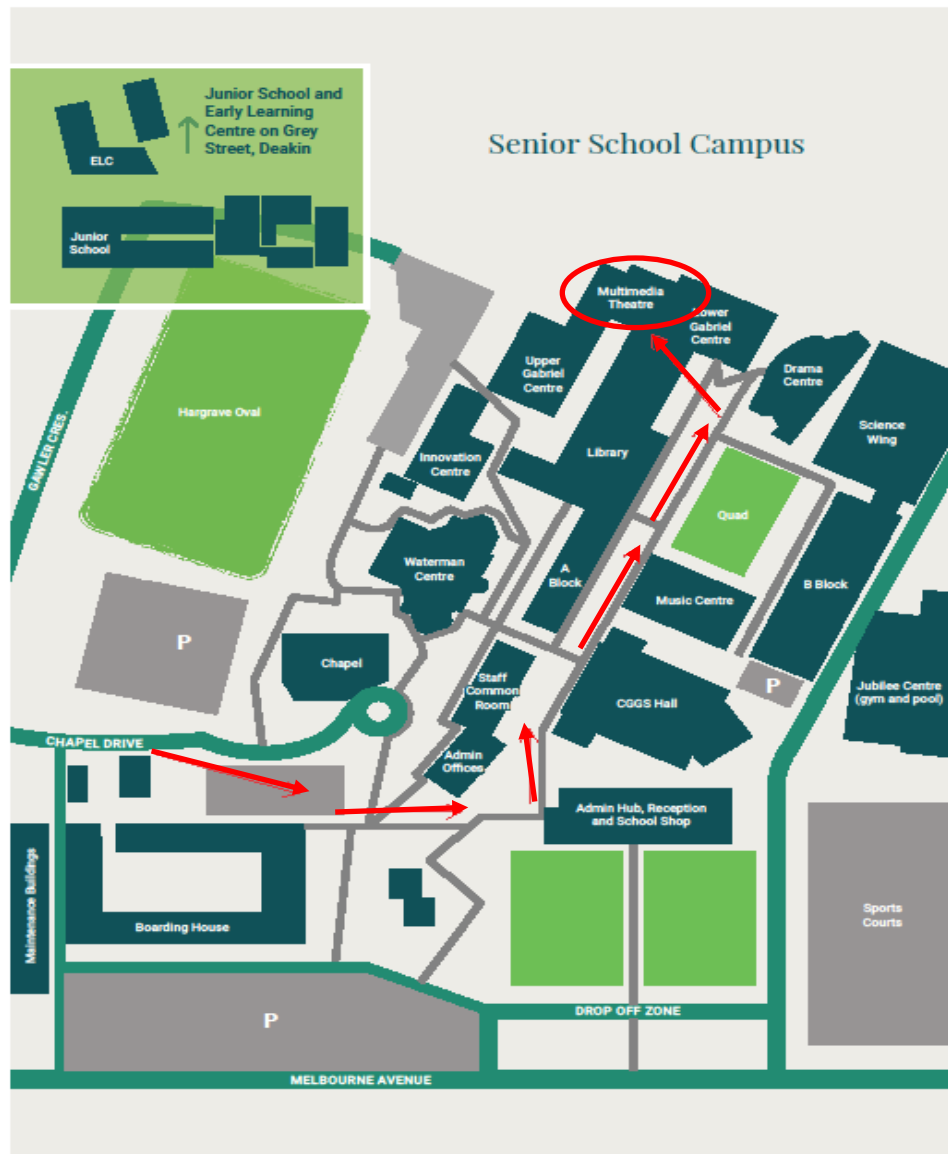
If you regularly survey particular spots, it would be ideal if you could do them again, but feel free to also go somewhere different, or you can nominate your own area that isn't on the list. Included on the list will be "data-deficient" areas for which we are particularly interested in gaining records. The reasons for this was discussed by the speakers at the main presentation to the September COG meeting.

Nicki Taws

blitz@canberrabirds.org.au

0408210736

September Meeting : map showing access to the Multi-media Centre (MMT)



Julatten, 1½hrs. North of Cairns

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Field Trip Reports

Sunday 1 September – Shepherds Lookout/Uriarra Loop

Lachlan Duncan led an enthusiastic group of 9, starting from Shepherds Lookout carpark at 8am sharp under sunny skies and strong winds. Within moments, we saw a **Wedge-tailed Eagle** and **Golden Whistlers** (within flowering wattles), and a **Western Gerygone** was distinctly heard as we approached the lookout. A **Peregrine Falcon** was soaring through the skies around the cliff edge of the lookout. On the long walk down to Uriarra, a wide variety of woodland birds were seen, particularly in areas that were protected from the strong winds which persisted all day. These included **Eastern Spinebills**, **Weebills**, **Brown Thornbills**, **Buff-rumped Thornbills** and **Grey Fantails**, in addition to **Crimson** and **Eastern Rosellas**. **Fairy Martins** and **Welcome Swallows** were seen in the grounds of the sewage works on the side of the large hill. In addition to seeing **White-throated Treecreepers**, we witnessed a group of **White-winged Choughs** industriously building a nest in a tree, adjacent to the footbridge crossing the river. An 11:30am morning tea at Uriarra East Picnic Area was followed by the return hike along the Uriarra Loop trail as gusty winds buffeted the landscape; final highlights included a **Black-shouldered Kite**, **Red-browed Finch** and **European Goldfinch**. The walk finished at about 1pm, when we confirmed a tally of 39 species across three eBird Hotspots, being Woodstock Nature Reserve, Shepherds Lookout Walk and Uriarra Loop Track.

Mark Tindale

Sunday 8 September – private property, Wee Jasper

It was a perfect spring day when 17 of us met for carpooling at the Denman Village shops to travel to Wee Jasper, where we were met by our hosts, and their son and two grandsons, who joined us for the walk around the property. **Eastern Spinebills** and **New Holland Honeyeaters** were supping on the flowers in the garden as we arrived.

We then moved into a nearby paddock where one of our members explained a little about the many fossils which could be seen in the rocks there. The children had a wonderful time, scrambling over the rocks. As we made our way down to the Goodradigbee River on the edge of the property we saw a **Black-shouldered Kite** and a **Nankeen Kestrel**. Small flocks of **Yellow-rumped Thornbills** and **Superb Fairywrens** were on the boundary fence and in the blackberries in the neighbour's yard, and **Welcome Swallows** and **Fairy Martins** were hawking overhead.

There were **Great Cormorants** and **Australian Pelicans** amongst the birds on the river, and a **Straw-necked Ibis** nearby. A large flock of **Pacific Black Ducks** flew off the nearby overflow pond as we approached. **Satin Bowerbirds** were using the garden when we returned to the house. Some of our party had a look at the house, which has been built into the rocks.

We said our goodbyes to our hosts and most of our party went on to the Fitzpatrick Trackhead, on the Hume and Hovell Track, for morning tea. Here we read about Hume and Hovell's Expedition, noting that this year is the bicentenary of their journey. On the way back to Canberra we had a brief stop at the junction of Mountain Creek and Wee Jasper Roads, to have a look at the fossils in the roadside bank.

Lia Battisson

Sunday 15 September - Molonglo Gorge

A party of 7 set out from the Molonglo Gorge carpark at 8:30am, under sunny skies with gusty winds. The car park had a group of 10 **Red-browed Finches** and three **White-winged Choughs** - but the choughs were not accompanied by any others in a larger group. Birdlife was not very abundant for the majority of the scenic ascent along the river, but notable highlights were a **Fan-tailed Cuckoo**, small numbers of **Brown Thornbills** and **Spotted Pardalotes** and a very active group of 5 **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes** that were busy in the trees on both sides of the gorge. After we turned north towards the top picnic area, a small open area of dry forest was an active hotspot that accounted for many species seen on the entire walk. In addition to 8 **Yellow-faced** and 14 **White-eared Honeyeaters**, there were **Superb Fairywren**, **Rufous Whistler**, **Eastern Yellow Robin**, **Silvereyes** and many **Grey Fantails** and **Spotted Pardalotes** enjoying the shelter and sunshine within a few metres of each other. Although our group kept a lookout for raptors, the only sighting was a lone **Wedge-tailed Eagle** which was seen at morning tea at the top picnic area. We set a moderate pace back down the gorge, with fine views over the rugged terrain. Three **Laughing Kookaburras** were basking in the sun on the return journey.

Mark Tindale



Wood Ducks, Eurasian Coot (leucistic) Sandra Henderson

we saw **Eastern** and **Crimson Rosella**, and **Red-rumped Parrot**. Only one each of **Sulphur-crested Cockatoo** and **Common Blackbird** were seen.

Although the wind was a nuisance, we were able to use calls, as well as sightings, to distinguish the **House Sparrow** and **Yellow-rumped Thornbill** which were perched in bare branched trees of local house gardens. The real **Laughing Kookaburra** we saw looked better than the ornamental one in a garden, and the **Australian Magpie**, **Magpie-lark**, **Willie Wagtail** and **Grey Fantail** were as delightful as always, especially since it still seems to be before swooping season.
Michael Robbins

Sunday 22 September – private property, Murrumbateman

Twelve members met in Hall to carpool for our journey to Murrumbateman. Several species were calling as we stepped out of our cars.

Accompanied by our host, we started by walking down to the dam. In a large tree on the way there were several species, including **Striated Pardalotes** moving about in noisy pairs. We heard **White-throated** and **Western Gerygones** and saw three **Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes**. The 15-year-old regeneration plot was surprisingly devoid of birds, but as we emerged from there a pair of **Yellow Thornbills** attracted our attention in a nearby Acacia. We then moved on to the remnant vegetation, where we had nice views of a pair of **Shining Bronze-Cuckoos**, both male and female **Rufous Whistlers** and a small party of **White-winged Choughs**.



Shining Bronze-Cuckoo

Richard Arculus

Wednesday 18 September - Lake Jerrabomberra

As usual, Sandra did a great job providing Wednesday birders excellent views of interesting birds on a nice easy ramble - even though the wind didn't help us to hear birds calls.

We started by exploring a small dam across the oval from the parking area. The large number of **Australian Wood Duck** on the oval (over 40) was not quite matched by the number of **Pacific Black Duck** on and around the dam. These were augmented by **Welcome Swallow**, **Dusky Moorhen**, **Eurasian Coot** and **Australasian Swamphen**, and the call of an **Australian Reed Warbler**.

People obviously feed birds at the lake as the **Hardhead**, **Black Swan** and some of the other water birds were keen to check us out as we stood on the fairly large public jetty. Not so the **Great Cormorant**, **Australian White Ibis** and **Australian Pelican**, which stayed on the island, along with the **Nankeen Night Heron**, and **Masked Lapwing** which stayed on a smaller private jetty on the other side of the lake. We heard, and saw, several **White-plumed** and **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters**, and **Red Wattlebird**.

It's a very easy flat walk on the footpath around the Lake, but we did move onto the grass to check out the creek and the **Spotted Pardalote**, **Superb Fairy-wren** and **Red-browed Finch** which favoured that habitat. We saw one **European Goldfinch**, which had flown into a tree as we watched several **Galahs**. Nearby,



We moved on to the former vineyard, where the curious but cautious alpacas came up to us. We saw both male and female **Superb Parrots** before we said our goodbyes to our host and then we returned to Hall. In all, 38 species were observed, despite overcast and occasional windy conditions.

In addition, three species of orchid were flowering: Golden Moths (*Diuris chryseopsis*), Leopard Doubletail (*Diuris pardina*) and Dusky Fingers (*Caladenia fuscatus* or *carnea*).

Thank you to the property owners for inviting us to visit your property, and Sue, for leading this very interesting field trip.

Lia Battisson



Grey Butcherbird, Rufous Whistler, Australian White Ibis



Richard Arculus



The eight card designs:

- **Australian magpie** at the National Arboretum Canberra
- **Australian white ibis** at the National Carillon, Canberra
- **Bush-stone curlews** at Mulligans Flat Woolshed
- **Crimson rosellas** at the National Gallery of Australia Skyspace
- **Galahs** at the Balloon Spectacular
- **Gang-gang cockatoos** at City Hill
- **Rainbow-crested cockatoo** at Black Mountain Tower
- **Tawny frogmouths** at Shine Dome

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Each fun and vibrant card pairs a different bird species with an iconic Canberra location. The cards are drawn by local cartoonist **Stuart McMillen**, a resident of Gorman Arts Centre, Braddon.

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Shop directly via
stuartmcmillen.com/shop

Future Field Trips

COG Trips

Each participant must register prior to their chosen trip with their name and contact number and, before proceeding on the trip, must comply with the participant's responsibilities (wording follows). An emergency contact name and phone number are required.

"I declare that I am capable of undertaking the trip having discussed with the Trip Leader any limitations I have (e.g. medications, physical), assessed the risks to myself and my property, and ensured that I am adequately equipped. I will follow the instructions of the Field Trip Leader, and advise them before moving away from the group."

New birders and visitors are welcome. If you do not have your own binoculars, COG can lend you a pair, so please advise the trip leader when you register.

Changes to trips are notified on:

the COG chatline <http://canberrabirds.org.au/publications/discussion-email-list/> and
trips page of COG website <http://canberrabirds.org.au/category/trips/>.

A reminder that COG has a long-standing policy to give **preference to members** for field trips that can accommodate only a limited number of people.

Do NOT attend if you have tested positive for Covid, have been a close contact within the past 5 days, or have any Covid, cold or flu symptoms.

Sunday 6 October – Youth Haven (restricted access), Kambah

Helen Cross, who lives on the property, will take us on a walk around. With lots of old trees, a creek and several dams, and open grasslands, as well as proximity to the river, this is a haven for many small birds and water birds. Previous visits have resulted in good bird lists. Drive in from Kambah Pool Rd, following main track around to parking area which will be signposted.

Meeting time is 8.30am.

The walk will take 2-3 hours and includes some off-track exploring. Please bring hat, water and wear sturdy shoes.

Limit of 20 participants. **Register** with Sandra at shirmax2931@gmail.com

Sandra Henderson

Saturday 12 October – Australian National Botanic Gardens – beginners' outing

This morning walk will be aimed specifically to help beginners and new members identify birds and to learn about their behaviour and calls. The Botanic Gardens are especially suitable for such an outing, as they allow the opportunity to observe a range of local bush birds in a variety of habitats. Anthony Overs will lead this outing, which will consist of a stroll through this lovely part of Canberra for a couple of hours.

Meet at 9.15am at the ANBG bus shelter.

Registration is essential; please provide your name and mobile phone number, as well as an emergency contact name and number. Book your place with Anthony (0419202155, or anthony.overs@gmail.com), who will be happy to discuss whether this outing is suitable for you. Please make sure to bring your binoculars and ACT field guide.

If you do not have binoculars, please let me know as COG can supply you with a pair to use on the day.

Note that the aim of the walk is to introduce you to **bird-watching**, not bird photography, so please leave your camera at home.

Anthony Overs

Sunday 13 October – K2C surveys, Bredbo area

COG will continue with the K2C surveys that have been running since April 2010. The surveyed properties have healthy populations of many of the rarer woodland birds such as **Diamond Firetail**, **Hooded Robin** and **Speckled Warbler**. We will be visiting the same sites to continue the monitoring and see if we can witness the spring migrations. The surveys will be undertaken in 'blitz' fashion; that is, observers in small groups will visit a number of sites on one or more properties before regrouping for lunch and a sharing of the survey's findings. Less experienced observers are welcome to join in the survey as each team will have at least one experienced observer. Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact Nicki Taws before Wednesday 9 October. Email: ntaws@bigpond.com or 0408 210 736.

Monday 14 to Sunday 20 October - Warren Wetlands, Macquarie Marshes and Gundabooka National Park – extended camping trip

An extended camping trip is planned to Warren, Macquarie Marshes and Gundabooka NP, in inland NSW. The town of Warren is north-west of Dubbo (about 470 km from Canberra), and Gundabooka National Park is another 320 km further, to the north-west. We are planning one night at a caravan park in Warren on 14 Oct and a morning exploring the fabulous wetlands on the edge of town. We will move on to Macquarie Marshes on the afternoon of 15 October, spend one night and then go on to Gundabooka NP on 16 October for 4 nights. The trip ends on Sunday 20 October. Campers are to make their own campground and caravan park bookings and ensure they have a relevant National Parks Pass. Once at Gundabooka we will be birding around the broader campground area and the subsequent days we will drive to places further in the park. We have not done a "reccie" for Gundabooka so the trip will be a bit exploratory.

To register, contact John Goldie or Kathy Walter on [walter.goldie \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:walter.goldie@gmail.com). The trip is limited to 16 people. Please DO NOT make bookings until your registration has been confirmed. Campers are to make their own campground and caravan park bookings and ensure they have a relevant NSW National Parks Pass. Campers are also to make their own arrangements for getting to and from the start/finish.

Kathy Walter and John Goldie

Sunday 20 October – private property near Bookham

This mostly forested private property adjoining the Murrumbidgee River and Burrinjuck Nature Reserve is approximately a half hour drive south of Bookham. Water, riparian and woodland birds, plus annual migrants such as **Rainbow Bee-eaters** and **Olive-backed Orioles**, are likely, and there is a good chance of seeing raptors.

This day trip involves walking about 7.5 km on a property vehicle track which is rough and steep in places.

We will carpool from Hall Primary School, **leaving at 7.30am** and the intention is to be back at Hall about 3 pm. We will take a maximum of 16 people in 4 cars. Suggested contribution by passengers is \$10; please have the correct money. **Bring** morning tea and lunch, water, sturdy footwear, appropriate clothing and sun protection.

Registration is essential to sonyaduus@gmail.com with your name, suburb and phone number, and name and number of an emergency contact. We will notify via text message the previous night if the outing needs to be cancelled due to poor weather.

Sonya Duus and Michael Robbins

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October – 2024 Bird Blitz

See notice elsewhere in this edition and check the website.



LET'S CATCH UP

Please join us for an informal
Canberra Birds social evening at the

Unfortunately, due to lack
of interest this event has
been cancelled moving
forward.

Image by Cape Koala Arts ©

Sunday 3 November – Callum Brae NR

Meet at 8am at the entry to Callum Brae Nature Reserve on Narrabundah Lane. Callum Brae is a Red Gum/Yellow Box woodland with several old farm dams. It is a COG woodland survey area, with a wide range of woodland birds.

Wear sturdy shoes, and bring a hat, water and sunscreen. There is some parking at the entry, and an informal carpark on the other side of the road.

Register with Sandra at shirmax2931@gmail.com

Sandra Henderson

Sunday 10 November — Campbell Park, Morning Nest workshop

Description: This outing will be a repeat of the very popular and practical nest workshops held over for over twenty years. As usual it will be a very informal outing which has been timed to coincide with the peak of the breeding season. The morning will start with the usual very short presentation, including tips on the types of nests built by different species of birds, and how to find nests or nesting behaviour. This will be followed by several hours putting this into practice, with participants looking for breeding behaviour, signs of nests etc. This will also allow plenty of opportunities for bird watching.

The workshop is particularly suitable for beginners or those relatively new to bird watching, though more experienced members and repeat customers are also very welcome.

Proposed attendees are reminded of *the care that needs to be taken around breeding birds as outlined the new COG Ethical Birding Guidelines which can be found through the link on the Home Page of the Canberra Birds web site ([Ethical Birding Guidelines - Canberra Birds](#), in particular please read and follow the sections on Nesting Birds and Bird Photography).*

Walking distance: While every year has been different, we often don't walk very far as there usually is a "hot spot" where most of the breeding activity occurs around 500 m from where we park. Maximum distance = 2.0 km of easy flat walking.

End Time: Between 11 am and 12 pm. Please remember to take morning tea which we will have out in the field.

Meeting time and place: Meet at 8:00 am at the far end of the car park. Take Northcott Drive up to the start of the Campbell Park Offices, where you take the right fork and keep to the outside of the very large car park, skirting it until you get to the end. Intending participants might also like to look at the Campbell Park map on the COG web site under the Maps, Forms and Lists button.

Name of leader and contact details: Registration is essential no later than Friday 8 November. To participate, please contact Jack Holland by E-mail on jandaholland@bigpond.com – please include your mobile and emergency contact name and numbers. Could any new members who need to borrow binoculars please advise when you register?

Sunday 17 November – private property near Tharwa

Details will be published on the website closer to the date.

Sue Genner

Sunday 24 November - Rye Park, Phils Creek TSR and Pudman TSR

Phils Creek and Pudman TSRs are woodlands where **Eastern Shrike-tit**, **Little Friarbird**, **Jacky Winter** and **Brown Treecreeper** have been seen. Grassy Creek Road between Rye Park and Rugby is good for **Fairy Martins**, raptors and **Australasian Pipits**.



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Fred & Jeanette Birkbeck

244 Clacherty Road
Julatten QLD 4871
Tel: 07 4094 1665

Email: freddy@feathersnfriends.com.au

Meeting time and place: Hall Primary School in Hoskins St Hall at 7.30 am for carpooling. Suggested contribution to driver, \$10. Please bring correct money.

Walking distance: Phils Creek 2 km, other sites 0.4 km.

Degree of difficulty: easy

End time: 4.00 pm at Hall Primary School

What to bring: water, morning tea, lunch, sunscreen, water, sturdy shoes, hat. We will have lunch at H.E.A. Dunkley Park in Boorowa.

Participants must register with the leader by email at bsgraham1948@icloud.com no later than Friday 22 November, providing their name and mobile number, and the name and mobile number of an emergency contact. Numbers limited to 16.

Bill Graham

Sunday 1 December – Aranda Bushland NR – beginners' outing

This morning walk will be aimed specifically to help beginners and new members identify bush birds and to learn about their behaviour and calls. The spring migrants will have returned and hopefully we will be able to find **Olive-backed Oriole, Noisy Friarbird, Dollarbird and Leaden Flycatcher**, as well as the resident species.

Registration is essential; please provide your name and mobile phone number, as well as an emergency contact name and number. Book your place with Sue (email smlashko@gmail.com) who will be happy to discuss whether this outing is suitable for you. Please make sure to bring your binoculars and ACT field guide. **If you do not have binoculars, please let me know as COG can supply you with a pair to use on the day.**

Note that the aim of the walk is to introduce you to bird-watching, not bird photography, so please leave your camera at home.

Sue Lashko, Michael Robbins



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Image Credit: Alan Landford

Canberra Birds Conservation Fund

Donations to this fund are tax deductible. Funds are used to support projects that protect and enhance native birds and the environments that sustain them.

COG membership

2024-2025 memberships:

- Individual: \$50
- Family: \$55
- Institution: \$50
- School student (under 18) \$20

New members

COG welcomes the following new members:

M Fluke
R Clarke
J Newnham
P Masterman

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Deadline for November 2024 edition:

Wednesday 30 October 2024

Please send articles, advertisements, updates etc. to the Editors at:

gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au

or

c/- The Secretary, COG,

PO Box 331, Jamison Centre, ACT 2614.

Articles should be less than 500 words (300 for reports of 1-day field trips) except by prior arrangement with the editor.

Photographs (prints or electronic) with or without articles are encouraged.

COG information

President: Neil Hermes

0413 828 045

president@canberrabirds.org.au

Treasurer: Vacant

cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au

Secretary: Margaret Robertson

cogoffice@canberrabirds.org.au

Address for correspondence

The Secretary
COG, PO Box 331
Jamison Centre, ACT 2614

Canberra Bird Notes

Editor: Michael Lenz

michael.lenz.birds@gmail.com

Sub-editor: Kevin Windle

Kevin.Windle@anu.edu.au

COG website

canberrabirds.org.au

COG Webmaster

Julian Robinson

cogwebmaster@canberrabirds.org.au

COG library

Membership Enquiries & Updates:

membership@canberrabirds.org.au

for change of address or other details.

Gang-gang Newsletter

Editor: Zac Flegg

Lay-out Editor: Gail Neumann

gang-gang@canberrabirds.org.au

COG E-mail Discussion List

COG E-mail Discussion List COG has an email discussion list for members and friends: 'CanberraBirds'. Join (subscribe to) the list by following the links on the COG website or by sending an email message to canberrabirds-subscribe@lists.canberrabirds.org.au. The subject line and body of the email can be empty.

To unsubscribe, either permanently or temporarily, send an email message to canberrabirds-unsubscribe@lists.canberrabirds.org.au.

If you wish to re-subscribe after being unsubscribed temporarily, simply follow the 'subscribe' instructions above.

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