

WINGSPAN BIRD TOURS

IN

AUSTRALIA



TRIP REPORT

OCTOBER 23RD – NOVEMBER 13TH 2016

LEADERS: BOB BUCKLER, BARRY DAVIES, ROB GRIFFIN

PARTICIPANTS: BOB LONGHORN, REG COX, DAVID ROBERTS, MIKE & LORNA TAYLOR, TOM & STEPHANIE GREEN, HELEN STEDMAN, JEFF BAILEY & MIKE AMBLER

DAY 1 – OCTOBER 23rd 2016 - NORTH QUEENSLAND

CAIRNS BEACH FRONT & MANGROVE SWAMP – REDDEN ISLAND – MACHAN BEACH – CAIRNS CENTENARY LAKES – CAIRNS CEMETERY

WEATHER: hot, dry, humid at times with some cloud cover. Top temp 30C.

The tour officially started at 6:30am as we all gathered in the foyer of the hotel, we were met by Barry Davis our guide for the next two weeks. We were excited and full of anticipation for our first birding excursion. Most of the group had arrived a few days prior to today and despite a sizeable list of species being amassed during those days we wiped the slate clean and began again from now, it was quite fitting that the first bird we saw as we made our way on foot towards the esplanade was the very common and most colourful Rainbow Lorikeet.



White-breasted Woodswallow

We arrived minutes later at the sea-front after watching White-rumped Swiftlets, White-breasted Woodswallows, Pied Imperial Pigeon and the tiny Peaceful Dove along the way. The tide was half way out and -the exposed mud-flats had hundreds of waders feeding on them. The giant Eastern Curlew towered above the diminutive Red-necked Stint whilst many Great Knot were used as a 'yard stick' from which to measure all the other mid-height species against.

Apart from the usual wader species which were made up of godwits, tattlers and sandpipers we saw Greater & Lesser Sandpipers, Pacific Golden Plover, Terek Sandpiper, Australian Pelican and an Osprey. The bushes in the parkland immediately beyond the beach were alive with bird calls and movement, we found Yellow and Varied Honeyeaters, Olive-backed Sunbird, Nutmeg Mannikin (aka Scaly-breasted Munia) and lots of Willy Wagtails, Magpie Larks and Masked Plovers.

We made our way to the mangrove swamp and found it to be far less productive than our previous visits over the last few days. But Barry our guide knew of a nest site of the tiny Double-eyed Fig Parrot and sure enough we had wonderful views of a pair of them. We also logged Collared Kingfisher, Large-billed Gerygone (also visiting a nest), Olive-backed Oriole, Figbird and the recently named Hornbill Friarbird (a split from Helmeted Friarbird).

From there we walked back into Cairns for breakfast at the hotel, we reconvened at 10am when we boarded our bus and drove north to Redden Island at Machan Beach. It was hot and sunny with a cooling breeze coming in off the sea. Our target bird was soon found as two Beach Stone Curlews were sighted across a river mouth. We also logged Black Kite, Common Greenshank, Terek Sandpiper, Whimbrel, Pacific Reef & Intermediate Egret and plenty of common wading birds. Our search for Red-capped Plover went unrewarded but we did see hundreds of other waders.

The Cattana Wetlands Nature Reserve consists of a series of pools and surrounding scrub, woodland and mangrove swamp. We walked onto the reserve and spent a long time getting nowhere because so many birds were popping out from the scrub or sitting out on the water.



Double-eyed Fig Parrot

I think the group mostly enjoyed Little Bronze Cuckoo, Comb-crested Jacana, Green Pygmy Goose, Little Pied Cormorant and Varied Triller. After a long walk we decided to head off the reserve along a back track which took us through some scrubland with small, open pools. It was there that we found the delightful Red-backed Fairy Wren, Black-banded Dotterel and a couple of superb Sharp-tailed Sandpipers.

Back in Cairns we had lunch at a small restaurant in the suburbs and for the last couple of hours we visited the Centenary Lakes and the large cemetery. At the lakes we enjoyed watching a Mistletoe Bird visiting its nest, the nest was a hanging ball made of spider's webs intricately woven into the most beautiful nest I have ever seen!

Some of the group had previously found a Papuan Frogmouth sitting on its nest on the edge of the largest lake, it took a while to relocate it but when we did we all were amazed by the cryptic camouflage of this strange bird's plumage. During the remainder of the walk we added Brahminy Kite and not much else.

Our final hour was spent walking through the cemetery where good numbers of birds were seen, in particular, we saw a dozen or so of Bush Stone Curlews, also lots of Rainbow Bee-eaters, Rainbow Lorikeets, Sulphur Crested Cockatoo, Varied Triller, Olive-backed Sunbirds and some very aggressive Masked Plovers.

We jumped back on the bus after watching Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike near the exit gate, our last bird of the day. We drove back to hotel and dispersed for a break before dinner at 7pm.

DAY 2 – OCTOBER 24TH 2016 - NORTH QUEENSLAND

CAIRNS ESPLANADE - GREAT BARRIER REEF AT MICHAELMAS CAY

WEATHER: Windy all day, cloudy with light showers, some sunshine. temp around 16C-20C

An early breakfast was followed by a short drive to the marina where we had time for a quick look at the low tide mud-flats. As usual the area was covered in birds, mostly waders but to our great delight we found White-faced Heron, Striated Heron, Great White Egret, Little Egret and Australian Pelican. Two Little Terns flew along the shoreline and several species flitted about in the park behind the beach.

At 8:30am we set off on the Tour-boat noting Crested Terns in the harbour and not much else, in fact, we didn't see much for the first hour of the trip. As we approached the Cay we started seeing Common Booby's, Brown Noddys, Sooty Terns and both Crested and Lesser Crested Terns.

We arrived at the Cay around 11:30am which consisted of a raised sand-bank about 800 meters long by 100 meters wide. It was covered in a mass of birds, the noise and the smell was quite noticeable as we were down wind, the sky was alive with movement. A Greater Frigatebird was circling over the bird colonies causing quite a panic in the tern colonies as this huge predator is likely to take their chicks.



Brown Booby

The Cay at just 3-5 meter high has very little vegetation so the birds nest in hollows amongst large dead-tree debris and allow a very close approach, human visitors are kept within a roped-off area.

Over the next 5 hours we had a variety of activities to choose from, Scuba diving, Snorkeling, Glass Bottomed Boat cruise or just relaxing on the boat. A ferry service to the Cay ran every 20 minutes we all opted for a visit to get a closer look at the birds. It was uncomfortable on the Cay as the strong wind whipped up the sand particles and sand-blasted us!



A view of the Michaelmas Cay with its colony of birds

Most of the group went on a glass-bottomed boat trip and we all went on a 'Round-the-Cay' tour to get closer to the birds on the other side. Some great sightings were made from this boat-trip around the island, especially Terns. We

added Black-naped Tern, Common Tern, and had great views of Lesser and Crested Terns. We also saw Bar-tailed Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone and a Sacred Kingfisher tried to land on our boat!

Back on the main boat we scanned the terns for new species and found Gull-billed Tern and a Bridled Tern which was perched on a buoy, smashing.

Our return trip was very choppy at times, many people suffered sea-sickness including one or two of our group. It was getting dark when we docked so we drove straight back to the hotel.

For dinner we walked to a restaurant on the Esplanade, many Flying Foxes (huge fruit-eating bats) were flying around and we saw several Bush Stone Curlews on our return walk around 9pm.

A short bird log followed, everyone had enjoyed the trip but were very tired by now and we all retired early.

DAY 3 – OCTOBER 25TH 2016 - NORTH QUEENSLAND

TRANSFER FROM CAIRNS TO ATHERTON TABLELANDS WITH STOPS AT: CAIRNS MANGROVES – DAVIES CREEK – HASTIES SWAMP – HYPIDOME NATIONAL PARK – BROMFIELD CRATER

Weather: a bright start, cloudy later, Temp. ranged from 25C to 15C

After a very early breakfast we packed up the bus and set off on our way to Atherton, we made planned stops at the Mangrove Swamp, a small park and a shopping centre before we hit the road and left town at 10am. At the mangroves, the target bird, Mangrove Robin, failed to turn up and our search in the park failed to produce a sighting of a Rufous Owl! Nevertheless, we recorded many species including a few additions to our list including our first Laughing Kookaburra which did actually laugh!

We drove for an hour up over the hills inland towards Atherton, the landscape changed as we got up onto 'tablelands, the habitat transformed too, from wet tropical forest to dry open forest. It was hot as we stepped off the bus at Davies Creek which is found deep into a eucalyptus dry forest.

A pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles circled high above us as we emerged from the bus and as we approached the boulder-strewn creek we saw a pair of Leaden Flycatchers. A short search produced our target species the White-browed Robin and a second search for Rufous Owl produced a number of Northern Fantails, Pale-headed Rosella, but not the Owl.

We ate lunch at the picnic site adjacent to the car park before driving onto our next destination Hypipomee National Park. Barry our guide drove us along a road where he regularly sees Red-tailed Black Cockatoos, we spent a while looking from the bus and eventually found a flock of about 50 of them. We also logged Australian Great Bustard, Pied Currawong, Crested Dove, Black Kite and lots of common species as we drove to Hasties Swamp.



Bar-breasted Cuckoo-Shrike

What a great disappointment Hasties Swamp was, the water level was so low that hardly any ducks were present! Last time I visited it was chock-a-block with ducks. Despite the lack of water about a 1000 Plumed Whistling Ducks loafed in the water and we saw about 5 Whistling Kites, they were feeding on dead Whistling Ducks which seemed to be all over the place. We added to our list Australian Swamphen, Buff-banded Rail, Pied (White-headed) Stilt, Silvereye, Eastern Yellow Robin, Chestnut-breasted Mannikin and several Australian Pelicans that sat on the water.

We moved back into tropical forest as we approached Hypipomee national park, our target species was the Golden Bowerbird, Barry led us straight to its 'bower' and located the stunning male bird not far away, what a cracking bird! Our walk around the trails produced a number of other new bird sightings, Bridled Honeyeater, White-throated Treecreeper, Top-knot Pigeon (fly over), Wompoo Pigeon (heard), Victoria Riflebird (heard), Grey Headed Robin and a flock of Pied Currawongs.

One trail led us to a huge open sink hole, a small lake had formed at the base of this 'pit' and to our great surprise a Platypus was swimming around in it, fantastic!



Plumed Whistling Duck

Back on the road we saw a single Torresian Crow, several Crested Pigeons and more Pied Currawongs.

Our last stop before dark was a huge natural crater called Bromfield, the base of this magnificent caldera had a series of pools and lots of wet scrub. it is a well-known roost site of both Sarus and Brolga Cranes. The viewing area on the side of the road was perfect for scoping the whole crater area, we found 7 Brolga Cranes, a dozen Swamphens, another Buff-banded Rail, Black Duck, Dusky Moorhen and half a dozen Australasian Grebes.

We reached our lodge around 6pm, we watched Barred Cuckoo-Shrike from the car park before settling into our rooms. We then went into the town of Maranda, for dinner. On our return to the lodge we saw Bandicoot in the road and from a purpose-built viewing platform we watched several Possums before going to bed.

DAY 4 – OCTOBER 26TH 2016 - N. QUEENSLAND

CHAMBERS LODGE – LAKE BARRINE – YUNGABURRA CREEK – WONGABEL FOREST – NERADA TEA PLANTATION

Weather: dry, sunny & warm all day. Top temp 28C

It was the mammals that grabbed the headlines today, over the last 24 hours we have seen a good selection of nocturnal animals with Platypus stealing the show and Tree Kangaroo coming a close second.

We had breakfast at 6am and met in the car park at 7am in preparation for our daily excursion, many birds were calling from the forest and feeding on nectar in the flowering shrubs in the gardens. We listed several Honeyeaters with Lewin's, Bridled, Yellow-faced and Macleay's being the most common. We also watched Black-faced Monarch and several other species already listed, it was excellent birding even before we set off!

Our first destination was the natural crater-lake at Barrine, we were hoping to see Victoria Riflebirds performing their incredible display but after searching the car park area we realised that none were there. However a number of other birds were present, Eastern Spinetbill was a beauty as was Golden Whistler, whilst Large-billed Scrubwren and some of the honeyeaters were quite plain!



Tree Kangaroo

We listed Great Crested Grebe (over 80 of them), Australian Pelican, Pacific Black Duck, Common Coot, Little Pied Cormorant and Intermediate Egret on or around the lake before we set off on a walk into the forest.



Many species could be heard deep in the forest we managed to track down quite few, such as Wompoo Fruit-Dove, Spotted Catbird, Tooth-billed Catbird (Bowerbird), Yellow-breasted Boatbill and Pale-Yellow Robin but the Riflebird remained elusive. We also had several sightings of the tiny Musky Rat-Kangaroo!

From lake Barrine we drove to Wongabel Forest stopping at the famous Cathedral Tree along the way. This huge tree has root vines growing down from all its branches forming a spectacular 'curtain' around its base, it is a very popular tourist site with a boardwalk all around it. Several good birds were seen around the tree with Eastern Whipbird, Pied Monarch, Bower's Shrike-Thrush, Grey Fantail and Pale Yellow Robin all showing well.

Lewin's Honeyeater

At Wongabel Forest we spent some time walking the main trail, again the forest was alive with bird calls, but birds were hard to see. We managed views of Grey Fantail, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Tooth-billed Bowerbird near its bower, both Atherton and

Large-billed Scrubwrens, Brown and Fairy Gerygones were common and we found a flock of Red-browed Firetails in the car park on our return.

Just after leaving the forest we made a quick stop at Yungaburra Creek and to everyone's great satisfaction we located a couple of local celebrities, the PLATYPUS, what a show they put on, one of them even came out of the water and sat on a log. Whilst there we also saw Laughing Kookaburra, Grey Goshawk, Cattle Egret, Nankeen Kestrel and we heard Scarlet Honeyeater but couldn't find it.

We drove to Nerada Tea Plantation for a late lunch and in the strip of woodland along the entrance drive we watched several butterfly species and to our great delight we located one of our 'most-wanted' mammals, TREE KANGAROO, it was such a delight to see this species.

After our late-lunch we drove back to our lodge for a break we arrived at 4pm. Barry our guide suggested putting out bananas on our verandah to attract birds. Most of us 'pulled' in a common local bird, I got Lewin's Honeyeater but Helen & Jeff attracted a male Riflebird and had the photograph to prove it!

We left at 6pm to drive into Yungaburra for dinner but our birding wasn't over yet! Along the way Barry took us to a site for Grass Owls and Black Shouldered Kites, we saw several kites in good light and a couple of owls in very bad light. We also had sightings of Golden-headed Cisticola, Nankeen Kestrel and Spectacled Flying Fox (no I hadn't been drinking, I did see a Fox, flying, whilst wearing spectacles!!).

After a typical pub dinner we drove back to the lodge noting Red-legged Pademelon and a Common-Brushtail Possum along the way back.

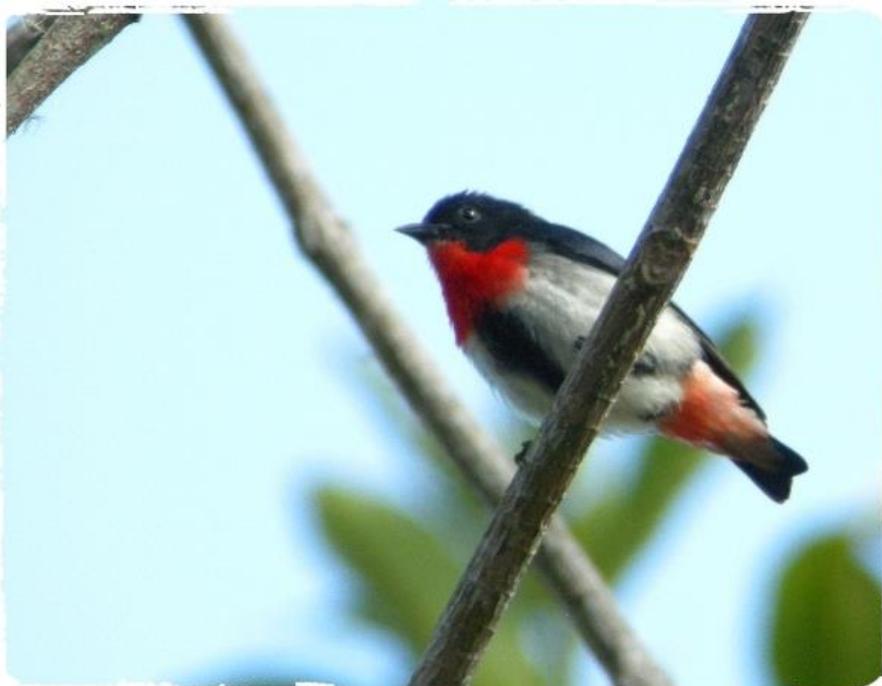
DAY 5 – OCTOBER 27TH 2016 - N. QUEENSLAND

CHAMBERS LODGE - LAKE EACHAM – MAREEBA – LAKE MITCHELL – MOUNT MOLLOY – MOUNT CARBINE PARK – ABATTOIR SWAMP – KINGFISHER LODGE.

Weather: dry, sunny, hot, but breezy. Top temp 30C

Today we transferred from the Atherton area and drove north to Julatten making many scheduled stops along the way. We listed lots of new species and saw a dramatic change in the landscape.

We started with an early breakfast and then a stroll around the grounds of our wonderful lodge, all the usual bird species performed well including very close encounters with Spotted Catbird, Victoria's Riflebird, Lewin's Honeyeater and Laughing Kookaburra. We added Black-faced Monarch and White-headed Pigeon just before we left.



Mistletoe Bird

Our first stop was the lake at Eacham we arrived as early as we could in the hope of finding Chowchilla and possibly a Fernwren, we saw neither but enjoyed a morning walk in the forest listening to the dawn chorus. We saw Tooth-billed Bowerbird singing its heart out and a Bower's Shrike-thrush delivering a wonderful melodic song. We saw Grey & Northern Fantails, lots of common Honeyeaters and we finished off with a nice sighting of two Fan-tailed Cuckoos. Around the car-park picnic areas we saw Mistletoebird, Figbird, Olive-backed Oriole and more Honeyeaters.



We moved on to the Mareeba area, stopping to look at both species of Crane, Brolga & Sarus, they were feeding in a ploughed field. Just passed Mareeba we stopped to look over part of Lake Mitchell, where a number of species were feeding on the water or in the marshes. Our first Black Swans were seen in good numbers, we also saw a single Caspian Tern, three White-bellied Sea-Eagles, lots of Black Kites, egrets, cormorants and Magpie Geese but very few ducks.

We also stopped in a wooded area to look for Little Eagles, we found nesting Black Kites, a Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike also on its nest, Forest Kingfisher, Lemon-bellied Flycatcher but no sign of the eagles.

Next we stopped in the village of Mount Molloy, first for coffee and later for lunch. Our coffee stop produced several species including a few new ones. Little Friar, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet and Rufous Whistler to name but a few. Whilst eating our lunch we added Blue-faced Honeyeater and watched a group of the most beautiful Rainbow Lorikeet.

Tawny Frogmouth

For the afternoon birding we drove further north to Mount Carbine stopping once in a side-road to search for Australian Bustard. We saw four or five of

these magnificent beasts with a couple of the males very close to the roadside. Next we stopped at the Carbine caravan park and spent a good hour walking through the trees, it was very productive. Our main target species was the Tawny Frogmouth, this strange animal looks almost prehistoric we saw a pair, one of them was on its nest.

The Great Bowerbird was another of our targets, we found the bower but it took a while for the male to return, he was fantastic. A perfect bower must be kept tidy at all times, he flew down and began tidying both ends, his collection of display-items were all shiny and white, mainly stones but also plastic tops, small bits of glass and bottle tops.

Other species seen in the caravan park were: Pale-headed Parakeets, Red-winged Parrots, both Black-faced and White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrikes, Little & Noisy Friarbirds and a several species mentioned earlier.

Next, we turned around and headed back south turning off towards Julatten just before we re-entered Mt. Molloy, we stopped at a little reserve called Abattoir Swamp. It was very windy there we only saw a few birds, Mistletoe Bird, Graceful Honeyeater, Rufous Whistler and a few common species like Willy Wagtail. A short boardwalk led us to a hide which overlooked the swamp which was virtually dry and bird-less.

Lastly, we stopped at a well-known area to look for Blue-faced Parrot-Finch without success, but we did see a number of other birds, including the beautiful White-cheeked Honeyeater and some Topknot Pigeons.

We arrived at Kingfisher Park around 5pm and settled into our rooms, some of the group just relaxed, others went walking in the grounds, it is a wonderful venue for birding groups with large forested grounds, an orchard, a stream where Platypus is seen regularly and many bird feeders near the apartments. At 6:30pm we drove to a large pub a

couple of clicks along the road for dinner, I was in bed by 9:30pm! Our list of species is approaching the 180 mark after 5 days in the field.

DAY 6 – OCTOBER 28TH 2016 - NORTH QUEENSLAND

MOUNT LEWIS – CHAMBERS LODGE – SIDES ROAD

Weather excellent! Sunshine all day, breezy in the afternoon. Top temp 28C

It was a quiet, subdued day with plenty of rest time and only a half-day birding but we turned up some real goodies! After a 6am breakfast we assembled at the bus for the drive to the top of Mount Lewis, the approach track is in much better condition these days and our 21 seater bus had no problem getting up there.

Several sightings of birds were made as we climbed up, we did stop to look for both Fernwren and Blue-faced Parrot-Finch without success. We stopped at an open area at the top and spent some time searching the grassy area for Parrot-Finch but only came up with several species of Honeyeater and some great views of Cairn's Birdwing Butterfly the male is strikingly beautiful.



White-lipped Tree Frog

A track into the forest leads you uphill for quite a way then goes down a gentle slope to a small lake, we followed this track all the way, some 2km. It was very typical rain forest birding, the densely-packed trees made it difficult to see anything, so despite many species calling we saw very few species.

White-throated Scrubwren seemed locally common as did Mountain Thornbill and four or five species of Honeyeater, namely: Lewin's, Bridled, Graceful, Yellow-spotted and Macleay's. We finally bumped into a small party of Chowchillas, these enigmatic creatures live in the leaf litter and rarely leave it, this makes it extremely difficult to see them. We found 3 but not all of the group saw them.

Tooth-billed Bowerbird was seen again as was Spotted Catbird and more Mountain Thornbills, we found a large Red-bellied Black Snake at the lake. On our way back down the track a second party of Chowchillas showed much better to those that were willing to wait.

Before we returned to the lodge for lunch we stopped off at a site where very large fig trees were fruiting, we found several Chanel-billed Cuckoos, these huge birds completely overshadowed a bunch of Topknot Pigeons that were feeding in the same tree.

Our lunch was a picnic-style affair we ate outside in the camp-site area and after a break we met at 3:30pm for a short birding excursion, for which most of the group turned out. Two main target species determined where we went, the first being Cotton Pygmy Goose for which we looked for along a nearby track where a series of ponds looked like promising habitat. At the ponds we listed several species including Wandering Whistling-Duck and a Brown Quail (which was flushed by one of the group). The goose was never found.

We re-visited the woodland area along 'Sides Road' to look for the Blue-faced Parrot-Finch. During winter these little beauties feed at ground level in dense vegetation within the forest eating seeds from a particular plant species. At Sides Road this plant is abundant so we were hopeful of seeing one. However, after looking for nearly an hour we almost gave up when Reg and Mike (T) got onto a small flock of them, they didn't show that well but we all saw at least one male and two female birds.

After that excitement we returned to the lodge where we visited a pond in the extensive grounds in the hope of seeing Red-necked Crake which failed to show and just before we went to dinner we walked to a nearby site to watch Barn Owls, which did show.

At 7:30pm we set off for dinner at the same pub as last night, tomorrow we drive northward along the coast to Daintree.

DAY 7 – OCTOBER 29TH 2016 - NORTH QUEENSLAND

KINGFISHER PARK -GERAGHTY PARK -WETHERBY ROAD DAM – PINNACLE ROAD – MOSSMAN – HOOKABARRA – RED MILL HOUSE – STEWART CREEK ROAD

WEATHER: Sunny, hot, humid at times, cloudy later. Top temp 32C

We met nice and early for a stroll around the grounds of Kingfisher Park it was just light as we gathered at 6am, it was a beautiful, clear morning with no breeze and warm enough to walk out wearing tee-shirt and shorts, perfect. Our first encounter was with a flock of over 40 Topknot Pigeons, they were feeding in the canopy of a fruiting fig tree, we also heard a Wompoo Fruit Dove calling and small flocks of Metallic Starlings were zooming across the sky overhead.



Blue-winged Kookaburra

At a small pond we waited in hope of a sighting of the 'local' Red-necked Crake but all got was an Emerald Dove, Pale-Yellow Robin, two Orange-footed Scrubfowl and a few Honeyeaters. Our walk took us out of the grounds along a lane to some open meadows and farm buildings, we watched Channel-billed Cuckoos flying over as well as Rainbow Lorikeets, Sulphur Crested Cockatoos, Australian Swiftlets, and several other species. Two of us saw a Red-necked Crake scramble across the road behind us.

A very tall fig tree provided a home for a large colony of Metallic Starlings, both beautiful and boisterous these busy birds demanded our attention and fully merited our admiration. A bonus was the finding of our first Blue-winged Kookaburra, another beauty and a great find by Stephanie.

After breakfast we packed our luggage onto the bus, said goodbye to the owners at Kingfisher Park and set off for Daintree, we took a round-about route because we wanted to search for several species in the area. We made lots of stops and our list of destinations was extensive so I'll only mention some of the best.

From Mt. Molloy Bridge we drove onto to dirt tracks and stopped to watch a few raptors, a Brown Falcon was the best of the bunch but we also saw White-bellied Sea Eagle, Whistling Kite and lots of Black Kites.

A large roadside pool held many birds, we added Straw-necked Ibis to our list and to our great delight another crane went on the list, this time it was Baillon's Crane. Other interesting species seen were: Royal Spoonbill, Comb-crested Jacana, Great & Intermediate Egrets, Australasian Grebe and lots of Wandering Whistling Ducks.

Other stops failed to produce new species, some of us saw a Noisy Pitta, we all saw Australian Bustard and lots of Fairy Martins. We stopped in Mossman for lunch before taking the coast road to Daintree. A quick stop at Hookaburra Fish Farm gave us the opportunity to see some waders, we listed Common Sandpiper, Pied Stilt, Pacific Golden Plover, Masked Plover and several egrets.



Metallic Starling at the communal nest

We arrived at Red Mill House in Daintree at 2pm and received a lovely welcome from Trish and Andrew our hosts, we had a quick coffee after settling into our rooms and by 3:30pm we were off birding, it had become quite cloudy and some tropical rain fell for about 10 minutes.

Stewart Creek Road is a dirt track that follows the Stewart Creek it cuts through miles of pastureland surrounded by low-lying rounded hills which are covered in forest. We stopped to watch a few species, Australasian Pipit (formerly Richard's Pipit) was seen well as was several Forest Kingfishers, Pied Imperial Pigeons and many Bar-shouldered Doves flew up off the track.

Our main target bird was the Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher, a must-see migrant species that had been sighted recently along this track, we never it found on this first attempt but I'm sure we will be back. We did find our first Cicadabird, we heard many Green Orioles, Monarchs appeared also Varied Triller and a list of other species. A dozen or so of Spectacled Bats hung above us along the woodland track.

We were back at Red Mill House by 5pm and went out for dinner at 6:30pm. I had the best beef steak that I've tasted in a long time, others agreed, the Barramundi was excellent too!

DAY 8 – OCTOBER 30TH 2016 - NORTH QUEENSLAND

RIVER DAINTREE BOAT TRIP – CAPE TRIBULATION -COOPER'S CREEK – MARRJA MANGROVE BOARDWALK – JINDALBA BOARDWALK

WEATHER: cloudy all morning, brighter later, hot and humid. Temp 32C

It was a day of two halves, the morning boat cruise was full of sightings whilst our afternoon visit out to the Cape Tribulation peninsular was bereft of birds.

An early start before breakfast saw us down at the quayside at 6:15am in preparation for our river cruise, it was warm but overcast. We notched a few species before we boarded, Green Oriole, Figbird, Rainbow Lorikeets, Metallic Starlings and others were seen in the trees around the car park.

We were welcomed aboard by 'Sauce' our skipper (his surname is Worcester) who quickly got us going up river and into a side stream. We found Azure Kingfisher very quickly followed by Shining Flycatcher, those two gems were the best of a bunch of sightings during the first hour.



Azure Kingfisher – taken by Bob Longhorn

Snakes were grabbing more attention than birds, we were shown first a 3 meter long Amethystine Python, which sat in a tree above our heads then a Green Tree-Snake at eye level. The latter is a beauty and non-venomous. A few more birds made it onto our list as Sauce showed us two Papuan Frogmouths sitting on nests, he pointed out that a number of other species like to build their nests right next to the Frogmouth for reasons unknown, the two Frogmouth nests we saw had a Figbird's nest and a Hornbill Friarbird's nest for company!

The best bird sighting of the boat trip came in the latter part of the trip when a Black Bittern flushed from thick cover, it perched a little distance from us and we all had great views of it. Other notable sightings were made of White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Salt Water Crocodile and not much else.



Green Vine-Snake

We had a lovely breakfast at Red Mill House and assembled at 10am for our day's excursion to Cape Tribulation. After crossing the river Daintree by Ferry we made our first stop at Cooper's Creek we walked along the beach to the river mouth hoping to see Red-capped Plover and Beach Stone-Curlew, we saw the former with Greater Sand Plover. Out on a small island we saw two Reef Egrets and a flock of Sooty Terns before we set off.

The next two hours was spent visiting two contrasting areas of the Cape, the first was a mangrove swamp where we had our picnic lunch before taking a lovely walk along a well-used boardwalk. Not many birds were to be seen, if any, but it was interesting to see so many different species of Mangrove trees and to read the information boards.

Lastly we took a walk along another well-maintained boardwalk into the tropical forest, we saw more birds in the car park than in the forest. The best of the sightings was a pair of Wompoo Doves, stunning birds found by Lorna who incidentally was celebrating her 45th wedding anniversary with Mike, well done on both counts!

We returned to Red Mill House at 5pm and had dinner at the local restaurant at 6:30pm I guess I was in bed by 9pm again.

DAY 9 – OCTOBER 31ST 2016 - N. QUEENSLAND

RED MILL HOUSE – STEWART CREEK ROAD – MOSSMAN (STARLING COLONY) – TJAPUKAI CULTURAL CENTRE – BARRON'S FOREST ESTATE – CAIRNS ESPLANADE & MANGROVE

WEATHER: Hot, dry & humid, sunny all day. Temp 30C

We transferred from Daintree back to Cairns making several stops along the way but even before we set off we had a date with a Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher. We set off at 6am for the short drive to Stewart's Creek Road it was glorious morning, clear sky and no wind. A Pheasant Coucal showed well in a roadside tree, this was the first good view of this species we had had so far.



Cassowary

We searched the wooded track for about an hour hoping for the Kingfisher to appear but no sight nor sound of this elusive gem was had. Not to be deterred we walked a couple of side tracks and found other species, the Lovely Fairy Wren is an absolute beauty a small flock of them entertained us for a while. Cicadabirds showed better than before as did Fairy Gerygones. Other species listed included: Green Oriole, Figbird, Rufous Fantail, Varied Triller, Spectacled Monarch and Olive-backed Sunbird.

We bumped into a photographer who had seen the prized Kingfisher a little while earlier so we walked to the spot he directed us to. Sure enough, at least two birds were there, they called constantly from within dense forest but neither of them showed even though one of them came very close to us!! How frustrating was that?

After another superb breakfast (almost a full-English), served up by Trish and Andrew our perfect hosts, we set off for the drive south making our first stop at Mossman. Just behind the Mossman main street and very close to a sugar beet processing plant we watched a large Metallic Starling nesting colony, these birds looked stunning in the morning sunlight with their iridescent plumage reflecting green, purple and midnight blue.

Views of the stunning Queensland coastline could be had from various view-points along the main road, we pulled over on a couple of occasions, at the first we saw a Crocodile swimming offshore, it was about 800 meters from the

shore, scary stuff! Our second rest-stop produced sightings of a Sooty Oystercatcher, what a star, this bird posed nicely for the cameras.

Just north of Cairns you can find the Sky-Rail and the Aboriginal Cultural Centre called Tjapukai, we opted for the cultural centre where we had lunch and a two-hour guided tour. We were given the opportunity to refine our boomerang and spear throwing skills as well as being entertained with a dance and music show and mini-cultural lectures, the whole experience really was interesting and informative but a little like a 'disney-world' show.



Coastal views near Mossman

At 3pm we drove up the hill towards Karunda turning off near the top onto to a private estate where we were met by Perry a good friend of Barry's our guide. We took the bus onto this 100 acre forested estate and within minutes we were watching a Cassowary! The bird came very close and over the next hour we had several sightings of this magnificent female, we also saw a smaller male bird a little later. A pair of Bush Stone Curlews also showed well, they hissed at us when we got to close. Well what a great experience for us all and a sighting we are unlikely to top!

We left Perry at 5pm and dropped down to Cairns where we visited the mangrove swamp once more to try to see Mangrove Robin for the benefit of Helen & Jeff who had not yet seen it. Fortunately for them the bird showed well but our attempts to see Long-billed Gerygone went unrewarded.

From the northern tip of the esplanade we scanned the mudflats and produced a nice list of waders, nothing new for the trip but nevertheless they were nice to see. Terek Sandpiper was the best of the bunch. This was our last birding excursion in Northern Queensland, tomorrow we fly down to Brisbane – very early in the morning! Dinner at our Cairn's hotel was superb after which we called the bird log, during our first 9 days in North Queensland we have seen 209 species.

DAY 10 – NOVEMBER 1ST 2016 - N. QUEENSLAND

TRANSFER FROM CAIRNS TO BRISBANE – PORT OF BRISBANE – SWAN LAKE & ROOST LAKE – MANELY BEACH – LYTTON MANGROVE – BUCHOLZ DAM – CANUNGRA – KAMARUN LOOK-OUT – O'REILLY'S BIRD LODGE, LAMINGTON NATIONAL PARK.

Weather: Dull overcast for most of the day with light rain at times, very humid, clear later. Temp 20C

Our earliest morning yet! We were all packed and on the bus by 4am, our flight from Cairns to Brisbane went smoothly arriving at 8:15am, it was raining but warm when we arrived at Brisbane.

After a short delay we boarded our new bus, with Barry our guide in the driving seat. By 9:15 we were watching birds in the Port area at a large lake found in amongst the huge industrial estate next to the port. The lake was covered in Black Swans, Pacific Black Ducks, Chestnut Teal, Dusky Moorhen with lots of Pied & Little Pied Cormorants, Royal Spoonbills, Australian Pelicans, Australian Ibis and a few egrets loafing on the islands.

Our two main target species were found in the bushes around the lake, both the Mangrove and the Striped Honeyeaters were seen well by all of us. Collared Sparrowhawk, Crested Pigeons, Figbirds, Olive-backed Orioles, Brown Honey eaters and lots of Willy Wagtails made up the rest of our sightings.

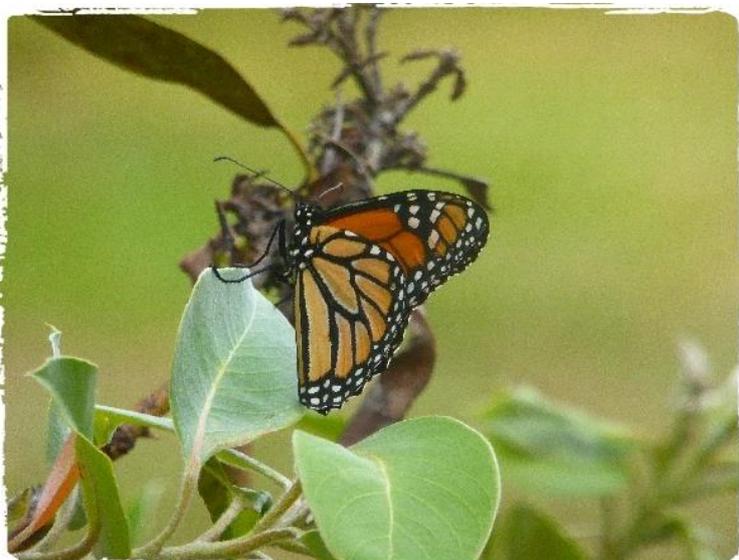


Eastern Cattle Egret

From the lake we drove round to some shallow pools with island and marshes, created as a refuge for roosting birds. Appropriately called the 'roost reserve' we saw waders, ducks, geese, egrets and herons, it was well fenced off from the general public and it was covered in birds! A huge flock of waders consisted mainly of Bar-tailed Godwits and Whimbrels but we also listed; Curlew Sandpiper, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Eastern Curlew, Pied Oystercatcher, lots of ducks, White-faced Herons, Reef, Little, Intermediate and Great Egrets.

Passerine species kept us busy too, we found Golden Headed Cisticola, Superb Fairy-Wren, Australian Reed Warbler, Australasian Pipit, Tawny Grassbird, Mangrove Gerygone and more Brown Honeyeaters.

After stopping to collect our picnic lunch items we drove to Manly Beach to eat it, the sky had cleared and it warmed up quite a lot. It was high tide at Manly so we saw few birds, just Silver Gulls, Pied Cormorants and a Brahminy Kite that landed on a moored boat just offshore. A walk in the near mangroves at Lytton produced lots of mosquito bites and not the expected Rufous (Nankeen) Night Heron.



Monarch Butterfly

So we set off for O'Reilly's Lodge but trouble with the bus's air con. unit delayed us, we stopped to get it repaired in Brisbane and whilst doing so I logged Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Little Friarbird and Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike during a short walk alone.

Back on the road, air-con not working too well, we stopped at two sites where we listed Long-billed and Little Corellas, White-chinned Honeyeater, Galah, Whistling Kite and our very first Grey Kangaroo!

Further along the route we saw several Wallaby's of two species, Whip-tail and Red-necked, we also saw Red-necked Pademelon. Our last stop before reaching O'Reilly's was at Kamarun Look-out, we had incredible views of a series of mountain ranges including part of the 'Great Divide' range. A bonus at this site was a fruiting fig tree which was full of birds, we saw our first Satin and Regent's Bowerbirds, wow what beauty the latter is! Also there was Wompoo Fruit-Doves and several Pied Currawongs that fed in the tree. One last good but brief sighting was of an Albert's Lyerbird that flew up the road in front of the bus but only 5 of the group saw it.

We were greeted by the most beautiful sunset as we arrived at O'Reilly's, we had no time for birding, so after some confusion with room allocation (not impressive) we settled in. A superb dinner was served at 7:30pm. I think we are going to like it here!

DAY 11 – NOVEMBER 2ND 2016 - QUEENSLAND

O'REILLY'S LODGE, LAMINGTON NP ALL DAY – VILLA & BORDER TRAILS – KAMARUN OUT-LOOK – ROBERT'S WATER-HOLE TRACK.

Weather: a beautiful sunny morning, some cloud but much cooler, around 10C to start but warmer later.

We assembled outside the main reception building at 6:30am and we were bombarded by King Parrots and Crimson Rosellas, they were after food, it was amazing how tame these wild birds were. They would land on you head, shoulder or arm and just wait for tit-bits, Regent's Bowerbird seemed also very tame but not so brazen.



Rufous Fantail doing its stuff!- Picture by Mike Ambler

Our day was interesting and exciting because of the new terrain and the well-marked trails of Lamington National Park with information boards giving details of the forest history and the ecology of the tree species. We walked a single trail before breakfast and although we never saw many new species we enjoyed a lovely walk. Satin Bowerbirds were common as was White-browed Scrubwren, Yellow Robin, Golden Whistler, Eastern Spinebill, Black-faced Monarch and we did get brief views of Little Bronze-Cuckoo. A flock of Topknot Pigeons flew over us as we returned to the lodge.

After a wonderful breakfast we set off at 9am taking a longer walk along the 'Border Trail' and despite the number of people walking the same trail we saw plenty of bird activity. A Green Catbird sat nicely for us, this was our first sighting of this species, Yellow-throated Scrubwren and Brown Gerygone also showed very well. A Rufous Fantail stole the show with a fantastic tail-fanning display, that was until Barry showed us a Satin Bowerbird at its 'bower'.

The Bower was an incredible construction of twigs, forming a short avenue and was littered with everything you can imagine but only with blue items. Plastic bottle tops, pieces of rag or ribbon, blue coloured stones, anything blue! The Satin Bowerbird appeared and stood in the bower making repairs and enhancing his walls of sticks with regurgitated blue berries, we saw him wiping this on his bower! Bowerbirds are probably the only family of birds that actually use 'paint' for decoration.

Our walk continued for another couple of hours during which time we made some excellent sightings and enjoyed the wonderful forest of ancient trees. The Logrunner is a colourful ground dwelling species that has adapted to leaf-litter foraging, it scrapes the litter away in search of insects in an unusual way. By using its reinforced tail feathers' it sits back as it brushes the leaf away at right angles to its body instead of backwards like most other species, fascinating to watch.

We added a couple more species to the list as we bumped into them, Olive-tailed (Bassian) Thrush was a brief encounter, the tiny families of the Gerygones and the Thornbills were hard to get on to in the forest but we managed to find them but Albert's Lyrebird remained elusive. An Olive Whistler was a nice find and special for Barry as he had never seen one at Lamington! A Wonga Pigeon foraged on the forest floor and a Brown Thornbill was found back at the visitor's centre along with a Superb Fairywren.



Superb Fairy Wren

For lunch we drove out of the national park down the mountain to the look-out point at Kamarun, the sun was now shining brightly and the temperature was a nice 20C as we ate our picnic. The fruiting fig trees around the look-out attracted Wompoo Fruit-Doves, Regent's and Satin Bowerbirds and lots of Lewin's Honeyeaters.

Our afternoon birding continued as we dropped further down to lower altitudes to dry forested areas where other bird species could be found. Our main walk was along a track at Charlie's Water-Hole into eucalyptus forest we were fascinated by the large number of Caper White butterflies. From the car park we found the beautiful Scarlet Honeyeater (now called Scarlet Myzomela) and a must-see species, a favourite of mine, the Crested Shrike-Tit, a little beauty that sat perfectly still for us.

Our main target was the Bellbird or Bell Miner, Barry led us to a colony of them and they do really make a bell sound. They form large groups and set out a feeding-territory in the forest which they defend by chasing off most other birds. We also found White-naped Honeyeater, Cicadabird (a male), more Scarlet Honeyeaters, Variegated Fairywren and our first Pardolite, the Spotted variety, this tiny creature was hard to see in the canopy.

Before we left we added a Striated Thornbill and a Grey Whistler, both were seen near the water-hole as we were about to leave.

On the way back up the mountain one final stop was made to look for Riflebird and Noisy Pitta but neither of them showed! A nice consolation was the finding of a Little Bronze-Cuckoo, this one sat nicely for all of us to get good views of.

Dinner was taken at 7pm, again it was delicious with a tasty selection, however it had been a tiring day and we all went to bed early.

DAY 12 – NOVEMBER 3RD 2016 - QUEENSLAND

ALL DAY AT O'REILLY'S RESORT – DUCK CREEK ROAD GUIDED TOUR WITH STOPS AT: MARIE'S GATE, KURRAJONG LOOK-OUT, LUKE'S FARM AND PYTHON ROCK TRACK

Weather: a beautiful day, sunny and warm 25C, cloudy later.

Today we were met by Luke at 6:30am outside the main reception at O'Reilly's. Luke is a local guide employed at O'Reilly's and more importantly he had a 4-wheel drive 16-seater bus with him. His local knowledge was both invaluable and time saving for us. He quickly showed us some White-headed Pigeons in the nearby trees and a Wonga Pigeon on the ground nearby.

Both King Parrots and Crimson Rosellas were flying around the car park area and the two Bowerbirds Regents & Satin were seen everywhere around the lodge.



Spotted Pardalote – taken by Bob Longhorn

Our bus was high off the ground we had great views of the surrounding forest as we drove down to Duck Creek Road which took about 10 minutes. Our first stop was at Marie's Gate where a clearing gave us wonderful views over farmland and forested valleys. We quickly listed a dozen or so bird species, none of which were new. Topknot Pigeon, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Rainbow Lorikeet, Green Catbird, Lewin's Honeyeater, Black-faced Monarch are just some of the common species seen.

Luke was very knowledgeable and passionate about the forest passing on interesting facts about individual trees as we drove down into the valley. We stopped at a very unusual site where rain-forest stops abruptly and dry eucalyptus forest begins it was amazing to see this stark transformation. We birded the dry forest for a while in a number of places and we ate our picnic breakfast there. We watched several Spotted Pardalotes as we ate, what a gorgeous little bird.

Our next stop was a copse of eucalyptus near Luke's Farm where we were shown a Tawny Frogmouth sitting on the nest, whilst there we saw our first Grey Butcherbird and dozens of Noisy Miners. We also added Pied Currawong, Australian Magpie, Masked Lapwing and Torresian Crow to the day-list.

For the latter part of the morning we walked along one of the well-trodden tracks of O'Reilly's called Python Rock where we searched for Noisy Pitta without success. We did see a number of forest species including; Logrunner, White-browed & Yellow-throated Scrubwrens, Brown Gerygone, Grey & Golden Whistlers, Rufous Fantail, Green Catbird to name but a few.

For lunch we ate a picnic whilst sitting in the sunshine outside the main reception area, Rosellas came and fed out of our hands as did Regent's Bowerbird. For the afternoon we took a short birding walk to look for Rose Robin along nearby tracks. We concentrated on an area not far from the buildings where the bird had been seen recently but we

failed to see one. However we did see a large number of locally common birds, we had incredible views of Eastern Whipbird, Rufous & Grey Fantails, White-browed & Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone, Logrunner, Olive-tailed (Bassian) Thrush, Wonga Pigeon and Yellow Robin.

At 3pm we all dispersed for some down time, reconvening at 6pm for an early dinner because at 8pm were back out for an Owl-prowl.

In the pitch dark we walked by torchlight down a steep track to the base of valley about a kilometer below us. Over the next hour or so we saw lots of Possums of two species, Common Brushtails and Common Ring-tailed, we heard Marbled Frogmouth, Boobook Owl and Tawny Frogmouth but did not see them. The Australian version of glow-worm hangs from trees and bushes and glows in mid-air, the forest looks like a Christmas grotto! The long climb back was arduous and tiring but I think it was worth going for the exciting night-time experience even if we never saw a bird!

DAY 13 – NOVEMBER 4TH 2016 - QUEENSLAND

TRANSFER FROM O'REILLY'S FOREST RETREAT TO BRISBANE WITH A NUMBER OF STOPS ALONG THE WAY.

WEATHER: clear sky, hot, dry and sunny all day. Top temp 35C

We took our last morning walk at O'Reilly's at 6am. The usual birds were around the main compound, Crimson Rosellas, King Parrots, Regent's and Satin Bowerbirds, Green Catbirds, White-browed Scrubwrens and Yellow Robins. A flock of Topknot Pigeons flew over as we made our way to the 'Border' and Canopy Walk trail.



Grey-headed Flying Foxes

Our main target was the Rose Robin but that little beauty eluded us yet again, we have another chance of seeing it in New South Wales over the next few days. However, we did enjoy great views of several other species including: Eastern Whipbird, Logrunner, Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Wonga Pigeon, Rufous Fantail, Brown Gerygone and several others.

Our journey down the mountain was punctuated with stops and diversions, it took all day to drive 100km to the airport region in northern Brisbane. I will list some of our sightings and describe a few of our stops here:

Python Rock Track: just before we left the O'Reilly's Complex we made another attempt to see Noisy Pitta and as usual we could hear one or two but we never caught sight of one.

Further down we stopped at another Noisy Pitta site but again we failed to see one. At Charlie's Water-Hole we stopped to look for Koalas which had been sighted yesterday by another group, no Koalas, plenty of eucalyptus to search though!

An unscheduled stop a little further down to look at Glossy Black-Cockatoos, we found five of these smaller Cockatoos and whilst there we added Striated Pardalote to our list.

We made a stop at Kanungra for coffee and to watch a Flying Fox colony, two species made up the colony, Black and Grey-headed, there were thousands of them!

Our lunch break was taken in Beaudesert after which we drove to a local race track to look at a 'billabong', which Barry explained should best be described as an ox-bow lake. We saw a few species there but nothing too exciting. Further stops around the Birchmont area (Barry's local patch) were made to look at several pools of water. At one of these we found our first Grey Teal, we also listed Comb-crested Jacana, Australasian Grebe, Black Swan, Pacific Black Duck and Wood (Maned) Duck.

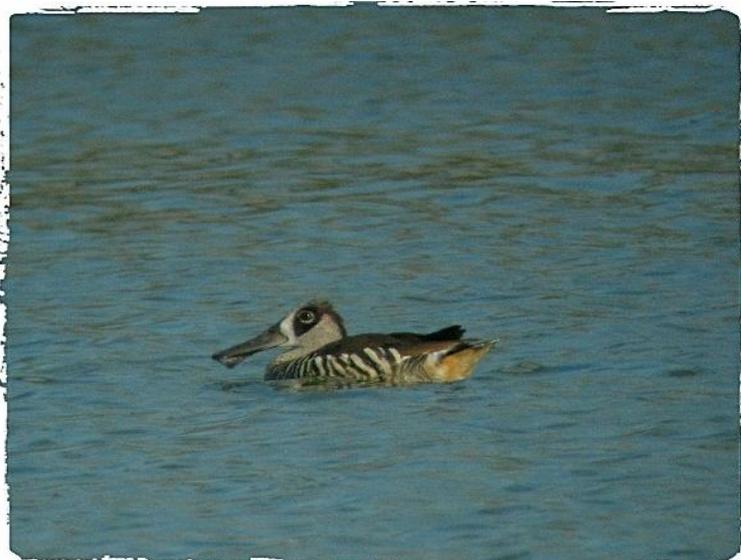
Other stops produced Nankeen Kestrel, Black-fronted Dotterel, Little Corella, lots of cormorants and egrets and a White-faced Heron.



Logrunners both male (left) and female – taken by Mike Taylor

Our final stop was some 80km South of Brisbane at the University of Queensland Gatton campus, this had two lakes in its 'Environmental Park'. We parked up around 4pm and walked through parkland passing under a huge Cattle Egret colony which was both noisy and smelly but very colourful. These eastern Cattle Egrets are a sub-species of the Western ones and are really smart looking with a lot more colour.

The lake held several hundred Plumed Whistling Ducks, Wood Ducks, Pacific Black Ducks, Dusky Moorhens, Purple Swamphens, Royal Spoonbills, Australian Ibis, Intermediate and Little Egrets. But the best of all was a single PINK-EARED DUCK, this was our target bird and one that Barry knew about, fantastic, it was a species the group most wanted to see.



The strange looking Pink-eared Duck – you can just make out the pink ear!

It was 5pm when we left Gatton, we drove directly to Brisbane on a motorway noting several Grey Kangaroos and an Australian Kite along the way. A mass-migration of Caper White Butterflies was in progress, literally clouds of them moved east-west across the motorway as we drove northward back to Brisbane. It was an incredible sight to see so many insects on the wing! Every 6 to 10 years, South East Queensland and Brisbane have a huge influx of Caper White butterflies. They migrate east, over the Great Dividing Range looking for food plant to lay their eggs. There is no simple

answer as to why this happens. It could be that conditions are right to produce so many butterflies that they must migrate to find food plant for their caterpillars to feed on.

As we crossed the main bridge at Brisbane we had a beautiful sunset to our left , a bright orange sky over the 'Manhattan-style' skyline.

We drove straight to our hotel situated a few kilometers from the airport, a nice meal ended our tour of Queensland, we gave Barry our thanks before completing the last log for our spell in Queensland. We leave the area with 251 species on our list, a great result after 2 weeks of excellent birding.

DAY 14 – NOVEMBER 5TH 2016 - QUEENSLAND to NEW SOUTH WALES

TRANSFER FROM BRISBANE TO SYDNEY – BOTANIC GARDENS – SYDNEY HARBOUR – MIDDLE HARBOUR – MANLEY

Weather in Sydney: dry, sunny and warm but very windy

Most of our day was spent travelling so very little birding was done, we left our hotel in Brisbane at 8:15am and arrived at our hotel in Sydney at 2pm after being collected by Rob Griffin who will be our new guide for the last eight days of the tour.



Masked Plover with chick

By 3pm we were birding in the Sydney Botanic Gardens where hundreds of tourists were milling about and even more were around the opera house and harbour front. Birds were few and far between but we saw Masked Plover, Australian Ibis, Little Pied and Little Black Cormorants, Dusky Moorhen, Maned Duck, Pacific Black Duck and lots of Silver Gulls.

Our prized sighting was found by Jeff, a Powerful Owl sat in the shadows of a large tree, this magnificent creature feeds on flying foxes and there are plenty of those around Sydney.

After doing the 'tourist' walk around the Opera House and Sydney Bridge area we set off for Manly Beach. Rob our new guide picked us up in the bus and drove us across Sydney Bridge towards Manly. We stopped at Middle Head where fantastic views of the Harbour could be had. An old army camp still stands on the headland and plenty of trees cover the camp and car park. We saw White-bellied Fish Eagle, Rainbow Lorikeet, Red-Wattle Bird, Pacific Koel (two in the car park), and Spotted Pardalote.

Near Manly we stopped at Little Head to watch over a small cove where Little Penguins breed, these tiny creatures return to their nests at dusk so we waited until then. Australian Raven, Darter and more Silver Gulls were seen during our vigil. The Penguins failed to show so we left, it was now 7:30pm and getting dark, dinner was calling. We ate in a restaurant in Manly which was packed with day trippers, the food was good, we got back to the hotel at 10pm, it had been a long day!

DAY 15 – NOVEMBER 6TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

ROYAL NATIONAL PARK – BARREN GROUNDS – BUDDEROO FLATS

After a lovely breakfast at the hotel Rob collected us at the front door at 8am. We drove across the city and headed Southwest of Sydney passing through the city and onto the highway. The roads were crowded with cyclists, thousands of them, it was a charity cycle event to Wollongong, we managed to get through OK to the National Park some 30km down the road.

Our first stop in the National Park was at Wattle Flats where we walked along Hacker's Creek trail. Many birds were on show it really was very good birding except that none of the birds were new to us. However, we had much better views of some species than on previous occasions, both Sacred and Azure Kingfishers were good examples of this.



Dollarbird – the only Australian Roller species

A Pacific Baza sat nicely for us and we had good views of a wealth of other species including White-throated Treecreeper, Golden Whistler, Variegated Wren, Green Catbird, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Satin Bowerbird and Sulphur-crested Cockatoo.

Back at the car park we saw Australian Raven at the nest and a pair of Dollar Birds in a nearby tree. We left the forested area for a walk on the heath at Mount Bass Heathland. The wind was a contributing factor towards our poor list of bird sightings at this site. It was excellent for botanists as many wild flowers were in bloom but few birds showed. A Rufous Whistler showed very well and we saw our first New Holland Honeyeater with Yellow-faced Honeyeater coming soon after and that was about it except for a very brief sighting of Beautiful Firetail by Rob the guide and myself.

We drove back down to the forest to eat our lunch, we found a sheltered valley where we sat to eat. During lunch we saw a male Cicadabird, New Holland Honeyeater and Satin Bowerbird. From there we left the national park and headed for the hills in the distance. The Barren Grounds Nature Reserve is a protected nature park located in the Southern Highlands region southwest of Sydney. The 2,024-hectare reserve is situated east of Budderoo National Park where we also took a walk.

We tried several trails at Barren Grounds but it was quite windy and not many birds were showing, we all got good, but brief views of Southern Emu-Wren (named because of its tail feathers being very much like the feathers of an Emu) but not much else. At Budderoo we had the same result, no birds showing, we did hear an Eastern Bristlebird calling but it never showed.

It was getting late so we gave up looking for Ground Parrots and Bristlebirds and drove down to Kiama where we ate dinner in an Australian pub. We never got back to our hotel until 10pm!

DAY 16 – NOVEMBER 7TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

HOME BUSH BAY – STADIUM POOLS – LAWSON COUNTRY PARK & FALLS – BLACKHEATH (localsites) – EVAN'S LOOK-OUT

WEATHER: very hot, dry, breezy. Temp. 35C

It was another glorious morning and another lovely breakfast at the Arts Hotel, Sydney. We were all packed and on the bus by 8:15am and headed north west through rush hour traffic! It took an hour to reach the other side of town, at Homebush Bay.

During the journey we logged a number of species, the most significant was Red Wattlebird simply because many of the group had not seen one yet!

We parked up and walked to the water-bird's conservation area at Homebush Bay, reached by crossing a river over a road bridge. From the bridge we saw several species, Nankeen Kestrel, Black Bittern (in flight), Musk Lorikeets, Rainbow Lorikeets, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo and lots of Common Mynas.



Fantail Cuckoo, juvenile

The track to the bay took us through mangroves where a Buff-banded Rail was seen and a new Honeyeater was added to our list. The White-plumed Honeyeater showed well, we also saw Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Red-browed Firetail and Superb-fairy-wren, in fact, from the hide we had the most fantastic views of these beautiful little wrens, which made up for the lack of birds in the bay. We had hoped for Australian Avocet but the two over-wintering birds had gone we only saw Pied Stilt, Black-fronted Dotterel, White-faced Heron, Grey and Chestnut Teal, Dusky Moorhen and a few Pelicans, Cormorants and Silver Gulls.

Not far from us was the Sydney Olympic stadium and all the pools and lakes that go with it, Rob took us to a number of small pools where we looked for various species of duck and a site for Little Bittern. None of our target birds showed up but we did see a number of others, the Australian Reed Warbler showed very well for the group.

We then set off in earnest and headed for the mountains arriving at a small town called Lawson at lunchtime. We ate our picnic lunch in a local park where various lizards, butterflies and a few birds kept us busy, a juvenile cuckoo (well photographed) caused a stir for a while but we decided on Fan-tailed Cuckoo in the end. From the picnic-site we walked along two tracks that led steeply down to a couple of waterfalls which must look spectacular in the rainy season. These sites had the potential for Rock Warbler but not much was seen at all except some wonderful scenery a plethora of wild-flowers.

Back up on the top track we listed several more species; Grey Fantail, Brown, Long-billed & Striated Thornbills, Lewin's and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters.

We pushed on to Blackheath where we checked into our guest house and after a quick cuppa we were back out again. The Superb Lyrebird was our next target we drove down a steep lane and into some rain forest. Another unproductive walk down a steep track produced not a single bird! So, we climbed back up to the road and walked there, this was better and some of the group did see the Lyrebird but not well and a prolonged silent vigil didn't produce much either.

It was now getting late the sun was dropping from the sky so we drove a short distance to a popular look-out point called Evan's Look-out. The views were magnificent and the setting sun added to the beauty of the rocky escarpment. We search again for Rock Warbler but drew a blank, the only new species listed was a Scarlet Robin, a female, it flew up from the road as we drove back to the guest-house and only a few of us saw it, albeit very briefly.

A superb meal was enjoyed at a local Thai restaurant, our bird log was done back at the house, despite not seeing many new species we actually listed 72. It has been frustrating during the last couple of days, we have only added 10 new species to our tally in 2 ½ days in Sydney! Let's hope Capertee Valley over the next couple of days lives up to expectations!!

DAY 17 – NOVEMBER 8TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

BLACKHEATH [POPE'S GLEN -WHITE CAVE TRACK – EVAN'S LOOKOUT] – TRANSFER TO CAPERTEE VALLEY – GLEN DAVIS – CAPERTEE NATIONAL PARK

Cloudy, dull and overcast. Some sunshine, thunderstorm later with rain. Temp 17C

Our pre-breakfast walk found us walking a couple of tracks not far from the guest house, Pope's Glen was the first. We met at 6am and drove the short distance to the track, it was chilly and it threatened to rain. We found a good number of common species out in the open scrub before walking into rainforest to look for a Lyrebird.

After a while we could hear one and a quiet approach paid off in full, we saw a male standing on a branch about 1 meter above the ground, this bird gave us its full repertoire of mimicry, amazingly accurate renditions of common birds, according to Rob our guide. It failed to display its tail but it sang well for us before dropping down and walking out of sight, fantastic!



Musk Parakeet – taken by Bob Longhorn

We re-visited another section of rainforest at Evan's Look-out in search of Rock Warbler, without success, before returning to the guest house for breakfast.

After breakfast and a shopping expedition it was 11am before we set off for Capertee Valley where we are to spend the next two nights. It took a while to get there and because we had a deadline we drove past several new bird species

along the way, Eurasian Skylark, White-winged Chough, Eastern Rosella to name but a few. We needed to be at the Capertee National Park by 2pm to meet a guy who was going to show us a very special bird.

Our frantic drive across beautiful countryside and along quiet tracks eventually got us to our destination, the 'Poplars' Cottages in Glen Davis, Capertee Valley. What wonderful setting and beautiful surroundings our new accommodation was situated in, we didn't have much time to admire it because after quickly unpacking the bus and eating a thrown together picnic lunch we set off for the national park and our rendezvous with Ross, a PhD student working in the park.



The very rare and endangered Regents Honeyeater

We arrived a little late but Ross was waiting for us, he led us to a compound where his study work takes place. Ross is studying the rare and endangered Regent's Honeyeater, the latest estimated population puts this bird on the critically endangered list with an estimated 70-100 INDIVIDUALS in existence!! They are nomadic and rely entirely on two/three types of eucalyptus trees which are also now rare.

Ross is monitoring a pair that have recently bred in Capertee NP, he showed us the pair with one fledged chick, what an amazing looking bird, we watched them for an hour or so. Other species seen there were the beautiful Musk Lorikeet and the ugly Noisy Friar, both of those species are competing with Regent's Honeyeater for nectar from the flowering trees and were seen to chase off the smaller honeyeater on a few occasions.

We left the site after watching for an hour just as it started to rain, thunder rumbled in the distance and flashes of lightening lit up the horizon behind us. Our journey back to Glen Davis was far more relaxed and took us a couple of hours instead of the 40 minute outward journey.

We stopped to watch Eastern Rosella, then an Echidna on the side of the road and we took a short walk along a track where we found White-plumed Honeyeater, Rufous Songlark, Brown Treecreeper, Rainbow Bee-eater, Crested Shrike-tit and a few Willy Wagtails and Noisy Miners.

We tried to stay ahead of the rain but it seemed to catch us up very quickly, our next stop produced Little Eagle and a Restless Flycatcher, also a Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike. Next, we stopped to watch a small flock of Common Whiteface which led us to finding Australasian Pipit, Dusky Woodswallow, Brown Songlark, Tree Martin and more White-plumed Honeyeaters.

We parked near a bridge over a stream to look for flycatchers but instead we found a beautiful male Mistletoebird, another stop was made to look at a small flock of Red-rumped Parrots. A Brown Falcon sat nicely on a wire, it was a young, wet bird, that took some identifying!

Back at our accommodation we were greeted by a large group of Eastern Kangaroos in the paddock and a small flock of White-winged Chough that sat on the picket-fence around the cottages. The rain had stopped, we finally settled into our rooms spread over two self-catering cottages. Some of the group saw a Silveryeye, Restless Flycatcher and a Peregrine Falcon before we all chipped in to make dinner, a pasta and tuna dish, yummy!

DAY 18 – NOVEMBER 9TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

CAPERTEE VALLEY ALL DAY

WEATHER: Cloudy, some sunshine, hot and humid pm. With some rain. Temp 20-25C

Before breakfast most of the group were up and out for 6am for a walk around the grounds of the cottages, the dawn chorus was incredible with the song of the Grey Shrike-Thrush winning the top spot for the most tuneful.

We quickly found many species flitting in nearby flowering trees, Noisy Friarbirds and White-plumed Honeyeaters were the most common. We then added two new species to our list in quick succession and both of them were Thornbills. First, we found a small flock of Yellow-rumped and then a couple of Yellow Thornbills appeared not far away.

Galah



The landscape around the cottages consisted of flat pastureland that stretch for miles, divided by tree hedges, ditches, streams, fences and scrub. Woodland sat all around at the base of steep volcanic rocks forming high 100 meter-high escarpments in three directions.

We walked along a track to the north stopping many times to watch a number of species, Eastern & Crimson Rosellas, Musk & Rainbow Lorikeets, Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, Galahs and a large number of black and white birds which included; Magpies, Ravens, Choughs, Butcherbirds, Magpie-Larks and Willy Wagtails. A Jacky Winter was new to our list and we watched White-headed Herons feeding young at their nest.

After breakfast, we drove a short distance to the Glen Davis campsite, our walk there produced very little except lots of White-Plumed Honeyeaters, House Sparrows and Brown Treecreepers.

For the rest of the morning we re-visited sites that showed potential from yesterday's fleeting visit, at the Capertee River we watched Red-rumped Parrots but not the Turquoise variety we had hoped for. We did see a Peregrine Falcon and we added Diamond Dove to our list of doves.

An avenue of Eucalyptus where a watering hole was situated was our next venue, Rob had seen several finches in the area on previous visits, today it was quiet to start with. We enjoyed the antics of the Dusky Woodswallow and also found a beautiful Satin Flycatcher, a very distant Brown Falcon sat on a dead tree whilst a Nankeen Kestrel hovered nearby.

Then we found a Diamond Firetail, what a stunning bird, this sighting was quickly followed by good views of Common Whiteface (another seed-eating finch-type species) then a pair of Zebra Finches appeared – how wonderful it was to see these beautiful birds free-flying and not in a cage somewhere in Europe!! Well the cameras were getting hot after those sightings.

For lunch we drove a few kilometers further north to a chapel and a graveyard where we enjoyed some sunshine as we ate our picnic in a nearby park. The first bird we saw was a nice species for our list, the Striped Honeyeater, another beauty in this incredibly large genus. The subsequent walk in the surrounding woodland failed to produce much at all,

the birds of interest were the very showy Brown Treecreepers and a Sacred Kingfisher until we returned to the road. We then found another Diamond Firetail and to our great delight a Plum-headed Finch turned up, this bird remained elusive until it flew towards us and land on a wire not 5 meters away from us, amazing!



Zebra Finch

Another thunderstorm was brewing in the distant sky and it grew darker overhead so we made a hasty retreat southwards. We managed a little birding before the rain came down, walking along a track where we listed Brown Songlarks, Rainbow Bee-eater and we watched Red-rumped Parrots coming down to drink from a puddle but we had to abandon our walk rapidly.

Our return to our cottages took about an hour where we sat out the rainstorm whilst enjoying a nice cuppa. At 4pm some of us made our last birding excursion of the day, we drove to another camp-site about 4km from our cottages. It was amazing to see so many Kangaroos out in the fields and in the camp site. We also saw Rabbit, Red Fox, Swamp Wallaby and Red Wallaroo.

We walked along the river bank scanning the rocky woodland on the opposite bank looking for Rock Warbler without success. Eastern Yellow Robin, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Silvereye, Yellow Thornbill and large numbers of Sulphur-crested Cockatoo was most of what we saw.

For dinner we drove 35km to Capertee Village and found everything closed! So we then drove another 43km to Lithgow and found good food there. We drove back in the dark and with great caution because of the high number of Kangaroos hopping across the road. We saw several Red Foxes and the much hoped for Wombat but no Owls. We got home at 10:45pm it had been another long and tiring day especially for Rob our driver-guide.

DAY 19 – NOVEMBER 10TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

TRANSFER FROM CAPERTEE VALLEY TO SYDNEY – COCO CREEK – LITHGOW SEWER WORKS– WALLACE LAKE – RICHMOND LOWLANDS – PITT DOWN MARSHES

WEATHER: A beautiful sunny day, cloud later, Top temp 30C

We were all packed and ready to leave at 8am. A few birds were recorded around the Jpaddock as we gathered around the bus, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Noisy Friarbirds, White-winged Chough and Willy Wagtails.

Our journey back out of the valley was interrupted several times to look at perched birds such as Australian Kite, Brown Falcon, Red-rumped Parrots, Galahs and finches & larks. A few kilometers along the valley we stopped at Coco Creek which ran through a eucalyptus woodland, we had an amazing time there, birds were everywhere. Two cuckoo species landed in the same dead tree, Fan-tailed and the rarer Black-faced Cuckoo. We had short but excellent in-the-scope views of Turquoise Parrot, what a beauty in the morning light. We also added yet another Honeyeater to our growing list, the Yellow-tufted variety was nest building near the bridge over the creek. A Little Eagle circled over us, a pair of

Sacred Kingfishers visited their nest hole and a small party of Double-barred Finches fed on seeds in the grass. A Grey Shrike-thrush sang to us as did Jacky Winter, Willie Wagtail and Yellow Thornbill.



Musk Duck

Further up the valley we found another Little Eagle (Australia's equivalent of Europe's Booted Eagle), this one circled very low over us giving a great display. Once out of the valley we headed southeast towards Sydney making our first stop at Lithgow Sewerage Ponds! Apart from the smell and the flies we enjoyed a variety of sightings of ducks and other water birds. The two most interesting sightings out on the water were our first Hoary Grebe and Australian Shoveler, we also saw our first Red-whiskered Bulbul, (an introduced species, now well established) and our first Eurasian Blackbird, another introduced species!

The short distance to Wallace Lake took just a few minutes and we had had great success there with our last remaining target duck species. First, we found a male Musk Duck close by and then three more at some distance. This amazing beast has an extraordinary leathery pouch-like wattle hanging below its bill, it can inflate this wattle and during courtship display it squirts water out in a fountain over its back! The bird also floats semi-submerged and is an excellent diving duck. This animal derives its common name from the peculiar musky odour it emanates from its rump during the breeding season.

Also at Wallace Lake we listed Australasian Swamphen, Australian Reed Warbler and lots of common water birds. From the lake we drove to Blackheath where we bought picnic supplies for lunch which we ate at Evan's Lookout. We made a last attempt for a Rock Warbler sightings without success.

It took another hour to reach the huge alluvial plain found in the Richmond area of northern Sydney, we drove along quiet lanes looking over large flat pastures and turf-farms, we stopped at several small pools. A good selection of duck species was found including another sighting of the strange-looking Pink-eared Duck. We also listed Red-rumped Parrots, Galahs, Restless Flycatcher, Little Eagle (being mobbed by Australian Kite), Royal Spoonbill, White-faced Heron, Great Egret and all the four species of cormorants.

Our last stop was a nature reserve called Pitt Down Marshes, where a large, well placed hide overlooks a huge lake and marsh area, it was a lovely spot, the kind of place you would love on your local patch. Reed-beds, islands, mud-scrapes, marsh and open water surrounded by woodland and pastures. It had great potential but didn't produce today! We saw lots of Pelicans, Black Swans, Cormorants, Pied Stilts, common ducks and waterfowl and a single Caspian Tern.

That concluded our days birding, we drove into Sydney and returned to the Arts Hotel, dinner was taken in the pub next door, the conversation was more political than avian. We had been without, phones, WFi etc. for three days and had no idea that the world had been TRUMPED!!! OMG!

DAY 20 – NOVEMBER 11TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

WARRIE WOODS NATURE RESERVE – IRRAWONG FOREST TRAIL – KURING-GAI CHASE NP - LONG REEF POINT

WEATHER: A cloudy start, sunshine all afternoon. Temp 25C

Our penultimate day saw us heading north of the city to a couple of marshland reserves with some forest, we had a few species on our wanted list. Warrie Woods Nature Reserve lies on the edge of a suburban sprawl, it has a very popular boardwalk and cycle track that leads you through forest, over a couple of pools, through marshes and open grassy areas. Despite the track being very busy with people there were a surprisingly good number of bird species present.



Birding on the shore

One of our first sightings was of a Brown Goshawk which flew low over the trees causing panic and chaos amongst the scores of Rainbow Lorikeets. We then found Little Wattlebird a species that had eluded us so far it fed on flowering shrubs with Lewin's & Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters.

Brown Gerygones were common in the woodland and several other species showed extremely well in the pools, Australasian Swamphen, Dusky Moorhen, Chestnut Teal, Royal Spoonbill and a Water Dragon were found.

In the woodland-section of the Irrawong track we saw Laughing Kookaburra, Dollarbird, Noisy Miner, Red-browed Firetail, Grey Fantail but not much else. Were returned to the bus along the same route not adding much to the list.



Red-bellied Black Snake seen at Warrie Woods

After a quick coffee stop we drove to Kuring-gai Grove National Park which was very close, the wind had picked up a little and as we were walking along an exposed track along a ridge it got quite blustery but it remained hot. For these reasons it was hard to find any birds at all! We managed good views of Yellow-tufted and New Holland Honeyeaters but nothing more.

The rest of the day was spent at Long Reef, a headland that overlooks a large platform of rock (the reef) that is exposed during low tide periods, it is also good for sea-watching. First, we ate our picnic lunch, before walking to the Point of

the headland. We could see several birds on the rocks and feeding in the pools, White-faced Heron, Pied, Little Black and Great Cormorants and Sooty Oystercatchers were all noted from a distance.

As we got nearer to the Point we watched a family party of Nankeen Kestrel with two newly fledged chicks and we added a few more waders to the list; Red-necked Stint, Pacific Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone and Grey-tailed Tattler.

Lots of 'Blue Bottle' jellyfish were washed up on the shore and to our great delight we saw a pod of Indo-Pacific (Inshore) Bottle-nosed Dolphins and whilst we were watching them a couple of Humpback Whales swam passed flipping their tails high out of the water.

We climbed to the top of the Point and looked out to sea where we saw Australasian Gannet, Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and more Dolphins. The weather was just beautiful, lovely sunshine, a cooling breeze and great light. Our walk back to the car park produced sightings of Red Wattlebird, Little Wattlebird, Pacific Koel (male) and on an adjoining golf course we noted Crested Pigeon, Masked Plover, Royal Spoonbill, Australian Ibis and Dusky Moorhen.

That was our last birding of the day, we drove back to the hotel and got ready for dinner which was taken in a bookshop, what a novel idea!

DAY 21 – NOVEMBER 12TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

PELAGIC BIRDING TRIP TO 'BROWNS MOUNTAIN' (an underwater volcanic peak) from SYDNEY HARBOUR

WEATHER: Rain, heavy cloud to start sunshine later, wind 20km/hour reducing to 10km/hr

Well our last day had arrived and it was a wet one to start with! The 9 of us that opted to go on this pelagic met at 6am for breakfast, at 6:45am Rob collected us and by 7am we were on the quay at Rose Cove waiting for a boat with 10 other birders.



Mako Shark – taken by Bob Longhorn

The rain eased off as we left the harbour and looking back over the city we could see blue sky emerging from the north.

The outward journey of some 38km was quite uncomfortable, a rough sea meant we had to hold on to the boat with both hands at times with no chance of using our wet binoculars. This continued for two hours then the sky cleared, it stopped raining and it brightened up a lot. Birds seen during this first period were few, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Wedge-tailed Shearwaters, Australasian Gannet and Silver Gulls. A pod of 3 Humpback Whales were 'breaching' not far ahead of us, they jumped up almost completely out of the water, a fantastic sight.

After nearly 3 hours we reached our destination on the edge of the continental shelf above the subterranean 'Browns Mountain', the sea floor drops from 200 meters to 700 meters around this area, creating a great site for 'upwelling' to occur. Sea-birds feed here in their thousands but today we only saw hundreds and as we stopped the boat to throw 'chum' for the birds, things got really exciting.



Wedge-tailed Shearwater – Bob Longhorn

We saw 4 species of Albatross, with Shy Albatross being the most common and despite its name it was the most approachable. We also saw the recently split White-capped Albatross, the Black-browed and the iconic Wandering Albatross with its huge 3.5 meter wingspan the largest of any bird in the world. It was amazing to see these creatures land or 'walk' on the water to pick up the food we had thrown out for them.

We cut the engine and for two hours drifted on a much quieter sea, we were able to walk freely around the deck without fear of falling, it was an incredible experience for all of us except two guys who were really suffering badly from sea-sickness, (not from our group).



Wilson's Petrel – by Bob Longhorn

Shearwaters and Albatross dominated our sightings and were visible around the boat all times, Wedge-tailed and Short-tailed were the most common but small rafts of Fluttering and the odd Hutton's Shearwater appeared regularly.

After 'chumming' we soon started seeing 'petrels', with the diminutive Wilson's Storm Petrel appearing in singles every few minutes and Grey-faced Petrels less often. It was almost overwhelming with new 'lifers' being called every few minutes. "Providence Petrel" was called out, we dashed to one side to see this rare sighting, smashing. "Flesh-Footed Shearwater" off we go again. "Jaeger", or Skua, we saw several of these during the trip, with Pomerine and Long-tailed being the two species that we identified.



Shy Albatross

Shearwaters and Albatross dominated our sightings and were visible around the boat all times, Wedge-tailed and Short-tailed were the most common but small rafts of Fluttering and the odd Hutton's Shearwater appeared regularly. The Shy Albatross was ever-present whilst the other three species of Albatross recorded came and went every so often.

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The return journey was spectacular, the sea calmed we were comfortable standing up and we passed through hundreds of rafts of shearwaters, a Maco Shark circled the boat, my first ever shark sighting, it came up to feed on fish we threw out, incredible! A Sunfish was nice to see and a Common Dolphin was seen by just a few of us.

We landed at 3:30pm after 8 hours on the sea, we sat and had a nice coffee on the quayside in the afternoon sunshine. By 5pm we were back at the hotel, it had been a marvellous last day of the tour, a fitting end with some magnificent sightings. Our trip tally was now just over 300 at 310 with a few more heard but not seen.

DAY 22 – NOVEMBER 13TH 2016 - NEW SOUTH WALES

Flights home – the birding was over the group disbanded around noon. Most of us flew out in the afternoon, some were staying on for a couple days. The group total of bird species came to 310 plus 3 more that we heard but we did not see.

SPECIES RECORDED BETWEEN 23RD OCTOBER AND 12TH NOVEMBER 2016
√ = SEEN by 2 or more of the group H = HEARD L.O. = LEADER(S) ONLY

	Common Name	Scientific Name	
	CASUARIIFORMES: Casuariidae		
1.	Southern Cassowary	<i>Casuarus casuarius</i>	√
	ANSERIFORMES: Anseranatidae		
2.	Magpie Goose	<i>Anseranas semipalmata</i>	√
	ANSERIFORMES: Anatidae		
3.	Plumed Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna eytoni</i>	√
4.	Wandering Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna arcuata</i>	√
5.	Black Swan	<i>Cygnus atratus</i>	√
6.	Radjah Shelduck	<i>Tadorna radjah</i>	√
7.	Green Pygmy-Goose	<i>Nettapus pulchellus</i>	√
8.	Maned Duck	<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	√
9.	Pacific Black Duck	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	√
10.	Gray Teal	<i>Anas gracilis</i>	√
11.	Chestnut Teal	<i>Anas castanea</i>	√
12.	Australasian Shoveler	<i>Anas rhynchos</i>	√
13.	Pink-eared Duck	<i>Malacorhynchus membranaceus</i>	√
14.	Musk Duck	<i>Biziura lobata</i>	√
	GALLIFORMES: Megapodiidae		
15.	Australian Brushturkey	<i>Alectura lathami</i>	√
16.	Orange-footed Scrubfowl	<i>Megapodius reinwardt</i>	√
	GALLIFORMES: Phasianidae		
17.	Brown Quail	<i>Synoicus ypsilophorus</i>	√
	PODICIPEDIFORMES: Podicipedidae		
18.	Australasian Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i>	√
19.	Hoary-headed Grebe	<i>Poliiocephalus poliocephalus</i>	√
20.	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	√
	PROCELLARIIFORMES: Diomedidae		
21.	Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	√
22.	White-capped Albatross	<i>Thalassarche steadi</i>	√
23.	Shy Albatross	<i>Thalassarche cauta</i>	√
24.	Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	√
	PROCELLARIIFORMES: Procellariidae		
25.	Wedge-tailed Shearwater	<i>Ardenna pacifica</i>	√
26.	Short-tailed Shearwater	<i>Ardenna tenuirostris</i>	√
27.	Flesh-footed Shearwater	<i>Ardenna carneipes</i>	√
28.	Hutton's Shearwater	<i>Puffinus huttoni</i>	√
29.	Fluttering Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gavia</i>	√
	PROCELLARIIFORMES: Hydrobatidae		
30.	Wilson's Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	√
	PROCELLARIIFORMES: Pterodromidae		
31.	Grey-faced Petrel	<i>Pterodroma gouldi</i>	√
32.	Providence Petrel	<i>Pterodroma solandri</i>	√
	CICONIIFORMES: Ciconiidae		
33.	Black-necked Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i>	√

	SULIFORMES: Fregatidae		
34.	Great Frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>	✓
	SULIFORMES: Sulidae		
35.	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>	✓
36.	Australasian Gannet	<i>Morus serrator</i>	✓
	SULIFORMES: Phalacrocoracidae		
37.	Little Black Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	✓
38.	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓
39.	Pied Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>	✓
40.	Little Pied Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>	✓
	SULIFORMES: Anhingidae		
41.	Australasian Darter	<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	✓
	PELECANIFORMES: Pelecanidae		✓
42.	Australian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	✓
	PELECANIFORMES: Ardeidae		
43.	Black Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i>	✓
44.	Pacific Heron	<i>Ardea pacifica</i>	✓
45.	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	✓
46.	Intermediate Egret	<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>	✓
47.	White-faced Heron	<i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>	✓
48.	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	✓
49.	Pacific Reef-Heron	<i>Egretta sacra</i>	✓
50.	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	✓
51.	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	✓
	PELECANIFORMES: Threskiornithidae		
52.	Australian Ibis	<i>Threskiornis moluccus</i>	✓
53.	Straw-necked Ibis	<i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i>	✓
54.	Royal Spoonbill	<i>Platalea regia</i>	✓
	ACCIPITRIFORMES: Pandionidae		
55.	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	✓
	ACCIPITRIFORMES: Accipitridae		
56.	Australian Kite	<i>Elanus axillaris</i>	✓
57.	Square-tailed Kite	<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	✓
58.	Pacific Baza	<i>Aviceda subcristata</i>	✓
59.	Little Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	✓
60.	Wedge-tailed Eagle	<i>Aquila audax</i>	✓
61.	Gray Goshawk	<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i>	✓
62.	Brown Goshawk	<i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>	✓
63.	Collared Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>	✓
64.	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	✓
65.	Whistling Kite	<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	✓
66.	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	✓
67.	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	✓
	OTIDIFORMES: Otididae		
68.	Australian Bustard	<i>Ardeotis australis</i>	✓
	GRUIFORMES: Rallidae		
69.	Red-necked Crake	<i>Rallina tricolor</i>	✓
70.	Buff-banded Rail	<i>Gallirallus philippensis</i>	✓
71.	Baillon's Crake	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>	✓
72.	Australasian Swamphen	<i>Porphyrio melanotus</i>	✓

73.	Dusky Moorhen	<i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i>	✓
74.	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓
	GRUIFORMES: Gruidae		
75.	Sarus Crane	<i>Grus antigone</i>	✓
76.	Brolga	<i>Grus rubicunda</i>	✓
	CHARADRIIFORMES: Burhinidae		
77.	Bush Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	✓
78.	Beach Thick-knee	<i>Esacus magnirostris</i>	✓
	CHARADRIIFORMES: Recurvirostridae		
79.	Pied Stilt	<i>Himantopus leucocephalus</i>	✓
	CHARADRIIFORMES: Haematopodidae		
80.	Pied Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus longirostris</i>	✓
81.	Sooty Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus fuliginosus</i>	✓
	CHARADRIIFORMES: Charadriidae		
82.	Pacific Golden-Plover	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>	✓
83.	Masked Lapwing	<i>Vanellus miles</i>	✓
84.	Lesser Sand-Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	✓
85.	Greater Sand-Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	✓
86.	Red-capped Plover	<i>Charadrius ruficapillus</i>	✓
87.	Black-fronted Dotterel	<i>Elsayornis melanops</i>	✓
	CHARADRIIFORMES: Jacanidae		
88.	Comb-crested Jacana	<i>Irediparra gallinacea</i>	✓
	CHARADRIIFORMES: Scolopacidae		
89.	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	✓
90.	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	✓
91.	Gray-tailed Tattler	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>	✓
92.	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	✓
93.	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	✓
94.	Far Eastern Curlew	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	✓
95.	Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	✓
96.	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	✓
97.	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	✓
98.	Great Knot	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	✓
99.	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>	✓
100.	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	✓
101.	Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>	✓
	CHARADRIIFORMES: Stercorariidae		
102.	Pomarine Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius pomeranius</i>	✓
103.	Long-tailed Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	✓
104.	CHARADRIIFORMES: Laridae		
105.	Silver Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i>	✓
106.	Brown Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>	✓
107.	Sooty Tern	<i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i>	✓
108.	Bridled Tern	<i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i>	✓
109.	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	✓
110.	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	✓
111.	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	✓
112.	Black-naped Tern	<i>Sterna sumatrana</i>	✓
113.	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓
114.	Great Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	✓

115.	Lesser Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i>	✓
	COLUMBIFORMES: Columbidae		
116.	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓
117.	White-headed Pigeon	<i>Columba leucomela</i>	✓
118.	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	✓
119.	Brown Cuckoo-Dove	<i>Macropygia phasianella</i>	✓
120.	Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	✓
121.	Crested Pigeon	<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	✓
122.	Wonga Pigeon	<i>Leucosarcia melanoleuca</i>	✓
123.	Diamond Dove	<i>Geopelia cuneata</i>	✓
124.	Peaceful Dove	<i>Geopelia placida</i>	✓
125.	Bar-shouldered Dove	<i>Geopelia humeralis</i>	✓
126.	Wompoo Fruit-Dove	<i>Ptilinopus magnificus</i>	✓
127.	Topknot Pigeon	<i>Lopholaimus antarcticus</i>	✓
128.	Pied Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula Bicolor</i>	✓
129.	CUCULIFORMES: Cuculidae		
130.	Pallid Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis pallidus</i>	✓
131.	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i>	✓
132.	Black-eared Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx osculans</i>	✓
133.	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i>	✓
134.	Little Bronze-Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx minutillus</i>	✓
135.	Pacific Koel	<i>Eudynamys orientalis</i>	✓
136.	Channel-billed Cuckoo	<i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i>	✓
137.	Pheasant Coucal	<i>Centropus phasianinus</i>	✓
	STRIGIFORMES: Tytonidae		
138.	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	✓
	STRIGIFORMES: Strigidae		
139.	Powerful Owl	<i>Ninox strenua</i>	✓
140.	Southern Boobook	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i>	H
	CAPRIMULGIFORMES: Podargidae		
141.	Tawny Frogmouth	<i>Podargus strigoides</i>	✓
142.	Marbled Frogmouth	<i>Podargus ocellatus</i>	H
143.	Papuan Frogmouth	<i>Podargus papuensis</i>	✓
	APODIFORMES: Apodidae		
144.	White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	✓
145.	Australian Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus terraereginae</i>	✓
	CORACIIFORMES: Alcedinidae		
146.	Azure Kingfisher	<i>Ceyx azureus</i>	✓
147.	Laughing Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	✓
148.	Blue-winged Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo leachii</i>	✓
149.	Forest Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus macleayii</i>	✓
150.	Sacred Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>	✓
151.	Torresian Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus sordidus</i>	✓
	CORACIIFORMES: Meropidae		
152.	Rainbow Bee-eater	<i>Merops ornatus</i>	✓
	CORACIIFORMES: Coraciidae		
153.	Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	✓
	FALCONIFORMES: Falconidae		
154.	Australian Kestrel	<i>Falco cenchroides</i>	✓
155.	Brown Falcon	<i>Falco berigora</i>	✓

156.	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	✓
	PSITTACIFORMES: Cacatuidae		
157.	Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii</i>	✓
158.	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i>	✓
159.	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	✓
160.	Galah	<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	✓
161.	Long-billed Corella	<i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i>	✓
162.	Little Corella	<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	✓
163.	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	✓
	PSITTACIFORMES: Psittaculidae		
164.	Australian King-Parrot	<i>Alisterus scapularis</i>	✓
165.	Turquoise Parrot	<i>Neophema pulchella</i>	✓
166.	Crimson Rosella	<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	✓
167.	Eastern Rosella	<i>Platycercus eximius</i>	✓
168.	Pale-headed Rosella	<i>Platycercus adscitus</i>	✓
169.	Red-rumped Parrot	<i>Psephotus haematonotus</i>	✓
170.	Double-eyed Fig-Parrot	<i>Cyclopsitta diophthalma</i>	✓
171.	Musk Lorikeet	<i>Glossopsitta concinna</i>	✓
172.	Rainbow Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	✓
173.	Scaly-breasted Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Pittidae		
174.	Noisy Pitta	<i>Pitta versicolor</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Menuridae		
175.	Albert's Lyrebird	<i>Menura alberti</i>	✓
176.	Superb Lyrebird	<i>Menura novaehollandiae</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Ptilonorhynchidae		
177.	Spotted Catbird	<i>Ailuroedus melanotis</i>	✓
178.	Green Catbird	<i>Ailuroedus crassirostris</i>	✓
179.	Tooth-billed Catbird	<i>Scenopoeetes dentirostris</i>	✓
180.	Golden Bowerbird	<i>Amblyornis newtoniana</i>	✓
181.	Regent Bowerbird	<i>Sericulus chrysocephalus</i>	✓
182.	Satin Bowerbird	<i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i>	✓
183.	Great Bowerbird	<i>Chlamydera nuchalis</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Climacteridae		
184.	White-throated Treecreeper	<i>Cormobates leucophaea</i>	✓
185.	Brown Treecreeper	<i>Climacteris picumnus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Maluridae		
186.	Southern Emuwren	<i>Stipiturus malachurus</i>	✓
187.	Variiegated Fairywren	<i>Malurus lamberti</i>	✓
188.	Lovely Fairywren	<i>Malurus amabilis</i>	✓
189.	Superb Fairywren	<i>Malurus cyaneus</i>	✓
190.	Red-backed Fairywren	<i>Malurus melanocephalus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Meliphagidae		
191.	Eastern Spinebill	<i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i>	✓
192.	Yellow-spotted Honeyeater	<i>Meliphaga notata</i>	✓
193.	Lewin's Honeyeater	<i>Meliphaga lewinii</i>	✓
194.	Graceful Honeyeater	<i>Meliphaga gracilis</i>	✓
195.	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	<i>Caligavis chrysops</i>	✓
196.	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus melanops</i>	✓
197.	Bell Miner	<i>Manorina melanophrys</i>	✓

198.	Noisy Miner	<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	✓
199.	Bridled Honeyeater	<i>Bolemoreus frenatus</i>	✓
200.	Little Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera chrysoptera</i>	✓
201.	Regent Honeyeater	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	✓
202.	Red Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	✓
203.	Varied Honeyeater	<i>Gavicalis versicolor</i>	✓
204.	Brown-backed Honeyeater	<i>Ramsayornis modestus</i>	✓
205.	Dusky Myzomela	<i>Myzomela obscura</i>	✓
206.	Scarlet Myzomela	<i>Myzomela sanguinolenta</i>	✓
207.	Brown Honeyeater	<i>Lichmera indistincta</i>	✓
208.	New Holland Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>	✓
209.	White-cheeked Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris niger</i>	✓
210.	Blue-faced Honeyeater	<i>Entomyzon cyanotis</i>	✓
211.	White-naped Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus lunatus</i>	✓
212.	Macleay's Honeyeater	<i>Xanthotis macleayanus</i>	✓
213.	Striped Honeyeater	<i>Plectorhyncha lanceolata</i>	✓
214.	Little Friarbird	<i>Philemon citreogularis</i>	✓
215.	Noisy Friarbird	<i>Philemon corniculatus</i>	✓
216.	Hornbill Friarbird	<i>Philemon yorkii</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Dasyornithidae		
217.	Eastern Bristlebird	<i>Dasyornis brachypterus</i>	H
	PASSERIFORMES: Pardalotidae		
218.	Spotted Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>	✓
219.	Striated Pardalote	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Acanthizidae		
220.	Yellow-throated Scrubwren	<i>Sericornis citreogularis</i>	✓
221.	White-browed Scrubwren	<i>Sericornis frontalis</i>	✓
222.	Atherton Scrubwren	<i>Sericornis keri</i>	✓
223.	Large-billed Scrubwren	<i>Sericornis magnirostra</i>	✓
224.	Mountain Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza katherina</i>	✓
225.	Brown Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>	✓
226.	Yellow-rumped Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>	✓
227.	Yellow Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza nana</i>	✓
228.	Striated Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza lineata</i>	✓
229.	Fairy Gerygone	<i>Gerygone palpebrosa</i>	✓
230.	White-throated Gerygone	<i>Gerygone olivacea</i>	✓
231.	Brown Gerygone	<i>Gerygone mouki</i>	✓
232.	Southern Whiteface	<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Orthonychidae		
233.	Australian Logrunner	<i>Orthonyx temminckii</i>	✓
234.	Chowchilla	<i>Orthonyx spaldingii</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Psophodidae		
235.	Eastern Whipbird	<i>Psophodes olivaceus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Machaerirhynchidae		
236.	Yellow-breasted Boatbill	<i>Machaerirhynchus flaviventer</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Artamidae		
237.	White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	✓
238.	Dusky Woodswallow	<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Cracticidae		
239.	Gray Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	✓

240.	Pied Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i>	✓
241.	Black Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus quoyi</i>	✓
242.	Australian Magpie	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	✓
243.	Pied Currawong	<i>Strepera graculina</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Campephagidae		
244.	Barred Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina lineata</i>	✓
245.	Black-faced Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	✓
246.	White-bellied Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina papuensis</i>	✓
247.	White-winged Triller	<i>Lalage tricolor</i>	✓
248.	Varied Triller	<i>Lalage leucomela</i>	✓
249.	Common Cicadabird	<i>Edolisoma tenuirostre</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Pachycephalidae		
250.	Crested Shrike-tit	<i>Falcunculus frontatus</i>	✓
251.	Little Shrikethrush	<i>Colluricincla megarhyncha</i>	✓
252.	Gray Shrikethrush	<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	✓
253.	Bower's Shrikethrush	<i>Colluricincla boweri</i>	✓
254.	Olive Whistler	<i>Pachycephala olivacea</i>	✓
255.	Golden Whistler	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>	✓
256.	Gray Whistler	<i>Pachycephala simplex</i>	✓
257.	Rufous Whistler	<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Oriolidae		
258.	Olive-backed Oriole	<i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	✓
259.	Green Oriole	<i>Oriolus flavocinctus</i>	✓
260.	Australasian Figbird	<i>Sphecotheres vieilloti</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Dicruridae		
261.	Spangled Drongo	<i>Dicrurus bracteatus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Rhipiduridae		
262.	Willie-wagtail	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	✓
263.	Rufous Fantail	<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	✓
264.	Gray Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albiscapa</i>	✓
265.	Northern Fantail	<i>Rhipidura</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Monarchidae		
266.	Black-faced Monarch	<i>Monarcha melanopsis</i>	✓
267.	Spectacled Monarch	<i>Symposiachrus trivirgatus</i>	✓
268.	Pied Monarch	<i>Arses kaupi</i>	✓
269.	Magpie-lark	<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	✓
270.	Leaden Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra rubecula</i>	✓
271.	Broad-billed Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra ruficollis</i>	✓
272.	Restless Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra inquieta</i>	✓
273.	Shining Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra alecto</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Corvidae		
274.	Torresian Crow	<i>Corvus orru</i>	✓
275.	Australian Raven	<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Corcoracidae		
276.	White-winged Chough	<i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Paradisaeidae		
277.	Paradise Riflebird	<i>Ptiloris paradiseus</i>	✓
278.	Victoria's Riflebird	<i>Ptiloris victoriae</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Petroicidae		
279.	Jacky-winter	<i>Microeca fascinans</i>	✓

280.	Lemon-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Microeca flavigaster</i>	✓
281.	Scarlet Robin	<i>Petroica boodang</i>	✓
282.	Pale-yellow Robin	<i>Tregellasia capito</i>	✓
283.	Eastern Yellow Robin	<i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	✓
284.	Mangrove Robin	<i>Eopsaltria pulverulenta</i>	✓
285.	White-browed Robin	<i>Poecilodryas superciliosa</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Hirundinidae		
286.	Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>	✓
287.	Fairy Martin	<i>Petrochelidon ariel</i>	✓
288.	Tree Martin	<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Acrocephalidae		
289.	Australian Reed-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus australis</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Locustellidae		
290.	Brown Songlark	<i>Megalurus cruralis</i>	✓
291.	Tawny Grassbird	<i>Megalurus timoriensis</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Cisticolidae		
292.	Golden-headed Cisticola	<i>Cisticola exilis</i>	✓
293.	PASSERIFORMES: Zosteropidae		
294.	Silver-eye	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Turdidae		
295.	Olive-tailed Thrush	<i>Zoothera lunulata</i>	✓
296.	Eurasian Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Sturnidae		
297.	Metallic Starling	<i>Aplonis metallica</i>	✓
298.	European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	✓
299.	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Dicaeidae		
300.	Mistletoebird	<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Nectariniidae		
301.	Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Motacillidae		
302.	Australasian Pipit	<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Passeridae		
303.	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	✓
	PASSERIFORMES: Estrildidae		
304.	Beautiful Firetail	<i>Stagonopleura bella</i>	L.O.
305.	Diamond Firetail	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	✓
306.	Red-browed Firetail	<i>Neochmia temporalis</i>	✓
307.	Crimson Finch	<i>Neochmia phaeton</i>	✓
308.	Plum-headed Finch	<i>Neochmia modesta</i>	✓
309.	Zebra Finch	<i>Taeniopygia guttata</i>	✓
310.	Double-barred Finch	<i>Taeniopygia bichenovii</i>	✓
311.	Blue-faced Parrotfinch	<i>Erythrura trichroa</i>	✓
312.	Chestnut-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura castaneothorax</i>	✓
313.	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	✓

MAMMALS/REPTILES/AMPHIBIANS

1	Long-Nosed Bandicoot	<i>Perameles nasuta</i>	✓
2	Northern Brown Bandicoot	<i>Isodon macrourus</i>	✓
3	Short-Beaked Echidna	<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>	✓

4	Black Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus alecto</i>	✓	
5	Spectacled Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus conspicillatus</i>	✓	
6	Gray-headed Flying Fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	✓	
7	Eastern-Grey Kangaroo	<i>Macropus giganteus</i>	✓	
8	Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo	<i>Dendrolagus lumholtzi</i>	✓	
9	Red-Legged Pademelon	<i>Thylogale stigmatica</i>	✓	
10	Red-necked Pademelon	<i>Thylogale thetis</i>	✓	
11	Platypus	<i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i>	✓	
12	Common Brushtail Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecular johnstonii</i>	✓	
13	Common Ringtail Possum	<i>Hemibelideus lumuroides</i>	✓	
14	Striped Possum	<i>Dactylopsila trivirgata</i>	✓	
15	Musky Rat-Kangaroo	<i>Hypsiprymnodon moschatus</i>	✓	
16	Giant-White-tailed Rat	<i>Uromys caudimaculatus</i>	✓	
17	Water Rat	<i>Hydromys chrysogaste</i>	✓	
18	Sugar Glider	<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	✓	
19	White-Tailed Uromys	<i>Uromys caudimaculatus</i>	✓	
20	Swamp Wallaby	<i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	✓	
21	Red-necked Wallaby	<i>Macropus rufogriseus</i>	✓	
22	Whiptail Wallaby	<i>Macropus parryi</i>	✓	
23	Common Wallaroo	<i>Macropus robustus</i>	✓	
24	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	✓	
25	Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	✓	
26	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	✓	
27	Common Wombat	<i>Vombatus ursinus</i>	✓	
1	Cane Toad	<i>Bufo marinus</i>	✓	
2	White-Lipped Tree-Frog	<i>Litoria infrafrenata</i>	✓	
3	Boyd's Forest-Dragon	<i>Hypsilurus boydii</i>	✓	
4	Amethystine Python	<i>Morelia amethystina</i>	✓	
5	Green-Tree Snake	<i>Dendrelaphis punctulata</i>	✓	
6	Red-Bellied-Black Snake	<i>Pseudechis porphyriacus</i>	✓	
7	Eastern Brown Snake	<i>Pseudonaja textilis</i>	✓	
8	Saw-Shelled Turtle	<i>Eelseya latisternum</i>	✓	
9	Long-necked Turtle	<i>Chelodina longicollis</i>	✓	
10	Eastern Water-Dragon	<i>Physignathus leseurii</i>	✓	
11	Asian House Gecko	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	✓	
12	Land Monitor	<i>Egernia major</i>	✓	
	Some Common Butterflies			
1	Cairns Birdwing	<i>Ornithoptera euphorion</i>	✓	
2	Cruiser	<i>Vindula arsinoe</i>	✓	
3	Varied Eggfly	<i>Hypolimnas bolina</i>	✓	
4	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	✓	
5	Ulysses	<i>Papilio ulysses</i>	✓	
6	Blue Tiger	<i>Tirumala limniace</i>	✓	
7	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa (Cynthia) kershawi</i>	✓	
8	Australian Caper White	<i>Belenois java teutonia</i>	✓	
9	Swordgrass White	<i>Tisiphone abeona</i>	✓	
	Insects/Spiders			

	Goliath Stick Insect	<i>Eurycnema goliath</i>	✓
	St Andrew's Cross Spider	<i>Argiope keyserlingi</i>	✓