



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Australia

South West Extension

30th September to 6th October 2016 (6 days)

East Coast

6th to 26th October 2016 (21 days)

Trip Report



Regent Bowerbird by Jonathan Rossouw

Trip Report compiled by Tour Leader: Erik Forsyth

Top 10 birds as voted by participants for Eastern Australia:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) Plains-wanderer | 2) Southern Cassowary |
| 3) Major Mitchell's Cockatoo | 4) Australian Owlet Nightjar |
| 5) Superb Lyrebird | 6) Powerful Owl |
| 7) Splendid Fairywren | 8) Golden Bowerbird |
| 9) Regents Bowerbird | 10) Bell Miner |

Tour Summary:

This 'year's tour to Australia was a huge success, with many of Australia's most sought-after birds seen, many more species added to our overall list, plus a large selection of unique mammals and quite a few reptiles also spotted. We began with our South West Australia extension, during which we found many of the toughest endemics, including Western Bristlebird, Noisy Scrubbird and Western Whipbird. We also saw Carnaby's and Baudin's Black Cockatoos, Blue-breasted Fairywren, Square-tailed Kite, Red-necked Avocet, Hooded Dotterel, Painted Buttonquail and the lovely little Red-eared Firetail.

In Eastern Australia, we had numerous highlights, too many to mention, but a pick of the bunch includes: Southern Cassowary, Plains-wanderer, Banded Stilt, Tawny and Papuan Frogmouths, Powerful Owls, Australian Owlet-nightjar, Albert's and Superb Lyrebirds, Major Mitchell's and Gang-gang Cockatoos, Ground Parrot, Noisy Pitta, Rufous Bristlebird, Victoria and Paradise Riflebird, Painted Honeyeater, Crested Shrike-Tit, Scarlet and Rose Robins, Regent and Golden Bowerbirds, Lovely, White-winged and Red-backed Fairywrens, and Diamond and Beautiful Firetails; while mammal highlights included several species of kangaroo, including the huge Red, three Duck-billed Platypus, Short-beaked Echidna, Sugar-glider and the incomparable Koala on our final day on the Red continent.

The Tour in Detail:

Opposite our hotel in Perth, several of us had an introduction to common birds of Australia, enjoying good looks at Hardhead, Australasian Darter, Dusky Moorhen, Red Wattlebird and Australian Reed Warblers. The following morning, we met up with our local guide, Frank O Connor, and began our tour of Western Australia.

In pouring rain we headed off over the escarpment to Dryandra, where we welcomed the warm sun, although a strong wind made for tough birding conditions. Despite the wind, we were soon watching the iconic Laughing Kookaburra, the beautiful Galah, Western Spinebill and Australian Ringneck.

From here, we continued on our drive to Dryandra State Forest, where a flock of Carnaby's Black Cockatoos alongside the road offered good close looks. Shortly after arriving at Dryandra State Forest, a looming cold front caught up with us



Galah by Jonathan Rossouw



and we were soon donning jerseys and umbrellas as light rain fell. Undeterred, we continued our walk, adding Common Bronzewing, Shining Bronze Cuckoo, Elegant Parrot, Rufous Treecreeper, Hooded, Scarlet and Red-capped Robins, plus a splendid Crested Shriketit of the Western race *leucogaster*. We also saw our first Blue-breasted Fairywrens - these stunners were much appreciated.

After lunch, we enjoyed good looks at Western Rosella, Black-faced and Dusky Woodswallows, White-winged Triller, Restless Flycatcher and Western Yellow Robin before continuing our drive to Naroggin, arriving in the late afternoon.

The following morning, we birded around our hotel at Narrogin, finding Australian Ringneck parrots, many New Holland Honeyeaters and more Red Wattlebirds. From there, we continued to the Stirling Range, noting a few new species en route, including Wedge-tailed Eagle, more beautiful pink Galahs, White-faced Heron, and fabulous close looks at Regent Parrots perching above us.



Crested (Western) Shriketit by Jonathan Rossouw

Later in the afternoon, we arrived at our destination, Cheyne Beach, Albany. A stop at a salt lake produced close looks at a flock of the nomadic Banded Stilts and distant scope looks at endangered Hooded Plovers. In the late afternoon we arrived at Cheyne Beach, where on our first attempt, we saw one of our main target birds, the Noisy Scrubbird, zooming across an open clearing. *A good start.*



Western Whipbird by Andrew Sutherland

Walking along the road early the next morning on day three of our tour, we connected quickly with another Noisy Scrubbird. We had much better views, than the previous day, albeit brief. Walking further into the coastal scrub produced our other target bird: Western Bristlebird, which can be very tough to find and view, and we returned well pleased for a late breakfast. Western Whipbird was also heard calling.

Birding around the cabins and grounds, we found Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Red-winged Fairywren, stunning Red-eared Firetail, Brush Bronzewing, Red-capped Parrot and Western Rosella. A day trip to the Mallee habitat at Corackerup Nature Reserve

was very enjoyable, with several excellent species seen, including Southern Scrub Robin, Purple-gaped



Honeyguide, Western Fieldwren, Shy Heathwren, White-breasted and Western Yellow Robins, and the Mallee form of Western Whipbird, ‘Mallee Whipbird’. Adding to the excitement was a brilliant close look at a Square-tailed Kite, a scarce resident. As hard as we tried, however, we could not find the Malleefowl, a rare and endangered ground dweller.

On our second-to-last day in Western Australia, we headed back to Perth, stopping at Rocky Gully for Western Corella. We enjoyed great scope looks at this endemic as they fed on the ground.

Nearby, we chanced upon a large flock of Baudin’s Black Cockatoos and enjoyed great looks as they flew into a nearby field. From here, we continued on to Perth, stopping at Franklin, where we eventually tracked down Gilbert’s Honeyeater (a split from Brown-headed) and a smart male Australian Golden Whistler.

A late afternoon walk in woodland at Dwellingup produced a smart flock of Varied Sitellas, the striking Western Thornbill, Western Whistler, White-browed Babbler and great looks at a pair of Red-eared Firetail building a nest.



Australian Ringneck by Jonathan Rossouw



Southern Cassowary by Andrew Sutherland

Our final morning in Perth was spent at Herdsman Lake, where we had an excellent time finding Blue-billed, strange Pink-eared and a rare Freckled Duck, Yellow-billed Spoonbill and Swamp Harrier. We then headed to the airport and caught our flight to Cairns, arriving late and heading straight to our hotel.

The northern tropical city of Cairns is situated almost at the north-east tip of Queensland, huddled along the shoreline of the Coral Sea. After meeting our local guide, Jonathan Munroe, we began birding in earnest. Early the next morning, we drove to Etty Beach, an area of Coastal Forest and farmlands, stopping en route, briefly, for a Black-necked Stork in flight.

Our prime reason for visiting the Etty Beach area was to look for Southern Cassowary, a scarce and highly desired species for all birders visiting this incredible country. We drove and scanned for an hour



and even scanned the beach. It was on our second visit that we chanced upon a male cassowary walking across the road, stopping briefly, before disappearing into the forest. *Awesome!*

Driving slowly through the area, we found another two birds, allowing everybody excellent looks. Here we also managed Lewin's Honeyeater and Little Bronze Cuckoo. It was time to head for lunch, which we enjoyed at the Cairns Botanical Gardens, where. There, we found many confiding Australian Brush Turkeys and Orange-footed Scrubfowl, along with Green Oriole, Australian Figbird and Royal Spoonbill trying to hide in the mangroves.

In the late afternoon, we birded along the Cairns' esplanade, where the incoming tide allowed us to scan the mudflats, which produced a host of eastern migrant waders, including Black-tailed Godwit, Great Knot, Grey-tailed Tattler, Red-necked Stint, Terek and Sharp-tailed Sandpipers, Whimbrel, Greater and Lesser Sand Plovers and Far Eastern Curlew.



Victoria's Riflebird by Lee Hunter

Early the following morning, we travelled to the Cattana Wetlands, stopping briefly for several stunning Crimson Finches and Chestnut-breasted Mannikins. The wetlands proffered smart Comb-crested Jacanas, Green Pygmy Geese and a hide and seek White-browed Crake. After this, we drove to the Atherton Tablelands, a farming area with scattered forest patches, which held a number of localised endemics. Our drive into the tablelands yielded a large mixed flock of stately Brolga and Sarus Cranes,



Wonga Pigeon by Jonathan Rossouw

allowing nice comparisons. A flock of forty-odd Topknot Pigeons were seen flying overhead, as well as Forest Kingfishers and White-breasted Woodswallows. After lunch, we visited the forest at Lake Barrine, where we scored with a family group of Chowchilla fossicking on the forest floor. In the late afternoon, we arrived at the famous Chambers Forest lodge, surrounded by lush forest and draped with epiphytes and aerial ferns. The nocturnal viewing platform produced Sugar-glders and Northern Striped Possums.

The calls of Victoria's Riflebird and Spotted and Tooth-billed Catbirds awoke us early the next morning, and both species showed well to all. Australian Brush Turkeys walked through the gardens, oblivious to our presence, Australian King Parrot sat for all to admire and, after a bit of work, we found a stunning



Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Grey-headed Robins, and appreciated scope views of a male Superb Fruit Dove. Our day in the tablelands was very busy and covered many areas. The birds included more Sarus and Brolga Cranes, fabulous Wedge-tailed Eagle, a hunting Spotted Harrier next to the road and Pacific Bazas. A visit to Hasties Swamp produced several hundred Plumed Whistling Ducks and at the famous Curtain Fig, tree we found confiding Eastern Whipbird and Satin Flycatcher.

Mount Hypipimee was our destination the following morning after breakfast, where we found a stunning male Golden Bowerbird at his bower. We also located a family trio of Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroos at a patch of forest alongside the road. Our lunch stop at Woodleigh, in the dry country, produced Blue-faced Honeyeaters and Squatter Pigeons feeding among the animal paddocks; while Emu, stately Australian Bustards and Pale-headed Rosellas were found in dry country en route to the Herbert River, along with thirty of the nomadic Cotton Pygmy Goose being scoped at Blue Lagoon.

A night walk at Jonathan's farm produced Herbert River, Lemuroid Ringtail and Coppery-brushtail Possums. We were delighted to conclude a great outing with a fantastic Northern Leaf-tailed Gecko, a pleasant surprise and a wonderful way to end the night.



Noisy Pitta by Jonathan Rossouw



Australian Logrunner by Jonathan Rossouw

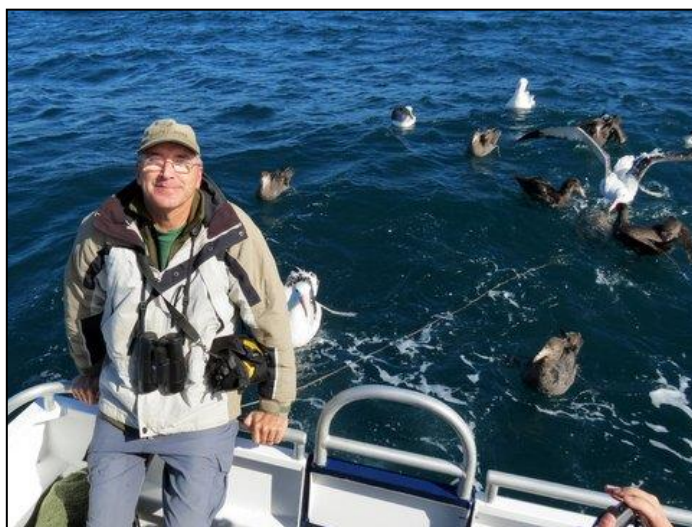
Peterson Creek was our first stop the next day where we embarked on a search for the unique Duck-billed Platypus. With persistence, we eventually located two pairs on a quiet backwater channel, allowing us extended views of this shy aquatic species as they quietly fed along the surface of the water, showing off their duck-like bill, sleek waterproof fur, and padded flattened tail. *A fantastic experience and certainly a highlight for most!* Later, we had lunch at Nevada Tea Plantation, where we again found three Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroos.

Daintree River was on the agenda the following morning, but first we stopped at Granite Rock and Jullatten. Granite Rock



gave us Rock Wallaby, Great Bowerbird and Double-barred Finch; while Jullatten came up trumps with Lovely Fairywren, Blue-faced Parrotfinch, Grey Whistler, and Spectacled and Eastern Yellow Robin.

An early morning cruise along the Daintree River the next morning produced several noisy Asian Koels flying over the river. Collared and Azure Kingfishers darted from cover and pairs of Shining Flycatchers were active in the riverine vegetation. On a quiet backwater, we were delighted to find a huge Estuarine Crocodile, which allowed prolonged views. Heading back to our hotel, we were very pleased to have close encounters with a huge Papuan Frogmouth on a nest and two large Amethystine Pythons that gave great photo opportunities. After a welcome breakfast, we visited a nearby patch of lowland Forest which produced fantastic birds, including Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher, Noisy Pitta and the scarce White-eared Monarch!



Tour leader Erik Forsyth in his element surrounded by seabirds on the pelagic trip

After saying our fond farewells to our excellent local leader, Jonathan, we flew south to the city of Brisbane in Central Queensland, where we met our next local guide, Rob Elvish. We were soon on our way to the tropical forest of famous O’Riley’s Lodge in the Lamington National Park. En route we had good looks at Little and Long-billed Corellas. A pre-breakfast walk along the forested trails near the lodge produced groups of confiding Australian Logrunner, Yellow-throated and White-throated



Beautiful Firetail by Andrew Sutherland

Scrubwrens, and Eastern Whipbirds; while Green Catbirds and Paradise Riflebirds called overhead.

The lodge’s grounds produced excellent close looks at the stunning Regent Bowerbird – the males glowing in the early morning light, Wonga Pigeon, a pair of glorious Rose Robins, and several Topknot Pigeons, Eastern Rosellas and Australian King Parrots. The latter two species were often spotted around our rooms!

After a hearty breakfast, we searched hard for the highly-desired Albert’s Lyrebird, which had been reported the previous day. We could not find the lyrebird, but were compensated with excellent close looks at Satin Bowerbirds attending their bowers. We



returned to our cabins to collect our gear but within a minute, we were informed that a lyrebird had been found and a few minutes later, everybody was watching a male foraging near a trail in the forest. *Wow!* After this success, we birded further through the forest, finding Noisy Pitta and Superb Fairywrens.



Musk Duck by Andrew Sutherland

On our final morning at O Reilly's, we came up trumps again with a very confiding Noisy Pitta, allowing super close looks at this much sought-after family. We again enjoyed views of Green Catbird, a female Paradise Riflebird, Australian Logrunner, Eastern Yellow Robin, a close pair of Bassian Thrush and a male Albert's Lyrebird (probably the same individual). We reluctantly had to leave this fabulous birding area, as we needed to catch a flight from Brisbane. We then caught another flight to the cosmopolitan city of Sydney in New South Wales, where we met our new local guide, Simon Starr, at the airport. From here, we had a quick drive past the Sydney Opera House before stopping at the Royal NP where a short walk produced Chestnut-

rumped Heathwren and Variegated Fairywren.

The following morning, we were standing on the dock at daybreak ready for our pelagic in the South Pacific. The weather was perfect and throughout the day at sea we enjoyed a variety of species,, including Short-tailed, Wedge-tailed and Flesh-footed Shearwaters, Providence Petrel, Black-browed, Shy and, best of all, a stunning Buller's Albatross, Fairy Prion, Brown Skua and a few Fluttering Shearwaters. Our journey home was enlivened by a good sighting of three Humpback Whales and a White-fronted Tern. After a long day, we headed back to our hotel, happy but tired.

Early the next morning, we drove up towards Barren Grounds Nature Reserve. On this road, we had two brief sightings of Superb Lyrebird, unfortunately though, not seen by everyone. We also had three Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos and a Short-beaked Echidna, the latter a very unusual mammal. We headed down through the grasslands at Barren grounds, where Simon and Erik flushed a Ground Parrot, which flew past for



Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater by Jonathan Rossouw



the whole group to see, a rare and endangered species. *We were so lucky!*



Plains-wanderer by Erik Forsyth

Not far from the carpark, we bumped into another rare species, Eastern Bristlebird, which showed fleetingly. We did, however, enjoy fabulous looks at a family group of Southern Emu-wrens. After lunch, we drove to Glenbrook forest, where we enjoyed good looks at Spotted Pardalote visiting its nest in a hole in a bank, as well as a lek of Bellbirds calling in a small area, and allowing close looks.

Birding was excellent in the farming area of the Capertee Valley the following morning. We picked out local specialities, including a smart pair of Crested Shrike-Tits, Southern Whiteface, Rufous Songlark, Pallid Cuckoo, Restless Flycatcher, White-winged

Chough and, at a small creek, Azure Kingfisher, several beautifully marked Diamond Firetails, Jacky Winter, a pair of Restless Flycatchers, a family group of Brown Treecreepers, a Plum-headed Finch, Eastern Rosellas and Red-rumped Parrots; plus, best of all, a stunning male Turquoise Parrot, a very scarce bird, found by Simon. Driving back in the late afternoon, we chanced upon a Swamp Wallaby foraging by the side of the road. After a fabulous day in the Capertee Valley, we arrived back at our hotel for a good night's rest.

An incredible sighting of seventeen Satin Bowerbirds gleaning insects off the surface of the pool greeted us the following morning! Later, we visited Lithgow Sewage Ponds, where we found Hoary-headed Grebes and a female Blue-billed Duck. At Lake Wallace we watched the bizarre Musk Duck, and a shy pair of Blue-billed Duck; while Australian Reed Warblers and Little Grassbird played hide-and-seek in the reedbeds. We continued our drive to Temora, first stopping for a flock of Cockatiels alongside the road. Lunch at the Japanese Gardens in Cowra allowed us great looks at a pair of confiding Superb Parrots. Speckled Warbler, a lone Little Eagle as well as Crested Shrike-Tit were found in the late afternoon at Bumbaldry State Forest.



Banded Lapwing by Jonathan Rossouw





Short-beaked Echidna by Jonathan Rossouw

Our main reason for travelling to this remote region, however, was a chance to venture out at night in search of the little-known Plains-wanderer, belonging to a monotypic family of unknown affinities and thought by ornithologists to be most closely related to the seedsnipes of South America.

After a quick dinner, we drove 4x4s into fields where we scoured the surroundings with spotlights. During our drive, we found Little Buttonquail, Horsfield's Bush Lark, Brown Songlark, Stubble Quail and numerous Banded Lapwings. It was at the 11th hour that we found our target, spotted by Lynne, a beautifully marked Plains-wanderer, which completed a perfect excursion into the Outback! After a late night, we were exhausted but elated with this fantastic experience.

Although the following day was mainly a travel day, we still managed several good birds. At the Zara Hills area we found Yellow-throated Miners; while at Monimill, we had good looks at the scarce White-backed Swallow. Later, we visited Old McDonald Swamp, where we racked up several waterbirds, including Musk, Pink-eared and Blue-billed Ducks, Black-fronted Dotterel, Pied Stilt and several Superb Fairywrens. We also popped into Middle Lake near Kerang, which held up to 20,000 breeding Straw-necked Ibis; while Lake Tuchewop had a flock of seventy of the nomadic Banded Stilt and three Red-necked Avocet.

A flowering gum tree at Boort the following morning held many Musk Lorikeets and a few small, fast flocks of Purple-crowned Lorikeets; while the nearby cemetery held a stunning Blue Bonnet,

At the small country town of Beckam the following morning we embarked on a fair search before Lawrence spotted the highly desirable Major Mitchell's Cockatoo, much to everyone's delight. We eventually saw four birds in this area. In the late afternoon, we arrived at the town of Hay and after a short break, we headed off to Deniliquin to meet our guide, Phil Maher, for the evening's tour. After passing endless farmlands and increasingly arid landscape where several Emu were seen, we met up with our guide and proceeded to the birding areas. En route we had great looks at White-winged Fairywren, Brown Songlark and Horsfield's Bush Lark. Best of all was a lone Black Falcon seen sitting on a fence pole.



Koala by Jonathan Rossouw



a small but scarce parrot. At a nearby lake we found a Tawny Frogmouth on the nest with two large chicks, allowing great photo opportunities. We then made our way to Mt Kerang, where we enjoyed several hours of fantastic birding. Rain had fallen recently here and the area was alive with birdsong and many trees and flowers were in bloom. Our tally here was excellent and included such mouthwatering species as Painted Honeyeater, Diamond Firetail, a dazzling Red-capped Robin, Gilbert's Whistler and great scope looks at a pair of Wedge-tailed Eagles displaying over their territory. Toward the end of the day, we visited a site at Inglewood and, after a short wait, a Shy Heathwren popped into view, allowing good looks. From here we continued to Bendigo, our stop for the night.

Our first stop the following morning was the wonderful Mackelford State Forest. After a short drive along a forested road, we quickly found a pair of Hooded Robin and then in quick succession, White-bellied Cuckooshrike and a scarce Black-eared Cuckoo, responding well to its playback by posing for photos. It wasn't long before Simon heard a distantly calling Crested Bellbird, a notoriously difficult species to locate due to its retiring nature. It took a while to track it down but after much perseverance we located it singing high in a tree and enjoyed great scope looks. After lunch, we drove to the coastal town of Anglesea on the coast, where we soon picked up several Hooded Plovers and Red-necked Stints on the beach, and two Rufous Bristlebirds and a Striated Fieldwren in the coastal thickets.

Birding near the hotel the following morning, we found Forest Raven, Rufous Bristlebird and across a valley, Gang-gang Cockatoos in flight. At the jetty, we bumped into Black-faced Cormorants as well as the huge-billed Pacific Gulls. We then travelled to the Cape Ottway NP to look for one of Australia's most iconic mammals - the Koala. Here we enjoyed fantastic close looks at several cuddly creatures and reacquainted ourselves with many Eastern Rosellas and King Parrots. A little later we walked over Backward Hill, looking for Blue-winged Parrots but, unfortunately, none were found; so it was a huge surprise when driving along the coast that that we had two birds flying alongside the bus, allowing for great looks! We finished the tour off in Geelong with a visit to a local wetland where we found nine Cape Barren Geese, a fitting way to end a magical tour. So many great bird and mammal encounters.

Thank you everyone (local guides Frank, Jonathan, Rob and Simon) for making this the huge success that it was!

Annotated List of species recorded

Birds (347 in total: 346 seen, 1 heard)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2015. IOC World Bird List (v 5.3). Status codes: E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced IUCN codes: CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient



Cassowaries: Casuariidae

Southern Cassowary

Casuarius casuarius

Driving several times around the Etty Beach area near Cairns, after a tense search, we were rewarded with fabulous looks at three separate birds within two hours. First, a single sub-adult was seen crossing the road in thick forest, another was seen in a rural garden and a third bird was seen distantly crossing an open plain and entering a forest patch. Fantastic!

EMU: Dromaiidae

Emu (E)

Dromaius novaehollandiae

Our first sightings were in Western Australia en route to Rocky Gully, with further sightings in Mallee habitat at Corackerup Nature Reserve. In Eastern Australia, this species was again seen in the West Temora-Hay-Deniliquin areas.

MAGPIE GOOSE Anseranatidae

Magpie Goose

Anseranas semipalmata

Commonly recorded at wetlands around Cairns and in the Atherton Tablelands.

DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS: Anatidae

Plumed Whistling Duck (E)

Dendrocygna eytoni

Our only sighting was of 300 at Hasties Swamp. A striking bird.

Black Swan

Cygnus atratus

This beauty was first seen in Western Australia at Henderson Lake. In the East, it was recorded in the Atherton Tablelands and at Lithgow.

Freckled Duck (E)

Stictonetta naevosa

This scarce species was scoped at Lake Henderson in Western Australia.

Raja (Radjah) Shelduck

Tadorna radjah

Great looks at eight birds near the Botanical gardens in Cairns, with a further sighting as we drove past the Wonga fishponds, near Daintree.

Australian Shelduck (E)

Tadorna tadornoides

Fairly commonly seen in Western Australia, with further sightings at Lake Tutchewop and near Apollo Bay.

Pink-eared Duck (E)

Malacorhynchus membranaceus

This odd-looking but beautiful duck was recorded at Beaufort River in Western Australia, with a further sighting in the East at Lake Tutchewop.

Maned Duck (E)

Chenonetta jubata

Commonly recorded in the West and East of Australia.

Cotton Pygmy Goose

Nettapus coromandelianus

Up to forty of these stunning birds were seen very well at a small lake en route to the Atherton Tablelands.

Green Pygmy Goose

Nettapus pulchellus

Recorded at Kattana Wetlands and at the Mareeba Wetlands.

Pacific Black Duck

Anas superciliosa

Common throughout our tour.

Australian Shoveler

Anas rhynchos



Recorded only at Old McDonald Swamp, where we scoped a pair.

Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*

Recorded at a few wetlands throughout the tour.

Chestnut Teal (E) *Anas castanea*

Recorded in Western Australia at the Fitzgerald River in the West and at Binya in the East.

Hardhead (White-eyed) Duck *Aythya australis*

A pair was seen in Perth and a few birds were seen at Old McDonald Swamp in the East.

Blue-billed Duck (E) *Oxyura australis*

Good looks at several birds at Herdsman Lake in Perth, with a further sighting at Lake Wallace at Lithgow.

Musk Duck (E) *Biziura lobata*

Two birds at Herdsman Lake, Western Australia, with a further sighting at Lake Wallace, Lithgow and at Old McDonald Swamp.

MEGAPODES: Megapodiidae

Australian Brush-turkey (E) *Alectura lathamii*

Commonly seen around the Cairns area, Atherton Tablelands and in Lamington NP near Brisbane.

Orange-footed Scrubfowl *Megapodius reinwardt*

Commonly seen in forest around the Cairns and Atherton Tablelands areas.

GUINEAFOWL: Numididae

Helmeted Guineafowl (I) *Numida meleagris*

A few of these introduced birds, which have feral populations, were seen in the Atherton Tablelands.

PHEASANTS, FOWL & ALLIES: Phasianidae

Stubble Quail (E) *Coturnix pectoralis*

Excellent close looks at a female on our night drive in the Deniliquin area.

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora*

Two were seen briefly in flight at Cheyne Beach, Western Australia, and another bird was at Kerang in the East.

AUSTRAL STORM PETRELS: Oceanitidae

Wilson's Storm Petrel *Oceanites oceanicus*

Four birds were seen well off Wollongong.

ALBATROSSES: Diomedidae

Black-browed Albatross *Thalassarche melanophrys*

A single bird was seen off Wollongong.

Shy (White-capped) Albatross *Thalassarche cauta cauta*

The common albatross species was seen on our pelagic off Wollongong and a further two were seen off the headland at Lorne.

Note: the race T. cauta steadi was also recorded off Wollongong



Buller's Albatross

Thalassarche carteri

A stunning adult was seen on our Wollongong pelagic. A good find!

PETRELS & SHEARWATERS: Procellariidae

Providence Petrel (BE)

Pterodroma solandri

Up to 15 of these breeding endemics were seen on our Wollongong pelagic trip.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater

Puffinus pacificus

Great views of several on our pelagic off Wollongong.

Sooty Shearwater

Puffinus griseus

A singleton was seen on our Wollongong pelagic.

Short-tailed Shearwater

Puffinus tenuirostris

Ten were recorded off Wollongong. The common "muttonbird" here.

Flesh-footed Shearwater

Puffinus carneipes

We had good looks at up to three birds on our Wollongong pelagic.

Fluttering Shearwater

Puffinus gavius

Small numbers were seen off Wollongong.

GREBES: Podicipedidae

Australasian Grebe

Tachybaptus novaehollandiae

Recorded widely at wetlands throughout the tour.

Hoary-headed Grebe (E)

Poliocephalus poliocephalus

Sightings at the water works station near Lithgow, with further sightings at Lake Wallace.

Great Crested Grebe

Podiceps cristatus

First recorded at Herdsman Lake in Perth, with further sightings of up to 100 at Lake Barrine in the Atherton Tablelands and at Lithgow water treatment works.

STORKS: Ciconiidae

Black-necked Stork

Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus

A single bird was seen in flight en route from Cairns to the Atherton Tablelands.

IBISES & SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae

Australian (White) Ibis

Threskiornis molucca

Commonly recorded at wetlands and paddocks.

Straw-necked Ibis

Threskiornis spinicollis

Commonly recorded at wetlands and grasslands throughout the tour.

Glossy Ibis

Plegadis falcinellus

A single bird was seen at Herdsman Lake, Perth, our only sighting of the tour.

Royal Spoonbill

Platalea regia

A single bird in the Cairns area and near Kerang.

Yellow-billed Spoonbill (E)

Platalea flavipes

A single bird was seen en route to Cheyne Beach, with other sightings at Herdsman Lake, Lake Wallace and near Hay.



HERONS: Ardeidae

Nankeen (Rufous) Night Heron
Recorded at Herdsman Lake, Perth.

Nycticorax caledonicus

Striated Heron

Butorides striata

Recorded on the Daintree River.

[Eastern] Cattle Egret

Bubulcus coromandus

Commonly recorded in the east.

White-necked (Pacific) Heron

Ardea pacifica

First recorded at Temora, with further sightings in the Boort/Hay area.

Great Egret

Ardea alba

Recorded at waterbodies throughout.

NOTE: The nominate Old World Great Egret may be split from the New World A. a. egretta, which would become American Egret. This split is as yet not recognised by Clements.

Intermediate Egret

Egretta intermedia

Just a few sightings at various wetlands in the east.

NOTE: This group may be split into three species, the African Yellow-billed Egret (E. brachyrhyncha), Plumed Egret (E. plumifera) and the nominate Intermediate Egret. This split is as yet not recognized by Clements.

White-faced Heron

Egretta novaehollandiae

Small numbers seen throughout the tour.

Little Egret

Egretta garzetta

First recorded at Herdsman Lake in Perth, with a few others seen at mangroves and lagoons at Cairns, the Daintree River.

NOTE: Clements lumps Little and Madagascar's Dimorphic (E. dimorpha) Egret into a single species. This treatment is not widely accepted.

PELICANS: Pelecanidae

Australian Pelican

Pelecanus conspicillatus

First recorded in Perth, with further sightings at wetlands and lakes throughout the tour.

GANNETS: Sulidae

Australian Gannet

Morus serrator

Good views on the Wollongong pelagic and from the lighthouse at Anglesea, Lorne.

CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae

Little Pied Cormorant

Phalacrocorax melanoleucos

A commonly seen wetland species.

Black-faced Cormorant (E)

Phalacrocorax fuscescens

Four of this scarce species were seen at Apollo Bay.

Little Black Cormorant

Phalacrocorax sulcirostris

Commonly seen throughout our tour.

(Australian) Pied Cormorant

Phalacrocorax varius

Recorded around Wollongong and at Apollo Bay.

Great Cormorant

Microcarbo melanoleucus

Seen in small numbers throughout our tour.



DARTERS Anhingidae

Australasian Darter

Anhinga novaehollandiae

First recorded in Perth, with a few other sightings around Cairns and the Daintree River.

NOTE: *A. melanogaster* is split into three separate species by the IOC that includes African Darter (*A. rufa*) and Australasian Darter (*A. novaehollandiae*). The nominate is the species we recorded and is now known as Oriental Darter.

OSPREYS: Pandionidae

[Eastern] Osprey

Pandion cristatus

Recorded at Cheyne Beach, Albany, at Lake Mitchell and near Cairns.

KITES & EAGLES: Accipitridae

Black-shouldered (Australian) Kite (E)

Elanus axillaris

Fairly common in open grassland areas throughout the tour.

NOTE: This species is sometimes split into Black-winged Kite, *E. caeruleus* of Africa and Asia, White-tailed Kite, *E. leucurus* of the Americas and Black-shouldered Kite, *E. axillaris* of Australasia. Both Clements and the IOC accept these splits.

Square-tailed Kite (E)

Lophoictinia isura

A singleton of this rather scarce species was seen well at Corackerup NR. A great find!

Pacific Baza

Aviceda subcristata

We enjoyed good sightings of two pairs in the Atherton Tablelands, with further sightings at Daintree River and at Cowra.

Little Eagle (E)

Aquila morphnoides

Single birds were seen well at Mareeba wetlands, Capertee Valley and at Loddon River.

Wedge-tailed Eagle

Aquila audax

We enjoyed scattered sightings of this spectacular large eagle at various sites throughout the tour, including a showy pair at Mt Kerang.

Grey Goshawk (E)

Accipiter novaehollandiae

Great looks at an adult perched in an open tree in the Atherton Tablelands.

Brown Goshawk

Accipiter fasciatus

Six sightings were had of this large goshawk.

Collared Sparrowhawk

Accipiter cirrocephalus

Our only sighting was of a singleton in the Dryandra woodland in Western Australia.

Swamp Harrier

Circus approximans

Two sightings in reedbeds around Cheyne Beach, with further sightings in the Atherton Tablelands and around the Kerang wetlands.

Spotted Harrier

Circus assimilis

A male and female were seen in the Atherton Tablelands and a further two sightings were had near Temora and Hay.

Black Kite

Milvus migrans

A regularly recorded raptor in the east.

Whistling Kite

Haliastur sphenurus

A single bird was seen on our return to Perth, with further sightings around Cairns and Hay/Deniliquin.



Brahminy Kite*Haliastur Indus*

Two sightings around Cairns.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle*Haliaeetus leucogaster*

First recorded at Cheyne Beach in the west, with further sightings at Daintree River, the Atherton Tablelands and at Kerang.

BUSTARDS: Otididae**Australian Bustard***Ardeotis australis*

Ten of these stately birds were seen in grasslands en route to the Hebert River Crossing, with a further sighting near the Mareeba wetlands.

RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS: Rallidae**White-browed Crake***Porzana cinerea*

Good looks at a bird at the Cattana Wetlands in Cairns.

Purple Swamphe*Porphyrio porphyrio*

First recorded at Herdsman Lake, Perth, with a few further sightings at wetlands throughout the tour.

This is a distinct species. The form we recorded would then become Grey-headed Swamphe (P. poliocephalus). Other forms to be recognized may include Philippine Swamphe (P. pulverulentus), Black-backed Swamphe (P. indicus) and Eastern Swamphe (P. melanotus). Clements does not as yet accept any of these splits. The IOC accepts African Swamphe P. madagascariensis and Purple Swamphe P. porphyrio

Dusky Moorhen*Gallinula tenebrosa*

First recorded at a botanical garden opposite our hotel in Perth, thereafter, occasionally seen at wetlands throughout the tour.

Eurasian Coot*Fulica atra*

Recorded at several wetlands throughout the tour.

CRANES: Gruidae**Sarus Crane***Grus antigone*

Good numbers were seen well in the Atherton Tablelands. We enjoyed close looks and heard their trumpeting calls. This is a fairly recent coloniser (1966) to Australia from Asia.

Brolga*Grus rubicund*

Great close views of many birds on the ground and in flight in the Atherton Tablelands. There is a small resident population in Southern New Guinea.

BUTTONQUAILS: Turnicidae**Painted Buttonquail***Turnix varius*

Two female birds were seen very well in the Dryandra woodland of Western Australia

Little Buttonquail*Turnix velox*

Fantastic looks at a singleton on our night drive in the Deniliquin area.

STONE-CURLEWS: Burhinidae**Bush (Thick-knee) Stone-curlew***Burhinus grallarius*

We enjoyed close looks at several of these nocturnal birds in the Cairns and Atherton Tablelands areas.



OYSTERCATCHERS: Haematopodidae

Pied Oystercatcher (E) *Haematopus longirostris*
Good sightings at Cheyne Beach, Albany, our only sighting of the tour.

Sooty Oystercatcher (E) *Haematopus fuliginosus*
Good sightings at Cheyne Beach, Albany, and a single bird seen by Per along the coast at Cape Otway.

STILTS, AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae

White-headed (Pied) Stilt *Himantopus leucocephalus*
Recorded at Fitzgerald River, Albany, Hasties Swamp and at the Old McDonald Swamp near Kerang.

Banded Stilt (E) *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*
We enjoyed fantastic scope looks at twenty birds at a salt pan near Cheyne Beach, with a further group of seventy birds at Lake Tutchewop near Kerang. This is one of Australia's most nomadic species breeding in interior desert lakes and dispersing widely to certain coastal salt pans.

Red-necked Avocet (E) *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*
Great scope looks at the above species at Lake Tutchewop and at the Boort salt-pans.

PLOVERS: Charadriidae

Banded Lapwing (E) *Vanellus tricolor*
We enjoyed excellent close looks at up to twenty birds on our night drive at Deniliquin.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles*
Commonly seen throughout the tour.

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*
Two birds were scoped at Cairns Esplanade.

Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*
A single bird was seen at Cairns Esplanade.

Red-capped Plover (E) *Charadrius ruficapillus*
Recorded at Cairns Esplanade and at Lake Tutchewop.

Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*
Four birds were seen at Cairns Esplanade among the many Greater Sand Plovers.

Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultia*
Up to thirty-five birds were seen at Cairns Esplanade.

Hooded (Plover) Dotterel (E) (EN) *Thinornis cucullatus*
A distant bird was found at Camel Lake NR, with further sightings at Apollo Bay. This is an endangered species due to habitat loss and predation by domestic animals.

Black-fronted Dotterel *Elsayornis melanops*
First recorded at Corackerup NP, with further sightings at Beaufort River and at Old McDonald Swamp.

JACANAS: Jacanidae

Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*
Recorded at several wetlands around Cairns and in the Atherton Tablelands area.

PLAINS-WANDERER: Pedionomidae

Plains-wanderer (E) *Pedionomus torquatus*



We were ecstatic to find a female of this nocturnal, nomadic and rare species on our night drive near Deniliquin. This is a highly sought-after species, with only one representative in the family. Well done to Lynne for spotting our only bird!

SANDPIPERS, SNIPES: Scolopacidae

Latham's Snipe

Gallinago hardwickii

Our only sighting was of eight birds flushed in wet grassland at the Ayre's Inlet, near Lorne.

Black-tailed Godwit

Limosa limosa

Six birds were scoped at Cairns Esplanade.

Bar-tailed Godwit

Limosa lapponica

Twenty-five were recorded at Cairns Esplanade.

Whimbrel

Numenius phaeopus

Recorded at Cairns Esplanade.

Far Eastern Curlew

Numenius madagascariensis

Four birds seen well at Cairns Esplanade.

Common Greenshank

Tringa nebularia

Two birds at Camel Lake NR.

Grey-tailed Tattler

Heterosceles brevipes

Great scope looks at Cairns Esplanade.

Terek Sandpiper

Xenus cinereus

Four of these smart birds were recorded at Cairns Esplanade.

Ruddy Turnstone

Arenarina interpres

A single bird was found roosting on offshore rocks at Apollo Bay.

Great Knot

Calidris tenuirostris

Up to one hundred were scoped at Cairns Esplanade.

Red Knot

Calidris canutus

Two birds were found at Lake Tutchewop; a scarce inland species.

Red-necked Stint

Calidris ruficollis

Good scope looks at Cairns Esplanade and at Anglesea while searching for Hooded Plover.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Calidris acuminata

Good numbers at Cairns Esplanade.

Curlew Sandpiper

Calidris ferruginea

Five birds were seen at Cairns Esplanade.

GULLS: Laridae

Silver Gull

Larus novaehollandiae

Recorded at all coastal sites throughout the tour.

Pacific Gull (E)

Larus pacificus

Good looks at this endemic gull with its huge bill at Cheyne Beach, Albany and at Apollo Bay, Lorne.

Gull-billed Tern

Sterna nilotica

Two birds were recorded at Cairns Esplanade.

Greater Crested Tern

Sterna bergii

Recorded at Cheyne Beach, on our pelagic out of Wollongong and at Apollo Beach.



White-fronted Tern

Chlidonias hybridus

A single bird was seen at Woollongong on our pelagic trip.

SKUAS AND JAEGER-Stercorariidae

Brown Skua

Stercorarius antarcticus

We had good looks at two birds around the boat.

PIGEONS, DOVES: Columbidae

Rock (Feral) Pigeon

Columba livia

Commonly recorded throughout the tour.

White-headed Pigeon

Columba leucomela

Two birds were seen well at Chambers Rainforest Lodge.

Spotted Dove

Streptopelia chinensis

This introduced species was seen at several sites throughout the tour.

Brown Cuckoo-Dove (E)

Macropygia phasianella

Small numbers around Cairns and the Atherton Tablelands.

[Pacific] Emerald Dove

Chalcophaps indica

Seen on the roads on the drive to and from Chambers Rainforest Lodge and at O Reilly's near Brisbane.

Common Bronzewing (E)

Phaps chalcoptera

Recorded at Cheyne Beach, Albany and at several sites in New South Wales.

Brush Bronzewing (E)

Phaps elegans

Good looks at Cheyne Beach, Albany.

Crested Pigeon (E)

Geophaps lophotes

Commonly seen throughout the tour.

Squatter Pigeon (E)

Geophaps scripta

Several of these nomadic and dry country species were found at our lunch stop at Woodleigh Farm, with a further sighting of three on our visit to Granite Rock in the dry country near Mareeba.

Wonga Pigeon (E)

Leucosarcia melanoleuca

Close looks at this confiding beauty at O Reilly's Resort, Lamington NP.

Diamond Dove (E)

Geopelia cuneata

We were lucky to find two birds before our night drive in the Hay-Deniliquin area.

Peaceful Dove

Geopelia placida

Common, seen throughout the East.

Bar-shouldered Dove

Geopelia humeralis

Recorded around Cairns and the Daintree River area.

Wompoo Fruit Dove

Ptilinopus magnificus

Great looks at several birds at Chambers Forest Lodge and at Daintree River.

Superb Fruit Dove

Ptilinopus superbus

A single of these attractive birds was seen at Chambers Forest Lodge and another at Daintree River.

Pied Imperial Pigeon

Ducula bicolor

This strikingly plumaged bird was commonly seen around Cairns, the Atherton Tablelands and at Daintree River.

Topknot Pigeon (E)

Lopholaimus antarcticus



This pigeon with the strange “hairdo” was seen in flight in the Atherton Tablelands, with further views at O Reilly’s Lodge, Lamington NP.

CUCKOOS: Cuculidae

Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*

Good views in the Atherton Tablelands and in Cane fields en route to Daintree River.

Pacific (Australian) Koel (BE) *Eudnamys orientalis cyanocephalus*

After hearing it calls for several days, we eventually had excellent views at Daintree River.

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*

Our only sighting was of a flying bird en route to Etty Beach. Heard calling at Daintree and at Atherton.

Horsfield’s Bronze Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx basalis*

Excellent views were had of a calling bird at Binya State Forest and Anakie Gorge.

Black-eared Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx osculans*

We enjoyed fabulous scope looks at a responsive bird at Mackelford State Forest.

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx lucidus*

Heard at several sites and seen at Corackerup NP and at O Reilly’s.

Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus*

Good views at Etty Beach.

Pallid Cuckoo *Cacomantis pallidus*

Recorded at the Dryandra woodland and at Capertee Valley.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*

Great looks at vocal birds at Cheyne Beach, Albany, with further sightings at Atherton Tablelands and in the Blue Mountains.

BARN OWLS: Tytonidae

(Greater) Sooty Owl (H) *Tyto tenebricosa*

Heard at Chambers Forest Lodge.

OWLS: Strigidae

Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*

Fantastic close looks at a pair of roosting bird at Loddon River in Victoria.

FROGMOUTHS: Podargidae

Papuan Frogmouth *Podargus papuensis*

First we saw a bird sitting on a nest at Cairns Botanical Gardens and then another on our boat trip on the Daintree River, allowing close approach and excellent views.

Tawny Frogmouth (E) *Podargus strigoides*

We enjoyed fabulous looks at a bird on a nest at Little Lake near Kerang.

OWLET-NIGHTJARS: Aegothelidae

Australian Owlet-nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus*

Good looks at a roosting bird at Deniliquin.



SWIFTS: Apodidae

Australian Swiftlet (E) *Aerodramus terraereginae*

Commonly seen in Cairns, the Atherton Tablelands and Daintree area.

White-throated Needletail *Hirandapus caudacutus*

A single bird was seen briefly in the Atherton Tablelands.

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae

Laughing Kookaburra (E) *Dacelo novaeguineae*

This iconic Australian bird was common throughout the tour.

Forest Kingfisher *Todirhamphus macleayii*

Commonly seen in Cairns, the Atherton Tablelands and on the Daintree River.

Torresian (Collared) Kingfisher *Todirhamphus chloris*

Only recorded at Cairns Botanic Gardens at Daintree River.

Sacred Kingfisher *Todirhamphus sanctus*

Seen on eleven dates.

Azure Kingfisher *Alcedo azurea*

Singletons in Cairns on the Daintree River boat trip and another two in the Capertee Valley.

Little Kingfisher *Ceyx pusillus*

A single bird was seen by some of the group in Cairns Botanic gardens.

Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher *Tanysiptera Sylvia*

Good but brief views were had of this summer visitor to the Daintree area. Unfortunately, a Spangled Drongo chased it away before all could see it!

BEE-EATERS: Meropidae

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

Only two were seen near Perth, and then recorded at several areas in the east.

FALCONS: Falconidae

Nankeen Kestrel *Falco cenchroides*

Commonly seen in grassland habitats.

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis*

Singletons were seen at Daintree River, Capertee Valley, and a pair were scoped in our motel grounds at Hay and near Geelong.

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora*

First recorded at Cheyne Beach, Albany, with further sightings in the West Wyalong-Hay-Deniliquin area.

Black Falcon (E) *Falco subniger*

A single bird was seen perched on a fence in the open plains of Hay. This is a scarce resident and highly sought after.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrines*

Recorded at O Reilly's and at Mt Kerang.

NOTE: IOC splits *F. peregrinus* into two species, Peregrine Falcon (*F. peregrinus*) and Barbary Falcon (*F.*



pelegrinoides) of SW Europe & N Africa. Clements doesn't recognize this split.

COCKATOOS: Cacatuidae

Cockatiel

Nymphicus hollandicus

Several of these nomadic birds were seen between Temora and Hay.

Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (E)

Calyptorhynchus banksii

Two sightings near Perth and good numbers in dry eucalyptus woodland en route to the Atherton Tablelands were our only sightings.

Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

Calyptorhynchus funereus

Three birds were seen well en route to the Barren Grounds NR near Kiama.

Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (E)

Calyptorhynchus latirostris

Regular sightings from Dryandra to Cheyne Beach.

Baudin's Black Cockatoo (E)

Calyptorhynchus baudini

We had excellent close looks at a large flock found along the roadside at Dwellingup.

Gang-gang Cockatoo (E)

Callocephalon fimbriatum

Eight birds were seen distantly at the Lorne viewpoint.

Galah (E)

Eolophus roseicapillus

This beauty was commonly seen throughout the tour and enlivened many a day.

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo

Lophochroa leadbeteri

After a fair search, we had fabulous looks at this highly sought-after species near the small town of Beckam. Great find!

Long-billed Corella (E)

Cacatua tenuirostris

First recorded at Rocky Gully in the West. In the East, we recorded the species on eight days.

Western Corella (E)

Cacatua pastinator

Thirty birds were seen at Rocky Gully in Western Australia.

Little Corella (E)

Cacatua sanguine

First recorded in the Perth area, with further daily sightings in New South Wales.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

Cacatua galerita

Always a treat and commonly seen throughout the eastern side of Australia.

PARROTS: Psittacidae

Superb Parrot (E)

Polytelis swainsonii

We enjoyed fabulous close looks at four birds in the Japanese Gardens at Cowra.

Regent Parrot (E)

Polytelis anthopeplus

Great close looks at six birds on our drive from Narrogin to Cheyne Beach.

Australian King-Parrot (E)

Alisterus scapularis

This strikingly plumaged species was seen well in the Atherton Tablelands, in Lamington NP and in the Blue Mountains.

Red-rumped Parrot (E)

Psephotus haematonotus

Commonly seen in the Capertee Valley, Hay and Deniliquin areas, where we enjoyed many a close sighting of this small parrot.

Eastern Bluebonnet (E)

Northiella haematogaster



A few birds were located in the Deniliquin area and at Boort Cemetery, where we enjoyed great scope looks. "Everything is better with a Bluebonnet on it."

Redcapped Parrot (E)

This attractive species was seen at Dryandra and in the Cheyne Beach areas.

Crimson Rosella (E) *Platycercus elegans*

First recorded in the Atherton Tablelands, with further sightings at Lamington NP and around Katoomba.

[Crimson (Yellow) Rosella] (E) *Platycercus elegans flaveolus*

Two birds were seen in flight along Murambidge River in the Hay area. Our only sighting of the tour.

Pale-headed Rosella (E) *Platycercus adscitus*

Recorded only in dry woodlands near Hebert River and near Bendigo.

Eastern Rosella (E) *Platycercus eximius*

Recorded from the Capertee Valley through to Boort, where it was seen in small numbers daily.

Western Rosella (E) *Platycercus icterotis*

A few pairs were seen at Dryandra and at Cheyne Beach.

Australian Ringneck (E) *Barnardius barnardi*

Small numbers were seen daily in Western Australia and then a few birds were seen at Beckam in the east.

Eastern Ground Parrot (E) *Pezoporus wallicus*

Fabulous looks as a bird flushed and flew past the group in slow flight. Brilliant!

Blue-winged Parrot (E) *Neophema chrysostoma*

Fabulous looks at a pair flying alongside the bus on the coastal road at Lorne.

Elegant Parrot (E) *Neophema elegans*

We enjoyed a few sightings in the woodlands at Dryandra, the Sterling ranges and at Beaufort River.

Turquoise Parrot (E) *Neophema pulchella*

Simon found a striking male feeding in a grassy area in the Capertee Valley. A fabulous look!

Little Lorikeet (E) *Glossopsitta pusilla*

A small flock of ten birds was seen in flight at Herbert River and a further six were recorded near Temora.

Purple-crowned Lorikeet (E) *Glossopsitta porphyrocephala*

Fairly common in Western Australia, with further sightings Woodlands Historic Reserve at Geelong.

Rainbow Lorikeet (E) *Trichoglossus haematodus*

A beautiful and common species seen almost daily throughout the tour.

Scaly-breasted Lorikeet (E) *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*

Recorded in the Atherton Tablelands and at Daintree.

Musk Lorikeet (E) *Glossopsitta concinna*

Sixty-plus birds were seen congregating in a flowering Gum tree at Boort.

Double-eyed Fig-Parrot *Cyclopsitta diophthalma*

We had excellent looks at Yorky's Knob, Etty Beach, in the Atherton Tablelands, including a very close pair at Lake Barrine.

PITTAS: Pittidae

Noisy Pitta (E) *Pitta versicolor*

We enjoyed fantastic close looks at Daintree River and a calling pair at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.



LYREBIRDS: Menuridae**Albert's Lyrebird (E)** *Menura alberti*

Fantastic close looks at a very confident male found feeding around O'Reilly's Lodge, Lamington NP on two days.

Superb Lyrebird (E) *Menura novaehollandiae*

We enjoyed fabulous looks of two birds daily at various sites in the Blue Mountains.

SCRUBBIRDS: Atrichornithidae**Noisy Scrubbird (E)** *Atrichornis rufescens*

First heard calling and then brief looks as the birds ran across the open road on two occasions at Cheyne Beach.

BOWERBIRDS: Ptilonorhynchidae**Green Catbird (E)** *Ailuroedus crassirostris*

Good close looks at O'Reilly's, Lamington NP.

Spotted Catbird *Ailuroedus melanotis*

We enjoyed daily sightings at Chambers Rainforest Lodge, Lake Barrine, and Curtain Fig in the Atherton Tablelands.

Tooth-billed Bowerbird (Catbird) (E) *Ailuroedus dentirostris*

Another songster seen daily at Chambers Rainforest Lodge, Curtain Fig, and Lake Barrine in the Atherton Tablelands.

Golden Bowerbird (E) *Prionodura newtoniana*

This was a highlight of our trip to Mount Hypipimee, where a magnificent male allowed close approach at his bower. We were dazzled by his striking plumage as he sat on a branch nearby, unconcerned by our presence!

Regent Bowerbird (E) *Sericulus chrysocephalus*

We enjoyed fabulously close looks, at over-the-top dazzling males and several camouflaged females at O'Reilly's in Lamington NP. Our only sightings of the tour.

Satin Bowerbird (E) *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

We once again enjoyed fabulous close looks at several confident birds adding sticks to their bowers at O'Reilly's, Lamington NP. These birds had several blue items including clothes pegs and bottle tops as the chosen colours to enhance the display area for female admirers.

Great Bowerbird (E) *Chlamydera nuchalis*

Recorded in the dry country around Granite Rock near Malanda. A dull looking bird but the purple patch on the back of the head was seen well.

AUSTALASIAN TREECREEPERS: Climacteridae**White-throated Treecreeper (E)** *Cormobates leucophaeus*

Ten sightings, with our first at Chambers Forest Lodge, Atherton Tablelands.

Rufous Treecreeper (E) *Climacteris rufus*

We had good looks at this species in the Dryandra Woodlands.

Brown Treecreeper (E) *Climacteris picumnus*

First recorded in the Capertee Valley, where we watched a family group feeding among fallen trees, with further sightings in woodlands around Bendigo.

AUSTRALASIAN WRENS: Maluridae

Lovely Fairywren (E)

Malurus amabilis

We had excellent looks at this scarce rainforest species at Jullatten.

Variegated Fairywren (E)

Malurus lamberti

Our only sighting was of a confiding pair at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.

Blue-breasted Fairywren (E)

Malurus pulcherrimus

This stunner was seen at Dryandra and Cheyne Beach.

Red-winged Fairywren (E)

Malurus elegans

Recorded at Dryandra and in the camp and surrounds at Cheyne Beach.

Superb Fairywren (E)

Malurus cyaneus

This beautiful bird was recorded on eleven dates in eastern Australia.

Splendid Fairywren (E)

Malurus splendens

Good looks at Dryandra and at the Stirling Range.

Red-backed Fairywren (E)

Malurus melanocephalus

Good looks in dry country in the Herbert River area, in grasslands in the Tablelands and near Temora.

White-winged Fairywren (E)

Malurus leucopterus

We enjoyed amazing looks at a striking male and three female birds in dry grasslands on the Hay Plains.

Southern Emuwren (E)

Stipiturus malachurus

We had good looks at two birds in the Cheyne Beach area and further great looks at four in Barren Grounds Reserve near Kiama.

HONEYEATERS: Meliphagidae

Dusky Myzomela

Myzomela obscura

Common around Cairns and the Daintree River.

Scarlet Myzomela (E)

Myzomela sanguinolenta

This attractively plumaged bird was seen well around the Atherton Tablelands.

Tawny-crowned Honeyeater (E)

Gliciphila melanops

First recorded at Cheyne Beach, with several further sightings at around Cairns, the Herbert River area and Mt Kerang.

Eastern Spinebill (E)

Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris

This stunning honeyeater was pleasantly common and seen on eleven dates. Our first sighting was at Lake Barrine.

Western Spinebill (E)

Acanthorhynchus superciliosus

This beauty was seen at Dryandra and at Cheyne Beach.

Brown Honeyeater

Lichmera indistinct

Commonly recorded around Perth, Cairns, Daintree River and the Atherton Tablelands.

Crescent Honeyeater (E)

Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus

Recorded at Barren Grounds Reserve and Cape Ottway NP.

New Holland Honeyeater (E)

Phylidonyris novaehollandiae

Recorded daily in Western Australia and from Sydney in the east.



White-cheeked Honeyeater (E)	<i>Phylidonyris nigra</i>
Small numbers around Cheyne Beach, Perth, Herbert River and in flowering bushes at Granite Rock.	
Painted Honeyeater (E)	<i>Grantiella picta</i>
A single bird was heard calling and then seen at Mt Kerang. Albeit brief, we had a good look.	
Striped Honeyeater (E)	<i>Plectorhyncha lanceolata</i>
Good view in the Capertee Valley.	
Macleay's Honeyeater (E)	<i>Xanthotis macleayana</i>
Recorded in small numbers daily in the Atherton Tablelands.	
Helmeted Friarbird	<i>Philemon buceroides</i>
Common around Cairns and Daintree.	
Noisy Friarbird	<i>Philemon corniculatus</i>
A more widespread species that we saw on nine dates.	
Blue-faced Honeyeater	<i>Entomyzon cyanotis</i>
First recorded at Woodleigh Farm, Herbert River, with further sightings at Granite Rock, in the Daintree and in the dry country between West Wyalong-Hay-Deniliquin.	
Black-chinned Honeyeater (E)	<i>Melithreptus gularis</i>
Recorded at Blambaldry Forest at Temora.	
Brown-headed Honeyeater (E)	<i>Melithreptus brevirostris</i>
Singletons at the Beaufort River near Perth, with further sightings in the Capertee Valley and at Mt Kerang.	
Gilbert's Honeyeater (E)	<i>Melithreptes chloropsis</i>
A single bird was seen at Kooranjerup in Western Australia.	
White-throated Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus albogularis</i>
Small numbers at Granite Rock en route to Daintree River.	
White-eared Honeyeater (E)	<i>Lichenostomus leucotis</i>
Good looks in the Blue Mountains, Mt Kerang and at Mackelford Forest.	
White-fronted Chat (E)	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>
A female was seen near Perth and small flocks were found around the Hay Plains.	
Brown-backed Honeyeater	<i>Ramsayornis modestus</i>
Recorded at Yorky's Knob Lagoon, where we found a bird attending a nest.	
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E)	<i>Acanthagenys rufogularis</i>
Good looks at several birds in the Hay-Deniliquin area.	
Red Wattlebird (E)	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>
Common around Western Australia and seen daily from Sydney to Apollo Bay.	
Little Wattlebird (E)	<i>Anthochaera chrysoptera</i>
Our only sightings were at coastal Kiama and at Anglesea.	
Western Wattlebird (E)	<i>Anthochaera lunulata</i>
A single bird was found at the 11 th hour near Perth.	
Bridled Honeyeater (E)	<i>Lichenostomus frenatus</i>
Seen at Warrigal Farm, Atherton Tablelands.	
Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E)	<i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i>
Recorded in Cairns, at the Capertee Valley and in the Blue Mountains.	
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater (E)	<i>Lichenostomus melanops</i>



This attractive species was seen well in the Blue Mountains and at Mt Kerang.

Purple-gaped Honeyeater (E) *Lichenostomus cratitius*

Good looks at ten birds in Mallee habitat, Corackerup NR.

Graceful Honeyeater *Meliphaga gracilis*

Recorded at Julatten and at Daintree River.

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*

Fabulous views of several calling birds at a Lek in Glenbrook Forest.

Noisy Miner (E) *Manorina melanocephala*

A common species seen in the dryer country throughout the tour.

Yellow-throated Miner (E) *Manorina flavigula*

Our only sighting was of six birds at Zara Sand Hills. A scarce resident.

Yellow Honeyeater (E) *Lichenostomus flavus*

Great looks at Woodleigh Farm at Herbert River and at Granite Rock.

Fuscous Honeyeater (E) *Lichenostomus fuscus*

Common along the river in the Capertee Valley; these were our only sightings of this species.

Singing Honeyeater (E) *Lichenostomus virescens*

Good sightings at wetlands around Perth and at coastal Lorne.

Varied Honeyeater *Lichenostomus versicolor*

Good looks in coastal forest in the Cairns area.

Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E) *Lichenostomus ornate*

Common at Dryandra and Mt Kerang.

White-plumed Honeyeater (E) *Lichenostomus penicillatus*

Common along the river in the Capertee Valley, with further sightings in the West Wyalong-Hay-Deniliquin areas.

Yellow-spotted Honeyeater (E) *Meliphaga notata*

Two were seen well at Etty Beach, where its distinctive call was heard.

Lewin's Honeyeater (E) *Meliphaga lewinii*

Great looks at this species in the Atherton Tablelands and at Lamington NP.

BRISTLEBIRDS: Dasyornithidae

Eastern Bristlebird (E) *Dasyornis brachypterus*

Brief views at Barren Grounds NR.

Western Bristlebird (E) *Dasyornis longirostris*

Great views of three calling birds at Cheyne Beach, Albany one morning.

Rufous Bristlebird (E) *Dasyornis broadbenti*

Fabulous close looks on two occasions in coastal bush at Anglesea, Lorne

PARDALOTES: Pardalotidae

Spotted Pardalote (E) *Pardalotus punctatus*

Commonly heard and occasionally seen throughout the tour. The yellow-rumped 'Mallee form' was seen at Corackerup NP.

Striated Pardalote (E) *Pardalotus striatus*



Recorded singly in the dry country from Dryandra near Perth and from Lithgow to Geelong.

AUSTRALASIAN WARBLERS: Acanthizidae

- Chestnut-rumped Heathwren** *Calamanthus pyrrhopygius*
Great views at Royal NP near Sydney.
- Shy Heathwren (E)** *Hylacola cauta*
A pair was seen very well at Corackerup NP in Albany and another pair at Inglewood Reserve.
- Striated Fieldwren** *Calamanthus fuliginosus*
Good views in coastal thickets at Anglesea.
- Western (Rufous) Fieldwren** *Calamanthus campestris*
We had good looks at three birds at Corackerup NP.
- Speckled Warbler (E)** *Pyrrholaemus sagittatus*
Two birds were seen well at Bumbaldry Forest near Temora.
- White-browed Scrubwren (E)** *Sericornis frontalis*
Commonly seen throughout the tour.
- Yellow-throated Scrubwren (E)** *Sericornis citreogularis*
Good looks in the Atherton Tablelands and close looks on the boardwalk at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.
- Large-billed Scrubwren (E)** *Sericornis magnirostris*
Fairly common in montane forests.
- Weebill (E)** *Smicromis brevirostris*
A couple of pairs were seen in woodland at Dryandra, Beaufort River, Capertee Valley and at Mt Kerang.
- Brown Gerygone (E)** *Gerygone mouki*
First recorded in the Atherton Tablelands, with scattered sightings thereafter to West Wyalong.
- Western Gerygone (E)** *Gerygone fusca*
Small numbers in Western Australia and a singing bird at Binya State Forest.
- Large-billed Gerygone** *Gerygone magnirostris*
A pair was seen building a nest at Jullatten and along Daintree River.
- White-throated Gerygone** *Gerygone olivacea*
A single bird was seen well in the Capertee Valley.
- Mountain Thornbill (E)** *Acanthiza katherina*
A pair was seen well in the Atherton Tablelands.
- Brown Thornbill (E)** *Acanthiza pusilla*
First recorded in the Atherton Tablelands, with further sightings from Sydney and west into the interior.
- Inland Thornbill (E)** *Acanthiza apicalis*
A flock of six birds was seen at Dwellingup and at Binya State Forest.
- Buff-rumped Thornbill (E)** *Acanthiza reguloides*
A flock of six birds was seen in the Capertee Valley.
- Western Thornbill** *Acanthiza inornata*
Two birds were found in the Dryandra woodlands.
- Yellow-rumped Thornbill (E)** *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*
Recorded on eight days.
- Chestnut-rumped Thornbill (E)** *Acanthiza uropygialis*



Four birds were seen well at Mt Kerang.

Yellow Thornbill (E) *Acanthiza nana*

Good looks in trees opposite our hotel in Wollongong.

Southern Whiteface (E) *Aphelocephala leucopsis*

A flock of eight birds was seen in open woodland in the Capertee Valley and at Mt Kerang.

AUSTRALASIAN BABBLERS: Pomatostomidae

Grey-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis*

First recorded at the Capertee Valley, Temora and at Binya Forest.

White-browed Babbler (E) *Pomatostomus superciliosus*

Brief sightings at Corackerup NR and again in the Capertee Valley and at Mt Kerang.

LOGRUNNERS: Orthonychidae

Southern (Australian) Logrunner (E) *Orthonyx temminckii*

Great views of several birds at O Reilly's Lodge in Lamington NP.

Chowchilla (E) *Orthonyx spaldingii*

We had excellent looks at a small flock feeding in leaf litter at Lake Barrine.

WHIPBIRDS & QUAILTHRUSHES: Psophodidae

Western Whipbird (E) *Psophodes nigrogularis*

We had excellent close looks at a calling pair in the "Mallee form" at Corackerup NP.

Eastern Whipbird (E) *Psophodes olivaceus*

We heard this species in all the forests and had good looks at the Curtain Fig, Lake Barrine and at Chambers Rainforest Lodge, and confiding birds at the boardwalk at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.

BOATBILLS: Machaerirhynchidae

Yellow-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer*

Having heard this species on several occasions, we enjoyed great views of this beauty at Chambers Forest Lodge.

WOODSWALLOWS, BUTCHERBIRDS & ALLIES: Artamidae

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*

Common around Cairns, the Daintree area and around Bendigo.

Black-faced Woodswallow *Artamus personatus*

Good views were had almost daily in Western Australia.

Dusky Woodswallow (E) *Artamus cyanopterus*

Recorded daily in Western Australia and from the Capertee Valley to Lithgow in small numbers in the eastern side of the country.

Black Butcherbird *Cracticus quoyi*

Great looks at Etty Beach, the Botanic Gardens in Cairns, with further sightings at Chambers Rainforest Lodge and at Daintree River.

Grey Butcherbird (E) *Cracticus torquatus*

Our only sighting was of a lone bird in Yungaburra.



Pied Butcherbird (E)

Cracticus nigrogularis

First recorded in the Atherton Tablelands, with irregular sightings in dry country thereafter.

Australasian Magpie

Gymnorhina tibicen

Commonly seen throughout the tour.

Pied Currawong (E)

Strepera graculina

First recorded in the Atherton Tablelands, with regular sightings thereafter.

Grey Currawong (E)

Strepera versicolor

Recorded at Dryandra and the Sterling ranges in the west and at Anglesea near Lorne.

CUCKOOSHRIKES: Campephagidae

Black-faced Cuckooshrike

Coracina novaehollandiae

Commonly recorded throughout the tour.

Barred Cuckooshrike

Coracina lineate

Small groups were seen daily at Chambers Rainforest Lodge.

White-bellied Cuckooshrike

Coracina papuensis

Singletons and pairs seen in Cairns, the Atherton Tablelands and at Daintree River.

Common Cicadabird

Coracina tenuirostris

Seen well at Daintree River.

White-winged Triller

Lalage tricolor

Three were seen at Beaufort River, Western Australia, with a further sighting at Kerang.

Varied Triller

Lalage leucomela

Seen well in the Atherton Tablelands and at Daintree River.

SITTELLAS: Neosittidae

Varied Sittella

Neositta chrysoptera

We enjoyed great looks at a flock of eight birds in woodland at Dwellingup in Western Australia.

AUSTRALO-PAPUAN BELLBIRDS-Oreoicidae

Crested Bellbird (E)

Oreoica gutturalis

A male was seen singing high up in a tree at Mackelford State Forest. A great find!

WHISTLERS & ALLIES: Pachycephalidae

Crested Shriketit (E)

Falcunculus frontatus

Fabulous looks at a pair of these striking birds at Dryandra woodland in Western Australia, with further sightings at Wondeccla and in the Capertee Valley in the East.

Gilbert's Whistler (E)

Pachycephala inornata

We had great looks at a male found singing at Mt Kerang.

Grey Whistler

Pachycephala simplex

We had good looks at Jullatten.

Australian Golden Whistler

Pachycephala pectoralis

Recorded on twelve dates in the east.

Western Whistler (E)

Pachycephala occidentalis



Recorded at Cheyne Beach and at Porongurup Reserve.

Rufous Whistler (E) *Pachycephala rufiventris*

First seen at Glen Eagle's campsite, with further sightings at Chambers Forest Lodge, plus recorded on another five dates.

Little (Rufous) Shrikethrush *Colluricincla megarhyncha*

Five sightings in the Atherton Tablelands at Warrigal Farm and at Chambers Rainforest Lodge.

Bower's Shrikethrush (E) *Colluricincla boweri*

This endemic was seen in forest at Chambers Rainforest Lodge, Curtain Fig and at Lake Barrine, Atherton Tablelands.

Grey Shrikethrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

First recorded at Dryandra and then seen regularly throughout the east.

FIGBIRDS & ORIOLES: Oriolidae

Australasian Figbird *Sphecotheres viridis*

Commonly seen from Cairns to Sydney.

Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus*

First recorded in the Atherton Tablelands, with further sightings at Lake Mitchell and in the Capertee Valley.

Green (Yellow) Oriole *Oriolus flavocinctus*

First recorded at the Botanic Gardens in Cairns, with a further sighting at Daintree.

DRONGOS: Dicruridae

Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus*

Recorded daily from Cairns to Daintree with a noticeable southward migration of many birds from Daintree. These birds are believed to winter in the Yorke Peninsula and southern Papua New Guinea.

FANTAILS: Rhipiduridae

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

This common species was much enjoyed because of its confiding nature and lovely call.

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura fuliginosa*

Recorded daily in Western Australia and commonly seen in the east.

Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons*

Good looks at Jullatten, Daintree and then at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.

MONARCHS: Monarchidae

Spectacled Monarch *Symposiachrus trivirgatus*

This beauty was seen in the Atherton Tablelands and at Lake Barrine

Black-faced Monarch (BE) *Monarcha melanopsis*

Singletons were seen at Yorky's Knob and at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.

White-eared Monarch (E) *Carterornis leuostis*

This scarce species was seen in lowland forest at Daintree River.

Pied Monarch (E) *Arses kaupi*

Two sightings at Curtain Fig in the Atherton Tablelands.



Magpie-Lark*Grallina cyanoleuca*

This entertaining species was common throughout the tour.

Leaden Flycatcher*Myiagra rubecula*

Only two sightings at Yorky's Knob and at Henmetta Creek, Atherton Tablelands.

Satin Flycatcher*Myiagra cyanoleuca*

A male was found at Chambers Rainforest lodge, and another at Lake Barrine, while a pair was found at the Cape Otway State Forest in Victoria.

Shining Flycatcher*Myiagra alecto*

Three pairs were seen on our Daintree River boat trip.

Restless Flycatcher (E)*Myiagra inquieta*

We had good looks at a pair on our lunch stop in the Stirling ranges and at another pair in the Capertee Valley.

CROWS: Corvidae**Torresian Crow***Corvus orru*

First recorded in the dry country at the Herbert River Crossing, with further sightings at Daintree and in farmland below Lamington NP.

Forest Raven (E)*Corvus tasmanicus*

A pair was found at Anglesea, Lorne.

Little Raven (E)*Corvus mellori*

This species can be difficult to distinguish from the Australian Raven, until small flocks are seen and the calls distinctly heard! Seen in small groups around Geelong.

Australian Raven (E)*Corvus coronoides*

Recorded throughout Western Australia and then again at Kiama, Sydney, and recorded daily thereafter.

AUSTRALIAN MUDNESTERS: Corcoracidae**White-winged Chough (E)***Corcorax melanorhamphos*

This ground-feeding species was commonly seen in the dry country, first in the Capertee Valley and then from Temora to Deniliquin. Their mud nests were conspicuous in gum trees.

Apostlebird (E)*Struthidea cinerea*

Another communal species found in dry country from Temora to Hay, often in the same areas as the above species.

BIRDS-OF-PARADISE: Paradisaeidae**Paradise Riflebird (E)***Ptiloris paradiseus*

Great looks at a female bird at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.

Victoria's Riflebird (E)*Ptiloris victoriae*

Fantastic looks at male and female birds at Chambers Wildlife Rainforest Lodge, with further sightings at the Curtain Fig and Lake Barrine areas.

AUSTRALIAN ROBINS: Petroicidae**Grey-headed Robin (E)***Heteromyias cinereifrons*

Pleasantly common at Chambers Rainforest Lodge and Lake Barrine in the Atherton Tablelands.



Mangrove Robin *Peneoenanthe pulverulenta*

Excellent looks at a pair found in mangroves in the Cairns area.

Pale-yellow Robin (E) *Tregellasia capito*

A single at Lake Barrine and several at Lamington NP.

Eastern Yellow Robin (E) *Eopsaltria australis*

Recorded daily at Lamington NP and in the Blue Mountains.

Western Yellow Robin (E) *Eopsaltria griseogularis*

Good looks in Dryandra woodland in the west.

White-breasted Robin (E) *Eopsaltria Georgiana*

Good looks at the Stirling Range and at Cheyne Beach.

Hooded Robin (E) *Melanodryas cucullata*

First recorded at Dryandra, near Perth and then singletons in dry woodland at Mackelford Forest.

Jacky Winter *Microeca fascians*

Singletons at Dryandra near Perth and another en route to the Herbert River Crossing. We then enjoyed good looks at several in the Capertee Valley.

Rose Robin *Petroica rosea*

Excellent close looks at a pair of these beauties at O Reilly's, Lamington NP

Scarlet Robin (E) *Petroica boodang*

Great looks at a pair in Dryandra woodland, near Perth, and in the Brisbane Ranges in Victoria.

Red-capped Robin (E) *Petroica goodenovii*

Great looks at this cracker in the Dryandra woodland and at Binya Forest and Mt Kerang.

Southern Scrub Robin (E) *Drymodes brunneopygia*

Fabulous close looks at this shy species at Corackerup NR in Albany.

LARKS: Alaudidae

Horsfield's (Australasian) Bush Lark *Mirafra javanica*

A singleton of this species was seen on our drive from Hay to Deniliquin.

BULBULS: Pycnonotidae

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

This introduced species was recorded at Lithgow waterworks.

SWALLOWS & MARTINS: Hirundinidae

White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosterna*

We enjoyed good looks at a bird hunting on the wing at Monimill, NSW.

Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena*

Recorded daily throughout the tour.

Fairy Martin (BE) *Petrochelidon ariel*

Small numbers seen around Cairns, Daintree River, Kerang and Hay.

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Good views were had during our Western Australia extension and in the Hay-Kerang area. We had very close looks at several birds at nest holes in Woodlands Historic Reserve, Melbourne airport.



REED WARBLERS & ALLIES: Acrocephalidae

Australian Reed-Warbler (E) *Acrocephalus australis*

Recorded in small numbers in reedbeds opposite our hotel in Perth and at Lake Wallace.

GRASSBIRDS & ALLIES: Megaluridae

Rufous Songlark (E) *Megalurus mathewsi*

We enjoyed great views of displaying birds in the Capertee Valley, with further sightings in woodlands from Temora through to Hay.

Brown Songlark (E) *Megalurus cruralis*

Great views of two in the late afternoon and on our night drive in Deniliquin.

Little Grassbird (E) *Megalurus gramineus*

Great views at Lake Wallace in Lithgow.

CISTICOLAS & ALLIES: Cisticolidae

Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*

A singleton was seen well in grasslands at Ayres Inlet, Anglesea.

WHITE-EYES: Zosteropidae

Silver-eye *Zosterops lateralis*

Recorded throughout the tour.

STARLINGS: Sturnidae

Metallic Starling *Aplonis metallica*

Recorded in small flocks in the Cairns and Daintree area.

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*

Recorded on most days of the tour.

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

Commonly recorded from Sydney to Deniliquin.

THRUSHES: Turdidae

Bassian Thrush (E) *Zoothera lunulata*

Fabulous looks at O Reilly's, Lamington NP and on the road up to Barren Grounds Reserve.

Common (Eurasian) Blackbird *Turdus merula*

This introduced species was seen widely in towns from Sydney to Bendigo.

FLOWERPECKERS: Dicaeidae

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

Recorded in Cairns, Atherton Tablelands, Binya State Forest and at Mt Kerang.

SUNBIRDS: Nectariniidae

Olive-backed Sunbird *Cinnyris jugularis*

Commonly seen around Cairns and the Daintree areas.



OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*
Commonly found around human settlements.

WAXBILLS & ALLIES: Estrildidae

Red-eared Firetail (E) *Stagonopleura oculata*
A single bird at Cheyne Beach and fabulous looks at a pair building a nest at Dwellingup.

Diamond Firetail (E) *Stagonopleura guttata*
We enjoyed fabulous close looks at this stunner in the Capertee Valley and three at Mt Kerang.

Red-browed Finch (E) *Neochmia temporalis*
First seen at a cafeteria at Lake Eacham and then on a further five dates.

Crimson Finch *Neochmia phaeton*
A small flock was found in grassland near the Cattana Wetlands in the Cairns area.

Double-barred Finch (E) *Taeniopygia bichenovii*
First recorded at our lunch stop at the Mareeba Wetlands with a further sighting at in the Capertee Valley.

Blue-faced Parrotfinch *Erythrura trichroa*
Three birds were seen well at Jullatten en route to Daintree.

Scaly-breasted (Nutmeg) Mannikin *Lonchura punctulata*
Good views in the Atherton Tablelands.

Chestnut-breasted Munia *Lonchura castaneothorax*
Recorded in grasslands adjoining wetlands in Cairns, Atherton Tablelands and at Daintree Valley.

WAGTAILS & PIPITS: Motacillidae

Australian Pipit *Anthus (novaeseelandia) australis*
Recorded in grasslands in Western Australia, with further sightings in the Capertee Valley and Hay areas.

FINCHES: Fringillidae

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*
This introduced species was seen in Lorne, Bendigo and at Loddon in Victoria.

Annotated List of Mammal Species

KOALAS: Phascolarctidae

Koala (E) *Phascolarctos cinereus*
Fabulous close looks at several of these iconic Australian mammals at the Great Otway NP.

PLATYPUS: Ornithorhynchidae

Platypus (E) *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*
Great looks at three of these bizarre creatures at Peterson Creek in the Atherton Tablelands.



ECHIDNAS: Tachyglossidae

Short-beaked Echidna (E) *Tachyglossus aculeatus*

Excellent close looks in Dyandra Woodland in the west and two near Jamberoo, south of Sydney.

BANDICOOTS: Peramelidae

Southern Brown Bandicoot *Isodon obesulus*

A singleton was seen at Cheyne Beach, Albany.

Long-nosed Bandicoot (E) *Perameles nasuta*

Seen at Chambers Rainforest Lodge in the Atherton Tablelands.

MUSKY RAT-KANGAROO: Hypsiprymnodontidae

Musky Rat-Kangaroo (E) *Hypsiprymnodon moschatus*

We had excellent close looks at two of these mini-kangaroos on the roads around Lake Eacham and Lake Barrine.

KANGAROOS, WALLABIES & TREE KANGAROOS: Macropodidae

Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo (E) *Dendrolagus lumholtzi*

Fantastic looks at a family group of three in the Atherton Tablelands.

Agile Wallaby *Macropus agilis*

Seen on three days in the Atherton Tablelands.

Red-necked Wallaby (E) *Macropus rufogriseus banksianus*

Good looks at Chambers Rainforest Lodge and at Lamington NP.

Western Grey Kangaroo (E) *Macropus fuliginosus*

Recorded daily in Western Australia and between Hay and Deniliquin in the east of the country.

Eastern Grey Kangaroo (E) *Macropus giganteus*

Recorded at the Herbert River, in Capertee Valley and at the Deniliquin and Kerang areas.

Whiptail (Pretty-face) Wallaby *Macropus parryi*

Recorded at the Herbert River area and at Lamington NP.

Mareeba Rock Wallaby (E) *Petrogale mareeba*

We visited Granite Rock, where we enjoyed close looks at several in this area.

Red-legged Padamelon *Thylogale stigmatica*

Recorded at Chambers Rainforest Lodge and at Lamington NP.

Red-necked Pademelon (E) *Thylogale thetis*

Close looks at several confiding individuals at O Reilly's, Lamington NP.

Black (Swamp) Wallaby (E) *Wallabia bicolor*

A singleton was seen as we drove out of the Capertee Valley.

GLIDERS & ALLIES: Petauridae

Striped Possum *Dactylopsila trivirgata*



This striking beast was seen nightly at Chambers Rainforest Lodge.

Sugar Glider

Petaurus breviceps

Close looks at this cutie nightly at Chambers Rainforest Lodge in the Atherton Tablelands.

POSSUMS & RINGTAILS: Phalangeridae

Common Brushtail Possum (E)

Trichosurus vulpecula

We enjoyed good looks at the entrance walk to Warrigal NR.

Coppery Brushtail Possum (E)

Trichosurus vulpecula johnstonii

Good looks on our night walk at Warrigal Preserve.

RINGTAIL POSSUMS Pseudocheiridae

Lemuroid Ringtail Possum (E)

Hemibelideus lemuroides

Good looks at six on our night walk at Warrigal Preserve.

Herbert River Ringtail Possum (E)

Pseudocheirus herbertensis

Good looks at a singleton at Warrigal Preserve.

Common Ringtail Possum

Pseudocheirus peregrinus

Good views of four on our nightwalk at O'Reilly's, Lamington NP.

RABBITS Leporidae

European Rabbit

Oryctolagus cuniculus

Scattered sightings, especially in the Hay/Deniliquin area.

European Hare

Lepus europaeus

Seen at a few sites.

DOLPHINS Delphinidae

Common Dolphin

Delphinus delphis

Good views on our Kiama pelagic tour.

WHALES: Balaenopteridae

Humpback Whale

Megaptera novaengliae

Reasonable views at three on our pelagic off Wollongong.

Old World Fruit Bats: Pteropodidae

Spectacled Flying Fox

Pteropus conspicillatus

Seen by most of the group around Cairns.

Other sightings:

Estuarine Crocodile



Eastern Water Dragon
Eastern Bearded Dragon
Boyd's Forest Dragon
Frill-necked Dragon
Blue-tongue Lizard
Northern Leaf-tailed Gecko
Shingleback
King Skink
Amethystine Python
Common Tree Snake
Kreft's Water Tortoise
Saw-shelled Terrapin
White-lipped Tree Frog
Motorbike Frog
Banjo (Poblebonk) Frog

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