



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Australia

East Coast & Tasmania Extension II

28th September to 21st October 2018 (24 days)

Trip Report



Crested Shrike-tit by John Kendall

Trip report compiled by tour leader, Steve Davidson

North Queensland

Day 1: 28th September. Our first day of this huge and breathtaking tour involved a group meet and greet at breakfast in the foyer of our Cairns accommodation, followed by rapid-fire birding along the parklands, mangroves and mudflats at the north end of The Esplanade, followed by a visit to Centenary Lakes alongside the Flecker Botanic Gardens. Birds seen included Torresian Imperial Pigeon, Mangrove Robin, Varied Honeyeater, Olive-backed Sunbird, Peaceful Dove, Rose-crowned Fruit Dove, Terek Sandpiper, Great Knot, Helmeted Friarbird, Eastern Osprey nesting in a telecom tower(!), Radjah Shelduck with a single shelduckling in tow, Peaceful Dove, Rainbow Bee-eater, Australasian Darter, Australian Swiftlet overhead and nesting Brown-backed Honeyeaters. Rainbow Lorikeets and Australasian Figbirds were a constant and noisy presence everywhere.



Rainbow Lorikeets by John Kendall

Before lunch, we stopped in at some forest-fringed wetlands north of Cairns for a quick scout around, finding Green Pygmy Goose, Comb-crested Jacana, Black Butcherbird, Leaden Flycatcher, Green Oriole, Varied Triller and Wandering Whistling Duck.

Late afternoon saw us scoping out some extensive mudflats as the tide dropped, finding good numbers of Lesser and Greater Sand Plovers, Red-capped Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Far Eastern Curlew, Little Tern, Grey-tailed Tattler, Silver Gull and the much-wanted target bird: a pair of endangered Beach Stone-curlew.

Day 2: 29th September. An early morning departure from Cairns had us heading south to a very much anticipated and well-known location to try our luck for Southern Cassowary. On arrival, a good hour passed before we finally had our quarry, a truly magnificent and huge female cassowary along the



Southern Cassowary by John Kendall

roadside, barely pausing for photographs before turning back into the forest. Much relief and easing of tensions ensued and we could relax a bit, birding the general area and picking up Lovely Fairywren, Pheasant Coucal, White-bellied Sea Eagle and Macleay's Honeyeater, amongst others.

Heading up into the Atherton Tablelands, we saw Yellow-spotted Honeyeater, Silveryeye, White-breasted Woodswallow and Mistletoebird en route, with Cattle Egrets a constant open country presence.

After a sumptuous lunch at a café high on the tablelands, we made our way to the accommodation, settling in and having a look

around. Immediate bird activity there included Grey-headed Robin, Spotted Catbird, Lewin's Honeyeater and the ubiquitous brush-turkeys...

Dinner on site was a major bonus, allowing us to view nocturnal wildlife completely at leisure, and with full bellies. On show were Striped Possum, Sugar Glider and a somewhat more reticent Long-nosed Bandicoot.

Days 3 - 5: 30th September - 2nd October.

Intrepid birders that we are, we convened at first light every morning in the gardens outside our lodgings to witness the dawn chorus, and what a cacophony it was. At least 3-4 Victoria's Riflebird were in attendance, including a resplendent male, Spotted Catbird, a furtive Tooth-billed Bowerbird, Bower's Shrikethrush, Scarlet and Dusky Myzomelas, demure but highly attractive Barred Cuckooshrike, flocks of Topknot Pigeon feeding on rainforest fruits, as were regular Wompoo Fruit Dove, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Macleay's Honeyeater, Silvereye, Pale Yellow Robin and a brief view of the uncommon Tropical Rosella, currently subspecies *nigrescens* of Crimson Rosella, that may be a future split into full species.



Wompoo Fruit Doves by John Kendall

Birding the clearings and the edges of nearby high-altitude rainforest over the following three mornings, we picked up some classy birds, with Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Shining Bronze Cuckoo, Channel-billed Cuckoo, White-headed Pigeon, Eastern Spinebill, White-throated Treecreeper (ssp *minor*, Little Treecreeper), Graceful Honeyeater, Large-billed Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone and Spectacled Monarch being the standouts.



Yellow-breasted Boatbill by John Kendall

Chowchilla, Pied Monarch, a rather vociferous Bower's Shrikethrush, rare yet difficult and underwhelming Atherton Scrubwren, Bridled Honeyeater, Tooth-billed Bowerbirds singing crazily and robotically at their leafy avenue displays, Pale Yellow Robins at the nest, a honeyeater festooned flowering *Bombax* tree and the ubiquitous Grey Fantail were highlights as well.

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Ranging widely across the landscape, we visited open cane-fields where Sarus Crane, Brolga, Nankeen Kestrel, Brown Falcon and a lucky Australian Bustard were in attendance. Lucky for us that is, not so much for the bustard, who fled.

Wetlands in the area had a few treats for us as well, and we were privy to a wide range of waterbirds and gallery forest birds. Flocks of Freckled Duck, Pink-eared and Pacific Black Ducks, thousands of Plumed

Whistling Duck, Magpie Goose, Yellow-billed and Royal Spoonbills, Nankeen Night Heron, Great, Intermediate and Little Egrets, White-necked and White-faced Herons, Glossy, Straw-necked and Australian White Ibises, Red-kneed and Black-fronted Dotterels, Sharp-tailed Sandpipers and Australasian Darter were all deeply appreciated by the group.

Sacred and Forest Kingfishers, and a very fortunate sighting of a Little Kingfisher that was not seen by all of the party, sadly, Collared Sparrowhawk, White-cheeked Honeyeater, Black-faced Monarch, Buff-banded Rail, Red-backed Fairywren, Bar-shouldered Dove, Australian Reed Warbler, White-bellied Sea Eagle and Whistling Kite all rounded out the peripheral species.

Nocturnal wildlife rambles included sorties to various nearby localities, where we had good views of a Lesser Sooty Owl, and mammals that included Green Ringtail Possum, Coppery Brushtail Possum, Giant White-tailed Uromys, Fawn-footed Melomys, Red-legged Pademelon and Musky Rat Kangaroo.

Platypus was the standout critter, however, and over two daytime visits we enjoyed wonderful views of this amazing monotreme in a rainforest creek nearby to our accommodation.

Reptiles seen during our time on the tablelands were pretty cool affairs too, with Northern Leaf-tailed Gecko, Carpet Python and Saw-shelled Turtle amongst the sightings.



Carpet Python by John Kendall

Day 6: 3rd October - Atherton Tablelands to Daintree Village. Leaving the higher altitudes of the Atherton Tablelands, we made our way down to the world-famous Daintree River, but not before some action-packed birding along the journey.



Great Bowerbird by John Kendall

In the drier tropical woodlands around Mareeba, we picked up a range of new species not associated with rainforest but the more extensive open woodlands that are more representative of much of Far North Queensland and Cape York Peninsula. Highlighting this line up were Squatter Pigeon, Little and Noisy Friarbirds, White-throated Honeyeater, Pallid Cuckoo, Oriental Dollarbird, Yellow Honeyeater, Spangled Drongo, Blue-faced Honeyeater, Great Bowerbird, Blue-winged Kookaburra, Red-winged Parrot, and in a quiet tropical lagoon near Julatten, a pair of the uncommon Cotton Pygmy Goose.

Late afternoon arrival saw us at the Daintree River and our accommodation overlooking this iconic waterway, allowing a relaxing sunset hour on the deck with a couple of sherbets and high anticipation for the river cruise tomorrow.

Day 7: 4th October. Dawn saw us down at the dock alongside the mighty Daintree River, eagerly awaiting the morning's

excursion. A perfect morning was before us as we set off, and, like the river itself, the birds quickly flowed. Highlights were aplenty, with not one but two nesting Papuan Frogmouths, the amazingly beautiful and sexually dimorphic Shining Flycatcher, a Satin Flycatcher on passage migration, a pair of Large-billed Gerygone at their wonderfully disguised nest, Brown-backed Honeyeaters also at the nest, Common Cicadabird, Little Bronze Cuckoo, Azure Kingfisher, a fly-by Brush Cuckoo, Eastern Koel, Yellow Oriole and a Noisy Pitta that sang from thick rainforest lining the river, but deigned us unworthy of a viewing.

Saltwater Crocodile was on show too, with a particularly large old male showing well, and we revelled in close views of brightly adorned Common Tree Snakes.



Papuan Frogmouth by John Kendall

A wonderful two and a half hours on the cruise meant we were ravenous, and after bolting down a hefty breakfast, we birded our way back down the coast towards Cairns. New birds continued to appear, and in riparian rainforest alongside the river, we picked up Fairy Gerygone, Rufous Fantail and the sweet-sounding Grey Whistler. At a mangrove-lined inlet along the coast further south, we had a fantastic stanza of activity with no less than the exceedingly unpredictable and rare Great-billed Heron, really close views



Rose-crowned Fruit Dove by John Kendall

of a pair of Double-eyed Fig Parrot feeding on figs, Rose-crowned Fruit Dove, Common Sandpiper, Whimbrel and Common Greenshank.

Late afternoon back in Cairns, we birded for a while along the edge of the mangrove forest at the north end of The Esplanade, which yielded great views of Torresian Kingfisher, Varied Honeyeater, Helmeted Friarbird, Dollarbird and yet another Satin Flycatcher on passage.

South-east Queensland

Day 8: 5th October. With the North Queensland leg of our tour done and dusted, today we boarded a flight to Brisbane in the south-east of the state, ready for the visit to Lamington National Park. A long and winding road led to the high-altitude rainforest of the Border Ranges, with our first Galah, Maned Duck and Whiptail Wallabies seen along the way in open woodlands and farmland.

Finally reaching our accommodation at the world-famous national park, we were greeted with a riot of colour as Regent Bowerbird, Australian King Parrot, Crimson Rosella, Wonga Pigeon, Red-browed Finch, Superb Fairywren and Eastern Yellow Robin all bounced around the picnic grounds and feeding

areas. Chaos ensued as everyone climbed over each other to get out of the bus, and good times ensued as much photography was done.

We settled in sometime thereafter, and with a beautiful dinner consumed, it was time for bed after a rather long day. But not before a little spotlighting around the grounds, with great views of a Southern Boobook chasing moths, and Common Ringtail Possum, Short-eared Brushtail Possum and Red-necked Pademelon.

Day 9: 6th October. We awoke to a rather sodden and foggy day, with low cloud cover and drizzly conditions, but undeterred we set about birding the area. The spectacular and breathtaking Regent Bowerbird was a constant eye-catching presence, but also present was the deep navy-blue Satin Bowerbird, and around the forest edges we saw our first Australian Logrunners, as well as Yellow-throated, Large-billed and White-browed Scrubwrens, Grey Shrikethrush, copious numbers of Eastern Whipbirds – a bird we'd struggled with somewhat in North QLD, Rose Robin, Brown Gerygone, a furtive Russet-tailed Thrush that afforded a good view through the spotting scope for just about everyone, Green Catbird, Topknot Pigeons in tight squadrons overhead, Brown Thornbill in the undergrowth, White-throated Treecreeper and Torresian Crow.



Crimson Rosella by Roderick MacKenzie



Regent Bowerbird by Steve Davidson

Later in the morning, we were rewarded with the star attraction of Lamington, the amazing Albert's Lyrebird, as a female fed unconcernedly along the edge of a track, metres from us.

After lunch, we tried hard for Noisy Pitta, with 2-3 birds heard calling all around and incredibly brief views for very few of us; we also had Paradise Riflebird here. A night walk after dinner again provided us with great views of Southern Boobook around the lodge grounds.

Day 10: 7th October. After a final viewing of the ridiculously beautiful Regent Bowerbirds and another Bassian Thrush, we reluctantly left Lamington National Park for the long trek back to Brisbane and our flight to Sydney, in the state of New South Wales. On our way, we lucked out when a flock of the threatened Glossy Black Cockatoo was seen feeding in Allocasuarina trees by the roadside, whereupon a considerable photography session ensued. In the end, we walked away from the birds.

New South Wales

With all connections seamlessly executed, we found ourselves in a very rainy Sydney, and as we headed south conditions didn't appear to be improving. The township of Jamberoo was our destination on the edge of the Illawarra Escarpment, and as we drew up to check in we had some bad news – our offshore boat trip for tomorrow from the nearby town of Kiama had been cancelled due to a forecast of atrocious conditions. Crestfallen, we pondered what to do, with the eventual decision a positive one, as we simply swapped the booking around to the following day, the end result meaning we'd lose only a little birding time.



Eastern Bristlebird by Steve Davidson

A great local pub meal was roundly well-received, after which we all crashed out, exhausted.

Day 11: 8th October. Given the horrendous weather that was supposed to befall us, we ended up having not such a bad day, and with the postponed pelagic trip set for the next day, we went about finding some of the local specialities. Driving up to the top of the Illawarra Escarpment to the forests and heathlands there, we were soon looking at the likes of skulkers such as the spectacular Superb Lyrebird, Pilotbird, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo Southern Emu-wren, and quite amazingly the incredibly difficult Eastern Bristlebird; one bird sat merely five metres from us, singing its little birdy heart out.



Spotted Pardalote by Roderick MacKenzie

Nearby forests held Varied Sittella, Spotted Pardalote, Striated Thornbill, Rufous Whistler, Grey Fantail and White-naped Honeyeater.

In the township of Kiama at the local headland, the foul conditions and onshore wind had brought multitudes of seabirds close to shore, with thousands of Short-tailed Shearwaters streaming past, as well as hundreds of Wedge-tailed Shearwater, squadrons of Australasian Gannet, migrating Common Tern flocks heading south and large numbers of Great Crested Tern. It all bodes well for the pelagic tomorrow...

Day 12: 9th October. At the dock by 7am, our intrepid posse was eagerly awaiting the day's adventure, and not long out to sea we had our first encounter with Humpback Whales, as well as several Australasian Gannet, Crested Tern and Wedge-tailed Shearwater. The hard weather from the previous day had well and truly gone, and we were treated to calm and somewhat benign conditions, and as the day progressed this was to be the norm. Bird diversity however, began to increase as we chugged out toward the

continental shelf, with more flocks of migrating Common Terns heading south, Fluttering Shearwater, Short-tailed and Wedge-tailed Shearwaters (in far smaller numbers than what we'd seen the previous day), a fly-by Northern Giant Petrel and increasing numbers of Providence Petrel, an endemic Australian breeding species; we eventually enjoyed up to a dozen around the boat.

With a bit of tactful berley in place, we soon had a range of albatross species come to the back of the boat, with Shy, Black-browed and a single Campbell's Albatross on show. Then the big guns arrived, with an enormous male Wandering Albatross followed by a marginally smaller female, and much photography ensued. To top it all, we had no less than four Humpback Whales surface literally right alongside to the boat! Massive beasts were they, it was a truly goosebump-inducing moment indeed...



Wandering Albatross by Roderick MacKenzie

Other avian delights out on the shelf included a single, yet crowd-pleasing Fairy Prion, good numbers of Wilson's Storm Petrel, a fly-by jaeger species and a distant Brown Skua, its hulking and menacing form apparent from 300m away.

Our ride back into terra firma included large squadrons of Australasian Gannets really close to the boat, and a pod of Oceanic Bottlenose Dolphins.



Fairy Prion by John Kendall

With our high seas adventures behind us, and with feet planted firmly back on the mainland of Australia, we headed away from the coast and inland towards the Blue Mountains, stopping briefly at Katoomba for a knock-out lookout, before making our way into Lithgow for the evening's accommodation.

Day 13: 10th October. Anticipation was elevated this morning for some action-packed birding as we made our way into the world-famous Capertee Valley, and we started our campaign in the drier woodlands, open forest and roadside gullies of this amazing site, with a stop at some woodland

edge habitat. Very quickly, we saw the sweet-voiced White-throated Gerygone, plus Buff-rumped Thornbill, Striated Pardalote and Australia's smallest – the diminutive Weebill. Our second stop produced the expected Red-browed Treecreeper, what was unexpected was how great a view the bird gave us! From there, the birds came at a constant and steady pace as we dodged the rain, with Little Corella, Red-rumped Parrot, Musk and Little Lorikeets, the gorgeous and elusive Turquoise Parrot eventually giving us wonderful views, Superb Lyrebird, Brown Treecreeper, Jacky Winter, White-browed Babbler, Dusky and Masked Woodswallows, a party of handsome Black-chinned Honeyeaters,

Rufous Songlark, Fuscous and White-plumed Honeyeaters, Noisy Friarbird everywhere it seemed, Eastern Spinebill and Wonga Pigeon.

After lunch and more rain, we locked onto a few more bird-rich areas, snaring Speckled Warbler, another pair of Turquoise Parrot, Eastern Rosella, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Restless Flycatcher, White-winged Chough, White-bellied Cuckooshrike, Red Wattlebird and, finally, after many attempts, the curious and beautiful earthen-coloured Rockwarbler, posing beautifully.



Rockwarbler by John Kendall

Day 14: 11th October. The journey today entailed a fair bit of driving, as we had to get from A to B in a sharpish fashion. However, as usual, we had plenty of birding stops, and our first stop produced Musk Duck, Dusky Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, Black Swan, Great Crested Grebe and some quietly and unobtrusively loafing Freckled Ducks. Here, there was a mixed flock of several hundred if not a thousand Tree and Fairy Martins, creating quite the spectacle on the wing.

Traveling further west, we delved into more arid habitats, and a lovely patch of dry pine-eucalypt woodland produced our first pair of Red-capped Robin, a garrulous flock of Grey-crowned Babbler, a Little Eagle soaring overhead, Spiny-cheeked, Brown-headed and White-eared Honeyeaters in quick succession, Yellow Thornbill, another Speckled Warbler and a lovely Western Gerygone singing beautifully.

At another roadside wetland along the way, aptly dubbed Steve's Swamp, we picked up our first White-winged Trillers and Australasian Shoveler, with Pink-eared Duck, Red-kneed Dotterel and Sharp-tailed Sandpipers giving good views as well.



Superb Parrot by John Kendall

In some open farmland, our only Superb Parrots of the tour fortuitously flew in front of the bus and perched nearby, allowing wonderful views and copious photography of this gorgeous psittacine.

Some roadside Apostlebirds rounded out the new birds for the day as we trundled into Temora, exhausted.

Day 15: 12th October. An early departure was required to reach an area of dry woodland containing certain birds we wouldn't see on the remainder of the tour,

and upon arrival we soon heard then saw our first incredible male Splendid Fairywren as he displayed to a nearby female. Chestnut-rumped Thornbills put in an appearance too, and both Mulga Parrot and Australian Ringnecks were much appreciated as they preened and chattered in the warm sunshine. Large

numbers of White-browed and Masked Woodswallows were present, wheeling about in big aerial flocking manoeuvres, and Yellow-throated Miner and Striped Honeyeaters were seen briefly.

A male Purple-backed Fairywren put on a great show, (this species recently being split from Variegated Fairywren), and a single drake Chestnut Teal was seen in a flock of Grey Teal on a nearby settling pond.

Further west again, and nearer to the township of Hay, we saw our first Emu, with a pair out in the flat saltbush country.

After a little afternoon siesta, we headed out onto the Hay Plain, meeting our guide for the evening, the inimitable Phil Maher, along the way, as we started birding the open, flat shrubland and grassland country. Emu and Red Kangaroo were in plentiful supply, as were both Eastern and Western Grey Kangaroos. Flocks of Banded Lapwing, Brown Songlark, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Zebra Finch and Horsfield's Bushlark were seen along the roadside, and as the afternoon drew to a close we had Black-tailed Nativehen and Eastern Blue Bonnet in the sun's dying rays.



Emu by John Kendall

After dark, we picked up Australian Owlet-Nightjar at its tree hollow, as well as Southern Boobook and Barn Owl, but the night belonged to one bird only, the enigmatic and critically endangered Plains-wanderer, and we fairly quickly lucked upon a beautiful female sitting quietly out on the plain. This was indeed

fortuitous, as the birds have become rather scarce in recent times due to prolonged drought in the district, and ours was the first seen for a few weeks.



Wedge-tailed Eagle by John Kendall

In addition to the target bird, we also saw a nice male Stubble Quail and one tiny Fat-tailed Dunnart, a carnivorous marsupial mammal. It was a great experience out there, and the amazing starscape complemented the night beautifully.

Day 16: 13th October. A somewhat delayed start to the day was necessitated by the previous evening's events, and after a leisurely breakfast we took a stroll in River Red Gum woodland alongside the nearby Murrumbidgee River. Plenty of birds were about, with White-plumed Honeyeater the dominant species, as well as Little Friarbird, Red-rumped Parrot, Brown Treecreeper and Maned Duck. The star performer, however, was a pair of the highly sought-after Crested Shrike-tit, which gave us fantastic close views.

Moving out onto the plains again, we headed south toward Victoria, seeing our first Southern Whiteface, as well as Black-shouldered Kite, plenty of Nankeen Kestrels and Wedge-tailed Eagles.

A small mallee reserve held Hooded Robin and Singing Honeyeater for us, and tons more White-browed and Masked Woodswallows, whilst a nearby wetland was replete with loads of Musk Duck, Australasian Shoveler and about a thousand Eurasian Coot.

Victoria

A stop at a natural salt lake on the way to our accommodation for the evening yielded Red-necked Avocet, Whiskered and Gull-billed Terns, and better views of White-winged Fairywren in the shrubby saltbush around the margins.

Best birds of the day were reserved for the final minutes near Kerang, where we had to screech to a halt in order to see our one and only Black Falcon for the tour, a fine female perched alongside the highway, giving great views. This was very pleasing, as it was pretty much our last chance to see them. Also here was our first Swamp Harrier, with Nankeen Kestrel, and Black-shouldered, Whistling and Black Kites rounding out the raptor-fest.



Plains-wanderer by Roderick MacKenzie

Day 17: 14th October. A cool and crisp yet sunny day greeted the crew this morning, and the forecast was for a warm day. Bird activity for our first stop at a granite outcrop in pine-eucalypt woodland gave us Common Bronzewing, Peaceful Dove, more Southern Whiteface and Chestnut-rumped Thornbills,



Black Falcon by John Kendall

White-browed Babbler and, best of all, the target here, a male Gilbert's Whistler. Hooded and Red-capped Robins were a nice addition to the day list, as were a flock of White-winged Choughs that were clearly upset by an unseen phenomenon in the canopy of a tree. Some jostling for position allowed us to finally see they were protesting about the presence of a very large and quite spectacular Lace Monitor or Tree Goanna, which was no doubt looking to raid nests for eggs or nestlings.

As we were still aiming to see some more arid-zone birds, we dropped in at a large reserve containing mallee woodland and heath, just north of Bendigo. As it was quite warm, we lucked out finding a waterhole where several different honeyeaters were coming in to drink at a pond. Here we saw Purple-gaped, Yellow-tufted, Tawny-crowned, Yellow-plumed, White-eared and Brown-headed Honeyeaters all at close range on the water's edge. It was excellent, and other birds in the vicinity included the Yellow-rumped form of Spotted Pardalote (ssp *xanthopyge*), Common Bronzewing and Varied Sittella.

Dinner at our accommodation in nearby Bendigo was a fine affair, and our lodgings here, as usual, were excellent.

Day 18: 15th November. We set out very early, with a last-gasp visit, as it were, to the dry country north of Bendigo this morning to try and mop up a few species still missing. More Common Bronzewing, Weebill, Chestnut-rumped Thornbill, Yellow-tufted Honeyeater and a surprise in the form of an Australian Owlet-Nightjar flushed from its daytime roost that allowed a good viewing and photos before it vamoosed. The best bird here was a trio of Shy Heathwren that showed beautifully in some heathy mallee scrub.

With a long drive ahead we set off south, aiming to reach the Great Ocean Road area on the coast south-west of Melbourne. During the long trek, rainy conditions set in, and birding stops were relatively few; however, one lovely wetland produced Australian Shelduck, Blue-billed Duck, Chestnut Teal, Black Swan and White-necked Heron.

Nearer to Lorne, we stopped in an entirely different habitat to what we'd become accustomed to for several days, with tall, wet forest near the coast producing Forest Raven, Australian King Parrot and Crimson Rosella.



Nankeen Kestrel by John Kendall

In Lorne, we stopped at the rocky point that juts out into the ocean, picking out our first Black-faced Cormorants, as well as Pied Cormorant, Pacific Gull and Great Crested Tern. The local speciality, Rufous Bristlebird, was calling strongly from the coastal scrub, but only a few caught a glimpse, so this became Priority Number 1 for the following morning...

Day 19: 16th November. Back at the point at first light, and we were primed for our assault on the Rufous Bristlebird. And it did not disappoint, with an obliging individual posing and singing beautifully. Also on view were plenty of New Holland Honeyeaters, Yellow-rumped Thornbill and Superb Fairywren.



Australian King Parrot by Roderick MacKenzie

As we drifted down the coast, along the spectacular Great Ocean Road, we picked up more new birds, with the much-wanted Gang-Gang Cockatoo finally seen well, as well as a lovely pair of Hooded Plover, Crescent Honeyeater, more views of Black-faced Cormorant, Satin Bowerbird, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, Singing Honeyeater and the star of the day, the familiar yet altogether strange Koala, showing well.

After a delicious lunch, we headed north again, stopping late afternoon in some patches of forest and heathland (plus a small wetland)

near the town of Anglesea. These produced another flurry of new birds, and we had great looks at Latham's Snipe, Blue-winged Parrot, a nesting white phase Grey Goshawk, Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo and Striated Fieldwren. The biggest surprise of all was a Black-eared Cuckoo – a bird normally found in

the arid zone of Australia; but with drought conditions as they exist in the inland this year, it's not surprising to see extralimital occurrences like this. Dusky Woodswallow, Varied Sittella, Rufous Whistler, White-throated Treecreeper, and White-naped, White-eared and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters also showed well.

As some of our crew was leaving the tour tomorrow, and not extending their tour to Tasmania, we toasted the successes of our massive trip over dinner, with a few drinks and plenty of laughs...

Day 20: 17th November. Our final morning on the mainland involved a whistle-stop visit to some extensive wetlands near Geelong to see what waterbirds may be present. Our luck was in, and during a jam-packed two hours we recorded a plethora of new birds in an amazingly rich area of saltmarsh, wetland and grassland.

A flock of stately Cape Barren Goose, scads of Black Swan, Australian Shelduck, Chestnut and Grey Teals, more Pink-eared Duck than you can shake a stick at, Hardhead in good numbers, 17 Glossy Ibis, Yellow-billed and Royal Spoonbills, Little Egret, a gorgeous adult Spotted Harrier quartering the fields, Swamp Harrier, Black-shouldered Kite, both Baillon's and Australian Crakes at close quarters, Brolga, Australian Pied Oystercatcher, a lone



Koala by John Kendall



Superb Fairywren by Roderick MacKenzie

Banded Stilt amongst 100s of Red-necked Avocet, Pied Stilt, Red-kneed and Black-fronted Dotterels, Marsh, Sharp-tailed and Curlew Sandpipers, Red-necked Stint, Common Greenshank, Crested Pigeon, our last Willie Wagtail, three Horsfield's Bushlarks in a row, a distant Brown Songlark, a skulking Little Grassbird, Golden-headed Cisticola and plenty of Eurasian Skylark!

With time against us, we hurtled to Melbourne Airport in order to catch our flight to Hobart in Tasmania, and the next and final leg of the tour.

Tasmania

With continuing rain greeting us as we landed in Hobart, we collected the bus and set off toward Bruny Island, our base for the next two nights. Making the ferry crossing to Bruny Island in good time, the first bird we saw upon disembarking was Swift Parrot; in fact, they were seemingly everywhere in the huge flowering Blue Gums there, and in teeming rain we enjoyed our first views of this critically endangered species, a spring-summer migrant to Tas. Our first Tasmanian endemic species came in the form of a

family of Tasmanian Nativehens, and we would see many more of this chicken-like, flightless gallinule during our stay in Tasmania.

A few hours later and we were tucking into a fine meal at the Bruny Pub, ready for a good night's sleep and for more exciting birding here tomorrow. The drive back was punctuated by sightings of Tasmanian Pademelons and Bennett's Wallabies.

Day 21: 18th October. A fine, damp and misty day greeted us this morning but, importantly, it wasn't raining! With breakfast out of the way, we set about finding some of the island's endemic species. In the tall forests, tussock woodland and rocky coastline of beautiful Bruny Island, we quickly racked up Black-headed Honeyeater, loud and aggressive Yellow Wattlebirds, Dusky Robin and the unobtrusive and critically endangered Forty-spotted Pardalote, a major target for us here.

Also in the vicinity was a male white phase of the Grey Goshawk feeding on prey, Scarlet and Flame Robins, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, more Swift Parrot and Brush Bronzewing that were calling from all around, but remained deep within the forest. More endemics were around here too, with Strong-billed Honeyeaters prying bark from branches, stems and crotches looking for insect prey, the beautiful Green Rosella and Black Currawong.

Along the coastal areas of the island, we picked up both Sooty and Australian Pied Oystercatchers, a pair of Hooded Plover, more Black-faced Cormorant and good numbers of Kelp and Pacific Gulls. At one point, we watched as a White-bellied Sea Eagle hunted and took down a Short-tailed Shearwater just offshore.



Green Rosella by John Kendall



Banded Stilt by John Kendall

Sadly, more wet and thundery conditions set in again this afternoon, which stymied our activities somewhat, but cleared enough that we were able to head out after dark and watch as Little Penguins came ashore along an ocean beach and headed to their burrows.

Day 22: 19th October. After a final look around Bruny, we left the island this morning, along the way hearing but not seeing a pair of Lewin's Rail that grunted at us from deep within cover. Heading to the north of Tasmania and our final accommodation for the tour, today was a travel day, so there weren't a lot of opportunities for stopping; but, later in the afternoon, as we drove the backroads towards our lodgings, we picked up some nice birds with Grey Currawong, Pink Robin, Tasmanian Thornbill, Olive Whistler and brief but barely satisfactory glimpses of Tasmanian Scrubwren.

A Morepork called on dusk and was seen by a few of us, and after dark there was a carnivore-fest as Tasmanian Devils and Spot-tailed Quolls emerged from the forest to feed on strategically-placed morsels, much to the delight of the tour party.

Day 23: 20th October. Our destination for the day was Cradle Mountain National Park, and it was with a much more leisurely pace that we set off this morning, finding a beautiful Platypus in a clear stream along the way, as well as great looks at Yellow-throated Honeyeater, Crescent Honeyeater, the elusive Scrubtit and our final Tas endemic: a Tasmanian Scrubwren that finally gave itself up for decent views.

Cradle Mountain National Park was its usual magnificent self, although low cloud marred the scenery somewhat. Black Currawong were everywhere here it seemed, and became quite pesky when looking for handouts.

A beautiful Wombat with a young joey in the pouch was a clear standout for wildlife experience of the day, as she allowed us to approach quite closely for photographs.



Pink Robin by John Kendall

The evening again offered good views of Tasmanian Devil and Spot-tailed Quoll, a fitting end to what had been a fantastic tour. The company, camaraderie and repartee had been simply excellent, and the author cannot remember such an enjoyable and cohesive group.

Annotated list of species recorded

Birds (398)

CASSOWARIES, EMU - Casuariidae

Southern Cassowary - VU

Casuarius casuarius

Single large female seen near Mission Beach, North QLD on 29th Sept.

Emu - E

Dromaius novaehollandiae

Several birds seen over the course of two days on inland plains between Griffith & Hay, NSW. One large congregation included around 200 birds feeding in an agricultural crop.

MAGPIE GOOSE - Anseranatidae

Magpie Goose

Anseranas semipalmata

Several seen on tropical wetlands in North QLD.

DUCKS, GEESE & SWANS - Anatidae

Plumed Whistling Duck - E

Dendrocygna eytoni

Several groups seen on tropical wetlands in North QLD.

Wandering Whistling Duck

Dendrocygna arcuata

Only birds seen were a small party near Cairns, North QLD on 28th Sept.

Cape Barren Goose - E : TAS

Cereopsis novaehollandiae

Group of 8 seen at wetlands near Geelong, Vic on 19th October.

Black Swan : TAS

Cygnus atratus

Seen in a few wetlands throughout tour.

Freckled Duck - E

Stictonetta naevosa

A congregation of around 50 at Hasties Swamp in North QLD, small numbers near Lithgow, NSW on 11th October.

Raja Shelduck

Radjah radjah

Pair and gosling on wetlands in Cairns, North QLD on 28th Sept.

Australian Shelduck - E : TAS

Tadorna tadornoides

A pair on a large wetland near Lorne, Vic on 15th Oct, also seen on wetlands near Geelong, Vic on 17th Oct.

Pink-eared Duck - E : TAS

Malacorhynchus membranaceus

Several birds at Hasties Swamp in North QLD, also seen on a few other wetlands throughout NSW & Vic.

Maned Duck - E : TAS

Chenonetta jubata

Commonly seen throughout south-east QLD, NSW, Vic & Tas.

Cotton Pygmy Goose

Nettapus coromandelianus

Pair seen well on a tropical wetland near Julatten, North QLD.

Green Pygmy Goose

Nettapus pulchellus

Small numbers seen on wetlands near Cairns and also near Julatten, North QLD, on 28th Sept and 3rd Oct respectively.

Australasian Shoveler

Spatula rhynchotis

Small numbers throughout latter part of tour.

Pacific Black Duck*Anas superciliosa*

Commonly seen species throughout tour.

Grey Teal*Anas gracilis*

Reasonably common species seen on several wetlands throughout tour.

Chestnut Teal*Anas castanea*

Small numbers throughout south-east mainland and Tasmania, most birds were seen at wetlands near Geelong on 17th Oct.

Hardhead*Aythya australis*

Good numbers in tropical wetlands on Atherton Tablelands in north QLD, smaller numbers further south.

Blue-billed Duck - E - NT*Oxyura australis*

Small party of males and females on a large swamp inland of Lorne, Vic on 15th Oct.

Musk Duck - E*Biziura lobata*

Seen distantly on a large wetland near Lithgow, NSW on 11th Oct, then better views on wetlands near Lake Boga, Vic on 13th Oct.

MEGAPODES - Megapodiidae**Australian Brushturkey - E***Alectura lathami*

Commonly seen in rainforest and around rainforest edges during our time in QLD, both in the tropical north and around Lamington NP in the south-east.

Subspecies (ssp) lathami was seen.

Orange-footed Scrubfowl*Megapodius reinwardt*

Seen every day during the time in north QLD, often heard crowing at night as well.

We saw ssp. castanotus.

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, AND ALLIES - Phasianidae**Stubble Quail - E***Coturnix pectoralis*

Single adult male seen on Hay Plain, NSW whilst spotlighting, 12th Oct.

PENGUINS - Spheniscidae**Little Penguin - NE***Eudyptula minor*

Small number coming ashore at night on Bruny Island, Tas on 18th Oct.

AUSTRAL STORM PETRELS - Oceanitidae**Wilson's Storm Petrel***Oceanites oceanicus*

Up to half a dozen birds seen on the Kiama Pelagic trip, NSW on 9th Oct.

ALBATROSSES - Diomedidae**Wandering Albatross - VU***Diomedea exulans*

Two birds were attracted to the berley slick on the Kiama Pelagic, 9th Oct, one of which, a previously banded bird, was caught for processing.

Black-browed Albatross - NT : SW*Thalassarche melanophrys*

Two or three juveniles attracted to the berley slick on the Kiama Pelagic, 9th Oct.

Campbell Albatross - VU*Thalassarche impavida*

Single juvenile attracted to the berley slick on the Kiama Pelagic, 9th Oct.

Shy Albatross - NT*Thalassarche cauta*

Several birds seen offshore from Kiama on pelagic trip, 9th Oct, some of which were attracted to berley.

PETRELS, SHEARWATERS & DIVING PETRELS - Procellariidae**Northern Giant Petrel : TAS***Macronectes halli*

An all dark juvenile observed flying by boat on Kiama Pelagic, 9th Oct. Study of photographs later revealed a pink tip to the bill, confirming the diagnostic feature for this species, as opposed to a green bill tip if it were Southern Giant Petrel.

Fairy Prion*Pachyptila turtur*

A single bird that stayed behind the boat in the berley slick for most of the morning, Kiama Pelagic, 9th Oct.

Providence Petrel - VU*Pterodroma solandri*

Up to a dozen birds around the boat on the Kiama Pelagic, 9th Oct.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater*Ardenna pacifica*

Many seen coursing low over the water just offshore on the 8th Oct from headland at Kiama, NSW. Several also observed out at sea the following day on the Kiama Pelagic.

Short-tailed Shearwater*Ardenna tenuirostris*

Huge numbers observed offshore from headland at Kiama on 8th Oct, several also seen in offshore waters on Kiama Pelagic on 9th.

Fluttering Shearwater*Puffinus gavia*

Small numbers seen whilst heading out to sea on Kiama Pelagic, 9th Oct.

GREBES - Podicipedidae**Australasian Grebe***Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

Seen on a number of smaller wetlands throughout tour.

Hoary-headed Grebe*Poliocephalus poliocephalus*

Seen in larger numbers and on bigger wetlands in general than Australasian Grebe, south-east mainland.

Great Crested Grebe*Podiceps cristatus*

Large rafts of birds seen in Crater Lakes NP on Atherton Tablelands, north QLD, and smaller numbers on a large wetland near Lithgow, NSW.

STORKS - Ciconiidae**Black-necked Stork - NT***Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus*

A single bird seen along Cairns Esplanade, north QLD by only a few members of the party on the second morning of the tour, 29th Sept.

IBISES, SPOONBILLS - Threskiornithidae**Australian White Ibis***Threskiornis molucca*

A commonly seen species throughout tour.

Straw-necked Ibis*Threskiornis spinicollis*

Seen on many occasions throughout tour.

Glossy Ibis*Plegadis falcinellus*

17 birds observed on wetlands near Geelong, Vic on 17th Oct.

Royal Spoonbill : TAS*Platalea regia*

Seen on a number of occasions throughout tour.

Yellow-billed Spoonbill - E : SW*Platalea flavipes*

Less commonly seen throughout tour than Royal Spoonbill, preferring fresh water wetlands.

HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS - Ardeidae**Nankeen Night Heron***Nycticorax caledonicus*

A pair in trees bordering Hasties Swamp, north QLD on 3rd Oct.

Striated Heron*Butorides striata*

Single bird seen on edge of Daintree River, north QLD, 4th Oct.

Ssp macrorhynchus was seen.

Eastern Cattle Egret*Bubulcus coromandus*

Commonly seen species throughout QLD sections of tour.

White-necked Heron*Ardea pacifica*

Seen on a number of occasions throughout tour.

Great-billed Heron*Ardea sumatrana*

A fortuitous sighting of this rare species, a single bird at Newell's Beach, north QLD on 4th Oct.

Great Egret*Ardea alba*

A reasonably commonly seen species on wetlands throughout tour.

Intermediate Egret*Ardea intermedia*

A relatively common species seen on wetlands and marshy areas in north QLD section of tour.

White-faced Heron*Egretta novaehollandiae*

Commonly seen species throughout tour.

Little Egret*Egretta garzetta*

Seen less often than other heron species on tour, however notable numbers seen along Cairns Esplanade on 28th, and at Hasties Swamp, north QLD.

PELICANS - Pelecanidae**Australian Pelican***Pelecanus conspicillatus*

A large and conspicuous bird seen on a number of occasions throughout tour.

GANNETS, BOOBIES - Sulidae**Australasian Gannet***Morus serrator*

Large numbers off Kiama headland and on Kiama pelagic, NSW on 8-9th Oct, also seen offshore from Great Ocean Road, Vic.

CORMORANTS AND SHAGS - Phalacrocoracidae**Little Pied Cormorant***Microcarbo melanoleucos*

Commonly seen in wetlands throughout the tour.

Black-faced Cormorant - E*Phalacrocorax fuscescens*

Small numbers seen at Lorne, Vic, 15th Oct. Also seen around Bruny Island, Tas, 17-19th Oct.

Little Black Cormorant*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

Commonly seen on most large wetlands throughout the tour, almost always in flocks.

Australian Pied Cormorant*Phalacrocorax varius*

Only seen on rocky points along the Great Ocean Road, Vic, 15-16th Oct.

Great Cormorant*Phalacrocorax carbo*

Seen on a number of wetlands throughout the tour.

ANHINGAS - Anhingidae**Australasian Darter***Anhinga novaehollandiae*

Seen on wetlands on most days in tropical north QLD.

OSPREY - Pandionidae**Eastern Osprey***Pandion cristatus*

Seen on a few occasions around tropical north QLD, including pair on nest in Cairns, 28th Sept.

KITES, HAWKS & EAGLES - Accipitridae**Black-shouldered Kite - E***Elanus axillaris*

Several seen on Atherton Tablelands region in QLD, and also in southern NSW/Vic.

Pacific Baza*Aviceda subcristata*

Single bird seen very briefly in flight over highland rainforest on Atherton Tablelands, 2nd Oct. Unfortunately, not seen well as it was backlit.

Little Eagle - E : SW*Hieraaetus morphnoides*

A single dark morph adult seen overhead whilst birding dry woodland in central western NSW, 11th Oct.

Wedge-tailed Eagle*Aquila audax*

Seen on several occasions throughout tour, including Tasmania.

Grey Goshawk - E*Accipiter novaehollandiae*

Single white morph adult on nest near Anglesea, Vic on 16th Oct, and an adult white morph seen feeding on roadkill, Bruny Island, Tas on 18th Oct.

Brown Goshawk*Accipiter fasciatus*

Seen briefly and in flight on only a few occasions, never well.

Collared Sparrowhawk*Accipiter cirrocephalus*

Seen once in flight where fine build and square-cut tail seen well, distinguishing from rounder-tailed and generally stockier Brown Goshawk. North QLD, 3rd Oct.

Swamp Harrier*Circus approximans*

First seen in northern Vic near Kerang, and a few on wetlands near Geelong, Vic and in Tas.

Spotted Harrier*Circus assimilis*

A fine adult seen quartering grasslands near Geelong, Vic on 17th Oct.

Black Kite*Milvus migrans*

Commonly seen species in north QLD and outback NSW/Vic.

Whistling Kite*Haliastur sphenurus*

Commonly seen species in north QLD and outback NSW/Vic, however generally much less common than Black Kite.

Brahminy Kite*Haliastur indus*

Distinctive species seen on two occasions in north QLD.

White-bellied Sea Eagle*Haliaeetus leucogaster*

Seen on a number of occasions throughout tour, from north QLD through to Tas.

BUSTARDS - Otididae**Australian Bustard - NT***Ardeotis australis*

Single adult bird seen in croplands on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD 30th Sept.

RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS - Rallidae**Buff-banded Rail***Gallirallus philippensis*

Single birds seen on the Atherton Tablelands, North QLD, 29th Sept.

Lewin's Rail*Lewinia pectoralis*

Pair of birds calling loudly but remaining unseen, Bruny Island, Tas, 19th Oct.

Baillon's Crake*Porzana pusilla*

Single adult on wetlands near Geelong, Vic, 17th Oct.

Australian Crake - E*Porzana fluminea*

2-3 birds seen on wetlands near Geelong, Vic, 17th Oct.

Australasian Swamphen*Porphyrio melanotus*

Quite common on many wetlands throughout tour.

We saw the eastern ssp melanotus.

Dusky Moorhen*Gallinula tenebrosa*

Reasonably common on wetlands in southern mainland of Australia.

Black-tailed Nativehen - E : SW*Tribonyx ventralis*

A flock of birds on edge of a waterhole on the Hay Plain, NSW on 12th Oct.

Tasmanian Nativehen - E : TAS*Tribonyx mortierii*

Tasmanian endemic, commonly seen throughout.

Eurasian Coot*Fulica atra*

Reasonably common throughout tour on larger water bodies.

CRANES - Gruidae**Sarus Crane - VU***Antigone antigone*

Good sized flocks seen on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Brolga*Antigone rubicunda*

Less commonly seen than Sarus Crane on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD. Also seen near Geelong in Vic on 17th Oct.

THICK-KNEES - Burhinidae**Bush Stone-curlew - NT***Burhinus grallarius*

Seen on a number of occasions in Cairns region, North QLD.

Beach Stone-curlew - NT*Esacus magnirostris*

Pair seen well on tidal estuary north of Cairns, North QLD, 28th Sept.

OYSTERCATCHERS - Haematopodidae**Pied Oystercatcher***Haematopus longirostris*

Seen at a few coastal locations in southern Vic and Tas.

Sooty Oystercatcher - E : TAS*Haematopus fuliginosus*

Seen in small numbers on Bruny Island, Tas.

Ssp fuliginosus was seen.

STILTS AND AVOCETS - Recurvirostridae**Pied Stilt***Himantopus leucocephalus*

Seen on tropical wetlands in North QLD, also at wetlands near Geelong, Vic.

Banded Stilt - E*Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*

One or two birds seen distantly, amongst Red-necked Avocets, on wetlands near Geelong, Vic, 17th Oct.

Red-necked Avocet - E : SW*Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

Flocks seen on saline wetlands in northern Vic, 13th Oct, and also on wetlands near Geelong, 17th Oct.

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS - Charadriidae**Banded Lapwing - E***Vanellus tricolor*

Flocks seen out on grasslands of Hay Plain on 12th Oct.

Masked Lapwing*Vanellus miles*

Commonly seen species throughout tour from North QLD through to Tasmania.

In North QLD was miles ssp, in southern Aus novaehollandiae

Red-kneed Dotterel*Erythronyx cinctus*

Small numbers seen on a few wetlands throughout tour.

Red-capped Plover*Charadrius ruficapillus*

Several seen on mudflats around Cairns, North QLD, smaller numbers in southern Vic.

Lesser Sand Plover*Charadrius mongolus*

Several birds in mixed wader flocks on mudflats around Cairns area, North QLD.

Greater Sand Plover*Charadrius leschenaultii*

Several birds in mixed wader flocks on mudflats around Cairns area, North QLD.

Hooded Dotterel - E - VU : TAS*Thinornis cucullatus*

Pair seen well on ocean beach in southern Vic, 16th Oct, and a pair on nest on Bruny Island, Tas, 18th Oct.

We saw ssp cucullatus.

Black-fronted Dotterel*Euseyonis melanops*

Fairly common on edges of wetlands throughout tour.

JACANAS - Jacanidae**Comb-crested Jacana***Irediparra gallinacea*

Seen on a few wetlands in North QLD, preferring those with water lilies.

PLAINS-WANDERER - Pedionomidae**Plains-wanderer - E - EN***Pedionomus torquatus*

Single female bird seen at night on Hay Plain, NSW, 12th Oct.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES - Scolopacidae**Whimbrel***Numenius phaeopus*

Seen on mudflats in Cairns area, North QLD.

Far Eastern Curlew - VU*Numenius madagascariensis*

Singles seen on mudflats around Cairns region, North QLD.

Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
Several birds seen on mudflats around Cairns region, North QLD.	
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Small numbers on mudflats north of Cairns, Qld, 28th Oct.	
Great Knot - VU	<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>
Regular flocks seen on mudflats in Cairns region, North QLD.	
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>
Single bird seen with Great Knot flock on Cairns mudflats, North QLD, 5th Sept.	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	<i>Calidris acuminata</i>
Small numbers seen throughout tour on mudflats and wetlands.	
Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
Small numbers on mudflats in Cairns, North QLD and on wetlands in Geelong region, Vic.	
Red-necked Stint	<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>
Numbers on mudflats around Cairns region, North QLD, and also on wetlands in Geelong area, Vic.	
Latham's Snipe	<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>
2-3 flushed from local wetland in Anglesea area, Vic on 16th Oct.	
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>
At least one individual on mudflats in Cairns, North QLD.	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
One bird on sandbar, edge of Daintree River, North QLD on 4th Oct.	
Grey-tailed Tattler - NT	<i>Tringa brevipes</i>
Common component of mudflat avifauna in Cairns area, North QLD.	
Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
One or two birds seen on wetlands near Geelong, Vic on 17th Oct.	
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Birds seen on mudflats north of Cairns, North QLD and at wetlands near Geelong, Vic.	

GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS - Laridae

Silver Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i>
Commonly seen species in coastal areas mainly, throughout tour.	
Pacific Gull - E	<i>Larus pacificus</i>
Seen very well at various coastal locations along Great Ocean Rd, Vic as well as in Tas.	
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>
Good numbers seen at coastal locations in Tasmania.	
Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
Commonly seen along coast and over mudflats in Cairns area, North QLD, small numbers in northern Vic on 13th Oct as well.	
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
Small numbers seen in Cairns area, North QLD.	
Greater Crested Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>
Good numbers seen from Kiama headlands and on Kiama pelagic, NSW on 9th Oct. Also seen well in Tasmania.	
Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>
Pair seen flying over mudflats north of Cairns on 28th Sept.	

Whiskered Tern*Chlidonias hybrida*

Small numbers at a salt lake in northern Victoria, 13th Oct, and numbers at wetlands near Geelong, Vic, 17th Oct.

SKUAS AND JAEGERs - Stercorariidae**Brown Skua***Stercorarius antarcticus*

Single bird seen distantly whilst on Kiama Pelagic, NSW on 9th Oct.

PIGEONS AND DOVES - Columbidae**Rock Dove - I***Columba livia*

Introduced species seen on several occasions throughout tour.

White-headed Pigeon - E*Columba leucomela*

Good views of birds on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD and at Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

Spotted Dove - I*Spilopelia chinensis*

Introduced species seen on several occasions throughout tour.

Brown Cuckoo-Dove*Macropygia phasianella*

Seen on several occasions in Atherton Tablelands, North QLD and at Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

In the Wet Tropics ssp robinsoni, in Lamington NP ssp phasianella

Pacific Emerald Dove*Chalcophaps longirostris*

Seen briefly and only by a few in the group at accommodation in Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Ssp chrysoclora

Common Bronzewing - E*Phaps chalcoptera*

Seen on a few occasions in drier woodlands in the southern part of the mainland.

Brush Bronzewing - E*Phaps elegans*

Heard many times on Bruny Island, Tas, and a pair seen briefly near Cradle Mountain, Tas on 20th Oct.

Ssp elegans

Crested Pigeon - E*Ocyphaps lophotes*

Seen on several occasions throughout tour.

Eastern ssp lophotes

Squatter Pigeon - E*Geophaps scripta*

A few birds seen in dry, open forest near Mareeba, North QLD on 3rd Oct.

We saw ssp peninsulae with the red eye ring.

Wonga Pigeon - E*Leucosarcia melanoleuca*

Seen well on several occasions in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

Peaceful Dove*Geopelia placida*

Seen on several occasions throughout tour, especially numerous in North QLD.

Eastern ssp placida

Bar-shouldered Dove*Geopelia humeralis*

Common in north QLD section of tour.

In the Wet Tropics was ssp inexpectata

Wompoo Fruit Dove*Ptilinopus magnificus*

Good views of several birds in rainforest on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Ssp keri seen

Superb Fruit Dove*Ptilinopus superb*

Heard only on a number of occasions on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Rose-crowned Fruit Dove*Ptilinopus regina*

Small numbers seen in mangroves on north end of Esplanade, Cairns North QLD.

We saw ssp regina

Torresian Imperial Pigeon*Ducula spilorrhoa*

Common in littoral scrub, gardens and rainforest edge along coast of North QLD.

Topknot Pigeon - E*Lopholaimus antarcticus*

Seen on several occasions in rainforest on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD and in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

CUCKOOS - Cuculidae**Pheasant Coucal***Centropus phasianinus*

Difficult to observe but seen well a few times in North QLD.

Pacific Koel*Eudynamys orientalis*

Seen briefly whilst on Daintree River cruise, 4th Oct, North QLD.

Channel-billed Cuckoo*Scythrops novaehollandiae*

Seen well on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD on 1st Oct. Also a fly-over at Lamington NP on 6th Oct.

Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx basalis*

Seen well in open forest behind Anglesea, Vic on 16th Oct.

Black-eared Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx osculans*

Surprising record of an adult bird in open forest behind Anglesea, Vic on 16th Oct.

Shining Bronze Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx lucidus*

Adult birds seen in rainforest in Crater Lakes NP on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD. Heard elsewhere throughout tour on a number of occasions, including several times in Tasmania.

These birds were ssp plagosus.

Little Bronze Cuckoo*Chrysococcyx minutillus*

Seen whilst on Daintree River cruise and along Esplanade, Cairns on 4th Oct, North QLD.

Ssp minutillus and gouldii were seen.

Pallid Cuckoo*Cacomantis pallidus*

One or two birds seen in tropical savannah near Mareeba, North QLD, also several times in Tasmania.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo*Cacomantis flabelliformis*

Heard and seen on a few occasions throughout tour.

Brush Cuckoo*Cacomantis variolosus*

Unfortunately only seen in flight, whilst on Daintree River cruise, 4th Oct.

This would likely have been ssp demetorum

BARN-OWLS - Tytonidae**Lesser Sooty Owl***Tyto multipunctata*

Single bird seen at night high in rainforest canopy on Atherton Tablelands, 1st Oct, North QLD.

Eastern Barn Owl*Tyto javanica*

A few birds seen whilst spotlighting out on Hay Plain, NSW on 12th Oct.

OWLS - Strigidae**Rufous Owl***Ninox rufa*

Pair seen well in residential parkland in Cairns, North QLD on 28th Sept.

Ssp queenslandica was seen.

Southern Boobook*Ninox boobook*

Single bird seen well over two nights in Lamington NP, south-east QLD, 5-6th Oct. Also seen briefly whilst spotlighting out on Hay Plain, NSW on 12th Oct.

We saw birds of the boobook ssp.

Morepork : TAS*Ninox novaeseelandiae*

Single bird heard then seen at night near Cradle Mountain, Tas, 19th Oct.

FROGMOUTHS - Podargidae**Papuan Frogmouth***Podargus papuensis*

Two separate birds seen well on nest, whilst on Daintree River Cruise, 4th Oct.

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES - Caprimulgidae**White-throated Nightjar***Eurostopodus mystacalis*

Heard at night by some members of party whilst at accommodation on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD, 2nd Oct.

OWLET-NIGHTJARS - Aegothelidae**Australian Owlet-Nightjar***Aegotheles cristatus*

Single bird seen well in hollow on dusk, out on Hay Plain, NSW on 12th Oct. Another bird flushed from hollow during daylight near Bendigo, Vic on 15th Oct.

Ssp cristatus seen.

SWIFTS - Apodidae**Australian Swiftlet - E***Aerodramus terraereginae*

Flocks seen daily whilst in North QLD section of tour.

Ssp terraereginae seen.

ROLLERS - Coraciidae**Oriental Dollarbird***Eurystomus orientalis*

A few arriving migrants seen along Esplanade in Cairns, North QLD.

KINGFISHERS - Alcedinidae**Laughing Kookaburra - E***Dacelo novaeguineae*

Common and familiar species seen on most days of the tour.

We saw nominate subspecies novaeguineae.

Blue-winged Kookaburra*Dacelo leachii*

Single adult bird seen at Mt Molloy, North QLD on 3rd Oct.

This was ssp leachii.

Forest Kingfisher*Todiramphus macleayii*

Seen very well in open savannah woodland and rainforest edges in North QLD.

Ssp incinctus was seen in North QLD.

Torresian Kingfisher*Todiramphus sordidus*

A very vocal but reclusive pair seen well eventually in mangroves at north end of Esplanade in Cairns, 4-5th Oct.

Ssp sordidus.

Sacred Kingfisher*Todiramphus sanctus*

A common kingfisher species observed several times throughout tour.

Azure Kingfisher*Ceyx azureus*

Adult bird seen well in a quiet backwater whilst on Daintree River cruise, 4th Oct.

We saw ssp azurea.

Little Kingfisher*Ceyx pusillus*

Single bird seen by only a few members of the tour party at Hastie's Swamp, North QLD, 3rd Oct.

We saw ssp halli.

BEE-EATERS - Meropidae**Rainbow Bee-eater***Merops ornatus*

Seen numerous times throughout tour, especially in tropical north.

FALCONS AND CARACARAS - Falconidae**Nankeen Kestrel***Falco cenchroides*

Commonly seen throughout tour.

Australian Hobby*Falco longipennis*

Fleeting views of separate birds on three different occasions, not seen by all members of tour party.

Brown Falcon*Falco berigora*

Common species throughout tour.

Black Falcon - E*Falco subniger*

Single adult seen and much appreciated near Kerang, Vic on 13th Oct.

Peregrine Falcon*Falco peregrinus*

One seen on Atherton Tablelands, QLD and another seen in the Capertee Valley, NSW.

COCKATOOS - Cacatuidae**Glossy Black Cockatoo - E***Calyptorhynchus lathami*

Flock of five seen feeding in Allocasuarina trees near Lamington NP, south-east QLD on 7th Oct.

This was nominate ssp lathami

Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo - E*Calyptorhynchus funereus*

Adults and young seen at Barren Grounds, NSW, also a few seen in Tasmania.

We saw ssp funereus on the mainland and xanthanota in Tas.

Gang-gang Cockatoo - E*Callocephalon fimbriatum*

Small flock seen well in forest along Great Ocean Road, Vic on 16th Oct.

Galah - E : TAS*Eolophus roseicapilla*

Commonly seen in southern part of mainland and Tasmania.

Ssp albiceps was observed.

Long-billed Corella - E*Cacatua tenuirostris*

Common in flocks throughout drier parts of northern Vic.

Little Corella*Cacatua sanguinea*

Seen in numbers through western NSW and northern Vic.

We observed ssp gymnopsis

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo*Cacatua galerita*

Commonly seen species throughout tour.

Ssp galerita

OLD WORLD PARROTS - Psittaculidae**Superb Parrot - E - VU***Polytelis swainsonii*

Small family party of two adults and a fledgeling seen near Cowra, NSW on 11th Oct.

Australian King Parrot - E*Alisterus scapularis*

First seen on Atherton Tablelands, north QLD, then common in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

Red-winged Parrot*Aprosmictus erythropterus*

Large party of birds seen in Mt Molloy, North QLD.

Red-rumped Parrot - E*Psephotus haematonotus*

Commonly seen throughout dry interior of NSW and Vic.

Ssp haematonotus

Eastern Bluebonnet - E*Northiella haematogaster*

Flocks seen late in the day and at sunset out on Hay Plain, NSW, 12th Oct.

Ssp haematogaster was seen

Mulga Parrot - E*Psephotellus varius*

Several of these beautiful parrots seen well in dry woodland near Griffith, NSW on 12th Oct.

Green Rosella - E : TAS*Platycercus caledonicus*

Common Tasmanian endemic species, seen every day we were in that state.

Crimson Rosella - E*Platycercus elegans*

Common in Lamington NP, also down east coast, and along River Red Gum forests in Hay, NSW.

In the forests along the east coast we saw ssp elegans, in the River Red gum woodlands we saw "Yellow Rosella", ssp flaveolus.

Eastern Rosella - E : TAS*Platycercus eximius*

Fairly commonly seen throughout south-eastern part of mainland.

Nominate ssp eximius

Australian Ringneck - E*Barnardius zonarius*

A few pairs seen well in dry woodland near Griffith, NSW on 12th Oct.

The eastern ssp barnardi was seen

Swift Parrot - E - EN : TAS*Lathamus discolor*

Seasonably abundant this year on Bruny Island, Tas, big numbers present co-inciding with mass flowering of Blue Gum.

Blue-winged Parrot - E*Neophema chrysostoma*

Single bird seen in coastal heath near Anglesea, Vic on 16th Oct.

Turquoise Parrot - E*Neophema pulchella*

Small numbers of this furtive species seen in Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

Little Lorikeet - E*Parvipsitta pusilla*

Small numbers eventually seen well in canopies of eucalypts at a roadside stop in Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

Purple-crowned Lorikeet - E*Parvipsitta porphyrocephala*

Flyovers heard and seen briefly, early morning in Kerang, Vic on 15th Oct.

Musk Lorikeet - E*Glossopsitta concinna*

Flocks seen in Capertee Valley, NSW and around Hobart, Tas.

We saw ssp concinna on the mainland, and ssp didimus in Tas

Rainbow Lorikeet*Trichoglossus moluccanus*

Common throughout tropical northern Australia.

Nominate ssp moluccanus

Scaly-breasted Lorikeet*Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*

Small numbers seen most days in North QLD, many flying to roost with Rainbow Lorikeets along Esplanade in Cairns.

Double-eyed Fig Parrot*Cyclopsitta diophthalma*

After many fly-overs on several days, good views finally obtained of a pair in a fruiting fig north of Cairns, QLD.

In Wet Tropics area the ssp is macleayana

PITTAS - Pittidae**Noisy Pitta***Pitta versicolor*

Two or three birds heard, one seen very briefly in Lamington NP, south-east QLD on 6th Oct.

This was ssp versicolor

LYREBIRDS - Menuridae**Albert's Lyrebird - E - NT***Menura alberti*

Female watched foraging on 6th Oct, and on the 7th Oct 3 separate birds seen crossing the road as we left, Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

Superb Lyrebird - E*Menura novaehollandiae*

Two or three birds seen roadside early morning in hilly forest on way to Barren Grounds, NSW, 8th Oct. A male was seen briefly in the Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

Nominate ssp novaehollandiae

BOWERBIRDS - Ptilonorhynchidae**Green Catbird - E***Ailuroedus crassirostris*

Seen in Lamington NP over 6-7th Oct, good views hard to obtain though.

Spotted Catbird - E*Ailuroedus maculosus*

Seen well in rainforests on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

In the Wet Tropics we saw ssp maculosus.

Tooth-billed Bowerbird - E*Scenopoeetes dentirostris*

Males seen singing and at display avenues, in Crater Lakes NP. Also seen at fruiting trees briefly, Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Regent Bowerbird - E*Sericulus chrysocephalus*

Spectacular and obvious with many adults seen at Lamington NP, south-east QLD over 5-7th Oct.

Satin Bowerbird - E*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus*

Several seen in Lamington NP, QLD, and around Jamberoo and Barren Grounds, NSW.

Ssp violaceus

Great Bowerbird - E*Chlamydera nuchalis*

Pair and display bower seen very well in Mt Molloy, North QLD on 3rd Oct.

We saw birds of the orientalis ssp

AUSTRALASIAN TREECREEPERS - Climacteridae**White-throated Treecreeper - E***Cormobates leucophaea*

Reasonably common from North QLD, through to NSW and Vic.

Birds in the Wet Tropics were of the minor ssp (possible future split), whilst birds in Lamington NP were ssp metastasis, and southern birds were ssp leucophaea

Red-browed Treecreeper - E*Climacteris erythrops*

Pair seen well in Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

Brown Treecreeper - E*Climacteris picumnus*

Good numbers seen in Capertee Valley and other drier woodlands through western NSW.

We passed through a zone of intergradation between ssp victoriae & picumnus

FAIRYWRENS - Maluridae**Lovely Fairywren - E***Malurus amabilis*

A pair seen quite well in coastal rainforest south of Cairns, North QLD on 29th Sept.

Purple-backed Fairywren - E*Malurus assimilis*

A recent split from Variegated Fairywren (*M. lamberti*), with a male bird seen in dry scrub near Griffith in western NSW, on 12th Oct.

Ssp assimilis was seen.

Superb Fairywren - E*Malurus cyaneus*

Commonly seen from Lamington NP in south-east QLD onwards to end of tour in Tas.

Ssp cyanochlamys on mainland, ssp cyaneus in Tas

Splendid Fairywren - E*Malurus splendens*

Male and female seen well in arid woodland habitat near Griffith in NSW on 12th Oct.

We saw ssp melanotus

Red-backed Fairywren - E*Malurus melanocephalus*

Small parties seen in tropical grasslands and forest margins on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Birds we saw were of ssp cruentatus.

White-winged Fairywren - E*Malurus leucopterus*

Small parties seen in arid shrublands on Hay Plain and in northern Vic on 12th & 13th Oct respectively.

Widespread ssp leuconotus

Southern Emu-wren - E*Stipiturus malachurus*

Pair seen reasonably well in heathland at Barren Grounds, NSW on 7th Oct.

Nominate ssp malachurus was observed.

HONEYEATERS - Meliphagidae**Dusky Myzomela***Myzomela obscura*

Fairly common and seen several times in North QLD around flowering trees and shrubs.

We saw ssp harteri

Scarlet Myzomela*Myzomela sanguinolenta*

Quite common in flowering shrubs and rainforest margins whilst on North QLD part of tour.

Tawny-crowned Honeyeater - E*Gliciphila melanops*

One or two birds watched coming in to drink at a waterhole in dry woodland near Bendigo on 14th Oct.

Nominate ssp melanops

Eastern Spinebill - E*Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris*

Seen throughout tour in several different forested habitats.

In the Wet Tropics we had ssp cairnsensis, in south-eastern mainland ssp tenuirostris, and in Tas ssp dubius.

Brown Honeyeater*Lichmera indistincta*

Quite a common & vocal component of tropical woodland, rainforest edges and gardens in North QLD.

Ssp ocularis

Crescent Honeyeater - E*Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus*

Male birds seen well in forest near Lorne, Vic on 16th Oct, and in Tas.

These birds were the nominate ssp pyrrhopterus

New Holland Honeyeater - E*Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

Fairly common in coastal heath and woodland in southern mainland and Tas.

On the mainland was ssp novaehollandiae, in Tas was ssp canescens

White-cheeked Honeyeater - E*Phylidonyris niger*

Small number of birds feeding on flowering shrubs at Hastie's Swamp, Atherton Tablelands, QLD.

These were birds of the ssp nigra

Striped Honeyeater - E*Plectorhyncha lanceolata*

Heard and seen briefly in arid woodland habitat near Griffith in NSW on 12th Oct.

White-fronted Honeyeater - E*Purnella albifrons*

Two birds watched coming down to drink at a waterhole in dry woodland near Bendigo, Vic on 14th Oct.

Macleay's Honeyeater - E*Xanthotis macleayanus*

A vocal species seen many times in tropical rainforest of North QLD.

Little Friarbird*Philemon citreogularis*

Watched feeding in flowering trees with Noisy Friarbirds near Mareeba, 3rd Oct. Also pair seen in River Red Gum woodland at Hay, NSW on 13th Oct.

Nominate ssp citreogularis

Helmeted Friarbird*Philemon buceroides*

Seen on a number of occasions in tropical woodlands and rainforest edge around Cairns and on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Ssp seen was yorki, which may be a future split from other forms in Northern Australia to become Hornbill Friarbird.

Noisy Friarbird*Philemon corniculatus*

Seen on a few occasions in more open forest on mainland.

Ssp monachus was seen

Blue-faced Honeyeater*Entomyzon cyanotis*

Seen well in flowering trees with friarbirds near Mareeba, North QLD.

Black-chinned Honeyeater - E*Melithreptus gularis*

Small party seen very well in woodland in Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

We saw the southern ssp gularis.

Strong-billed Honeyeater - E : TAS*Melithreptus validirostris*

Good views of this Tasmanian endemic on Bruny Island, Tas.

Brown-headed Honeyeater - E*Melithreptus brevirostris*

Small flocks seen on a few occasions in dry and arid woodland through western NSW and northern Vic.

White-throated Honeyeater*Melithreptus albogularis*

Tropical species seen in open woodland on 3rd Oct near Mareeba, North QLD.

White-naped Honeyeater - E*Melithreptus lunatus*

Small numbers seen in Barren Grounds, NSW and also in Capertee Valley, NSW on 8th & 10th Oct respectively.

Black-headed Honeyeater - E : TAS*Melithreptus affinis*

Common Tasmanian endemic seen several times over the course of our stay there.

White-eared Honeyeater - E*Nesoptilotis leucotis*

Medium-sized and conspicuous honeyeater seen in drier woodlands through western NSW and northern Vic.

Yellow-throated Honeyeater - E : TAS*Nesoptilotis flavicollis*

The Tasmanian counterpart to the above species, this endemic was seen well on a few occasions whilst in Tas.

White-fronted Chat - E*Epthianura albifrons*

Seen well in arid shrublands in northern Vic, 13th Oct, also in wetlands near Geelong, Vic on 17th Oct.

Brown-backed Honeyeater*Ramsayornis modestus*

Nesting pairs seen in Cairns and on Daintree River cruise, north QLD.

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater - E*Acanthagenys rufogularis*

Seen in drier woodlands and arid country of western NSW and Northern Vic.

Little Wattlebird - E*Anthochaera chrysoptera*

Large honeyeater seen many times in coastal forests and scrub of south-east mainland and Tas.

Nominate ssp chrysoptera on mainland, ssp tasmanica in Tas.

Red Wattlebird : SW*Anthochaera carunculata*

Noisy & gregarious, common temperate woodland species of south-eastern part of mainland, often seen in flocks.

We saw ssp carunculata

Yellow Wattlebird - E : TAS*Anthochaera paradoxa*

Endemic to Tasmania, this large and bizarre honeyeater was seen every day during our time there.

Bridled Honeyeater - E*Bolemoreus frenatus*

Seen only at Mt Hypipamee on the Atherton Tablelands, North QLD on 2nd Oct.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater - E*Caligavis chrysops*

An abundant south-eastern mainland species seen several times in a few locations.

We saw nominate ssp chrysops

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater - E*Lichenostomus melanops*

A striking honeyeater seen well when coming in to drink at a waterhole in dry woodlands near Bendigo, Vic on 14th Oct.

Ssp meltoni

Purple-gaped Honeyeater - E*Lichenostomus cratitius*

Shyer than the above species but nonetheless seen very well when coming in to drink at a waterhole in dry woodlands near Bendigo, Vic on 14th Oct.

Bell Miner - E*Manorina melanophrys*

Unfortunately heard only in Capertee Valley, and when en route to Lamington NP, south-east QLD on 10th Oct.

Noisy Miner - E*Manorina melanocephala*

A noisy, aggressive and abundant species seen many times throughout south-east mainland and Tas.

Yellow-throated Miner - E*Manorina flavigula*

The inland counterpart of Noisy Miner, seen well through inland NSW and Northern Vic.

Nominate ssp flavigula was seen.

Yellow Honeyeater - E*Stomiopera flava*

A loud, medium-sized species of tropical north QLD, seen well around Cairns.

Varied Honeyeater*Gavicalis versicolor*

Common around Cairns in gardens and littoral scrub near coast along The Esplanade, North QLD.

Singing Honeyeater - E*Gavicalis virescens*

Seen in arid shrublands and dry woodland in western NSW and northern Vic.

Ssp sonorous seen

Fuscous Honeyeater - E*Ptilotula fusca*

A common species in the Capertee Valley, 10th Oct.

We saw ssp fuscus

Yellow-plumed Honeyeater - E*Ptilotula ornata*

A honeyeater of dry mallee woodlands, with several seen in mallee woodland near Bendigo, Vic on 14th Oct.

White-plumed Honeyeater - E*Ptilotula penicillata*

Seen in the Capertee Valley and similar temperate woodlands of western NSW and northern Vic.

The ssp seen was the nominate penicillatus

Yellow-spotted Honeyeater*Meliphaga notata*

A small but very vocal rainforest honeyeater seen over a few days whilst in Wet Tropics of North QLD.

In the Wet Tropics ssp mixta as seen

Graceful Honeyeater*Meliphaga gracilis*

Similar but more slender and less commonly seen than above species, also found in the Wet Tropics, North QLD.

Lewin's Honeyeater - E*Meliphaga lewinii*

High altitude rainforest species, common in Atherton Tablelands, North QLD and also in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

Ssp mab in the Wet Tropics, ssp lewinii in Lamington NP.

BRISTLEBIRDS - Dasyornithidae**Eastern Bristlebird - E - EN***Dasyornis brachypterus*

Excellent views of this normally extremely difficult and shy species in Budderoo NP, NSW on 8th Oct.

Southernmost ssp brachypterus was seen

Rufous Bristlebird - E*Dasyornis broadbenti*

Several heard along the Great Ocean Road in Vic, with one bird seen well near Lorne, 15th Oct.

PARDALOTES - Pardalotidae**Spotted Pardalote - E***Pardalotus punctatus*

Seen well in south-east section of mainland and Tas, a very cooperative species and much appreciated. We saw *ssp punctatus* in temperate forest and woodlands, and mallee-inhabiting *ssp xanthopyge* in arid mallee scrub near Bendigo, Vic.

Forty-spotted Pardalote - E - EN : TAS*Pardalotus quadragintus*

Critically endangered Tasmanian endemic seen well on Bruny Island, Tas on 18-19th Oct.

Striated Pardalote - E*Pardalotus striatus*

Best views were had in Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct, others seen in Hay, NSW and through Tas.

Ssp ornatus on the mainland and *ssp striatus* seen in Tas

AUSTRALASIAN WARBLERS - Acanthizidae**Pilotbird - E***Pycnoptilus floccosus*

Adult bird seen very close at Barren Grounds, NSW on 8th Oct. Normally a very shy species, we watched it to within 2m.

We saw *ssp sandlandi*

Scrubtit - E : TAS*Acanthornis magna*

A normally tough Tasmanian endemic species, we saw birds on several occasions during our stay in Tas.

Rockwarbler - E*Origma solitaria*

After an exhaustive search process we finally had fantastic views of an adult bird in the Capertee Valley on 10th Oct.

Shy Heathwren - E*Calamanthus cautus*

A pair seen well in mallee heath near Bendigo on 15th Oct.

We saw *ssp cauta*

Striated Fieldwren - E*Calamanthus fuliginosus*

Pair seen very well in heathlands near Anglesea, Vic on 16th Oct.

Ssp albicollis was seen on the mainland, *ssp fuliginosus* was seen in Tas.

Speckled Warbler - E*Pyrrholaemus sagittatus*

Seen in the Capertee Valley, NSW on the 10th Oct and in dry woodland at Conimbla NP the next day.

Atherton Scrubwren - E*Sericornis kerri*

Scattered views of a couple of pairs of this furtive & unobtrusive species at Crater Lakes NP, North QLD.

White-browed Scrubwren - E*Sericornis frontalis*

Seen well in rainforest at Lamington NP, and other forests and shrublands with understorey throughout south-east mainland.

In Lamington NP we saw darker *ssp tweedi*, the rest of the mainland was *ssp frontalis*

Tasmanian Scrubwren - E : TAS*Sericornis humilis*

We eventually had great views of this Tasmanian endemic after much searching.

Yellow-throated Scrubwren - E*Sericornis citreogularis*

A pair seen at Crater Lakes NP in North QLD, and several birds seen in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

Ssp cairnsi in North Qld, *ssp intermedius* in south-east QLD

Large-billed Scrubwren - E*Sericornis magnirostra*

Seen at Crater Lakes NP and Mt Hypipamee in North QLD, and several birds seen in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

In North QLD we saw ssp viridor, in south-east QLD ssp magnirostris

Weebill - E*Smicrornis brevirostris*

Australia's smallest bird, we saw several in the dry woodland and arid scrub of western NSW and northern Vic.

We saw ssp brevirostris.

Brown Gerygone - E*Gerygone mouki*

We saw birds in the high-altitude rainforests of North QLD and also in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

North QLD was ssp mouki, south-east QLD was ssp richmondi

Western Gerygone : SW*Gerygone fusca*

Two birds seen in dry woodland in Conimbla NP, NSW on 11th Oct.

Ssp fusca

Large-billed Gerygone*Gerygone magnirostris*

Pair seen attending a nest on backwater of Daintree River cruise, on 4th Oct.

This was ssp cairnsensis

White-throated Gerygone*Gerygone olivacea*

Single adult seen near Capertee Valley on 10th Oct.

We saw ssp olivacea

Fairy Gerygone*Gerygone palpebrosa*

Pair seen well in riparian rainforest near Daintree Village, after cruise on 4th Oct.

These birds were of the ssp personata

Mountain Thornbill - E*Acanthiza katherina*

Birds seen well in highland rainforest on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD on 1-2 Oct.

Brown Thornbill - E*Acanthiza pusilla*

Seen well in a number of habitats from rainforest to coastal scrub in south-east mainland and Tas.

We saw ssp pusilla on the mainland and ssp diemensis in Tas

Tasmanian Thornbill - E : TAS*Acanthiza ewingii*

Tasmanian endemic seen well in cool temperate rainforest habitat throughout Tas.

Chestnut-rumped Thornbill - E*Acanthiza uropygialis*

Seen in dry woodland of western NSW and northern Vic.

Buff-rumped Thornbill - E*Acanthiza reguloides*

A gregarious flocking species seen well in temperate woodland near Capertee Valley on 10th Oct, and in Conimbla NP on 11th Oct.

Yellow-rumped Thornbill - E*Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

Terrestrial flocking species seen in open country throughout south-east mainland and Tas.

Ssp leighi on the mainland and ssp leachi in Tas.

Yellow Thornbill - E*Acanthiza nana*

Seen well in some of the drier wooded habitats we passed through in western NSW and northern Vic.

We saw ssp modesta

Striated Thornbill - E*Acanthiza lineata*

Arboreal flocking species seen at Barren Grounds, NSW on 8th Oct.

Here we saw ssp lineata

Southern Whiteface - E*Aphelocephala leucopsis*

Small party seen on open plains south-west of Hay, NSW on 13th Oct, also in mallee scrub in northern Vic.

In these areas we saw the nominate ssp leucopsis

PSEUDO-BABLERS - Pomatostomidae**Grey-crowned Babbler***Pomatostomus temporalis*

Vociferous party of birds seen in dry woodland near Conimbla NP, NSW on 11th Oct.

Ssp temporalis was seen

White-browed Babbler - E*Pomatostomus superciliosus*

Small parties seen in dry woodland and mallee scrub in western NSW and northern Vic.

We saw ssp gilgandra

LOGRUNNERS - Orthonychidae**Australian Logrunner - E***Orthonyx temminckii*

Pairs and small parties seen several times on rainforest floor in Lamington NP.

Chowchilla - E*Orthonyx spaldingii*

Pair heard then seen well on rainforest floor in Crater Lakes NP, North QLD on 2nd Oct.

WHIPBIRDS, JEWEL-BABLERS AND QUAIL-THRUSHES - Psophodidae**Eastern Whipbird - E***Psophodes olivaceus*

Seen well in highland rainforest in North Qld and south-east QLD, especially obvious in Lamington NP.

In north QLD we saw ssp lateralis, in south-east QLD ssp olivaceous

BOATBILLS - Machaerirhynchidae**Yellow-breasted Boatbill***Machaerirhynchus flaviventer*

Male seen very well in rainforest at Crater Lakes NP, North QLD on 30th Sept.

We saw the southern ssp secundus

WOODSWALLOWS, BUTCHERBIRDS AND ALLIES - Artamidae**White-breasted Woodswallow***Artamus leucorhynchus*

Common in North QLD throughout open areas, also seen in dry open country of western NSW.

Masked Woodswallow - E*Artamus personatus*

Single adult seen in Capertee Valley, several in mixed flocks with White-browed WS.

White-browed Woodswallow - E*Artamus superciliosus*

Large flocks seen through western NSW and northern Vic on 12th & 14th Oct.

Dusky Woodswallow - E : TAS*Artamus cyanopterus*

A southern species first seen in Capertee Valley, then near Anglesea and a few times in Tas.

Ssp cyanopterus is found in eastern mainland & Tas.

Black Butcherbird*Melloria quoyi*

Seen in rainforest margins and gardens in Cairns area, Nth QLD.

Grey Butcherbird - E : TAS*Cracticus torquatus*

Seen in woodland en route to Lamington NP, south-east QLD on 5th Oct, also in woodland near Anglesea, Vic on 15th Oct and in northern Tas on 20th Oct.

We saw ssp torquatus on mainland, and ssp cinereus in Tas

Pied Butcherbird - E

Cracticus nigrogularis

A common species heard & seen in a wide range of habitats from Wet Tropics through to open plains of western NSW.

Nominate ssp nigrogularis was seen in all areas we visited

Australian Magpie

Cracticus tibicen

Commonly seen throughout tour.

In northern Aus we saw the black-backed form, whereas in southern Aus and Tas we saw white-backed forms. Taxonomy of these forms is in a state of flux and borders/limits of each are unclear.

Pied Currawong - E

Strepera graculina

Commonly seen in wooded habitats and mountain areas from North QLD through to southern Vic.

In the Wet Tropics we saw ssp robinsoni, south-east QLD ssp graculina, and on the Great Ocean Road ssp ashb

Black Currawong - E : TAS

Strepera fuliginosa

A Tasmanian endemic seen several times during our stay there.

Grey Currawong - E

Strepera versicolor

Despite being found on the mainland as well, we only saw this species on a few occasions in Tasmania.

The ssp found in Tas is arguta "Clinking Currawong"

CUCKOO-SHRIKES - Campephagidae

Black-faced Cuckooshrike

Coracina novaehollandiae

A commonly seen species throughout the tour.

We saw ssp melanops

Barred Cuckooshrike

Coracina lineata

Reasonably common at fruiting trees in rainforest areas on Atherton Tablelands in North QLD.

White-bellied Cuckooshrike

Coracina papuensis

Quite common in rainforest edge and riparian habitats in North QLD, also seen in Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

In the north was ssp oriomo, in NSW was ssp robusta

Common Cicadabird

Coracina tenuirostris

A male bird seen in riparian rainforest whilst on Daintree River cruise, 4th Oct.

Ssp melvillensis

White-winged Triller

Lalage tricolor

A small migrating flock seen in open country west of Cowra, NSW on 11th Oct.

Varied Triller

Lalage leucomela

Seen several times in rainforest edge, mangroves and riparian habitats whilst in Wet Tropics of North QLD.

We saw ssp yorki in the Wet Tropics.

SITTELLAS - Neosittidae

Varied Sittella - E

Daphoenositta chrysoptera

A flock of this nuthatch-like species was seen in forest at Barren Grounds, NSW on 8th Oct, also in dry woodland in northern Vic on 14th.

These birds were the nominate ssp chrysoptera

AUSTRALO-PAPUAN BELLBIRDS - Oreoicidae**Crested Bellbird - E***Oreoica gutturalis*

Unfortunately, we only heard this species, in dry woodland near Bendigo, Vic on 15th Oct.

WHISTLERS AND ALLIES - Pachycephalidae**Crested Shriketit - E***Falcunculus frontatus*

Great views of a pair in Red Gum woodland in Hay, NSW on 13th Oct.

These were the nominate ssp frontatus

Olive Whistler - E*Pachycephala olivacea*

Adult birds seen in cool temperate rainforest in Tas.

We saw ssp apatetes here

Gilbert's Whistler - E*Pachycephala inornata*

Sporadic views of a singing male in dry woodland in northern Vic on 14th Oct.

Grey Whistler*Pachycephala simplex*

Good views of a pair of birds in riparian rainforest near Daintree Village, North QLD, after the cruise on 4th Oct.

Ssp peninsulae was seen

Australian Golden Whistler - E*Pachycephala pectoralis*

A common and colourful bird seen in a wide range of habitats on several occasions throughout tour.

Nominate ssp pectoralis was seen in North QLD, ssp youngi throughout southern Vic, and ssp glaucura in Tas

Rufous Whistler - NE*Pachycephala rufiventris*

Common spring migrant seen over a number of days in the south-east part of the mainland.

Nominate ssp rufiventris was seen

Bower's Shrikethrush - E*Colluricincla boweri*

Good views of a pair of this highlands endemic at Crater Lakes NP on Atherton Tablelands on 1st Oct.

Little Shrikethrush*Colluricincla megarhyncha*

Reasonably common in rainforest areas in Wet Tropics of North QLD.

Ssp rufogaster was seen

Grey Shrikethrush*Colluricincla harmonica*

A quite common species seen over several days when on south-eastern and Tas sections of tour.

We saw nominate ssp harmonica

OLD WORLD ORIOLES - Oriolidae**Australasian Figbird***Sphecotheres vieilloti*

Seen every day whilst in the Wet Tropics of North QLD.

Ssp flaviventris

Olive-backed Oriole*Oriolus sagittatus*

Several birds seen, many of which were juvenile, during the Wet Tropics section of North QLD.

Nominate ssp sagittatus

Green Oriole*Oriolus flavocinctus*

A few seen in Cairns area, North QLD. Heard more than seen.

Ssp kingi

DRONGOS - Dicruridae**Spangled Drongo***Dicrurus bracteatus*

Seen several times during the Wet Tropics section of North QLD, once at Lamington NP on 7th Oct.

Ssp atrabectus in North QLD, *ssp bracteatus* in Lamington NP

FANTAILS - Rhipiduridae**Willie Wagtail***Rhipidura leucophrys*

A common species seen on most days of tour except Tas.

Smaller ssp picata seen in North QLD, *ssp leucophrys* seen on remainder of tour

Grey Fantail*Rhipidura albiscapa*

A common species seen throughout much of tour in rainforest and wooded habitats throughout.

In the high altitude rainforest of the Wet Tropics we saw the dark ssp keasti, through the south-east it was ssp alisteri, in Tas ssp albiscapa

Rufous Fantail*Rhipidura rufifrons*

Seen more than heard, we had views of a bird in riparian rainforest near Daintree Village, North QLD, after the cruise on 4th Oct.

Ssp intermedia was seen

MONARCHS - Monarchidae**Spectacled Monarch***Symposiachrus trivirgatus*

Quite common and seen several times in rainforest whilst in North QLD.

Ssp melanorrhhoa

Black-faced Monarch*Monarcha melanopsis*

Beautiful species seen on a few occasions in rainforest of North QLD, also in Lamington NP.

White-eared Monarch - E*Carterornis leucotis*

Unfortunately heard only on a couple of occasions in Crater Lakes NP, Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

Pied Monarch - E*Arses kaupi*

A pair seen well in Crater Lakes NP, Atherton Tablelands, North QLD on 2nd Oct.

Magpie-lark - E*Grallina cyanoleuca*

A common species seen on most days of tour, except Tas.

Nominate ssp cyanoleuca

Leaden Flycatcher*Myiagra rubecula*

Seen only twice on North QLD section of tour.

Ssp okyri was seen

Satin Flycatcher*Myiagra cyanoleuca*

Passage migrants from PNG seen on two occasions in Wet Tropics of North QLD, once on Daintree River cruise and once at The Esplanade in Cairns.

Shining Flycatcher*Myiagra alecto*

A beautiful species displaying marked sexual dimorphism, seen well whilst on Daintree River cruise, North QLD, on 4th Oct.

Restless Flycatcher - E : SW*Myiagra inquieta*

Seen in dry woodland near Conimbla NP in western NSW on 10th Oct.

CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES - Corvidae**Torresian Crow***Corvus orru*

Commonly seen in the Wet Tropics and around south-east QLD including Lamington NP.

Forest Raven - E*Corvus tasmanicus*

Seen in forested areas along Great Ocean Road in Vic, also in Tasmania where it is the only corvid.

*Ssp tasmanicus***Little Raven - E***Corvus mellori*

Several flocks seen through open country and farmland in southern Vic.

Australian Raven - E*Corvus coronoides*

Common around NSW coastal and inland areas, as well as drier inland parts of northern Vic.

*Eastern ssp coronoides***WHITE-WINGED CHOUGH AND APOSTLEBIRD - Corcoracidae****White-winged Chough - E***Corcorax melanorhamphos*

Several seen from drier inland NSW onto northern Vic.

*Nominate ssp melanorhamphos was seen***Apostlebird - E***Struthidea cinerea*

Several roadside groups seen in western NSW over 11-12th Oct.

*Ssp cinerea***BIRDS-OF-PARADISE - Paradisaeidae****Paradise Riflebird - E***Ptiloris paradiseus*

This species proved elusive and was only heard unfortunately, in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

Victoria's Riflebird - E*Ptiloris victoriae*

Several birds seen exceptionally well in highland rainforest on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD. One of the four Birds-of-Paradise found in Australia.

AUSTRALASIAN ROBINS - Petroicidae**Grey-headed Robin - E***Heteromyias cinereifrons*

This distinctive robin was fairly common around edges & clearings in highland rainforests of Atherton Tablelands, north QLD.

Mangrove Robin*Peneoenanthe pulverulenta*

1-2 birds seen well in mangroves at north end of the Esplanade in Cairns, North QLD.

*This was ssp leucura***Pale-yellow Robin - E***Tregellasia capito*

Tiny robin seen a number of times in Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

*Here we saw ssp nana***Eastern Yellow Robin - E***Eopsaltria australis*

Seen often in denser forests and woodlands in south-east section of tour, especially prevalent in Lamington NP, south-east QLD. Was seen once in Atherton Tablelands of North QLD.

*In QLD was ssp chrysorrhoea, in NSW ssp australis***Hooded Robin - E***Melanodryas cucullata*

Seen in drier woodland near Griffith, NSW on 12th Oct, and in dry forest of northern Vic on 14th Oct.

Nominate ssp cucullata was seen

Dusky Robin - E : TAS*Melanodryas vittata*

This Tas endemic was seen several times over the course of our visit in this state.

Jacky Winter*Microeca fascians*

A few pairs seen in the Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

Rose Robin - E*Petroica rosea*

Single bird seen over two days whilst we were at Lamington NP, south-east QLD, 6-7th Oct.

Pink Robin - E*Petroica rodinogaster*

Male bird seen up close in cool temperate rainforest in northern Tas on 19th Oct.

Ssp rodinogaster was seen there

Flame Robin - E - NT*Petroica phoenicea*

Males & females seen well during our stay in Tasmania.

Scarlet Robin - E*Petroica boodang*

Several pairs seen in Tasmanian open forest areas.

In Tas we saw ssp leggi

Red-capped Robin - E*Petroica goodenovii*

A robin of drier inland areas, we saw several through western NSW & northern Vic. One exceptional record was of a single male in rainforest at Lamington NP on 7th Oct, a bird well out of range and in atypical rainforest habitat.

LARKS - Alaudidae**Horsfield's Bush Lark***Mirafra javanica*

A few birds seen out in grasslands of the Hay Plain on the 12th Oct, also seen in grasslands near Geelong on the 17th Oct.

Nominate ssp horsfieldi was seen

Eurasian Skylark - I*Alauda arvensis*

Introduced species seen in grasslands near Geelong, Vic on 17th Oct, and also in Tas.

SWALLOWS - Hirundinidae**White-backed Swallow - E***Cheramoeca leucosterna*

Single bird seen with Welcome Swallows flying overhead at our lunch stop in northern Vic on 14th Oct.

Welcome Swallow*Hirundo neoxena*

Common species seen on most days of tour.

Fairy Martin*Petrochelidon ariel*

Common species seen in flocks throughout more open areas of mainland.

Tree Martin*Petrochelidon nigricans*

Seen often throughout tour in open areas and over woodland, including Tas.

REED WARBLERS AND ALLIES - Acrocephalidae**Australian Reed Warbler***Acrocephalus australis*

Heard & seen in several large wetlands wherever dense emergent cover was present.

GRASSBIRDS AND ALLIES - Locustellidae**Rufous Songlark - E***Megalurus mathewsi*

Birds heard and seen in open woodland in Capertee Valley, NSW on 10th Oct.

Brown Songlark - E*Megalurus cruralis*

Single male seen in grasslands near Geelong, Vic on 17th Oct.

Little Grassbird*Megalurus gramineus*

Furtive species seen in waterside vegetation at wetlands near Geelong on 17th Oct.

CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES - Cisticolidae**Golden-headed Cisticola***Cisticola exilis*

Several displaying males seen in swampy grassland near Geelong on 17th Oct.

WHITE-EYES - Zosteropidae**Silvereye***Zosterops lateralis*

A common species seen in many areas throughout tour, including Tas.

*In North QLD we saw ssp vegetus, in south-east QLD ssp cornwalli, through NSW to southern Vic ssp westernensis, and in Tas ssp lateralis***STARLINGS - Sturnidae****Metallic Starling***Aplonis metallica*

Several fast-flying flocks and feeding individuals seen in the Wet Tropics of North QLD.

Common Myna - I*Acridotheres tristis*

Introduced species commonly seen throughout tour around human habitation, except Tas.

Common Starling - I*Sturnus vulgaris*

Introduced species seen throughout southern section of tour including Tas.

THRUSHES AND ALLIES - Turdidae**Russet-tailed Thrush***Zoothera heinei*

Single individual heard then seen well in rainforest, Lamington NP, south-east QLD on 6th Oct.

Bassian Thrush - E : TAS*Zoothera lunulata*

Several birds seen in Lamington NP, south-east QLD. A slightly bigger species than Russet-tailed Thrush.

*Ssp lunulata was seen***Common Blackbird - I***Turdus merula*

Introduced species seen several times in the south-east mainland & Tas.

FLOWERPECKERS - Dicaeidae**Mistletoebird***Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

Tiny flowerpecker seen in North QLD section of tour mostly.

SUNBIRDS AND SPIDERHUNTERS - Nectariniidae**Olive-backed Sunbird***Cinnyris jugularis*

Quite a common species in rainforest edge and gardens around the Wet Tropics, North QLD.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS - Passeridae**House Sparrow - I***Passer domesticus*

A common introduced species never far from human habitation.

WAXBILLS, MUNIAS AND ALLIES - Estrildidae**Red-browed Finch - E** *Neochmia temporalis*

Seen on several occasions at rainforest edge and clearings in QLD.

*In North QLD ssp minor, in south-east QLD/NSW ssp temporalis***Zebra Finch** *Taeniopygia guttata*

Small flocks seen out in shrublands of Hay Plain on 12th Oct.

Scaly-breasted Munia - I *Lonchura punctulata*

Introduced species seen in Cairns area on 29th Sept.

Chestnut-breasted Mannikin *Lonchura castaneothorax*

Small flocks seen in canefields south of Cairns, North QLD on 29th Sept.

WAGTAILS, PIPITS - Motacillidae**Australian Pipit** *Anthus australis*

Seen on several occasions in grassland areas throughout tour.

*Ssp australis on mainland areas, ssp bistratus in Tas***FINCHES - Fringillidae****European Greenfinch - I** *Chloris chloris*

Introduced species seen in Tas.

European Goldfinch - I *Carduelis carduelis*

Introduced species seen in Tas.

Mammals (35)**PLATYPUS - Ornithorhynchidae****Platypus - E** *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*

Up to 4 seen in rainforest stream on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD, and a single animal seen on a stream in northern Tas on 20th Oct.

ECHIDNAS - Tachyglossidae**Short-beaked Echidna** *Tachyglossus aculeatus*

Two to three seen in Tasmania.

MARSUPIAL CARNIVORES - Dasyuridae**Brown Antechinus - E** *Antechinus stuartii*

Single seen and photographed by one member of party on Bruny Island, Tas.

Spotted-tailed Quoll - E *Dasyurus maculatus*

Two or three seen over separate nights at wilderness accommodation in northern Tas.

Tasmanian Devil - E : TAS *Sarcophilus harrisii*

Up to 4-5 seen over separate nights at wilderness accommodation in northern Tas.

BANDICOOTS - Peramelidae**Long-nosed Bandicoot - E***Perameles nasuta*

Seen at night over course of our stay in rainforest accommodation in Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

MUSKY RAT KANGAROO - Hypsiprymnodontidae**Musky Rat Kangaroo - E***Hypsiprymnodon moschatus*

The world's smallest macropod, seen in highland rainforest on Atherton Tablelands on 1st Oct.

KANGAROOS, WALLABIES - Macropodidae**Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo - E***Dendrolagus lumholtzi*

Two seen at day roost in trees at a high altitude rainforest location on Atherton Tablelands, 1st Oct.

Agile Wallaby - NE*Macropus agilis*

Common wallaby seen in several locations in Wet Tropics of North QLD.

Western Grey Kangaroo - E*Macropus fuliginosus*

A few individuals amongst Eastern Grey Kangaroos on Hay Plain, NSW on 12th Oct.

Eastern Grey Kangaroo - E*Macropus giganteus*

Common macropod seen on several occasions throughout tour.

Whiptail Wallaby - E*Macropus parryi*

Small number of animals seen in woodland when en route to Lamington NP, south-east QLD, 5th Oct.

Common Wallaroo - E*Macropus robustus*

4-5 seen in rocky forested hillsides in Capertee Valley on 10th Oct.

Red-necked Wallaby - E*Macropus rufogriseus*

Several seen in Capertee Valley, NSW, and the Bennett's form common in Tas, including an albino individual.

Ssp banksianus on mainland, *ssp rufogriseus* in Tas

Red Kangaroo - E*Macropus rufus*

The largest macropod, with several seen out on Hay Plain, NSW on 12th Oct.

Mareeba Rock Wallaby - E*Petrogale mareeba*

Several animals on rocky outcrops at a nature reserve near Mareeba, North QLD.

Tasmanian Pademelon - E : TAS*Thylogale billardierii*

Common & abundant endemic to Tasmania, seen many times.

Red-legged Pademelon - E*Thylogale stigmatica*

Seen in Atherton Tablelands and once in Lamington NP, QLD.

Red-necked Pademelon - E*Thylogale thetis*

Common around forest edge and picnic grounds in Lamington NP, south-east QLD.

GLIDERS - Petauridae**Striped Possum***Dactylopsila trivirgata*

A spectacular rainforest possum seen over several nights whilst staying in Atherton Tablelands.

Sugar Glider - E : TAS*Petaurus breviceps*

3-4 seen over several nights whilst staying in Atherton Tablelands.

POSSUMS, CUSCUSES, GLEDERO, RINGTAILS - Phalangeridae

Short-eared Brushtail Possum - E *Trichosurus caninus*

Single animal seen at night in Lamington NP on 5th Oct.

Common Brushtail Possum - E *Trichosurus vulpecula*

Commonly seen in Tasmania at night, coppery form seen in Atherton Tablelands, North QLD.

KOALAS - Phascolarctidae

Koala - E *Phascolarctos cinereus*

Seen in forested areas along Great Ocean Road, Vic on 16th Oct.

RINGTAIL POSSUMS - Pseudocheiridae

Common Ringtail Possum - E *Pseudocheirus peregrinus*

A few seen at night in Lamington NP, 5-6th Oct.

Green Ringtail Possum - E *Pseudochirops archeri*

Seen at night in high altitude rainforest on Atherton Tablelands, 30th Sept.

WOMBATS - Vombatidae

Common Wombat - E : TAS *Vombatus ursinus*

Beautiful female with young in pouch, Cradle Mountain, Tas on 20th Oct.

COMMON BATS - Vespertilionidae

Large-footed Myotis *Myotis macropus*

A microbat species noted for its fishing habits, seen at roost under a bridge in Atherton Tablelands.

RABBITS, HARES - Leporidae

European Hare - I *Lepus europaeus*

Introduced species.

European Rabbit - I *Oryctolagus cuniculus*

Introduced species.

OCEANIC DOLPHINS - Delphinidae

Common Bottlenose Dolphin : SW *Tursiops truncatus*

Small pods seen whilst on Kiama Pelagic trip, NSW on 9th Oct.

RORQUALS - Balaenopteridae

Humpback Whale *Megaptera novaeangliae*

4 animals seen up close and spectacularly whilst on Kiama Pelagic trip, NSW on 9th Oct.

OLD WORLD FRUIT BATS - Pteropodidae

Little Red Flying Fox *Pteropus scapulatus*

Single animal seen on dusk in Cairns, 28th Sept.

RODENTS - Muridae

Fawn-footed Melomys *Melomys cervinipes*

A large tropical rodent seen in Cairns, North QLD.

Giant White-tailed Rat*Uromys caudimaculatus*

Very large rodent seen in highland rainforest on Atherton Tablelands, North QLD on 30th Sept.

Reptiles (11)

Saltwater Crocodile*Crocodylus porosus*

2 animals seen loafing on edge of Daintree River whilst on cruise, 4th Oct.

Macquarie Turtle*Emydura macquarii*

Seen on ponds in botanical gardens in Cairns, North QLD on 28th Sept.

Saw-shelled Turtle*Wollumbinia latisternum*

Several in water at Crater Lakes NP on 29th Sept.

Northern Leaf-tailed Gecko*Saltuarius cornutus*

Spectacular individual seen at night on Atherton Tablelands, 29th Sept.

Tesselated Gecko*Diplodactylus tessellatus*

Single individual found at night out on Hay Plain, NSW, 12th Oct.

Common Blue-tongue*Tiliqua scincoides*

Large individual found near Jamberoo, NSW.

Eastern Bearded Dragon*Pogona barbata*

One on road south of Hay, NSW. Ran off before good looks were had.

Lace Monitor*Varanus varius*

Very large individual seen in dry woodland, northern Vic on 14th Oct.

Carpet Python*Morelia spilota*

Seen in rainforest on Atherton Tablelands.

Common Tree Snake*Dendrelaphis punctulata*

Two seen in riparian vegetation on Daintree River Cruise, North QLD.

Eastern Brown Snake*Pseudonaja textilis*

Moderately sized individual seen on the road near Lake Boga, Northern Vic on 13th Oct.

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