



# ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## **Australia**

### **South West Extension I**

*15<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September 2018 (6 days)*

## **Trip Report**



Splendid Fairywren by Dennis Braddy

**Tour Leaders: Frank O'Connor & Max Breckenridge**

The south-west corner of Western Australia is a birding and ecological hotspot, hosting a high diversity of endemic plant, mammal and bird species. This short extension before the Eastern Australia birding tour concentrates on south-western Australia's endemic bird species and other wildlife. We commenced in the state's capital of Perth, situated on the Swan River. During this tour, we explored a range of habitats, but we concentrated on the extensive wandoo woodlands of Dryandra State Forest, the rugged windswept heathlands of the south coast east of Albany and the semi-arid mallee woodlands. We made stops in the Darling Range, the Stirling Ranges, Rocky Gully and Herdsman Lake to target some specific species. We expected to encounter sixteen endemic bird species (all SW endemics, except the critically endangered Western Ground Parrot) plus many near-endemics, several subspecies that might be split and a few Australian endemics that might not be seen on the main Eastern Australia tour. We also hoped to see several fabulous mammals, such as Short-beaked Echidna, Numbat, Western Grey Kangaroo, Western Brush Wallaby, Southern Brown Bandicoot and Southern Right Whale.

Highlights were all sixteen possible south-west endemics, including Noisy Scrubbird and very good views of Western Bristlebird, Black-throated Whipbird, Painted Buttonquail in the middle of the road, Shy Heathwren, Western Fieldwren, Crested (Western) Shriketit, four fairywrens, Australian Owlet-Nightjar, Freckled Duck, and I could go on. Other wildlife included Southern Right Whales, Short-beaked Echidnas, Southern Brown Bandicoot (Quenda) by some, Western Brown Snake (Gwardar), Tiger Snake and Heath Monitor.



**Crested Shriketit by Dennis Braddy**



**Scarlet Robin by Dennis Braddy**

The tour started with a 07:00 departure from Perth in perfect weather. Time was short for the first day, but we stopped in the Darling Range to see Western Wattlebird, the first of the south-west endemics, quickly followed by several Western Rosellas. At Bungendore Park, we found an excellent mixed flock that included four more endemics, with Western Spinebill, Western Thornbill, Western Whistler and Gilbert's Honeyeater, plus great views of a group of Varied Sittellas and a male Scarlet Robin. We then made our way to the Threeways Roadhouse at North Bannister for a rest stop, where we had distant views of a soaring Square-tailed Kite. We continued to

Dryandra State Forest, located in the wheatbelt south-east of Perth near Narrogin. Dryandra SF is dominated by wandoo woodland, with areas of mallet plantations and small patches of kwongan heath. We first stopped at the caretaker's house, where we found a White-eared Honeyeater at the bird bath. We made several stops in the wandoo woodland, where we found Blue-breasted Fairywren, Jacky Winter, Yellow-plumed Honeyeater, Elegant Parrot, Fan-tailed Cuckoo and Restless Flycatcher. Max

found a Purple-crowned Lorikeet that gave incredible views. He saw a Numbat which, unfortunately, we could not relocate, but we flushed an Australian Owlet-Nightjar, which we then saw at the entrance of a tree hollow. Heading to lunch, a Painted Buttonquail squatted down on the road before walking off. We stopped and had wonderful views of a female. After lunch, we tracked down a few species, including Red-capped Robin, Rufous Treecreeper, Dusky Woodswallow, White-browed Babbler and a Collared Sparrowhawk which soared overhead. A major highlight was two Short-beaked Echidnas, and everyone enjoyed our first views of the common Western Grey Kangaroo. We had quick views of a Western Brown Snake (Gwardar) before it quickly slithered off the road. As we left Dryandra, we stopped in a patch of kwongan heath and found two Brown-headed Honeyeaters and had more views of Western Spinebill. A busy day, but a great start with 70 species. We missed Western Yellow Robin and Crested Shriketit, but you can't see everything on the first day!



**Australian Owlet-Nightjar by Glen Valentine**

Day two, and we left Narrogin shortly after 07:00. Most people saw the Red-capped Parrots at our accommodation, and some were lucky enough to see some Regent Parrots fly past. We saw the Giant Ram in Wagin and had a rest stop at Katanning. A White-cheeked Honeyeater sat obligingly on the power lines. We continued through Broomehill and Gnowangerup, stopping for a Brown Goshawk. We then headed towards the Stirling Ranges. We found a pair of Hooded Plovers at the Camel Lake NR, and the Tawny-crowned Honeyeaters gave us our first views. We stopped at the entrance to the Stirling Range



**Shining Bronze Cuckoo by Dennis Braddy**

NP, where we saw Shining Bronze Cuckoo, another Western Thornbill, Scarlet Robin and some people heard an Eastern Barn Owl calling in a hollow. A pale Little Eagle also made a fly past us. We then located a pair of Western Yellow Robins and a Crested (Western) Shriketit (a bird almost certain to become a full species, and shriketits might become a separate family). We had lunch at the Stirling Range Retreat, where we saw Australian Pipit and an Australian Hobby made a pass overhead. The Regent Parrots were absent from their nest tree. We headed for Albany, and Max stopped for a flock of black cockatoos feeding on the ground. We got excellent scope views of Baudin's Black Cockatoos, a species that sometimes proves harder to find. We refuelled and shopped for food and then headed for Cheyne Beach, stopping at Lower King for wine. Here, we saw Eastern Osprey, Pied Oystercatchers, Common Greenshanks and Yellow-billed Spoonbills. At Cheyne Beach, we tried for Noisy Scrubbird. It called loudly but didn't cross the track. A Black-throated (Western) Whipbird also called but couldn't be seen. Heading into the caravan park, we saw a Brush Bronzewing, extraordinary views of Red-eared Firetails on the lawn around the cabins and a White-breasted Robin.

Day three at Cheyne Beach. Some disruption with light drizzle and rain, but not enough to stop us finding what we wanted. After coffee and a banana at 05:30, we went back for the Noisy Scrubbird. This time, after giving more evidence of its loud call, it crossed the track, even pausing momentarily. Next, we went looking for Black-throated Whipbird above the caravan park. The weather threatened but held off while we heard the whipbird, but it was too far off to see. We had fabulous views of Western Bristlebird, Southern Emuwren, Tawny-crowned Honeyeater, White-cheeked Honeyeater and another good view of Fan-tailed Cuckoo, though. Below in the bay, we saw Southern Right Whales and an immature White-bellied Sea Eagle. We walked back to our cabins for breakfast, seeing Common Bronzewing, Brush Bronzewing, Red-eared Firetail, White-breasted Robin and White-browed Scrubwrens. John saw a couple of Brown Quails.



**White-cheeked Honeyeater by Glen Valentine**

After breakfast we walked to the point, hoping for the whipbird. No luck. We also couldn't find the whales. We went to the beach and saw Sooty Oystercatcher and an immature Pacific Gull. We looked, unsuccessfully, for Rock Parrot. The rain returned, and we went back for an early lunch. After lunch, we went to the picturesque Waychinicup Inlet. The wind had picked up. Three White-bellied Sea Eagles were the best bird we saw. We stopped on the way back and looked for Brown Quail, but Frank was the only one to have a quick glimpse. We had wonderful views of a pair of Western Spinebills. Later, we walked out the back of the caravan park, looking for Brown Quail without success. We also failed to find Black-throated Whipbird. Rain drove us back. Some of us tried for the whipbird where it was heard the previous afternoon. It called again, and it seemed highly likely we would see it singing high in a bush, but no luck. At dusk, we drove to the Waychinicup Road to spotlight for birds and mammals. Our main target was Spotted Nightjar and Tawny Frogmouth. Disappointingly, we struck out; although there were very brief views of a Southern Boobook.



**Purple-gaped Honeyeater by Dennis Braddy**

Day four started with an early breakfast at 05:30. We then departed for the mallee. We stopped for some Red-capped Parrots but they flew off. We continued through to Jerramungup for a rest stop, where we had many Yellow-throated Miners in the town. We then headed east towards the Fitzgerald River NP. We located Black-throated Whipbirds and saw a couple, but they failed to sit up for extended views. However, the

Western Fieldwren and Shy Heathwrens did not disappoint, and both gave fantastic views. We had time to drive along Quiss Road, hoping for a Malleefowl along the road with the cloudy weather. No luck, but we had our first views of Purple-gaped Honeyeater. We stopped at the Gairdner River bridge on the way back. Chestnut Teal, Singing Honeyeater and Black-shouldered Kite were seen well. After lunch, we

headed into the mallee SSW of Jerramungup. The birding was tough in the cloudy and breezy conditions, but we found Southern Scrub Robin and Purple-gaped Honeyeater and, surprisingly, a Western Yellow Robin. Max found a Tiger Snake, and we saw a Heath Monitor on the side of the road. Heading back to Cheyne Beach, we saw a Brown Falcon and a Grey Butcherbird. Some people were fortunate to see a Southern Brown Bandicoot (Quenda) on the way to dinner.

Day five was the long drive back to Perth. We first headed for Mt Barker, stopping for Red-capped Parrot and Western Rosella on the way before a delay as the bus was bogged on the side of the road. It was 90 minutes before we were off again. Western Corellas were seen very well as we arrived at Rocky Gully, along with Red-tailed Black Cockatoos (subspecies *naso*) and Western Gerygone. We had lunch in Kojonup before we stopped at the Beaufort River bridge. The birds were active but the mosquitos more so! We saw Black-fronted Dotterel, Fairy Martin, Hoary-headed Grebe, Pink-eared Duck, Red-capped Robin, Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo, Brown-headed Honeyeater, Rufous Whistler, Rufous Treecreeper, White-winged Triller and Sacred Kingfisher. A rest stop for ice-creams at Williams and then a stop at the Gleneagle Rest Area for Spotted Pardalote followed. Our final stop was Stirling Road, at the Armadale Golf Course. White-necked Heron, Australasian Shoveler and a wonderful fully coloured Splendid Fairywren were the highlights.



**Sacred Kingfisher by Dušan Brinkhuizen**



**Freckled Duck by Dennis Braddy**

The final morning was a visit to Herdsman Lake. This lake always has an excellent range of waterbirds, and we easily saw Buff-banded Rail, Freckled Duck, Pink-eared Duck, Australasian Shoveler, Blue-billed Duck, Musk Duck, Nankeen Night Heron, Australasian Grebe and Great Crested Grebe. We also saw Tawny Frogmouth, Swamp Harrier, Little Grassbird, Australian Reed Warbler and Black-faced Cuckooshrike.

Many thanks to Max Breckenridge for the long and arduous task of driving, and all the help with finding a number of the species.

## ANNOTATED BIRD, MAMMAL and REPTILE LIST

### ANNOTATED BIRD LIST (150 species seen, plus two Leader Only and three heard)

Note: The names and taxonomical order of the birds follow the IOC8.2 taxonomy.

#### Key to abbreviations:

**E:** a SW endemic species

**NE:** a near-endemic SW species (i.e. occurring mostly in the SW Australia region)

**AE:** Australian endemic (other than the above)

**I:** an introduced species

**H:** heard only

#### Ostriches (*Struthionidae*)

##### **Common Ostrich (I)**

*Struthio camelus*

Eight seen near Kojonup. A self-sustaining population left over from ostrich farming.

#### Ducks, Geese, Swans (*Anatidae*)

##### **Black Swan (AE)**

*Cygnus atratus*

Seen at several sites including with cygnets at Herdsman Lake.

##### **Freckled Duck (AE)**

*Stictonetta naevosa*

Five birds in front of the Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre.

##### **Australian Shelduck (AE)**

*Tadorna tadornoides*

Fairly common and seen at a variety of sites.

##### **Pink-eared Duck (AE)**

*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*

Two seen at the Beaufort River. Eight at Herdsman Lake including two ducklings.

##### **Maned Duck (AE)**

*Chenonetta jubata*

Fairly common and seen most days.

##### **Australasian Shoveler**

*Spatula rhynchotis*

One seen through the scope at the Stirling Road wetland near the Armadale Golf Course. Two at Herdsman Lake.

##### **Pacific Black Duck**

*Anas superciliosa*

Fairly common with large numbers at the Stirling Road wetland and Herdsman Lake.

##### **Grey Teal**

*Anas gracilis*

Fairly common and seen at a variety of sites. Most common at the Beaufort River and Herdsman Lake.

##### **Chestnut Teal**

*Anas castanea*

Four seen in the mallee and the Gairdner River.

##### **Hardhead**

*Aythya australis*

One seen at John Oldham Reserve opposite Sullivan's Hotel in Perth.

##### **Blue-billed Duck (AE)**

*Oxyura australis*

A few females seen at Herdsman Lake.

##### **Musk Duck (AE)**

*Biziura lobata*

One male and a couple of females seen at Herdsman Lake.

#### Pheasants, Grouse & Allies (*Phasianidae*)

##### **Stubble Quail (AE) (H)**

*Coturnix pectoralis*

One heard at the Gairdner River bridge in a wheat field.

##### **Brown Quail (AE)**

*Coturnix ypsilophora*

Seen by some at Cheyne Beach.

**Grebes (Podicipedidae)**

- Australasian Grebe** *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*  
A few driven past on farms, but best views seen at Herdsman Lake.
- Hoary-headed Grebe** *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*  
A few at the Beaufort River. At least one at Herdsman Lake.
- Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*  
Two at Herdsman Lake.

**Ibis, Spoonbills (Threskiornithidae)**

- Australian White Ibis** *Threskiornis molucca*  
Seen at a wide variety of locations.
- Straw-necked Ibis** *Threskiornis spinicollis*  
Seen at a variety of locations with best views at Albany.
- Yellow-billed Spoonbill** *Platalea flavipes*  
About ten at the Lower King River and two at the Stirling Road wetland.

**Hérons, Egrets (Ardeidae)**

- Nankeen Night Heron** *Nycticorax caledonicus*  
One adult at Herdsman Lake.
- White-necked Heron** *Ardea pacifica*  
Six seen well on the Stirling Road wetland.
- Great Egret** *Ardea alba*  
Twelve at Herdsman Lake.
- White-faced Heron** *Egretta novaehollandiae*  
Individual birds seen at many locations.
- Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*  
One seen at Stirling Road.

**Pelicans (Pelecanidae)**

- Australian Pelican** *Pelecanus conspicillatus*  
Ten seen on the Swan River.

**Gannets (Sulidae)**

- Australasian Gannet** *Morus serrator*  
One distant bird seen at Cheyne Beach.

**Cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae)**

- Little Pied Cormorant** *Microcarbo melanoleucos*  
One seen at Herdsman Lake.
- Little Black Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*  
Mostly seen at John Oldham Reserve.
- Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*  
Two flew past at Herdsman Lake.

**Anhingas (Anhingidae)**

- Australasian Darter** *Anhinga novaehollandiae*  
One at John Oldham Reserve near Sullivan's Hotel in Perth.

**Osprey (Pandionidae)****Eastern Osprey***Pandion cristatus*

One at Lower King near Albany. One on top of a tall tower near the Narrows Bridge in Perth.

**Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)****Black-shouldered Kite (AE)***Elanus axillaris*

We drove past several but the best views were at the Gairdner River.

**Square-tailed Kite (AE)***Lophoictinia isura*

One seen very distant at Dryandra SF. One seen by at the Stirling Range NP.

**Little Eagle (AE)***Hieraaetus morphnoides*

One seen very distant at Dryandra SF. One seen flying by at the Stirling Range NP.

**Wedge-tailed Eagle***Aquila audax*

Several seen with quite a few at the Dryandra SF.

**Brown Goshawk***Accipiter fasciatus*

One seen near Gnowangerup. One seen in the mallee. One seen at Herdsman Lake.

**Collared Sparrowhawk***Accipiter cirrocephalus*

One seen near Bungendore Park.

**Swamp Harrier***Circus approximans*

One distant over the heath near Cheyne Beach. Two at Herdsman Lake.

**White-bellied Sea Eagle***Haliaeetus leucogaster*

One distant over the bay near Cheyne Beach. Three at Waychinicup Inlet.

**Rails, Crakes, Coots (Rallidae)****Buff-banded Rail***Gallirallus philippensis*

Four seen very well at Herdsman Lake.

**Spotless Crake***Porzana tabuensis*

Heard at Herdsman Lake.

**Australasian Swamphen***Porphyrio melanotus bellus*

Very common and confiding at Herdsman Lake. A few at Bibra Lake.

**Dusky Moorhen***Gallinula tenebrosa*

Several at John Oldham Reserve opposite Sullivan's Hotel in Perth. Common at Herdsman Lake. A few at Bibra Lake.

**Eurasian Coot***Fulica atra*

Several at the Beaufort River. Very common at Herdsman Lake.

**Buttonquails (Turnicidae)****Painted Buttonquail***Turnix varius*

Two seen very well at Dryandra SF, one initially in the middle of the road. One flushed at the Ochre Trail at Dryandra SF.

**Oystercatchers (Haematopodidae)****Pied Oystercatcher***Haematopus longirostris*

Two seen at Lower King near Albany.

**Sooty Oystercatcher (AE)***Haematopus fuliginosus*

One at Cheyne Beach.



Stilts, Avocets (*Recurvirostridae*)**Pied Stilt***Himantopus leucocephalus*

Fifteen plus seen at Herdsman Lake.

Plovers (*Charadriidae*)**Hooded Dotterel (AE)***Thinornis cucullatus*

Two seen very well at Camel Lake NR.

**Black-fronted Dotterel***Elseyornis melanops*

Two seen at the Beaufort River.

Sandpipers & Allies (*Scolopacidae*)**Common Greenshank***Tringa nebularia*

Eight seen at Lower King.

Gulls, Terns (*Laridae*)**Silver Gull***Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae*

A few seen on the Swan River, Albany and Cheyne Beach.

**Pacific Gull (AE)***Larus pacificus*

One immature seen at Cheyne Beach.

**Caspian Tern***Hydroprogne caspia*

One seen by leader only on the Swan River.

**Greater Crested Tern***Thalasseus bergii*

Common at Cheyne Beach.

Pigeons, Doves (*Columbidae*)**Rock Dove (I)***Columba livia 'feral'*

Very common in Albany.

**Spotted Dove (I)***Spilopelia chinensis*

A couple seen in Perth.

**Laughing Dove (I)***Spilopelia senegalensis*

A few seen as we drove by, but good looks at one in Katanning.

**Common Bronzewing (AE)***Phaps chalcoptera*

Fairly common along the side of the roads, and at Cheyne Beach.

**Brush Bronzewing (AE)***Phaps elegans*

About ten seen at Cheyne Beach.

**Crested Pigeon (AE)***Ocyphaps lophotes*

Surprisingly small numbers, but two seen well at the Armadale Golf Course.

Cuckoos (*Cuculidae*)**Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo***Chrysococcyx basalis*

Common at the Beaufort River.

**Shining Bronze Cuckoo***Chrysococcyx lucidus*

One seen at Dryandra SF, and another by some at Cheynes Beach Caravan Park. A few others heard.

**Fan-tailed Cuckoo***Cacomantis flabelliformis*

One seen at Dryandra SF. One seen on the heath near the Cheynes Beach Caravan Park. Heard many more times.

**Barn Owls (*Tytonidae*)****Eastern Barn Owl***Tyto javanica*

One heard by some at the Stirling Range NP.

**Owls (*Strigidae*)****Southern Boobook***Ninox boobook*

One flushed while spotlighting at Waychinicup Creek.

**Frogmouths (*Podargidae*)****Tawny Frogmouth (AE)***Podargus strigoides*

One seen on the nest at Herdsman Lake.

**Owlet-nightjars (*Aegothelidae*)****Australian Owlet-Nightjar***Aegotheles cristatus*

One flushed at Dryandra SF and then seen at the entrance of a tree hollow.

**Kingfishers (*Struthionidae*)****Laughing Kookaburra (I)***Dacelo novaeguineae*

We drove past several. Seen in Narrogin and Herdsman Lake.

**Sacred Kingfisher***Todiramphus sanctus*

One seen at the Beaufort River.

**Falcons (*Falconidae*)****Nankeen Kestrel***Falco cenchroides*

We drove past many but had great looks at one at the Gairdner River.

**Australian Hobby***Falco longipennis*

One seen briefly at the Stirling Range Retreat.

**Brown Falcon***Falco berigora*

One seen along Cheyne Road.

**Peregrine Falcon***Falco peregrinus*

One seen high in the mallee.

**Cockatoos (*Cacatuidae*)****Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (AE)***Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*

At least five seen at Rocky Gully.

**Baudin's Black Cockatoo (E)***Calyptorhynchus baudinii*

A flock of 25 seen feeding in a paddock near Albany.

**Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (E)***Calyptorhynchus latirostris*

A small flock seen at the Cheynes Beach Caravan Park.

**Galah (AE)***Eolophus roseicapilla*

Seen every day. The birds in the Perth metropolitan area are feral.

**Western Corella (E)***Cacatua pastinator pastinator*

Six seen very well at Rocky Gully and four more seen as we headed north to Kojonup.

**Little Corella (I)***Cacatua sanguinea gymnopsis*

Two seen at Herdsman Lake.

Old World Parrots (*Psittaculidae*)**Regent Parrot (AE)***Polytelis anthopeplus*

Some people saw them flying past in Narrogin. Others flew past the bus. Unfortunately, they could not be found at the Stirling Range.

**Red-capped Parrot (E)***Purpureicephalus spurius*

Several seen at the Narrogin Motel. Four plus seen on Chester Pass Road as we headed north. A few others seen flying as we drove by them.

**Western Rosella (E)***Platycercus icterotis*

Four seen at Admiral Road. Several more seen on Chester Pass Road.

**Australian Ringneck (AE)***Barnardius zonarius*

Common and seen every day. There are two subspecies *semitorquatus* '28' and *zonarius* 'Port Lincoln'. We saw birds of each subspecies, but some birds were a mix.

**Elegant Parrot (AE)***Neophema elegans*

A couple of times at Dryandra SF. One seen at the Stirling Range Retreat.

**Purple-crowned Lorikeet (AE)***Parvipsitta porphycephala*

Two at Dryandra SF. Heard several more times and seen flying fast overhead.

**Rainbow Lorikeet (I)***Trichoglossus moluccanus*

Common in the Perth metropolitan area. These were accidentally introduced to Perth in the 1960's.

Scrubbirds (*Atrichornithidae*)**Noisy Scrubbird (E)***Atrichornis clamosus*

One ran across the road at Cheyne Beach. Several others heard.

Australasian Treecreepers (*Climacteridae*)**Rufous Treecreeper (NE)***Climacteris rufus*

Common at Dryandra SF. Two briefly seen at the Beaufort River.

Wrens (*Maluridae*)**Purple-backed Fairywren***Malurus assimilis*

Three seen at Herdsman Lake.

**Blue-breasted Fairywren (NE)***Malurus pulcherrimus*

Seen a few times at Dryandra SF.

**Red-winged Fairywren (E)***Malurus elegans*

A pair seen at Cheyne Beach.

**Splendid Fairywren (AE)***Malurus splendens*

Seen at the Cheynes Beach Caravan Park. A full-colour male seen at Stirling Road at the Armadale Golf Course.

**Southern Emu-wren (AE)***Stipiturus malachurus*

Two seen and others heard at Cheyne Beach.

Honeyeaters (*Meliphagidae*)**Tawny-crowned Honeyeater (AE)***Gliciphila melanops*

A few seen at Camel Lake NR but difficult to see well. Common in the heath at Cheyne Beach, and in the mallee.

**Western Spinebill (E)***Acanthorhynchus superciliosus*

Seen at Admiral Road, Dryandra SF, Cheyne Beach.

**Brown Honeyeater***Lichmera indistincta*

Common in Perth at Stirling Road and Herdsman Lake. Seen and heard at several other sites.

<b>New Holland Honeyeater (AE)</b>	<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>
Common to very common at many places on the tour, especially the mallee.	
<b>White-cheeked Honeyeater (AE)</b>	<i>Phylidonyris niger</i>
One seen at Katanning. Common on the heath at Cheyne Beach.	
<b>Brown-headed Honeyeater (AE)</b>	<i>Melithreptus brevirostris leucogenys</i>
Two seen in the kwongan heath at Dryandra SF. Heard at the Beaufort River.	
<b>Gilbert's Honeyeater (E)</b>	<i>Melithreptus chloropsis</i>
Two seen at Bungendore Park.	
<b>White-eared Honeyeater (AE)</b>	<i>Nesoptilotis leucotis novaenorcaiae</i>
One seen at the bird bath at Dryandra SF.	
<b>Western Wattlebird (E)</b>	<i>Anthochaera lunulata</i>
Common on Admiral Road in the Darling Range.	
<b>Red Wattlebird (AE)</b>	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>
Common to very common in most places on the tour.	
<b>Purple-gaped Honeyeater (AE)</b>	<i>Lichenostomus cratitius</i>
Common in the mallee but very hard to get a good view.	
<b>Yellow-throated Miner (AE)</b>	<i>Manorina flavigula obscura</i>
We drove past several between Gnowangerup and the Stirling Ranges. Seen very well in Jerramungup. Three seen at Stirling Road at the Armadale Golf Course.	
<b>Singing Honeyeater (AE)</b>	<i>Gavicalis virescens</i>
Two seen very well at the Gairdner River. Heard at Stirling Road. Seen briefly at Herdsman Lake.	
<b>Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (AE)</b>	<i>Ptilotula ornata</i>
Common at Dryandra SF. Several seen at the Stirling Range Retreat. A few seen at the Beaufort River.	

#### Bristlebirds (*Dasyornithidae*)

<b>Western Bristlebird (E)</b>	<i>Dasyornis longirostris</i>
One male seen very well at Cheyne Beach, and a second bird probably the female. Several others heard.	

#### Pardalotes (*Pardalotidae*)

<b>Spotted Pardalote (AE)</b>	<i>Pardalotus punctatus punctatus</i>
Two seen at Gleneagle Rest Area.	
<b>Striated Pardalote (AE)</b>	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>
Heard at many places on the tour, and seen at several.	

#### Australasian Warblers (*Acanthizidae*)

<b>Shy Heathwren (AE)</b>	<i>Calamanthus cautus</i>
Two seen in the mallee.	
<b>Western Fieldwren (E)</b>	<i>Calamanthus montanellus</i>
Two seen in the mallee.	
<b>White-browed Scrubwren (AE)</b>	<i>Sericornis frontalis maculatus</i>
Seen or heard at several places and very common and confiding at the Cheynes Beach Caravan Park.	
<i>Note: This might be split to Spotted Scrubwren.</i>	
<b>Weebill (AE)</b>	<i>Smicrornis brevirostris</i>
Heard at many sites including a few seen at several.	
<b>Western Gerygone (AE)</b>	<i>Gerygone fusca</i>
Heard and briefly seen at several sites. Seen well at Rocky Gully.	
<b>Inland Thornbill (AE)</b>	<i>Acanthiza apicalis apicalis</i>

Seen at a number of sites including Bungendore Park and Dryandra SF.

**Western Thornbill (E)** *Acanthiza inornata*

Two seen at Bungendore Park and one at the Stirling Range NP.

**Yellow-rumped Thornbill (AE)** *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

Seen well at several sites.

### Australasian Babblers (*Pomatostomidae*)

**White-browed Babbler** *Pomatostomus superciliosus ashbyi*

Two seen poorly at the Ochre Trail at Dryandra SF.

### Whipbirds, Wedgebills, Quailthrush (*Psophodidae*)

**Black-throated Whipbird (E)** *Psophodes nigrogularis*

Nominate *nigrogularis* heard several times at Cheyne Beach. Two (subspecies *oberon*) seen in the mallee and many more heard.

*Note: Recently split from Western Whipbird.*

### Woodswallows, Butcherbirds (*Artamidae*)

**Black-faced Woodswallow** *Artamus cinereus*

We drove past many but eventually saw them in the mallee and at Gairdner River.

**Dusky Woodswallow (AE)** *Artamus cyanopterus*

Seen at several sites including Dryandra SF, the Stirling Range Retreat, the mallee and the Beaufort River.

**Australian Magpie** *Gymnorhina tibicen dorsalis*

Very common in many places.

**Grey Butcherbird (AE)** *Cracticus torquatus*

We drove past a few but finally saw one well on Cheyne Road.

**Grey Currawong (AE)** *Strepera versicolor*

Fairly common at a number of sites. Best seen in the mallee.

### Cuckooshrikes (*Campephagidae*)

**Black-faced Cuckooshrike** *Coracina novaehollandiae*

A few seen by the leaders but a couple seen poorly at Herdsman Lake.

**White-winged Triller** *Lalage tricolor*

A male seen at the Beaufort River.

### Sittellas (*Neosittidae*)

**Varied Sittella (AE)** *Daphoenositta chrysoptera pileata*

A common bird but often hard to find. We were fortunate to see a group of at least six at Bungendore Park.

### Austro-Papuan Bellbirds (*Oreoicidae*)

**Crested Bellbird (AE) (H)** *Oreoica gutturalis*

One heard in the mallee.

### Whistlers, Allies (*Pachycephalidae*)

**Crested Shriketit (AE)** *Falcunulus frontatus leucogaster*

A tough bird to find as it seldom calls. Max found one at the Ochre Trail at Dryandra SF but we could not relocate, and were fortunate to see one at the Stirling Range Retreat.

*Note: This subspecies is almost certain to be split to Western Shriketit, and consideration is being given to making the shriketits a separate family.*

**Western Whistler (NE)** *Pachycephala occidentalis*

At least two seen at Bungendore Park. Heard calling several other times.

**Rufous Whistler** *Pachycephala rufiventris*

Two seen at the Beaufort River.

**Grey Shrikethrush** *Colluricincla harmonica rufiventris*

One seen at Dryandra SF. Others heard at several sites.

#### Fantails (*Rhipiduridae*)

**Willie Wagtail** *Rhipidura leucophrys*

Common in many sites.

**Grey Fantail** *Rhipidura albiscapa preissi*

Seen every day.

#### Monarchs (*Monarchidae*)

**Magpie-lark** *Grallina cyanoleuca*

Seen beside the road in many places with the best views at Stirling Road and Herdsman Lake.

**Restless Flycatcher (AE)** *Myiagra inquieta*

One seen at Dryandra SF. Heard at the Stirling Range Retreat and at the Beaufort River.

#### Crows, Jays (*Corvidae*)

**Australian Raven (AE)** *Corvus coronoides perplexus*

Common throughout most of the trip.

#### Australasian Robins (*Petroicidae*)

**Western Yellow Robin (NE)** *Eopsaltria griseogularis rosinae*

A pair at the Stirling Range Retreat, and one in the mallee.

**White-breasted Robin (E)** *Eopsaltria georgiana*

Seen very well at Cheyne Beach.

**Jacky Winter (AE)** *Microeca fascinans*

At least five seen at Dryandra SF.

**Scarlet Robin (AE)** *Petroica boodang campbelli*

A male at Bungendore Park. Two at the Stirling Range NP.

**Red-capped Robin (AE)** *Petroica goodenovii*

Several at the Congelin Campground at Dryandra SF. A male at the Beaufort River.

**Southern Scrub Robin (AE)** *Drymodes brunneopygia*

Two seen in the mallee.

#### Swallows, Martins (*Hirundinidae*)

**Welcome Swallow** *Hirundo neoxena*

Seen in small numbers at many sites, with the most at the Gairdner River.

**Fairy Martin** *Petrochelidon ariel*

At least four at the Beaufort River.

**Tree Martin** *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Very common at many sites with many entering next holes.

**Reed Warblers, Allies (*Acrocephalidae*)**

**Australian Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus australis*  
One seen at Herdsman Lake and others heard.

**Grassbirds, Allies (*Locustellidae*)**

**Little Grassbird** *Poodytes gramineus*  
One seen at Herdsman Lake and others heard.

**White-eyes (*Zosteropidae*)**

**Silvereye** *Zosterops lateralis*  
Seen every day.

**Waxbills, Munias (*Estrildidae*)**

**Red-eared Firetail (E)** *Stagonopleura oculata*  
Two to three seen each day at the Cheynes Beach Caravan Park.

**Pipits, Wagtails (*Motacillidae*)**

**Australian Pipit** *Anthus australis*  
We drove past several before seeing one at Stirling Range Retreat.

**ANNOTATED MAMMAL LIST (5 species seen)****Bowhead & Right Whales (*Balaenidae*)**

**Southern Right Whale** *Eubalaena australis*  
Two seen in the bay at Cheyne Beach.

**Kangaroos, Wallabies (*Macropodidae*)**

**Western Grey Kangaroo (AE)** *Macropus fuliginosus*  
Common at Dryandra SF, especially in the paddock in front of the village. Common near Albany, and very common near Cheyne Beach and at the caravan park.

**Echidnas (*Tachyglossidae*)**

**Short-beaked Echidna** *Tachyglossus aculeatus*  
Two seen at Dryandra SF.

**Bandicoots (*Peramelidae*)**

**Southern Brown Bandicoot (AE)** *Isodon obesulus*  
One seen by a few people at Cheyne Beach.

**ANNOTATED REPTILE LIST**

**Shingleback** *Tiliqua rugosa*

Seen at Dryandra SF.

**Heath Monitor** *Varanus rosenbergi*

One seen on the road in the mallee.

**Tiger Snake** *Notechis scutatus*

One seen in the mallee. Another seen by Max at Stirling Road.

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**Western Brown Snake (Gwardar)**

One seen briefly at Dryandra SF.

*Pseudonaja mengdeni*

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