

Black-winged Stilt

Scientific name: *Himantopus himantopus*
 Family: Recurvirostridae
 Order: Charadriiformes

Description

The Black-winged Stilt is a large black and white wader with long orange-red legs and a straight black bill. It has black on the back of the neck, a white collar and a red iris. Both sexes are similar, and the plumage does not change during the year. Black-winged Stilts give a



photo by Charles Dove

Purry Burry Point Primbee NSW

repeated high-pitched barking call. Young Black-winged Stilts lack black on the back of the neck and have grey-brown wings and back, speckled with white. They have a smudged grey crown, which extends down the back of the neck as the birds get older.

Similar species

Black-winged Stilts are related to Banded Stilts, *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus*, which have a broad chestnut band across the breast (absent in young birds) and lack the black on the back of the neck. Young Banded Stilts can be separated from young Black-winged Stilts by their all white back and black wings.

Distribution

The Black-winged Stilt has a wide range, including Australia, Central and South America, Africa, southern and south-eastern Asia and parts of North America and Eurasia. More locally it also occurs through Indonesia, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, the Philippines and New Zealand. Although widespread on the Australian mainland, it is an uncommon visitor to Tasmania.

Habitat

The Black-winged Stilt is a social species, and is usually found in small groups. Black-winged Stilts prefer freshwater and saltwater marshes, mudflats, and

the shallow edges of lakes and rivers.

Feeding

Black-winged Stilts feed mainly on aquatic insects, but will also take molluscs and crustaceans. They rarely swim for food (unlike the Banded Stilt), preferring instead to wade in shallow water, and seize prey on or near the surface. Occasionally, birds plunge their heads below the surface to catch sub-aquatic prey.

Breeding

As with other activities, Black-winged Stilts nest in small colonies; within these, the mated pairs strongly defend their individual territories. The nest may be anything from a simple shallow scrape on the ground to a mound of vegetation placed in or near the water. Both sexes incubate the eggs and look after the young.

information courtesy of <http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/>

CONTENTS:

July Activities	Page	2
Reports	Pages	3 - 4
Articles of Interest	Pages	5 - 7
2011 Programme July-Dec.	Page	8
Feather Tales	Pages	8 - 9
Monthly Bird Sightings	Page	10



**ILLAWARRA
 BIRD
 OBSERVERS
 CLUB Inc**

**'ONE GOOD TERN
 DESERVES ANOTHER'**

Founded in 1977

Club's Aim:

To join together people with a common interest who wish to further their knowledge and enjoyment of the bird life around them.

ILLAWARRA BIRD OBSERVERS' CLUB INC.

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 56
 FAIRY MEADOW, N.S.W. 2519
www.iboc.org.au

Club Contacts:

PRESIDENT: Alan Cousins, T. 02 4283 3197
SECRETARY: Betty Hudson, T. 02 4236 0307
 E-mail: secretary@iboc.org.au

TREASURER: Ken Brown,
EDITORS: Charles Dove, T.02 4275 2383
 M. 0417 422 302

E-mail: newsletter@iboc.org.au
 Val Dolan, T. 02 4229 6737

RECORDS OFFICER: Darryl Goldrick

Email: sightings@iboc.org.au



2011 JULY ACTIVITIES

Club Meeting:

Monday 11th July 2011

7.30pm Fairy Meadow Community Hall, Cnr. of Cambridge Avenue & Princes H'way, Fairy Meadow

Lynne Inersa - volunteer from Taronga Zoo giving us a talk

Please bring a plate of goodies and a cup for supper after the meeting.

July Midweek Walk:

Wednesday 13th July 2011

Spring Creek: Kiama.

Leader Rupert Jarvis.

Meet and park at end of Glenbrook Drive Kiama at 9.00 am. To reach turn into Kiama, right at second roundabout onto Terralong St. heading for Jamberoo. Turn right into Dido St. and right again into Glenbrook Drive. Dido St is down the hill beyond the turn off to Wollongong. Bring morning tea.
Contact Rupert on 4233 1912 or 0403 932 635

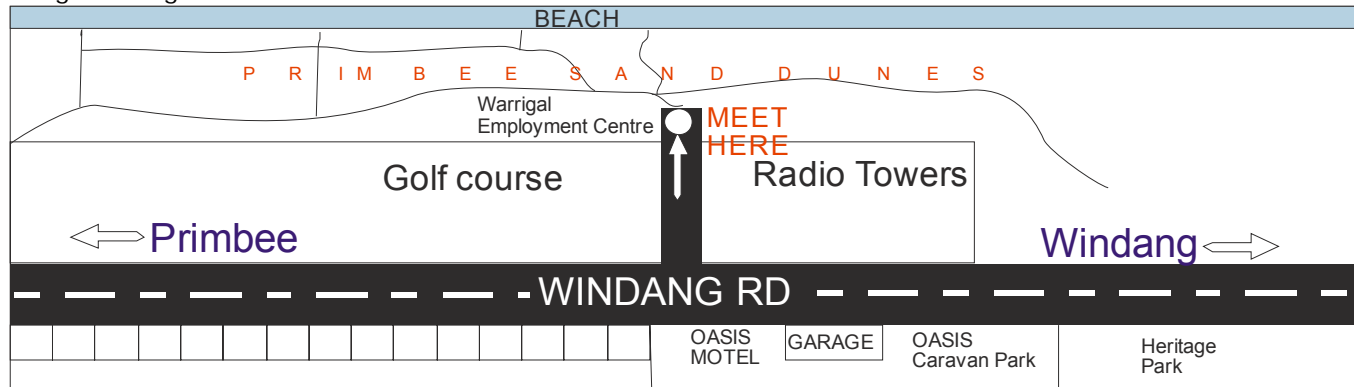
July Monthly Outing:

Sunday 17th July 2011.

Primbee Sand Dunes: 8.30 am start

Leader Charles Dove.

Meet at the end of the road that is adjacent the end of Windang Golf Club opposite The Oasis Motel.
Bring morning tea and lunch



Contact Charles on 4275 2383 or 0417 411 302

July Committee Meeting -

Monday 18th July 2011

Next committee meeting to be held at Charles Doves – 2/39 Purry Burry, Avenue Primbee 2502

All members are welcome to attend and raise any issues with the committee.

Contact Charles on 4275 2383 or 0417 411 302

July 2011 Newsletter -

Deadline for Articles and Photos in the next IBOC newsletter is **26th July 2011**. Email contributions to Charles Dove newsletter@iboc.org.au or post to 2/39 Purry Burry Avenue, Primbee 2502. Ph:0417 422 302

The Following Items are for sale by the club at the Library Table each monthly meeting.	
Club Logo Green Fleece Tops – Sizes medium & Large	\$37.00 each
Fabric Logo Badges	\$ 4.00 each
Logo Studs	\$ 3.00 each
Logo Pin	\$ 3.00 each
Large Car Stickers	\$ 2.00 each
Please see Anne Cousins or Joan Wylie at monthly meetings or telephone Joan on 4284 2051 or Anne on 0413 869 534	



**ILLAWARRA
BIRD
OBSERVERS
CLUB Inc**

CLUB REPORTS

Report for club meeting Monday 13th June 2011

Alan Cousins

This evening was a member's night the evenings presentations were made by Neil Wheway, Peter Fackender and Ron Imisides followed by a DVD entitled "Out of the Ashes".

Neil showed us some short clips of birds enjoying water given to him by a friend; they were from the USA and showed a hummingbird drinking on the wing from an ornamental water fountain and a robin splashing around in a bird bath.

Peter showed us his brilliant photographs of all the parrots in Western Australia with the advantage of the calls of most of them. There are a number of different races of the same species for many of the parrots and Peter had them. It must have taken many patient hours to get this collection together. We hope that you are able to get away next winter Peter to get some more of your magnificent photographs.

Ron then followed with his patiently taken photographs of an immature male Satin Bowerbird developing into its beautiful blue-black plumage. The immature male is at first like the adult female (Anne and I saw five feeding on fallen oranges in the Wollongong Botanic Gardens a few days later and had a

problem determining the sexes). The bird has its bower in Ron's yard and he took the transformation photographs over a 30 week period of time starting with a small black patch on its back and developing into a full adult male. Your patience was well rewarded Ron.

The DVD "Out of the Ashes" followed and showed the devastation following the 7th February 2009 bushfires in Victoria and the amazing natural regeneration of flora and fauna with a lot of references to the recovery of bird life. In one of the interviews with a resident she recollected that the next morning she heard a magpie singing and it brought tears to her eyes.

Thank you to all of the presenters on what was a very enjoyable evening.

Film Night
 A date to mark on your Calender, Saturday 6th August, 7.30 p.m. We hope to show footage and photographs of Lake Eyre. Full details will appear in August newsletter.

Mid-week Walk – Wednesday, 15th June, 2011

Charles Dove

Arriving at the water tank at Mt Nebo; I was surprised and delighted to see that I was not the only sole who braved the conditions for the IBOC walk. I had never been to Mt Nebo prior to this outing and was looking forward to the walk on this brisk morning (although the forecast was a lot harsher than we encountered). Five of us set out on the easy walking pathway come road. We enjoyed a lot of magnificent views from various points along this road encountering a few hilly sections, but even under the conditions the birds sounds seemed to air for most of the walk we did. I had to avoid one particular steep section to the left of the pathway and we did not attempt a very steep uphill section of the path even though it was sealed, but definitely worth going back and completing this walk when the conditions are a lot calmer. With 21 birds on the list for a short mornings walk for the 5 of us seemed a good total.

Thanks Ted for showing us this great place and I will be going back soon to have another look.



Bird List

Wonga Pigeon	Satin Bowerbird	Lewin's Honeyeater
Grey Goshawk	Superb Fairy-wren	Eastern Whipbird
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	White-browed Scrubwren	Golden Whistler e-race
Rainbow Lorikeet	Brown Gerygone	Australian Magpie
Crimson Rosella	Yellow Thornbill	Grey Fantail
Laughing Kookaburra	Brown Thornbill	Australian Raven
Superb Lyrebird	Eastern Spinebill	Silvereye

Report on Heathcote N.P. Walk 18.06.11

Betty Hudson

A cold but fine morning saw fifteen members meet at the start of the Kingfisher Pool Track in Heathcote National Park. Following the very wet marked track we soon found ourselves scrambling down a very steep rocky path with water running over in some places. Some members decided that it was too rough and turned back to investigate the birds on the fire trail. Reaching the bottom, we realised that not a bird had been seen or heard, but a patch of sunshine gave us our first sightings, a Sulphur-crested Cockatoo sitting in the end of a hollow branch in the sun, a well coloured male Variegated Fairy-wren, and several different honeyeaters. Finally we reached a well maintained fire trail which turned a corner to cross the creek to the next section of the Kingfisher Pool Track. We came to an abrupt halt. Water a few feet deep and wide was rushing down the creek. Could we get across without getting wet? There was a lot of discussion and Rupert got across and tried throwing rocks in to make stepping stones. No luck, the water was too deep. Reluctantly we gave up and took the fire trail route back to the cars, a steep but smooth walk. Part way we met those we had left at the top. Birds, especially honeyeaters were plentiful, White-eared, White-naped, New Holland, & Yellow-

facd Honeyeaters and Eastern Spinebill being seen. Despite the abundance of Banksia ericifolia in flower they didn't seem to be feeding on the flowers. After morning tea, accompanied by good sightings of an Eastern Yellow Robin & a Golden Whistler.

Shortly before getting back to the cars, we decided to explore the Dharawal State Conservation Area at Darkes Forest, as this was on the way home.



This walk was along a well maintained level fire trail through heath with mature eucalyptus trees.

Birds were plentiful but no new species were sighted until we were looking for a lunch spot, when four Gang-Gang Cockatoos were seen a male, female and two juveniles being fed by the adults. One juvenile was obviously a male as it had the red crest feathers, but not the red head of the adult. Out came the cameras for the many photo opportunities. The birds were still in the same small area when we left an hour later, after lunch. Returning to the cars we came across a small flock of immature Variegated Fairy-wrens., to make a good finish to a great day.



Bird List for Start of Kingfisher Pool Walk

9.30am to 10.30am

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	White-browed Scrubwren	White-eared Honeyeater	Pied Currawong
Cockatiel *	Yellow Thornbill	Little Wattlebird	Australian Raven
Rainbow Lorikeet	Brown Thornbill	New Holland Honeyeater	Maggie-lark
Superb Lyrebird	Spotted Pardalote	White-naped honeyeater	Eastern Yellow Robin
Variegated Fairy-wren	Eastern Spinebill	Golden Whistler e-race	Silvereye
Rock Warbler	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Australian Magpie	

* This is obviously an escapee. It was seen outside an aviary containing Cockatiels.

Bird List for Dharawal State Conservation Area

11.30am to 1.30pm

Gang-gang Cockatoo	Brown Thornbill	White-eared Honeyeater	Australian Magpie
Superb Fairy-wren	Eastern Spinebill	Little Wattlebird	Pied Currawong
Variegated Fairy-wren	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	New Holland Honeyeater	Silvereye
White-browed Scrubwren			

Photos by Charles Dove

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

A DISMEMBERED EGRET REMEMBERED WITH REGRET

Mike MORPHETT

After thirty-one years of bushcombing the old Excelsior Number 2 mine site between Thirroul and Austinmer, I still get the occasional surprise wildlife finding, alive or dead. On June 2nd last I came across a thin trail of white feathers on the ground and at first thought yet another pigeon or perhaps a cockatoo victim. I followed the line up a short incline and behind the thick trunk of a turpentine found something quite different: a head, a starboard wing, and a leg scattered within a diameter of about a metre. A cattle egret in non-breeding plumage. Way out of its coastal habitat of paddocks, pastures, wetlands and mudflats. I rearranged the body parts to take photographs (a camera has become an essential item of equipment on a par with binoculars). Back at home I dug out my

Excelsior survey records: twelve months ago I had stumbled on the carcass of a little penguin and six months later that of a wedge-tailed shearwater (respectively reported in *IBOC Newsletter* #s 338 & 343). Never before had I encountered out-of-place dead bird species (apart from racing pigeons) in this regenerated forested foothills former coalmine area. These three dead birds were located within a comparatively short distance of each other. I don't think it would be a stretch of the imagination to suggest a link between them by concluding that their predator might well have been the white-bellied sea-eagle, a periodic visitor to Wollongong's northern suburbs.



Cattle egret: *Ardea* Latin=heron (originally *Ardeola*=little heron)
ibis Latin=ibis.

Interesting that *ibis* isn't included in the scientific nomenclature of our three local ibis species or for that matter any of the worldwide Threskiornithidae family.

According to Graham Pizzey's 1980 field guide, eighteen cattle egrets were released in the western Kimberley from Calcutta in 1933 to combat the cattle tick, but did not establish. Pizzey's 1997 edition refers to its colonisation in the Northern Territory in the 1940s, probably from Indonesia, as part of its worldwide expansion.

DISCOVERY CENTRE OPEN DAY

Sunday, 10 July 2011

Birds Australia Discovery Centre, Newington Armory, Sydney Olympic Park

Birds Australia would like to invite bird lovers of all ages to an open day at the Birds Australia Discovery Centre in the Newington Armory, Sydney Olympic Park.

Come along and enjoy a Bird Art workshop hosted by Newington Armory Artist in Residence, Alexis Appelbaum. Adults will learn to make bird art-cards and bookmarks using collage and simple print making techniques in this two hour workshop, taking inspiration from the parks birdlife. The workshop runs from 10.30am – 12.30pm.

While the adults are busy making cards and bookmarks, children can enjoy face painting and balloon twisting from 11am – 1pm.

In the afternoon kids and adults alike can participate in a bird call competition, and be in the running to win exciting prizes. There will be three rounds: kids, beginners, and experts. First prize is an iPod Nano loaded with Fred Van Gessel's 'Bird Calls of the Greater Sydney Region'.

To book a place at the Bird Art workshop or register for the bird call competition, please contact the Birds Australia Discovery Centre:

Phone: (02) 9647 1033 E-mail: basna@birdsaustralia.com.au

INTRODUCTION TO BIRD PORTRAITURE

"If you are a bird lover wanting to draw and paint, or an artist wishing to engage with birds, this is the workshop for you"

A TWO DAY WORKSHOP with professional artist, PETER WALE, on Saturday July 23 and Sunday July 24 from 10.00 am to 3.30 pm at the Birds Australia Discovery Centre, Newington Armory, 1 Jamieson St, Sydney Olympic Park.

During the workshop, participants will learn and practice basic drawing and painting techniques specific to bird portraiture.

Being guided through a simple, step-by-step approach, you will learn the fundamental skills enabling you to draw and paint birds employing pencils, coloured pencils, watercolour pencils or paints.

WORKSHOP GOALS

The species to be studied will be Australian parrots and by the end of the workshop you will have:

- Gained a working knowledge of the materials required to produce a bird portrait.
- Examined and practiced drawing the basic geometric shapes and construction lines which make up the form of a bird.
- Made a study of bird anatomy and, working from photographic reference material, applied your findings to create a linear drawing of a bird.
- Learnt about light and form, enabling you to create a tonal pencil drawing of a bird.
- Seen demonstrated and been taught how to apply coloured pencils, watercolour pencils and watercolour paints, enabling you to use one, or a combination of these mediums to create a full colour bird portrait.

Plenty of tutor demonstrations, exercises and "one-on-one" coaching will be given to help you master the techniques being taught in a friendly, supportive environment.

Numbers are limited on this course so book early by returning a registration form to our Sydney office. To request a registration form, email: basna@birdsaustralia.com.au or call Pixie on 02 9647 1033. It's \$99 for BA/BOCA members and \$119 for non-members (incl. GST).

What to bring: Lunch, snacks, refreshments (Sat & Sun)

MATERIALS LIST

- 1 X A3 Size Layout or Sketch Pad.
- 2H, HB and 2B Pencils
- Pencil Eraser
- Coloured Pencils and/or Watercolour Pencils and/or Watercolour Paints.
- Coloured pencil colourless blender.
- Sheet of Hot Press 300gsm Watercolour paper
- Watercolour Palette and watercolour brushes sizes 6,3 and 000.
- Water container, paint rag and tissues.

For queries or help on course content or materials, please contact Peter Wale on 02 4784 2377 or 0432 327 089. For registration contact Pixie at basna@birdsaustralia.com.au

"Conservation Wins and Challenges for Birdlife on Lord Howe Island"

A free talk by Ian Hutton, OAM 2 - 4pm, Sunday 7 August, Building 22, Newington Armory, Sydney Olympic Park.

Ian will present a very brief history of Lord Howe Island, involving introduced animals and the effect on the birdlife and then follow this with details of the Woodhen rescue (one of most successful captive bird breeding projects in the world); the extra benefits for all birdlife of eradicating cats and pigs from the island;

challenges with rat eradication and the possibility of reintroduction of subspecies closely related to the extinct birds; other threats to seabirds - long line fishing and plastic ingestion - and then finish with best locations and times to visit seabird colonies.

This is a free talk, but please register your name with BASNA office. Call 9647 1033

or email basna@birdsaustralia.com.au

Pixie Maloney | Administration Assistant
basna@birdsaustralia.com.au

ALLAN SEFTON MEMORIAL LECTURE 2011

Tuesday 23 August 2011

6.30pm

Building 11 First Floor University of Wollongong

“Shakespeare, the Tale of Gengi and Migratory Shorebirds – What’s the connection?”

Alison Russell-French

Immediate Past President, Birds Australia

Abstract

This Lecture will present a journey through the halls of academia, government policy making, industry and the non-government sector examining how various players influence and affect decision making about conservation of the Australian landscape and, in particular, that of birds and their habitat.

This talk will focus on the value of connections through these areas to advocate and champion the conservation of birds generally and in particular those remarkable migrants of the avian world – migratory shorebirds. As a passionate advocate of conservation with a particular emphasis on birds Alison Russell-French has travelled a fascinating and challenging life through national and international arenas in pursuit of outcomes to achieve this objective. She has represented Australian interests in environmental conventions such as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and played a major role in the establishment of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway, the migratory pathway for Shorebirds in this region.

Alison participated in government over a period of major new environmental initiatives that reflect the growing imperative of addressing environmental issues in mainstream policy and program development. As part of this new focus she has championed the increasing importance of science and the contribution scientists make to good decision-making in the bureaucratic process.

Alison will discuss the philosophy that there are no limitations on how to pursue conservation goals – all avenues can lead to achievements if sufficient persistence and lateral thinking are applied.

Brief CV Alison Russell-French

Alison is a former Australian Public Servant. She has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) from Sydney University and a part completed law degree from the Australian National University. Her career spanned natural resource management areas of the Australian Public Service in the Department of Primary Industry in fisheries and across many areas of the Department of Environment, Heritage and the Arts. She has wide experience in policy and program management and administration across a range of national and international programs including the Coasts and Clean Seas Program, Coastcare, National Reserve Systems, the National Wetlands Program, national and international migratory waterbird conservation, national and World Heritage policy and management. Before her retirement, Alison was a Senior Executive of the Australian Government's Natural Resources Management Team managing delivery of the National Heritage Trust and National Salinity Program funding. She has substantial international representation experience including leading Australian delegations at meetings of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the APEC Marine Resources Working Group, Wetlands International, and the Bilateral Migratory Bird Agreements with Japan and China. She also has considerable experience across a range of Indigenous related programs and was the Australian Government member on Landcare Australia, the Board of Members of Wetlands International, and Chair of the Wetlands International - Asia Pacific Council. Alison took a leading role in the development and acceptance in the Asia Pacific region of the Asia Pacific Migratory Waterbird Conservation Strategy: 2001 - 2005 and the East Asia-Australasian Flyway which aims to protect the habitat and vital staging sites for migratory birds. Alison is currently engaged in selected consultancy work. She is a keen bird watcher with a lifetime interest in conservation of Australia's birds, and served on Council of Birds Australia since 1999 for 13 years.

I.B.O.C. PROGRAMME JULY TO DECEMBER 2011

Month	Action	Date	Speaker/Leader	Venue/Topic
July	Meeting	11.07.11	Lynne Inersa	Taronga Zoo
	Mid Week Walk	13.07.11	Ted Simpson	Spring Creek Kiama
	Outing	Sunday 17.07.11	Charlie Dove	Primbee Dune Forest
August	Meeting	8.08.11	Walter Boles	Australian Museum
	Mid Week Walk	10.8.11	Ted Simpson	Rocklow Creek Dunmore
	Outing	Saturday 13.08.11	Betty Hudson	Stingray Swamp Nature Reserve Penrose
Sept.	Meeting	12.09.11	Bill Zealey	
	Mid Week Walk	14.09.11	Ted Simpson	Bellambi Lagoon
	Outing	Sunday 18.09.11		Tallawarra Ash Ponds
Oct.	Meeting	10.10.11	Leah Royle	Australian Wildlife Conservation
	Mid Week Walk	12.10.11	Ted Simpson	Macquarie Rivulet
	Outing	Saturday 15.10.11	Betty Hudson	Shoalhaven Heads Comerong Island
	Spring Camp	22.10.11- 29.10.11	Betty Hudson	Mylestom nr Coffs Harbour
Nov.	Meeting/ AGM	14.11.11	IBOC Club member	
	Mid Week Walk	16.11.11	Ted Simpson	Barrack Point
	Outing	Sunday 20.11.11	Betty Hudson	Either Drawing Room Rocks (if accessible) or Bangalee Reserve Nowra
Dec.	Christmas Picnic	Saturday 10.12.11		TBA
	Christmas Meeting	12.12.11		



includes Letters to the Editor

What's in Wingspan (Vol. 21 No. 2)

A précis of articles that may be of interest to members

- 'A Code for Bird Names' – A proposed shorthand for recording sightings in the field.
- 'Woodland Birds: The next generation' – How the Woodland Birds for Biodiversity project is working towards recovery some of our woodland gems.
- 'Flight of the Turnstone - The story of a Ruddy Turnstone fitted with a geolocator that travelled 27,000 Kms around the globe in 2009 and 2010.
- 'The fall of a sparrow' – Love them or loathe them, it seems that the familiar scene of House Sparrows hopping and chirping in our city streets may be a thing of the past.
- 'Sympathy for the Devil' – Just how bad is the Common Myna, an article by Sean Dooley.
- 'Barbarians at the gate' – It's not the Rock Dove, nor the Spotted Dove but the Barbary Dove. This bird gets a mention on www.feral.org.au

(This magazine is available from the Club Library)

Do you have a favourite walk you could lead?

I am looking for members interested in leading an occasional weekend walk for the club. If you have a favourite walk you would be prepared to lead, I would be interested in hearing from you, so that it could be incorporated in the program over the next year or two. Please contact me indicating the area of the walk, and the most appropriate month for it.

Phone Betty Hudson on 4236 0307 or email secretary@iboc.org.au



Three Pacific Baza's at Yallah Power Station
20th June 2011
Lucas McKinnon

A universal shorthand system to record sightings in the field?

Chris. Cartledge

Using code sets to describe objects is nothing new. In the 1960's Telstra (then the PMG) designed a four-letter code set to uniquely identify the 2,500 telephone exchanges located throughout Australia so that Wollongong = WLGG, Port Kembla = PKEM, Kiama = KIAM etc.

Many birders use their own shorthand code for species names when they are recording field observations. It is certainly less cumbersome than using the standardised English names, but what to one observer seems perfectly decipherable will to another seem as inexplicable as the hieroglyphs on an Egyptian tomb. Exchanging and accessing information on species would be far easier if all birders used the same codes.

The latest Wingspan (Winter 2011 Vol.21 No2) has an article about Ken Rogers' proposal for a standardised four-letter code for our bird species that could be used by all birders as a universal shorthand system. The bird list is based on the Systematics and Taxonomy of Australian Birds by Les Christidis and Walter Boles, 2008.

Ken Rogers' proposed code set can be found on the IBOC website at <http://www.iboc.org.au/html/links.html>

In the North America standard four letter codes have been used to describe bird sightings for many years. Perhaps we could adopt a similar system here in Australia. The American system follows the five simple rules given below. (The examples refer to Australian species.)

1. If the common name is a single word, use the first four letters: e.g. Apostlebird, APOS.
2. If the common name consists of two words, use the first two letters of the first word, followed by the first two letters of the second word: e.g. Jacky Winter, JAWI.
3. If the common name consists of three words (with or without hyphens), use the first letter of the first word, the first letter of the second word, and the first two letters of the third word: e.g. White-plumed Honeyeater, WPHO.
4. If the common name consists of four words (with or without hyphens), use the first letter of each word: e.g. White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike, WBCS.
5. If the common name consists of five words, treat it as four words. Fortunately, there is no Australian bird with a five word name so we don't need to worry about this mystifying instruction.

Applying these rules to the 2008 Australian checklist of Christidis and Boles seems to work rather neatly with relatively few cases where different bird names give rise to the same code. (For instance, Striated Fieldwren and Star Finch would both come out as STFI.) In such cases we could reserve the 'standard' code for the most common or widespread species and subjectively tweak the code of the competing name by replacing the second letter of the code with the last letter of the first word in the species' name.

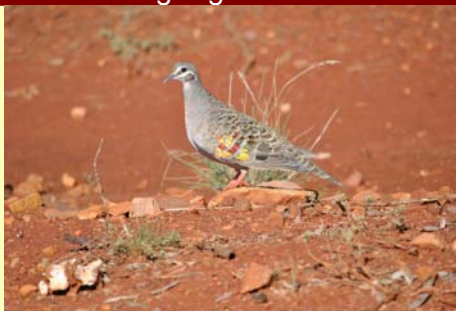
If you would like to read the article in Wingspan or a copy of the proposed codes. Contact Chris. Cartledge. Phone 02) 4226 2323 or email webmaster@iboc.org.au

More great Pics from Lake Cargelligo

by Pam Hazelwood



White-fronted Chat



Common Bronzewing



Hooded Robin



Mulga Parrot



Red-capped Robin



Southern Whiteface

Members Sightings May/June 2011

SPECIES	NUMBER	DATE	LOCATION	HABITAT	OBSERVER
Wonga Pigeon	1	20-Jun-11	Mt Keira	Backyard	Val Dolan
Tawny Frogmouth	1	15-Jun-11	Garden	Figtree P/S	Tera Wheway
Black-browed Albatross	6	22-Jan-00	Off Bellambie Boat Harbour	Overhead	Charles Dove
Australasian Gannet	4	12-Jun-11	Shellharbour Harbour	Overhead	Charles Dove
Cattle Egret	5	24-Jan-00	Bellambie Lagoon	Bushland Scrub	Charles Dove
Pacific Baza	3	23-Jun-11	Trans-Grid Sub-Station Yallah Rd. Yallah	Woodland	Lucas McKinnon
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	3	19-Jun-11	Huskisson	Forest	Hales/Garlicks
Nankeen Kestrel	1	16-Jun-11	Fairy Meadow	Lampost	Anne Cousins
Peregrine Falcon	1	14-Jun-11	Purry Burry Point Primbee	Overhead	Charles Dove
Australian Pied Oystercatcher	5	23-Jan-00	Windang	Sand Dunes	Charles Dove
Sooty Oystercatcher	3	24-Jan-00	Windang Island	Rocky ledge	Charles Dove
Ruddy Turnstone	6	12-Jun-11	Bellambie Harbour	Shoreline	Tom Wylie
Whiskered Tern	1	22-Jan-00	Bellambie Lagoon	Overhead	Charles Dove
Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	4	16-June-11	Thirroul	Urban Garden	Mike Morphett
Gang-gang Cockatoo	2A 2J	18-Jun-11	Daharwal	Heathland	IBOC
Gang-gang Cockatoo	4A 1J	19-Jun-11	Huskisson	Forest	Hales/Garlicks
Green catbird	1	13-Jun-11	Tarrawanna	Garden	Peg McKinlay
Satin Bowerbird	1	24-Jun-11	Bellambi Dunes	Bush	Anne Cousins
Satin Bowerbird	1	12-Jun-11	Balgownie	Garden	Neil McKinlay
Southern Emu-wren	7	24-Jun-11	Pelican View Reserve – Lake Illawarra Sth	Scrub	C & J Dove
White-plumed Honeyeater	2	19-Jun-11	Bellambie Dunes	Sand Dunes	Tom/Joan Wylie
Crested Shrike-tit	1	17-Jun-11	Thirroul	Forest	Mike Morphett
Golden Whistler	1	3-June-11	Figtree	Urban Garden	Colin Markham
Australasian Figbird	5+	28-May_11	Kiama	grounds	Betty Hudson
Spangled Drongo	1	10-Jun-11	Primbee Sand Dunes	Bush	Charles Dove
Rose Robin	1	10-Jun-11	Primbee Sand Dunes	Bush	Charles Dove
Eastern Yellow Robin	1	08-Jun-11	Albion Park Rail	Garden	Barbara Hales
Bassian Thrush	1	28-May-11	Thirroul	Forest	Mike Morphett
Please keep your sightings coming in, everything you consider unusual or interesting					

Copyright 2011 All rights reserved.

While all due care has been taken to ensure that the content of this newsletter is accurate and current, there may be errors or omissions in it and no legal responsibility is accepted for the information in this newsletter