

**Illawarra Bird Observers' Club Inc
MEMBERS' MONTHLY SIGHTINGS**

September/October 2011

Compiled by Darryl Goldrick

Species	Number	Date	Location	Habitat	Observer
Australian Painted Snipe	5	17-Oct-11	Koona Bay	Saltmarsh	CDove/TEdwell/Gowans
Australian Painted Snipe	8	21-Oct-11	Koona Bay	Saltmarsh	C Dove/BHales
Australian Painted Snipe	6	19-Oct-11	Koona Bay	Saltmarsh	Darryl Goldrick
Bar-tailed Godwit	40+	26-Sep-11	Hooker Park,Lke Sth	Foreshore	CDove/R Imisides
Bar-tailed Godwit	3	08-Oct-11	Purry Burry Point	Foreshore	C Dove
Brown Cuckoo-Dove	1	11-Oct-11	Figtree	Garden	Colin Markham
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	23-Sep-11	Thirroul	O'head	Richard Miller
Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	24-Sep-11	Albion Park	O'head-Woolies	Brian Hales
Common Greenshank	1	26-Sep-11	Hooker Park,Lke Sth	Foreshore	C Dove/R Imisides
Common Greenshank	1	08-Oct-11	Purry Burry Point	Foreshore	C Dove
Crested Shrike-tit	2	10-Oct-11	Thirroul	Excelsior Mine S	Mike Morphet
Curlew Sandpiper	1	20-Sep-11	Primbee	Sandbar	C Dove
Eastern Koel	1	21-Sep-11	Primbee	Paperbark Tree	C Dove
Eastern Koel	3	28-Oct-11	Lake Illawarra Sth	Eucalypt Trees	Darryl Goldrick
Glossy Ibis	1	21-Oct-11	Haywards Bay	Foreshore	C&J Dove/Tedwell
Latham Snipe	15	16-Oct-11	Koona Bay	Saltmarsh	Dove.BHales.SGarlick
Little Black Cormorant	150+	08-Oct-11	Purry Burry Point	Lake Illawarra	Charles Dove
Little Eagle	1	21-Oct-11	Haywards Bay	O'head	C&J Dove/Tedwell
Nankeen Night-Heron	5	16-Oct-11	Macquarie Rivulet A.P.Rail	Eucalypts	Charles Dove
Red Knot	7	26-Sep-11	Hooker Park,Lke Sth	Foreshore	C Dove/R Imisides
Red Knot	17	08-Oct-11	Purry Burry Point	Foreshore	C Dove
Red-necked Stint	3	29-Sep-11	Lake Illawarra Entrance	Beach	C Dove
Red-necked Stint	4	18-Oct-11	Purry Burry Point	Foreshore	C Dove
Red-rumped Parrot	3	1/2 Oct-11	Wollongong	Old Court House	Peter Butler
Ruddy Turnstone	6	06-Oct-11	Woonona Point	Rock Platform	Nerida Hudspith
Sacred Kingfisher	1	22-Sep-11	Primbee	Powerline	C Dove
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	50+	20-Sep-11	Primbee	Sandbar	C Dove
Southern Emu-wren	2m/f	26-Sep-11	Pelican View Res.Lke Sth	Scrub	C Dove/R Imisides
Striated Heron	1	06-Oct-11	Tallawarra	O'head	Nerida Hudspith
Stubble Quail	1m	22-Sep-11	Thirroul	Garden	Richard Miller
Topknot Pigeon	2	1/2 Oct-11	Figtree	Byrong Creek Br	Peter Butler
Topknot Pigeon	12	03-Oct-11	Thirroul	O'head	Richard Miller
Whistling Kite	1	06-Oct-11	Tallawarra	O'head	Nerida Hudspith
White-fronted Chat	2m/f	19-Oct-11	Koona Bay	Foreshore	C Dove
White-headed Pigeon	2	1/2 Oct-11	Figtree	American Creek	Peter Butler
White-necked Heron	1	05-Oct-11	Koona Bay	Samphire	Deon Hales

Remarks: Some exciting and somewhat unexpected 'visitors' have graced our district this month.

The Painted Snipe (Rare-Nomadic) at Koona Bay is the biggest surprise-up to 8 in total. The last sightings were in single birds in 1970, 1971 and 1986 at Macquarie Rivulet, Wollongong (?) and Shellharbour Swamp (Marina site presumably) respectively. These birds are usually associated with the inland areas and freshwater environs not the saltwater/brackish conditions that prevail at Koona Bay.

The Glossy Ibis (Rare-Nomadic) has been sighted in the Illawarra in the 70's and 80's – the last recorded sightings were in small numbers at Tallawarra and Killalea in 2001-2-3-7. Their appearance is more likely to occur in drought years.

The Pink-eared Duck (Scarce-Nomadic) were last recorded in 1985/86 and 1999 (Primbee Peninsular?) Again generally only visits the coastal areas during inland droughts.

One could not really describe the inland areas as presently being in a drought-like state, which makes the sightings and presence of these birds in the Illawarra as particularly Unusual.

Well done to those who made these sightings. I encourage members who come across any such unusual encounters to share it with other members so they in turn can experience what could well be 'a lifer' for them

Darryl Goldrick – Vice President/Records Officer.