



FAR SOUTH COAST BIRDWATCHERS Inc.

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

NEWSLETTER JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2015

PEREGRINE FALCON *Falco peregrinus*

Peregrine Falcons are powerfully built raptors (birds of prey), with a black hood, blue-black upperparts and creamy white chin, throat and underparts, which are finely barred from the breast to the tail, and with a length of 35–55cm and wingspan of 80–105cm. The long tapered wings have a straight trailing edge in flight and the tail is relatively short. The eye-ring is yellow, with the heavy bill also yellow, tipped black.

[Similar species: The Peregrine Falcon is often mistaken for the related Australian Hobby, *F. longipennis*. However, this species has a different flight silhouette, with a curved trailing wing-edge, and lacks the full black hood.]

Peregrine Falcons are found on every continent and major island group except Antarctica and New Zealand. Overall, 17 subspecies have been described, varying in appearance and range and occurring throughout Australia, although are generally absent from treeless and waterless deserts and dense forests, and seldom breed above the snowline.

The Australian subspecies (*Falco peregrinus*) has particularly large feet and claws (talons), which enable them to catch large birds such as Sulphur-crested Cockatoos and Galahs, a favoured prey. Flying birds are pursued at speeds of up to 300 km/h. Peregrines soar to a great height in search of prey then swoop down on their prey from above, catching or stunning it with powerful hooked talons, before grasping and carrying it off to a perch to pluck and eat it. If the prey is too heavy to carry, the peregrine will drop it to the ground and eat it there.



Photo from Birds in Backyards website.

If they miss the initial strike, peregrines will chase their prey in a twisting flight. Wing beats are quick and shallow, broken by glides. Small bony tubercles in their nostrils guide the air away from the nostrils during high speed stoops, enabling them to breathe more easily. Pairs may hunt cooperatively, with one member, usually the male, scattering a flock of birds while the other swoops down to attack a particular individual. This cooperative behaviour is most often observed during the breeding season. (Check out this video: <http://youtu.be/p-RHRAzUHM>) As well as birds, Peregrine Falcons take rabbits and other day-active mammals and occasionally insects, such as moths, cicadas and locusts.

Continued next page.

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Report	2
Vale: N Prosser, J Gugger	2
Meeting Report (December)	3
FSCB Directory	3
Common Myna Report	3
Trivia Night	3
From the Treasurer	4
Activity Reports	4
Big Year of Birding	4
Fantastic India	5
Lewin's Honeyeater	6
Sightings Dec/Jan	6
Google Group	8
Coming Events	8

EVENING MEETING February 12, 2015

Our Speaker is FSCB Vice President, Steve Sass, Ecologist, who was involved in a unique experiment, conducted by Professor David Watson of Charles Sturt University, showing the subtle but key role parasitic mistletoe plays in the ecology of Australian woodlands.

Continued Rather than building a stick nest, eggs are laid in a recess on coastal and inland cliffs or in a tree hollow or an abandoned nest of other birds in open woodlands near water, or even on a ledge of high city buildings where they often take birds such as feral pigeons, starlings and sparrows. . Many of these city-nesting birds are encouraged,



Photo: Max Sutcliffe.

(B/W copies of newsletter do not do the photo justice unfortunately.)

References: *Websites of Birds in Backyards and Birdlife Australia and local information, including FSCB database.*

President's Report

The year has begun well with good rains tempering the usually dry summer landscape, providing shade, shelter and food for birds during their breeding season. Wet days have possibly stopped birdwatching activity and the influx of so many tourists takes the edge off going to our usually quiet spots, but complaints must be brief as tourism boosts our local economy and benefits us all in our little piece of paradise on the far south coast.

At the December AGM your committee was re-elected unopposed, with the addition of Robyn Kesby as a returning committee member and Hayden Kingston for his first round. Gayle Partridge has taken the role of Conservation Officer and will bring items of interest and possible concern to members' attention. Using either the newsletter or the new e-News there will be links to further reading and the opportunity for individual members to respond to issues privately if they feel strongly about an issue. Other interesting links will continue to bring you 'extra' reading which cannot be included in the regular newsletter content.

At the first committee meeting in January planning for future walks and guest speakers was paramount. If you have ideas of suitable venues for walks and/or would like to lead a walk, please speak up! We already have acceptances from several speakers offering a variety of topics to sustain your interest. The Supper Roster was under discussion yet again and we ask for a commitment, if possible, for a contribution from you on one of the six evening meetings.

Taking 'birdwatching' to our community as an activity for all, and not to be seen as 'weird', is something we will work on this year with some ideas developing to achieve this. Our website, publications and Facebook exposure are providing information, and feedback and enquiries prove this.

If you have no chance of birding in India, Google some of the places and birds in Cliff and Sayaka's report on page 5, to experience the pleasure they had on their trip.

Happy 2015 birding, Barbara Jones

(Read your newsletter thoroughly – there are bits tucked everywhere.)

VALE NEAL PROSSER

Members were saddened to hear of the passing of Neal Prosser on November 29, 2014. Neal and Elizabeth joined FSCB in 1997, actively attending in earlier years and in recent years always attending each evening meeting. A country man, Neal put his energies into many outdoor projects around town, especially with Lions, and assisted at Panboola as a volunteer with general 'know-how', particularly in fencing and practical skills to share, until very recently. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Elizabeth and her family.

VALE JACK GUGGER

Jack Gugger passed away on Dec 20, 2014 after a period of illness. He and his wife Beverley were amongst the first members of FSCB, joining in 1995, and had been present on a 'pre-FSCB' Beginners Walk led by Barbara to test local interest in birdwatching. They have been members ever since. Jack was an active Lion involved with many projects including at Panboola which we all enjoy. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Beverley and her family.

Meeting Report Thursday 11 December 2014

Sylvia Hibberd

President Barbara welcomed thirty-six members to the final meeting of the year. The AGM was held first. Last year's AGM Minutes, read out by the Secretary, were confirmed. The President's report had been included in the recent FSCB Newsletter and the Treasurer reported verbally and on screen. All reports are available to members.

The election of office bearers was again a short event, with sufficient nominations in hand for the Returning Officer, Norman Morrison, to declare the following elected: President – Barbara Jones, Vice President – Steve Sass, Treasurer – Jan Reed, Secretary – Sylvia Hibberd; Committee members – Beverley Croft, Alison Hayes, Roger Heffernan, Robyn Kesby, Hayden Kingston, Pat Neal and Sue Romane; and Conservation Officer – Gayle Partridge.

Barbara recalled the original establishment of the FSCB, with a Steering Committee of whom the only members still with FSCB were Jim Morris, Jim Shields, Eric Rice, Jan Reed and herself. The first AGM of the FSCB had been held at the end of 1995, with Jan appointed as Treasurer and Secretary; and she has been Treasurer throughout the life of the organisation. Barbara presented her with a gift token and flowers in recognition of her outstanding service to the FSCB in that role. Roger also led a vote of thanks to Barbara completing her first year as President, and to the other office-bearers. Barbara thanked committee members for their productive efforts during the year and expressed hope for a successful 2015.

The formal part of the evening over, we shared our interesting sightings, which included a Spotted Harrier (Wolumla), Hooded Plover (Wallaga Lake), a group of four raptors at Kanoona (including two Peregrine Falcons), and Australasian Figbirds (Pambula Beach and Eden, among other locations). Norm observed that wrens always come in groups, with juveniles helping out with feeding young. Barbara described how the nesting Little and Fairy Terns had fared in our estuaries after the heavy rainfall and consequent influx of water onto the dunes.

We then enjoyed slide presentations from four of our members: Neill Hayes on birds seen at various places including Gluepot Reserve, Lake Cargelligo, Mandeni and at home; birds seen by Rae Joyce on Lord Howe Island; Roger showed further slides of the FSCB group which had visited Lake Cargelligo earlier in the year, as well as some local birds; and Hayden amused us with slides of a recent fishing trip to Buckenderra.

The raffle was then drawn, with five prizes. Thanks to Mitre 10 for donating native plants, and to Alexandra Seddon for donating some children's books of which she is the author. Barbara thanked Trish Garrad for organising the sale of raffle tickets at each meeting during the year. The evening ended with an especially festive and delicious supper.

FSCB DIRECTORY

President:	Barbara Jones	ph 6495 7390
Vice President:	Steve Sass	0432 414 845
Secretary:	Sylvia Hibberd	ph 6494 0135
Treasurer:	Jan Reed	ph 6495 6592
Committee:	Beverley Croft	ph 6495 0801
	Alison Hayes	ph 6495 4551
	Roger Heffernan	ph 6493 2208
	Robyn Kesby	ph 6495 6469
	Hayden Kingston	0417 227 467
	Pat Neal	ph 6495 9530
	Sue Romane	ph 6495 3930

Conservation Officer: Gayle Partridge 0418 429 291
Supper Roster: Vacant

Newsletter: Barbara Jones
Proofreader: Sue Romane
Website: Elizabeth Simkus and Kim Housenloge

Contributions: Longhand or electronically. Reports 250-300 words. Some may need editing. Articles can be longer, subject to space availability.

Deadline for April Newsletter: March 27, 2015

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Facebook: click here [Far South Coast Birdwatchers Inc.](#)

Subscriptions due Jan 1 each year. Family \$20, Single \$15.



BEGA VALLEY COMMON MYNA TASK FORCE REPORT

Barbara Jones

At last! A trap set at Kalaru has caught 6 Common Mynas, thanks to new recruit John Plumb and also Ian Stafford for hosting the trap. Stafford's Store at Kalaru seems like an obvious place to provide information for the locals who might have birds we are unaware of in that area. Already another 4 have turned up nearby and they too will be targeted. There are others along the Bega - Tathra Rd still on the 'to do' list, as well as Wolumla and Cobargo/Wandella.

Lizzie Simkus has answered a new local report along Pollacks Flat Rd and a trap is on site there.

Meanwhile we are almost ready to send off tissue samples to the Australian Museum for analysis as reported in the last newsletter.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Support Panboola. The stolen Eagle from the entry to Panboola will be replaced as soon as funds are raised. An 'Eagle' related Trivia Night on Saturday February 28, 2015 at the Pambula Surf Lifesaving Club will start the ball rolling.

Birdwatchers are especially invited to attend. Information from Robyn Kesby and at FSCB walks and meeting night.

FROM THE TREASURER

A gentle reminder that membership renewals are due. When paying by Electronic Funds Transfer please be sure to include your name and 'subs'.

Your help is needed to put a name to the following deposits:

On 16th December a transfer from TM Bank to our account for an amount of \$15.00 has no name.

On 7th January a cash deposit paid in at Bega for \$15.00 has no I/D. Thank you. **JAN REED**

Activity Reports

MOGAREEKA, WAJURDA PT and NELSONS BEACH

Saturday December 13, 2014

Barbara Jones

A fine day greeted 25 members and 2 visitors to the final outing for the year. Expecting a walk at Tanja, plans had to change due to the huge amount of rain washing out the track. Norm and Jenny had kindly sussed out option 2 to Wajurda Point, within Mimosa Rocks NP. However it seemed we would never get started as in the process of checking out the pine trees in the Mogareeka car park for the regular Nankeen Night-Herons (four of which were in nearby trees) an Australasian Figbird nest was found, with the female feeding a large fledgling beside the nest and another one still in the nest. The male was in the same tree looking rather dejected and unwanted but finally everyone managed to see the family. What a great start to the day! A Grey Butcherbird fed its offspring sitting beside us on a guard rail and a begging Red Wattlebird was above us. Four Pied Oystercatchers stood near the bridge, having been flooded out; we could see Little and Fairy Terns fishing between us and their nest site; and a Caspian Tern patrolled while Pelicans, Great Cormorants and Crested Terns just sat.

Moving on to the car park near Wajurda Point and Moon Bay, most walked to the Point, returning with fewer sightings than those who chose to walk

PANBOOLA SURVEY

Wednesday January 14, 2015

Robyn Kesby

The recent heavy rain had mainly soaked in at Panboola, but there were still lots of puddles lying around. Lush growth due to the warmth meant that there were plenty of places for birds to hide. The survey started with a flock of more than 50 White-throated Needletails circling above Smiths Lookout.

A search for the recently photographed Common Greenshank near the Old Bar was fruitless but Sylvia's persistence resulted in us all getting a good look at Crested Shrike-tits, heard near the red gums at the south-western edge of the racecourse. A Buff-banded Rail popped out from under the bridge in the Waterbird Sanctuary and it was good to see a Darter back on the recently replaced bridge at Watsons. The Black-shouldered Kites were very active, flying over most of the survey areas. The young must be learning to hunt now. We finished with a Dusky Moorhen on Tips, a juvenile Swamp Harrier and a sighting of the Peregrine Falcon over the Corridor.

It was very hot by the end of the survey, but the 8 participants recorded 62 species making it a very successful morning.

A 'BIG YEAR' OF BIRDING

As far as can be ascertained the best 'Big Year' belongs to Sue Romane who recorded 205 species in the Bega Valley Shire for 2014. Some members are being secretive maybe? Have you started a 2015 list yet? A list of 333 species can be sent to you on request. Very challenging and satisfying and gives you an incentive to go birding.

SUPPER WITH THE SWAMPHENS

Sunday January 25, 2015

Alison Hayes

Our activities for 2015 got off to a pleasant late afternoon start at Panboola, where 35 people, including some members of the Panboola Committee and visitors, met for a late-afternoon walk and picnic. Although most of the birds were keeping a low profile in the gloomy weather conditions which hovered on the brink of rain, this was actually an excellent time to enjoy this wetland environment and see it in prime condition: the recent period of high rainfall has nurtured the extensive grasslands, and lush carpets of numerous species of grasses intermingled with a proliferation of wildflower groundcover, seen as we took a short-cut back across open pasture.

Those first to arrive saw Sulphur-crested Cockatoos in the Hawthorns and Little Corellas circling, with Gang-gang Cockatoos only heard. The latter finally arrived to feed, with 12 being recorded near the entrance. Those last to arrive had their attention seriously drawn to a group of Little Pied Cormorants, sitting in their favourite dead tree by the water. The reason for the interest was the small number of them with distinctly rufous under-plumage, contrasting sharply with the white feathers of the others. This is thought to be the result of tannin staining (tannin is a reddish acid which leaches out of plants), and can sometimes be observed with this species. (See Slater's Field Guide sketch.)

As we walked along some of the beautifully maintained walking tracks that criss-cross the site, a few water birds were to be seen, including one Australasian Shoveler. Some Magpies, Willy Wagtails and the occasional Superb Fairy-wren were still around, but most birds seemed to have 'called it a day', with strong winds making conditions most unpleasant, and we returned to our cars to take a short drive round the corner to the comfortable Panboola 'office' where we had a leisurely picnic. Welcomed by Mandi Stevenson, President of the Panboola Committee, she encouraged us to participate in the coming Trivia Night (see page 3). This enjoyable get-together rounded off a good outing, and the coming year will no doubt present plentiful opportunities for quality birdwatching.

INCREDIBLE INDIA!

From Cliff Wallis and Sayaka Mihara, December 2014

India is well known for its wonderful monuments. It was a surprise to discover that in a country with 1.3 billion people, there are also great opportunities for birdwatching. We were lucky to spend two months in Northern India late last year. There are many marvelous World Heritage temples and forts to visit in Delhi, Agra, Khajuraho and Amritsar but the birding was also excellent.

The Indian subcontinent (including Pakistan and Bangladesh) has more than 1300 bird species. As many as 13% of the world's birds have been recorded there, with new species continually being added to the list. The subcontinent is rich in species mostly due to its wide altitudinal range, highly varied climate and diversity of vegetation. The enlightened and benevolent attitudes of Hinduism and Buddhism towards wildlife have helped protect all forms of animals from as early as 3,000 years ago.

Nevertheless, Indian birds are facing many of the same threats as birds in Australia – habitat loss, wetland destruction, agricultural practices and climate change. The human population is also increasing at an alarming rate which will place even more pressure on bird habitat.

The surprising things to us about birding in India were how close you could get to the birds, the number of birds and sightings in very strange locations. It was not unusual to come across Common Sandpipers in a pond in the middle of the road and they would not fly off; we also saw a White-throated Kingfisher under a building awning at a very busy intersection in Lucknow and many times we came across raptors that happily sat on their perch while we fussed around in very close proximity.

Apart from looking at lots of Black Kites around Humayun's Tomb, our first birding "outing" was surprisingly in Old Delhi. There is a bird hospital within the Digambara Jain Temple complex, established to further the Jain principle of preserving all life. Quite a variety of birds being looked after, although only vegetarian birds are admitted – carnivores only treated as outpatients! It was a bit strange for us to see Common (Indian) Mynas being helped back to good health.

Our travels were divided between the plains and the Himalayan foothills. The areas we went birdwatching were:

Ranthambhore N.P. – famous tiger reserve with good birding in and around the park. With the aid of an excellent guide just under 100 species seen including Grey Francolin, Asian Openbill, Black-headed Ibis, Eurasian Spoonbill, Eurasian Thick-knee, Oriental Pratincole, Rose-ringed Parakeet, Common Hoopoe, Red-vented Bulbul, Brahminy Starling, Painted Spurfowl, Tickell's Blue Flycatcher, Great Tit, White Wagtail.

Keoladeo Ghana NP – renowned bird sanctuary on the World Heritage register near Bharatpur. Originally established as a hunting ground in the 18th century by Maharaja Suraj Mal, the park covers 29 sq. km and includes extensive wetlands, although there was apparently not as much water this year. More than 370 species have been recorded here including many migratory waterfowl.

We managed to identify 80 species in two days of delightful birdwatching, including Indian Darter, Purple Heron, Painted Stork, Openbilled Stork, Woolly-necked Stork, Whistling Teal, Spotbill, Red-crested Pochard, Greater Spotted Eagle, Egyptian Vulture, Crested Serpent Eagle (eating a snake!), Grey Partridge, Sarus Crane, Blue Rock Pigeon, Spotted Owlet, Coppersmith Barbet, Three species of Babbler – Common, Large Grey and Jungle.

Panna N.P. – A small tiger reserve near Khajuraho (famous for its temples and erotic carvings). An interesting variety of vegetation from jungle to grasslands. 30 species seen in an afternoon including Lesser Goldenback, Borelli's Eagle, White-bellied Drongo, Rufous Treepie, Oriental Magpie Robin, White-bellied Minivet.

Corbett N.P. – Near Ramnagar in the Himalayan foothills. Excellent birdwatching in and around India's oldest national park. On our first morning we saw five species of Kingfisher – White-throated, Crested, Stork-billed, Common and Pied. Lots of other great sightings including Great Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Blue Whistling

Thrush, Rufous Woodpecker, Ruddy Shelduck (lots), Greater Yellownape, Golden-fronted Leafbird, Black Stork, Cinereous Vulture, Oriental Honey Buzzard, Kalij Pheasant, Brown Dipper, River Lapwing, Wallcreeper, Ibisbill, Common Green Magpie.

Nainital – Beautiful town in the Himalayan Foothills. One terrific day out in a variety of habitats with Sunil, an excellent guide. Seventy species seen including Red-billed Leiothrix, Little Bittern, Green-backed Tit, Common Rosefinch, Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker, Black Francolin, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Streaked Laughingthrush, Blue-winged Minla, Blue-capped Redstart, Mrs Gould's Sunbird, Steppe Eagle

Rajji N.P. – also in the Himalayan foothills near the holy city of Haridwar on the Ganges. Not as good a morning here but a few new species seen including Scarlet Minivet, White-tailed Rubythroat, Red Avadavat, Pallas's Gull.

For the statisticians – 220 species identified (many more seen and unidentified!). No tiger sightings. If you make a comment to an Indian about something, whether it be the great birdwatching, the trains often running late, the latest cricket game or the crazy highways they will usually answer: **"Incredible India" and they are correct!**

LEWIN'S HONEYEATER NESTING BESIDE HOUSE.

Karen Reed reported on a Lewin's Honeyeater at Frogs Hollow near Wolumla. "The nest was made in a Cecile Brunner Rose outside my bedroom window. The lining was Maltese terrier fur I had trimmed from my dog.

Two eggs were laid on 21st November and hatched on 5th December. Both birds fledged on 18th December despite torrential rain on a few days during incubation.

I noticed both parents feeding a variety of insects, including black wasps, raspberries and strawberries from my garden.

They started nest-building again 27th December in a Camellia right next to the first nest. This time also lined with Maltese terrier fur, though from a different dog. 2 eggs were laid and she sat patiently and they were about due to hatch on 21st January. When I had a peep the eggs were gone and one shell was on the ground. Next time I looked the nest had been destroyed."



NEW MEMBER We extend a warm welcome to Joshua Wellington from Quaama.

A SELECTION of SIGHTINGS from December 2014/January 2015

14/01/2015	Australasian Darter	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
6/12/2014	Australasian Figbird	1	Merimbula, Fishpen	D Waldon	
12/12/2014	Australasian Figbird	1	Tathra, near school	S Sequoia	
13/12/2014	Australasian Figbird	1 male	Bega, town area	A Rodway	
13/12/2014	Australasian Figbird	nest + 2	Mogareeka	FSCB outing	
13/12/2014	Australasian Figbird	1	Tathra, near school	J Miles/M Campbell	
27/12/2014	Australasian Figbird	1 ad, 1 fledgling	Mogareeka	Waldon/Jones	
13/01/2015	Australasian Figbird	many	Tathra opposite bakery	S Romane	
26/01/2015	Australasian Figbird	incl juveniles	Merimbula, Main St	M Sutcliffe	
25/01/2015	Australasian Shoveler	1	Panboola	FSCB outing	
15/12/2014	Bar-tailed Godwit	~150	Merimbula Lake	R Heffernan	
8/01/2015	Bassian Thrush	2	Bournda NP	S Mihara	
13/12/2014	Bell Miner	feeding y in nest	Nelson Lake and Beach	FSCB outing	
28/12/2014	Black-shouldered Kite	2	Yurammie	R Heffernan	regulars
29/12/2014	Black-shouldered Kite	2 + 1 imm	Camel Rock, Bermagui	D Adams	

14/01/2015	Black-shouldered Kite	3	Panboola	FSCB survey	
29/01/2015	Brown Cuckoo-Dove	2, 1 ad, 1 imm	Tura Beach	N & A Hayes	photos
4/12/2014	Brush Cuckoo	1	Kalaru	G Greenwood	
13/01/2015	Buff-banded Rail	1 + 5 young	Merimbula Boardwalk	D Waldon	black chicks
22/01/2015	Buff-banded Rail	pair+7 young	Tanja, Narek Gallery	K Cleary	
5/01/2015	Channel-billed Cuckoo	3	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
31/01/2015	Channel-billed Cuckoo	2 fledged	'Batty Towers' Pambula	A Seddon	noisy, with Pied Currawong.
4/01/2015	Common Greenshank	1	Panboola	M Sutcliffe + B Jones et al	
2/12/2014	Common Sandpiper	1	Wallagoot, 'Watery Fowls'	I Wallis	
20/12/2014	Crested Shrike-tit	2 ad. 1 juv	Wonboyn Lake	D & P Green	
14/01/2015	Crested Shrike-tit	3	Panboola	FSCB survey	
19/12/2014	Dollarbird	1	Beauty Point, Bermagui	D Adams	
29/12/2014	Dollarbird	5	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
6/01/2015	Dollarbird	4	Sapphire Drive, Wallagoot	L Allen	also in Dec same spot
10/01/2015	Dollarbird	4	Millingandi	S Romane	
15/01/2015	Dollarbird	6+	Tarraganda, Bega	T Jarman	
21/01/2015	Dollarbird	~6	Towamba	S Skelton	
31/01/2015	Dollarbird	6+	Tanja	N & J Morrison	
14/01/2015	Dusky Moorhen	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
13/01/2015	Dusky Woodswallow	10 (ad + y)	Mirador, Merimbula	P Roberts	
29/01/2015	Eastern Curlew	4	Merimbula Lake	L Allen	
16/12/2014	Eastern Great Egret	20	Bird Route No 1	B Jones	in receding water
13/12/2014	Eastern Koel	1 male	Tura Beach	L Allen	
12/01/2015	Eastern Koel	1	Wallagoot, 'Watery Fowls'	C Wallis	
21/12/2014	Eastern Reef Egret	1	Camel Rock, Bermagui	D Adams	
26/01/2015	Eastern Rosella	1 fledged from nest box	Tura Beach	N and A Hayes	
15/12/2014	Eastern Spinebill	10+	Reedy Swamp, Bega	T Williams	
14/01/2015	Eurasian Skylark	calls	Panboola	FSCB survey	
26/12/2014	Fairy Martin	2	Curalo Lake Boardwalk	D & K Waldon	
11/12/2014	Fairy Tern	6 nests	Mogareeka	per A Harris	
21/12/2014	Gang-gang Cockatoo	pair	Beauty Point, Bermagui	D Adams	
31/12/2014	Gang-gang Cockatoo	4	Tanja	N & J Morrison	
20/01/2015	Gang-gang Cockatoo	14	Reedy Swamp, Bega	T Williams	at water
21/01/2015	Gang-gang Cockatoo	2	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
23/01/2015	Gang-gang Cockatoo	8 + 1 dy	Panboola	M Sutcliffe	
25/01/2015	Gang-gang Cockatoo	12	Panboola	FSCB outing	
27/01/2015	Gang-gang Cockatoo	male feeding 2 y	Merimbula, nr museum	G Holden	
15/12/2014	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	2	Greigs Flat	L Cooper	
27/12/2014	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	pr+ 1 young	Nethercote Goldfields	H Kingston & family	
7/01/2015	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	2	Nethercote	B Jones	
31/01/2015	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	5 overflow	Berrambool oval area	M Sutcliffe	
21/12/2014	Grey Goshawk	1 white morph	Beauty Point, Bermagui	D Adams	
26/12/2014	Grey Goshawk	1	Curalo Lake Boardwalk	D & K Waldon	
22/01/2015	Grey Goshawk	1 white morph	Wapengo	A Piekalns	
20/12/2014	Hardhead	45	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
13/12/2014	Hoary-headed Grebe	5	Bermagui, Moorhen Cove	D Adams	
11/12/2014	Hooded Plover	nest 3 eggs	Wallaga Lake, Morunna Pt	per A Harris	
18/12/2014	Hooded Plover	2 mating	Tura Beach	L Allen	
11/01/2015	Hooded Plover	pair + 3 young	Merimbula, Main Beach	J Williams	1 y missing as at 21/1
19/01/2015	Hooded Plover	3 fledged	Haycock Point	per A Harris	
19/01/2015	Hooded Plover	1 fledged	Nullica Beach	per A Harris	
31/01/2015	Jacky Winter	1 feeding y	Tanja	N & J Morrison	
5/12/2014	Latham's Snipe	1	Bega Golf Course	T Jarman	
20/12/2014	Latham's Snipe	1	Kalaru, Stafford area	Da Jones	swamp area beside road
8/01/2015	Latham's Snipe	3	Wallagoot, 'Watery Fowls'	C Wallis	
25/01/2015	Latham's Snipe	2	Panboola	M Sutcliffe	
27/12/2014	Little Egret	1	Wallaga Lake	Waldon/Jones	
12/01/2015	Little Egret	2	Merimbula, Top Lake	S Romane	
25/12/2014	Little Lorikeet	3	Bermagui SF	D Adams	
12/01/2015	Little Lorikeet	small groups	Beauty Point, Bermagui	D Adams	
4/12/2014	Little Raven	~ 30	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
11/12/2014	Little Tern	7 nests	Wallaga Lake, Morunna Pt	per A Harris	
11/12/2014	Little Tern	33 nests	Mogareeka	per A Harris	
5/12/2014	Masked Lapwing	pair + 4 egg nest	Mandeni, Tura	F Neal	
13/12/2014	Mistletoebird	1 male	Nelson Lake/ Wajurda Pt	FSCB outing	
13/12/2014	Musk Duck	1	Bermagui Moorhen Cove	D Adams	
12/01/2015	Musk Lorikeet	several groups	Beauty Point, Bermagui	D Adams	
25/12/2014	Painted Button-quail	ad + 4 young	Nethercote	B Jones	nested in garden
21/01/2015	Peaceful Dove	6	Kalaru	G Greenwood	regularly
19/01/2015	Peregrine Falcon	2	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
14/12/2014	Pink-eared Duck	~ 40	Tantawangalo Mtn Rd	R Heffernan	
20/12/2014	Pink-eared Duck	19	Wonboyn Lake, nr Jewfish	D & P Green	
13/01/2015	Pink-eared Duck	70+	Bird Route No 1	L Allen	

8/01/2015	Powerful Owl	2	Berrambool Rainforest	S Romane	
20/01/2015	Powerful Owl	1 calling	Reedy Swamp, Bega	T Williams	right at house
27/12/2014	Rose Robin	pair	Bermagui SF	Waldon/Jones	
13/12/2014	Royal Spoonbill	11 overflew	Nelsons Lake	FSCB outing	
26/12/2014	Royal Spoonbill	6	Curalo Lake Boardwalk	D & K Waldon	
27/12/2014	Royal Spoonbill	9	Wallaga Lake	Waldon/Jones	
20/12/2014	Rufous Fantail	1	Wonboyn Lake	D & P Green	at house
27/12/2014	Rufous Fantail	2	Bermagui SF	Waldon/Jones	
2/01/2015	Rufous Songlark	1	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
18/01/2015	Sacred Kingfisher	1	Kalaru	G Partridge	
15/12/2014	Scarlet Honeyeater	few	Reedy Swamp, Bega	T Williams	
14/01/2015	Scarlet Honeyeater	1	Tura Beach, Headland Dr	J Gotley	
15/01/2015	Scarlet Honeyeater	present	Tarraganda, Bega	T Jarman	
19/01/2015	Scarlet Honeyeater	1 female	Wolumla	L Davey	for a few weeks
8/12/2014	Spotted Harrier	1	Wolumla, Princes Hwy	B Jones	
30/12/2014	Square-tailed Kite	2	Nethercote	B Jones	
13/01/2015	Striated Heron	1	Merimbula Boardwalk	D Waldon	
12/12/2014	Superb Parrot	1	nr Merimbula Wharf	S Sequoia	escapee? here before
21/01/2015	Swamp Harrier	1	Yurammie	R Heffernan	in battle with Whistling Kite
31/12/2014	Tawny Frogmouth	1	Kiah	R Miller	motion activated camera
12/12/2014	Topknot Pigeon	2+1 poss juv	Bithry Inlet	S Sequoia	
4/12/2014	Variiegated Fairy-wren	4	Pambula Beach Resort	M Burrows	
19/12/2014	Variiegated Fairy-wren	1 male	Beauty Point, Bermagui	D Adams	
10/01/2015	Variiegated Fairy-wren	1 male	Wapengo Lake/ Tathra Rd	S Hibberd	
8/01/2015	White-fronted Chat	2 ad 2 y	Wallagoot, 'Watery Fowls'	C Wallis	
16/12/2014	White-necked Heron	5	Bird Route No 1	B Jones	in receding water

White-throated Needle-tail sightings all reported at end of season to Mike Tarburton as follows:

1/12, 20 at Pambula Beach, D Waldon. 9/12, 50 at Berrambool, M Sutcliffe. 13/12, 36 at Blue Pool, Bermagui, D Adams. 15/12, 30-40 at Tanja, N & J Morrison. 20/12 ~60 at Wallagoot Lake, S Romane. 20/12, 16 at Sth Pambula, J Reed. 30/12, 5 at Tathra Headland, N & J Morrison. 9/1/15+ at Nethercote, B Jones. 14/1, 50+ at Panboola, FSCB survey. 15/1, 2x40 at Nethercote, B Jones. 21/1, ~6 at Towamba, S Skelton. 25/1 30+ at Yurammie, R Heffernan. 31/1, 6 at Tanja, N & J Morrison.

FSCB GOOGLE GROUP To join up: <http://groups.google.com/group/fscb?hl=en> and follow the instructions.
Any problems contact David Adams on dpadams@gmail.com

COMING EVENTS

*Held on second Saturday and fourth Sunday of each month and odd weekdays.
Evening Meetings on second Thursday of February, April, June, August, October and December.
Information about outings or help with transport contact anyone on committee (see FSCB Directory page 3).*

Saturday February 14, 2015

BERMAGUI

Meet Barbara (6495 7390) just north of the Bermagui Bridge, on the corner of the Bermagui – Narooma Rd, opposite the group of small shops. Be there at 8:45 am. From here we will drive to several locations covering water and bush birds. Bring provisions for the day, however we **lunch in the park opposite the Country Club** where there are facilities, shelter and tempting fish and chips.

Sunday February 22, 2015

WALLAGOOT, 'WATERY FOWLS'

Meet Barbara (6495 7390) at 9:00 am inside the gate of 'Watery Fowls' at 9:15 am. Turn off Sapphire Coast Drive on to Bournda Road, as if going to Bournda Lagoon on the south side of Wallagoot Lake. Drive about 500m to just before Tickalara Close and turn left into the almost hidden driveway to the home of Cliff and Sayaka Wallis. BYO snack and lunch and chair as usual. Always a good species count here. Flat walking.

Saturday March 14, 2015

BERRAMBOOL OVAL

Meet Barbara (6495 7390) at 9:00 am, inside the oval grounds. Entry is signposted not far along from the start of Berrambool Drive. We'll be walking along Merimbula Creek behind Imlay Bowling Club then around the northern end of the oval, to the Rainforest Walk. Bring insect repellent. Tides will be OK to see Bar-tailed Godwits in breeding plumage at Spencer Park, Merimbula for lunch.

NOTE: Consecutive weekend walks in March and April due to having a Friday 13th in the month.

Sunday March 22, 2015

KANOONA/CANDELO

Meet Roger (6493 2208) at 9:00 am on the corner of Princes Highway and the Bega-Candelo Rd where there is plenty of room to assemble. From here we will convoy to properties on and about Wyndham Lane area. Lunch at Candelo. Bring a chair if possible and provisions of course.

Thursday April 9, 2015

EVENING MEETING

Meets in the Uniting Church Hall, Henwood St, Merimbula, for a 7:30 pm start. Guest speaker will be Amy Harris, NPWS Threatened Shorebird Recovery Coordinator - Far South Coast Region with results and successes of the 2014/2015 breeding season.

Saturday April 11, 2015

EDEN - CURALO LAKE BOARDWALK

Meet Barbara (6495 7390) at 9:00 am at the toilet block on the Princes Highway opposite Eden Gateway Caravan Park (formerly Fountain Garden Caravan Park) Eden. Tide should be low. We'll look at the estuary depending on energy levels! Lunch nearby.

Wednesday April 15, 2015

PANBOOLA SURVEY

Meet Robyn (6495 6469) at 8:15 am in Smiths Lookout, Bullara St, Pambula, for the Autumn survey. Carry drink, repellent and hat and wear sturdy shoes.