



FAR SOUTH COAST BIRDWATCHERS Inc.

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2024

Aussie Bird Count and Bird Week



Join the Aussie Bird Count - Held over National Bird Week from **14–20 October**, the Aussie Bird Count is one of Australia's biggest citizen science events. Every year, tens of thousands of Australians of all ages and experiences join us in observing and counting the birds we live with. In 2023, over 60,500 participants counted a staggering **3,608,545 birds** – and you can help make this year's count our biggest yet!

Go to [Aussie Bird Count](#) to register your details, download the app and get started. Easy for beginners too. Try and participate. It's only twenty minutes as often as you like and just by counting you will go in the draw for some incredible prizes.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Far South Coast Birdwatchers Inc will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th December at the Uniting Church Hall, Henwood Street, Merimbula.

Nominations for the committee and vacant roles will be gratefully accepted until Thursday 5th December. Contact a committee member to learn more and get a nomination form if you are interested

The AGM will be followed by contributions from members and a festive supper.

NEW MEMBERS We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

The Cole family from Nethercote

Message from Hayden

Hayden Kingston

Well spring is here, I saw a pair of Pink-eared Ducks with three ducklings at Glebe Lagoon in Bega this week. But what a mixed bag the weather has been over the last couple of months, very warm in August and then back to some cooler weather and then the **WIND**. I know we expect wind at this time of year but the consistency of the strong winds has been surprising.

It has dried out too, not as dry as last year, but the bush is dry and some widespread rain would be great.

The 2025 FSCB Calendar is at the printers and will be available from early October at meetings and walks or you can contact us to get your copy. Remember it is a limited print run so get your copies early so you don't miss out.

Our AGM is approaching and I would encourage you to talk to a committee member if you are interested in contributing to the running of the club. We still don't have a secretary and it has been vacant for several years, filling this position would help to spread the load.

As usual we have a good selection of walks planned until the end of the year and I look forward to seeing you at some of them and at our evening meeting on October 10th, where our guest speaker will be David McCreery (Macca), Team Leader Conservation, NPWS, who will talk about the history of ecological monitoring in Nadgee Nature Reserve and the recovery of the reserve after the bushfires.

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2025 Calendar

FSCB 2025 calendars are now available at the usual price of \$10 (or \$14 including postage)

They will be available at walks and meetings until sold out.

You can also contact Hayden Kingston or another committee member and we will organise to get your calendars to you.

Hayden's contact details are email hayden.k@bigpond.com or mobile 0417 227 467.



Far South Coast Birdwatchers uses the nomenclature of birds as used by BirdLife Australia
They have released their **Working List of Australian Birds v4**
<https://birdlife.org.au/conservation/science/taxonomy>

Evening Meeting
Thursday 8 August 2024
Hayden Kingston

Thanks to Rob Mansfield for providing an interesting selection of photos for viewing prior to the meeting by the 16 people who were present including new members Michael and Meredith Cole. There were four apologies.

Sightings and Observations:

- White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike at Tura Beach
- Great Egret eating goldfish from a pond
- Two Nankeen Night-Herons roosting in a Lilly Pilly at Fishpen
- Beach Stone-curlew on the sand at Spencer Park, Merimbula
- About 30 Musk Lorikeets in a flowering Red Gum at Tantawangalo
- Fan-tailed Cuckoo at South Pambula

An Eastern Osprey Opera in three Acts
Alan Scrymgeour

Alan presented a very interesting talk about his and Lyn's interaction with Eastern Ospreys over the last fifty years.

The overture was soon after they had moved to the area on a very hot day in Merimbula. It was low tide and the oyster racks were exposed, and they watched the oyster farmer working on his lease when a large bird flew in. The oyster farmer said, the Osprey is here, and proceeded to feed it two small fish he had stored on the floor of the punt for it.

Act 1 was in the early 1980s at about 2am in the morning when Alan was driving home from an evening outing listening to frogs in local wetlands with National Parks staff and other volunteers. Along the Merimbula waterfront near where Harris Scarfe are now he saw an Osprey sound asleep on a post, Alan drove onto the footpath and parked right next to the sleeping Osprey for a closer look.

When Alan drove back onto the street police lights started flashing behind him and he pulled over. The concerned policeman asked him what he was doing and Alan showed him the sleeping Osprey and when he was asked where he had been Alan said he had been out frogging. Naturally the policeman proceeded to breathalyse Alan and let him go when the result was negative.



Eastern Osprey

Image: Lynda Collins

Act 2 was earlier this year when a huge school of salmon (estimated to be 38 tonnes of fish) came into Merimbula Lake and were being chased and eaten by seals and leaving lots of fish scraps in the water. From the Aquarium a Sea-Eagle could be seen diving in to feed on the fish scraps before a pair of Ospreys dived on it and drove it off so they could have full control and feed on the scraps.

The third Act was in May 2024 when Alan and Lyn checked out the magnificent nest the ospreys have built on the light tower at Berrambool.

They are hopeful that the encore to this opera, where we can all clap madly and cheer while the orchestra plays, will be when they can stand on the balcony of the Aquarium and the pair of Ospreys will fly down with a pair of juveniles.

Birds in Western Australia

Olivia Williams



Singing Honeyeater

Image: Olivia Williams

Olivia spent most of June 2024 exploring the area around Broome and coastal areas south of Broome and into the Pilbara with friends Sam and Ian Nerrie and David Crichton. Olivia's presentation was about the birds she had seen and photographed on her trip.

Around the Broome area a range of habitats were visited and birds observed included Pied Butcherbird, Grey-crowned Babbler, Double-barred Finch, Pallid Cuckoo, White-gaped Honeyeater, Little Friarbird, Singing Honeyeater and the area was alive with Rainbow Bee-eaters.

Unfortunately the Broome Bird Observatory could not be visited due to flooding on the access road, but they were able to go on an afternoon Bush Birds Tour. Highlights on this tour included a Black Kite and nest, Zebra Finches, Red-backed Fairy-wren, Paperbark Flycatcher and Brolgas.

Coastal birds observed around Broome included Lesser Frigatebird, Brown Booby and Reef Heron. At the Sewage Treatment Works Pied Stilts were seen and 100's of Plumed Whistling-Ducks.



Pied Butcherbird

Image: Olivia Williams



Red-headed Honeyeater

Image: Olivia Williams

A number of birds were seen that were not quite the same as what we see here – these included the Northern Fantail, Yellow White-eye, Red-headed Honeyeater (*Myzomela erythrocephala*) and Broad-billed Flycatcher.

From Broome Olivia headed south and inland into the Pilbara region visiting and camping in a number of National Parks including Karijini, Weano Gorge and Millstream Chichester. Bird numbers varied in the different parks and some areas had been burnt out in 2023. Birds observed included Yellow-throated Miner,

Spinifex Pigeon, Weebills, Variegated Fairy-wrens, White-plumed Honeyeater, Australian Ringneck, Star and Painted Finches and Blue-winged Kookaburras.

Olivia's final stop before flying out of Exmouth was the Ningaloo area where the highlights were seeing and photographing the Western Bowerbird and the White-winged Fairy-wren. There were also large numbers of Eastern Ospreys in this area and their nests were in all sorts of places including on a light post, on the beach, on sand and in the dunes – Osprey Heaven!

Thanks to Alan and Olivia for their excellent presentations. The raffle, organized by Jan Reed, was drawn with two beautiful native plants for prizes. Many thanks to Pambula Mitre 10 for their generous donation of the plants.



Rainbow Bee-eater

Image: Olivia Williams

A delicious supper was served - thank you to all helpers and contributors.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Wajurda Point and Nelson Lagoon/ Beach **Saturday 10 August 2024** **Jenny Morrison**

Twenty-one FSCB members and visitors assembled at Mogareeka and while the youngest of the group tried out the swings the rest of us looked up high and down low for evidence of the Nankeen Night-Herons that are regularly seen in the pine trees. Sure enough there were droppings under the trees and sharp eyes located the well camouflaged birds in the high branches.

More easily spotted were the birds on the sand spit in the estuary; Pelicans and a Caspian Tern were outnumbered by Greater Crested Terns and Silver Gulls. In the shallow lagoon area on the other side of the car park a Buff-banded Rail, two White-faced Herons and two Australian Pied Oystercatchers searched the mud for delicacies.

A short drive north took us to Wajurda Point car park and from there a walk to the lookout where we were entertained by a group of eight seals, probably bachelors, in the water below us just hanging out and enjoying life. Golden Whistler, Spotted Pardalote and Red Wattlebird as well as a colony of Bell Miners were noted, but our attention was held by a flock of over fifteen New Holland Honeyeaters with some Yellow-faced Honeyeaters chasing each other through the leaves with much calling. We stood and watched for some time and they paid little attention to us. What had brought them all together in such a display we weren't sure, a hint of spring perhaps. Meredith, one of our younger members, thought they might have been having a party!

Back at the cars there was time for a cuppa before driving the downhill road to Nelson Beach. The walking track from the car park wound through an area of Burrawangs with the surf beach on the right and the quieter lagoon on the left. On the sand spit in the lagoon were two Hooded Plovers and a group of Australian White Ibis while on the rocks on the sea side was a very well camouflaged Eastern Reef Egret. Four Australian Pied Oystercatchers on the sand, three Great Cormorants on the rocks and a White-bellied Sea-Eagle in the air were added to the list, not forgetting the bush birds such as Spotted Pardalote, Lewin's Honeyeater, White-naped Honeyeater and back at the car a White-browed Scrubwren.



Australian Pelican Image: Luying Dong

Time for lunch which we had at the Lions Park at Mogareeka serenaded by the calls of ten Sulphur-crested Cockatoos.

Thank you for leading the outing John and thanks Leo for recording the sightings of 49 species.

Kameruka **Wednesday 14 August 2024** **Helen Merrick**

Although the weather looked a bit dreary early in the morning, it turned out to be a lovely day when 19 birdwatchers met along the West Kameruka Road. We were thrilled to see Roger again after quite a long absence and also to welcome back some members we hadn't seen for a while.

Many bird species were seen and heard in this location; to name a few, both Spotted and Striated Pardalote, Crimson and Eastern Rosella, Yellow and Striated Thornbill, King Parrot and Golden Whistler.

We continued on to the Kameruka Estate where we parked near the hall and walked along the ridge. About 20 Little Corellas were seen and heard but only two Sulphur-crested Cockatoos were spotted. Grey Shrike-thrush, Pied Currawong, Noisy Miner, Superb Fairy-wren, and Grey Butcherbird were present. When White-winged Choughs were spotted and their large mud nest well up in a eucalypt there was great excitement, and even more when the birds were seen picking up fresh mud and perhaps cow manure and adding it to the nest.

We moved on to Lords Oval where we left most of the cars and a few drove on to the large dam. Ten Hoary-headed Grebes, Chestnut Teal, Purple Swamphen, Dusky Moorhen, and four Hardhead were some of the species noted.



Golden Whistler

Image: Rob Mansfield

Returning to the oval, it was decided to have morning tea there. Feeling refreshed after a cuppa and a chat, we walked up the track through the estate to the extensive garden by the house. It must look spectacular in Spring to Summer. Barbara filled us in on some of the history and Roger added his local knowledge.

Lunch was eaten at Lords Oval where some of us watched an imaginary cricket match. A raptor flew overhead, and after some debate was agreed to be a Little Eagle.

Afterwards a small group of us went to Candelo General Store for coffee. Sharing a table outside, we chatted, reminisced about our childhood and solved most of the world's problems.

Thank you Barbara for leading and Leo for recording the data.

Bournda National Park
Sunday 25 August 2024
Jenny Morrison

As we stepped out of the cars at Hobart Beach with binoculars and cameras at the ready a bird was already at our feet. Not what we expected, as it turned out to be a White-throated Treecreeper which quickly resumed its more usual place on the trunk of the tree next to us. The familiar calls of a Bell Miner colony were all around but we soon moved out of their area as Olivia led the way towards the ocean beach. Now a Fan-tailed Cuckoo could be heard and seen, also a Crescent Honeyeater.

Steps led to the top of a dune with a view both ways along the beach. Some chose to continue looking for birds at the base of the steps, others viewed from the top and the rest went down to the shore where they saw Hooded Plover and Red-capped Plover.

Back down the steps we took the bush track to Bondi Lake. Calls of Lewin's Honeyeaters, Wonga Pigeons, Eastern Whipbird and Brown Gerygone were picked up with twenty Silvereyes seen and heard and those of us with eyes on the track saw White-browed Scrubwren, Eastern Yellow Robin and white orchids (*Caladenia* sp).

Bondi Lake was well filled and a Musk Duck, Little Black and Little Pied Cormorants and small grebe spp were seen. The track then turned back to Hobart Beach and the parked cars where we had a cuppa and Max showed the photo of a Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo he had just seen.

After driving to Scotts Bay the group divided up, some exploring around the hut and the others taking the

longer route along the road, comparing sightings when we sat for lunch. Golden Whistler, Olive-backed Oriole, Spotted Pardalote and White-headed Pigeon were some of the birds seen and down on the water of Wallagoot Lake, Black Swans, Eurasian Coots, small grebe spp and a Hoary-headed Grebe were the last ones added to the list for the day.

Thanks Olivia for taking the group to an area we hadn't been to for a while and thanks to Leo for recording the 48 sightings.

Gipsy Point and Wallagaraugh River **Wednesday 4 September 2024** **Jenny Morrison**

It was such a perfect day that the promise of a boat trip on this beautiful waterway looking at birds was the icing on the cake. To add a cherry on top we had Dale, the captain of the Gypsy Princess, with his skill and local knowledge. As we gathered at Gipsy Point Leo was already recording birds, thank you Leo. Most of us sat and had our lunch while Dale prepared the boat for our trip. Barbara reluctantly chose not to come on the boat and we missed her company.

With our full complement of 18 participants, including local birdwatcher Beth, we set off, but the wildlife that first caught our attention was not a bird but a handsome Red-bellied Black Snake swimming across the river showing us only passing interest as it headed to where we had left. A Peregrine Falcon was identified and later Wedge-tailed Eagle and White-bellied Sea-Eagle were seen.

We could move about the boat to get views of the passing shoreline and were sheltered under the roof. Dale steered into likely areas without getting us stuck and gave us plenty of time to observe and enjoy the birds such as the Nankeen Night-Heron. Being in the boat was an ideal spot to observe the Azure Kingfisher sitting on an overhanging branch quite unconcerned about being the centre of attention of a boatload of humans.



Azure Kingfisher

Image: Rob Mansfield

At the other shore were seven Black Swans and in a small backwater a Great Egret with two Chestnut Teal. Further up the river we went under Johnson Bridge as there was a possibility a Black Bittern may be sighted, but not today.

Compensation was afternoon tea with choice of beverage and special biscuits. Dale suggested a stop at his property to check out any birds and Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Australian King-Parrot and Buff-rumped Thornbill were among those seen. There was also time for a comfort stop for any birdwatchers who needed it. Now we headed back to Gipsy Point, spotting another Nankeen Night-Heron just by the landing and Barbara waiting. We had been four hours on the boat with every effort made to show us the birdlife on, above and beside the river.

Thank you Dale for a wonderful day, with 57 species recorded by Leo, and thanks to Pam Handyside for organising the trip. As for the Black Bittern we will just have to come again.

Bemboka **14 September 2024** **Lizzie Simkus**

The amenities at the football ground, Colombo Park, have been revamped and we now have new picnic tables and shelters as well as a new toilet block. The sports change rooms have been painted and a few welcoming touches have been added such as a mirror, chair and shower curtains for the many campers

who stay overnight. We used to see evidence of a White-throated Treecreeper roosting in the old toilets, clinging to the Besser block wall, but there is no access for birds or other wildlife in the new facilities.

After introductions, 14 participants walked alongside the river to the scoreboard, recording 21 species including a White-throated Gerygone, Brown-headed Honeyeater, Yellow Thornbill and a Red-browed Finch.



Red-browed Finch Image: Luying Dong

On the way to our destination, The Knob on Alcock-Collins Lane, we saw a Little Black Cormorant, White-necked Heron and a Black-shouldered Kite. After a morning tea break, we followed a track into the bush where the highlights were a Rose Robin, heard in the distance, Brown Gerygones and Olive-backed Orioles. While having lunch we were entertained by Buff-rumped Thornbills and Superb Fairy-wrens foraging on the lawn adding 29 species for the site with a total of 51 for the outing.

After a warm, sunny morning the clouds rolled in and the birdwatchers departed. Later that afternoon the temperature plummeted and we had sleet and hail so were particularly lucky to have fine weather for the outing.

Many thanks to Julie and Euey for allowing access to their land and clearing a track and for contacting the other residents on the property for their permission.

Blackfellows Lake, Kalaru

Sunday 22 September 2024

Damian Roche

Barbara, our leader, turned up to a locked gate this morning but not one to panic, she made a quick call to the caretaker and it was revealed that someone had closed it but, after all, it was not locked.

A beautiful bright and sunny morning with the forecast for 23° and no wind. As is usually the case, there were quite a few birds seen and heard while waiting at the cars for everyone to arrive. Today we were a small (but fortunate) group of 11 birders.

Heading off down the ridgeline towards the call of the White-throated Gerygone, the pair of resident Whistling Kites were spotted off to the right hanging around their nest. Walking on further, plenty of birds calling and a White-bellied Sea-Eagle making a racket down at the lake. A fruitful tree here with a couple of Grey Fantails, a female Rufous Whistler and a lonesome Varied Sittella. A little further on, we turned back and managed to spot one of the Gerygones that we had been hearing - a beautiful shade of yellow!

As we retraced our steps back to the cars we made the most unwanted sighting of a pair of Common Mynas. Thirty-five species at this point as we headed off past the house and the beautiful big dam with plenty of Wood Ducks. We stopped in a lovely shady area for morning tea. Joining us was a sweet little male Spotted Pardalote flitting around down low offering some great photo opportunities.

After a bite, we drove further on to the top of the hill above the river and were treated to a flock of 50 Great Cormorants and many Pelicans, as well as a Grey Goshawk flying by. Then down another ridgeline to the spot where there once was a house; the remnant pine trees are all dead from the Tathra fire. Quite a few bush birds along here with Brown Thornbills, White-browed Scrubwrens and Superb Fairy-wrens.

Another drive, this time down to the river, we parked and walked out to the junction of the river and lake and saw a Spotted Pardalote close here, collecting material for its nest. Further up the river to a shady spot with the distinctively peaceful sound of the wind in the River Oaks broken by the noisy protestations from some Masked Lapwings. We enjoyed a welcome break from the hot sun and a chance to have some lunch while Olivia tested our knowledge of Australiana, impressively able to remember almost an entire quiz from an event she had recently attended.



White-bellied Sea-Eagle making a racket and Cormorant

Image: Rob Mansfield

Lunch eaten, and getting a little cool now, we walked on up the river and down to the water with the sound of many Silvereyes flying over. Having a last look up and down the river we spotted a group of Grey Teal (with one Chestnut), a Darter and yes, a Great Egret. Thinking that was the list for the day, George then alerts us to a male Mistletoebird, in mistletoe on a River Oak. What a lovely sight to finish another fantastic day of birding with 56 species in total recorded.

Thank you, Barbara and the owners of this beautiful property, such a great place to spend the morning together doing what we all enjoy so much.

FSCB GOOGLE GROUP and FACEBOOK

Go to the welcome page at <http://groups.google.com/group/fscb?hl=en> and follow the instructions. If you have trouble contact David on dpadams@gmail.com or Barbara. In the set-up process you will be asked to give your email address and a password which will be yours just for the chat line (not your personal email password).

You won't be inundated with email. Maybe one or two a day, then nothing for a week/weeks, but the more people use the service the more useful it will become. Try it and see.

Have you seen our FACEBOOK page? Please like the page and share the link with your friends! Or you can view without signing up, by going to <https://www.facebook.com/Farsouthcoastbirdwatchers>.



Mural at Goulburn Base Hospital

Eden Whale Festival



Pam Handyside has booked a site for Far South Coast Birdwatchers on Saturday 19 October 2024 and we will be sharing with Eden Landcare and South Coast Shorebird Recovery Program. The Little Penguins of Eden have booked their own site and will also be utilising the NPWS Discovery trailer for some of their publicity. Hopefully all these groups can be located together so volunteers can share between sites.

Some of you have already committed to other groups but if there is anyone with a bit of spare time to help out, all contributions will be gratefully received. Start time for set-up is 8.00am and finishes about 5.00pm.

If you can spare some time to man the FSCB table at this event could you contact Pam by email at pamhandyside@bigpond.com or on her mobile 0457 003 417.

FSCB DIRECTORY 2024 All mail to PO Box 180 Pambula NSW 2549. Email: fscbirds@fscb.org.au
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A SELECTION of SIGHTINGS from August 2024/September 2024

Please report your sightings, especially threatened species

Threatened Species

This group are listed under the EPBC Act (Commonwealth) and the NSW Biodiversity Act

10/08/2024	Aust Pied O'tercatcher	2	Mogareeka	FSCB outing	
10/08/2024	Aust Pied O'tercatcher	4	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	
25/08/2024	Aust Pied O'tercatcher	4	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
5/08/2024	Beach Stone-curlew	1	Merimbula	J Weckert	photo, Spencer Park
21/08/2024	Beach Stone-curlew	1	Nelsons Lagoon	L Berzins	
5/09/2024	Beach Stone-curlew	1	Mogareeka	G Holden	
4/08/2024	Diamond Firetail	2	Burragate	S Romane	
TBC	Eastern Osprey	3	Merimbula	M Sutcliffe	circling in flight no photo
1/08/2024	Eastern Osprey	1	Merimbula	S Romane	Berrambool Oval on ground
29/09/2024	Eastern Osprey	2	Merimbula	B Jones	Berrambool Oval nest swap
15/08/2024	Far Eastern Curlew	1	Wallaga Lake	O Williams	Akolele Bridge
25/08/2024	Gang-gang Cockatoo	5	Bega, Reedy Swamp	T Williams	3 +2, still coming each day
20/09/2024	Gang-gang Cockatoo	2	Sth Pambula	Kingston/Reed	Summerhill Rd, Flying over
1/10/2024	Gang-gang Cockatoo	2	Mogilla	J Plumm	
11/08/2024	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	3	Nullica	T Clarke	Silvertop Crescent
10/08/2024	Hooded Plover	2	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	X8 band
18/08/2024	Hooded Plover	1	Aslings Beach	P Handyside	juvenile, Lake Curalo end
18/08/2024	Hooded Plover	1	Nullica Beach	P Handyside	
22/08/2024	Hooded Plover	7	Wallagoot Beach	L Berzins	
25/08/2024	Hooded Plover	1	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
1/09/2024	Hooded Plover		Nullica Estuary	P Handyside	on nest
28/09/2024	Hooded Plover	2 y	Nullica Estuary	P Handyside	still sitting
28/09/2024	Hooded Plover	2	Tura Beach	L Allen	eggs, usual spot
4/09/2024	Latham's Snipe	12	Panboola	S Rampling	inner racecourse
25/08/2024	Little Eagle	2	Bega	T Williams	Reedy Swamp Rd
10/09/2024	Little Penguin	2	Eden Wheel Cove	Berzins/Lloyd	sheltering but NOT in nest box!
15/09/2024	Little Penguin	1	Eden	G Metcalfe	under wharf
31/08/2024	Swift Parrot	8	Merimbula	R Bilney	end Bodalla Place, landed in E.longifolia briefly
24/09/2024	Swift Parrot	2	Merimbula	R Bilney	Benandra Place, landed in Swamp Magohany
25/09/2024	Swift Parrot		Merimbula	R Bilney	calls, Benandra Place
22/09/2024	Varied Sittella	2	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
10/08/2024	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	1	Mogareeka	FSCB outing	Lions Park
10/08/2024	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	1	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	
22/09/2024	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	1	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake

Other Species

9/09/2024	Black-fronted Dotterel	2	Pambula	S Romane	pair, Racecourse
13/08/2024	Black-shouldered Kite	1	Bega	S Romane	Newtown Road
27/08/2024	Brown Cuckoo-Dove	1	Nethercote	B Jones	first time for ages
13/08/2024	Brown Falcon	1	Bega	S Romane	Boundary Rd
25/08/2024	Brown Gerygone	2	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
14/09/2024	Brown Gerygone	1	Bemboka	FSCB outing	"The Knob"
3/09/2024	Brown Quail	10+	Panboola	Sa Romane	
14/09/2024	Brown-headed H'eater	2	Bemboka	FSCB outing	Rec Ground

10/08/2024	Buff-banded Rail	1	Mogareeka	FSCB outing	north of bridge
25/08/2024	Buff-banded Rail	1	Bega	T Williams	Reedy Swamp Rd
14/09/2024	Buff-rumped Thornbill	2	Bemboka	FSCB outing	"The Knob"
10/08/2024	Caspian Tern	2	Mogareeka	FSCB outing	north of bridge
17/09/2024	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1+	Pambula	M Richmond	3 occasions
25/09/2024	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1+	Wallaga Lake	J Georgeson	in the rain
29/09/2024	Channel-billed Cuckoo	few	Kalaru	S Sass	around for weekend
30/09/2024	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Sth Bermagui	D Adams	
30/09/2024	Channel-billed Cuckoo	2	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
1/10/2024	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Mirador	P Roberts	heading south
10/08/2024	Common Bronzewing	1	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	
22/09/2024	Common Bronzewing	1	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
22/09/2024	Common Myna	2	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
25/08/2024	Crescent Honeyeater	3	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
25/08/2024	Crescent Honeyeater	1	Scotts Bay	FSCB outing	Bournda NP
15/08/2024	Double-banded Plover	9	Merimbula Beach	P Handyside	Fishpen spit
18/08/2024	Double-banded Plover	1	Lake Curalo inlet	P Handyside	
21/08/2024	Double-banded Plover	9	Bithry Inlet	L Berzins	
1/09/2024	Double-banded Plover	1	Nullica Estuary	P Handyside	
13/08/2024	Double-barred Finch	6	Bega Saleyards	S Romane	
26/09/2024	Dusky Woodswallow	10	Nethercote	B Jones	
29/09/2024	Eastern Koel	1	Nethercote	B Jones	first for this season
10/08/2024	Eastern Reef Egret	1	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	
25/08/2024	Eurasian Coot	20	Scotts Bay	FSCB outing	Bournda NP
16/08/2024	European Goldfinch	4	Candelo	S Romane	Swimming Pool
8/08/2024	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	1	Sth Pambula	H Kingston	Summer Hill
25/08/2024	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	1	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
14/09/2024	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	1	Bemboka	FSCB outing	"The Knob"
10/08/2024	Great Egret	1	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	
22/09/2024	Great Egret	1	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
10/08/2024	Greater Crested Tern	80	Mogareeka	FSCB outing	north of bridge
27/08/2024	Grey Goshawk	1	Sth Pambula	H Kingston	Summer Hill
22/09/2024	Grey Goshawk	1	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
14/08/2024	Hardhead	4	Kameruka Estate	FSCB outing	
14/08/2024	Hoary-headed Grebe	10	Kameruka Estate	FSCB outing	
25/08/2024	Horsfield's Bronze-C'koo	1	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
21/08/2024	Hutton's Shearwater	1	6 NM off Eden	per B Virtue	
30/09/2024	Jacky Winter	8	Nethercote	B Jones	
30/09/2024	Laughing Kookaburra	1	Glebe Park	H Kingston	leaving nest box
1/10/2024	Laughing Kookaburra	2	Mogilla	J Plumm	in nesting box
2/10/2024	Leaden Flycatcher	1	Nethercote	B Jones	
3/09/2024	Lesser Sand-Plover	1	Mogareeka	L Berzin	usually don't stay
25/08/2024	Lewin's Rail	1	Bega, Reedy Swamp	T Williams	2 or 3 weeks
22/09/2024	Mistletoebird	2	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
24/09/2024	Mistletoebird	1m	Tura Flora Reserve	S Romane	
17/08/2024	Musk Duck	1	Bird Route No 1	D Merrick	Wallagoot Lane
25/08/2024	Musk Duck	2	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
25/09/2024	Musk Duck	1	Towridgee Dam	R Heffernan	
10/08/2024	Nankeen Night-Heron	6	Mogareeka	FSCB outing	north of bridge
14/08/2024	Noisy Miner	12	Kameruka Estate	FSCB outing	
17/08/2024	Pacific Black/Grey Teal	200	Bird Route No 1	D Merrick	Wallagoot Lane
25/09/2024	Pallid Cuckoo	1	Sandy Creek	R Heffernan	Niagara Lane
4/09/2024	Peregrine Falcon	1	Panboola	S Rampling	per Michelle
17/08/2024	Pied Stilt	7	Bird Route No 1	D Merrick	Wallagoot Lane

30/09/2024	Pink-eared Duck	5	Glebe lagoon	H Kingston	pair+3 young
10/08/2024	Red-capped Plover	4	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	
15/08/2024	Red-capped Plover	19	Merimbula Beach	P Handyside	Fishpen spit
18/08/2024	Red-capped Plover	4	Lake Curalo inlet	P Handyside	
25/08/2024	Red-capped Plover	1	Hobart Beach	FSCB outing	Bondi Lake
4/08/2024	Restless Flycatcher	2	Burragate	S Romane	
27/08/2024	Restless Flycatcher	1	Nethercote	B Jones	first return, in cedar tree calling
14/09/2024	Rose Robin	1	Bemboka	FSCB outing	"The Knob"
18/09/2024	Rose Robin	1	Nethercote	B Jones	daily
1/10/2024	Rose Robin	1	Mogilla	J Plumm	
22/09/2024	Rufous Whistler	1	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
1/10/2024	Sacred Kingfisher	1	Mogilla	J Plumm	
14/09/2024	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	1	Bemboka	FSCB outing	"The Knob"
2/10/2024	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo	1	Nethercote	B Jones	
29/09/2024	Southern Boobook	1	Yurammie	R Heffernan	
1/10/2024	Southern Boobook	1	Mogilla	J Plumm	
17/09/2024	Southern Emu-wren	pair	Panboola	S Romane	
23/08/2024	Striated Heron	1	Wapengo	S Romane	
14/08/2024	Striated Pardalote	8	Kameruka Estate	FSCB outing	
14/08/2024	Striated Thornbill	6	Kameruka Estate	FSCB outing	
17/09/2024	Tawny Frogmouth	1	Tura Beach	S Romane	calling 8:00 pm
22/09/2024	Tree Martin	1	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
10/08/2024	Wedge-tailed Eagle	1	Wajurda Point	FSCB outing	
22/09/2024	Whistling Kite	2	Kalaru	FSCB outing	active nest
10/08/2024	White-eared H'eater	1	Wajurda Point	FSCB outing	
14/08/2024	White-eared H'eater	1	Frogs Hollow	S Middleton	1st here, Moorlands Ln
27/08/2024	White-fronted Chat	2	Panboola	S Romane	Racecourse
10/08/2024	White-naped H'eater	3	Nelson Lagoon	FSCB outing	
14/09/2024	Wh'-throated Gerygone	1	Bemboka	FSCB outing	Rec Ground
22/09/2024	Wh'-throated Gerygone	2	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
14/08/2024	White-winged Chough	6	Kameruka Estate	FSCB outing	nest building
14/08/2024	Yellow Thornbill	1	Kameruka Estate	FSCB outing	
14/09/2024	Yellow Thornbill	1	Bemboka	FSCB outing	Rec Ground
22/09/2024	Yellow Thornbill	1	Kalaru	FSCB outing	Blackfellows Lake
12/08/2024	Yellow-tailed BI-C'katoos	21	Tura Beach	W Phillips	Country Club

Please email sightings to Barbara Jones jonesbarbara@bigpond.com

Editor's note

I hope you have enjoyed this latest edition of the newsletter. I look forward to receiving more terrific local stories and photos for future editions so don't forget if you have any story suggestions, or better still if you can write the story, send them in.

Similarly, if you see something of interest, take a photo and submit it with some details for inclusion. Remember your smartphone can take a great photo suitable for the newsletter.

Contributions for the next newsletter need to be in by the 29th November, send trip reports and articles to Sue on seromane@hotmail.com and send photos to me on president@fscb.org.au and please send sightings to Barbara on jonesbarbara@bigpond.com

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday 9 October, 2024 PANBOOLA SURVEY

Meet Leo (6495 2189) at 8:00 am at the Panboola Centre, Watsons Waterhole, next to the Idlewilde Motel, Bullara St, Pambula for the spring survey. Still wet in parts, sturdy shoes, hat, snack and insect repellent advised.

Thursday 10 October, 2024 EVENING MEETING

Meet in the Uniting Church Hall, Henwood St, Merimbula for a 7:30 pm start. Guest Speaker will be David McCreery (Macca), Team Leader Conservation, NPWS, who will talk about the history of ecological monitoring in Nadgee Nature Reserve and the recovery of the reserve after the bushfires. Did the threatened species, including Ground Parrot and Eastern Bristlebird, survive and are they recovering?

Saturday 12 October, 2024 NUMBUGGA CIRCUIT

Meet Hayden (0417 227 467) at 9:00 am on the corner of Snowy Mountains Highway and Wents Road. From Bega go north on the Princes Highway and take the Cooma turn off, drive 15 km west to reach Wents Road on your right. If coming from Bemboka it is 5 km east of Morans Crossing on your left. We will visit sites along Numbugga Creek and return to Bega via Walls Flat Road. Always a super bird list from this morning. Bring a chair.

Saturday 19 October, 2024 EDEN WHALE FESTIVAL

Can you spare some time to man the FSCB table at this event. See [separate notice](#) or phone Pam (0457 003 417).

All week 14 – 20 October, 2024 AUSSIE BIRD COUNT AND BIRD WEEK

Thursday 24 October, 2024 BIRD OLYMPICS AT POTOROO PALACE

Conducted by Bournda Environmental Education Centre this annual event is supported by FSCB for primary schools from within the Bega Valley. Once again we will supply 'Looking at Birds' as prizes and assist with judging the bird calls.

Sunday 27 October, 2024 EDEN LAKE CURALO

Meet Pam (0457 003 417) at 9:00 am at the rest area car park near the Scout Hall on the Princes Highway opposite Eden Gateway Holiday Park, Eden. Lake Curalo boardwalk and walking track on north side of lake was to be the main attraction, however the tracks are still flooded by high water levels in the lake, which might prove difficult, so walking on the south side we will take a detour through Reflections Holiday Park and skirt the lake. Bring a snack, lunch and chair for lunch at a nearby venue.

Saturday 9 November, 2024 TURA FLORA RESERVE AND MUNDOOI WALK TO BACK LAKE

Meet Sue (6495 9080) at the Tura Flora Reserve at 8:45 am, parking opposite 23 High Crescent, crisscrossing the reserve's tracks for around 40 minutes. Reconvene at the Tura Beach car park for morning tea. Then we head out along the Mundooi track and head towards Back Lake. Note track is uneven with many tree roots. Then back to the picnic area at the car park for lunch (BBQ area) and a look at the golf ponds.

Monday 18 November, 2024 COMMITTEE MEETING (Final for 2024)

9:30 am in Panboola Centre, Watsons Waterhole, next to the Idlewilde Motel, Bullara St, Pambula.

Sunday 24 November, 2024 BERMAGUI

Meet Leo (6495 2189) at 9:00 am at the northern end of the Bermagui to Narooma Rd just before the Akolele Bridge, (undergoing repairs). Having checked the small sand spits we will move south a few kms to access Wallaga Lake and walk to Morunna Point to hopefully find a nice variety of migratory waders at the lake mouth. The remainder of the day will depend on what we find here.

Thursday 12 December, 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND MEMBERS PRESENTATIONS

Following the AGM is the time to socialise. Enjoy a screen presentation from your fellow members. Members are asked to bring a small plate of festive food for the supper table.

Saturday 14 December, 2024 TRADITIONAL LAST DAY AT BROGO DAM

Meet Barbara (0487 840 740) at 9:15 am at the Brogo Fire Shed, about 1 km along Warrigal Range Rd. (About 20 km north of Bega turn left on to Warrigal Range Rd, the Brogo Dam Road.) Car pool at Fire Shed if desired, otherwise we'll go to the top car park on the left beyond the manager's cottage at the Dam. Bring all you need for a good day of birds and friendship.

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