



A [Tropical Birding](#) CUSTOM tour

AUSTRALIA MEGA TOUR

September 30 – October 28, 2015

TOUR LEADER: SCOTT WATSON

Trip Report and photos by Scott Watson



One of the highlights of the tour was finding this male Golden Bowerbird in north Queensland.

Introduction

This amazing 28 day custom Australia tour was essentially our Top End tour combined with our Eastern Australia tour plus a pelagic. In essence it covers a huge amount of ground in a relatively short amount of time, targeting as many Australian endemic birds and mammals as possible, in the most diverse regions of the Island. In the end we saw a staggering **485 species of birds** (not including 16 regional potential splits) and **48 species of mammals**. This is a pretty incredible number in just 28 days, considering about 730 species of birds call Australia home, and on this tour we never visited the west, or the centre. Australia, sometimes dubbed “The Island Continent”, can thank its unique wildlife to its isolation. With evolutionary processes allowed to run free, Australia is home to bird families found nowhere else on the planet. Emu, Plains-wanderer, Lyrebirds, Australian Mudnesters, Bristlebirds, and Pardalotes are families only found within Australia, and all found on this tour. Add Australia’s massive size and diverse array of habitats to this isolation, and you can a very species rich area.

This trip was full on and fast paced, trying to get to get to as many habitats as possible. We got to rainforest, Eucalypt woodland, Mallee scrub, coastal heath, freshwater and coastal marshes, Tussock grassland, mangroves, offshore islets, monsoon forest, rocky outcrops, open ocean trenches, and everything in between. We saw 33 species of Cockatoos and Parrots, both Pittas, both Lyrebirds, all possible Bowerbirds, Fairy-wrens, and Pardalotes, and a staggering (and personal best) 60 species of Honeyeaters! Add to this; 16 species of Kangaroos and Wallabies, both Monotremes (Platypus and Echidna), and weird mammals such as Long-tailed Pygmy-Possum, Feathertail Glider, and Lumholtz’s Tree Kangaroo. Seeing all the wildlife was great, but we also saw some of the best scenery the country has to offer, spent an afternoon snorkeling the Great Barrier Reef, explored ancient aboriginal rock art, stayed at nice accommodation, ate great local foods, and met some interesting Aussies. You really can’t get a more action packed month exploring this incredible country.



A Brown Noddy takes a rest on Michaelmas Cay in the Great Barrier Reef.

Itinerary

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| September 30 | Darwin arrival to Knuckey’s Lagoon and Buffalo Creek |
| October 1 | East Point Rec. Area to Adelaide River to Pine Creek to Katherine |
| October 2 | Central Arnhem Highway to Victoria River and Joe Creek Road |
| October 3 | Buchanon Highway to Bullita Road to Timber Creek back to Victoria River |

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| October 4 | Vic. River Escarpment to Copperfield Dam and Pine Creek Sewage Lagoon |
| October 5 | Umbrawarra Gorge to Cooina and Nourlangie Rock |
| October 6 | Lake Jabiru, Marambiji Road and Yellow Waters Cruise |
| October 7 | Mamukala Wetland to Adelaide River Crossing to Darwin. Flight to Cairns |
| October 8 | Cairns Mangroves, Botanical Gardens and Centenary Lake, and Esplanade |
| October 9 | Michalemas Cay and snorkling Hastings Reef, drive to Kuranda |
| October 10 | Cassowary House to Davies Creek to Abbatoir Swamp to Daintree Village |
| October 11 | Daintree River Cruise to Daintree National Park to Mt. Hypipamee |
| October 12 | Mt. Lewis to Abbatoir Swamp and Granite Gorge to Mareeba |
| October 13 | Mt. Hypipamee NP to Hasties Swamp to Curtain Fig, and Emerald Falls |
| October 14 | Mt. Lewis to Wonga Beach to Cairns Esplanade |
| October 15 | Flight to Brisbane. Nudgee Beach to Sugars Road to O'Reilly's Retreat |
| October 16 | Birding O'Reilly's and Duck Creek Road |
| October 17 | O'Reilly's to Brisbane. Fly to Sydney, drive to Lithgow |
| October 18 | Capertee Valley, Lake Wallace to Forbes and Gum Swamp |
| October 19 | Back Yamma Forest to Lake Cargelligo and Nombinnie Wheat Fields |
| October 20 | Nombinnie and Round Hill Nature Reserves to Hay and Plains-wanderer |
| October 21 | Hay to Griffith via Fivebough Swamp and Binya State Forest |
| October 22 | Griffith to Robertson via barren Grounds National Park |
| October 23 | Barren Grounds to Royal National Park |
| October 24 | Kiama Pelagic to Sutherland |
| October 25 | Royal National Park to Sydney. Flight to Hobart. |
| October 26 | Peter Murrell NR to Mount Wellington, Marion Bay, and Eaglehawk Neck |
| October 27 | Bruny Island |

Daily Account

September 30th, 2015

We all met early this afternoon at the arrivals hall of the Darwin airport, but before we could do proper introductions we took off birding, because you can introduce yourself anytime! Our first stop was at a shallow pool near the airport called Knuckey's Lagoon. This is a very dry time of year here in the top end, so fresh water is a real magnet for thousands of birds of multiple species. The abundant MAGPIE GOOSE was here by the thousands along with plenty of WANDERING WHISTLING-DUCKS, a few RADJAH SHELDUCKS, and the common PACIFIC BLACK DUCK. Any fish left in this shrinking pool were quickly snatched up by the numerous GREAT, and INTERMEDIATE EGRETS, PIED HERONS, and a single PACIFIC HERON. The extended muddy banks gave good feeding grounds for a few sharp looking RED-KNEED DOTTERELS, numerous MASKED LAPWINGS, and MARSH and WOOD SANDPIPERS. In the bordering grassy fields were at least 12 sleek AUSTRALIAN PRATINCOLES. All of this bird life around a small pond no bigger than a basketball court. In the nearby flowering trees were WHITE-GAPED and RUFOUS-BANDED HONEYEATERS, SILVER-CROWNED FRIARBIRDS, AUSTRALIAN FIGBIRDS, GREEN ORIOLES, a friendly PAPERBARK FLYCATCHER, and a pair of BUSH THICK-KNEES on the ground in the shade, trying to stay out of the searing heat of the northern Australia afternoon. From here we switched to a larger pond close by, with more open water and marshy edges. This extra water brought us our first large water birds including; BLACK-NECKED STORK, AUSTRALIAN PELICANS, a few BROLGA. The tall grassy edges also held small flocks of our target CRIMSON FINCH, with the males being the furthest thing from camouflage.



The beautiful and common Rainbow (Red-collared) Lorikeet

Next we headed to the coast on the north side of Darwin on the shores of the Beagle Gulf. This diverse area is very habitat rich, with lush mangroves, thick monsoon forest, ocean shore, and is the delta of Buffalo Creek by which this park is named. The main reason for being here was to bird the monsoon forest in hopes of maybe seeing a Rainbow Pitta on our first afternoon. As I drove the van up to the parking area I heard one, amazingly right on the edge of the forest. We parked and quickly raced over and within literally 2 minutes we were all looking at the technicolored RAINBOW PITTA perched up on a branch at eye level. We even managed to all get great scope views, which is not something you can do often when talking about Pittas! With this bird in the bag we could leisurely explore more forest and mangroves. Walking the forest and mangrove edge produced; FOREST KINGFISHER, the northern race (Red-collared) RAINBOW LORIKEET, GREEN-BACKED GERYGONE, VARIED TRILLER, GRAY WHISTLER, and AUSTRALIAN YELLOW WHITE-EYE. We also searched along the coast where BLACK, WHISTLING, and BRAHMINY KITES circled overhead while plenty of migrant shorebirds foraged along the waterline. By late September most wintering shorebirds have already arrived from their breeding grounds in northern Asia. The best species we saw here this afternoon were 2 TEREK SANDPIPERS, but also a few FAR EASTERN CURLEW, BLACK-TAILED GODWIT, SANDERLING, and GREATER SAND-PLOVER. But with the sun setting it was time no to go back to Darwin to enjoy a great dinner and finally get to introduce ourselves after an extremely successful full afternoon!



The technicolored Rainbow Pitta (left) and a soaring Brahminy Kite from Buffalo Creek.

October 1, 2015

An early start this morning had us in East Point Recreation Area before sunrise. This is another good patch of monsoon forest right at the edge of the city itself. The plan here was to do some night birding, and it didn't take us long to find our target LARGE-TAILED NIGHTJAR, only a heard SOUTHERN BOOBOOK, and the Northern subspecies of COMMON BRUSHTAIL POSSUM. Walking the forest edge here was also successful. We found many of the hyperactive ORANGE-FOOTED SCRUBFOWLS scratching through the leaf litter, but best of all was a pair of strikingly beautiful ROSE-CROWNED FRUIT-DOVE. After seeing another RAINBOW PITTA, and many AGILE WALLABIES, we moved to a nearby mangrove boardwalk area in the same park. This boardwalk going directly into the lush mangrove, and when the tide is high it is completely under water. On arrival our first new birds included a LITTLE BRONZE-CUCKOO, a very loud TORRESIAN KINGFISHER (our only one of the tour), the range restricted RED-HEADED MYZOMELA, LARGE-BILLED GERYGONE, the flashy ARAFURA FANTAIL, both a male and much different female SHINING FLYCATCHER, and a very friendly LEMON-BELLIED FLYCATCHER.

With a successful morning in the bag we began to head south by 10am, away from the humid coast and into the hot dry interior. We stopped for lunch at the small village of Adelaide River, accompanied by the common PEACEFUL and BAR-SHOULDERED DOVES, many RED-TAILED BLACK COCKATOOS, RED-WINGED PARROTS, RAINBOW LORIKEETS, and hundreds of VARIED LORIKEETS in the flowering trees in town. At the café itself we were visited by curious GREAT BOWERBIRDS and striking BLUE-FACED HONEYEATERS. After a delicious lunch of Barramundi Burgers (a local freshwater fish) we continued south through the dry country to another small town called Pine Creek. This town is famous among Australian birders as the best place in the world to see the extremely range restricted HOODED PARROT, and I knew just the place to find one, even in this midday heat. At the town football pitch there are sprinklers where these Parrots hang out to get water. They are either there, or not there, and today a nice male and female were sitting in the tree without us even having to step foot outside of the van. This water also attracted another great parrot, the NORTHERN ROSELLA and a small flock of COCKATEIL, yes wild ones! A fast stop at the Pine Creek sewage works turned up a nice DIAMOND DOVE and we checked out the cemetery where strangely enough there are some of the biggest termite mounds in all of Australia, up to 25 feet!

Moving further south we checked some small pools along the Edith Falls entrance road for flocks of finches, but it was very quiet. We did however flush up a RUFIOUS NIGHT-HERON, and found a COLLARED SPARROWHAWK, as well as a small party of WEEBILLS, the smallest bird in Australia. With the sun fading we still had to make it to the city of Katherine. We arrived at our hotel just before dark with enough time for a sundowner before dinner.



The huge Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo and the tiny Diamond Dove from Pine Creek.

October 2, 2015

Leaving Katherine this morning we headed southeast and onto the Central Arnhem Highway in a tropical savannah habitat. Our first target came shortly after breakfast in the field, the “Golden-backed” race of BLACK-CHINNED HONEYEATER a potential split which looks and sounds different than its nominate counterpart. Among the 2 Black-chinned were a pair of angry YELLOW-TINTED HONEYEATERS as well, and foraging on the ground was a flock of LONG-TAILED FINCHES with one MASKED FINCH mixed in. Nearby the distinctive song of a Treecreeper rang out and we put the chase on eventually catching up to another target of the morning, a pair of BLACK-TAILED TREECREEPERS. Another interesting find here was the inland specialist RED-BACKED KINGFISHER, which rarely associates with water, and also a BLACK-FACED WOODSWALLOW. Soon a BROWN FALCON flew in and the birds went quiet, but with the day heating up, and our targets acquired, we headed back to Katherine. On the way back however a hulking AUSTRALIAN BUSTARD crossed the road in front of us, but then quickly disappeared, and we also had a nice run in with a BLUE-WINGED KOOKABURRA. Now back in Katherine, we had a short break and then some lunch. After lunch we had a couple hours of driving to do as we headed southwest away from Katherine towards the escarpments of the Victoria River, and what better time to do this than during the searing heat of midday.

After checking in to the Victoria River Roadhouse we waited to things to cool down a bit before going out again. Our first stop was at the Victoria River boat launch where we found a pair of gorgeous PURPLE-CROWNED FAIRYWRENS. The male of this species has a shimmering plum-purple crown, and is one of the most sought after birds in the Top End. Next we went to an area called the Old Vic River crossing. Here one participant saw a large flock of finches flying down the slope, so again we put on the chase and eventually caught up to another prize target species, about 150 STAR FINCHES! A BROWN GOSHAWK soared in the ravine, a flock of noisy LITTLE CORELLAS foraged overhead, and a WHITE-WINGED TRILLER said goodbye to us as we had one more spot to check. Joe Creek Road was up next and it turned out to be pretty quiet except for a couple of AGILE WALLABIES. The sun was now setting and the escarpment surrounding us was turning a beautiful red, but a cold beer was also calling, so we listened to the latter. After dinner we went Owling near the roadhouse, only to hear a BARKING OWL, although the incredible night sky here in the outback seemed like a much better sighting and we all enjoyed a little stargazing.



Some great Top End targets seen today, clockwise from top left; Black-tailed Treecreeper, Blue-winged Kookaburra, Star Finches, and a male Purple-crowned Fairywren.

October 3, 2015

Needless to say, but we were up well before sunrise, like every morning, armed with our packed breakfast so we could be at our birding spot as early as possible. This is common practise while birding anywhere in the world, but even more important here because it can get to 38 Celsius by 9 or 10am, so it pays to get things done early. Today we were eating our breakfast while the sun rose on the corner of the Buchanan Road, to the west of Victoria River. We saw many AGILE WALLABIES and a couple ANTILOPINE WALLAROOS during the morning drive, and here we were joined here by SINGING and the nomadic BANDED HONEYEATER. These were great birds, but the pressure was on for Gouldian Finch, and we needed to move on, well at least the pressure for the guide was on. We searched various depressions and pools and river washes along this road until eventually a participant spotted a small flock of finches in a tree well off the road. I quickly stopped and realized they were GOULDIAN FINCHES!! We hopped out and got great scope views of one of the most colorful birds in the world. Eventually we could sneak closer and closer for even better views. Unfortunately they were backlit which didn't help the photography, but we were all very pleased to find this rare and endangered species, and the prime target for this leg of the tour.



A great morning for Finches; Gouldian Finches (left) and Masked Finch near Katherine.

With the Gouldians in the bag, and the pressure off, we birded the road a little more thoroughly, picking up RED-BACKED FAIRYWREN, LITTLE WOODSWALLOW, and AUSTRALASIAN BUSHLARK. Next we continued west down the main highway until we came to an unnamed creek with standing water. I parked next to the water and we waiting, using the van as a blind, and this worked out incredibly well. During our 45 minutes here we saw; 4 GOULDIAN FINCHES, LONG-TAILED, MASKED, DOUBLE-BARRED, and CRIMSON FINCH, YELLOW-TINTED and RUFOUS-THROATED HONEYEATER, CRESTED PIGEON, GALAH, LITTLE CORELLAS, COCKATEILS, and even a flock of BUDGERIGARS flew past. Again finding fresh water during the dry season can always be rewarding. It was time to move on though as the day began to heat up. Our next stop was at a nearby patch on Bullita Road in search for the elusive, and often tricky to find, RED-BROWED PARDALOTE. This time was different however because within 30 seconds of stopping the van one was singing some 75 yards off the road. We walked towards the tree, looked up, and there it was, red brow and all.



Great birds at Timber Creek this morning; Red-browed Pardalote (left), and a Buff-sided Robin.

With the days heat now scorching we left just as fast as we came, and off we were even further west to Timber Creek. Our trips to the airfield and Policeman's Point were quiet and unproductive given the heat, but our stop at the Timber Creek caravan park is somewhat of an oasis with trees and water which attracts a few birds, namely our target BUFF-SIDED ROBIN which gave great views. After lunch at the only place in town we headed back to Victoria River roadhouse with our targets in the bag. After an hour or so off we headed out again, in the still very hot late afternoon temperatures to Sullivan Campground and its billabong. We added one new bird here, a NORTHERN FANTAIL, before heading back to Vic River boat launch. The open fields beforehand though were alive with small flocks of ZEBRA FINCHES and dozens of RAINBOW BEEATERS.

The nearby Vic River escarpment trailhead was also productive in the last minutes of light. Two PHEASANT COUCALS were a good start, but the large flock of CHESTNUT-BREASTED MUNIAS with a few YELLOW-RUMPED MUNIAS mixed in were an even better finish. Now with everyone well and truly exhausted it was time to head back for dinner.

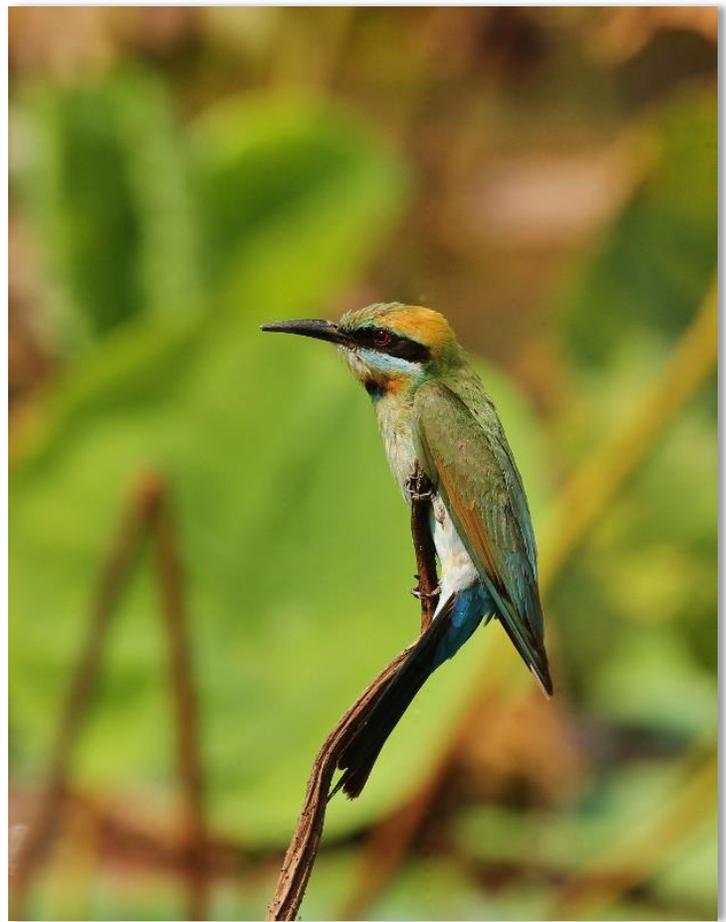


A few Little Corellas coming in to drink as the morning heats up.

October 4, 2015

Our morning exercise was tackling the Vic River Escarpment walk. Although not an extremely strenuous hike, the extreme heat can make it feel that way. So, you guessed it, we started very early again. On the way up we flushed a single SHORT-EARED ROCK WALLABY, but the birding was very slow to say the least. A pair of NORTHERN ROSELLAS flew in at one point, and a few YELLOW-THROATED MINERS were seen as well. Eventually we made it to a nice ridge line with a great area to scan from. Here we saw a few RUFIOUS SHRIKE-THRUSHES but sadly only heard a SANDSTONE SHRIKE-THRUSH. After more time in scan mode we eventually got quick views of the calling WHITE-QUILLED ROCK-PIGEON, a regional specialty of rocky escarpments. The day was warming up and it was time to slowly make our way off the escarpment and begin the drive back northeast to Pine Creek. After lunch in Pine Creek we went to the nearby Copperfield Dam. The open water here held GREEN PYGMY-GOOSE, AUSTRALASIAN and HOARY-HEADED GREBES, an AUSTRALASIAN DARTER, AUSTRALIAN PELICAN, and 2 ROYAL SPOONBILLS. Next we went back to Pine Creek town and in to Miners Park where we picked up our target BAR-BREASTED HONEYEATER. We finished off the day back at the Sewage Lagoons which was actually quite diverse in terms of waterfowl with PINK-EARED DUCK and WHITE-EYED DUCK being new. Also here were both

RED-KNEED and BLACK-FRONTED DOTTERELS, and we fittingly ended the day in Pine Creek with a pair of HOODED PARROTS flying over close as the sun went down.



The elegance of a Cockateil (left) and a nice Rainbow Bee-eater.

October 5, 2015

This morning we slowly drove the road to Umbrawarra Gorge for Partridge Pigeon but with no luck. We stopped at a campground at the end of the road for breakfast and were accompanied by a pair of SILVER-BACKED BUTCHERBIRDS patiently hoping for scraps. This is a target species we have been looking for, so this was a great bonus here. After enjoying the antics of a pair of WILLIE-WAGTAILS around their nest we went to the main gorge trail. This patch of forest following a small creek turned out to be quite birdy this morning. Here we saw our first VARIEGATED FAIRYWRENS, truly stunning birds. Honeyeaters were abundant here with; DUSKY MYZOMELA, BROWN, WHITE-THROATED, and BLUE-FACED HONEYEATERS, LITTLE, and HELMETED FRIARBIRDS. In the mid-story we found a pair of WHITE-THROATED GERYGONE, SPANGLED DRONGOS, and a nice BROAD-BILLED FLYCATCHER.

After the Pine Creek area we moved further northeast and into the world famous Kakadu National Park, the prize park of the Top End. We started by checking into our luxury resort in Coinda with a nice lunch and a dip in the pool during the heat of the day. From here we continued on to the famous Nourlangie Rock where we soaked in some incredible aboriginal rock art, but at least the rock art showed well because the birding was extremely slow, and after much effort our hoped for WHITE-LINED HONEYEATER was a heard only. This may be because of the massive wildfire which was approaching from the north, which got us out of there early, with fire coming right up to the side of the road! Wildfires are common this time of year in the extreme heat and dry conditions.



The range restricted Silver-backed Butcherbird.

October 6, 2015

We went back towards Nourlangie Rock to try again but the yesterday's fire completely closed down the entire entrance road, so plan B took us to Lake Jabiru where we failed to find Partridge Pigeon but did find a delicious bakery. Next we went to Marambiji Road to again slowly drive along in hopes of a PARTRIDGE PIGEON and after some time I finally spotted one hunkered on the side of the road. After we all got views of what we thought were only 3 birds we quietly stepped out of the van and were very surprised to accidentally flushing up at least 15 other Partridge Pigeons hiding in the grass! Luckily a few perched up in the trees for great views of this Top End specialty.



The uncommon Partridge Pigeon (top left), Crimson Finch (top right), and Bar-breasted Honeyeater.

After some time off during the heat of the day at Coinda lodge it was time for our Yellow Waters cruise in the afternoon. This is the most popular excursion for nature lovers visiting Kakadu NP, and rightly so, as the diversity in the river is staggering, especially at this time of year. The first thing we saw was the largest reptile in the world, and we saw many of them, the giant SALTWATER CROCODILE. Waterfowl were numerous, especially both WANDERING and PLUMED WHISTLING-DUCKS. Tiny, blue fish killers were also lurking in the banks, being the striking AZURE KINGFISHER, of which we saw many, and also 2 target LITTLE KINGFISHERS. We also saw nearly every heron species possible here, best being the many RUFOUS NIGHT-HERONS and the pair of GREAT-BILLED HERONS. A pair of regal WHITE-BELLIED SEA-EAGLES call this area home feeding on the plentiful Barramundi. The wildfires have also reaches some of the

open areas bordering the river, which has attracted many BROLGA feeding on anything which didn't escape the flames. On the way back we enjoyed a dramatic sunset to end an amazing day.



**Little Kingfisher (top left), Comb-crested Jacana, and the world's largest Reptile; Saltwater Crocodile.
October 7, 2015**

With Nourlangie Rock still closed due to the fire we continued on to Mamukala Wetlands. This place is teeming with birds, and although we didn't see anything new here the sheer numbers of MAGPIE GEESE, AUSTRALIAN SWAMPHENS, and COMB-CRESTED JACANAS was a spectacle to behold. From here we continued the long drive back towards Darwin, but first we had one more target species to take care of before leaving the Top End. We stopped at a patch of mangroves at the Adelaide River crossing. It took some effort, and some quiet spells, but we eventually found the beautiful, and range restricted, BLACK-TAILED

WHISTLER. With this target in the bag we were safe to head back to the city where the rest of the afternoon was spent flying to Cairns, and to our hotel near the Esplanade.



A Forest Kingfisher with skink prey, and the giant Black-necked Stork.

October 8, 2015

After a late arrival into Cairns last night, this morning we had a relatively relaxed breakfast (as in not at 4am departure) this morning at a café near our hotel. We are now in tropical north Queensland, where new trip birds will come fast and furious. Starting the day of at the nearby mangroves along the Cairns esplanade proved very successful. It took us a mere 3 minutes to find our main target MANGROVE ROBIN at the edge of the thick mangroves, so the remainder of our time here was stress free. AUSTRALIAN SWIFTELETS were buzzing around overhead, as were our first fly-over DOUBLE-EYED FIG PARROTS, zipping past like tiny green nerf balls, and the plentiful TORRESIAN IMPERIAL-PIGEONS. Our next highlight was a pair of noisy VARIED HONEYEATERS at the edge of the mangroves, and at the nearby beach a quick search turned up a small flock of GREAT KNOTS, BAR-TAILED and BLACK-TAILED GODWITS, CURLEW SANDPIPER, and RED-NECKED STINT. One final check of the mangrove edge yielded an immature BLACK BUTCHERBIRD before heading out to new grounds.

Unlike most of this tour, today we stay in just a small area within Cairns, our next stop being the nearby Cairns Botanical Gardens and Centenary lakes. We picked up the usual common waterfowl and herons at the lakes, but birding the surrounding trees held a few nice birds. AUSTRALIAN BRUSH-TURKEYS along with ORANGE-FOOTED SCRUBFOWLS were everywhere, as well as their huge mound nests. A displaying LITTLE BRONZE-CUCKOO was cool to see as it flared its orange tail feathers, as was our first COMMON CICADABIRD, LEADEN FLYCATCHER, WELCOME SWALLOW, FAIRY MARTIN, OLIVE-BACKED SUNBIRD, RAINBOW LORIKEET, and YELLOW-SPOTTED HONEYEATER. All of these great species seen while joggers and bikers were going past in this city park, a useful area for a variety of interests! Now in the Botanical Garden proper a burst of movement in the canopy lead us to a striking PACIFIC BAZA, and interesting Raptor which specializes in catching Katydid and Stick Insects! We then ate lunch at a nice café in the garden before enjoying a nice walk around the trail system to enjoy a few of the common species. From here we went back to the nearby hotel for a couple hours off during the heat of the day.

After an unsuccessful search for a day roosting Rufous Owl, our afternoon birding session took us to the famous Cairns Esplanade to do some shorebirding. This is also a popular spot with tourists and joggers, making it a funny combination of us with drab clothes and optics surrounded by scantily-clad tourists giving us funny looks. It all adds to the experience! With a PACIFIC REEF-HERON to mark our arrival we began to scan the muddy flats which attract these Asian wintering sandpipers and plovers. The tide was on its way in so it was perfect conditions with the birds not too far away. Although there were no rarities this time around, our

highlights included; LESSER SAND-PLOVER, BLACK-FRONTED DOTTEREL, TEREK SANDPIPER, GRAY-TAILED TATTLER, COMMON GREENSHANK, WHIMBREL, FAR EASTERN CURLEW, GREAT and RED KNOT, SHARP-TAILED and CURLEW SANDPIPERS, and many RED-NECKED STINTS. As well as LITTLE, GULL-BILLED, CASPIAN, and GREAT CRESTED TERNS. Marking the end to a very enjoyable day of birding in Cairns.



Little Bronze-Cuckoo (top left), Pacific Baza, and an Esplanade shorebird flock.

October 9, 2015

Today is one of the trip highlights as we board our catamaran at 7:30 and head out into the Great Barrier Reef. With slightly choppy seas (usually calm this time of year) we boarded our catamaran heading towards the tiny sandy islet, or cay, Michaelmas Cay, about 40km from Cairns. After about 90 minutes we arrived at this tiny uninhabited island, simply full of birds. However, before we could get to the island we found targets BLACK NODDY, BRIDLED TERN, and RED-FOOTED BOOBY perched on one of the permanently moored boats. Talk about a great start! Landing on the island we didn't know where to start. Thousands of SOOTY TERNS and BROWN NODDYS dominate the Cay, with a mixing of a hundred or so GREAT CRESTED and LESSER CRESTED TERNS. There were a huge number of young chicks of both the Sooty Terns and Brown Noddys, and it was great fun watching as the parents would squabble with them before giving up their food. There were a couple perched GREAT FRIGATEBIRDS on the island, but eventually a LESSER FRIGATEBIRD flew over. BLACK-NAPED TERN and ROSEATE TERN were the last possibilities here before our time was up at Michaelmas Cay and we returned to our boat for a great buffet lunch. From here we

headed east towards the outer Hastings Reef. We spent the next couple of hours here enjoying some of the best snorkelling in the world with excellent water clarity and mind-blowing diversity. Hundreds of species of fish from dozens of families, Green Sea Turtles, massive Giant Clams, and the beautiful coral itself all make for a memorable non-birding experience. For those who didn't feel like getting wet the optional glass-bottom boat allows for a great reef experience. With our snorkeling fix fulfilled we made our way back to Cairns, loaded up the van and went up into the Atherton Tablelands and to the rainforest of Kuranda for the night at the famous Cassowary House. Unfortunately we entered into rain and cooler temperatures, so after a great pizza dinner it was off to sleep. Quite a contrast from Reef to mountain rainforest in one hour's time!



The spectacle of breeding Sooty Terns and Brown Noddy's in the Great Barrier Reef.





Brown Noddy's in flight and with young, and the top predator of the Cay, an Egret trying to swallow a Sooty Tern chick whole.

October 10, 2015

We started the morning from Cassowary House on foot, birding along Black Mountain Road, which can be quite productive in the early mornings along the forest edge. The distinctive song of BROWN CUCKOO-DOVE lead us straight to one perched up in a tree, and the same goes for a stunning male SUPERB FRUIT-DOVE, which is very well named. Harsh cat-like cries had us moving towards a pair of SPOTTED CATBIRDS jumping around the larger branches of a tree, and soon after we had our first MACLEAY'S HONEYEATERS feeding in a patch of flowers. The morning chorus continued with bird song coming from every direction. PALE-YELLOW ROBIN showed up, and our first of many EASTERN YELLOW ROBINS. SILVER-EYES, and plenty of OLIVE-BACKED SUNBIRDS. The coolest sighting however was our first Bird-of-Paradise, the fascinating VICTORIA'S RIFLEBIRD.

So after a morning's birding session it was time for Sue's famous breakfast at Cassowary House, but that doesn't mean we stop birding, far from it. The feeders here are busy with birds; first was a shimmering male Riflebird, more SPOTTED CATBIRDS, BLACK BUTCHERBIRD, MACLEAY'S, YELLOW-SPOTTED, and BROWN HONEYEATERS, AUSTRALIAN BRUSH-TURKEYS, and SPANGLED DRONGOS. The cute and diminutive MUSKY RAT-KANGAROOS also fed below us, picking up fruit scraps, a very strange and ancient Kangaroo. Sadly the Southern Cassowary pair which frequent the lodge feeders had been hit by cars not long after we arrived. A disturbing reminder of the consequences between a growing human population and these majestic endangered birds. We will have to search for one in another spot. The pressure is on now!



Spotted Catbird, a regular feeder bird at Sue's garden in Cassowary House.

After an amazing breakfast we moved inland from Kuranda to our first stop at Davies Creek. We walked the now dry river wash for a while until we came upon our target pair of LOVELY FAIRYWREN, the toughest of the Fairywrens on this tour, and the most range restricted. As well the female of this species, in my opinion, is even more beautiful than the male. Moving along our next stop was at the extensive wetland of Lake Mitchell. We saw a few good birds foraging in the wooded water's edge, namely YELLOW and BLUE-FACED HONEYEATERS, and after a few minutes of scanning through the regular water birds (including plenty of BLACK SWANS) a pair of tiny COTTON PYGMY-GEESE were found among a flock of GREEN PYGMY-GEESE. With our target Pygmy-Goose in the bag next we stopped into the small town of Mount Molloy for lunch. After lunch we made a quick stop at the local elementary school. As odd a place as this is to go birding this school has been home to an active GREAT BOWERBIRD bower for quite some time. Within a few minutes of us arriving we were watching this unique dry country Bowerbird tending to its elaborate tunnel bower adorned with white and green ornaments. We had our first great views of a true Australian icon here as well, the well-named LAUGHING KOOKABURRA.

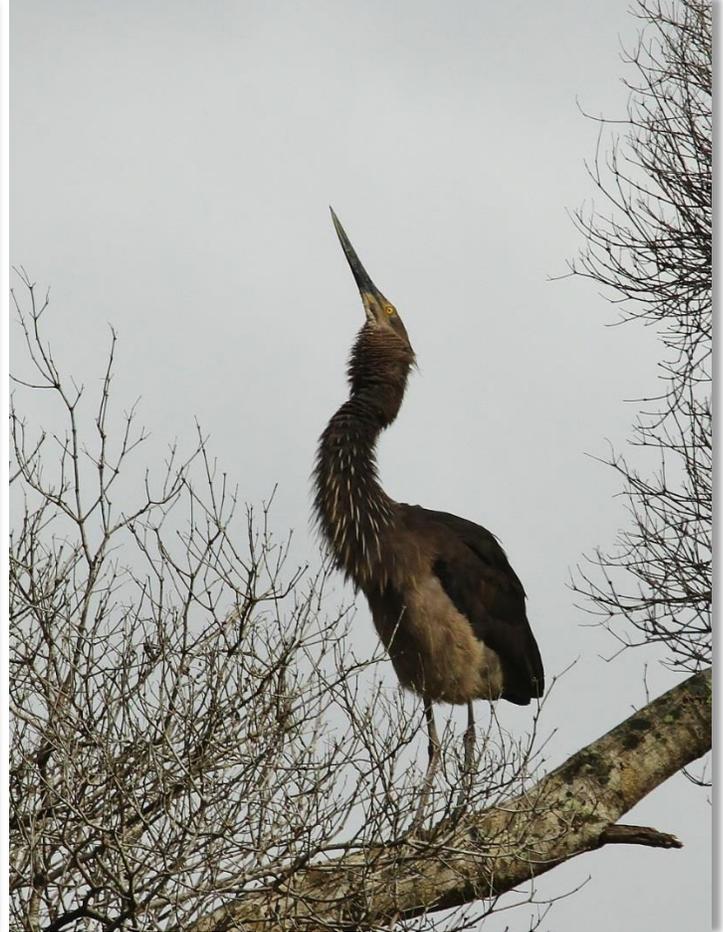
From here we made our way back down to the coast along a very scenic mountain road. Our multiple attempts at finding Beach Thick-Knee were unsuccessful as we made our way north up the coast along the Captain Cook highway. Eventually we made it to the tiny town of Daintree and our great accommodation of Red Mill House. Here we were greeted by Andrew and Trish, probably the most welcoming people in the world, and shown to our rooms at this great B&B. They also make us an awesome barbecue with great home-made bread. Mid way through our dinner, and now dark outside, it was time for the local NORTHERN BROWN BANDICOOTS to make an appearance. Marking the end to another great day!



A female Lovely Fairywren and a Great Bowerbird tending to its bower at the Mt. Molloy school.

October 11, 2015

A quick session of birding in the early morning produced a few METALLIC STARLINGS, WHITE-BREASTED WOODSWALLOWS, and a migrating flock of WHITE-THROATED NEEDLETAILS before heading down to the jetty for our 6:30am cruise on the Daintree River, where we met our local guide and boatman, Murray Hunt. Murray's knowledge of the area is incredible and knows this river extremely well and everything in it. We started off with good views of a LARGE-BILLED GERYGONE and a pair of SHINING FLYCATCHERS at their nest. Next we moved up the river where a PACIFIC BAZA flew directly over the boat, both PACIFIC KOEL and 2 CHANNEL-BILLED CUCKOOS flew over the river, and an AZURE KINGFISHER darted into the river bank. Next we found a GREAT-BILLED HERON perched midway up a tree, and after a few minutes it began its full courtship display, bowing its head, and then raising it while ruffling its neck feathers and letting out a low-pitched booming grunt. Soon after we saw the mate, and enjoyed 30 minutes of displays and interesting behaviors of this rare Heron species. Next we motored down another quiet tributary where Murray pointed out a staked out PAPUAN FROGMOUTH on its nest, and another nice SUPERB FRUIT-DOVE. It was now time to head back to the dock after a great morning cruise as the only boat on the river.



The female (top left) and male (bottom left) of the Shining Flycatcher busy with a nest. The Great-billed Heron (top right) in full display, and Superb Fruit-Dove, all on the Daintree River this morning.

With a Cassowary still to be found we crossed the car ferry for Cape Tribulation and tried a trail in the lush coastal rainforest of Daintree National Park. Unfortunately no Cassowary was found, but the beautiful walk along the forest boardwalk was botanically beautiful, and we saw a few nice birds including; SHINING BRONZE-CUCKOO, PACIFIC KOEL, RUFOUS SHRIKE-THRUSH, and a SPECTACLED MONARCH. From here we went back up into the Atherton Tablelands into the town of Mareeba where we checked into our hotel for the next three nights. We took an hour or so off and hit the road again and went into the rainforests of Mount Hypipamee NP where our main target is Golden Bowerbird. On the way we made a quick stop to view

the many SAURUS CRANES and a couple BROLGA feeding in the recently ploughed farm fields. Mt Hypipamee is an easily accessible patch of high elevation rainforest harbouring many unique species to the wet tropics, and also a good shot at our still missing Cassowary. On the entrance Crater road we found our first GRAY-HEADED ROBIN hopping along on the forest edge, and in the parking area itself we had another VICTORIA'S RIFLEBIRD. Unfortunately the rain and cold fog moved in, severely hindering the bird activity. Trying to be unfazed we moved into the forest down a small trail to a known Golden Bowerbird bower, consisting of a central perch covered in yellowish lichen ornaments. Here is where we waited, and waited, and waited, in the cold rain. An ATHERTON SCRUBWREN flew in, but eventually you have to say enough is enough, and will moral dropping it was time to go. Just then, one of the participants who went back early came back to us and yelled "Cassowary"! We rush out of the forest, slid down the now muddy bank, and ran down the road to find a huge SOUTHERN CASSOWARY standing in the middle of the road. Unperturbed by us, we soaked in the antics of this bird as it preened, and actually showed interest in us. Hopefully someone isn't feeding it. In the end the rain stopped, and we finally found our Cassowary. Unfortunately we will have to try again for the Bowerbird.



A few of the very cool mammals seen tonight with Alan Gillanders, clockwise from top left; Feathertail Glider, Long-tailed Pygmy-Possum, Lemuroid Ringtail Possum, Green Ringtail Possum.

After dinner in Atherton we started our much anticipated spotlighting trip with local guiding legend Alan Gillanders. He is an expert in the natural history of the Atherton Tableland, in particular the nocturnal mammals, so we were in good hands. We made our way back to the high elevation rainforests of Mount Hypipamee, but first we went into a patch of Eucalyptus forest a few more kilometers inland. Alan showed us to a particular Rose Gum tree emitting sap and attracting some very cool nightlife. First was the Flying-Squirrel-like SUGAR GLIDER. An adjacent tree had three, tiny FEATHERTAIL GLIDERS, the world's smallest gliding mammal, and the huge YELLOW-BELLIED GLIDER, as well as another Sugar Glider, making 3 glider

species at in the same view on one tree! On the way back to the van I noticed some movement in the branches above which turned out to be the very seldom seen LONG-TAILED PYGMY-POSSUM, which we all enjoyed great views of. From here we headed back to Mt. Hypipamee, but not before seeing a couple of small RUFIOUS BETTONGS on the side of the road. Now back in the rainforest we were dealing with fog and light rain again, but Alan still managed to get us onto some amazing Possum species; COMMON BRUSHTAIL POSSUM (the Coppery race of the region), LEMUROID RINGTAIL POSSUM, and a couple of charming, range restricted GREEN RINGTAIL POSSUMS feeding in the leaves. To finish thing off Alan was able to find the star of the show, a male LUMHOLTZ'S TREE-KANGAROO feeding in the trees. This is one strange creature, basically a kangaroo which took to the trees, yet is not all that great at climbing! With rain getting heavier, yet all of the hoped for mammals found we said goodbye to Alan and made our way back to Mareeba.

October 12, 2015

Yet another early start (a common theme to this tour) had us into the lower forests of Mount Lewis as the morning chorus was starting. This morning we decided to get to the top of the mountain right away, to find the targets and avoid potential rain. At the top of Mount Lewis we found some RED-BROWED FIRETAILS feeding in the seeding grasses but unfortunately no Parrot-Finches in sight. On a nearby trail we easily found many GRAY-HEADED ROBINS and a few BOWER'S SHRIKE-THRUSH. Eventually some scratching sounds on the forest floor lead us to an adorable family of CHOWCHILLA. We watched for some time as a male, female, and juvenile foraged quietly 2 meters in front of us. Now back near the parking area a pair of MOUNTAIN THORNBILLS showed themselves at eye-level, a much wanted BRIDLED HONEYEATER, and a calling WHITE-THROATED TREECREEPER. A couple EASTERN ROSELLAS flew overhead, as did a flock of the large TOPKNOT PIGEON, a few landing for great views. We began to walk down the road, listening out for Fernwren when a TOOTH-BILLED BOWERBIRD jumped out first, and soon after a VICTORIA'S RIFLEBIRD. The temperatures were dropping, and the fog was rolling in, meaning rain was imminent here at the top. Luckily we didn't have to go very far until we heard our first FERNWREN, and with a little patience we managed decent views of this rainforest skulker among the dense ferns. The rain and cold was now covering the mountain so we hightailed it back down.

From here we made our way to Abbatoir Swamp where we had our first GRAY BUTCHERBIRD, and a nice FAN-TAILED CUCKOO. After another lunch at Mt. Molloy we went back to Mareeba to start our afternoon birding session at a unique area called Granite Gorge. Essentially a very birdy campsite this area is also home to a healthy population of MAREEBA ROCK-WALLABIES. The flowering trees in the area attracted a couple, subtly beautiful PALE-HEADED ROSELLAS, and this is also the easiest place to see SQUATTER PIGEON which simply roam around the campsite. In a large patch of pine trees one participant did amazingly well to spot an extremely cryptic TAWNY FROGMOUTH hunkered against a trunk. On the way back to the van we found our first STRIATED PARALOTE (*melanocephalus ssp.*) foraging in a small tree.

After dinner in Mareeba we ventured 15km east to a spot where we had no fewer than 4 AUSTRALIAN OWLET-NIGHTJARS. A very cool bird, and a new family for many.



The localized Mareeba Rock-Wallaby (top), and a singing Pied Monarch.



The Pale-headed Rosella (left) and Squatter Pigeon are easy to see at Granite Gorge.

October 13, 2015

This morning we were back at Mt. Hypipamee NP with one bird on our minds, Golden Bowerbird. With the weather clear, and in the morning hours, I felt much better about our chances compared to our rainy afternoon attempt. Indeed back at the bower it took just 10 minutes before we found a stunning male GOLDEN BOWERBIRD (see first page of report for photo)! For many it is the prize Australian Bowerbird species, and the toughest to find. We left Mt. Hypipamee one last time, having now seen our targets, and travelled to the nearby Hasties Swamp. The muddy edges here were full of birds including a nice BUFF-BANDED RAIL, and a LATHAM'S SNIPE. However the best birding action was had at the Bottlebrush grove near the road. Here we found an active pair of CRESTED SHRIKE-TITS foraging through the leaves. This can be a really tough bird to find sometimes, and until you see one you worry about seeing one! Well at least the guide does anyways. These bottlebrush were also home to 2 target Honeyeaters, and both beautiful in their own right; WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER and the tiny SCARLET MYZOMELA. Just when it couldn't get any better a sharp looking male SATIN FLYCATCHER flew in and showed off, and a few YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATERS. This certainly was a productive morning!



The stunning Wompoo Fruit-Dove and the uncommon Crested Shrike-Tit (right).

After lunch in the town of Malanda we visited Curtain Fig NP to view the incredibly huge Curtain Fig tree, and we also picked up brief views of a YELLOW-BREASTED BOATBILL, the only member of the Boatbills in Australia. From here we moved to the famous Tarzali Lakes, probably the easiest place to see PLATYPUS. It took us a matter of 5 minutes to find one, and we were able to get shots of this weird mammal

when it came to the surface of the water. This egg-laying, venomous, nearly blind mammal is a true Australian icon, and we were all happy to at least get a few photos. The best part about this site, is that these Platypus are active during the day, while in some watercourses they are crepuscular.

Our final location of the day was at Emerald Falls recreation area which has a nice stand of Eucalypts following the picturesque Emerald Creek. We managed a few nice birds here, best being; a few BROWN QUAIL, multiple WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATERS, and finally great views of a FAIRY GERYGONE. This was our final bird from a very productive day.



One of the world's weirdest mammals, the egg-laying Platypus from Tarzali.

October 14, 2015

Today is our last full day in Tropical North Queensland, so I made a plan to clean-up on a few species. Going back to Mt. Lewis seemed like the best bet, and it worked beautifully. We started down at the lower bridge before going up the mountain where we had an awesome encounter with 3 Platypus swimming around the creek edges. Next we got much better views for everyone on a cooperative YELLOW-BREASTED BOATBILL, BARRED CUCKOOSHRIKE, and 2 active pairs of striking PIED MONARCHS. We then went back up the mountain where we were successful in getting better views of a FERNWREN.

Heading back down the twisting mountain road we eventually got low enough and out of the cloud layer. Just as it cleared I heard a NOISY PITTA, and slammed on the breaks. Hopping out, we all went into the forest closer to where the bird was calling, far up the slope. A little coaxing brought it closer, and with some keen eyes by one of the participants we all got onto it as it sat perched high in a dense tangle of vines, but amazingly in a clear hole for great views. You don't always get a clean sweep of Pittas for a country on one tour, but we did. Lucky there are only 2 species here!

Heading back down to the coast we tried again for Beach Thick-Knee walking along the beautiful Wonga Beach. Luckily it was a beautiful walk, because we didn't find a Thick-Knee! From here we headed back to Cairns, winding along the beautiful Captain Cook highway which hugs the coast. We stopped at Ellis

Bay for lunch, and then saw our first OSPREY of the tour. The afternoon in Cairns had us back at the Esplanade to see if we could add anything new, and we did, a nice RED-CAPPED PLOVER. Our final dinner in Cairns was at an awesome Balinese restaurant.



The ultra-common yet amazingly beautiful Rainbow Lorikeet.

October 15th, 2015

A very early flight time from Cairns meant an extremely early start for us, making our way to Brisbane, but with an early arrival we had time to do some birding before lunch. Our first stop was at some mangroves near the airport where it didn't take us long to find our target MANGROVE GERYGONE, MANGROVE HONEYEATER, and a nice CHESTNUT TEAL. Just outside of Brisbane we met up with another Tropical Birding guide, and top notch Australian birder Nick Leseberg who quickly got us onto a SQUARE-TAILED KITE on a nest. This is a very uncommon raptor, and can be difficult away from known nest stake-outs. After lunch we said goodbye to Nick and made our way inland to Lamington National Park. First, on Beachmont Road we heard the characteristic "PING" of a colony of BELL MINERS. We got out of the van for great looks at this aggressive yet beautiful species of honeyeater.

Next we began heading up to the rainforests of Lamington National Park and O'Reilly's retreat, our accommodation for the next 2 nights. With a nice group of WHIPTAIL (PRETTY-FACED) WALLABIES on the way up we made it to O'Reilly's with just enough time for some afternoon birding. O'Reilly's is perched right atop Lamington National Park, and is cloaked in lush rainforest, surrounding the lodge, making this the perfect location to find some normally shy forest species very close by. The birding here is easy, and right around the lodge reception we had CRIMSON ROSELLA, AUSTRALIAN KING-PARROT, REGENT, and SATIN BOWERBIRD, LEWIN'S HONEYEATER, WHITE-BROWED and YELLOW-THROATED

SCRUBWRENS. The best species this late afternoon was a great encounter of a female PARADISE RIFLEBIRD prying apart some bark on a large branch in search of food. This species can sometimes be tricky to see, and it was great to see both possible Birds-of-Paradise for the tour. We also saw a cooperative ROSE ROBIN, a beautiful pink fuzz-ball which came down from the canopy to check us out. Our last new bird of the day was the worlds friendliest EASTERN WHIPBIRD, which basically hopped up to our feet. After dinner we went spotlighting, but the rain and wind really picked up, and we got skunked. We did however find a nice MOUNTAIN BRUSHTAIL POSSUM.



The O'Reilly's Retreat emblem, Regent Bowerbird from the garden.

October 16, 2015

Our first new bird this morning was a plump, calling, WONGA PIGEON amazingly perched up on a branch, and after a little “pishing” a pair of sharp EASTERN SPINEBILL basically landed on my head. These unique Honeyeaters are my favorite member of the family. Next we hit the border trail to try and find some new rainforest species. The first new bird was found by listening for scratching on the forest floor, by doing this we found a pair of curious LOGRUNNERS. This also completes the family sweep having seen Chowchilla a couple days earlier. The trails here are alive with bird activity at all times. It seems everywhere you turn there is a WHITE-BROWED or YELLOW-THROATED SCRUBWREN hopping on the trails, or an EASTERN YELLOW ROBIN, EASTERN WHIPBIRD, RUFOUS FANTAIL, or LARGE-BILLED SCRUBWREN in the low vegetation. But these are the common species, and we still have a mega target to see, a Lyrebird. First we came across an incredible SATIN BOWERBIRD tending to its display bower, adorned with anything blue or purple. Normally this would be violet colored flowers, but being so close to a resort anything from blue plastic forks to blue bottle caps surround the bower. Birding the trails in this pristine forest is simply a pleasure, as is the small canopy walkway, which brought us closer to the canopy-loving BROWN GERYGONE. Further down the trail we flushed up a RUSSET-TAILED THRUSH which stick around for too long. Suddenly we heard our first Lyrebird, but it was impossible to track through the dense vegetation and steep slopes. Further along we

heard another one much closer, and after some time we finally saw our first ALBERT'S LYREBIRD as it walked up to the side of the trail and then flew away down the slope. Another new Australian family for the group. By mid-morning we went back to O'Reilly's for our decadent buffet breakfast before going out birding again. At the lodge feeders were our first SUPERB FAIRYWRENS, along with the dozens of CRIMSON ROSELLAS and AUSTRALIAN KING-PARROTS landing on tourist's heads.

In the afternoon we changed gears and went down the nearby Duck Creek Road, into a beautiful stand of Eucalyptus. We were battling strong winds and very cool temperatures, but we still found our main bird target, the RED-BROWED TREECREEPER. However our extended search could not find a single Koala. At the wind and cold howled through the night again. A spotlighting session was again very quiet with only a few RED-LEGGED PADEMELONS hanging around the resort lawns.



A Satin Bowerbird tending to its bower. Notice the blue pen!





A curious Eastern Whipbird (top left), Rose Robin (top right) and a stunning Golden Whistler.

October 17th, 2015

A leisurely morning walking the lodge trails added a nice OLIVE-TAILED THRUSH hopping across the trail, among the great common species. It was now time to leave O'Reilly's but not before checking the Eucalypt patch for Koala, without success, but did see our first STRAITED THORNBILLS. Now essentially a travel day we made our way out of Lamington National Park back towards Brisbane for our flight to Sydney, and the start of the New South Wales leg of the trip. On arrival we picked up our new van to make the couple hours drive inland and over the Blue Mountains to the town of Lithgow.



Some final birds from O'Reilly's; Eastern Yellow Robin (left) and Wonga Pigeon.

October 18th, 2015

A very early start had us in the Capertee Valley by sunrise, supposedly the biggest (maybe widest) canyon in the world. This may or may not be true, but the sandstone escarpments, farmland and mixed woodland attract a lot of great birds. We entered the valley just as the sun came over the horizon and our first wildlife encounters were hopping across the road in front of us. We saw an amazing 4 species of Kangaroos in 5 kilometers of road; EASTERN GRAY KANGAROO, EURO (COMMON WALLAROO), RED-NECKED WALLABY, and the subtle BLACK WALLABY. We made our first birding stop at the Coco Creek bridge where it didn't take long to find our targets. First came the striking YELLOW-TUFTED HONEYEATER, which was eventually chased away by the many WHITE-PLUMED and NEW HOLLAND HONEYEATERS. A flock of LITTLE LORIKEETS buzzed overhead while we scanned the tree tops. During our roadside breakfast a large flock of Honeyeaters high up a slope turned out to be the nomadic GRAY-FRONTED HONEYEATER. Returning to our breakfast we were again interrupted by a striking SPOTTED PARDALOTE and then the not so striking JACKY-WINTER. A little further up the road we stopped at Crown Creek for the resident FUSCOUS HONEYEATER and FAIRY MARTIN colony, until we eventually left the woods to open grass paddocks. Some movement along the fence line was a small party of stunning DIAMOND FIRETAILS with a couple of YELLOW-RUMPED THORNBILLS mixed in. A pair of PALLID CUCKOOS flew in, as did a few loose flock of RED-RUMPED PARROTS flying in to drink from a nearby pool, and a RUFIOUS SONGLARK in full display. Further down the road we found both a HOODED ROBIN and a couple PLUM-HEADED FINCHES on the fence wire, the finches being somewhat of a surprise. A final stop at a bridge got us a RESTLESS FLYCATCHER and both DUSKY and WHITE-BROWED WOODSWALLOWS.

Now out of the valley and stopping in the small town of Wallerawang before going to Lake Wallace to search for waterbirds. Here we found many ducks and grebes, including our targets GREAT CRESTED GREBE, and the very strange MUSK DUCK. Searching the reed beds yielded a couple cooperative AUSTRALIAN REED-WARBLERS and a nice LITTLE GRASSBIRD, and in the adjacent trees we found a RED WATTLEBIRD. Alas it was now time to make the long drive west to Forbes. On the way to Forbes we made one stop just before the town of Cudal where we found a small flock of SUPERB PARROTS, a fairly range restricted endemic. Next we went to the famous Gum Swamp to clean up on a few ducks. This is also one of the best spots for FRECKLED DUCK, and it only took us about 1 minute to find a few near the hide. The other main target was BLUE-BILLED DUCK, and finding 4 of them was quite exciting. We also quickly ticked off AUSTRALIAN SHOVELER, WHITE-EYED DUCK, GRAY TEAL, PACIFIC BLACK DUCK and everyone's favourite, the strange PINK-EARED DUCK. On the other side of the swamp a BLACK SWAN foraged alongside YELLOW-BILLED SPOONBILLS, and an AUSTRALIAN DARTER. After a very long day it was great to have a delicious meal right at our hotel.



Plum-headed Finch (left) from Capertee Valley, and Pink-eared Duck from Gum Swamp.

October 19th, 2015

Starting early we headed straight for Back Yamma State Forest just north of Forbes. After some breakfast in the field, the sun rose and we started to get into a flock of thornbills. After a bit of time with a couple scattered flocks we ended up with a few species including; BUFF-RUMPED, INLAND, YELLOW-RUMPED, and YELLOW THORNBILLS. We also found a pair of the incredibly tiny WEEBILL, a noisy pair of SPECKLED WARBLERS and a WESTERN GERYGONE. Just in time to add some colour in the middle of our Thornbill flurry, a beautiful male RED-CAPPED ROBIN flew in for some nice views. In a different paddock we found a cooperative pair of SUPERB PARROTS, but the incessant flies and late morning heat cut our birding time short, except for the last minute TURQUOISE PARROT which burst off the side of the trail, flew around us and then out of site. This tiny Parrot was a great target to see, and our final bird in Back Yamma. From here we continued west a couple more hours to the isolated town of Lake Cargelligo, where we arrived in time for lunch.



Speckled Warbler (left) and a male Red-capped Robin from Back Yamma State Forest.

After checking into our hotel and having an hour or so rest, we were off again to a nearby sewage treatment facility, a standard on many birding tours. This facility really is more of a very productive wetland, with thousands of birds at any given time. It was still mid-afternoon and very hot today, but we still managed to find our targets without staying in the direct sun for too long. This is the best place for both BAILLON'S and AUSTRALIAN CRAKES of which we saw both, slinking through the marsh edge. Waterfowl was abundant, best being the numerous AUSTRALIAN SHELDUCKS, although the best shorebirding is at the largest pond, which held some great shorebirds including many RED-NECKED AVOCET, a real crowd favourite, and surely one of the most beautiful shorebirds in the world. Also here were MARSH and SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPERS, and few RED-CAPPED PLOVERS. Behind us some high pitched trills lead us to a family of VARIEGATED FAIRYWRENS (*assimilis* ssp) trying hard not to get blown away in the wind. But the best find here was the pair of WHITE-WINGED FAIRYWRENS, especially the vibrant blue and white male.

From here we travelled a little further inland to an area called the Nombinnie Wheat fields for some open country species. The open fields held many displaying BROWN SONGLARKS, and the Saltbush paddocks had a few striking CRIMSON CHATS perched up. This is also a good area to find the unique BLUEBONNET, and we found 5 different pairs of this inland Parrot species. Alas heavy rains arrived and it was time to leave the now muddy road and call it a day.



Red-necked Avocet (left) and Brown Songlark from Lake Cargelligo.

October 20th, 2015

This morning we ventured to the “mallee”, a type of stunted eucalypt bush, due to the poor soil conditions. A few bird species call this habitat home, and found nowhere else. We arrived at Nombinnie Nature Reserve in the dark with the hoped for SPOTTED NIGHTJARS on the road, as well as a cool mammal, the egg laying SHORT-BEAKED ECHIDNA waddling across the road. Entering the thick Mallee on a tiny side road we stopped for a quick breakfast and began our birding. This morning could not have started better, as a pair of CHESTNUT QUAIL-THRUSH crossed the road and then perched up on a low branch! This very cool bird is often a real pain to get good looks at, where we were basically handed these one right away. We also managed to find. Other great birds we found here include; COMMON BRONZEWING, SPLENDID FAIRYWREN, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER, YELLOW-PLUMED HONEYEATER, WHITE-FRONTED HONEYEATER, SPINY-CHEEKED HONEYEATER, a pair of SHY HEATHWREN, and a GILBERT’S WHISTLER.



Chestnut Quail-Thrush in the early morning light from the mallee scrub of Nombinnie NR.

Leaving the mallee we headed into the nearby mixed open woodland of Round Hill Nature Reserve which happened to be bursting with flowers. These flowers attracted lots of birds, especially Honeyeaters and the most abundant here was clearly the striking SPINY-CHEEKED HONEYEATER, but this food source also brought in the uncommon and nomadic BLACK HONEYEATER, and even better than that a super nomadic PIED HONEYEATER was found, a real bonus bird! A SPOTTED BOWERBIRD found here completed our list of 8 Bowerbirds for the tour. Another great find here was a group of the odd SOUTHERN WHITEFACE feeding on the ground, as were a family group of WHITE-BROWED BABBLERS. On the way back to the vehicle we came across a medium sized LACE MONITOR, a family of both APOSTLEBIRDS and WHITE-WINGED CHOUGH (the 2 members of this Australian endemic family), a STRIPED HONEYEATER, and a juvenile BLACK-EARED CUCKOO. Back in the van we started back down the road but were sidetracked when an EMU with 6 young ran across the road! We but the chase on and were all rewarded with great views of this surprisingly tricky bird to see on this itinerary. With the incredible morning of birding over it was time to make the long drive even further west to the city of Hay. It was a fairly bird-less during the drive in the heat of the day but we did find our only BLACK FALCON of the tour and another WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE flying over.

After a short rest in Hay it was time to make the drive south to Wanganella where we met up with the famous Phil Maher for our Plains-wanderer expedition. But before that Phil was kind enough to take us out birding before it got dark. We first stopped at a nesting site for WHITE-BACKED SWALLOWS of which we saw 2 of these sharp looking birds. Next we visited some dry fields with stunted vegetation where we found BANDED LAPWINGS, AUSTRALIAN PRATINCOLES, and a family of RED KANGAROO, the world's largest marsupial. After our dinner in the field we waited for darkness, jumped in our 4x4's and went into the dry plains. It took around 20 minutes before we saw our first signs of life, the tiny marsupial mouse, a FAT-TAILED DUNNART scurrying around. After another 10 minutes Phil called out over the radio that he had a PLAINS-WANDERER!! Soon we were all onto both a male and female of this truly iconic, endangered, Australian monotypic family. We watched as the colorful female fed on the huge number of insects on this particular night. Ecstatic with this find we pushed on to another paddock where we found a pair of INLAND

DOTTERAL, a strange inland plover, perfectly at home in some of the most arid regions of Australia. Just when it couldn't get better Phil and his assistant Robert kept on pushing, finding more unique wildlife. First was a HOODED SCALY-FOOT, a rare species of legless lizard, a beautiful GIBBER GECKO, and a final bird for the day, a LITTLE BUTTONQUAIL! After this truly incredible night excursion we said goodbye to Phil and made our way back to Hay, thus ending a nice 19 hour birding day!



A Black-faced Woodswallow nesting in a fence post (left) and the sleek Australian Pratincole.



A pair of Inland Dotterel in the late hours of the night.



The incredible Plains-wanderer in all its glory, this one the more colorful female.



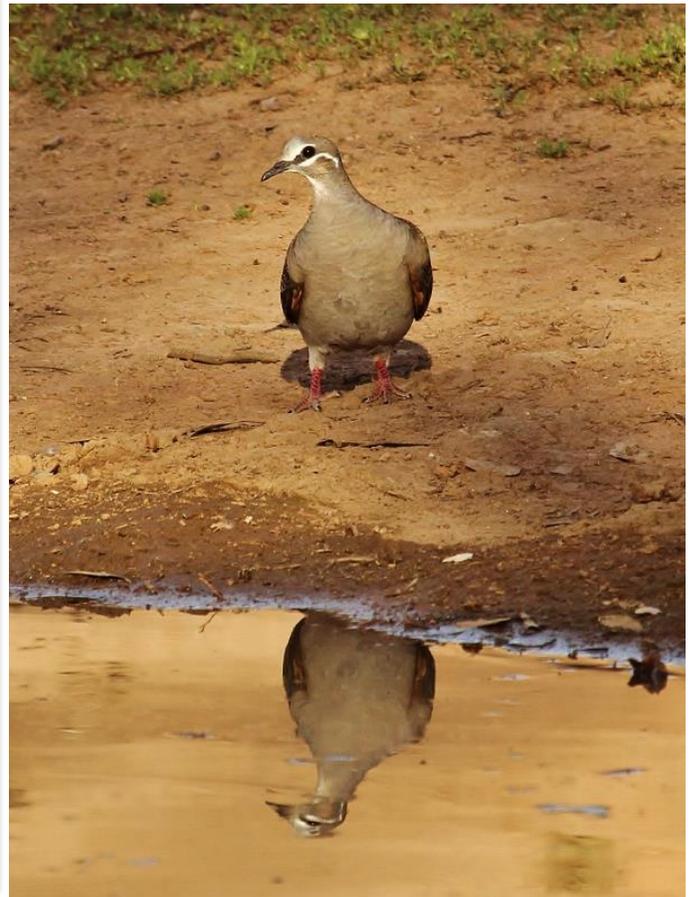
The tiny marsupial Fat-tailed Dunnart, and the rare Hooded Scaly-foot (right).

October 21, 2015

After a well-deserved sleep in from our late night Plains-wanderer trip, and a relaxed breakfast in Hay, it was time to head back east. Although, before we could leave the hotel a pair of “yellow” CRIMSON ROSELLAS made an appearance, a different subspecies to their eastern cousins. Now on the road our first stop was at Darlington Point where we found our target LONG-BILLED CORELLAS within the flock of LITTLE CORELLAS. From here we headed further east for our lunch stop in Leeton before heading to Fivebough Swamp. The road bordering the swamp added the much sought after PINK COCKATOO, a pair of them sitting on a branch above the road, with one of them flaring out its vibrant pink and yellow crest. Now heading back towards Griffith we stopped at a small clearing in Binya State Forest. The rain had stopped and it didn’t take us

long to find our target PAINTED HONEYEATER along with CHESTNUT-RUMPED THORNBILL, and multiple MULGA PARROTS. We then went to a different section of the forest to an area called Wattle Dam to wait for any activity to come into a small waterhole. Some nice finds here were; COMMON BRONZEWING, CRIMSON CHAT, MALEE RINGNECK, and even a nice TAWNY GRASSBIRD.

We headed back a little early to Griffith for a rest and to enjoy the amazing Orange festival where the streets are lined with huge, amazing sculptures made entirely out of Oranges!



The water a Wattle Dam attracted the Mulga Parrot (left) and a nice Common Bronzewing.

October 22, 2015

Today is a big travel day, making our way all the way back to the coast of New South Wales. It took us the better part of the day covering lots of ground and stopping at a few interesting old towns along the way. We stopped in Goulburn at the famous Big Merino for lunch and continued on to the small town of Robertson where we will be based. Unfortunately a cold front carrying a lot of rain has covered the state and we are totally covered in driving rain and low lying cloud. Despite this we made an effort in Barren Grounds National Park but the weather would have the better of us. We did however see our only BRUSH BRONZEWING of the tour, and good views of WHITE-BROWED SCRUBWREN. It was now time to retreat and unfortunately call off our night walk simply to avoid Australian hypothermia! We did enjoy a nice dinner at the local restaurant to finish off the travel day.

October 23, 2015

We had one bird on our minds this morning, a Lyrebird. The best way to see this beast is to drive the Jamberoo Mt Road early in the morning as they tend to be at the roads edge at this time. Just like clockwork there it was a

SUPERB LYREBIRD, the supreme songster of the avian world standing at the side of the road. We would have 3 more encounters with different birds until we finally went into the mountain heath habitat of Barren Grounds NP. Finally the rain had stopped and we could do some birding. Right away it seemed that birds were tired of hiding from the rain too, as it took very little effort to find the ultra-cute SOUTHERN EMUWREN, and the major target, the endangered EASTERN BRISTLEBIRD, simply jumped out onto the trail in front of us. This skulker is usually much more difficult, but we will take it. Moving on we found many GRAY FANTAILS, a couple GOLDEN WHISTLERS, but eventually found a PILOTBIRD singing loudly and hiding in a dense tangle. Next we found the much wanted BEAUTIFUL FIRETAIL feeding on a grass stalk in the open. After 5 minutes of uninterrupted viewing we moved on back to the parking lot where a local birder pointed out that he found a pair of GANG-GANG COCKATOOS, and sure enough there they were perched on a branch waiting for us to see them. What a morning! With our targets in the bag we drove down to the coast to check into our hotel, and have some lunch on the coast.



A pair of Gang-gang Cockatoo was a nice find in Barren Grounds NP.

Our afternoon of birding brought us to Royal National Park, just south of Sydney. We first stopped at a trail which bisects some very nice coastal heath where we found CHESTNUT-RUMPED HEATHWREN, and our other target, the TAWNY-CROWNED HONEYEATER. Then it was off to the seashore cliffs of Wottamolla where it amazingly only took us 3 minutes to find the prize ROCKWARBLER clambering around on the steep cliffs, the only endemic confined only to New South Wales. We couldn't believe our luck so we sat down, relaxed and enjoyed the ocean view, even seeing a couple distant Humpback Whales, and preparing for our pelagic tomorrow.

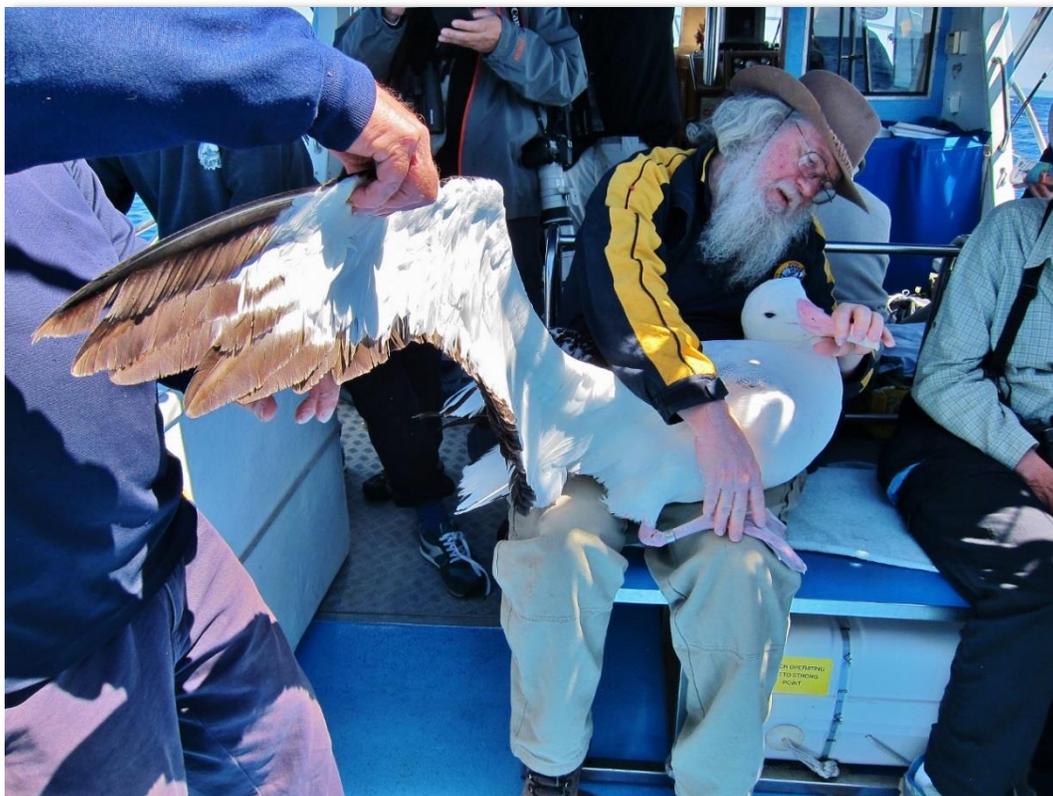


The well named Beautiful Firetail, another great find at Barren Grounds.

October 24th, 2015

Today we left on the much anticipated Kiama Pelagic trip (formerly Wollongong) with the Southern Oceans Seabird Study Association (SOSSA) where these trips are both recreational birding excursions, but more importantly the volunteers on board study and record the species we may see, and on this trip even tagging and collecting data. Today we had calm seas with little wind. Actually the seas were a bit too calm, but once we got about 15km out we get into the Kiama canyons and over a 3000ft deep hole which brings in the life. Huge schools of Slimy Mackerel were passing by, attracting a few nice birds. The first species we saw were both WEDGE-TAILED and SHORT-TAILED SHEARWATERS, but soon joined by both WHITE-CAPPED and BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS. We soon starting chumming and eventually got a couple of huge WANDERING ALBATROSS to come in, where they eventually caught one for tagging and data collection. This also gave all of us the rare opportunity to see these massive ocean wanderers up close and personal. Soon we had both GREAT-WINGED and PROVIDENCE PETRELS circling the boat as well as a few WILSON'S STORM-PETRELS. It was now midday and the wind slowly started to pick up, with it brought in a couple BLACK PETRELS and a WHITE-CHINNED PETREL. We also enjoyed fly-bys of POMARINE and PARASITIC JAEGERs.

Now on our way back to shore the Wedge-tailed and Short-tailed Shearwater numbers became very large and they even tagged a few of these species. Scanning through the flocks we picked out both SOOTY SHEAWATER, and the distinctive FLUTTERING SHEARWATER. Back into the harbor we finished off the day with a KELP GULL and a PIED CORMORANT. An awesome pelagic working for bird conservation!



Our Kiama Pelagic was great fun with Great-winged Petrel (top left) and multiple Wandering Albatross experience both in flight, and collecting data in hand!

October 25th, 2015

This morning we had time to head back into Royal National Park and specifically the woodland around Lady Carrington Drive for the hopes of getting more views of SUPERB LYREBIRD. It was a Sunday so unfortunately a lot of joggers and walkers were out, but with some persistence we finally found a pair of Lyrebirds which we were able to get in the scope as we watched it sing and show off its crazy tail! From here we simply enjoyed seeing the usual birds of the area, and then enjoyed lunch in the Sydney suburb of Sutherland before heading to the airport to catch our flight from Sydney to Hobart, Tasmania, for our last leg of the trip.

October 26th, 2015

We had arrived in Tasmania in the dark, and we left to go birding in the dark, but eventually the sun would rise on us this morning for our first stint of Tasmanian birding in Peter Murrell Reserve just south of Hobart. Today was a big day to try and find as many Tasmanian endemics as possible, and this morning we started with trying to find one of the toughest. Amazingly it didn't take us long to track down a FORTY-SPOTTED PARDALOTE visiting its nest hole in a low branch! This species is both rare and endangered and extremely range restricted, so we were all happy to see this little beauty. Other Tazzie endemics we saw in this small Eucalyptus park was; TASMANIAN NATIVE-HEN (called turbo-chicken by the locals), GREEN ROSELLA, YELLOW-THROATED HONEYEATER, YELLOW WATTLEBIRD, BLACK-HEADED HONEYEATER, and STRONG-BILLED HONEYEATER. That's right, all 3 endemic Honeyeater species within the first hour of birding! Next we went up the formidable Mount Wellington where we were met by near freezing temperatures and rain. No problem for us as we were now used to these conditions from our tour so far! On the way up we saw the stunning FLAME ROBIN on the road, and a small flock of BLACK CURRAWONG. Next we made a stop at a foggy lookout where we had our best looks at the sharp CRESCENT HONEYEATER, and further along we went down a short trail where it thankfully didn't take long to find an OLIVE WHISTLER, and the sometimes tricky endemic, SCRUBTIT. We visited the low heath at the top, only to nearly freeze, get blown off the mountain, and not find a Striated Fieldwren. We retreated back down to Hobart to warm up and have some lunch after a successful morning.



The rare Hooded Plover (left) and a Superb Fairywren.

Our afternoon birding started back at the airport of all places, where a patch of Eucalypt also holds a flock of MUSK LORIKEET, and today was no different. We then headed north making a quick stop at the tidal flats of Sorell to find the endemic BLACK-FACED CORMORANT and both PIED and SOOTY OYSTERCATCHER. Back near the van we saw the introduced EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH which although an invasive, still adds a splash of color. Next we headed further northeast to Marion Bay where we found the endangered HOODED PLOVER along the beach, and our first views of the beautiful and huge PACIFIC GULL, with its massive Puffin-like bill. Soon we were off seeing the resident CAPE BARREN GEESE at Tarrana and then enjoyed a nice pizza dinner in the hamlet of Eaglehawk Neck. We walked off the pizza by heading to the beautiful cliffs at the Blowhole Reserve where we found plenty of AUSTRALIAN GANNETS feeding out in the ocean, but the best find here was the pair of range restricted SWIFT PARROTS in the surrounding flowering gum trees. Finally with the light fading it was time to head to the beach in search of the LITTLE PENGUINS coming in to their burrows after the days fishing trip. So we took our positions on the beach and waited until it was completely dark. We were watching carefully for any movement at the water's edge, luckily the bright moon and night sky gave us a guiding light. Eventually we saw their little heads pop out of the water, then they pause at the water's edge, gather themselves, and waddle up the beach right past us and into their burrows. The world's smallest penguin had put on a show for us tonight. A very memorable event, and the trip highlight!



Our second egg-laying mammal of the tour, the fluffy Tasmanian form of Echidna.

October 27th, 2015

Our final day of this mega tour brought us to Bruny Island to try and find any missing birds, and they were 3 species of Robin, one being a Tasmanian endemic, and a Parrot. We headed to the Kettering ferry terminal this morning and were delighted to finally have some nice weather! After the 15 minute car ferry ride we were on Bruny Island. Our first stop was for our best views of FLAME ROBINS, and then we found an amazing pair of the tiny BLUE-WINGED PARROT, our final Parrot species of the tour. Next we headed towards the tiny town of Adventure Bay and the nearby Mavista Reserve. In the beautiful forests of Mavista we found the sexiest bird in Australia, the PINK ROBIN. A little further down the road we had a nice male SCARLET ROBIN on a fence line, and then our final Tasmanian endemic, the somewhat drab DUSKY ROBIN, marking our final new species of the trip! This road was also the best place to see the cute TASMANIAN PADEMELON of which we saw many.

Now with no pressure we went back to Adventure Bay to the great Penguin Café to enjoy their famous Scallops Pies. With our stomachs full we hit the beach to scan through the impressive number of SHORT-TAILED SHAEWATERS forming a massive flock offshore, no fewer than 100,000 for sure. We then enjoyed amazing looks at a curious HOODED PLOVER before heading back to Kettering and then to Hobart to enjoy a great final dinner and reflect on what an amazing tour this was. Everyone went home happy, with memories to last a lifetime!



The sexy Pink Robin, and Tasmanian endemic Yellow-throated Honeyeater.

Bird Checklist – Using Clements 6.9 (H = Heard only)

CASSOWARIES: Casuariidae

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Southern Cassowary | <i>Casuarius casuarius</i> | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|

EMU: Dromaiidae

| | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|--|
| Emu | <i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i> | |
|-----|---------------------------------|--|

DUCKS, GEESE AND WATERFOWL: Anatidae

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Magpie Goose | <i>Anseranas semipalmata</i> | |
| Plumed Whistling-Duck | <i>Dendrocygna eytoni</i> | |
| Wandering Whistling-Duck | <i>Dendrocygna arcuata</i> | |
| Cape Barren Goose | <i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i> | |
| Freckled Duck | <i>Stictonetta naevosa</i> | |
| Black Swan | <i>Cygnus atratus</i> | |
| Australian Shelduck | <i>Tadorna tadornoides</i> | |
| Radjah Shelduck | <i>Tadorna radjah</i> | |
| Green Pygmy-Goose | <i>Nettapus pulchellus</i> | |
| Cotton Pygmy-Goose | <i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i> | |
| Maned Duck | <i>Chenonetta jubata</i> | |
| Pacific Black Duck | <i>Anas superciliosa</i> | |
| Australian Shoveler | <i>Anas rhynchotis</i> | |
| Gray Teal | <i>Anas gracilis</i> | |
| Chestnut Teal | <i>Anas castanea</i> | |
| Pink-eared Duck | <i>Malacorhynchus membranaceus</i> | |
| White-eyed Duck | <i>Aythya australis</i> | |
| Blue-billed Duck | <i>Oxyura australis</i> | |
| Musk Duck | <i>Biziura lobata</i> | |

MEGAPODES: Megapodiidae

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Australian Brush-Turkey | <i>Alectura lathami</i> | |
| Orange-footed Scrubfowl | <i>Megapodius reinwardt</i> | |

PHEASANTS, GROUSE AND ALLIES: Phasianidae

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Brown Quail | <i>Coturnix ypsilophora</i> | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|

GREBES: Podicipedidae

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Australasian Grebe | <i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae</i> | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--|

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Hoary-headed Grebe | <i>Poliiocephalus poliocephalus</i> | |
| Great Crested Grebe | <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> | |

PENGUINS: Spheniscidae

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Little (Fairy) Penguin | <i>Eudyptula minor</i> | |
|------------------------|------------------------|--|

ALBATROSSES: Diomedidae

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| White-capped Albatross | <i>Thalassarche cauta</i> | |
| Black-browed Albatross | <i>Thalassarche melanophris</i> | |
| Wandering Albatross | <i>Diomedea exulans</i> | |

SHEARWATERS AND PETRELS: Procellariidae

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Great-winged Petrel | <i>Pterodroma macroptera gouldi</i> | |
| Providence Petrel | <i>Pterodroma solandri</i> | |
| Parkinson's Petrel | <i>Procellaria parkinsoni</i> | |
| White-chinned Petrel | <i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i> | |
| Flesh-footed Shearwater | <i>Puffinus carneipes</i> | |
| Wedge-tailed Shearwater | <i>Puffinus pacificus</i> | |
| Sooty Shearwater | <i>Puffinus griseus</i> | |
| Short-tailed Shearwater | <i>Puffinus tenuirostris</i> | |
| Fluttering Shearwater | <i>Puffinus gavia</i> | |

Storm-Petrels: Hydrobatidae

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Wilson's Storm-Petrel | <i>Oceanites oceanicus</i> | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|

STORKS: Ciconiidae

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Black-necked Stork | <i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i> | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--|

FRIGATEBIRDS: Fregatidae

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|--|
| Great Frigatebird | <i>Fregata minor</i> | |
| Lesser Frigatebird | <i>Fregata ariel</i> | |

BOOBIES AND GANNETS: Sulidae

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Brown Booby | <i>Sula leucogaster</i> | |
| Red-footed Booby | <i>Sula sula</i> | |
| Australasian Gannet | <i>Morus serrator</i> | |

CORMORANTS AND SHAGS: Phalacrocoracidae

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Little Black Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i> | |
| Great Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> | |
| Pied Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax varius</i> | |
| Black-faced Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax fuscescens</i> | |
| Little Pied Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i> | |

ANHINGAS: Anhingidae

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Australasian Darter | <i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i> | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|

PELICANS: Pelecanidae

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Australian Pelican | <i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i> | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|

HERONS, EGRETS AND BITTERNS: Ardeidae

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Black Bittern | <i>Ixobrychus flavicollis</i> | |
| Pacific Heron | <i>Ardea pacifica</i> | |
| Great-billed Heron | <i>Ardea sumatrana</i> | |
| Great Egret | <i>Ardea alba (modesta)</i> | |
| Intermediate Egret | <i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i> | |
| White-faced Heron | <i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i> | |
| Little Egret | <i>Egretta garzetta</i> | |
| Pacific Reef-Heron | <i>Egretta sacra</i> | |
| Pied Heron | <i>Egretta picata</i> | |

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Cattle Egret | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i> | |
| Striated Heron | <i>Butorides striata</i> | |
| Rufous Night-Heron | <i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i> | |

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Glossy Ibis | <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i> | |
| Australian Ibis | <i>Threskiornis molucca</i> | |
| Straw-necked Ibis | <i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i> | |
| Royal Spoonbill | <i>Platalea regia</i> | |
| Yellow-billed Spoonbill | <i>Platalea flavipes</i> | |

OSPREY: Pandionidae

| | | |
|--------|--------------------------|--|
| Osprey | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> | |
|--------|--------------------------|--|

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES: Accipitridae

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Australian Kite | <i>Elanus axillaris</i> | |
| Pacific Baza | <i>Aviceda subcristata</i> | |
| Square-tailed Kite | <i>Lophoictinia isura</i> | |
| Little Eagle | <i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i> | |
| Wedge-tailed Eagle | <i>Aquila audax</i> | |
| Swamp Harrier | <i>Circus approximans</i> | |
| Spotted Harrier | <i>Circus assimilis</i> | |
| Gray Goshawk | <i>Accipiter novaehollandiae</i> | |
| Brown Goshawk | <i>Accipiter fasciatus</i> | |
| Collared Sparrowhawk | <i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i> | |
| Black Kite | <i>Milvus migrans</i> | |
| Whistling Kite | <i>Haliastur sphenurus</i> | |
| Brahminy Kite | <i>Haliastur indus</i> | |
| White-bellied Sea-Eagle | <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i> | |

BUSTARDS: Otididae

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Australian Bustard | <i>Ardeotis australis</i> | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--|

RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS: Rallidae

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Buff-banded Rail | <i>Gallirallus philippensis</i> | |
| Baillon's Crake | <i>Porzana pusilla</i> | |
| Australian Crake | <i>Porzana fluminea</i> | |
| White-browed Crake | <i>Porzana cinerea</i> | |
| Australian Swampphen | <i>Porphyrio melanotus</i> | |
| Dusky Moorhen | <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> | |
| Black-tailed Native-hen | <i>Tribonyx ventralis</i> | |
| Tasmanian Native-hen | <i>Tribonyx mortierii</i> | |
| Eurasian Coot | <i>Fulica atra</i> | |

CRANES: Gruidae

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| Sarus Crane | <i>Grus antigone</i> | |
| Brolga | <i>Grus rubicunda</i> | |

THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Bush Thick-knee | <i>Burhinus grallarius</i> | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--|

STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Pied Stilt | <i>Himantopus leucocephalus</i> | |
| Red-necked Avocet | <i>Recurvirostra novaehollandiae</i> | |

OYSTERCATCHERS: Haematopodidae

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Pied Oystercatcher | <i>Haematopus longirostris</i> | |
| Sooty Oystercatcher | <i>Haematopus fuliginosus</i> | |

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Banded Lapwing | <i>Vanellus tricolor</i> | |
| Masked Lapwing | <i>Vanellus miles</i> | |
| Lesser Sand-Plover | <i>Charadrius mongolus</i> | |
| Greater Sand-Plover | <i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i> | |
| Red-capped Plover | <i>Charadrius ruficapillus</i> | |
| Red-kneed Dotterel | <i>Erythrogonys cinctus</i> | |
| Hooded Plover | <i>Thinornis cucullatus</i> | |
| Black-fronted Dotterel | <i>Euseyonis melanops</i> | |
| Inland Dotterel | <i>Peltohyas australis</i> | |

PLAINS-WANDERER: Pedionomidae

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Plains-wanderer | <i>Pedionomus torquatus</i> | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--|

JACANAS: Jacanidae

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Comb-crested Jacana | <i>Irediparra gallinacea</i> | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|--|

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Terek Sandpiper | <i>Xenus cinereus</i> | |
| Common Sandpiper | <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> | |
| Gray-tailed Tattler | <i>Tringa brevipes</i> | |
| Common Greenshank | <i>Tringa nebularia</i> | |
| Marsh Sandpiper | <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> | |
| Wood Sandpiper | <i>Tringa glareola</i> | |
| Whimbrel | <i>Numenius phaeopus</i> | |
| Far Eastern Curlew | <i>Numenius madagascariensis</i> | |
| Black-tailed Godwit | <i>Limosa limosa</i> | |
| Bar-tailed Godwit | <i>Limosa lapponica</i> | |
| Ruddy Turnstone | <i>Arenaria interpres</i> | |
| Great Knot | <i>Calidris tenuirostris</i> | |
| Red Knot | <i>Calidris canutus</i> | |
| Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | <i>Calidris acuminata</i> | |
| Curlew Sandpiper | <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> | |
| Red-necked Stint | <i>Calidris ruficollis</i> | |
| Sanderling | <i>Calidris alba</i> | |
| Latham's Snipe | <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> | |

BUTTONQUAIL: Turnicidae

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| Little Buttonquail | <i>Turnix velox</i> | |
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PRATINCOLES AND COURSERS: Glareolidae

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| Australian Pratincole | <i>Stiltia isabella</i> | |
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Skuas and Jaegers: Stercorariidae

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| Pomarine Jaeger | <i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i> | |
| Parasitic Jaeger | <i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i> | |

GULLS, TERNS AND SKIMMERS: Laridae

| | | |
|--------------|--|--|
| Silver Gull | <i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae</i> | |
| Pacific Gull | <i>Larus pacificus</i> | |
| Kelp Gull | <i>Larus dominicanus</i> | |
| Brown Noddy | <i>Anous stolidus</i> | |
| Black Noddy | <i>Anous minutus</i> | |
| Sooty Tern | <i>Onychoprion fuscatus</i> | |
| Bridled Tern | <i>Onychoprion anaethetus</i> | |
| Little Tern | <i>Sternula albifrons</i> | |

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| Gull-billed Tern | <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> | |
| Caspian Tern | <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i> | |
| Whiskered Tern | <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i> | |
| Roseate Tern | <i>Sterna dougallii</i> | |
| Black-naped Tern | <i>Sterna sumatrana</i> | |
| Common Tern | <i>Sterna hirundo</i> | |
| Great Crested Tern | <i>Thalasseus bergii</i> | |
| Lesser Crested Tern | <i>Thalasseus bengalensis</i> | |

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Rock Pigeon | <i>Columba livia</i> | |
| White-headed Pigeon | <i>Columba leucomela</i> | H |
| Spotted Dove | <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i> | |
| Brown Cuckoo-Dove | <i>Macropygia phasianella</i> | |
| Emerald Dove | <i>Chalcophaps indica</i> | |
| Common Bronzewing | <i>Phaps chalcoptera</i> | |
| Brush Bronzewing | <i>Phaps elegans</i> | |
| Crested Pigeon | <i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i> | |
| Squatter Pigeon | <i>Geophaps scripta</i> | |
| Partridge Pigeon | <i>Geophaps smithii</i> | |
| White-quilled Rock-Pigeon | <i>Petrophassa albipennis</i> | |
| Wonga Pigeon | <i>Leucosarcia melanoleuca</i> | |
| Diamond Dove | <i>Geopelia cuneata</i> | |
| Peaceful Dove | <i>Geopelia placida</i> | |
| Bar-shouldered Dove | <i>Geopelia humeralis</i> | |
| Wompoo Fruit-Dove | <i>Ptilinopus magnificus</i> | |
| Superb Fruit-Dove | <i>Ptilinopus superbus</i> | |
| Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove | <i>Ptilinopus regina</i> | |
| Torresian Imperial-Pigeon | <i>Ducula spilorrhoa</i> | |
| Topknot Pigeon | <i>Lopholaimus antarcticus</i> | |

CUCKOOS: Cuculidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Pallid Cuckoo | <i>Cacomantis pallidus</i> | |
| Brush Cuckoo | <i>Cacomantis variolosus</i> | |
| Fan-tailed Cuckoo | <i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i> | |
| Black-eared Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx osculans</i> | |
| Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx basalis</i> | |
| Shining Bronze-Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx lucidus</i> | |
| Little Bronze-Cuckoo | <i>Chrysococcyx minutillus</i> | |
| Pacific Koel | <i>Eudynamys orientalis</i> | |
| Channel-billed Cuckoo | <i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i> | |
| Pheasant Coucal | <i>Centropus phasianinus</i> | |

BARN-OWLS: Tytonidae

| | | |
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| Barn Owl | <i>Tyto alba (delicatula)</i> | |
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OWLS: Strigidae

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Barking Owl | <i>Ninox connivens</i> | |
| Southern Boobook (Southern) | <i>Ninox novaeseelandiae</i> | |

OWLET-NIGHTJARS: Aegothelidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Australian Owlet-Nightjar | <i>Aegotheles cristatus</i> | |
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FROGMOUTHS: Podargidae

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Tawny Frogmouth | <i>Podargus strigoides</i> | |
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| Papuan Frogmouth | <i>Podargus papuensis</i> | |
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NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES: Caprimulgidae

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| Spotted Nightjar | <i>Eurostopodus argus</i> | |
| Large-tailed Nightjar | <i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i> | |

SWIFTS: Apodidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| White-throated Needletail | <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i> | |
| Australian Swiftlet | <i>Aerodramus terraereginae</i> | |

KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Azure Kingfisher | <i>Ceyx azureus</i> | |
| Little Kingfisher | <i>Ceyx pusillus</i> | |
| Laughing Kookaburra | <i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i> | |
| Blue-winged Kookaburra | <i>Dacelo leachii</i> | |
| Forest Kingfisher | <i>Todiramphus macleayii</i> | |
| Red-backed Kingfisher | <i>Todiramphus pyrrhopygius</i> | |
| Torresian Kingfisher | <i>Todiramphus sordidus</i> | |
| Sacred Kingfisher | <i>Todiramphus sanctus</i> | |

BEE-EATERS: Meropidae

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Rainbow Bee-eater | <i>Merops ornatus</i> | |
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ROLLERS: Coraciidae

| | | |
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| Dollarbird | <i>Eurystomus orientalis</i> | |
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FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Australian Kestrel | <i>Falco cenchroides</i> | |
| Australian Hobby | <i>Falco longipennis</i> | |
| Brown Falcon | <i>Falco berigora</i> | |
| Black Falcon | <i>Falco subniger</i> | |

COCKATOOS: Cacatuidae

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo | <i>Calyptorhynchus banksii</i> | |
| Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo | <i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i> | |
| Gang-gang Cockatoo | <i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i> | |
| Pink Cockatoo | <i>Cacatua leadbeateri</i> | |
| Galah | <i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i> | |
| Long-billed Corella | <i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i> | |
| Little Corella | <i>Cacatua sanguinea</i> | |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo | <i>Cacatua galerita</i> | |
| Cockatiel | <i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i> | |

OLD WORLD PARROTS: Psittaculidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Superb Parrot | <i>Polytelis swainsonii</i> | |
| Australian King-Parrot | <i>Alisterus scapularis</i> | |
| Red-winged Parrot | <i>Aprosmictus erythropterus</i> | |
| Blue-winged Parrot | <i>Neophema chrysostoma</i> | |
| Turquoise Parrot | <i>Neophema pulchella</i> | |
| Swift Parrot | <i>Lathamus discolor</i> | |
| Mallee Ringneck | <i>Barnardius barnardi</i> | |
| Green Rosella | <i>Platycercus caledonicus</i> | |
| Crimson Rosella (Crimson) | <i>Platycercus elegans</i> | |
| Crimson Rosella (Yellow) | <i>Platycercus e. flaveolus</i> | |
| Eastern Rosella | <i>Platycercus eximius</i> | |
| Northern Rosella | <i>Platycercus venustus</i> | |
| Pale-headed Rosella | <i>Platycercus adscitus</i> | |

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| Bluebonnet | <i>Northiella haematogaster</i> | |
| Red-rumped Parrot | <i>Psephotus haematonotus</i> | |
| Mulga Parrot | <i>Psephotus varius</i> | |
| Hooded Parrot | <i>Psephotus dissimilis</i> | |
| Double-eyed Fig-Parrot | <i>Cyclopsitta diophthalma</i> | |
| Budgerigar | <i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i> | |
| Musk Lorikeet | <i>Glossopsitta concinna</i> | |
| Little Lorikeet | <i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i> | |
| Rainbow Lorikeet | <i>Trichoglossus h. moluccanus</i> | |
| Rainbow Lorikeet (Red-col.) | <i>Trichoglossus h. rubritorquis</i> | |
| Varied Lorikeet | <i>Psitteuteles versicolor</i> | |
| Scaly-breasted Lorikeet | <i>Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus</i> | |

PITTAS: Pittidae

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|--|
| Rainbow Pitta | <i>Pitta iris</i> | |
| Noisy Pitta | <i>Pitta versicolor</i> | |

LYREBIRDS: Menuridae

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Albert's Lyrebird | <i>Menura alberti</i> | |
| Superb Lyrebird | <i>Menura novaehollandiae</i> | |

BOWERBIRDS: Ptilonorhynchidae

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Spotted Catbird | <i>Ailuroedus melanotis</i> | |
| Green Catbird | <i>Ailuroedus crassirostris</i> | |
| Tooth-billed Catbird | <i>Scenopoeetes dentirostris</i> | |
| Golden Bowerbird | <i>Amblyornis newtoniana</i> | |
| Regent Bowerbird | <i>Sericulus chrysocephalus</i> | |
| Satin Bowerbird | <i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i> | |
| Spotted Bowerbird | <i>Chlamydera maculata</i> | |
| Great Bowerbird | <i>Chlamydera nuchalis</i> | |

AUSTRALASIAN TREECREEPERS: Climacteridae

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| White-throated Treecreeper | <i>Cormobates l. minor</i> | |
| White-throated Treecreeper | <i>Cormobates leucophaea</i> | |
| Black-tailed Treecreeper | <i>Climacteris melanurus</i> | |
| Red-browed Treecreeper | <i>Climacteris erythrops</i> | |
| Brown Treecreeper | <i>Climacteris picumnus</i> | |

FAIRYWRENS: Maluridae

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Southern Emuwren | <i>Stipiturus malachurus</i> | |
| Variegated Fairywren | <i>Malurus l. assimilis</i> | |
| Variegated Fairywren | <i>Malurus lamberti (nom)</i> | |
| Purple-crowned Fairywren | <i>Malurus coronatus</i> | |
| Lovely Fairywren | <i>Malurus amabilis</i> | |
| Splendid Fairywren | <i>Malurus splendens</i> | |
| Superb Fairywren | <i>Malurus cyaneus</i> | |
| White-winged Fairywren | <i>Malurus leucopterus</i> | |
| Red-backed Fairywren | <i>Malurus melanocephalus</i> | |

HONEYEATERS: Meliphagidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Eastern Spinebill | <i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i> | |
| Pied Honeyeater | <i>Certhionyx variegatus</i> | |
| Graceful Honeyeater | <i>Meliphaga gracilis</i> | |
| Yellow-spotted Honeyeater | <i>Meliphaga notata</i> | |
| Lewin's Honeyeater | <i>Meliphaga lewinii</i> | |

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| White-lined Honeyeater | <i>Meliphaga albilineata</i> | |
| Bridled Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus frenatus</i> | |
| Yellow-faced Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus chrysops</i> | |
| Varied Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus versicolor</i> | |
| Mangrove Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus fasciogularis</i> | |
| Singing Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus virescens</i> | |
| Yellow Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus flavus</i> | |
| White-gaped Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus unicolor</i> | |
| White-eared Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus leucotis</i> | |
| Yellow-throated Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus flavicollis</i> | |
| Yellow-tufted Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus melanops</i> | |
| Yellow-tinted Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus flavescens</i> | |
| Fuscous Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus fuscus</i> | |
| Gray-fronted Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus plumulus</i> | |
| Yellow-plumed Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus ornatus</i> | |
| White-plumed Honeyeater | <i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i> | |
| White-fronted Honeyeater | <i>Purnella albifrons</i> | |
| Bell Miner | <i>Manorina melanophrys</i> | |
| Noisy Miner | <i>Manorina melanocephala</i> | |
| Yellow-throated Miner | <i>Manorina flavigula</i> | |
| Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater | <i>Acanthagenys rufogularis</i> | |
| Red Wattlebird | <i>Anthochaera carunculata</i> | |
| Little (Brush) Wattlebird | <i>Anthochaera chrysoptera</i> | |
| Yellow Wattlebird | <i>Anthochaera paradoxa</i> | |
| Brown-backed Honeyeater | <i>Ramsayornis modestus</i> | |
| Rufous-banded Honeyeater | <i>Conopophila albogularis</i> | |
| Rufous-throated Honeyeater | <i>Conopophila rufogularis</i> | |
| Bar-breasted Honeyeater | <i>Ramsayornis fasciatus</i> | |
| Crimson Chat | <i>Epthianura tricolor</i> | |
| White-fronted Chat | <i>Epthianura albifrons</i> | |
| Black Honeyeater | <i>Sugomel niger</i> | |
| Dusky Myzomela | <i>Myzomela obscura</i> | |
| Scarlet Myzomela | <i>Myzomela sanguinolenta</i> | |
| Red-headed Myzomela | <i>Myzomela erythrocephala</i> | |
| Tawny-crowned Honeyeater | <i>Gliciphila melanops</i> | |
| Banded Honeyeater | <i>Cissomela pectoralis</i> | |
| Brown Honeyeater | <i>Lichmera indistincta</i> | |
| Crescent Honeyeater | <i>Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus</i> | |
| New Holland Honeyeater | <i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i> | |
| White-cheeked Honeyeater | <i>Phylidonyris niger</i> | |
| White-naped Honeyeater | <i>Melithreptus lunatus</i> | |
| Black-headed Honeyeater | <i>Melithreptus affinis</i> | |
| White-throated Honeyeater | <i>Melithreptus albogularis</i> | |
| Black-chinned Honeyeater | <i>Melithreptus gularis</i> | |
| Black-chinned "Golden-backed" Honeyeater | <i>Melithreptus g. laetior</i> | |
| Strong-billed Honeyeater | <i>Melithreptus validirostris</i> | |
| Brown-headed Honeyeater | <i>Melithreptus brevirostris</i> | |
| Blue-faced Honeyeater | <i>Entomyzon cyanotis</i> | |

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| Little Friarbird | <i>Philemon citreogularis</i> | |
| Helmeted Friarbird | <i>Philemon buceroides</i> | |
| Silver-crowned Friarbird | <i>Philemon argenticeps</i> | |
| Noisy Friarbird | <i>Philemon corniculatus</i> | |
| Macleay's Honeyeater | <i>Xanthotis macleayanus</i> | |
| Striped Honeyeater | <i>Plectorhyncha lanceolata</i> | |
| Painted Honeyeater | <i>Grantiella picta</i> | |

BRISTLEBIRDS: Dasyornithidae

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Eastern Bristlebird | <i>Dasyornis brachypterus</i> | |
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PARDALOTES: Pardalotidae

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| Spotted Pardalote | <i>Pardalotus punctatus</i> | |
| Forty-spotted Pardalote | <i>Pardalotus quadragintus</i> | |
| Red-browed Pardalote | <i>Pardalotus rubricatus</i> | |
| Striated Pardalote (Black-headed) | <i>Pardalotus s. melanocephalus</i> | |
| Striated Pardalote (Northern) | <i>Pardalotus s. uropygialis</i> | |
| Striated Pardalote (Yellow-tipped) | <i>Pardalotus striatus</i> | |
| Striated Pardalote (Striated) | <i>Pardalotus s. substriatus</i> | |

THORNBILLS AND ALLIES: Acanthizidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Pilotbird | <i>Pycnoptilus floccosus</i> | |
| Rockwarbler | <i>Origma solitaria</i> | |
| Fernwren | <i>Oreoscopus gutturalis</i> | |
| Yellow-throated Scrubwren | <i>Sericornis citreogularis</i> | |
| White-browed Scrubwren | <i>Sericornis f. laevigaster</i> | |
| White-browed Scrubwren | <i>Sericornis frontalis</i> | |
| Tasmanian Scrubwren | <i>Sericornis humilis</i> | |
| Atherton Scrubwren | <i>Sericornis keri</i> | |
| Large-billed Scrubwren | <i>Sericornis magnirostra</i> | |
| Scrubtit | <i>Acanthornis magna</i> | |
| Speckled Warbler | <i>Pyrrholaemus sagittatus</i> | |
| Chestnut-rumped Heathwren | <i>Hylacola pyrrhopygia</i> | |
| Shy Heathwren | <i>Hylacola cauta</i> | |
| Buff-rumped Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza reguloides</i> | |
| Mountain Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza katherina</i> | |
| Brown Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza pusilla</i> | |
| Tasmanian Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza ewingii</i> | |
| Inland Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza apicalis</i> | |
| Yellow-rumped Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i> | |
| Chestnut-rumped Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza uropygialis</i> | |
| Yellow Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza nana</i> | |
| Striated Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza lineata</i> | |
| Weebill | <i>Smicrornis brevirostris</i> | |
| Fairy Gerygone | <i>Gerygone palpebrosa</i> | |
| White-throated Gerygone | <i>Gerygone olivacea</i> | |
| Large-billed Gerygone | <i>Gerygone magnirostris</i> | |
| Green-backed Gerygone | <i>Gerygone chloronota</i> | |
| Brown Gerygone | <i>Gerygone mouki</i> | |
| Western Gerygone | <i>Gerygone fusca</i> | |
| Mangrove Gerygone | <i>Gerygone levigaster</i> | |
| Southern Whiteface | <i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i> | |

PSEUDO-BABLERS: Pomatostomidae

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Gray-crowned Babbler | <i>Pomatostomus temporalis</i> | |
| White-browed Babbler | <i>Pomatostomus superciliosus</i> | |

LOGRUNNERS: Orthonychidae

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Australian Logrunner | <i>Orthonyx temminckii</i> | |
| Chowchilla | <i>Orthonyx spaldingii</i> | |

WHIPBIRDS AND WEDGEBILLS: Psophodidae

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Eastern Whipbird | <i>Psophodes olivaceus</i> | |
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QUAIL-THRUSHES AND JEWEL-BABLERS: Cinclosomatidae

| | | |
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| Chestnut Quail-thrush | <i>Cinclosoma castanotum</i> | |
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BOATBILLS: Machaerirhynchidae

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Yellow-breasted Boatbill | <i>Machaerirhynchus flaviventer</i> | |
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WOODSWALLOWS: Artamidae

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| White-breasted Woodswallow | <i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i> | |
| White-browed Woodswallow | <i>Artamus superciliosus</i> | |
| Black-faced Woodswallow | <i>Artamus c. normani</i> | |
| Black-faced Woodswallow | <i>Artamus cinereus</i> | |
| Little Woodswallow | <i>Artamus minor</i> | |
| Dusky Woodswallow | <i>Artamus cyanopterus</i> | |

BELLMAGPIES AND ALLIES: Cracticidae

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Gray Butcherbird | <i>Cracticus torquatus</i> | |
| Silver-backed Butcherbird | <i>Cracticus argenteus</i> | |
| Pied Butcherbird | <i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i> | |
| Black Butcherbird | <i>Cracticus quoyi</i> | |
| Australasian Magpie | <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i> | |
| Australasian Magpie | <i>Gymnorhina t. hypoleuca</i> | |
| Pied Currawong | <i>Strepera graculina</i> | |
| Black Currawong | <i>Strepera fuliginosa</i> | |
| Gray Currawong (Clinking) | <i>Strepera v. arguta</i> | |

CUCKOOSHRIKES: Campephagidae

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Barred Cuckooshrike | <i>Coracina lineata</i> | |
| Black-faced Cuckooshrike | <i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i> | |
| White-bellied Cuckooshrike | <i>Coracina papuensis</i> | |
| White-winged Triller | <i>Lalage tricolor</i> | |
| Varied Triller | <i>Lalage leucomela</i> | |
| Common Cicadabird | <i>Edolisoma tenuirostre</i> | |

SITELLAS: Neosittidae

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Varied Sittella (Orange-winged) | <i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i> | |
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WHISTLERS AND ALLIES: Pachycephalidae

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Crested Shrike-tit | <i>Falcunculus frontatus</i> | |
| Rufous Shrike-Thrush | <i>Colluricincla megarhyncha</i> | |
| Sandstone Shrike-Thrush | <i>Colluricincla woodwardi</i> | |
| Gray Shrike-Thrush | <i>Colluricincla harmonica</i> | |
| Bower's Shrike-Thrush | <i>Colluricincla boweri</i> | |
| Olive Whistler | <i>Pachycephala olivacea</i> | |
| Gilbert's Whistler | <i>Pachycephala inornata</i> | |
| Golden Whistler | <i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i> | |
| Black-tailed Whistler | <i>Pachycephala melanura</i> | |
| Gray Whistler | <i>Pachycephala simplex</i> | |

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| Rufous Whistler | <i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i> | |
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AUSTRALO-PAPUAN BELLBIRDS: Oreoicidae

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Crested Bellbird | <i>Oreoica gutturalis</i> | |
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OLD WORLD ORIOLES: Oriolidae

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|---------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Olive-backed Oriole | <i>Oriolus sagittatus</i> | |
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| Green (Yellow) Oriole | <i>Oriolus flavocinctus</i> | |
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| Australasian Figbird | <i>Sphecotheres vieillotii</i> | |
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DRONGOS: Dicruridae

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| Spangled Drongo | <i>Dicrurus bracteatus</i> | |
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FANTAILS: Rhipiduridae

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| Northern Fantail | <i>Rhipidura rufiventris</i> | |
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| Willie-wagtail | <i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i> | |
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| Rufous Fantail | <i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i> | |
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| Arafura Fantail | <i>Rhipidura dryas</i> | |
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| Mangrove Fantail | <i>Rhipidura phasiana</i> | |
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| Gray Fantail | <i>Rhipidura albiscapa</i> | |
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MONARCH FLYCATCHERS: Monarchidae

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| White-eared Monarch | <i>Carterornis leucotis</i> | H |
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|---------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Black-faced Monarch | <i>Monarcha melanopsis</i> | |
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| Spectacled Monarch | <i>Symposiachrus trivirgatus</i> | |
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| Spectacled Monarch | <i>Symposiachrus t. gouldii</i> | |
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| Pied Monarch | <i>Arses kaupii</i> | |
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|-------------|----------------------------|--|
| Magpie-lark | <i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i> | |
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| Leaden Flycatcher | <i>Myiagra rubecula</i> | |
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| Broad-billed Flycatcher | <i>Myiagra ruficollis</i> | |
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| Satin Flycatcher | <i>Myiagra cyanoleuca</i> | |
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| Paperbark Flycatcher | <i>Myiagra nana</i> | |
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| Restless Flycatcher | <i>Myiagra inquieta</i> | |
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| Shining Flycatcher | <i>Myiagra alecto</i> | |
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CROWS, JAYS AND MAGPIES: Corvidae

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|--|
| Torresian Crow | <i>Corvus orru</i> | |
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| Little Crow | <i>Corvus bennetti</i> | |
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| Australian Raven | <i>Corvus coronoides</i> | |
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| Little Raven | <i>Corvus mellori</i> | |
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| Forest Raven | <i>Corvus tasmanicus</i> | |
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WHITE-WINGED CHOUGH AND APOSTLEBIRD: Corcoracidae

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| White-winged Chough | <i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i> | |
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| Apostlebird | <i>Struthidea cinerea</i> | |
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BIRDS-OF-PARADISE: Paradisaeidae

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Paradise Riflebird | <i>Ptiloris paradiseus</i> | |
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| Victoria's Riflebird | <i>Ptiloris victoriae</i> | |
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AUSTRALASIAN ROBINS: Petroicidae

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|--|
| Jacky-winter | <i>Microeca fascinans</i> | |
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| Lemon-bellied Flycatcher | <i>Microeca flavigaster</i> | |
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| Scarlet Robin | <i>Petroica boodang</i> | |
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| Red-capped Robin | <i>Petroica goodenovii</i> | |
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| Flame Robin | <i>Petroica phoenicea</i> | |
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| Rose Robin | <i>Petroica rosea</i> | |
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| Pink Robin | <i>Petroica rodinogaster</i> | |
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| Hooded Robin | <i>Melanodryas cucullata</i> | |
| Dusky Robin | <i>Melanodryas vittata</i> | |
| Pale-yellow Robin | <i>Tregellasia capito</i> | |
| Eastern Yellow Robin | <i>Eopsaltria australis</i> | |
| Mangrove Robin | <i>Eopsaltria pulverulenta</i> | |
| Buff-sided Robin | <i>Poecilodryas cerviniventris</i> | |
| Gray-headed Robin | <i>Heteromyias cinereifrons</i> | |
| Southern Scrub-Robin | <i>Drymodes brunneopygia</i> | H |

LARKS: Alaudidae

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|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Australasian Bushlark | <i>Mirafrja javanica</i> | |
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SWALLOWS: Hirundinidae

| | | |
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| Welcome Swallow | <i>Hirundo neoxena</i> | |
| Fairy Martin | <i>Petrochelidon ariel</i> | |
| Tree Martin | <i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i> | |
| White-backed Swallow | <i>Cheramoeca leucosterna</i> | |

REED-WARBLERS AND ALLIES: Acrocephalidae

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Australian Reed-Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus australis</i> | |
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GRASSBIRDS AND ALLIES: Megaluridae

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Little Grassbird | <i>Megalurus gramineus</i> | |
| Brown Songlark | <i>Cincloramphus cruralis</i> | |
| Tawny Grassbird | <i>Megalurus timoriensis</i> | |
| Rufous Songlark | <i>Cincloramphus mathewsi</i> | |

CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES: Cisticolidae

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| Golden-headed Cisticola | <i>Cisticola exilis</i> | |
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YUHINAS, WHITE-EYES AND ALLIES: Zosteropidae

| | | |
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| Silver-eye | <i>Zosterops lateralis</i> | |
| Australian Yellow White-eye | <i>Zosterops leutus</i> | |

THRUSHES AND ALLIES: Turdidae

| | | |
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| Olive-tailed (Bassian) Thrush | <i>Zoothera lunulata</i> | |
| Russet-tailed Thrush | <i>Zoothera heinei</i> | |
| Eurasian Blackbird | <i>Turdus merula</i> | |

STARLINGS: Sturnidae

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Metallic Starling | <i>Aplonis metallica</i> | |
| Common Myna | <i>Acridotheres tristis</i> | |
| European Starling | <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | |

FLOWERPECKERS: Dicaeidae

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|--|
| Mistletoebird | <i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i> | |
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SUNBIRDS AND SPIDERHUNTERS: Nectariniidae

| | | |
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| Olive-backed Sunbird | <i>Cinnyris jugularis</i> | |
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WAGTAILS AND PIPITS: Motacillidae

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| Australasian Pipit | <i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i> | |
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FINCHES, EUPHONIAS AND ALLIES: Fringillidae

| | | |
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| European Greenfinch | <i>Chloris chloris</i> | |
| European Goldfinch | <i>Carduelis carduelis</i> | |

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae

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|---------------|--------------------------|--|
| House Sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> | |
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WAXBILLS AND ALLIES: Estrildidae

| | | |
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| Beautiful Firetail | <i>Stagonopleura bella</i> | |
| Diamond Firetail | <i>Stagonopleura guttata</i> | |

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| Red-browed Firetail | <i>Neochmia temporalis</i> | |
| Crimson Finch | <i>Neochmia phaeton</i> | |
| Star Finch | <i>Neochmia ruficauda</i> | |
| Plum-headed Finch | <i>Neochmia modesta</i> | |
| Zebra Finch | <i>Taeniopygia guttata</i> | |
| Double-barred Finch | <i>Taeniopygia bichenovii</i> | |
| Masked Finch | <i>Poephila personata</i> | |
| Long-tailed Finch | <i>Poephila acuticauda</i> | |
| Gouldian Finch | <i>Erythrura gouldiae</i> | |
| Nutmeg Mannikin | <i>Lonchura punctulata</i> | |
| Yellow-rumped Munia | <i>Lonchura flaviprymna</i> | |
| Chestnut-breasted Munia | <i>Lonchura castaneothorax</i> | |

Mammals

ECHIDNA: Tachyglossidae

| | | |
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| Short-beaked Echidna | <i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i> | |
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PLATYPUS:

Ornithorhynchidae

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| Platypus | <i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i> | |
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DASYURIDS: Dasyuridae

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| Fat-tailed Dunnart | <i>Sminthopsis crassicaudata</i> | |
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BANDICOOTS: Peramelidae

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Northern Brown Bandicoot | <i>Isodon macrourus</i> | |
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BRUSHTAIL POSSUMS: Phalangeridae

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Mountain Brushtail Possum | <i>Trichosurus caninus</i> | |
| Common Brushtail Possum | <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> | |

GLIDERS AND STRIPED POSSUM: Petauridae

| | | |
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| Sugar Glider | <i>Petaurus breviceps</i> | |
| Yellow-bellied Glider | <i>Petaurus australis</i> | |
| Feathertail Glider | <i>Acrobated pygmaeus</i> | |

RINGTAIL POSSUMS: Pseudocheiridae

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Common Ringtail Possum | <i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i> | |
| Green Ringtail Possum | <i>Pseudocheirops archeri</i> | |
| Lemuroid Ringtail Possum | <i>Hemibelideus lemuroides</i> | |
| Long-tailed Pygmy-Possum | <i>Certartetus caudatus</i> | |

MUSKY RAT-KANGAROO: Hypsiprymnodontidae

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| Musky Rat-kangaroo | <i>Hypsiprymnodon moschatus</i> | |
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KANGAROOS, WALLABIES AND TREE-KANGAROOS:

Macropodidae

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo | <i>Dendrolagus lumholtzi</i> | |
| Agile Wallaby | <i>Macropus agilis</i> | |
| Whiptail Wallaby | <i>Macropus parryi</i> | |
| Eastern Grey Kangaroo | <i>Macropus giganteus</i> | |
| Western Grey Kangaroo | <i>Macropus fuliginosus</i> | |
| Red Kangaroo | <i>Macropus rufus</i> | |
| Antilopine Wallaroo | <i>Macropus antilopinus</i> | |
| Euro (Common Wallaroo) | <i>Macropus robustus</i> | |

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| Black Wallaroo | <i>Macropus bernardus</i> | |
| Red-necked Wallaby | <i>Macropus rufogriseus</i> | |
| Black (Swamp) Wallaby | <i>Wallabia bicolor</i> | |
| Mareeba Rock Wallaby | <i>Petrogale mareeba</i> | |
| Short-eared Rock-Wallaby | <i>Petrogale brachyotis</i> | |
| Rufous Bettong | <i>Aepyprymnus rufescens</i> | |
| Rufous-bellied (Tas.) Pademelon | <i>Thylogale billardieri</i> | |
| Red-legged Pademelon | <i>Thylogale stigmatica</i> | |
| Red-necked Pademelon | <i>Thylogale thetis</i> | |

FRUIT BATS: Pteropodidae

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Black Flying-fox | <i>Pteropus alecto</i> | |
| Spectacled Flying-fox | <i>Pteropus conspicillatus</i> | |
| Gray-headed Flying-fox | <i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i> | |
| Little Red Flying-fox | <i>Pteropus scapulatus</i> | |
| Diadem Roundleaf Bat | <i>Hipposideros diadema</i> | |

RATS AND MICE: Muridae

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------|--|
| House Mouse | <i>Mus musculus</i> | |
| Bush Rat | <i>Rattus fuscipes</i> | |

DOGS AND FOXES: Canidae

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|---------|----------------------|--|
| Red Fox | <i>Vulpes vulpes</i> | |
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EARED SEALS: Otariidae

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| Australian Fur Seal | <i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i> | |
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PIGS: Suidae

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|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Feral Pig | <i>Sus scrofa</i> | |
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RABBITS AND HARES: Leporidae

| | | |
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| European Hare | <i>Lepus europaeus</i> | |
| European Rabbit | <i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i> | |

DOLPHINS: Delphinidae

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Common Bottlenose Dolphin | <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> | |
| Short-beaked Common Dolphin | <i>Delphinus delphis</i> | |

RORQUALS: Balaenopteridae

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Humpback Whale | <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> | |
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