

## TRIP REPORT: AUSTRALIA'S GREAT CHANNEL COUNTRY

**DATES: SEPTEMBER 2010**

**Photos: Nick Leseberg and Iain Campbell**

The Australian Outback. When most people hear these words, their minds are filled with visions of an arid and desolate landscape. They imagine the soft greys and browns of the sparse vegetation, seemingly interminable blue skies, and the rare slashes of green marking the few great rivers that wend their way across the vast red plains. At first glance this incredible place can seem bereft of life, but closer inspection will reveal an environment positively teeming with a variety of birds and animals, all eking out an existence in this tough land. Tropical Birding's Great Channel Country tour offers birders a chance to visit the south-western corner of Queensland, and experience first-hand the fabled Australian Outback, while also seeing some of the rare and beautiful birds which call it home.



**The gorgeous azure jewel of the inland, a male Splendid Fairywren.**

In late 2010, we conducted our first run through of this fantastic trip, focussing on inland birds that are difficult to see on other Tropical Birding tours. It was incredibly successful, and we saw a host of amazing birds. We were lucky to hit Central Australia in the middle of a boom year following record rainfalls, and it seemed that everywhere we went there were birds singing, nest-building, breeding and feeding young. The undoubted highlight of the trip was the famous Bowra Station, which served up a smorgasbord of sought after endemic species. Overall the trip produced 20 species of parrots, 16 species of raptor and a fantastic 228 species in total, completely exceeding our expectations. With further rain since the trip, it looks like the amazing conditions are likely to continue for the next twelve months at least, making 2011 a perfect year to visit the inland.

## Day 1: Brisbane – St George

We left Brisbane early and made our way straight over the Great Divide, the mountain range which extends right down Australia's eastern seaboard, and traditionally separates Australia's wet coastal fringe from the flat, dry inland. It is on the western foothills of the range that you first start to find birds unique to Australia's inland, and so it was here that we started our birding.



The exquisite little **Diamond Firetail**.

Our first stop was a quick one at Durikai State Forest, where a large area of remnant ironbark forest supports some sought after birds. We picked up a few **Yellow-tufted** and **Yellow-faced Honeyeaters** to get the list off to a good start, then as we moved into the forest we were surprised to hear a **Little Bronze-Cuckoo**. A flash of red and white turned into a very obliging pair of **Diamond Firetails**, and some agitated calling from the undergrowth revealed itself as a **Speckled Warbler**.

We moved on to an area of more open woodland, which produced our first truly inland birds, a pair of shy **Bluebonnets**. It was also a good opportunity to compare the inland **Yellow-throated Miner** with its coastal cousin, the **Noisy Miner**; the two occur together here. We picked up our first **White-plumed Honeyeaters**, **Yellow-rumped** and **Yellow Thornbills**, and then as some light drizzle started to fall, a **Squatter**

**Pigeon** was spotted on the side of the road; a prize bird in this part of Queensland, here they are at the absolute southern edge of their range. As we were leaving we got fleeting glimpses of a pair of **Emus** as they sprinted away in a large open paddock, unfortunately not stopping for photos.

Our last stop before lunch was to pick up some waterbirds at Coolmunda Dam. On the road into the dam we saw our first **White-winged Fairywrens**, another bird at the very eastern limit of their range here. We also found several small groups of the sought after **Plum-headed Finch**, whose stronghold seems to be this part of Queensland. Out on the water there were large numbers of **Australian Pelicans** and **Great Cormorants** plus a lone **Great-crested Grebe**, and in a flowering eucalypt we found some very obliging **Scaly-breasted Lorikeets** hungrily devouring the nectar on offer.



**These Scaly-breasted Lorikeets were so busy feeding they allowed us within metres of them at eye-level.**

We stopped for lunch in Inglewood, before heading south to another patch of ironbark forest. Leaving town we saw our first **Red-winged Parrots**, before picking up a small group of **Apostlebirds** as we neared the forest. Just as we approached our stop a **Spotted Bowerbird** flitted across the road, and as we jumped out of the car we heard a distant **Cicadabird**. He quickly came in to a tape, before we started walking around the forest. A small waterhole was a focus for the birding activity, with the first new bird for the list a **Brown-headed Honeyeater**. A high pitched tinkling drew near, and as we looked to the canopy, were lucky to see one of our target birds for the day, a **Turquoise Parrot**, perhaps looking for a drink. After staying for a minute he continued on his way, and although our searching couldn't relocate him, we did flush a pair of **Painted Buttonquail** in the process.

On that note we called it a day. We had found some incredible birds to get our trip underway, and there was a long drive ahead to our overnight stop at St George. As we made our way into the inland through the afternoon we picked up a few new birds from the car, including **Pale-headed Rosella**, our first of many **Cockatiels** and several of the more common raptors, with **Australian Kestrels** and **Brown Falcons** the most frequent.

## Day 2: St George – Bowra Station

Leaving St George early, today we struck deep into the heart of Australia's outback and got to see some real inland birds. Our first stops were for some roadside birding just to the west of St George. With a lot of rain throughout inland Australia in September conditions were fantastic, with lots of evidence of breeding and the vegetation looking lush and green. We soon found our first **Spiny-cheeked Honeyeaters**, whose liquid call would be a constant companion over the next few days. We stumbled across a large nest high up in a eucalypt, and were surprised to find the slightly crested head of a **Little Eagle** peering over the edge at us.

Moving on to a roadside dam proved to be very productive. We came across more **Plum-headed Finches** drinking at the water's edge accompanied by **Double-barred Finches**, while out on the water a raft of **Plumed Whistling-Ducks** were a good find. There was a **Pacific Heron** nesting on a flimsy platform precariously balanced on a branch overhanging the dam, and while a pair of **Striped Honeyeaters** carolled in the background, we found the first of many **Little Woodswallows**, and had a pair of **Pink Cockatoos** fly over.



We found several groups of the gorgeous and rare Plum-headed Finch on the first two days of our trip.



This Pacific Heron was tending a nest so flimsy we could see the egg through the bottom!

We continued west, arriving in Cunnamulla for lunch before continuing out to the famous Bowra Station. Situated just outside the township of Cunnamulla, Bowra was formerly a working cattle station that was carefully managed to preserve the large tracts of remaining habitat. Recently bought by the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, the property and its extensive areas of lightly grazed grassland, mulga and open woodland, still provide a home to many of Australia's scarce and declining inland birds.

After checking into our accommodation in the old shearer's quarters, we took a rest before heading out onto the property for an afternoon's birding. We focussed our efforts on trying to find Chestnut-breasted Quail-Thrush, and although we were unsuccessful we did find a number of other great birds. A distant **Black-breasted Kite** was our only one for the trip, but perhaps the highlight was point blank views of a beautiful male **Splendid Fairywren**. He and his mate were in the process of building a nest, and completely oblivious to our presence. While watching him we also saw a male **Red-capped Robin**, while a pair of **Mulga Parrots** flew overhead, their tinkling calls fading as they disappeared below a ridgeline.



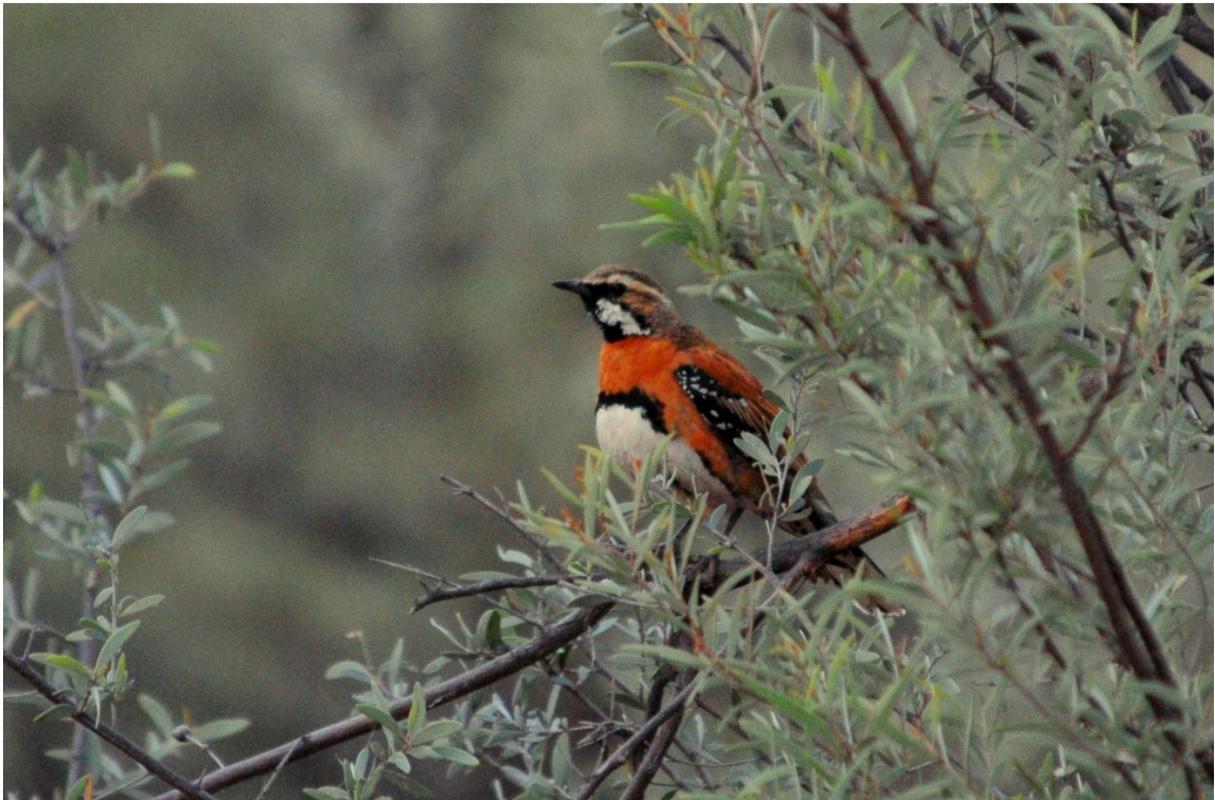
**This incandescent male Splendid Fairywren and his drab mate were busy building a nest only metres in front of us. He posed for some incredible photographs.**

Before sunset we also picked up a few more of the regular species out this way. **Mallee Ringnecks** with their splashes of green and blue were common, and the plaintive descending whistle of a **Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo** alerted us to this small bird calling from the top of a nearby tree. We also saw some curious behaviour; an adult **Pallid Cuckoo** feeding a juvenile bird. Does the adult know whether the young bird is one of its progeny?

We also picked up a mammal tick, as pair of robust Euros, a type of kangaroo which inhabits arid stony country bounded in front of the car. On that note we called it a day and headed into Cunnamulla for dinner and a few beers to celebrate some fantastic birding.

### **Day 3: Bowra Station**

With a long list of birds to see, we were up at sunrise to start birding. Early morning is the best time of day to find quail-thrushes as these elusive birds are more active, and their high-pitched contact calls easier to hear. We commenced searching a low stony ridgeline, and before long had heard the thin piping call of a **Chestnut-breasted Quail-Thrush**. It took ten minutes, but we eventually tracked down a cracking male who gave good views as he foraged and called within metres of us.



**Our first bird of the morning was one of our high priority targets, the beautiful Chestnut-breasted Quail-Thrush.**

Having had our fill of the quail-thrush, we pushed on looking for more birds, soon picking up several groups of **Chestnut-crowned Babblers**. As we were trying to follow the babblers we flushed many **Diamond Doves** that were feeding on the ground, plus another pair of small dove-like birds. They perched in a low bush and we got our first views of the beautiful little pink and blue **Bourke's Parrot**. A specialty in this area, we watched the parrots for quite a while as they returned to the ground and continued feeding. Before leaving the parrots we had also picked up a pair of **Hooded Robins**.

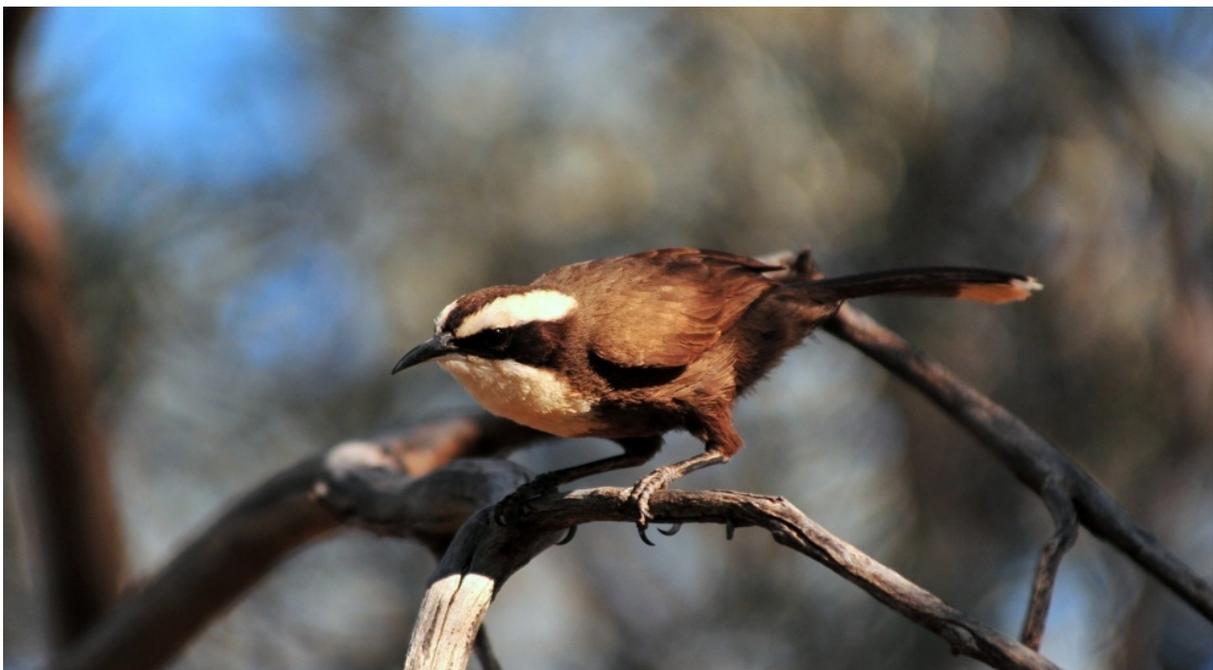


**The delicate little Bourke's Parrot is an inland specialist, and we saw several pairs at Bowra.**

We continued on to another section of the property which is known as a good location for Hall's Babblers. On the way we surprised a small group of **Emus** which gave good views as they cruised past, apparently unconcerned at our presence. Soon we were entering an extensive tract of mulga woodland, and it was not long before we heard the distinctive

querulous calls of a party of babblers. We could see the birds some distance away and pursued them for several minutes before eventually catching the birds. As we sat quietly, we were rewarded with a group inquisitive **Hall's Babblers** coming to check us out.

We had spent a solid morning birding and seen plenty of good birds, so we took the opportunity to have a break for lunch and relax while watching activity on the waterhole near our accommodation. Breeding **Pied Stilts** and **Masked Lapwings**, as well as **Black-fronted Dotterels** tottered around the water's edge. A trip into town for lunch was worthwhile, when on the return trip a low-flying raptor was identified as a **Square-tailed Kite**.



**Several groups of the range restricted Hall's Babbler call Bowra Station home.**

As the temperatures cooled in mid-afternoon we loaded up and went out looking for a nesting Ground Cuckoo-Shrike which had been reported in a distant section of the property. On the way we found some more new birds for our list, with a small group of three **Grey-crowned Babblers** that scrambled through some



low bushes, and a plump **Common Bronzewing** peering at us from under

**We had fantastic views of this Ground Cuckoo-Shrike and its mate as the changed incubation duties at their nest.**

some dense vegetation. As we arrived at the reported creek crossing we were surprised to see overhead a large nest containing some well-developed **Brown Falcon** chicks. Soon after, the distinctive call and sleek shape of an overflying **Ground Cuckoo-Shrike** alerted us to its presence. We watched as it proceeded to its nest, swapping incubation duties with its partner. We spent some time observing the nest and the other birds that were active in the area, with a pair of **White-backed Swallows** the highlight.



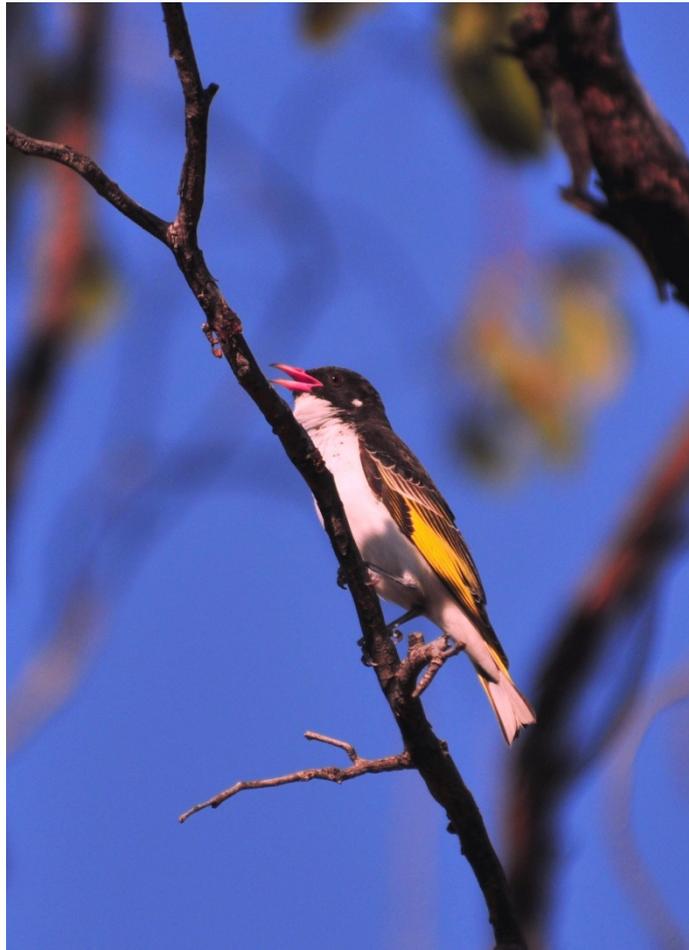
After going back to the homestead we had an early dinner, before proceeding out for some night birding. Back at the same place we had found the quail-thrush this morning we were able to hear the eerie chortling call of a **Spotted Nightjar**, a distant **Southern Boobook** and a nearby **Australian Owlet-Nightjar**, although it wouldn't show itself. Before turning in for the night, we took a quick walk around the waterhole. Going to sleep the previous night we had been serenaded by the croaking of seemingly thousands of frogs, and moving out to the wet grass surrounding the waterhole we were able to find several different species, including Peron's Tree-Frog (pictured left), Broad-palmed Frog and Spotted Grass Frog.

#### Day 4: Bowra Station – Noccundra

We were up early to make use of our last morning on Bowra Station. Having scored the specialties, we were now searching for some bonus birds. A Painted Honeyeater had been reported over the past couple of days at a particular location on the property, so we trotted off to try and find it. While searching we stumbled across another pair of **Chestnut-breasted Quail-Thrushes**, and then an unusual call alerted us to a male **Redthroat** singing from the top of a low bush. A prize bird in the area, the Redthroat is right at the eastern limit of its distribution here.

As our search continued we found some more new birds including **Red-backed Kingfisher** and **Southern Whiteface**, before we finally heard what we had been waiting for, the distinctive two-syllable whistle of a male **Painted Honeyeater**. After hurrying in the direction of the call we quickly found the bird singing his

heart out from the top of a bare tree, even posing for photos! Elated we switched our search to some other honeyeaters which had been reported, the irruptive Pied and Black Honeyeaters. Unfortunately with time running out we didn't have much time to spare, so we had to depart, hoping we would get them later on.



**This beautiful male Painted Honeyeater spent the morning singing his heart out. We were lucky to connect with this unexpected and enigmatic bird.**



**The cute Red-browed Pardalote**

We spent our final hour at the station birding around the homestead, firstly trying to track down a **Red-browed Pardalote**. The distinctive call of this ventriloquial little bird can be quite hard to locate, but we eventually found him foraging in the top of some nearby trees. We then watched a male **Spotted Bowerbird** attending his impressive

bower, replete with an array of colourful objects, mostly bleached white snail shells.

Leaving Bowra we pressed on, soon leaving behind the mulga and open woodland, and moving out onto the stony plains that typify this part of Australia. The recent rains had turned what is usually hard barren ground into a rolling green carpet, stretching as far as the eye can see. We saw our first **Little Crows**, and began to come across large groups of **Chestnut-eared Finches** feeding on the side of the road, sometimes accompanied by small parties of delightful little **Budgerigars**. A flash of red across the road had us screeching to halt hoping for a **Crimson Chat**, but unfortunately it didn't hang around. A consolation prize was a **Little Buttonquail** which we flushed off the side of the road. We rolled into Noccundra right on dusk, got our rooms, then headed straight to the bar for a hearty dinner with some beers to celebrate another great day.

#### Day 5: Noccundra – Thargomindah



**Parties of these Variegated Fairywrens were common in the lignum on Cooper's Creek.**

We had to leave very early this morning in order to get out to Cooper's Crossing right at daybreak, and on the way out we frightened some enormous Red Kangaroos feeding on the edge of the road in the breaking dawn. As we approached the floodplain of the Cooper Creek we could see the habitat change. The stony plains gave way to wide, flat, grassy areas interspersed with tree-lined creeks, many still holding water. The area surrounding these creeks supports a curious type of vegetation, spindly clumps of lignum. These clumps of lignum support the Grey Grasswren, one of Australia's most elusive birds. It is restricted to this part of Australia, and is so difficult to see it wasn't even discovered until the late 1960s.

After arriving and having breakfast we set out to search the area. There was quite a lot of water in the creek and this supported a number of

waterbirds. We were able to pick out **Darters**, **Great Cormorants**, and **Yellow-billed Spoonbills** all flying overhead. We pushed into the lignum, chasing down the soft calls of anything that sounded wren-like. We were usually rewarded with sightings of the beautiful little **Variegated Fairywren**, but no grasswrens. We flushed **Stubble Quail** from long grass, a **Spotted Nightjar** sheltering under a tree and then another **Bourke's Parrot**, but unfortunately couldn't find the grasswrens. After several hours searching we had to admit defeat, but it wasn't without a significant consolation prize, as a small group of **Flock Bronzewings** wheeled briefly overhead. This enigmatic and little-known bird of the inland was unexpected, and an absolute bonus.

Leaving Cooper's Crossing we worked our way back towards Thargomindah. There were still plenty of birds to keep us going though. We soon started to encounter swarms of **White-browed** and **Masked Woodswallows**. Another of Australia's unpredictable inland species, these birds will suddenly irrupt almost anywhere across the country, and we found ourselves right in the middle of it. They are exquisite birds, and their soft blues and greys seem to fit right in to the greys, greens and reds of Australia's outback. We also picked up another inland jewel, this time a much more obliging male **Crimson Chat**, who even posed for photos within metres of us.



The **Crimson Chat** is another irruptive bird of the inland which at the first sniff of rain, will appear in an area and breed furiously while conditions are good, before moving on.

## Day 6: Thargomindah – St George



**Centralian Bearded Dragons were a common sight on branches and fence posts, soaking up the warm sun.**

Today was a driving day, as we retraced our steps back towards Brisbane. There was still plenty of time for birding though, as we made stops at some fantastic locations. Our first was at Lake Bindegolly, a huge ephemeral wetland that held a range of wetland birds. We were able to pick up all three species of Australian grebe, **Great-crested, Hoary-headed** and **Australasian Grebe**. There was also a wide variety of ducks, including

**Pink-eared** and **Musk Ducks**, plus a large group of **Plumed Whistling-Ducks**. Floating overhead were both **Gull-billed** and **Whiskered Terns**, while **Fairy Martins** were busy collecting mud to build their nests under a nearby culvert. As we searched the low bushes around the lake we also found many **White-winged Fairywrens** including some very dashing males.

We made a brief stop at Eulo Bore where there wasn't a lot of activity, although we did get good views of **Red-winged Parrot**, and a **Collared Sparrowhawk**. As we approached Cunnamulla we encountered several swarms of locusts, not such good news for the local farmers, but a boon for birders as we spied a pair of **Black Falcons**



**As we left the inland, we left behind the White-browed Woodswallows, which were present in huge numbers.** picking off locusts. By this point we had seen most of the birds we needed, so the last part of the day was spent driving to St George, where we spent the night.

## Day 7: St George – Brisbane



**The Lockyer Valley is a great place for raptors, and this young Brown Falcon was one of many that we saw.**

western birds cross the divide, and can be found in the valley with a variety of birds more common on the coastal fringe.

There are several wetlands in the valley, and we moved around these, picking up several new birds on the way. **Tawny Grassbirds** were common in the rank growth, while the lagoons held **Comb-crested Jacanas**, **Black Swans** and a multitude of ducks. The valley is also a great location for raptors, and we found **Australian Hobby** and a fantastic pair of **Wedge-tailed Eagles** perched regally in a tall lone tree. We also found a large group of **Banded Lapwings** feeding in an open paddock, a typical representative of those birds which are more common inland, but still occur here close to Brisbane.

Moving into Brisbane we stopped at a few different locations and picked up some bonus birds. Some open woodland on the south-western outskirts produced **Little Lorikeets**, while a forested road allowed us to add some unexpected rainforest birds to our list, with **White-eared Monarch**, **Varied Triller** and **Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove** all showing well.



**One of our last birds of the trip was this unexpected White-eared Monarch.**

On that note, and with the light fading, we called curtains on what had been a fantastic trip. The purpose of this tour is to expose birders to the incredible landscape of Australia's true

outback, along with those amazing birds which call it home. On that front the trip was a raging success; we were able to see the country in great shape after recent rain, and there were birds everywhere. We managed to track down some of Australia's most fantastic birds, with the subdued Bourke's Parrot, the boisterous Hall's Babbler, the enigmatic Flock Bronzewing and the beautiful Chestnut-breasted Quail-Thrush all favourites. With such significant rain falling in the outback, conditions are likely to remain ideal for birding for at least another twelve months, so it looks like 2011 will be a bumper year. Who wants to come next time?

## **BIRD LIST**

This list includes all the bird species recorded during the trip to survey the route for this tour. Taxonomy and nomenclature closely follow Clements (2007). Parentheses denote an alternate name used by some checklists.

Total: **228** species, including two heard only (H).

### **EMU: Dromaiidae**

1. Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae*

### **DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS: Anatidae**

2. Plumed Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna eytoni*
3. Wandering Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna arcuata*
4. Black Swan *Cygnus atratus*
5. Maned Duck *Chenonetta jubata*
6. Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*
7. Australian Shoveler *Anas rhynchotis*
8. Grey Teal *Anas gracilis*
9. Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea*
10. Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus*
11. White-eyed Duck *Aythya australis*
12. Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis*
13. Musk Duck *Biziura lobata*

### **PHEASANTS, GROUSE AND ALLIES: Phasianidae**

14. Stubble Quail *Coturnix pectoralis*

### **GREBES: Podicipedidae**

15. Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*
16. Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus*
17. Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

### **PELICANS: Pelecanidae**

18. Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

**CORMORANTS AND SHAGS: Phalacrocoracidae**

- |     |                        |                                   |
|-----|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 19. | Little Black Cormorant | <i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i> |
| 20. | Great Cormorant        | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>        |
| 21. | Pied Cormorant         | <i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>       |
| 22. | Little Pied Cormorant  | <i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i> |

**ANHINGAS: Anhingidae**

- |     |        |                             |
|-----|--------|-----------------------------|
| 23. | Darter | <i>Anhinga melanogaster</i> |
|-----|--------|-----------------------------|

**HERONS, EGRETS AND BITTERNS: Ardeidae**

- |     |                    |                                |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 24. | Pacific Heron      | <i>Ardea pacifica</i>          |
| 25. | Great Egret        | <i>Ardea alba</i>              |
| 26. | Intermediate Egret | <i>Egretta intermedia</i>      |
| 27. | White-faced Heron  | <i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i> |
| 28. | Little Egret       | <i>Egretta garzetta</i>        |
| 29. | Cattle Egret       | <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>           |
| 30. | Rufous Night-Heron | <i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>  |

**IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae**

- |     |                         |                                 |
|-----|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 31. | Australian Ibis         | <i>Threskiornis molucca</i>     |
| 32. | Straw-necked Ibis       | <i>Threskiornis spinicollis</i> |
| 33. | Royal Spoonbill         | <i>Platalea regia</i>           |
| 34. | Yellow-billed Spoonbill | <i>Platalea flavipes</i>        |

**STORKS: Ciconiidae**

- |     |                    |                                   |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 35. | Black-necked Stork | <i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i> |
|-----|--------------------|-----------------------------------|

**HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES: Accipitridae**

- |     |                         |                                 |
|-----|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 36. | Square-tailed Kite      | <i>Lophoictinia isura</i>       |
| 37. | Black-breasted Kite     | <i>Hamirostra melanosternon</i> |
| 38. | Australian Kite         | <i>Elanus axillaris</i>         |
| 39. | Black Kite              | <i>Milvus migrans</i>           |
| 40. | Whistling Kite          | <i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>      |
| 41. | White-bellied Sea-Eagle | <i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>   |
| 42. | Swamp Harrier           | <i>Circus approximans</i>       |
| 43. | Spotted Harrier         | <i>Circus assimilis</i>         |
| 44. | Brown Goshawk           | <i>Accipiter fasciatus</i>      |
| 45. | Collared Sparrowhawk    | <i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>  |
| 46. | Wedge-tailed Eagle      | <i>Aquila audax</i>             |
| 47. | Little Eagle            | <i>Aquila morphnoides</i>       |

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae**

- |     |                    |                          |
|-----|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 48. | Australian Kestrel | <i>Falco cenchroides</i> |
| 49. | Australian Hobby   | <i>Falco longipennis</i> |
| 50. | Brown Falcon       | <i>Falco berigora</i>    |
| 51. | Black Falcon       | <i>Falco subniger</i>    |

**RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS: Rallidae**

- |                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 52. Purple Swamphen         | <i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i> |
| 53. Dusky Moorhen           | <i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i> |
| 54. Black-tailed Native-hen | <i>Gallinula ventralis</i> |
| 55. Eurasian Coot           | <i>Fulica atra</i>         |

**CRANES: Gruidae**

- |            |                       |
|------------|-----------------------|
| 56. Brolga | <i>Grus rubicunda</i> |
|------------|-----------------------|

**THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae**

- |                     |                            |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 57. Bush Thick-knee | <i>Burhinus grallarius</i> |
|---------------------|----------------------------|

**PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae**

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 58. Banded Lapwing         | <i>Vanellus tricolor</i>    |
| 59. Masked Lapwing         | <i>Vanellus miles</i>       |
| 60. Red-kneed Dotterel     | <i>Erythrogonys cinctus</i> |
| 61. Black-fronted Dotterel | <i>Elseyornis melanops</i>  |

**STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae**

- |                |                                 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| 62. Pied Stilt | <i>Himantopus leucocephalus</i> |
|----------------|---------------------------------|

**JACANAS: Jacanidae**

- |                         |                              |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 63. Comb-crested Jacana | <i>Irediparra gallinacea</i> |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|

**BUTTONQUAIL: Turnicidae**

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 64. Painted Buttonquail | <i>Turnix varius</i> |
| 65. Little Buttonquail  | <i>Turnix velox</i>  |

**PRATINCOLES AND COURSERS: Glareolidae**

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 66. Australian Pratincole | <i>Stiltia isabella</i> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|

**GULLS, TERNS AND SKIMMERS: Laridae**

- |                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 67. Silver Gull      | <i>Larus novaehollandiae</i> |
| 68. Gull-billed Tern | <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i> |
| 69. Caspian Tern     | <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>    |
| 70. Whiskered Tern   | <i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>    |

**PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae**

- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 71. Rock Pigeon         | <i>Columba livia</i>          |
| 72. Spotted Dove        | <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i> |
| 73. Common Bronzewing   | <i>Phaps chalcoptera</i>      |
| 74. Flock Bronzewing    | <i>Phaps histrionica</i>      |
| 75. Crested Pigeon      | <i>Geophaps lophotes</i>      |
| 76. Squatter Pigeon     | <i>Geophaps scripta</i>       |
| 77. Diamond Dove        | <i>Geopelia cuneata</i>       |
| 78. Peaceful Dove       | <i>Geopelia placida</i>       |
| 79. Bar-shouldered Dove | <i>Geopelia humeralis</i>     |

80. Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina*

**COCKATOOS: Cacatuidae**

81. Galah *Eolophus roseicapilla*  
82. Little Corella *Cacatua sanguinea*  
83. Pink Cockatoo *Cacatua leadbeateri*  
84. Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*  
85. Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus*

**PARROTS: Psittacidae**

86. Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus*  
87. Scaly-breasted Lorikeet *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus*  
88. Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla*  
89. Mallee Ringneck *Barnardius barnardi*  
90. Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans*  
91. Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius*  
92. Pale-headed Rosella *Platycercus adscitus*  
93. Red-rumped Parrot *Psephotus haematonotus*  
94. Mulga Parrot *Psephotus varius*  
95. Bluebonnet *Northiella haematogaster*  
96. Bourke's Parrot *Neophema bourkii*  
97. Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella*  
98. Budgerigar *Melopsittacus undulatus*  
99. Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis*  
100. Red-winged Parrot *Aprosmictus erythropterus*

**CUCKOOS: Cuculidae**

101. Pallid Cuckoo *Cuculus pallidus*  
102. Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus*  
103. Fan-tailed Cuckoo *Cacomantis flabelliformis*  
104. Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx basalis*  
105. Little Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx minutillus*  
106. Australian Koel *Eudynamys cyanocephalus*  
107. Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae*  
108. Pheasant Coucal *Centropus phasianinus*

**BARN-OWLS: Tytonidae**

109. Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

**OWLS: Strigidae**

110. Southern Boobook (H) *Ninox boobook*

**OWLET-NIGHTJARS: Aegothelidae**

111. Australian Owlet-Nightjar (H) *Aegotheles cristatus*

**FROGMOUTHS: Podargidae**

112. Tawny Frogmouth *Podargus strigoides*

**NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES: Caprimulgidae**

113. Spotted Nightjar *Eurostopodus argus*

**KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae**

114. Azure Kingfisher *Alcedo azurea*  
115. Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*  
116. Red-backed Kingfisher *Todiramphus pyrrhopygius*  
117. Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*

**BEE-EATERS: Meropidae**

118. Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*

**ROLLERS: Coraciidae**

119. Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*

**BOWERBIRDS: Ptilonorhynchidae**

120. Spotted Bowerbird *Chlamydera maculata*

**AUSTRALASIAN TREECREEPERS: Climacteridae**

121. White-throated Treecreeper *Cormobates leucophaea*  
122. White-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris affinis*  
123. Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus*

**FAIRYWRENS: Maluridae**

124. Red-backed Fairywren *Malurus melanocephalus*  
125. White-winged Fairywren *Malurus leucopterus*  
126. Superb Fairywren *Malurus cyaneus*  
127. Splendid Fairywren *Malurus splendens*  
128. Variegated Fairywren *Malurus lamberti*

**HONEYEATERS: Meliphagidae**

129. Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta*  
130. Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii*  
131. Yellow-faced Honeyeater *Lichenostomus chrysops*  
132. Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens*  
133. Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops*  
134. Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus*  
135. White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus*  
136. White-throated Honeyeater *Melithreptus albogularis*  
137. Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris*  
138. Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis*  
139. Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus*  
140. Crimson Chat *Epthianura tricolor*  
141. Striped Honeyeater *Plectorhyncha lanceolata*  
142. Painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta*  
143. Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis*  
144. Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys*

- |                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 145. Noisy Miner              | <i>Manorina melanocephala</i>   |
| 146. Yellow-throated Miner    | <i>Manorina flavigula</i>       |
| 147. Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater | <i>Acanthagenys rufogularis</i> |

**PARDALOTES: Pardalotidae**

- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 148. Spotted Pardalote    | <i>Pardalotus punctatus</i>  |
| 149. Red-browed Pardalote | <i>Pardalotus rubricatus</i> |
| 150. Striated Pardalote   | <i>Pardalotus striatus</i>   |

**THORNBILLS AND ALLIES: Acanthizidae**

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 151. White-browed Scrubwren    | <i>Sericornis frontalis</i>    |
| 152. Redthroat                 | <i>Pyrrholaemus brunneus</i>   |
| 153. Speckled Warbler          | <i>Pyrrholaemus sagittatus</i> |
| 154. Buff-rumped Thornbill     | <i>Acanthiza reguloides</i>    |
| 155. Brown Thornbill           | <i>Acanthiza pusilla</i>       |
| 156. Inland Thornbill          | <i>Acanthiza apicalis</i>      |
| 157. Yellow-rumped Thornbill   | <i>Acanthiza chrysorrhoa</i>   |
| 158. Chestnut-rumped Thornbill | <i>Acanthiza uropygialis</i>   |
| 159. Yellow Thornbill          | <i>Acanthiza nana</i>          |
| 160. Weebill                   | <i>Smicrornis brevirostris</i> |
| 161. White-throated Gerygone   | <i>Gerygone olivacea</i>       |
| 162. Brown Gerygone            | <i>Gerygone mouki</i>          |
| 163. Western Gerygone          | <i>Gerygone fusca</i>          |
| 164. Southern Whiteface        | <i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i> |

**PSEUDO-BABLERS: Pomatostomidae**

- |                               |                                |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 165. Grey-crowned Babbler     | <i>Pomatostomus temporalis</i> |
| 166. Hall's Babbler           | <i>Pomatostomus halli</i>      |
| 167. Chestnut-crowned Babbler | <i>Pomatostomus ruficeps</i>   |

**WHIPBIRDS AND WEDGEBILLS: Psophodidae**

- |                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 168. Eastern Whipbird | <i>Psophodes olivaceus</i> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|

**QUAIL-THRUSHES AND JEWEL-BABLERS: Cinclosomatidae**

- |                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 169. Chestnut-breasted Quail-thrush | <i>Cinclosoma castaneothorax</i> |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|

**WOODSWALLOWS: Artamidae**

- |                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 170. White-breasted Woodswallow | <i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i> |
| 171. Masked Woodswallow         | <i>Artamus personatus</i>    |
| 172. White-browed Woodswallow   | <i>Artamus superciliosus</i> |
| 173. Black-faced Woodswallow    | <i>Artamus cinereus</i>      |
| 174. Little Woodswallow         | <i>Artamus minor</i>         |

**BELLMAGPIES AND ALLIES: Cracticidae**

- |                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 175. Grey Butcherbird | <i>Cracticus torquatus</i>    |
| 176. Pied Butcherbird | <i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i> |

177. Australasian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*  
178. Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina*

**CUCKOO-SHRIKES: Campephagidae**

179. Ground Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina maxima*  
180. Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*  
181. White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*  
182. Cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris*  
183. White-winged Triller *Lalage tricolor*  
184. Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*

**SITELLAS: Neosittidae**

185. Varied Sittella *Neositta chrysoptera*

**WHISTLERS AND ALLIES: Pachycephalidae**

186. Crested Bellbird *Oreoica gutturalis*  
187. Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris*  
188. Grey Shrike-Thrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

**OLD WORLD ORIOLES: Oriolidae**

189. Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus*  
190. Green Figbird *Sphecotheres viridis*

**FANTAILS: Rhipiduridae**

191. Willie-wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*  
192. Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa*

**MONARCH-FLYCATCHERS: Monarchidae**

193. Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha melanopsis*  
194. White-eared Monarch *Monarcha leucotis*  
195. Spectacled Monarch *Monarcha trivirgatus*  
196. Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*  
197. Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*  
198. Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta*

**CROWS, JAYS AND MAGPIES: Corvidae**

199. Torresian Crow *Corvus orru*  
200. Little Crow *Corvus bennetti*  
201. Australian Raven *Corvus coronoides*

**WHITE-WINGED CHOUGH AND APOSTLEBIRD: Corcoracidae**

202. White-winged Chough *Corcorax melanorhamphos*  
203. Apostlebird *Struthidea cinerea*

**AUSTRALASIAN ROBINS: Petroicidae**

204. Jacky-winter *Microeca fascinans*  
205. Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii*

206. Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata*  
207. Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis*

**LARKS: Alaudidae**

208. Australasian Bushlark *Mirafra javanica*

**SWALLOWS: Hirundinidae**

209. Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena*  
210. Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel*  
211. Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans*  
212. White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosterna*

**REED-WARBLERS AND ALLIES: Acrocephalidae**

213. Australian Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus australis*

**GRASSBIRDS AND ALLIES: Megaluridae**

214. Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis*  
215. Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis*  
216. Rufous Songlark *Cincloramphus mathewsi*

**CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES: Cisticolidae**

217. Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*

**BABLERS: Timaliidae**

218. Silver-eye *Zosterops lateralis*

**STARLINGS: Sturnidae**

219. Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis*  
220. European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

**FLOWERPECKERS: Dicaeidae**

221. Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

**WAGTAILS AND PIPITS: Motacillidae**

222. Australasian Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

**OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae**

223. House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

**WAXBILLS AND ALLIES: Estrildidae**

224. Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata*  
225. Red-browed Firetail *Neochmia temporalis*  
226. Plum-headed Finch *Neochmia modesta*  
227. Chestnut-eared Finch *Taeniopygia castanotis*  
228. Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii*

**MAMMAL LIST**

Eastern Grey Kangaroo  
Red Kangaroo  
Euro  
Black (Swamp) Wallaby  
Black Flying-fox  
European Hare  
European Rabbit

*Macropus giganteus*  
*Macropus rufus*  
*Macropus robustus*  
*Wallabia bicolor*  
*Pteropus alecto*  
*Lepus europaeus*  
*Oryctolagus cuniculus*

**FROG LIST**

Red Tree Frog  
Peron's Tree Frog  
Broad-palmed Frog  
Green Tree Frog  
Spotted Grass Frog  
Long-thumbed Frog  
Ornate Burrowing Frog

*Litoria rubella*  
*Litoria peronii*  
*Litoria latopalmata*  
*Litoria caerulea*  
*Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*  
*Limnodynastes fletcheri*  
*Platyplectrum ornatum*