

What a magic day we had at the at the Treatment plant? I found it *thrilling!* In all we saw 51 varieties of birds. We are most grateful to Gilbert and Phillip for doing the reconnoitre, to Bev for bring the bus and for driving it too, to Chris for taking the "extras" in the car. All this co-operation made for a terrific day. Lake Borrie is another of Werribee's hidden assets as is Kirk's Point. It was a beautiful place for lunch.

About the birds. The Banded Lapwing v Masked Lapwing .. the Banded is 25-28cm the Masked 35-38cm so you will have to make up your minds as to that one. The 200+ avocets were quite a sight. The bird we spent so much time pondering over at Kirk's Point was probably a Golden Plover. Phillip phoned the Ranger at Point Cook and was assured they were in the area this year, and I phoned Dr Clive Minter, who has wading research group, he confirmed they had recently banded some. The Book says.." Golden Plover migrant from Artic to coastal and subcoastal wetlands, fields and inland swamps around mainland and Tas." It was new to me. Now you have a Little Blue Book, for which we thank our anon. donor, you will be able to keep your own records and thereby see how many birds are seen in the year. Each month you get a list of those seen at an outing.

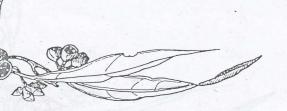
Our visits this year have taken us to different habitats, we have had two visits to Western Treatment plant, the You-Yangs, Anakie Gorge, Linton, Pt Cook, Serendip and Point Lilias; all in all a very interesting and productive year.

During summer we can record the birds which visit our gardens. Four European finches, and a family of Superb Wrens are recent arrivals at Tyrone St., they seem to mix well with the estyablidshed group. Who calls on you?

We have been allocated the Community Bus for Friday 11th April 1997, so your ideas will be welcomed. There are many ideas for next year and a group will meet and put forward a plan, certainly we need input from all. There has been a further suggestion that we put in \$1 per outing to defray costs. What suggestions do you have? Are you able to reconnoitre an area for a visit... Lime Burners Point.... Coast at Altona... Point Cook Homestead, or other places?

Attached is a permit application for Western Treatment Plant. Costs \$20 for the year if you are interested.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and until 1997 "Good Watching."





At Melbourne Treatment Plant Werribee.

Black swan & cygnet Australian Shelduck Pacific Black Duck Grey Teal Chestnut Teal Hardhead Australian Grebe Hoary-headed Grebe Crested Grebe Little Pied Cormorant Pied Cormorant Little Black Cormorant Pelican White Faced Heron Straw-necked Ibis Sacred Ibis Yellow-billed spoonbill Black -shouldered kite Whistling kite Marsh Harrier Brown Falcon Red-necked Avocet Golden Plover Black-winged stilt Masked Lapwing **Eurasian Coot**

Purple Swamphen Dusky Moorhen Red-necked Stint Curlew Sandpiper Banded Lapwing Pacific Gull Silver Gull Crested tern Marsh tern Spotted Turtle Dove Magpie-lark Willie Wagtail Australian Magpie Australian Raven Sky Lark Richard's Pipit House Sparrow Yellow-rumped Thornbill Welcome Swallow Reed Warbler Little Grassbird Gold Finch Golden-headed Cisticola Common Blackbird Common Starling