



Werribee Birdwatchers.

Editor Shirley Cameron
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March 3rd was an excellent birding day. The weather was ideal, a gently cool breezing coming off the Bay. Although only 50 different birds were seen, thousands of birds were at the mouth of the Little River. Some are changing colour ready for breeding, and soon they will be setting out for Siberia, Northern China and Japan to nest and feed their young before returning in September. Orange bands were visible on the legs of those who had been banded so their migration can be tracked. The Golden Plovers were again at Kirks Point, also two Terns, one to the left or was it to the right of the other, the discussion that ensued was like traffic instructions. There were *two unusual sightings* listed in the most recent edition of Bird Observers, at Point Cook a **White Fronted Tern** and **Black Tern** at the Treatment Plant, so I have only listed the Whiskered or Marsh tern as we were not certain of our sighting.

We were pleased to welcome Elaine Macmillan to the group, the sight of the Red-necked Avocet was sufficient to get her really interested in bird-watching. Ken Gosbell, who assists in the migratory bird banding project at Corner Inlet, increased the knowledge base. He will send details of the different coloured bands used so we can identify birds and then advise RAOU. It all adds to the information collected on the waders.

The Musk Duck, easily distinguished from the other duck because it is so low in the water, was putting on quite a display, flipping water with great vigour, we were impressed.

April 7th *The You Yangs. We will meet outside the Car park at 9-30, car pool and proceed to the Seed Garden Area. If there has been some rain we could do a little bone seed pulling, so bring gloves.*

May 5th We will try Anakie Gorge again, good weather this time!

June 9th. Newport Park

July 7th. Flight Aviary, Melbourne Zoo.

August 4th. Werribee River, Bunge's Hole and Island.

Sept. 1st. Cherry Lake and mouth of Koroit Creek

Oct. 6th. Salt Works, Point Cook to greet the waders

November 3rd. or 10th. Belmont Common, Hospital swamp and Barwon Heads.

Birds seen on March 3rd.1998.

Musk duck	Black shouldered Kite	Superb Fairy wren
Black swan	Little Eagle	Striated Grasswren
Shelduck	Brown Falcon	White fronted chat
Pacific Black Duck	Purple Swamphen	Magpie-lark
Chestnut Teal	Eurasian Coot	Willie Wagtail
Hoary-headed Grebe	Greenshank	Australian Magpie
Great Crested Grebe	Red-necked stint	Little Raven
Darter	Curlew Sandpiper	Skylark
Little Pied Cormorant	Sharp tailed sandpiper	Welcome Swallow
Pied Cormorant	Pied oyster catcher	Reed Warbler
Little Black Cormorant	Black-winged stilt	Little Grassbird
Pelican	Red-necked Avocet	Golden-headed
White Faced Heron	Red-capped Plover	Cisticola
Great Egret	Masked Lapwing	Silvereye
Straw-necked Ibis	Pacific Gull	Starling
Sacred Ibis	Silver Gull	Goldfinch
Royal Spoonbill	Whiskered tern	