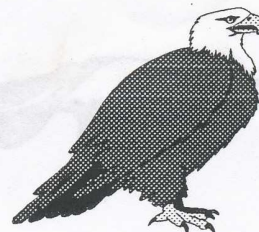


WERRIBEE BIRDWATCHERS

Newsletter Number 2, 1997



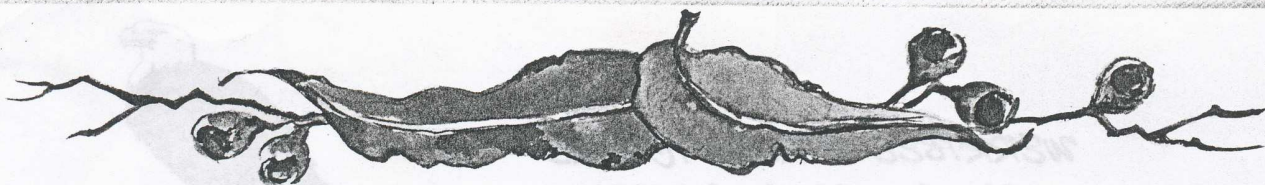
Our trip to the Bellarine Peninsula on Friday April 11th was an unqualified success. In total we saw 72 birds. Peter Bright from Bellboc a branch of Bird Observers meet us in Geelong and we journeyed to the Belmont Common. Although there was not much water there were plenty of birds, 31 in total. I was delighted to see the Spotless Crake for the first time. While on the Common we meet Thelma Dedman, Field Naturalists; they are most concerned by the proposal to build a rowing channel beside the Barwon river cutting across the Common. The whole plan seemed absolutely appalling. We went on to Hospital Swamp, in the Lake Connewarre complex. The Glossy Ibis, another new bird. There were some of the wading birds; it was interest to conjecture if they are going to stay over for winter or make their migration soon. We added another 17 birds to the list.

The Ocean Grove Reserve was a complete change of habitat. Some were delighted to see the Grey Goshawk, while others were delighted by the behaviour of the wren family. The Rufous Whistler and the Grey Fantail were visible for all. We added another 12 birds to the list. The bush setting made many of us realize how important it is to be able to identify birds by call as well a sight.

Lake Lorne near Drysdale was again different. Here the Musk and Blue Billed ducks were swimming around while the cormorants and grebes watched on. 9 more birds to the list. It seemed a shame to end the day with 69 birds so Rhonda drove us down to Point Wilson and there we saw a crested tern. The recount made 72 birds. Kathleen Moyses, our newest had a terrific intro. To birding. I was delighted to have the contact through Bird Observers and do encourage you all to consider membership.

WHAT NEXT : On May 6th. It is suggested we walk along the Werribee River from Cotterel St., to Shaws Rd., bridge, bring your lunch. We will meet in Comben car park at 9-30am.

We are not sure when we will next have the community bus but when ever we thought Jells Park would be the place to go, as yet we do not have a firm proposal for June. I will contact Rohan Bugg for another slide night for July.



Bellarine Peninsula
BIRDS SEEN ON APRIL 13TH 97

Blue -billed duck	Red-kneed dotterel
Musk Duck	Silver Gull
Black swan	Crested tern
Australian Shelduck	Feral pigeon
Australian Wood Duck	Spotted Turtle Dove
Pacific Black Duck	Sulphur-crested cockatoo
Grey Teal	Rainbow lorikeet
Chestnut Teal	Eastern rosella
Australasian Grebe	Red-rumped parrot
Hoary-headed Grebe	Superb Fairy wren
Little Pied Cormorant	White throated scrubwren
Pied Cormorant	Brown thornbill
Little Black Cormorant	Yellow-rumped thornbill
Pelican	Red wattle bird
White Faced Heron	Noisy miner
Great Heron	White plumed honeyeater
Glossy Ibis	White fronted chat
Straw-necked Ibis	Eastern yellow robin
Sacred Ibis	Golden whistler
Yellow-billed spoonbill	Rufous whistler
Black -shouldered kite	Magpie-lark
Whistling kite	Grey fantail
Marsh Harrier	Willie Wagtail
Grey Goshawk	Australian Magpie
Little Eagle	Grey currawong
Brown Falcon	Little Raven
Spotless Crane	House Sparrow
Purple Swamphen	Red-browed finch
Dusky Moorhen	Welcome Swallow
Black-tailed Native hen	Little Grassbird
Eurasian Coot	Gold Finch
Greenshank	Golden-headed Cisticola
Red-necked Stint	Silvereye
Sharp-tailed sandpiper	Common Blackbird
Black-winged stilt	Common Starling
Black-fronted dotterel	Duck-Feral

