



# Werribee Wag-Tales • Volume 18 No 1, 2012



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It was an outing with some 'firsts'- both at Newport Lakes and at the mouth of the Kororoit Creek Sixteen birders turned out with Len as our leader.

A local birder, Mary, who had befriended Len during his reconnaissance trips, has seen 113 species at the Newport Lakes. Today Mary, secretary of 'Friends of Newport Lakes' was able to add Blue-billed Duck - a female. Also a Red-capped Robin, an immature female was active near the shelter.

We were able to observe about 39 species on an overcast cool day. We began our outing at the lookout for South Lake where we recorded Welcome Swallow, Australasian Grebe, Purple Swamp Hen and Eurasian Coot. As we followed the paths through the trees we saw Wattle Birds, Spotted Dove, Fairy Wren, Rainbow Lorikeet and a Brown Goshawk, our only raptor for the day. We enjoyed good views of a pair of Spotted Pardalotes.

After morning tea we crossed over between the lakes where Dubious Ducks were amongst Pacific Black Ducks. Near the flowering Ironbarks two immature Golden Whistlers were spotted and a Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater was heard. The other 'first' for many of us was an **Arctic Jaeger**, a rapacious seabird that pursues weaker birds to make them drop their prey. It was chasing Silver Gulls around the area where the Kororoit Creek flows into the bay.

We went there after lunch and had a quick search before the rain dispersed us. Around the sandbar we saw about 17 species including Common Greenshank, Red-kneed Dotterel, Great & Little Egret, Black-winged Stilts, White-faced Heron and Masked Lapwing. Thanks to Len for an enjoyable outing and ..... won the chocolates with a guess of 55 species. **THANKS TO Susan for the report and Peter O'C for the great PHOTO**



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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Black Swan                     | Common Greenshank        |
| Chestnut Teal                  | Red-necked Stint         |
| Pacific Black Duck             | Arctic Jaeger            |
| Blue-billed duck               | Musk Lorikeet            |
| Australasian Grebe             | Little Lorikeet          |
| Hoary-headed Grebe             | Superb Fairywren         |
| Rock dove (feral pigeon)       | Spotted Pardalote        |
| Spotted Dove                   | White-plumed honeyeater  |
| Crested pigeon                 | Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater |
| Australasian Darter            | Little Wattle bird       |
| Little Pied Cormorant          | Red Wattle bird          |
| Great Cormorant                | New Holland Honeyeater   |
| Little Black Cormorant         |                          |
| Australian Pelican             | Golden whistler          |
| Eastern Great Egret            | Australian Magpie        |
| White Faced Heron              | Grey fantail             |
| Little Egret                   | Willie Wagtail           |
| Straw-necked Ibis              | Little Raven             |
| Brown Goshawk                  | Magpie-lark              |
| Purple Swamphen                | Red-capped Robin         |
| Dusky Moorhen                  | Flame Robin              |
| Eurasian Coot                  | Silvereye                |
| Australian Pied Oyster-catcher | Welcome Swallow          |
| Black-winged stilt             | Common Blackbird         |
| Red-kneed dotterel             | Common Starling          |
|                                | House Sparrow            |

