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Another good turnout (30 people) for our trip to Point Cook, which was ably led by Andre.

The weather gods were reasonably kind to us.

We started at the RAAF lake where we quickly found some Flame Robins - always a cheerful sight on a winter's day. The lake held a good number of White-headed Stilts and Red-necked Avocets, with a few Banded Stilts also present. A flock of waders caused much debate - they were a long way away and the light was not good. I think we were satisfied that some of them were Double-banded Plovers - a "winter" migrant from New Zealand (although the first ones usually turn up in February - winter must come early over there).

Our next stop was at Spectacle Lake which was dry, but we saw a small group of Brown Quail which seemed unconcerned at our presence.

After coffee at the beach we walked along the beach area, and saw a great favourite of many us - a Spotted Harrier. When I first moved to this area around 11 years ago these were almost unknown, but now they are fairly common over open grasslands and similar spaces.

After lunch we went to the Homestead area for a walk to the beach - not much happening although there were some close-in Gannets.

The final bird cont was 65, making Surong the winner.

Next month is the You Yangs with Jim leading and I will send more details closer to the date. Dave Torr....

Amazing photos from Surong Gunn.. Sincere thanks from us all......



