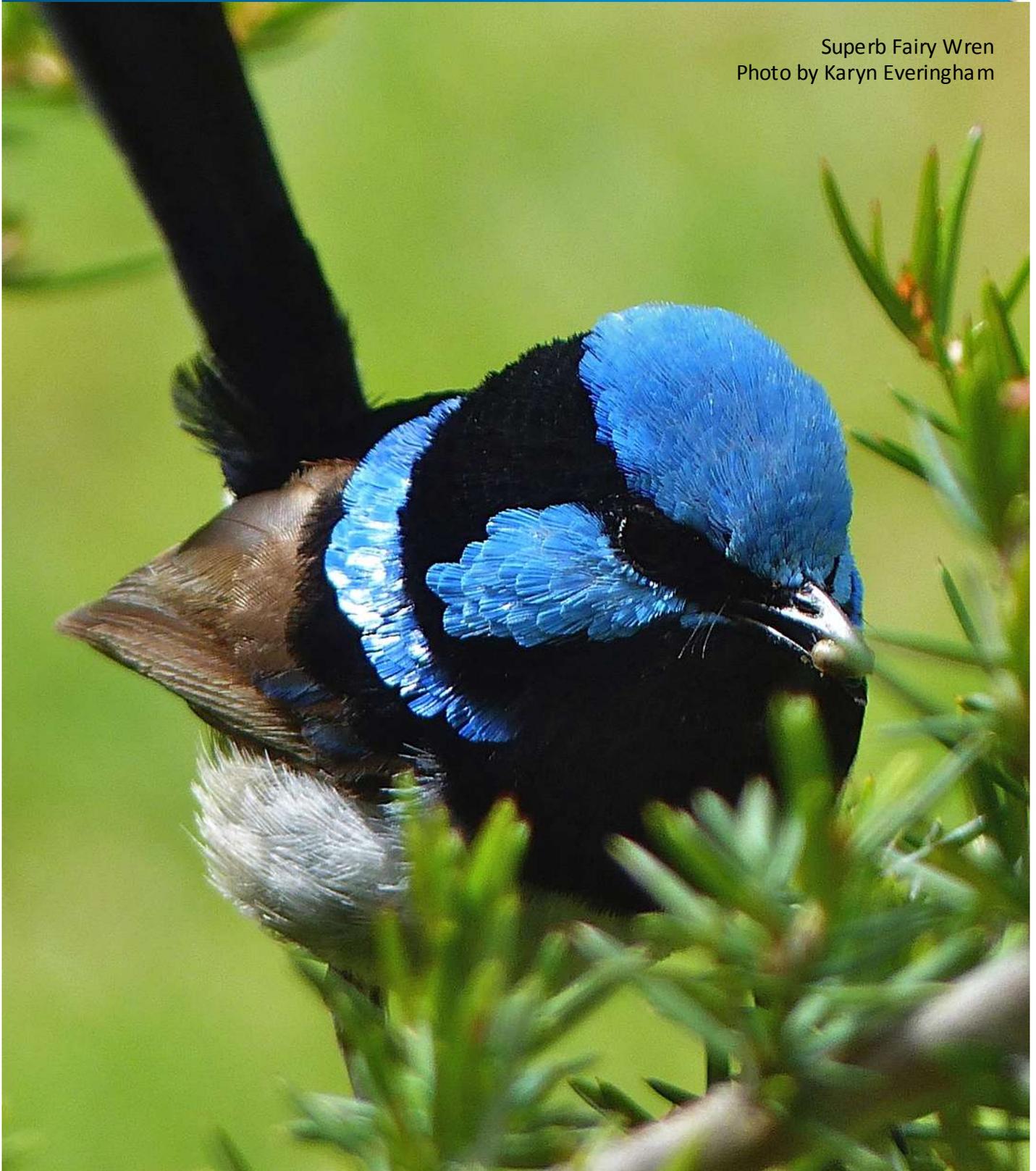


# Birdlife Shoalhaven Newsletter

Autumn 2015



Superb Fairy Wren  
Photo by Karyn Everingham



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## Contributions

If you have any information about conservation issues, or if you would like to share some of your birding experiences, travel stories or anecdotes with fellow members, please send details to the editor at [shoalhaven@birdlife.org.au](mailto:shoalhaven@birdlife.org.au) with any related photos, drawings or maps.

In addition, if you have any bird photographs you would like to share, please send them in as well. This includes photos of unidentified birds that could be used in our "What Bird is This" section.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the BirdLife Shoalhaven members who contributed articles to this newsletter, and also to those people who supplied images. Apologies to those contributors whose text or images have not been acknowledged. These include Duade Paton, Ian Brown, Chris Grounds, Christine Rigg and Sue Tolley. If you have not been acknowledged please let the editor know.

## Disclaimer

The information in articles submitted for publication in this newsletter is accepted in good faith and although the editor has endeavoured to verify the accuracy of all information, BirdLife Shoalhaven accepts no responsibility for any errors, inaccuracies or exaggerations that may be contained within articles in this newsletter.

Also, the views expressed in this newsletter are those of the editor, contributors or branch members. They may not be the views of BirdLife Australia.

## Errors

If you find any errors - typographical or factual - in this newsletter, please let the editor know. The beauty of an electronic newsletter is that it can be amended after publication.

## Editorial

- Brett Davis

One of the bird conservation issues currently happening in the Shoalhaven concerns the dredging of the entrance to Currumbene Creek at Huskisson. The sand spit at the entrance is a favourite resting spot for many birds, including threatened species like Pied Oystercatchers.

Shoalhaven Council has produced a Citywide Dredging Feasibility Study and has made four funding applications to the State Government's 'Rescuing our Waterways' Program, one of them being for Currumbene Creek.

The Council's website says "[Any dredging undertaken by Council would usually be on a 'one off' basis as permanent dredging operations could cause significant economic, environmental and social impacts. Due to the difficulty in predicting how long the effects of the dredging will last, operations will need to be repeated over time; however in some circumstances the benefits of the dredging can last a few years.](#)

"In addition to allocating \$200,000 to match any potential successful funding from the State Government, Council has also allocated a further \$200,000 in its 2014/15 budget to carry out further investigations and community consultation to progress future partnerships with private industry" Cllr Gash said.

It is intended that Council will recoup some or all of the costs ... with private operators to undertake commercial operations in the future."

So where did this entire process start? Somebody at some time must have thought that the entrance to Currumbene Creek needs to be dredged, hence the feasibility study and the grant applications.

The feasibility study states that the reason for the study was "increased demand from **the community** for improving navigation and boating safety at a number of estuarine locations across the city area".

So who is "**the community**"? And who in **the community** would benefit from the expensive, temporary and potentially environmentally damaging dredging of Currumbene creek? Local fishermen? Landowners with river frontage? Mooring owners with boats that are too big to navigate the creek? Commercial operators who need a wider entrance for bigger tour boats or large tenders from cruise ships?

It makes me wonder ...

**Editor's Note:** If you disagree with the above sentiments why not send a letter to the editor explaining your views. Let me know if you wish to remain anonymous ...

## Laws of Birdwatching

Sue Taylor, noted Australian birdwatcher (739 species seen as of last August) and author of a number of books about birds including "Why Watch Birds", has devised a list of the ten major laws of birdwatching. You may not agree with all of them, but some are particularly apt, especially the first two ...

1. The bird you saw was common - unless you can prove otherwise. There is no exception to this rule.
2. If you're uncertain about your bird's id, it was probably what you first thought it was. Whatever it was, it must have been common.
3. The more gorgeous a bird's plumage, the less melodious the song; and conversely, the more drab the plumage, the more mellifluous the song. Australian exception - the Golden Whistler.
4. When males and females of a species duet, they look the same. Oz exception - the Magpie-lark (can you tell the difference between a male and a female and a juvenile?)
5. Where males and females look different, the plainer bird rears the young. When the sexes look alike, they share parenting.
6. Birds won't nest in trees or shrubs that are flowering or fruiting. Difficult to find exceptions.
7. Birds that nest in dark hollows lay white, rounded eggs. Except treecreepers lay splotched brown, glossy eggs.
8. Migrating birds always breed in the colder area. The exceptions to this rule are Arctic Terns that breed in the Arctic then migrate to the Antarctic.
9. Nocturnal birds have large eyes to allow them to see well at night. The exception is NZ's kiwi.
10. Only non-passerines regularly feed at night, and they are all carnivorous. The exceptions include nocturnal vegetarian parrots and South America's nocturnal Oilbird that feeds on fruit.



Some birds discussing the "Laws of Birdwatching"

## Ground Parrots above Hyams Beach

As reported on the [BirdLife Shoalhaven Facebook Page](#) on March 21st, Ground Parrots were active on Booderee Ave - the road from Jervis Bay Rd to Hyams Beach - in the mornings and evenings, and throughout the day on dull, overcast rainy days. The photo was taken by Brett Davis.



A few days later, Brett and Karen Davis were cycling along Jervis Bay Road late in the morning on a rather sunny day when they flushed another Eastern Ground Parrot, on the western side of the road a couple of hundred metres north of the Hyams Beach turnoff.

Chris Grounds also took a photo of a Ground Parrot (below) and submitted it to Australian Geographic, who displayed it on their website [here](#).

The text on the Australian Geographic page quoted Chris as saying "The Eastern Ground Parrot is a vulnerable species in NSW. It is a beautiful bird, difficult to see and of restricted distribution."

This bird was browsing sedge and grass seed early in the morning, in a Jervis Bay National Park heathland area. The preoccupation with eating and a very, very non-intrusive observation allowed for a special photographic opportunity" he said.

According to the BirdLife Australia website, the Ground Parrot is a distinctive, slender parrot which is so shy and elusive that it is not usually seen unless it is flushed out from cover.

It is a bright grass-green with black and yellow markings and a prominent pale yellow wing bar. The tail is long and barred with yellow. It has a small red band on the lower forehead. The Ground Parrot is also known as the Swamp Parrot or Button-grass Parrot.

The Ground Parrot lives mostly in dense coastal and subcoastal heathlands, sedgelands and buttongrass plains, where there is a high diversity of low-growing plants. There they feed on fallen seeds taken from the ground or plucked directly from the plants as they walk briskly and agilely through the vegetation. They only occasionally climb above the ground in low shrubs or reeds to gather seeds, though sometimes they stand on a tall stem to flatten it, thus bringing the seeds to the ground.

Wikipedia says "the Eastern Ground Parrot (*Pezoporus wallicus*) is one of only five ground-dwelling parrots in the world, the others being its closest relatives, the almost extinct Western Ground Parrot (*Pezoporus flaviventris*), the extremely rare Night Parrot (*Pezoporus occidentalis*), the somewhat closely related Antipodes Parakeet, and the unrelated and highly endangered kakapo from New Zealand.



## Lake Wollumboola reports

by Tom Kaar

On 23rd January, before embarking on our boat survey, I witnessed a juvenile Sooty Tern land on the bitumen road near the ramp at Crookhaven Heads. As I observed it through my binoculars, it took off and fluttered around for a short while before landing again nearby. Unexpectedly it did not move away from an approaching boat and trailer – and although the driver tried to avoid it, it may have been clipped by the trailer. Anyway it became deceased either because it was too exhausted to move or simply unfamiliar with vehicular traffic – or it may have died from some other medical emergency.



Juvenile Sooty Tern - photo courtesy of Wikipedia

I normally don't see them flying over the ocean, but in February 2008, I found another juvenile sheltering in my courtyard, after stormy seas. It devoured a number of tins of sardines in springwater, and disappeared after some 3 or 4 days. The absence of any loose feathers, a carcass or any signs of violence made me optimistic that it had recovered and resumed its travels.



Nankeen Night Heron - photo by Ian Brown

The choppy conditions limited the boat survey in January to the Crookhaven River and Berry's Canal. At Greenwell Point the highlights were 12 Grey-tailed Tattlers on a wharf and the 2 Nankeen Night Herons in their roosting tree – while in Berrys Canal I welcomed the sighting of a minimum of 5 Fairy Martins (the rumps were particularly white and the crowns appeared rufous).

The boat survey on 20th February was confined to the same area – yielding 13 Grey-tailed Tattlers and 8 Nankeen Night Herons. Also 32 Common Terns were observed roosting adjacent to Comerong Island and a Striated Heron was seen near Goodnight Island.

At the end of February the White-rumped Sandpiper was still foraging on the shore of Lake Wollumboola in the company of Red-necked Stints – and some Little Terns were also present.

*(The White-rumped Sandpiper was last seen at Lake Wollumboola on March 1st - Ed)*



The White-rumped Sandpiper drawing a crowd at Lake Wollumboola - photo by Brett Davis

However the number of waders is much reduced – a couple of Lesser Sand Plovers providing some interest, as well as a solitary Grey Plover and perhaps a dozen Double-banded Plovers.

Although the Eurasian Coots and Black-winged Stilts remain, I haven't seen any Avocets since the first fortnight in the new year. In recent weeks the Stilts have only been sighted in the NW corner of Lake Wollumboola.

Pleasant to see a small group of Varied Sitellas in coastal bush near Crookhaven Heads – and a Mistletoebird at Penguin Head.

- Tom Kaar

## Conservation Officer Updates

- by Chris Grounds, Conservation Officer



### Lake Wollumboola

BirdLife Shoalhaven filed letters regarding the Halloran Culburra Development proposal with all concerned Ministers, Local Members and candidates in the prelude to the state election.

The letter requested a response to the following proposals:

- Acquisition of Halloran Trust lands in the Lake Wollumboola catchment including Long Bow Point and surrounds for dedication to Jervis Bay National Park, to conserve the internationally significant natural values and Aboriginal cultural heritage of the Lake and catchment.
- Finalising both National Park dedication and rezoning issues as part of the Halloran Trust Planning Proposal process, including placing a moratorium on further development applications for the Lake and Crookhaven River catchments, until the planning process is completed.
- Ensuring that proposed development expansion in the Crookhaven River catchment is “limited” in accordance with the South Coast Regional Strategy to sites assessed as capable of supporting ecologically sustainable development. (e.g. cleared and disturbed areas.)
- Subjecting the Halloran Trust Planning Proposal process to the key, accepted principles of genuine community engagement and public comment.
- Progressing without further delay the listing of Lake Wollumboola as a wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention.

Part of the Greens response specific to Lake Wollumboola was as follows:

I also understand that the Jervis Bay National Park and Woollamia Nature Reserve Plan of Management

NPWS 2011 considers the Lake to meet 4-5 Ramsar criteria but that this listing has been on hold due to objections by Shoalhaven City Council.

The Greens support a process for identifying lands, including the Halloran Trust lands, for protection in the Jervis Bay National park and a moratorium on development applications in these areas until this is resolved. We look forward to working with the community to make this a reality.

Kind Regards,

Dr Mehreen Faruqi

Greens NSW MP

Labor Opposition Leader and Shadow Minister for Environment Luke Foley has also responded acknowledging our letter.

Shelley Hancock’s secretary notified that our letter would be passed on to Shelley but there was no specific response.



Royal Spoonbill - photo by Ian Brown

## Larmer Avenue Reserve

- by Chris Grounds, Conservation Officer

Photographs by Chris Grounds from the Larmer Ave site



The Basin Villages Forum will be conducting a Public Meeting at their May 18 meeting to provide a progress report on the Larmer Avenue Block concept. The meeting will commence promptly at 7.30pm at the St Georges Basin Community Centre hall.

Council staff will be providing a report and making a presentation at the meeting with support from Forum and BirdLife members and this will include a photographic slide presentation.

Progress over the last twelve months will be referenced to extension of Endangered Ecological Communities, vegetation mapping and Bio-banking Assessment.

This block is the Council owned land bounded by Larmer Avenue, Cockrow Creek and Sanctuary Point Road. Most people would have seen it as the often flooded, bush block opposite the athletics oval and petrol station at Sanctuary Point.

The land is currently "Operational" rather than "Community" land. This has some important implications for how the use of the land might progress.

A similar meeting was held in February 2014 by the Forum and the broad concept of the area being developed to a bush reserve with low impact walking tracks and bird observation facilities with tourist appeal was well strongly supported.

BirdLife Shoalhaven have made a significant contribution with the provision of a 'Preliminary Bird Catalogue' for the site for the use of Forum and Environmental Planning staff at Council. That catalogue appears on the Forum website and recent updates have extended the species list to 64.



The mixed ecology of the area makes for varied bird habitat. Cockrow Creek is a tributary estuary of St Georges Basin, which joins the Erowal Bay zone through the creek delta. Fringing seagrass meadows, saltmarsh, mangroves and floodplain Casuarina are vital ecological areas.

The majority of the area is in remnant and rejuvenating forest of Bangalay / Southern Mahogeny [E.botryoides], Swamp Mahogeny [E.robusta] and Woollybutt [E.longifolia]. Within these forest areas are many patches of saltmarsh.

Areas which were cleared have regrown to Melaleuca with the Threatened species M. Biconvexa present in very wet areas.

Some of the very interesting recent additions include the Eastern Osprey, Square-tailed Kites, Azure Kingfisher and Striated / Mangrove Heron [see photographs].

Community feedback to Council staff as input through this meeting and the Forum will be vital to the realization of this project.



## Myola Sand Spit

- by Chris Grounds



BirdLife Shoalhaven made a major submission to Shoalhaven Council regarding the birdlife of the Myola Spit.

The importance of the sand spit as a bird roosting-resting area for a variety of species but especially for Threatened Species Oystercatchers and migratory species such as Eastern Curlew was stressed.

The other key issue taken up with Council was the intrusion of dogs into this area, a 'Dog Prohibited' zone, disturbing the birdlife. This area is zoned Environment 1 [E1] in the Council Local Environment Plan, the highest rating and is scheduled for inclusion in the Jervis Bay National Park. BirdLife has been in further contact with Council's Kellie Lowe and a response has now been received from the Rangers Office to indicate they are aware of 'dog' issues and will be doing random patrols.

The "Review of Environmental Factors" [REF] for the dredging at the site of the Currumbene Creek has been released and a public meeting was held on Monday March 30 at Huskisson.

Concerns were raised at this meeting that the site is not sufficiently recognized for its importance in the Jervis Bay context and that the ecologists report for the Review were inadequate, understated and in some cases interpretations were simply wrong, especially in terms of the impact of dogs in disturbing birdlife on the spit.

It is a pity that BirdLife Shoalhaven and NPW Shorebird Program staff and volunteers were not consulted.

A BirdLife Shoalhaven submission to the REF will be prepared.



## Heritage Estate Update

- by Chris Grounds

**HERITAGE ESTATE** The *Banksia ericifolia* are starting to flower, overlapping the profuse Scribbly Gum [*E.sclerophylla*] flowering. That is good 'bird' news in the Estate as this banksia is widespread on the Estate and a magnet for many species. This should mean good winter-spring bird-watching.



Council has been brought to a formal (though limited) recognition - through the HEST Network - of the serious erosion of the roads that they own and manage in the Heritage Estate.

The challenge, longer term, will be the cost of rehabilitation that National Parks and Wildlife will face as a result of this neglect.

The landowners Appeal against the Federal Court decision, which dismissed their case, is scheduled for late April.

It is now six years since the Peter Garrett decision which prevented development.

## Red-capped Plovers

Recent research has shown that colourful birds and their eggs are more likely to be predated on during the day - sounds logical, doesn't it?

Bright colours can make a male bird desirable, but also an obvious target for predators. It has long been noted that female birds who incubate eggs had rather drab plumage compared to the males, but only on nests that are out in the open, which may be why parrots tend to nest in hollows.

BirdLife Australia's Dr Grainne Maguire says "While a lot of observational studies have supported this theory, there have been very few experimental studies to show a clear benefit of being the 'duller' sex.

Maguire helped PhD student Kasun Ekanayake investigate how colour affects the predation risk of Red-capped Plovers. Like the endangered Hooded Plover, the Red-capped Plover incubates its eggs on the ground in the open and is extremely vulnerable to predators.

With the male having the red cap while the female has a dull brown cap, it was found that although both birds sit on the eggs, they do it at different times of the day, with the female incubating the eggs during the day and the male during the night. Apparently, the birds swap their roles religiously at dawn and dusk.



Using painted models and nests comprising quail eggs which are similar to those of the plover, the researchers monitored predation from ravens during the day and night, finding that while 20 per cent of eggs were predated from nests with females, 90 per cent of eggs were taken from the nests of the males.

Fox predation showed no difference, as foxes mostly hunt by smell at night when colour is not a factor.

## Sharing the Shoreline

### The South Coast Shorebird Recovery Program

The information in this article is taken from the 2014/15 Shorebird Recovery Newsletter produced by the OEH and NPWS.

The South Coast Shorebird Recovery Program from Wollongong to Batemans Bay continues to grow, with the 100 strong local volunteer base concentrating on the on-ground protection of endangered nesting shorebirds, while the wider program expands into significant community education and predator control projects.

Many volunteers have now been with the program for 3 years and have gained valuable training and knowledge through the intro workshop and 2 day conference advanced workshops as well as experience in the field. Local groups are working together under the guidance of site coordinators and the shorebird recovery program coordinator to develop a strong base for shorebird protection in their local community.

This nesting season the breeding success of our critically endangered Hooded Plovers improved, with 6 chicks fledged from the 14 breeding pairs monitored. This was twice as many fledglings as last season, however it still is not the numbers we would hope for with the doubling in breeding pairs over the last 6 years. Perhaps there are still too many young and inexperienced nesters!

Nest numbers were also low this season, probably due to the shorter summer and high storm activity. The Hooded Plover Banding Project continues with volunteers and members of the public reporting flag codes. Nearly all south coast Hoodies are banded, giving interesting insights into their mate choice (and some partner swapping!), movements and breeding biology. The Pied Oystercatchers had great success this season with 21 chicks fledged from the 22 breeding pairs monitored around south coast lakes and estuaries.

#### Hooded Plovers

In overall numbers of breeding pairs (BP's) the critically endangered Hooded Plovers of the south coast are still doing very well, with fourteen BP's monitored this season and another two or three pairs suspected of nesting. The population for the region is estimated at 38 adult birds which is twice the 2007/08 estimated population size.

In terms of breeding success, this season was much better than last season, however we still did not meet the expected fledgling numbers for the number of BP's monitored. Overall 6 chicks fledged, all late in the season, from the 64 eggs laid in 26 nests. This was only two thirds the number of nests monitored last season, but produced twice as many fledglings - which is a good improvement on breeding success.



The low nest number may have been due to difficult weather conditions with a relatively short warm summer period and numerous storms with lots of heavy rain. These are obviously not very favourable beach nesting conditions.

Many pairs only had one or two nests monitored, compared to the usual three, four or even five nests over the season.

#### Little Terns

Little Terns returned in good numbers to Lake Conjola and Lake Wollumboola this season. Last season had a good fledging rate and the birds remembered, with more than 100 breeding pairs nesting this season at the huge Wollumboola colony, and another 70 pairs at the Lake Conjola colony.

However after a great start to the season with almost 200 breeding pairs on the south coast, including a small colony at Shoalhaven Heads, big swells and king tides plus avian and fox predation all but decimated the colonies, resulting in only 29 fledglings for the South Coast.



### **Pied Oystercatchers**

Twenty two breeding pairs of endangered Pied Oystercatchers were monitored around the lakes and estuaries of the south coast, including the usual strongholds in the larger river systems at Shoalhaven Heads, Lake Conjola, Burrill Lake and Durras Lake.

In total the twenty two monitored pairs of Pied Oystercatchers in the south coast region incubated 29 nests containing 58 eggs, hatching thirty six chicks and fledging 21 of these chicks. A great result, averaging almost one fledgling per breeding pair!



### **Sooty Oystercatchers**

The southern Sooty Oystercatcher nesting islands were surveyed during peak nesting this season, however frequent bad weather and swells meant the northern islands were not surveyed again this season.

Data from complete surveys in 2006/07 to 2012/13 indicates a stable population on the south coast of around 70 breeding pairs. Plus we also had a couple of mainland nests this season.



The northern islands, Brush and Belowla, were unable to be surveyed due to frequent big swells, storms and generally unsuitable weather and sea conditions. In total for the southern islands there were 25 breeding pairs and another 5 non breeding pairs sighted, along with the estimated 35-40 pairs on the northern islands, this brings the island population up to 65-70 pairs, typical of surveys conducted 2006/07 to 2012/13.

### **Hooded Plover Banding Project**

The Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife Hooded Plover Banding Project has resulted in the colour marking of 58 adult Hooded Plovers in NSW plus 5 fledglings in 2012/13 and 7 fledglings in 2013/14. Resightings of banded Hoodies, along with estimates of remaining unbanded adult numbers brings total NSW adult population estimate up to around 70 Hoodies, an increase of 20 adults since 2007/08 surveys. In the south coast region local volunteers are getting to know their resident breeding pairs and diligent monitoring is showing more partner swapping and sadly more adult loss than we had expected.

Most breeding pairs are monogamous and appear to nest at the same site with the same partner each season, however after the loss of a partner it appears another is quickly taken on and nesting continues.

However, in a strange love triangle, Kioloa's 'H3' has turned out to be a player, ditching his long time partner 'K0' for the younger unbanded female nearby, but then returning to 'K0' in between unsuccessful nesting attempts with unbanded!

Interestingly a far south coast 2013/14 fledgling 'Y8' was sighted at Burrill Lake early this season with a south coast's 'B0'. This confirmed our hopes of a link between the SCR and FSCR populations despite 100's of km's of unoccupied and some pretty unfavourable coastal line. Sadly 'Y8' did not stay to nest with 'B0' and returned to the far south coast in December.



## BirdLife Shoalhaven Outings

BirdLife Shoalhaven holds occasional birdwatching activities. In addition there are two local birdwatching groups - the Shoalhaven Birders and the Milton Ulladulla District Birdwatchers - who welcome BirdLife Shoalhaven members to their outings - also shown below. Shoalhaven Birders and MUDBirders are also welcome on BirdLife Shoalhaven activities.

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### Shoalhaven Birders Outings

Shoalhaven Birders usually hold birdwatching outings on the third Sunday of the month, meeting at 8.30am.

Upcoming birdwatching events are as follows :

#### **MAY 1-4: Weekend at Moruya**

Meet Big 4 Moruya Heads Easts Dolphin Beach Holiday Park. Ph. 1800 232 787 or 4474-2748. Cabins, powered and unpowered sites. Book your own accommodation. We will visit a variety of habitats - at the golf course, Moruya Heads, Deua NP.

#### **May 17**

Cudmirrah/Berrara - meet Bewong Roadhouse

#### **June 21**

Jerrara Dam/Spring Creek - meet north side Berry Apex Park

#### **July 19**

Vincentia - meet roundabout, Vincentia shops

#### **August 16**

Bellawongarah - meet north side Berry Apex Park

#### **September 20**

Florance Head - meet Bewong Roadhouse

#### **OCTOBER 6-12**

Lake Cargellico / Round Hill - meet Lake Cargellico Van Park. Half way - maybe 2 nights - at Temora (Ingalba NR, lake / wetland). 4 or 5 nights Lake View Van Park. Book your own accommodation. We will visit a variety of habitats at sewerage treatment ponds, Round Hill, and weirs on the river and lake. More details closer to the time. Contacts: Stan & Su Brown 4443-4828. Peter & Julie Hale 0402 076 548. Barry & Susan Virtue 4464-1389

#### **October 18**

Bundanon - meet Illaroo Rd northern end of bridge

#### **November 15**

Lake Wollumboola - meet entrance to lake, Culburra

#### **December 20**

Bomaderry Creek 5 pm Xmas party - meet picnic area, Narang Rd. BYO picnic / bbq.

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## MUD District Birdwatchers Outings



Membership of the MUD Birdwatchers club is open to all members of the Milton Ulladulla U3A. For information about joining MUD Birdwatchers, phone Marg Hamon on 4457-1129 or Chris Shinton on 4454-5584, or you can email [mubirdclub@gmail.com](mailto:mubirdclub@gmail.com)

Upcoming birdwatching events are as follows :

#### **1 May 2015: Excursion – Fishermans Paradise**

Meet: 8 am: Back of Harry Higgs Room, or at 8:15 am: Fishermans Paradise Boat Ramp.

Driving: 25km Time: 1 hrs Grade: Easy

Leader: Chris Shinton 4454 5584

#### **12 May 2015: Evening Meeting**

Meet: 7:30 pm: Harry Higgs Room

General Meeting

Activity: Charles Dove - Birds of the Shoalhaven

#### **15 May 2015: Excursion – Ulladulla Sports Ground**

Meet: 8 am: South end of Camden Street

Driving: 0 km Time: 0 hrs Grade: Easy

Leader: Bob Rusk 4455 2169

#### **29 May 2015: Excursion – Meroo Head**

Meet: 8am Lions Park Burrill Lake (by toilets)

Driving: 50km Time: 1 hrs Grade: Easy

Leaders: Marg Hamon & Maggie Mance 4457 1129

#### **12 June 2015: Excursion – North Fishermans Paradise**

Meet: 8 am: Back of Harry Higgs Room, or at 8:15am: Murrays Road Turnoff.

Driving: 30km Time: 1 hr Grade: Easy

Leader: Mike Jefferis 4455 5162

#### **26 June 2015: Excursion – Warden Head**

Meet: 8 am: at the lighthouse

Driving: 0 km Time: 0 hr Grade: Easy

Leader: Chris Shinton 4454 5584

#### **10 July 2015: Excursion – Garrads Lane**

Meet: 8am: Back of Harry Higgs Room or 8:10am 90A Garrads Lane Milton.

Driving: 3km Time: 0.5 hrs Grade: Easy

Leader: Geoff Andrews 4454 3580

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## Some Recent Photos



Pacific Golden Plover - by Ian Brown



Red Wattlebird feeding Koel - by Christine Rigg



Tawny Frogmouths - by Gill Souter



Brown-headed Honeyeater - by Sue Tolley

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