

Southeastern Australia

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Introduction

During 2004–2005 I spent almost 10 months travelling all over the globe. My budget was very limited, but I wanted to try to take advantage of the southern spring and summer as much as possible. I managed to go to South Africa and Australia. To visit Australia in January, at the peak of summer, is not ideal, but this was the only time I could go. I managed to persuade Lars, Stefan and Mathias to join me, and we were quite happy with the end result of our three weeks together.



Samuel at a rather familiar photo spot in Sydney.



Eastern Spinebill.

We were very lucky with the weather the first ten days. It was unusually cool, so we didn't suffer at all from any high temperatures. Camping was quite pleasant. The last week was a lot hotter, with temperatures soaring to about 40 degrees at Hattah-Kulkyne and Gluepot, which is normal for this time of the year. Bird activity was good on average, but some species were hard to find in post breeding conditions due to reduced singing activity and dispersal, especially at the two above mentioned sites. Our total of 312 species was good, though 10-20 more species should have been a quite realistic total. We did poorly on terns, cuckoos, owls and nightjars (none), missed some waders and didn't have enough time to find several rather common "rainforest" species with their southern-most limit near Sydney.

We had to struggle a bit to find out about what birding sites to visit. There are, surprisingly, extremely few detailed trip reports from SE Australia! The most useful one was one by Gruff Dodd (2002). Of the three published site guides for Australia, I only managed to get hold of "Where to find birds in Australia" by John Bransbury. Written in the early 1980's and reprinted a few years ago, this book is unfortunately outdated in many ways. Things change a lot in 25 years! Many sites are seldom visited by birders today, while several of the most important ones are lacking entirely, including Barrington Tops, Capertee Valley and the Deniliquin area. Lars and Mathias made good research on several sites and took most of the contacts with local guides and birders. Without these efforts we would not have

succeeded as well as we did. The site notes section of this report will hopefully improve the situation a bit, in spite of being written a year and a half after the trip with few notes taken in the field.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either of us!

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Summary of the journey

4/1 Arrival in **Sydney** in the morning. Via the **Opera house** to Newcastle and **Ash Island**, where birding in the afternoon and evening. Night in **Wallingat NP**.

5/1 Wallingat NP. To **Barrington Tops NP**. Afternoon birding and spot-lighting after dark.

6/1 Barrington Tops NP. Transport to **Dharug NP** and **Wiseman's Ferry**. Continued drive after sunset to **Katoomba**, where we find a moderately prized hotel.

7/1 **Capertee Valley** with Carol Proberts. Night in Katoomba.

8/1 **Blue Mountains**. To **Barren Grounds**, birding in the evening. Camping at Carrington Falls.

9/1 Barren Grounds/Budgeroo NP. Via **Canberra** to **Namadgi NP**, where camping.

10/1 Namadgi NP. We drive through the park southwards and reach Princes Hwy via Cooma. Afternoon birding from **Green Cape**. In the evening we reach **Mallacoota**, Victoria, where we find a little cabin for our accommodation.

11/1 Shipwreck Creek in the morning, near Mallacoota the rest of the day.

12/1 A few hours of birding along the **Wallagaraugh Rd**, 25 km northeast of Mallacoota. In the early afternoon we reach **Wilson's Promontory**, where camping.

13/1 Lilly Pilly Gully, Pillar Point, Shallow Inlet. Transport to **Phillip Island** where we eventually find a camping spot. Birding at Point Grant and witnessing the Penguin Parade spectacle!

14/1 Wollamai Beach and Rhyll Inlet in the morning. Transport to Melbourne, where we meet Tania Ireton and Richard Nowotny who take us to **Werribee Sewage Works**. Birding here until evening.

15/1 Morning birding at **Belmont Common** and **Pont Addis**. Drive along the **Great Ocean Rd** as far as the Twele Apostles. Via Camperdown-Lismore-Skipton-Bendigo to **Deniliquin**. Night at Peppin's Motor Inn.

16/1 Birding the Deniliquin area all day with Phil Maher.

17/1 Transport to **Hattah-Kulkyne NP** which is reached before noon. Camping here.

18/1 Hattah-Kulkyne NP.

19/1 A few morning hours at Hattah-Kulkyne. The hottest hours spent in **Lismore** (food, public library). In the afternoon we set camp in the **Gluepot Reserve**.

20/1 Gluepot.

21/1 Morning birding at Gluepot. Transport to **Port Augusta**, where we rent a nice cabin. Birding at Arid Lands and in the Spencer Gulf.

22/1 Arid Lands in the morning. On our drive towards Adelaide, we stop for birding at **Port Germain, Port Gawler** and **St. Kilda**. We drive all the way to **Meningie** south of Adelaide, where we rent a couple of caravans.

23/1 Birding the **Coorong** most of the day.

24/1 Morning birding in marshlands around Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina along the **road to Narrung**. A few hours during the middle of the day spent at **Belair NP** within **Adelaide**. Night at Blue Galah Backpacker's Hostel.

25/1 An easy day in Adelaide for Samuel. The rest leave for **Tasmania** in the afternoon.

26/1 Flight to Bombay, India, for a 3-month long odyssey all over the country!

Site Notes

Here follows more or less detailed accounts on most sites that we visited. As noted in the introduction, many of our sites were chosen from sources with outdated or sparse information. Thus we had to improvise quite a bit, and surely weren't aware of several alternative (possibly better) sites along the general route. Local contacts and birding reports on mailing lists are good sources to learn about other sites as well as more detailed information about where to find special birds (check out Birding-Aus at <http://bioacoustics.cse.unsw.edu.au/birding-aus>.)

Ash Island

Ash Island is an area of tidal flats, mangrove, ponds, scrub, grassland and rainforest remnants a few kilometers northwest of Newcastle, about 2.5 kilometers south of the Pacific Highway/New England Highway intersection. Check out <http://www.hboc.org.au/sites/Ash%20Island%20Bird%20Routes.pdf> for a map and birding information (not available at the time of our visit).

Greater (Australian) Painted-Snipe is one of the star birds of Ash Island, but of course it's secretive and seemingly irregular. It's also a hotspot for vagrants such as Yellow Wagtail and Northern Shoveler.

Mangrove Gerygone frequents the mangroves near the bridge. We found a few birds rather easily. Among other birds seen can be mentioned Chestnut Teal (400), Australian Black-shouldered Kite, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Australian Hobby, Red-capped and Black-fronted Plovers, Red-necked Avocet (2 - a regular site for this beauty!), Far Eastern Curlew (6), Marsh Sandpiper (30), Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (400), Fairy Martin, Tawny Grassbird, White-fronted Chat and White-breasted Wood-Swallow. With more time and better knowledge of the area many more nice birds should have been found.

Wallingat NP (formerly SF)

Although apparently rather seldom visited by birders nowadays, I liked this place. The wet sclerophyll eucalyptus forests were quite nice, and the view from Whoota Whoota lookout was beautiful! With the exception of some rainforest species near their southernmost limit there are no real specialties here, but if you won't get any farther northwards, a visit can be quite worthwhile.



Eastern Yellow-robin and Lewin's Honeyeater. Common birds at Wallingat!

It was great to see Australian Owlet-Nightjars already on our first evening of the trip, right at our camping spot. Wallingat seems to be good also for other nightly creatures, including Sooty Owl, White-throated Nightjar and many mammals. During our only morning here we found i.e. Australian Brush-Turkey, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, White-throated Needle-tail, Olive-tailed Thrush, Crested Shrike-Tit, Black-faced Monarch, Satin Flycatcher, Variegated Fairywren, Eastern Whipbird, Yellow-throated Scrubwren, Yellow and Striated Thornbills and Lewin's Honeyeater.

Barrington Tops NP

This is a beautiful national park and world heritage area about 100 km north of Newcastle, with largely untouched forested mountains. The southernmost limit for several subtropical rainforest species centered around the border area of Queensland and New South Wales is found here. It is one of the best areas anywhere for Rufous Scrub-bird, which we heard, but Paradise Riflebird, Regent Bowerbird and Logrunner are all uncommon, much easier seen at Lamington NP near Brisbane.

About 30 kilometers northeast of Newcastle, turn left from the Pacific highway on to The Buckets Way towards Gloucester (we took a short cut to Stroud as we approached from Wallingat). Ten kilometers before Gloucester there is a sign for Gloucester Tops/Barrington Tops NP some 30 kilometers away. The car should be reasonably filled up with gas before you go, since the mountain roads are steep and fuel demanding. After heavy rains the road may be unsuitable for regular cars, since there are many fords to cross, but it's paved as far as the park entrance. There is a campground (A\$ 7/person) with some facilities near the entrance, and there are a few more primitive ones further inside the park as well.

Roadside birding could yield most species around, but to find the Rufous Scrub-bird you need to drive up to Gloucester Tops about 15 km from the campground where there is a trailhead. The Scrub-bird can be found just a few hundred meters away along the Antarctic Beech Forest Walk, where the undergrowth is dominated by giant ferns. We heard our only bird along the road at a stream crossing a few hundred meters before the trailhead. The beautiful Antarctic Beech forest is also home to the somewhat tricky Olive Whistler.

Some of the other birds that we recorded were Australian Brush-Turkey, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Topknot and Wonga Pigeons, Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo, Crimson Rosella, Noisy Pitta (heard from the campground), Superb Lyrebird (several - even one in full display!), Satin Bowerbird, Green

Catbird, Rose Robin and Bell Miner. A night excursion gave two Common Brushtail Possums while we heard both Tawny Frogmouth and Southern Boobook. Other possibilities, in addition to already mentioned species, include Wompoo Fruit-Dove, Sooty and Powerful Owls and Scarlet Robin.

Another good site in the area is Copeland Tops State Forest (which I learned about when writing this report). Species to look for here include Regent Bowerbird, Noisy Pitta, Logrunner, Wompoo Fruit-Dove, White-headed Pigeon and Russet-tailed Thrush.



The Ferry crossing at Wiseman's Ferry. Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos were seen at e.g. Barrington Tops.

Dharug NP/Wiseman's Ferry

Dharug NP is situated north of the Hawkesbury River, which meanders its way towards the coast some 30 kilometers north of Sydney. It's a bit off, but can be worth a visit to search especially for Glossy Black-Cockatoo. To pass the river you have to take a car ferry at Wiseman' Ferry.

In Dharug NP we walked around in the vicinity of the camping area (a few kilometers from the ferry) for little more than an hour and found i.e. Brush Cuckoo, Superb Lyrebird (4 males!), Leaden Flycatcher, Noisy Friarbird, Lewin's Honeyeater, Olive-backed Oriole and Satin Bowerbird. Lots of *Casuarina* but no Black-Cockatoos. The general area is good for Origma and Pilotbird.

After crossing the river with the ferry (free) we followed Gruff Dodd's directions by taking left in Wiseman's Ferry and continuing to the Old North Road. Here we waited for the Black-Cockatoos to fly in for the evening. As the light started to fade we almost gave up hope, but eventually three individuals flew by at a decent distance! Other good birds included a pair of Peregrine Falcons and a couple of Brown Quails.

Capertee Valley

A beautiful and varied area at the western escarpment of the Great Dividing Range reached within a couple of hours from Katoomba via the Great Western Highway. In Lithgow, follow signs for Capertee (road 86, c. 35 kilometers from Lithgow) and continue from here eastwards to Glen Davis, a village at the head of the Capertee Valley.

We had difficulties finding any good birding details about the area, and as we particularly wanted to see the difficult-to-find Regent Honeyeater we ended up hiring Carol Probeta (origma@lisp.com.au) as our guide for a full day in the valley (AS\$ 390). Carol knows the area very well and made our day pleasant and a great success.

Except for Regent Honeyeater on the nest, we also saw species like Great Crested Grebe, Musk Duck, Little Eagle, Painted Buttonquail, Musk and Little Lorikeets, Turquoise Parrot, Crested Shrike-Tit, Restless Flycatcher, White-browed Babbler, Speckled Warbler, Western Gerygone, Varied Sitella,

Yellow-tufted, Fuscous, Black-chinned, Painted (only heard) and Scarlet Honeyeaters, Diamond Firetail, Zebra, Double-barred and Plum-headed Finches, White-winged Chough and White-browed Woodswallow.



Birding with Carol helped us to find the endangered Regent Honeyeater.

I won't even try to describe where to find all these birds, but if you go there independently try to bird as many habitats as possible. The caravan park was good for various species and the foothills for eucalyptus birds and Turquoise Parrot. Regent Honeyeater is found in patches of Blackbox, a kind of eucalyptus with blackish bark and pink flowers, along the Glen Alice Road.

Blue Mountains

We did relatively brief birding here. Glossy Black-Cockatoo was somewhat surprisingly found on the trail to the Three Sisters and Origma could be studied well at Hargrave's Lookout southwest of Blackheath.

Barren Grounds/Budderoo NP

A well-known site near Wollongong (drive towards Jamberoo and continue westwards on Jamberoo Mountain Rd. for about 7 kilometers), good for various heath birds and Pilotbird. The star bird is the Ground Parrot, which can be heard calling and flying at dusk and dawn and, with luck, flushed from a trailside. We had no luck with the parrot, but found several other good species rather easily. Most of the birding was done at Barren Grounds. Eastern Bristlebird was easily heard but somewhat difficult to get a good view of. Pilotbird was found in the wooded part near the visitor's center, while Beautiful Firetail, Southern Emu-Wren, Red-browed Treecreeper and Eastern Whipbird (rather easily seen here) were seen from various trails in and at the edge of the heath.

Budderoo NP is connected to Barren Grounds, and you'll find pretty much the same species by walking roads and fire breaks here; we could add Scarlet Robin and 60 Topknot Pigeons.

We camped at Carrington Falls, some 8 kilometers west of Barren Grounds. There are no facilities except for the campsites. I think we paid a few dollars. Although we didn't do any real birding here, we did have a pair of beautiful Gang-gang Cockatoos.

Namadgi NP

Namadgi NP is a rather wild mountainous area of the Federal District, known for good populations of Superb Lyrebird, Spotted Quail-Thrush and Olive Whistler. Unfortunately large areas of the national park was destroyed by fires a few years ago, so the habitat was rather poor when we visited.

In the area around the Orroral campground we found Brown Goshawk, Australian Hobby, Brown Quail, Brush Cuckoo, Sacred Kingfisher, Scarlet Robin, Spotted Quail-Thrush (heard), Striated

Thornbill, White-eared and Fuscous Honeyeaters, Diamond Firetail, Satin Bowerbird, White-winged Chough and Dusky Woodswallow. A nightly walk for spot-lighting gave nothing. The silence was complete!

We drove through the park along the unpaved Boboyan Road, eventually finding our way to Cooma. We had some fairly nice sceneries, but roadside birding otherwise wasn't very productive. Given time, though, Namadgi could give some nice birding.

Green Cape

As we couldn't fit in a pelagic from Wollongong into our itinerary we were supposed to try to see some seabirds from land. Green Cape, close to the border with Victoria, looked like one of the best spots on the map, so we took a chance and went there en route between Namadgi and Mallacoota.. From the Pacific Hwy its 20-25 kilometers on a rather rough gravel road to the lighthouse, and then it's just a short walk to a rocky point with good views in all directions. We were hardly disappointed with the result. In a couple of hours we found a Shy Albatross, hundreds of shearwaters of six species, Australasian Gannets, Black-faced Cormorants, Sooty Oystercatchers, a Pacific Gull and at least six Pomarine Jaegers. In the surrounding heath we also had a few nice Tawny-crowned Honeyeaters.



Apart from several seabird species, we found Sooty Oystercatchers at Cape Green Lighthouse.

Mallacoota/Shipwreck Creek

Mallacoota is a small town by the coast in easternmost Victoria with very varied habitats close by. Reaching them is somewhat difficult, though, and road conditions can be quite bad.

The Shipwreck area is one of the best areas, reached via a rough and sandy road close to the coast. If I remember correctly it took us about 40 minutes to get there. The heathlands here are very nice, right by the coastline. Although we couldn't find our target Ground Parrot, we did see plenty of Southern Emu-Wrens, a few Tawny-crowned Honeyeaters, an Eastern Reef-Egret, Wonga Pigeon along the Shipwreck trail and Grey Currawong. Closer to Mallacoota we searched especially for Chestnut-rumped Hylacola, but in vain.

Wallagaraugh Rd.

The Wallagaraugh area is north of Mallacoota, reached from the Princes Hwy near Timbillica in southernmost New South Wales. The area supposedly holds Powerful Owl, so we went out early to give it a try. We were a bit late though, and it was windy as well. Species of note were Azure Kingfisher, Rainbow Lorikeet, White-throated Needletail, Rufous Fantail and Bell Miner.

Wilson's Promontory

A magnificent and popular national park with miles and miles of wild coastline to the Tasman Sea. Access by car is limited, and to explore the area properly several days would be needed. Habitats are varied, with tidal flats, forests, heath, wetlands and offshore islets holding breeding seabirds.

For residents it is apparently important to book campsites well in advance, but foreigners get special treatment and have a good chance to get a space without any prior booking. This special campground is situated right at the entrance, and while other campsites were pretty much full there was plenty of room here. You might not want to take that chance during the peak of summer, though.

The "Prom" is good for Emu, which could turn up anywhere, as can Forest Raven. Our first birding was made at Millers Landing, Corner Inlet, and along the road to get there. The tide was rather high, and waders were extremely few. At least we had both Pied and Sooty Oystercatchers. A flock of about 150 Black-tailed Black-Cockatoos was pretty impressive, and we also had a surprise Eastern Reef-Egret, 500 Black Swans, a few Brush Bronzewing and a Wombat! Striated Calamanthus was found at the mostly dry Cotters Lake.

The Lilly Pilly Gully walk was nice. Here we found Olive-tailed Thrush, Rose Robin, Rufous Fantail, Crescent Honeyeater and plenty of Eastern Spinebills. Pillar Point gave superb views, but as the ocean was rather calm we saw none of the hoped for seabirds. Finally we visited Shallow Inlet, which held some Oystercatchers, Pacific Gulls and a single Eastern Curlew, while a pair of Cape Barren Geese were seen along the road.



Striated Calamanthus at "the Prom" and Hooded Plover at Phillip Island are desirable for traveling birders!

Phillip Island

A tourist's paradise, this little island is totally jammed with people during the summer. Indeed, we might have been lucky to find a camping spot at all without any prior booking – hotels should be booked well in advance for this time of the year.

At the westernmost point of the island there is a reserve for Little Penguins with a boardwalk through a small area of the colony. A few young birds could be seen in their burrows at close range! The islets offshore (The Nobbies) hold Australian Fur Seals, and keep an eye open for Kelp Gull. Crested Terns are common. The famous Penguin Parade is close by. This is surely one of the world's strangest tourist magnets! With seats for a couple of thousand people and a complete shopping center there is really nothing like it anywhere else on the planet. Pay A\$17, find your seat and enjoy! Except for hundreds of Little Penguins, tens of thousands of Short-tailed Shearwaters will also come to their breeding burrows. Touristy? Yes! But fantastic nonetheless ...

At the opposite side of the island, Woolamai Beach holds breeding Hooded Plovers. Stunning birds! Rhyll Inlet in the north produced among others Cape Barren Goose, Pied Oystercatcher, Far Eastern Curlew (21), Bar-tailed Godwit (100), Red Knot (1) and Pacific Gull (c. 40).

Werribee Sewage Works

This is an enormous area of sewage ponds south of Melbourne, holding very impressive numbers of ducks and other water birds any time of the year and especially during droughts. Unfortunately the area is closed to casual visitors, but fortunately some local birders do have access. We were guided by Tania Ireton (tania.ireton@dcb.defence.gov.au) and Richard Nowotny (richard.nowotny@bigpond.com), who generously gave of their time to bird with us. They didn't charge anything, and wouldn't even take a tip. You should try to, at least, if you find yourself in our shoes.

Some of the birds seen: Hoary-headed Grebe (500), Straw-necked Ibis (300), Black Swan (1 000), Freckled Duck (5), Cape Barren Goose (8), Australian Shelduck (3 000), Australasian Shoveler (200), Pink-eared Duck (5 000–10 000; fantastic!), Hardhead (500), Blue-billed Duck (5), Musk Duck (120), Australian Crake (4), Brolga (3), Pacific Golden-Plover (4), Red-necked Avocet (180). Wood Sandpiper (1 – uncommon in Victoria), Red-necked Stint (4 000), Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (2 000), Curlew Sandpiper (500), Whiskered Tern (500), White-winged Tern (1) and White-fronted Chat.

Belmont Common

A nice little wetland en route from Melbourne to Point Addis/Great Ocean Road, good for crakes and Latham's Snipe. When driving through Belmont, a suburb to Geelong, look out for Breakwater Rd. to the left when coming from Melbourne. At the next crossroad you will see the wetland on your right hand side. During our rather short visit in the early morning we found a single Latham's Snipe, Dusky Moorhen, Little Grassbird, Australian Reed-Warbler and a few more, but no crakes.

Point Addis

A good and easily accessible spot for Rufous Bristlebird not far from Geelong. The bristlebirds are readily found around the parking area at the very point (end of the road). We also found Blue-winged Parrot and Grey Currawong. During favorable wind conditions it should be a good spot to watch for seabirds.

Deniliquin

I cannot give any detailed information about the Deniliquin area. We were totally in the hands of Phil Maher, a well-known and highly competent resident bird guide. Although a bit on the expensive side, Phil knows the area by heart and without him it would take forever to find the enigmatic Plains-wanderer which in his company is almost guaranteed. For information and booking, visit www.philipmaher.com.



Phil took us out to the middle of nowhere, the true habitat for the star bird of the entire trip!

We had a very good day. The skies were overcast, and the temperature thankfully stayed below 25 degrees. Otherwise it is not uncommon with temperatures around 40 degrees this time of the year. The Plains-wanderer put in a wonderful performance, the Major Mitchell's Cockatoos were simply stunning and in total we encountered almost 130 species including other goodies like Emu (lots of them!), Australasian Bittern, Yellow-billed Spoonbill, Black Falcon, Stubble Quail, Black-tailed Native-Hen, Red-kneed Dotterel, Banded Lapwing, Australian Pratincole, Long-billed Corella, Superb Parrot, Cockatiel, Blue Bonnet, Yellow Rosella, Barn Owl, Tawny Frogmouth, Azure Kingfisher, White-backed Swallow, Red-capped Robin, Gilbert's Whistler, Brown Songlark, White-winged Fairywren, White-fronted Honeyeater, White-browed and Masked Woodswallows, Apostlebird and Red Kangaroo.

Hattah-Kulkyne NP

This national park, situated between Ouyen and Mildura in northwestern Victoria, is well-visited by birders. It's perhaps the most accessible site for the Endangered Mallee Fairy-Wren, a species which currently is undergoing a very rapid decline – there may only be as few as 3 000 birds left. Other sought after species here include Regent Parrot, Major Mitchell's Cockatoo, Striated Grasswren and a range of mallee species. After years of drought, the extensive lake system of the park is completely dry, otherwise Hattah-Kulkyne has also been known for masses of waterbound birds.

Temperatures in January are typically in the range of 30–40 degrees, so be prepared accordingly. There is a campsite at Hattah Lake with washing water available. Fast food can be bought at the nearby gas station. Hattah is just a few buildings!

Mallee Emu-Wren and Striated Grasswren are best looked for by walking the Nowingi Track, which has plenty of spinifex and good mallee forest. Despite much searching we couldn't find the Grasswren, but the Emu-Wren was seen on several occasions. We also encountered several (!) Australian Owlet-Nightjars and Chestnut Quail-Thrushes here, as well as Mulga Parrot, Masked and White-browed Wood-Swallows and White-fronted Honeyeater.

Along the long Mournpall Track we found Regent Parrots, Yellow Rosella, Superb Fairy-Wren, Inland Thornbill and Emu.



Pussy-tails and the Mallee Dragon are specialized for the hot and dry Hattah-Kulkyne National Park.

Gluepot reserve

The Gluepot reserve is owned and managed by Birds Australia and is home for some of Australia's rarest birds, including Black-eared Miner, Red-lored Whistler and Scarlet-chested Parrot. It is situated in the southeastern corner of South Australia close to the border with New South Wales and Victoria, 50 kilometers from the nearest town Waikerie. The best time to visit is April–October; in January

temperatures often soar to around 40 degrees, as we indeed experienced, making bird finding hard work.

There is a visitors centre with a small exhibition. Here you register and pay for day entrance (AS\$ 5/ vehicle) or for camping (AS\$ 10/vehicle). To stay here you need to bring your own camping equipment and plenty of water – there are no facilities except for the camp sites. Birding can be done along various roads and well marked trails. Maps and details of bird finding (including a log with bird observations) are available at the visitors centre. The Malleefowl track is probably the best, with regular sightings of Black-eared Miner and Red-lored Whistler. For extensive information about the reserve, visit <http://www.riverland.net.au/gluepot/>.

Port Augusta: Arid Lands and Spencer Gulf

I had early plans to try to do some birding in the Flinder's range or even the beginning of the Strzelecki track, but the long distances and inhumane temperatures involved finally put an end to those fantasies. It is possible to do it, but at the same time it is a bit foolish. Better to return in July some day... Although a bit off track just to add a few interior species, we still went to Port Augusta and Arid Lands Botanic Garden. I think it was worth it.

Arid Lands is situated 1.4 km east of Port Augusta along the Stuart highway. It's well managed and interesting in its own right. Chirruping Wedgebill was easily found, and we also had two Redthroats. Just outside we saw Rufous Fieldwren, Spotted Harrier, Purple-crowned Lorikeet (in flight) and White-winged Fairy-Wren, but we failed to find any Slender-billed Thornbills. Close to the main road and the bridge crossing the Spencer Gulf we had at least 3 000 Banded Stilts. Wonderful birds!

The Coorong

The area around the Coorong south of Adelaide is vast and holds many possibilities for birding. We concentrated on a few sites only and rented a couple of caravans in Meningie, close to the city center.

At Salt Creek in the southern part of the national park we walked by the Salt Creek, and drove along the gravel road going south from here. After a couple of kilometers you pass a Malleefowl mound, which is poorly signed. We almost neglected it, because we didn't believe an active mound would be so public. But it was active, already! Pretty cool to see a Malleefowl work with its feet arranging the perfect temperature for its eggs! Along a walking track we found Purple-gaped Honeyeater, and by the shoreline we had plenty of waders, including Banded Stilts and Red-necked Avocet.

Our last birding was made along the road to Narrung along the western shores of Lake Alexandrina. Quite birdy, with 200 Cape Barren Geese, 500 Australian Shelducks and 400 Whiskered Terns. We didn't have time birding the Pelican Point Road further west, but it certainly looks good on the map!

Species list

This species list is based on my personal observations. Additional observations have been included at least for the more interesting species, but the list is not complete.

Emu *Dromaius novaehollandiae* 12/1 7 Princes Hwy, 2 Wilson's Promontory, 16/1 18 Deniliquin, 18/1 4 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Little Penguin *Eudyptula minor* 13/1 c. 500 Phillip Island. Cool! The Penguin Parade is a weirdly remarkable tourist attraction!

Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae* 7/1 3 Capertee Valley, 15/1 1 Belmont Common, 16/1 9 Deniliquin.

Hoary-headed Grebe *Poliiocephalus poliocephalus* 13/1 2 Korumburra-Dudley, 14/1 c. 500 Werribee,

15/1 1 Belmont Common, 16/1 2 Deniliquin, 23/1 6 Coorong.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* 7/1 19 Capertee Valley.

Shy Albatross *Thalassarche cauta** 10/1 1 ad. Green Cape.

Flesh-footed Shearwater *Puffinus carneipes* 10/1 a few Green Cape.

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus* 10/1 c. 250 Green Cape.

Sooty Shearwater *Puffinus griseus* 10/1 c. 100 Green Cape.

Short-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus tenuirostris* 10/1 c. 30 Green Cape, 13/1 10 000's, 14/1 c. 1000 Phillip Island. Impressive!

Hutton's Shearwater *Puffinus huttoni*** 10/1 at least 1 Green Cape (SH).

Fluttering Shearwater *Puffinus gavia* 10/1 c. 100 Green Cape.

Australian Pelican *Pelecanus conspicillatus* 4/1 c. 40 Ash Island, 5/1 c. 20 Wallingat NP, 6/1 c. 10 Pacific Hwy, 11/1 1 Mallacoota, 12/1 c. 5 Princes Hwy, 14/1 c. 200 Werribee, 21/1 a few Waikerie, 2 Port Augusta, 22/1 c. 10 Port Gawler, 23-24/1 fairly common Coorong.

Australasian Gannet *Morus serrator* 10/1 c. 30 Green Cape, 11/1 2 Mallacoota, 13/1 1 Phillip Island.

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 5/1 2 Bulahdelah, 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 14/1 4 Werribee, 22/1 4 Port Gawler.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* 6/1 4 Wiseman's Ferry, 10/1 c. 10 Green Cape, 11/1 6 Mallacoota, 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax varius* 4/1 1 Sydney, 14/12 2 Melbourne, 2 Werribee, 16/1 2 Deniliquin, 24/1 4 Coorong.

Black-faced Cormorant *Phalacrocorax fuscescens* 10/1 2 Green Cape, 12/1 2, 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 15/1 1 Twelve Apostles.

Little Pied Cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 12/1 4 Wallagauraug Rd., 16/1 5 Deniliquin.

Australian Darter *Anhinga (rufa) novaehollandiae* 4/1 1 Newcastle, 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 16/1 3 Deniliquin.

White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica* 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 16/1 2 ♂, 1 ♀ Deniliquin, 17/1 19 Deniliquin-Ouyen.

Great Egret *Egretta alba* 4/1 c. 5 Ash Island, 12/1 4 Wilson's Promontory, 16/1 c. 20 (about ten active nests) Deniliquin.

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia* 4/1 2 Ash Island.

White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae* 4/1 1 Newcastle, 7 Ash Island, 5/1 1 Bulahdelah-Barrington, 6/1 1 Pacific Hwy, 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 10/1 2 Genoa-Mallacoota, 12/1 c. 10, 13/1 4 Wilson's Promontory, 15/1 c. 15 Great Ocean Rd., 3 Camperdown-Lismore, 16/1 c. 30 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 10 Deniliquin-Ouyen, 22/1 4 Port Gawler, 23/1 6, 24/1 a few Coorong.

Eastern Reef-Egret *Egretta sacra* 11/11 1 dark morph Shipwreck Creek, 12/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 22/1 2 light morph Port Gawler. Not supposed to occur in central Victoria, so the bird at the "Prom" is probably rather noteworthy.



Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* 4/1 3 Ash Island.

Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* Common.

Rufous Night-Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus* 16/1 2 ad. Deniliquin.

Australasian Bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*** 16/1 4 Deniliquin.

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus* 14/1 9 Werribee.

Australian White Ibis *Threskiornis molucca* 4/1 c. 40 Sydney, c. 50 Ash Island, 6/1 4 Wiseman's Ferry, 12/1 5 Princes Hwy, 12/1 c. 20, 13/1 c. 20 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 c. 100 Werribee, 16/1 c. 40 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 30 Deniliquin-Ouyen, 22/1 c. 10 Port Augusta-Coorong, 23-24/1 a few Coorong.

This Rufous Night-Heron was found in broad daylight!

Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis* 12/1 5 Princes Hwy, 12/1 1, 13/1 c. 150 Wilson's Promontory, 16/1 c. 100 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 20 Deniliquin-Ouyen, 22/1 c. 15 Port Augusta-Coorong, 24/1 c. 50 Coorong.

Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia* 4/1 4 Ash Island, 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 4 Werribee, 24/1 2 Coorong.

Yellow-billed Spoonbill *Platalea flavipes* 8/1 1 Katoomba-Wollongong, 14/1 2 Werribee, 15/1 2 Great Ocean Rd., 2 Camperdown-Lismore, 16/1 5 ad., 2 pulli Deniliquin.

Black Swan *Cygnus atratus* 4/1 3 Ash Island, 6/1 2 Pacific Hwy, 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 12/1 c. 500, 13/1 c. 30 Wilson's Promontory, 13/1 2 Korumburra-Dudley, 14/1 c. 1000 Werribee, 23/1 c. 100 Coorong.

Cape Barren Goose *Cereopsis novaehollandiae* 13/1 2 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 4 Phillip Island, 8 Werribee, 24/1 197 Coorong.

Freckled Duck *Stictonetta naevosa* 14/1 5 Werribee, 15/1 c. 250 Camperdown-Lismore. Flocks of this size are quite uncommon, and we found them just by chance!

Australian Shelduck *Tadorna tadornoides* 14/1 1 ♀ Phillip Island, c. 3000 Werribee, 15/1 2 Great Ocean Rd, c. 30 Camperdown-Lismore, 17/1 c. 30 Deniliquin-Ouyen, 23/1 c. 300, 24/1 c. 500 Coorong.

Maned Duck *Chenonetta jubata* 4/1 6 N. Newcastle, 7/1 c. 15 Capertee Valley, 8/1 12 Katoomba-Wollongong, 10/1 c. 70 Genoa-Mallacoota, 12/1 1 pair, 3 juv. Wallagaraugh Rd, 14/1 2 Werribee, 16/1 c. 50 Deniliquin.

Grey Teal *Anas gibberifrons* 4/1 c. 50 Ash Island, 10/1 c. 30 Genoa-Mallacoota, 12/1 12 Wilson's Promontory, 14/11 at least 100 Werribee, 15/11 c. 10 Camperdown-Lismore, 16/1 c. 50 Deniliquin, 21/1 c. 50 Waikerie, 23/1 c. 10, 24/1 c. 400 Coorong.

Chestnut Teal *Anas castanea* 4/1 1 pair Sydney, c. 350 Ash Island, 10/1 a few Genoa-Mallacoota, 12/1 c. 50 Wilson's Promontory, 13/1 c. 10 Korumburra-Dudley, 14/1 c. 500 Werribee, 15/1 c. 20 Belmont Common, c. 30 Camperdown-Lismore.

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa* 4/1 2 Ash Island, 5/1 5 Bulahdelah, 6/1 2 Wiseman's Ferry, 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 13/1 12 Wilson's Promontory, c. 15 Korumburra-Dudley, 14/1 c. 150 Werribee, 16/1 c. 100 Deniliquin, 21/1 c. 20 Waikerie, 23/1 c. 30 Coorong.

Australian Shoveler *Anas rhynchos* 14/1 c. 200 Werribee, 15/1 10-15 Camperdown-Lismore.

Pink-eared Duck *Malacorhynchus membranaceus* 14/1 5 000-10 000 Werribee, 15/1 9 Camperdown-Lismore, 21/1 c. 100 Waikerie.

Hardhead *Aythya australis* 14/1 c. 500 Werribee.

Australian Blue-billed Duck *Oxyura australis* 14/1 3 ♂, 2 ♀ Werribee.

Musk Duck *Biziura lobata* 7/1 6 Capertee Valley, 14/1 c. 120 Werribee. Weird bird!

Australian Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus axillaris* 4/1 3 Ash Island, 14/1 2 Werribee, 16/1 4 Deniliquin.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans* 5/1 3 Wallingat NP, 1 Stroud, 16/1 c. 25 Deniliquin.

Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus* 6/1 1 Stroud-Pacific Hwy, 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 15/1 1 Bendigo-Deniliquin, 16/1 2 Deniliquin, 17/1 1 Deniliquin-Ouyen, 22/1 c. 5 Port Augusta-Adelaide.

White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* 4/1 2 ad., 1 juv. Ash Island, 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 2 Stroud, 10/1 1 Princes Hwy, 1 ad., 2 juv. Green Cape, 14/1 1 Melbourne.

Pacific Marsh-Harrier *Circus approximans* 4/1 1 ♀ Ash Island, 12/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 10-15 Werribee, 16/1 3 Deniliquin, 24/1 2 Coorong.

Spotted Harrier *Circus assimilis* 21/1 1 ad. Arid Lands.

Australasian Goshawk *Accipiter fasciatus* 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 9/1 1 juv. Namadgi NP, 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Collared Sparrowhawk *Accipiter cirrocephalus* 16/1 3 Deniliquin.

Wedge-tailed Eagle *Aquila audax* 5/1 2 Stroud, 5/1 1, 6/1 1 Barrington Tops, 8/1 1 Barren Grounds, 10/1 3 Namadgi NP, 12/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 16/1 7 Deniliquin, 20/1 1 Gluepot, 22/1 2 Port Augusta-Adelaide.

Little Eagle *Hieraaetus morphnoides* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 17/1 1 dark morph Hattah-Kulkyne.

Australian Kestrel *Falco cenchroides* 4/1 1 ♂ Ash Island, 7/1 3 Capertee Valley, 10/1 3 Namadgi NP, 14/1 2 Werribee, 16/1 c. 25 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 5 Deniliquin-Ouyen, 1 Hattah-Kulkyne, 24/1 3 Coorong.

Australian Hobby *Falco longipennis* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 9/1 1 Namadgi NP, 16/1 2 Deniliquin, 21/1 1, 22/1 2 Port Augusta.

Brown Falcon *Falco berigora* 6/1 1 Stroud-Pacific Hwy, 12/1 1 Wilson's Pomontory, 14/1 2 Werribee, 15/1 1 Skipton-Bendigo, 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin, 17/1 3 Deniliquin-Ouyen, 18/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Black Falcon *Falco subniger* 16/10 1 ad. Deniliquin.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* 6/1 1 pair Wiseman's Ferry, 7/1 1-2 Capertee Valley, 13/1 1 ad. Phillip Island.

Australian Brush-Turkey *Alectura lathamii* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 6/1 2 Barrington Tops.

Malleefowl *Leipoa ocellata* 23/1 1 at mound Coorong.

Stubble Quail *Coturnix pectoralis* 16/1 9 Deniliquin.

Brown Quail *Coturnix ypsilophora* 6/1 2 Wiseman's Ferry, 7/1 3 Capertee Valley, 9/1 1 Namadgi.

Painted Buttonquail *Turnix varia* 7/1 3 Capertee Valley.

Brolga *Grus rubicunda* 14/1 3 Werribee, 17/1 2 Deniliquin-Ouyen.

Australian Crake *Porzana fluminea* 14/1 4 Werribee, 16/1 2 Deniliquin.

Spotless Crake *Porzana tabuensis* 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Purple Swamphen *Porphyrio porphyrio* 5/1 2 Bulahdelah, 10/1 1 Genoa-Mallacoota, 12/1 2 Wallagaraugh Rd, 2 Pacific Hwy, 13/1 1 Phillip Island, 14/1 3 Werribee, 15/1 4 Belmont Common, 16/1 c. 5 Deniliquin, 23/1 6, 24/1 2 Coorong.

Dusky Moorhen *Gallinula tenebrosa* 5/1 2 Bulahdelah, 5 Barrington Tops, 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 8/1 2 Katoomba-Wollongong, 15/1 4 Belmont Common, 16/1 c. 5 Deniliquin.

Black-tailed Native-Hen *Gallinula ventralis* 16/1 29 Deniliquin.

Common Coot *Fulica atra* 14/1 c. 150 Werribee, 21/1 3 Waikerie, 22/1 1 Port Gawler, 23/1 4 Coorong.

Australian Pied Oystercatcher *Haematopus longirostris* 12/1 2, 13/1 5 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 8 Phillip Island, 22/1 2 Port Augusta.

Sooty Oystercatcher *Haematopus fuliginosus* 10/1 3 Green Cape, 12/1 4, 13/1 4 Wilson's Promontory, 13/1 3 Phillip Island.

White-headed Stilt *Himantopus (himantopus) leucocephalus* 4/1 c. 70 Ash Island, 14/1 c. 150 Werribee, 21/1 3 Waikerie, c. 20 along the road to Port Augusta, 22/1 4 Port Gawler, 24/1 c. 25 Coorong.

Banded Stilt *Cladorhynchus leucocephalus* 21/1 c. 3000, 22/1 c. 500 Port Augusta, 22/1 2 ad., 1 juv. Port Gawler, c. 300 St. Kilda, 23/1 c. 1000, 24/1 2 Coorong. Excellent!

Red-necked Avocet *Recurvirostra novaehollandiae* 4/1 2 Ash Island, 14/1 c. 180 Werribee, 23/1 1, 24/1 1 Coorong. Beautiful!

Australian Pratincole *Stiltia isabella* 16/1 3 ad., 2 pulli Deniliquin.

Banded Lapwing *Vanellus tricolor* 16/1 2 ad., 2 pulli Deniliquin.

Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles* Fairly common–common.

Red-kneed Dotterel *Erythronyx cinctus* 14/1 3 ad., 1 juv. Werribee, 16/1 12 Deniliquin, 23/1 1 Meningie.

Pacific Golden-Plover *Pluvialis fulva* 14/1 4 Werribee.



Banded Stilt passing an Avocet at Coorong NP. Red-capped Plovers were found there too.

Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 21/1 1, 22/1 1 Port Augusta, 23/1 4 Coorong.

Hooded Plover *Charadrius rubricollis** 14/1 3 ad. Phillip Island.

Black-fronted Dotterel *Elseynornis melanops* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 16/1 2 Deniliquin. Surprisingly scarce.

Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii* 15/1 1 Belmont Common.

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* 14/1 24 Werribee.

Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* 14/1 c. 100 Phillip Island.

Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* 14/1 c. 20 Phillip Island.

Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis** 4/1 6 Ash Island, 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 21 Phillip Island.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* 4/1 c. 30 Ash Island, 14/10 c. 10 Werribee, 24/1 9 Coorong.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* 4/1 c. 10 Ash Island, 14/1 3 Phillip Island, c. 10 Werribee, 22/1 1 Port Gawler, 24/1 4 Coorong.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* 14/1 1 Werribee. Uncommon in Victoria.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* 23/1 1 Meningie.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres* 14/1 3 Werribee.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus* 14/1 1 Phillip Island.

Sanderling *Calidris alba* 13/1 a few Wilson's Promontory (SA, LP).

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis* 4/1 c. 40 Ash Island, 14/1 c. 100 Phillip Island, c. 4000 Werribee, 23/1 c. 400, 24/1 1 Coorong.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* 4/1 c. 400 Ash Island, 14/1 c. 2000 Werribee, 22/1 21 Port Gawler, 24/1 c. 300 Coorong.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 14/1 c. 500 Werribee.

Plains-wanderer *Pedionomus torquatus*** 16/1 1 ♀+1 heard Deniliquin. Fantastic!

Pomarine Jaeger *Stercorarius pomarinus* 10/1 4 subad./ad., 2 juv. Green Cape.

Pacific Gull *Larus pacificus* 10/1 1 ad. Green Cape, 12/1 c. 15, 13/1 3 Wilson's Promontory, 13/1 1 ad., 1 subad., 14/1 43 Phillip Island, 14/1 2 ad. Werribee, 15/1 1 ad. Point Addis.

Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus* 13/1 2 ad., 1 subad. Phillip Island.

Silver Gull *Larus novaehollandiae* Fairly common–common along the coast. Also 4 at Waikerie 19/1.

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* 11/1 1 Mallacoota, 12/1 2 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 2 Phillip Island, 21/1 1 Port Augusta, 23/1 1 Meningie, 24/1 30 Coorong.

Greater Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii* 10/1 c. 10 Green Cape, 11/1 4 Mallacoota, 12/1 5 Wilson's Promontory, 13/1 c. 100, 14/1 4 Phillip Island.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* 14/1 c. 500 Werribee, 21/1 1 Arid Lands, 22/1 c. 20 Port Gawler, 23/1 10-15, 24/1 c. 400 Coorong.

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* 14/1 1 Werribee.

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* Common in towns and cities.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis* 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 2 Phillip Island.

Brown Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia phasianella* 5/1 5 Wallingat NP, 6/1 3 Barrington Tops.

Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera* 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 9/1 1 Namadgi NP, 10/1 1 Genoa-Mallacoota, 16/1 4 Deniliquin, 17/1 1, 18/1 4 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 5 Gluepot, 23/1 2 Coorong.

Brush Bronzewing *Phaps elegans* 12/1 4 Wilson's Promontory.

Crested Pigeon *Ocyphaps lophotes* 6/1 4 Wiseman's Ferry, 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 8/1 1 Blue Mountains, 14/1 2 Werribee, 16/1 c. 150 Deniliquin, 18/1 c. 20 Hattah-Kulkyne, 21/1 c. 10 Arid Lands.

Diamond Dove *Geopelia cuneata* 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Peaceful Dove *Geopelia placida* 4/1 1 Newcastle, 7/1 c. 15 Capertee Valley, 16/1 2+2 heard Deniliquin.

Wonga Pigeon *Leucosarcia melanoleuca* 6/1 1 Barrington Tops, 11/1 1 Shipwreck Creek.

Topknot Pigeon *Lopholaimus antarcticus* 6/1 1 Barrington Tops, 9/1 c. 60 Barren Grounds.

Glossy Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathami* 6/1 3 Wiseman's Ferry, 8/1 2 ♂, 1 ♀ Echo Point, Blue Mountains.

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus funereus* 5/1 1 ♂ Wallingat NP, 6/1 2-4 Barrington Tops, 7/1 3 Capertee Valley, 8/1 4 Echo Point, Blue Mts, 8/1 18, 9/1 2 Barren Grounds, 10/1 2 Namadgi NP, 12/1 c. 150, 13/1 c. 10 Wilson's Promontory, 22/1 8 E. Adelaide.

Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum* 8/1 2 pairs Barren Grounds, 10/1 1 pair Namadgi NP. Beautiful!

Galah *Eolophus roseicapillus* 4/1 5 Sydney, 1 Ash Island, 7/1 c. 10 Capertee Valley, 10/1 2 Namadgi NP, c. 30 Genoa-Mallacoota, 11/1 c. 25 Mallacoota, 16/1 c. 300 Deniliquin, 17-19/1 10-20 daily Hattah-Kulkyne, 22/1 c. 250 Arid Lands. Less common than expected.

Long-billed Corella *Cacatua tenuirostris* 16/1 c. 100 Deniliquin.

Little Corella *Cacatua sanguinea* 22/1 3 Arid Lands, 23/1 5 Meningie.

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo *Cacatua leadbeateri* 16/1 4 Deniliquin. A simply stunning bird!



Crested Pigeons and Major Mitchell's Cockatoos have something in common!

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita* 6/1 c. 20 Wiseman's Ferry, 7/1 c. 60 Capertee Valley, 8/1 c. 30 Blue Mountains, 9/1 3 Namadgi NP, 16/1 1 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 15 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Cockatiel *Nymphicus hollandicus* 16/1 c. 70 Deniliquin.

Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus* 4/1 5 Sydney, c. 5 Newcastle, 12/1 c. 25 Wallagaraugh Rd., 22/1 8 Adelaide, 24/1 6 Belair NP.

Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna* 7/1 7 Capertee Valley, 15/1 4 Bendigo.

Little Lorikeet *Glossopsitta pusilla* 7/1 4 Capertee Valley.

Purple-crowned Lorikeet *Glossopsitta porphyrocephala* 21/1 2 Gluepot, 22/1 c. 20 Port Augusta, a few +heard Meningie. Poor observations.

Mallee Ringneck *Barnardius barnardi* 16/1 8 Deniliquin, 17/1 8, 18/1 4 Hattah-Kulkyne, 19/1 2, 20/1 4, 21/1 2 Gluepot.

Crimson Rosella *Platycercus elegans* 5/1 4-8, 6/1 c. 10 Barrington Tops, 8/1 c. 10 Blue Mountains, 8/1 c. 15, 9/1 c. 10 Barren Grounds, 9/1 2, 10/1 c. 10 Namadgi NP, 13/1 10-15 Wilson's Promontory, 15/1 5 Point Addis.

Yellow Rosella *Platycercus flaveolus* 16/1 c. 20 Deniliquin, 17/1 9, 18/1 5 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Adelaide Rosella *Platycercus adelaidae* 22/1 1 juv. E. Adelaide, 24/1 3 ad., 2 juv. Belair NP.

Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius* 4/1 4 Ash Island, 6/1 2 Wiseman's Ferry, 7/1 c. 15 Capertee Valley, 9/1 c. 5, 10/1 2 Namadgi NP, 17/1 c. 10 Deniliquin, 23/1 2 Coorong, 24/1 c. 5 Belair NP.

Bluebonnet *Northiella haematogaster* 16/1 8 Deniliquin.

Red-rumped Parrot *Psephotus haematonotus* 7/1 c. 35 Capertee Valley, 14/1 2 Werribee, 16/1 c. 400 Deniliquin.

Mulga Parrot *Psephotus varius* 18/1 c. 15 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 2 Gluepot. Nice species.

Blue-winged Parrot *Neophema chrysostoma* 15/1 6 Point Addis.

Elegant Parrot *Neophema elegans* 22/1 1 juv. Port Gawler.

Turquoise Parrot *Neophema pulchella* 7/1 1 ♂, 5 ♀+1 Capertee Valley.

Australian King-Parrot *Alisterus scapularis* 6/1 2 Barrington Tops, 7/1 c. 15 Capertee Valley, 8/1 2 Echo Point, Blue Mountains.

Superb Parrot *Polytelis swainsonii*** 16/1 15 Deniliquin. Yes!

Regent Parrot *Polytelis anthopeplus* 17/1 1 ♀, 18/1 c. 25 Hattah-Kulkyne. Beautiful!

Pallid Cuckoo *Cuculus pallidus* 11/1 1 Princes Hwy, Victoria.

Brush Cuckoo *Cacomantis variolosus* 6/1 1 Dharug NP, 10/1 1 Namadgi NP.

Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx basalis* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Australian Koel *Eudynamys (scolopacea) cyanocephala* 4/1 1 heard Newcastle, 6/1 1 heard Wiseman's Ferry, 8/1 1 heard Blue Mountains.

Channel-billed Cuckoo *Scythrops novaehollandiae* 4/1 1 juv. by the opera house in Sydney, fed by Pied Currawong.

Barn Owl *Tyto alba* 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Southern Boobook *Ninox boobook* 5/1 2 heard Barrington Tops, 12/1 1 heard Wilson's Promontory, 18/1 1 heard Hattah-Kulkyne.

Australian Owlet-Nightjar *Aegotheles cristatus* 4/1 2 Wallingat NP, 12/1 1 heard Wilson's Promontory, 18/1 2+1 heard, 19/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne. Superb observations! A very good result.



Tawny Frogmouth and Aussie Owlet-Nightjar; Night birds not too difficult to find in the sun.

Tawny Frogmouth *Podargus strigoides* 5/1 1 heard Barrington Tops, 16/1 8 Deniliquin.

White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus* 5/1 7 Wallingat NP, 6/1 c. 10 Barrington Tops, 11/1 c. 25 Mallacoota, 12/1 4 Wallagaraugh Rd.

Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae* Fairly common.

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sancta* 6/1 1 Dharug NP, 7/1 5 Capertee Valley, 9/1 1 Namadgi NP, 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Azure Kingfisher *Alcedo azurea* 12/1 2 Wallagaraugh Rd., 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus* 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 16/1 c. 20 Deniliquin, 17/1 5, 18/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne, 19/1 1, 20/1 6 Gluepot.

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 1 N. Newcastle, 5/1 1 Stroud, 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor* 5/1 1 heard Barrington Tops.

Rufous Scrub-bird *Atrichornis rufescens* 6/1 1 heard Barrington Tops. A rare skulker.

Superb Lyrebird *Menura novaehollandiae* 5/1 2 ♂, 6/1 1 ♂, 1 ♀+2 heard Barrington Tops, 6/1 4 ♂ Dharug NP, 8/1 1 heard Barren Grounds. Wow! What a superb bird! We were lucky indeed to see and hear a displaying male at Barrington Tops. The main displaying period is in the austral winter.

Australasian Bushlark *Mirafra javanica* 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin.

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* 10/1 2 Cooma-Nimmitabel, 13/1 3 heard Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 c. 20 Werribee, 16/1 c. 5 Great Ocean Rd.

White-backed Swallow *Cheramoeca leucosterna* 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin.

Welcome Swallow *Hirundo neoxena* Common.

Fairy Martin *Petrochelidon ariel* 4/1 c. 5 Ash Island, 12/1 1 Genoa, 14/1 a few Werribee, 16/1 c. 40 Deniliquin.

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans* 4/1 c. 20 Ash Island, 7/1 c. 5 Capertee Valley, 12/1 c. 20 Genoa, 14/1 5 Werribee, 16/1 c. 30 Deniliquin.

Australasian Pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae* 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 10/1 1 Cooma-Nimmitabel, 14/1 1 Werribee, 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin.

Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 6/1 1 Pacific Hwy, 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 11/1 1 Mallacoota, 12/1 1 Princes Hwy, 16/1 2 Deniliquin, 17/1 3, 18/1 4 Hattah-Kulkyne.

White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike *Coracina papuensis* 7/1 3 Capertee Valley.

White-winged Triller *Lalage tricolor* 7/1 2 ♂, 3 ♀ Capertee Valley, 16/1 1 pair Deniliquin.

Olive-tailed Thrush *Zoothera lunulata* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 6/1 2 Barrington Tops, 8/1 1 Barren Grounds, 13/1 3 Lilly Pilly Gully, Wilson's Promontory. Seen very well a couple of times.

Eurasian Blackbird *Turdus merula* 12/1 1+1 heard, 13/1 4 heard Wilson's Promontory, 15/1 2 Point Addis, 22/1 1 heard Arid Lands.

Golden-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis* 4/1 1 Ash Island, 6/1 2 Wiseman's Ferry, 14/1 3 Werribee, 16/1 1 heard Deniliquin.

Australian Reed-Warbler *Acrocephalus australis* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 15/1 3 Belmont Common, 16/1 3 Deniliquin.

Tawny Grassbird *Megalurus timoriensis* 4/1 1 Ash Island.

Little Grassbird *Megalurus gramineus* 4/1 1 heard Ash Island, 14/1 5 heard Werribee, 15/1 2+2 heard Belmont Common, 16/1 c. 5 Deniliquin.

Brown Songlark *Cincloramphus cruralis* 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin.

Rufous Songlark *Cincloramphus mathewsi* 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 16/1 2 Deniliquin.

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys* Fairly common—common.

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa* Common in most forested areas.

Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons* 5/1 1+1 heard Wallingat NP, 11/1 1 Mallacoota, 12/1 3 Wallagarragh Rd., 13/1 4 Wilson's Promontory.

Black-faced Monarch *Monarcha trivirgatus* 5/1 7 Wallingat NP.

Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula* 5/1 1 ♀ Wallingat NP, 6/1 1 ♂ Dharug NP, 7/1 1 ♂ Capertee Valley, 11/1 1 pair+1 juv. Mallacoota.

Satin Flycatcher *Myiagra cyanoleuca* 5/1 1 ♂ Wallingat NP (SA, LP)

Restless Flycatcher *Myiagra inquieta* 7/1 1 Capertee Valley.

Jacky Winter *Microeca leucophaea* 7/1 c. 5 Capertee Valley, 16/1 4 Deniliquin, 19/1 1, 20/1 3 Gluepot.

Scarlet Robin *Petroica multicolor* 9/1 1 ♂ Barren Grounds, 9/1 1 ♂, 10/1 1 ♂, 1 juv. Namadgi NP.

Red-capped Robin *Petroica goodenovii* 16/1 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 juv. Deniliquin, 17/1 1 ♀ Hattah-Kulkyne.

Rose Robin *Petroica rosea* 6/1 1 ♂ Barrington Tops, 13/1 1 ♀ Lilly Pilly Gully, Wilson's Promontory.

Hooded Robin *Melanodryas cucullata* 7/1 1 juv. ♂, 1 ♀ Capertee Valley, 16/1 1 ad. ♂, 1 juv. ♂ Deniliquin, 18/1 1 ♂, 1 ♀ Hattah-Kulkyne.

Eastern Yellow Robin *Eopsaltria australis* 5/1 c. 15 Wallingat NP, 1 Barrington Tops, 6/1 1 Dharug NP, 7/1 3 Capertee Valley, 8/1 1, 9/1 1 Barren Grounds, 9/1 1 Namadgi NP, 11/1 4 Mallacoota, 13/1 6 Wilson's Promontory.

Southern Scrub-Robin *Drymodes brunneopygia* 21/1 1 heard Gluepot.

Crested Shrike-Tit *Falcunculus frontatus* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 7/1 1+1 heard Capertee Valley, 11/1 1 Mallacoota, 16/1 1 heard Deniliquin.

Crested Bellbird *Oreoica gutturalis* 17/1 2 heard, 18/1 3 heard, 19/1 1 heard Hattah-Kulkyne, 21/1 1 ♂+1 heard Gluepot.

Olive Whistler *Pachycephala olivacea* 6/1 1 ♂+1 heard Barrington Tops. A slightly tricky species.

Gilbert's Whistler *Pachycephala inornata* 16/1 1 ♂ Deniliquin, 21/1 1 juv. ♂ Gluepot.

Golden Whistler *Pachycephala pectoralis* 5/1 c. 10 Wallingat NP, 5/1 1, 6/1 c. 10 Barrington Tops.

Rufous Whistler *Pachycephala rufiventris* 5/1 1 ♂ Wallingat NP, 7/1 3 ♂, 1 ♀ Capertee Valley, 8/1 1 ♀ Blue Mountains, 1 ♀ Barren Grounds, 16/1 1 ♂ Deniliquin., 18/1 2 ♂, 1 ♀ Hattah Kulkyne.

Grey Shrike-Thrush *Colluricincla harmonica* 5/1 c. 15 Wallingat NP, 7/1 3 Capertee Valley, 8/1 1 Blue Mountains, 9/1 1 Barren Grounds, 10/1 3 Namadgi NP, 12/1 1 Wallagaraugh Rd., 13/1 c. 5 Wilson's Promontory, 16/1 3 Deniliquin, 20/1 3, 21/1 c. 5 Gluepot.

Grey-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus temporalis* 16/1 3 Deniliquin, 17/1 1 Deniliquin-Ouyen.

White-browed Babbler *Pomatostomus superciliosus* 7/1 c. 10 Capertee Valley, 18/1 8 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 2, 21/1 2 Gluepot, 22/1 c. 10 Arid Lands, 4 Port Germain.

Chestnut-crowned Babbler *Pomatostomus ruficeps* 19-21/1 c. 10 daily Gluepot.

Eastern Whipbird *Psophodes olivaceus* 5/1 6 heard Wallingat NP, 5/1 1 heard, 6/1 c. 7 heard Barrington Tops, 6/1 2 heard Dharug NP, 8/1 2 pairs, 9/1 1 ♀+2 heard Barren Grounds, 12/1 1 heard Wallagaraugh Rd., 13/1 2 heard Wilson's Promontory.

Chirruping Wedgebill *Psophodes cristatus* 21/1 3, 22/1 7 Arid Lands.

Spotted Quail-Thrush *Cinlosoma punctatum* 10/1 1 heard Namadgi.

Chestnut Quail-Thrush *Cinlosoma castanotus* 17/1 1 ♀, 18/1 1 ♂, 2 ♀ Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 1 ♀ Gluepot.

White-winged Fairywren *Malurus leucopterus* 16/1 1 ♂, c. 5 ♀ Deniliquin, 17/1 2 ♀ Deniliquin-Ouyen, 21/1 4 ♂, c. 15 ♀, 22/1 3 ♂, c. 7 ♀ Arid Lands.

Superb Fairywren *Malurus cyaneus* 4/1 2 pairs Ash Island, 5/1 1 pair Wallingat NP, 6/1 5 Wiseman's Ferry, 7/1 c. 5 Capertee Valley, 8/1 2 ♂, 1 ♀ Barren Grounds, 11/1 1 ♂, 2 ♀ Mallacoota, 12/1 c. 5 Wallagaraugh Rd., 12/1 6, 13/1 c. 5 Wilson's Promontory, 15/1 3 Belmont Common, 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin, 23/1 2 ♂, 3 ♀ Coorong.

Splendid Fairywren *Malurus splendens* 18/1 2 ♂, 5 ♀ Hattah-Kulkyne. Unreal bird!

Variegated Fairywren *Malurus lamberti* 5/1 2 ♂, 1 ♀ Wallingat NP, 6/1 2 ♂, 2 ♀ Barrington Tops, 8/1 1 ♂, 3 ♀, 9/1 2 Barren Grounds, 20/1 1 ♂, 4 ♀, 21/1 4 ♂, 8 ♀ Gluepot, 22/1 2 ♂, 5 ♀ Arid Lands.

Southern Emuwren *Stipiturus malachurus* 8/1 1 pair, 9/1 3 Barren Grounds, 11/1 c. 10 Mallacoota, 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory. Nice bird!



Superb Fairywren and Southern Emu-wren are irresistible gems!

Mallee Emu-wren *Stipiturus mallee*** 17/1 1 pair, 18/1 7, 19/1 5 Hattah-Kulkyne. Has a very limited range.

Eastern Bristlebird *Dasyornis brachypterus*** 8/1 1 heard, 9/1 4 ex.+3 heard Barren Grounds. Endangered.

Rufous Bristlebird *Dasyornis broadbenti** 15/1 3 Point Addis, 2 heard Great Ocean Rd., 23/1 1 heard Coorong.

Pilotbird *Pycnoptilus floccosus* 8/1 1+1 heard Barren Grounds.

Origma *Origma solitaria* 8/1 2 Hargraves Lookout, Blue Mountains.

Yellow-throated Scrubwren *Sericornis citreogularis* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 5/1 1, 6/1 3 Barrington Tops.

White-browed Scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis* Common.

Large-billed Scrubwren *Sericornis magnirostris* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP.

Redthroat *Pyrrholaemus brunneus* 22/1 2 ♂ Arid Lands.

Speckled Warbler *Chthonicola sagittatus** 7/1 1 ♂ Capertee Valley.

Rufous Fieldwren *Calamanthus campestris* 21/1 3 Arid Lands.

Striated Fieldwren *Calamanthus fuliginosus* 12/1 1 ♂ Wilson's Promontory.

Shy Hylacola *Hylacola cauta* 17/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne (SH).

Buff-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza reguloides* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 16/1 2 Deniliquin.

Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla* 5/1 c. 15 Wallingat NP, 5/1 c. 10, 6/1 c. 20 Barrington Tops, 8/1 2 Blue Mountains, 9/1 c. 5 Barren Grounds, 9/1 4, 10/1 2 Namadgi NP, 11/1 7 Mallacoota, 12/1 1, 13/1 c. 5 Wilson's Promontory, 23/1 2 Coorong.

Inland Thornbill *Acanthiza apicalis* 18/1 1-2 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 15/1 c. 20 Point Addis, 14/1 1 Werribee, 17/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne, 23/1 c. 5 Coorong.

Chestnut-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza uropygialis* 17/1 3, 18/1 4, 19/1 4 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 2, 21/1 4 Gluepot.

Yellow Thornbill *Acanthiza nana* 5/1 3 Wallingat NP, 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Striated Thornbill *Acanthiza lineata* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 9/1 1, 10/1 4 Namadgi NP, 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Weebill *Smicrornis brevirostris* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 18/1 7 Hattah-Kulkyne, 19/1 2, 21/1 1 Gluepot.

White-throated Gerygone *Gerygone olivacea* 7/1 1+1 heard Capertee Valley.

Brown Gerygone *Gerygone mouki* 5/1 c. 5 Wallingat NP, 5/1 c. 10, 6/1 c. 5 Barrington Tops, 11/1 5 Mallacoota, 12/1 2 Wallagaraugh Rd.

Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca* 7/1 1 ♂+1 heard Capertee Valley.

Mangrove Gerygone *Gerygone levigaster* 4/1 2+1 heard Ash Island. Near the southernmost limit for the species.

Southern Whiteface *Aphelocephala leucopsis* 16/1 c. 15 Deniliquin, 21/1 1 Arid Lands.

White-fronted Chat *Epthianura albifrons* 4/1 1 pair Ash Island, 14/1 3-4 ♀ Phillip Island, c. 15 Werribee, 24/1 4 Coorong.

Varied Sittella *Neositta chrysoptera* 7/1 3 Capertee Valley, 8/1 1 Hargrave's Lookout, Blue Mountains, 20/1 5 Gluepot. Cool!

White-throated Treecreeper *Cormobates leucophaea* 5/1 2 Wallingat NP, 5/1 2, 6/1 c. 5+c. 5 heard Barrington Tops, 7/1 2+2 heard Capertee Valley, 8/1 2 Blue Mountains, 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory, 16/1 1+1 heard Deniliquin.

Red-browed Treecreeper *Climacteris erythroptera* 8/1 2 Blackheath, Blue Mountains, 9/1 1 Barren Grounds.

Brown Treecreeper *Climacteris picumnus* 7/1 5 Capertee Valley, 11/1 2 Mallacoota, 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin, 18/1 4+2 heard Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 3+2 heard Gluepot.

Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum* 5/1 1 ♀ Wallingat NP, 7/1 5 Capertee Valley, 16/1 1 heard Deniliquin, 22/1 1 juv. Arid Lands.

Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus* 7/1 1 pair Capertee Valley, 8/1 2 Blue Mountains, 9/1 1, 10/1 6 Namadgi NP, 13/1 1 ♀ Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 3 Phillip Island, 15/1 4 Point Addis, 18/1 4 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 2 heard, 21/1 2 heard Gluepot.

Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus* 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 16/1 2 Deniliquin, 21/1 1 Gluepot.

Silver-eye *Zosterops lateralis* Fairly common–common.

Scarlet Myzomela *Myzomela sanguinolenta* 7/1 1 ♂ Capertee Valley.

Lewin's Honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii* 5/1 c. 10 Wallingat NP, 6/1 1 Barrington Tops, 1 Dharug NP, 11/1 1 Mallacoota, 12/1 1 Wallagaraugh Rd.

Yellow-faced Honeyeater *Lichenostomus chrysops* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 5/1 4, 6/1 1 Barrington Tops, 8/1 1 Blue Mountains, 9/1 c. 10, 10/1 c. 15 Namadgi NP, 11/1 2 Mallacoota, 12/1 2 Wallagaraugh Rd, 1 Genoa.

Singing Honeyeater *Lichenostomus virescens* 16/1 3 Deniliquin, 21/1 3, 22/1 4 Arid Lands, 22/1 4 Port Germain, 2 Port Gawler, 23/1 8 Coorong.

White-eared Honeyeater *Lichenostomus leucotis* 9/1 4, 10/1 6 Namadgi NP, 19/1 2, 21/1 1 Gluepot.

Yellow-tufted Honeyeater *Lichenostomus melanops* 7/1 c. 20 Capertee Valley.

Purple-gaped Honeyeater *Lichenostomus cratitius* 23/1 2 Coorong. Nice and less common.

Fuscous Honeyeater *Lichenostomus fuscus* 7/1 8 (including a bird on the nest) Capertee Valley, 9/1 c. 20 Namadgi NP.

Yellow-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus ornatus* 17/1 c. 25, 18/1 c. 40, 19/1 c. 15 Hattah-Kulkyne, 19/1 c. 15, 20/1 c. 40, 21/1 c. 25 Gluepot.

White-plumed Honeyeater *Lichenostomus penicillatus* 7/1 c. 50 Capertee Valley, 16/1 c. 7 Deniliquin, 22/1 2 Port Germain.

White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus* 5/1 2-3 Barrington Tops, 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 9/1 5, 10/1 c. 15 Namadgi NP, 11/1 2 Mallacoota, 12/1 2 Wallagaraugh Rd.

Black-chinned Honeyeater *Melithreptus gularis* 7/1 1-2 Capertee Valley. A declining species.

Brown-headed Honeyeater *Melithreptus brevirostris* 7/1 1+1 heard Capertee Valley, 18/1 2 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 2, 21/1 1 Gluepot.

Little Friarbird *Philemon citreogularis* 15/1 3, 16/1 2 Deniliquin.

Noisy Friarbird *Philemon corniculatus* 6/1 3 Dharug NP, 7/1 c. 30 Capertee Valley, 16/1 4 Deniliquin.

Crescent Honeyeater *Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera* 13/1 1-2 Lilly Pilly Gully, Wilson's Promontory.

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae* 8/1 c. 5 Blue Mountains, 8/1 15-20, 9/1 c. 10 Barren Grounds, 11/1 2 Mallacoota, 12/1 1 Wallagaraugh Rd., 22/1 1 Meningie, 23/1 c. 10 Coorong.

White-fronted Honeyeater *Phylidonyris albifrons* 16/1 1 Deniliquin, 18/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne, 19/1 4, 20/1 c. 5, 21/1 c. 5 Gluepot. Nomadic. The bird in Deniliquin was Phil's second ever in 25 years!



New Holland and Tawny-crowned Honeyeaters. Beautiful representatives of their family!

Tawny-crowned Honeyeater *Phylidonyris melanops* 10/1 1 Green Cape, 11/1 2 Mallacoota.

Striped Honeyeater *Plectorhyncha lanceolata* 7/1 5 Capertee Valley, 17/1 2 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Painted Honeyeater *Grantiella picta** 7/1 1 heard Capertee Valley.

Regent Honeyeater *Xanthomyza phrygia*** 7/1 2 ad. at a nest+1 juv. Capertee Valley. Yes! Excellent views of this endangered species. The total population is somewhere around 1500 birds.

Eastern Spinebill *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris* 5/1 3 Wallingat NP, 6/1 1 ♀ Barrington Tops, 8/1 2 Blue Mountains, 8/1 2, 9/1 1 Barren Grounds, 11/1 3 Mallacoota, 12/1 1 Wallagaraugh Rd., 12/1 4, 13/1 c. 15 Wilson's Promontory.

Blue-faced Honeyeater *Entomyzon cyanotis* 15/1 10 Bendigo, 16/1 1 juv. Deniliquin, 18/1 2 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Bell Miner *Manorina melanophrys* 6/1 2+c. 10 heard Barrington Tops, 8/1 4 heard Blue Mountains, 10/1 c. 5 heard Princes Hwy, 12/1 c. 5 heard Wallagaraugh Rd.

Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala* 4/1 c. 5 Sydney, 6/1 4 Wiseman's Ferry, 15/1 3 Bendigo, 17/1 c. 15 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Yellow-throated Miner *Manorina flavigula* 21/1 2 Gluepot.

Black-eared Miner *Manorina melanotis*** 21/1 at least 2 Gluepot. One of Australia's rarest birds, with a population under 300 birds. If our birds were genetically pure is hard to say, although they showed most of the typical characteristics. Status as a species is dubious.

Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis* 16/1 3 Deniliquin, 17/1 1, 18/1 3 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 2, 21/1 1 Gluepot, 21/1 2, 22/1 4 Arid Lands, 22/1 1 Port Gawler, 23/1 c. 10 Coorong.

Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata* 4/1 4 Sydney, 8/1 3 Echo Point, Blue Mountains, 9/1 c. 10 Namadgi NP, 11/1 c. 10 Mallacoota, 12/1 c. 5 Wallagaraugh Rd., c. 10 Wilson's Promontory, 14/1 c. 50 Phillip Island, 16/1 1 Deniliquin, 20/1 2, 21/1 4 Gluepot, 22/1 c. 10 Meninige, 23/1 c. 15 Coorong.

Brush Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera* 8/1 5, 9/1 c. 15 Barren Grounds, 12/1 c. 15, 13/1 5-10 Wilson's Promontory, 23/1 a few Coorong.

Olive-backed Oriole *Oriolus sagittatus* 5/1 1 Wallingat NP, 6/1 1 juv. Dharug NP, 7/1 2 Capertee Valley.

Magpie-Lark *Grallina cyanoleuca* Fairly common.

White-winged Chough *Corcorax melanorhamphos* 7/1 c. 30 ex. Capertee Valley, 9/1 1 Namadgi NP, 15/1 2 Skipton-Bendigo, 5 Bendigo-Deniliquin, 16/1 c. 15 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 10, 18/1 c. 15 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 c. 20 Gluepot.

Apostlebird *Stuthidea cinerea* 16/1 c. 20 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 5, 18/1 c. 15, 19/1 3 Hattah-Kulkyne. A very odd bird.

White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus* 4/1 2-3 Ash Island, 16/1 1+2 heard Deniliquin.

Masked Woodswallow *Artamus personatus* 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin, 17/1 c. 10, 18/1 c. 5 Hattah-Kulkyne, 21/1 c. 10 Gluepot.

White-browed Woodswallow *Artamus superciliosus* 7/1 c. 20 Capertee Valley, 16/1 c. 25 Deniliquin, 17/1 2 ♀, 18/1 3 Hattah-Kulkyne. Good!

Black-faced Woodswallow *Artamus cinereus* 16/1 c. 5 Deniliquin.

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus* 7/1 c. 20 including one at a nest Capertee Valley, 9/1 c. 5, 10/1 c. 6 Namadgi NP, 16/1 c. 10 Deniliquin, 18/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus* 7/1 1 heard Capertee Valley, 18/1 2 Hattah-Kulkyne, 20/1 1 Gluepot, 22/1 2 Port Gawler.

Pied Butcherbird *Cracticus nigrogularis* 4/1 3 Ash Island, 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 16/1 2 Deniliquin, 18/1 1 Hattah-Kulkyne.

Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen* Fairly common–common.

Pied Currawong *Strepera graculina* 4/1 1 Sydney, 5/1 4, 6/1 3 Barrington Tops, 6/1 2 Dharug NP, 8/1 c. 10 Blue Mountains, a few+heard Barren Grounds, 11/1 1 Mallacoota, 12/1 2 Wilson's Promontory.

Grey Currawong *Strepera versicolor* 11/1 3 Mallacoota, 13/1 1 ad., 1 juv. Wilson's Promontory, 15/1 2 Point Addis, 23/1 2+2 heard Coorong.

Green Catbird *Ailuroedus crassirostris* 5/1 1, 6/1 1 Barrington Tops.

Satin Bowerbird *Ptilonorhynchus violaceus* 5/1 2 ♀, 6/1 4 Barrington Tops, 6/1 1 juv. ♂, 1 juv. Dharug NP, 8/1 2 ♀ Blue Mountains, 9/1 1 ♀ Namadgi NP.

Australian Raven *Corvus coronoides* Fairly common–common.

Little Raven *Corvus mellori* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley, 14/1 c. 100 Werribee, 16/1 c. 100 Deniliquin. Probably more seen.

Forest Raven *Corvus tasmanicus* 12/1 4+1 heard Wilson's Promontory.

Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* Fairly common–common.

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* Fairly common–common.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* Locally common.

Beautiful Firefinch *Stagonopleura bella* 8/1 1 Barren Grounds.

Diamond Firetail *Stagonopleura guttata* 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 9/1 3 Namadgi NP, 16/1 4 Deniliquin.

Red-browed Firetail *Neochmia temporalis* 5/1 3 Wallingat NP, 5/1 2 Barrington Tops, 7/1 c. 10 Capertee Valley, 9/1 2 Barren Grounds, 2 Namadgi NP, 12/1 5 Genoa, 14/1 3 Phillip Island, 15/1 2 Belmont Common.

Plum-headed Finch *Neochmia modesta* 7/1 1 ♀ Capertee Valley (SH).

Zebra Finch *Taeniopygia guttata* 7/1 c. 40 Capertee Valley, 16/1 2 Deniliquin.

Double-barred Finch *Taeniopygia bichenovii* 7/1 c. 15 Capertee Valley.

European Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris* 13/1 2 Phillip Island, 14/1 a few Werribee.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* 4/1 3 Ash Island, 12/1 2 heard Genoa, 14/1 c. 5 Werribee, 15/1 2 Great Ocean Rd., 24/1 1 heard Coorong.

312 species

Mammals

Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes* 7/1 2 Capertee Valley.

Australian Fur Seal *Arctocephalus pusillus* 14/1 100's Phillip Island.

Brown Hare *Lepus europaeus* 4/1 1 Ash Island.

European Rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus* 7/1 several Capertee Valley. More?

Koala *Phascolarctos cinereus* 15/1 9 Great Ocean Rd. Cool!

Common Wombat *Vombatus ursinus* 12/1 1 Wilson's Promontory. Weird-looking animal!

Fat-tailed Dunnart *Sminthopsis crassicaudata* 16/1 1 Deniliquin.

Eastern Grey Kangaroo *Macropus giganteus* 7/1 4 Capertee Valley, 9/1 c. 15, 10/1 c. 20 Namadgi NP, 11/1 several Mallacoota, 12/1 2 Wilson's Promontory.

Western Grey Kangaroo *Macropus fuliginosus* 20/1 4 Gluepot.

Red Kangaroo *Macropus rufus* 16/1 9 Deniliquin. No older male.

Euro *Macropus robustus* 7/1 1 Capertee Valley, 10/1 3 Green Cape.

Red-necked Wallaby *Macropus rufogriseus* 5/1 a few Wallingat NP, 7/1 1 Capertee Valley.

Black Wallaby *Wallabia bicolor* 11/1 3 Mallacoota, 12/1 2, 13/1 1 Wilson's Promontory.

Common Brushtail Possum *Trichosurus vulpecula* 5/1 2 Barrington Tops.