



Werribee Birdwatchers.

November Newsletter, 1998

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October 16th. Marteen Hulzebosch Twenty of us travelled to the Western Treatment Plant (The Sewage Farm to the old timers) with Bev, our unflappable and intrepid driver of the Community Bus. We went to mainly learn about waders and were not disappointed. Marteen was our charismatic leader, his knowledge of the Farm and its birds was endless. We had a perfect day with beautiful weather. There were plenty of waders on the ponds and down at Kirk Point.

As a bonus a flock of Blue-winged Parrots settled on a nearby fence and stayed long enough for all to have a good look. Marteen then saw what he thought was a pair of Orange-bellied Parrots disappear rapidly up Little River.

A developing trend of 'out of town' visitors was continued with Gina from Kew and Tom from Sydney.

We identified 66 species of birds and what was probably a world first phenomenon, a Black Swan with a clutch of six downy *goslings!*

A great day enjoyed by all. Marian Blood.

November 10th Point Cook Revisited. We plan to meet in the RAAF Car Park, where we met on the last occasion. Bernie McCarrick is on leave so I am making arrangements with people who do not know us. The Ranger has expressed concern about there being 4 cars in convoy, maybe we will be in Park vehicles! I am not able to confirm this until Thursday 5th. Should there be any change I will contact you or ask that you contact me.

December 8th Botanic Gardens. We will travel by train and tram, have a stroll through the Gardens hoping to see some of the White-browed Scrub Wrens and the many other birds who enjoy living in the delightful gardens. We could take our lunch or sit beside the Lake.

It's Time to Plan For The Future: Where will we go next year? Werribee Historic Park, Organ Pipes National Park, Werribee Gorge State Park, Royal Botanic Gardens, Exford Weir, Western Treatment Plant, Point Cook, Queenscliff including Swan Island, You Yangs and Hovell's Creek, Limeburners Point. **Do give me your ideas.** I will probably be away for the May, August and maybe September trips so will need someone to take charge of them. Any offers? I hope to be able to organise the Community Bus for a couple of Fridays that will fit in with our U3A commitments, three trips could be possible.

Birds Seen at Western treatment Plant October 16th.

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| Musk Duck | Eurasian Coot | Yellow-rumped thornbill |
| Black Swan | Bar-tailed Godwit | Red wattle bird |
| Australian Shelduck | Marsh Sandpiper | White plumed honeyeater |
| Pacific Black Duck | Greenshank | White fronted chat |
| Shoveler | Ruddy Turnstone | Magpie-lark |
| Grey Teal | Red-necked Stint | Willie Wagtail |
| Chestnut Teal | Curlew Sandpiper | Australian Magpie |
| Australasian Grebe | Sharp-tailed sandpiper | Australian Raven |
| Hoary-headed Grebe | Pied Oyster Catcher | Little Raven |
| Little Pied Cormorant | Black-winged stilt | Skylark |
| Pied Cormorant | Red-necked avocet | Richards Pipit |
| Little Black Cormorant | Golden Plover | House Sparrow |
| Black Cormorant | Masked Lapwing | Welcome Swallow |
| Pelican | Pacific Gull | Reed Warbler |
| Great Egret | Silver Gull | Gold Finch |
| Straw-necked Ibis | Crested Tern | Green Finch |
| Sacred Ibis | Fairy Tern | Golden-headed Cisticola |
| Royal spoonbill | Spotted Turtle Dove | Silvereye |
| Black -shouldered kite | Blue Winged Parrot | Common Blackbird |
| Whistling kite | Superb Fairy wren | Common Starling |
| Marsh Harrier | Striated Field wren | Common Myna |
| Dusky Moorhen | Brown thornbill | |