



# The Whistler

Newsletter of the Ringwood Field Naturalists Club Inc.

P.O. Box 418, Ringwood 3134  
www.rfnc.org.au

Editor: Jack Airey  
editor@rfnc.org.au

Issue No. 57 – Apr 2024

Reg. No. A9601  
ABN 29 099 297 169

ISSN 2207-4333  
Copyright © April 2024

## From the Editor

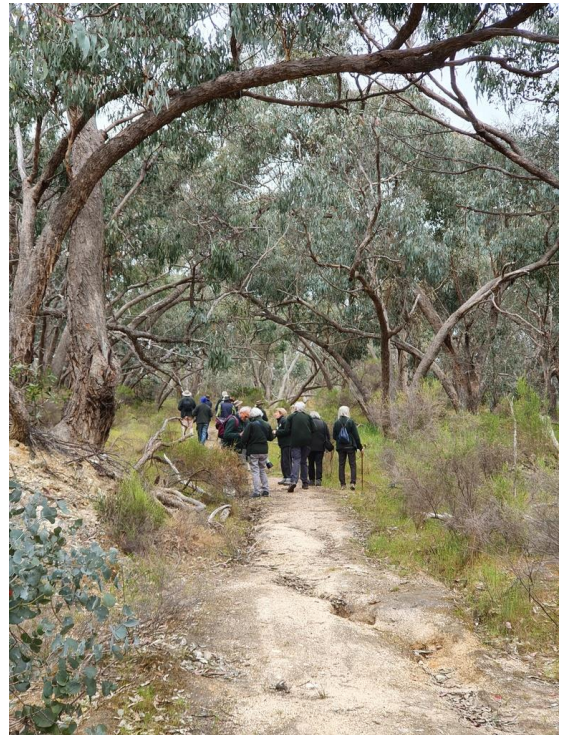
Here we are in early April and I'm sitting here wearing a beanie - summer feels like a distant memory already! With the recent rains giving the garden a life-saving watering and the ground still warm, keep your eyes open for fungi popping up over the next few weeks. Fingers crossed the rain keeps up and gives us a better orchid season than last year.

We've had excellent excursions and weekends away since the last edition. Our February excursion and part of the Traralgon weekend away had to be adjusted last minute to work around park closures from recent storms. The storm that impacted the planned February outing was likened to a mini tornado hitting the SE of Melbourne. I know Springvale Rd looked somewhat like a warzone. Are storms getting more unpredictable and higher intensity?

Coming up in the next Program we've got a great spread of events, culminating with our Club hosting the SEANA autumn weekend away on the 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of October in Marysville. I hope you've booked your accommodation – it's going to be busy!

My last note is a request for member's articles for the Whistler. Nicky is always reliable for sending me a couple, but I'd always like to see a couple more. A picture or a paragraph (or both), it doesn't have to be much, but I'm sure everyone would like to see it.

Jack Airey  
Editor



Members at our spring weekend away to Castlemaine enjoyed the walk through the Rise & Shine Bushland Reserve. A great spot for orchids and birds.

| Contents                         |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>From the Editor</b>           | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>Out and About</b>             | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>Member's Articles</b>         | <b>11</b> |
| <b>Appendix - sighting lists</b> | <b>12</b> |



## Out and About

### Castlemaine weekend away

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Leaders: Inta & Roger Needham

To commence our weekend away, the Castlemaine Botanic Gardens was the meeting point for 25 members on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October.

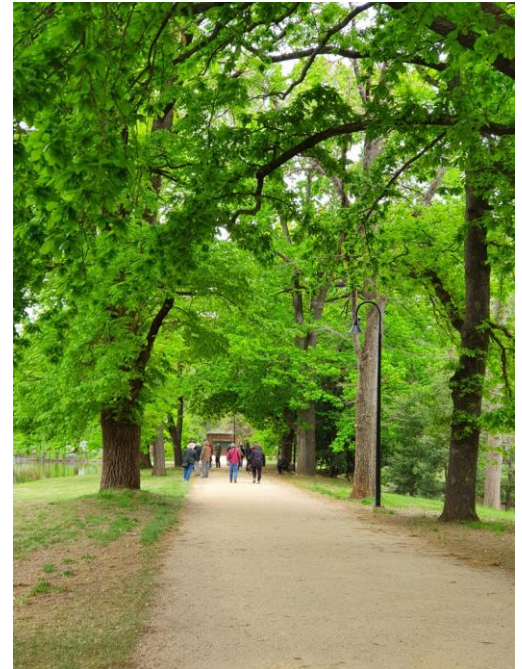
The week before, a Powerful Owl family had been seen in a huge conifer in the Gardens and the hope was that they would still be there. Alas, the only evidence of their past presence were the pellets of fur and bones beneath the tree. The Gardens contain a large selection of Conifers and exotic deciduous trees planted over 100 years ago which are home to native birds and on the walk through the gardens, Little Pied Cormorants were spied on nests on an island in an ornamental lake. Little Black Cormorants were also seen in the same location.

The Castlemaine Caravan Park served as accommodation for most of the members and the Camp Kitchen was the location for dinner on Friday night.

On Saturday, 27 members met at the Newstead Racecourse Reserve, 16 km west of Castlemaine, before travelling south the 6 km to the Rise and Shine Bushland Reserve. The Reserve shows evidence of past mining and more recent gravel extraction but supports some good quality Box and Ironbark Forest. Members were given more than 2 hours to explore the reserve.

Within a few metres of the entrance, Angela found a Purplish Beard Orchid (*Calochilus robertsonii*) and although it had not been a good year for orchids in places like Anglesea and Warrandyte, Rise and Shine contained more than usual. A patch of 47 Brown-clubbed Spider Orchids (*Caladenia phaeoclavia*) was found by a few people and there was a large patch of Hooded Caps (*Caladenia cucullata*) and scattered Wax-lips (*Glossodia major*) Leopard Orchids (*Diuris pardina*) and Pink Fingers (*Caladenia carnea*). David Hewitt and Don Redman were lucky enough to find the uncommon Swan Orchid (*Pterostylis cycnocephala*) nestled beside a track.

Castlemaine Botanic Gardens



*Caladenia phaeoclavia*  
Brown-clubbed Spider  
Orchid



*Calochilus robertsonii*  
Purplish Beard Orchid





"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

Of the 44 species of birds seen or heard, the most notable were Little Eagle, Brown Goshawk, Pallid and Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Dusky, Masked and White-browed Woodswallows as well as 6 species of Honeyeater.

We returned to Newstead Racecourse Reserve for lunch before moving on to Muckleford State Forest (photo at right) where we travelled in convoy along narrow gravel tracks, namely, Sullivans, Spring Hill, Mia Mia, and Bell's Lane ending at the Red, White and Blue Mine picnic area. A number of stops were made along the tracks to explore the forest which contained more wildflowers than Rise and Shine but fewer birds. Among plants seen in the forest were Sticky Everlastings (*Xerochrysum viscosum*), Hoary Sunray (*Leucochrysum albicans*) and Downy Grevillea (*Grevillea alpina*). On Saturday night the Railway Hotel in Castlemaine was our dinner venue.



Sunday morning was spent at Baringhup, a small hamlet 26km northwest of Castlemaine. We parked our cars in a picnic area on the east bank of the Loddon River, south of the main road. On arrival the calls of parrots filled the air. Galahs, Long-billed Corellas, Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, Rainbow and Musk Lorikeets, Crimson and Eastern Rosellas and Red-rumped Parrots were all heard there. Tracks extending both south and north along the riverbank were explored. Huge old River Red Gums lined the river. Birds of note seen there included Blue-faced Honeyeater, White-breasted Woodswallow, Australian Reed-Warbler, Whistling Kite, Brown Falcon and Wedge-tailed Eagle. A total of 44 bird species were seen, the same number we had seen at Rise and Shine.



Great Crested Grebe

We had lunch on the banks of Cairn Curran Reservoir, 3km from Baringhup on Woolshed Bay. Great Crested Grebes were seen here swimming not far from shore. From Woolshed Bay we drove in convoy around the western side of Cairn Curran, stopping at Picnic Point then continuing to Newstead Racecourse Reserve.

Our final venue for the weekend, located on the eastern outskirts of Castlemaine along the Kalimna Tourist Drive, was the Kalimna Circuit Track. Armed with a pamphlet, many members completed the Nature Trail along the 1.8km circuit. A few members caught sight of a Scarlet Robin as well as Yellow and a Buff-rumped Thornbill. Other birds seen along the track were White-winged Choughs and Grey Currawong.

Some of the many wildflowers growing in this Heathy Dry Forest were the Grey Everlasting (*Ozothamnus obcordatus*), Daphne Heath (*Brachyloma daphnoides*), Pink Bells (*Tetratheca ciliata*) and Rough Mint-bush (*Prostanthera denticulata*). The canopy of this mixed forest was made up by Grey, Red and Long-leaved Box, Yellow Gum and Red Stringybark.

At 4pm, the official part of the weekend concluded as people completed the Kalimna Circuit.

We were very fortunate for the weekend as despite the dire weather forecast the only rain experienced came at the conclusion of the last walk and although it was overcast the mild temperatures made it comfortable.

By Inta & Roger Needham



*"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"*

## Cathedral Ranges

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Leader: Jack Airey

24 members met at the carpark at Gallipoli Park in Marysville for our November excursion to the Cathedral Range State Park. After a quick briefing from our leader, we headed off on the drive to the meeting point at Cook's Mill Campground in the heart of the ranges. Entering from the northern end of the range, we enjoyed clear views of the Cathedral Ranges across the open farmland (right).



The Cook's Mill Campground was quite busy with campers enjoying the beautiful weather. Once we had all arrived and gathered, we set off on The Friends Nature Trail, with Olive-backed Oriole and Fan-tailed Cuckoo heard calling. This loop walk passes through Manna Gum forest and has good open areas for birdwatching. Small bush birds were prevalent, with Superb Fairy-wren, White-browed Scrubwren, Brown and Striated Thornbill being common. Yellow-faced Honeyeater was the most common honeyeater, but we managed to find a group of White-naped Honeyeaters and a couple of Eastern Spinebills. Arriving back at the campground, we saw several Satin Bowerbirds who seemed relatively accustomed to human visitors, and we stopped for lunch. We heard a Sacred Kingfisher calling as we did the bird call – good timing.



Satin Bowerbirds

After lunch, we drove north to Ned's Gully. We were restricted to the northern end of the park as the north-south road was not suitable for driving due to storm damage. At Ned's Gully we crossed the footbridge over Little River and headed off on the Little River Track. This walk was quiet on the birding front, but we did see Golden Whistler, Pied Currawong and Silvereyes. As we made the halfway point of this walk and turned to head back, we heard a Rufous Fantail calling from the nearby bushes. Despite best efforts, only a few members managed a glimpse of this elusive spring-summer migrant.

Returning to Ned's Gully, President Shirley thanked our leader for the day (and the perfect weather) and members dispersed for the drive home.

By Jack Airey

Members "walking" the Nature Trail







*"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"*

## Donnelly's Weir

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Leaders: Hazel & Alan Veevers

A perfect weather forecast encouraged 26 members to attend the January excursion. After driving across a shallow ford, the group assembled in Donnelly's Weir car park. The walk began along the 5,330km Bicentennial National Trail, which starts exactly at this point. Upon reaching the 200m mark, we retreated to the Weir itself to view the water gushing over the weir into the continuing stream below.



Donnelly's Weir

Birds were hard to see, but a Superb Lyrebird, a Sacred Kingfisher and a Brush Cuckoo were all heard in this area. Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos flew overhead as the members

climbed to the start of the Aqueduct Track. The vegetation (regrowth from the 2009 fires) was very dense and green making it difficult to locate the smaller bushbirds. Several Hyacinth Orchids were seen on the way to Echo Tunnel, giving the photographers something stationary to focus on. We took the loop bush track from the tunnel, to regain the Aqueduct Track for the return walk.



Walking the Aqueduct Track





"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

Members then drove the short distance to the Maroondah Reservoir Park and had lunch at the Top Carpark area in the company of Crimson Rosellas and Noisy Miners.

The many fine old exotic trees, which were nearly 100 years old, were much admired as the group walked down towards the Watts River. Here there were mainly native trees, including River Lomatia, which were flowering profusely, providing nectar for the Yellow-faced Honeyeaters and Satin Bowerbirds. Other birds in the area included Eastern Yellow Robins and White-throated Treecreepers.

*Dipodium roseum*  
Rosy Hyacinth Orchid



River Lomatia

Several more Hyacinth Orchids were in flower and groups of Common Bird Orchid leaves were seen. On reaching the Spillway members watched the excess water trickling down from the reservoir. We paused at the base of the dam to admire more huge old trees before returning to the carpark.

This was an exceptionally enjoyable outing aided by ideal weather conditions and the two contrasting though equally interesting locations. A total of 38 bird species were recorded for the day.

By Hazel & Alan Veevers



Members at the spillway overflow and the base of the dam



*"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"*

## Edithvale Wetlands

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Leaders: Lynn & Neal Smith

Originally the February excursion was planned for Churchill National Park. Due to storm damage on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> many trees were either blown over or with broken limbs causing Churchill National Park and Lysterfield Park to be closed to the public.

The venue was changed to Edithvale Wetlands where we met at 10.30am at the Edithvale Bird hide carpark situated on Edithvale Road. The Edithvale and Seaford Wetlands are a remnant of the once extensive Carrum Carrum Swamp that covered 4000 hectares from Mordialloc to Frankston. Edithvale Wetland is 103 hectares with its own unique ecosystem that provides food, water and critical habitat and breeding grounds for a wide variety of plants and animals. It has a variety of permanent and seasonal, freshwater, and saltwater wetlands. It is registered by Ramsar Convention as wetlands of international importance, attracting 38 species of migratory birds.



Saturday was an overcast morning with 24 RFNC members attending the excursion. We crossed over Edithvale Road and followed the walking track to the small lake beside the fenced wetlands. Several water birds were on the water including a family of Pacific Black Ducks, Hoary-headed Grebe and Little Pied Cormorant.

Looking through the fenced area of the wetlands on the muddy bank we saw Spotted Crake. Also in this area were Musk Duck, Little Grassbird and a Reed-Warbler.

We walked along beside the fenced area and the walking track to the viewing platform overlooking the Wetlands on one side and golf course dam on the other. On the dam was a Blue-billed Duck and sightings of more water birds on the wetland side.



Australian Spotted Crake





"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

Returning to the Edithvale bird hide along the track, several types of parrot and forest birds were observed. We had our picnic lunch under the trees near the grassed area opposite the bird hide in the sunshine.

The bird hide was open at 1pm and the 2 volunteers were very surprised to see so many visitors. We had great views over the wetlands from 2 heights and had a lovely sighting of Latham's Snipe. Latham's Snipe is one of the migratory birds from the northern islands of Japan.

Pink-eared Duck and Royal Spoonbill were also seen from the bird hide. The educational information in the bird hide was excellent.

Total of 50 birds seen, thanks to Jack for the bird list.

Many members had not been to the Edithvale Wetlands and it was a great spot to visit.

By Lynn & Neal Smith (photos - Jack Airey)



Latham's Snipe behind a Pied Stilt



Pied Stilt and Pink-eared Duck



The bustling bird hide





"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

## Traralgon weekend away

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> to Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2024

Leaders: Jenny & David Williams

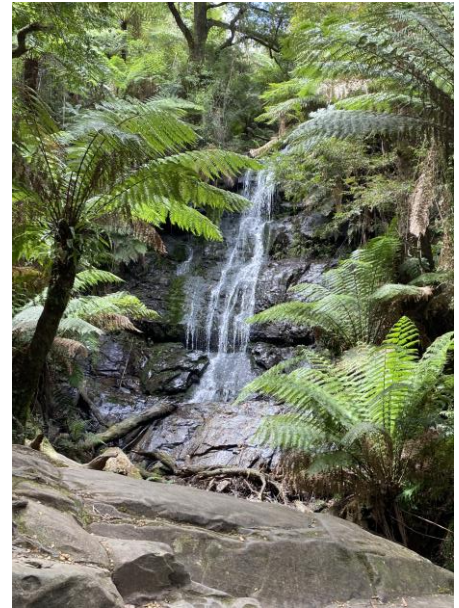
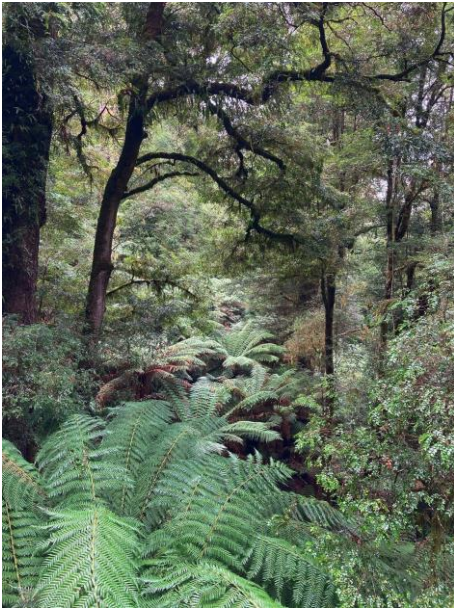
We had a wonderful weekend away in Gippsland exploring the birdlife and a range of different vegetation types which were remnants of original forests. Twenty-six people attended the activities. We used Traralgon as a base to explore the wider area.

Friday afternoon - Once settled into our accommodation in Traralgon we all met for a wander around the picturesque Traralgon Railway Reservoir Conservation Reserve (originally called Kick Horse Canyon!). We walked around the man-made lake and identified 23 different birds which included several water birds enjoying the waterlilies and rushes around the lake. Later, we all met in the caravan park for a barbeque dinner together.



Eastern Yellow Robin (ED)

Saturday was devoted to exploring Tarra Bulga National Park. There was so much to see and enjoy in this mystical park. Twenty people in the group saw Lyrebirds and everyone heard their calls. We walked from the Visitors' Centre along Ash Track across Corrigan Suspension Bridge (built 1938), through deep fern gullies and back to the Visitors' Centre in time for lunch.



Fern gully (ED), suspension bridge (DH), waterfall (RW)

After lunch we drove to the Tarra River and Cyathea Falls. We followed the West track as the East track was recovering from recent storm damage. This track was magical through the misty path surrounded by lichen covered old trees to the viewing platform over the waterfall. Highlights - fungi, moss, lichen, soft and hard tree ferns, massive *Eucalyptus regnans*, austral mulberry – yellow fruits.

Everyone was exhausted after the walk, but it was well worth the effort. The Greek dinner at the Traralgon Hotel was very tasty.



Sunday - As our planned walking place, Morwell National Park, was closed as a result of the February storm damage, we started the next day with what was going to be a short walk to the Traralgon South Flora Reserve (Rifle Range Road). The walk, however, became much longer than expected due to very poor maps and paths which were not well sign posted. The terrain was hilly in parts and we walked along sandy soil. This soil suited the banksia very well. We all got ourselves lost along these paths. Everyone had their GPS google maps out and a lot of differing advice was given about the way back to the carpark! Eventually we reached the carpark safely but exhausted!



David keeping us on track (AR)

Our final destination was the Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve (the Moe Railway Reservoir). We sat and ate lunch silently as we were too exhausted to talk after our long hike in the morning. After lunch we had a short walk around the lake. Highlights- Massive areas covered with coral fern, two small tongue orchids.



*Cryptostylis leptochila* - Small Tongue Orchid (DH - above)  
*Dipodium roseum* - Rosy Hyacinth Orchid (RW - left)

Overall, the weekend was a lot of fun. We started with 26 people and ended with 26! A good outcome! Gippsland is a wonderful place to visit.

By Jenny & David Williams (photos – Eleanor Dilley, David Hewitt, Ray Wall, Alison Rogers)





## Member's Articles

### Binocular repairer recommendation

I bought my Bausch & Lomb binoculars in 1994, and I have used them consistently. It was time for a service though, and I went to Mentone Optical Service based on an advert in the Birds Australia newsletter. Adam looked at them and recommended I get them serviced properly. He referred me to Optical Repairs in Darra, Queensland and also mentioned they needed collimating (def: the accurate adjustment of the line of sight of a telescope or binocular).

Optical Repairs have been most helpful. I filled in the forms, carefully packed the binoculars and posted them to Queensland. I now have them back, as good as new.

Details of the service and repair were:

Disassembled and removed lens sets and prisms; removed objective lens mounts and cleaned bases; cleaning of all optical surfaces; overhauled focusing shaft/tube; disassembled main hinge, cleaned and reapply lubricant; prism blocks removed and re bonded to base; focusing helical cleaned and grease re-applied; realigned focusing to prism block; re mounted lenses an adjusted for FOV, re-collimated and reset focal distance, and final inspection.

The total charge to me was \$256.30 which included 10% GST and \$45 for freight and handling.

I thought this was a valuable exercise.

The contact details for Optical Repairs are phone 07 3715 5603 and email [info@opticalrepairs.com.au](mailto:info@opticalrepairs.com.au).

By Nicky Zanen

### 'Top 40 Bird Songs' from the Birds in Backyards website

Nicky wanted to pass on this great page found on the Birds in Backyards website – the “Top 40” of bird songs that you might here in your backyard. The list is technically for Sydney but all but two are possible in Melbourne – if anyone hears a Red-whiskered Bulbul or Figbird in their backyard let me know! There are also links to factsheets with lots of information.

[Top 40 Bird Songs | BIRDS in BACKYARDS](https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/birds/featured/Top-40-Bird-Songs)

(<https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/birds/featured/Top-40-Bird-Songs>)

By Nicky Zanen



## Appendix

### Castlemaine weekend away bird list – 84 species

Compiled by Inta & Roger Needham

|                           | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |                            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Australian Shelduck       |   | X |   |   |   |   | Olive-backed Oriole        |   | X | X |   |   |   |
| Australian Wood Duck      | X | X |   |   |   |   | Dusky Moorhen              | X | X |   | X |   |   |
| Northern Mallard          | X |   |   |   |   |   | Eurasian Coot              |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Pacific Black Duck        | X | X |   | X |   |   | Masked Lapwing             |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Hardhead                  |   | X |   |   |   |   | Galah                      | X | X | X | X |   |   |
| Australian Grebe          |   | X |   |   |   |   | Long-billed Corella        |   |   |   | X |   |   |
| Great Crested Grebe       |   |   |   | X |   |   | Sulphur-crested Cockatoos  |   | X |   | X |   |   |
| Rock Dove                 | X |   |   |   |   |   | Rainbow Lorikeet           | X |   |   | X |   |   |
| Common Bronzewing         | X |   |   |   |   |   | Musk Lorikeet              |   | X | X | X |   |   |
| Crested Pigeon            | X |   |   |   |   |   | Crimson Rosella            | X | X | X | X |   |   |
| Peaceful Dove             |   | X |   |   |   |   | Eastern Rosella            |   | X | X | X |   |   |
| Australian Darter         |   |   |   | X |   |   | Red-rumped Parrot          |   |   |   | X |   | X |
| Little Pied Cormorant     | X | X |   | X |   |   | Pallid Cuckoo              |   | X | X |   |   |   |
| Little Black Cormorant    | X |   |   |   |   |   | Fan-tailed Cuckoo          |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Great Cormorant           |   |   |   | X |   |   | Laughing Kookaburra        | X | X |   | X |   |   |
| White-necked Heron        |   |   |   |   |   | X | White-throated Treecreeper |   |   | X |   |   |   |
| Eastern Great Egret       |   |   |   | X |   |   | Brown Treecreeper          |   | X | X | X |   |   |
| White-faced Heron         | X |   |   |   |   |   | Superb Fairy-wren          |   | X | X | X |   |   |
| Whistling Kite            |   |   |   | X |   |   | White-breasted Woodswallow |   |   |   | X |   |   |
| Brown Goshawk             |   | X |   |   |   |   | Masked Woodswallow         |   | X | X |   |   |   |
| Wedge-tailed Eagle        |   |   |   | X | X |   | White-browed Woodswallow   |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Little Eagle              |   |   |   | X | X |   | Dusky Woodswallow          |   | X | X | X |   |   |
| Nankeen Kestrel           |   |   |   |   |   | X | Australian Magpie          | X | X | X | X |   |   |
| Brown Falcon              |   |   |   | X |   |   | Pied Currawong             | X |   |   | X |   |   |
| Weebill                   |   | X | X |   |   |   | Grey Currawong             |   |   |   |   |   | X |
| Yellow Thornbill          |   |   |   |   | X |   | Grey Fantail               |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Buff-rumped Thornbill     |   |   |   |   | X |   | Willie Wagtail             |   |   | X | X |   |   |
| Brown Thornbill           |   |   | X |   |   |   | Little Raven               | X |   | X | X |   |   |
| Spotted Pardalote         | X | X |   |   |   |   | Restless Flycatcher        |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Striated Pardalote        |   |   |   | X |   |   | Magpie Lark                |   | X |   | X |   |   |
| Yellow-faced Honeyeater   |   | X | X |   |   |   | White-winged Chough        |   |   | X |   | X |   |
| Yellow-tufted Honeyeater  |   | X | X |   |   |   | Jacky Winter               |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Fuscous Honeyeater        |   |   | X |   |   |   | Scarlet Robin              |   |   |   |   | X |   |
| White-plumed Honeyeater   |   | X | X | X |   |   | Red-capped Robin           |   | X |   |   |   |   |
| Noisy Miner               |   |   |   | X |   |   | Eastern Yellow Robin       |   | X |   | X |   |   |
| Red Wattlebird            | X | X | X | X |   |   | Australian Reed Warbler    |   |   |   | X |   |   |
| New Holland Honeyeater    |   | X |   |   |   |   | Rufous Songlark            |   | X |   | X |   |   |
| Brown-headed Honeyeater   |   | X | X |   |   |   | Silvereye                  | X |   |   |   |   |   |
| Blue-faced Honeyeater     |   |   |   | X |   |   | Welcome Swallow            | X |   |   | X |   |   |
| Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike |   | X | X | X |   |   | Tree Martin                |   |   |   | X |   |   |
| Rufous Whistler           |   | X | X |   |   |   | Common Blackbird           | X |   |   | X |   |   |
| Grey Shrike-thrush        |   | X | X | X |   |   | Common Myna                |   |   |   |   |   | X |

1. Castlemaine Botanic Gardens, 2. Rise & Shine Bushland Reserve, 3. Muckleford Forest, 4. Baringhup & Cairn Curran, 5. Kalimna, 6. Areas between venues.





"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

### Cathedral Range State Park bird list – 32 species

Compiled by Jack Airey

|                              |                         |                     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo | Superb Fairy-wren       | Golden Whistler     |
| Gang-gang Cockatoo           | Spotted Pardalote       | Grey Shrike-thrush  |
| Long-billed Corella          | Striated Pardalote      | Rufous Fantail      |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo     | White-browed Scrubwren  | Grey Fantail        |
| Galah                        | Striated Thornbill      | Olive-backed Oriole |
| Australian King-Parrot       | Brown Thornbill         | Australian Magpie   |
| Crimson Rosella              | Red Wattlebird          | Pied Currawong      |
| Fan-tailed Cuckoo            | Yellow-faced Honeyeater | Little Raven        |
| Sacred Kingfisher            | White-naped Honeyeater  | Satin Bowerbird     |
| Laughing Kookaburra          | Eastern Spinebill       | Silvereye           |
| White-throated Treecreeper   | Eastern Yellow Robin    |                     |

### Donnelly's Weir and Maroondah Dam bird list – 38 species

Compiled by Hazel & Alan Veevers

|                              |                            |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Australian Wood Duck         | Crimson Rosella            | Golden Whistler      |
| Crested Pigeon               | Eastern Rosella            | Grey Shrike-thrush   |
| Brush Cuckoo                 | Rainbow Lorikeet           | Pied Currawong       |
| Purple Swamphen              | Superb Lyrebird            | Australian Magpie    |
| Eurasian Coot                | White-throated Treecreeper | Grey Butcherbird     |
| Australian White Ibis        | Superb Fairy-wren          | Grey Fantail         |
| White-faced Heron            | Eastern Spinebill          | Little Raven         |
| Little Pied Cormorant        | Little Wattlebird          | Magpie-lark          |
| Sacred Kingfisher            | Red Wattlebird             | Eastern Yellow Robin |
| Laughing Kookaburra          | Yellow-faced Honeyeater    | Welcome Swallow      |
| Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo | Noisy Miner                | Silvereye            |
| Galah                        | White-browed Scrubwren     | Satin Bowerbird      |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo     | Brown Thornbill            |                      |



Woolshed picnic area, Cairn Curran Reservoir (RN)



"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

**Edithvale Wetlands bird list – 50 species**

Compiled by Jack Airey

|                        |                          |                         |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Black Swan             | Royal Spoonbill          | Red-rumped Parrot       |
| Blue-billed Duck       | Australian White Ibis    | Laughing Kookaburra     |
| Musk Duck              | Dusky Moorhen            | Brown Thornbill         |
| Australian Wood Duck   | Purple Swamphen          | Red Wattlebird          |
| Pink-eared Duck        | Eurasian Coot            | Noisy Miner             |
| Chestnut Teal          | Australian Spotted Crake | Grey Fantail            |
| Hardhead               | Latham's Snipe           | Willie Wagtail          |
| Pacific Black Duck     | Black-winged Stilt       | Magpie Lark             |
| Australasian Shoveler  | Masked Lapwing           | Grey Butcherbird        |
| Australasian Grebe     | Silver Gull              | Australian Magpie       |
| Hoary-headed Grebe     | Crested Pigeon           | Little Raven            |
| Darter                 | Common Bronzewing        | Welcome Swallow         |
| Little Black Cormorant | Spotted Turtledove       | Australian Reed-warbler |
| Little Pied Cormorant  | Little Corella           | Little Grassbird        |
| Pied Cormorant         | Rainbow Lorikeet         | Common Starling         |
| Great Egret            | Musk Lorikeet            | Common Myna             |
| White-faced Heron      | Eastern Rosella          |                         |



All tables are taken at the bakery at Marysville, on the way to the Cathedral Ranges excursion (JA)





"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

**Traralgon weekend away bird list – 57 species**

Compiled by Inta & Roger Needham

|                              | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |                            | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Australian Swan              | X |   |   |   |   | Striated Thornbill         |   |   |   | X |   |
| Australian Pelican           |   |   |   |   | X | Spotted Pardalote          |   |   |   | X |   |
| Grey Teal                    | X |   |   |   |   | Varied Sitella             |   |   |   | X |   |
| Chestnut Teal                | X |   |   |   |   | Noisy Miner                | X |   |   |   |   |
| Mallard/Feral Duck           | X |   |   | X |   | Red Wattlebird             | X |   |   |   |   |
| Pacific Black Duck           | X |   |   | X |   | Eastern Spinebill          |   | X |   |   |   |
| Little Pied Cormorant        | X |   |   |   |   | White-naped Honeyeater     |   | X |   |   |   |
| Australasian Swamphen        | X |   |   |   |   | Laughing Kookaburra        |   | X | X |   |   |
| Dusky Moorhen                | X |   |   |   |   | Superb Lyrebird            |   | X |   |   |   |
| Eurasian Coot                | X |   |   |   |   | White-throated Treecreeper |   | X |   |   |   |
| Eastern Great Egret          |   |   |   |   | X | Grey Shrike-thrush         | X |   |   |   |   |
| White-faced Heron            |   |   |   |   | X | Golden Whistler            |   | X |   | X |   |
| Yellow-billed Spoonbill      |   |   |   |   | X | Rufous Whistler            |   | X |   |   |   |
| Masked Lapwing               | X |   |   |   |   | Satin Bowerbird            |   | X |   |   |   |
| Wedge-tailed Eagle           |   | X |   |   |   | Australian Magpie          | X |   |   |   |   |
| Black-shouldered Kite        |   |   |   |   | X | Grey Butcherbird           |   | X |   |   |   |
| Collared Sparrowhawk         |   |   |   |   | X | Pied Currawong             |   | X |   |   |   |
| Common Bronzewing            |   | X |   |   |   | Grey Currawong             | X |   |   |   |   |
| Spotted Dove                 | X |   |   |   |   | Grey Fantail               |   | X | X | X |   |
| Galah                        | X |   |   |   |   | Rufous Fantail             |   | X |   |   |   |
| Sulphur-crested Cockatoo     |   |   |   |   | X | Little Raven               | X |   |   |   |   |
| Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo |   | X |   |   |   | Australian Raven           |   | X |   |   |   |
| Gang-gang Cockatoo           |   |   | X |   |   | Magpie Lark                | X |   |   |   |   |
| Rainbow Lorikeet             | X |   |   |   |   | Flame Robin                |   | X |   |   |   |
| Australian King Parrot       | X | X |   |   |   | Eastern Yellow Robin       |   | X | X |   |   |
| Crimson Rosella              |   | X | X |   |   | Common Blackbird           |   |   |   |   | X |
| Superb Fairy-wren            | X | X |   | X |   | Common Starling            |   |   |   |   | X |
| White-browed Scrubwren       |   | X |   |   |   | House Sparrow              |   |   |   |   | X |
| Brown Thornbill              |   | X | X | X |   |                            |   |   |   |   |   |

1. Traralgon Railway Reservoir Conservation Reserve, 2. Tarra Bulga, 3. Traralgon South Flora & Fauna Reserve, 4. Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve, 5. Other bird seen around Traralgon.



## Traralgon weekend away plant list

Compiled by David Hewitt

### Traralgon Railway Reservoir Conservation Reserve

*Allocasuarina* sp.

*Blephilia ciliata* - Downy Pagoda plant

*Cassinia* sp.

*Goodenia ovata* – Hop Goodenia

*Olearia* sp.

*Senecio* sp.

### Tarra Bulga

*Acacia melanoxylon* – Blackwood

*Acaena novae-zelandiae* – Bidgee widgee

*Atherosperma moschatum* – Southern Sassafras

*Blechnum cartilagenum* – Water Fern

*Coprosma quadrifida* - Prickly currant

*Cyathea australis* - Rough Tree Fern

*Dicksonia antarctica* - Soft Tree Fern

*Eucalyptus Regnans* - Mountain Ash

*Fieldia australis*

*Geranium potentilloides* - Soft Crane's Bill

*Goodenia ovata* - Hop Goodenia

*Grammitis billardieri* - Common Finger Fern

*Hedycarya angustifolia* - Austral Mulberry

*Histiopteris incisa* - Bat's Wing Fern

*Hymenophyllum flabellatum* - Shiny Filmy Fern

*Hymenophyllum cupressiforme* - Common Filmy Fern

*Microsorium pustulatum* - Kangaroo Fern

*Olearia* sp.

*Persoonia arborea*

*Polystichum proliferum* - Mother Shield Fern

*Pomaderris aspera* - Hazel Pomaderris

*Prostanthera melissifolia* - Balm Mint Bush

*Prunella vulgaris* - Self Heal (introduced)

*Ranunculus repens* - Creeping Buttercup

*Stellaria flaccida* - Forest Starwort

*Tasmania lanceolata* - Mountain Pepper

*Tetrarrhena juncea* - Forest Wire Grass

### Cyathea Falls

*Asplenium flabellifolium* - Necklace Fern

*Cyathea cunninghamii* - Slender Tree Fern

*Eucalyptus Regnans* – Mountain Ash

*Fieldia australis*

Water Fern

Various Ferns

### Traralgon South Flora and Fauna Reserve

*Acacia longifolia*

*Acacia mucronate*

*Acacia oxycedrus* - Spike Wattle

*Acacia terminalis* - Sunshine Wattle

*Acacia verniciflua* - Varnish Wattle

Austral Bracken

*Banksia marginata*

*Banksia serrata*

*Brachyloma daphnoides* - Daphne Heath

*Cassinia longifolia* - Shiny Cassinia

*Epacris impressa*

*Gahnia* sp.

*Goodenia ovata*

Hyacinth Orchid

*Leptospermum continentale* - Prickly Teatree

Mistletoe

*Olearia myrsonoides* – Sily Daisy Bush

*Olearia* sp.

*Platylobium* sp. ?

*Polyscias sambucifolia* - Elderberry panax

*Pomax umbellata*

*Senecio* sp.

### Edward Hunter Reserve, Moe

*Acacia dealbata* - Silver Wattle

*Acacia mucronate*

*Acacia verticillata* - Prickly Moses

*Banksia spinulosa*

*Bursaria spinosa*

*Callistemon* sp.

*Cryptostylis leptochila* - Small Tongue Orchid

*Daviesia latifolia* – Hop Bitter Pea

*Exocarpus cupressens* - Cherry Ballart

*Gleichenia microphylla* - Scrambling coral fern

*Juncus procerus* - Tall Rush

*Olearia ciliata* - Fringed Daisy Bush

*Pandorea pandorana* - Wonga Vine