

MWSSGI Bird Outing – 21st August, 2016

Maroochy Wetlands Sanctuary, Pond on Lefoes Road and Community Walk, Bli Bli

Robyn Howard

On one of our glorious winter days, ten of us started observing in the sanctuary car-park. As usual, it was good birding there with wonderful birdsong, and our most unusual sighting of the day occurred quite early. Sitting clearly in view in a Eucalypt was an immature male Regent Bowerbird! A group of White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrikes was also seen from the car-park while a couple of male Golden Whistlers competed vocally to attract females with their glorious songs.

The walk down through each area of the sanctuary was very pleasant with loud song accompanying us all the way. An Eastern Yellow Robin fed a large nestling as we watched and we found the Dusky Honeyeater which had been frequenting the area for weeks. On our return, we found the Fan-tailed Cuckoo stalking insects around a clump of Mangrove Fern. Out in the mangroves, the Mangrove Gerygones were prominent with their singing, but harder to actually see. The Collared Kingfisher, which seemed to be absent in recent months, was even less cooperative. Although it called constantly, it did not leave the thick vegetation to give us even a glimpse.

After our cuppa, we travelled to the pond on Lefoes Road and circled it before taking the Community Walk opposite. The birding at the pond has never been equivalent to its bounty prior to the council “tidying” it. All the useful fallen trees were removed from the water so very little birdlife is seen there now, and even bush birds have largely deserted the area. The Community Walk was good in patches and we enjoyed the Spectacled Monarch, Spangled Drongo and Brown Cuckoo-Dove amongst many other sightings. Little and Grey Shrike-thrushes were found in both sites.



Eastern Yellow Robin on Nest

Birds at Maroochy Wetlands Sanctuary:

Australian White Ibis, Royal Spoonbill, Australian Pied Cormorant, White-bellied Sea Eagle, Dusky Moorhen, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, [H], Bar-shouldered Dove, [H], Fan-tailed Cuckoo, Laughing Kookaburra, Collard Kingfisher, [H], Rainbow Bee-eater, Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, Rainbow Lorikeet, Pale-headed Rosella, Regent Bowerbird, White-throated Treecreeper, Dusky Myzomela, Scarlet Myzomela, Brown Honeyeater, Noisy Friarbird, White-throated Honeyeater, Noisy Miner, Lewin's Honeyeater, Striated Pardalote, [H], White-browed Scrubwren, Large-billed Scrubwren, Brown Gerygone, Mangrove Gerygone, Brown Thornbill, Eastern Whipbird, Pied Butcherbird, Pied Currawong, [H], Black-faced Cuckooshrike, White-bellied Cuckooshrike, Varied Triller, Australian Golden Whistler, Rufous Whistler, [H], Little Shrikethrush, Grey Shrikethrush, Australasian Figbird, Spangled Drongo, Willie Wagtail, Grey Fantail, Rufous Fantail, Spectacled Monarch, [H], Magpie-lark, Leaded Flycatcher, [H], Torresian Crow, Eastern Yellow Robin, feeding young in nest, Welcome Swallow, Mistletoebird, Red-browed Finch.

Birds at Lefoes Road Pond and Community Walk.

Australian Brush Turkey, [H], Australian White Ibis, Intermediate Egret, Spotted Harrier, Purple Swamphen, Dusky Moorhen, Whistling Kite, Spotted Dove, Brown Cuckoo-Dove, Bar-shouldered Dove, Fan-tailed Cuckoo, [H], Laughing Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Rainbow Bee-eater, [H], Rainbow Lorikeet, Noisy Pitta, [H], White-throated Treecreeper, Scarlet Myzomela, Brown Honeyeater, [H], Noisy Friarbird, White-throated Honeyeater, Little Wattlebird, Noisy Miner, Lewin's Honeyeater, Eastern Whipbird, White-breasted Woodswallow, Grey Butcherbird, [H], Pied Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Pied Currawong, Black-faced Cuckooshrike, Varied Triller, Australian Golden Whistler, Little Shrikethrush, Grey Shrikethrush, Australasian Figbird, Olive-backed Oriole, [H], Spangled Drongo, Willie Wagtail, Grey Fantail, Spectacled Monarch, Magpie-lark, Torresian Crow, Eastern Yellow Robin, Welcome Swallow, Common Myna, Double-barred Finch, [H], Red-browed Finch, [H].