

AUSTRALIA: TASMANIA PRE-TOUR EXTENSION AND EAST COAST TOUR TRIP REPORT OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2015

By Andy Walker



Plains-wanderer was one of the special endemics we observed on this trip.



This tour commenced on 24th October 2015 in Hobart, Tasmania, and then continued through Victoria, southern New South Wales, and Queensland, where the tour concluded in Cairns on 14th November 2015.

The focus of our time in Tasmania was to connect with the endemic birds found on the island state, as well as with two critically endangered Tasmania breeding endemics, **Orange-bellied** and **Swift Parrots**. The mainland tour was designed to take in a wide range of the numerous different habitats present in the east of the country, and to enjoy the plentiful endemic and key species in each of these regions/habitats, including rare and endangered species such as **Plains-wanderer**, **Mallee Emu-wren**, and **Malleefowl** in the south and the Atherton Tablelands endemics in the north, as well as some truly remarkable species such as **Superb Lyrebird**, **Southern Cassowary**, **Great-billed Heron**, **Golden Bowerbird**, and **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher**.

A total of 416 bird species was recorded, along with an impressive list of 42 mammals, including such emblematic species as short-beaked echidna, platypus, koala, and red kangaroo, 19 reptiles, and ten amphibians. Complete lists are found at the end of this report.

Tasmania: pre-tour extension

Day 1, October 24. Birding Southeast Tasmania

The tour commenced in Hobart mid-morning, and we made our way straight over to the lower slopes of Mount Wellington to get some of the Tasmania endemics under our belt. A mid-elevation trail got the ball rolling with great views of a pair of endemic **Scrubtit** and numerous **Tasmanian Scrubwrens** and **Tasmanian Thornbills**. A family group of **Pink Robins** was also very popular, as were two short-beaked echidnas. After a hearty lunch a nearby site provided us with nice looks at several other endemics, including **Strong-billed**, **Black-headed**, and **Yellow-throated Honeyeaters**, **Green Rosella**, **Dusky Robin**, and **Tasmanian Nativehen**. Non-endemic, but still desired, species recorded included **Olive** and, **Australian Golden Whistlers**, **Superb Fairywren**, **Laughing Kookaburra**, and **Scarlet Robin**.



Pink Robin



Day 2, October 25. Hobart to Bruny Island

An early start saw us leaving Hobart to head over to Bruny Island, just a 20-minute ferry ride off the southeastern coast of Tasmania. As we boarded the ferry a White-bellied Sea Eagle flew over and a few Black-faced Cormorants and Pacific Gulls loafed in the harbor. On disembarking on Bruny Island we made a stop at some flowering gums, and our target Swift Parrots were quickly found and subsequently enjoyed with very close views. We made our way to a different small patch of gums, and within no time at all we were enjoying very close views of the endangered Forty-spotted Pardalote. This species is restricted to Bruny Island and nearby coastal areas of southeast Tasmania – recent surveys estimate the population may be as low as 900 birds and struggling due to a number of factors. We spent some time watching these birds feeding and seeing the difference between them and both Spotted and Striated Pardalotes, which were also present in the same area. All of the time new species were popping into view, and highlights included nesting White-fronted Chat, New Holland Honeyeater, the endemic Yellow Wattlebird, the endemic sup-species of Grey Currawong, several stunning male Flame Robins, and the well-named Beautiful Firetail.



Forty-spotted Pardalote

After a wonderful lunch at the Cheese Factory we made our way to our accommodation on the island via a few strategic stops that produced **Green Rosella** and **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo**, the latter flushed by a pair of hunting white-phase **Grey Goshawk!** A large sandy beach produced the expected **Hooded Dotterel** that actually had a nest, and a very sizeable proportion of the island's **Swift Parrots** were found. A brief night walk around our accommodation produced the highly sought-after **Morepork**¹ as well as red-necked wallaby, Tasmanian pademelon, and two common brushtail possums fighting in the middle of the road.

¹ This species of owl was formally classified as a Southern Boobook, and known locally as the Tasmanian Spotted Boobook, ssp. *leucopsis*. According to the IOC it has recently been split from the mainland Southern Boobook and is now considered a subspecies of the New Zealand Morepork (*Ninox novaeseelandiae leucopsis*).



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Day 3, October 26. Bruny Island to Hobart

We awoke to a cold, wet, and windy start to the day, which was not appreciated, though it did result in a close flyby of **Shy Albatross** and **Australasian Gannet** past our accommodation at dawn. We had an enjoyable walk around the Inala Private Reserve, despite the weather, and it was interesting to learn about the work going on in Tasmania in order to conserve both **Forty-spotted Pardalote** and **Swift Parrot**, both of which we had further views of, along with **Wedge-tailed Eagle**, **Brown Goshawk**, **Olive Whistler**, **Pink**, **Flame**, **Scarlet**, and **Dusky Robins**, and most of the Tasmanian endemics. A few stops at waterbodies gave us **Cape Barren Goose**, **Black Swan**, **Musk Duck**, and **Chestnut Teal**, though the highlight here was probably watching a **Peregrine Falcon** making a half-attempt at hunting a **Black Swan!** Several **Pallid Cuckoos** were very confiding and showed well as we headed off the island, back to Hobart.

Day 4, October 27. Melaleuca

An unforgettable day was in store. We boarded a small plane early in the morning, flying over some incredible scenery over southwest Tasmania before we descended onto the remote airstrip at Melaleuca. Originally a tin mine, Melaleuca is now the center of conservation efforts aimed at restoring the wild population of the critically endangered **Orange-bellied Parrot**. A Tasmanian breeding endemic, these beautiful little parrots are in a dire situation, with fewer than fifty individuals left in the wild. This species was the main target of the day, and once we found them we spent time in the beautiful landscape admiring them, as well as learning about the methods, and lengths taken, to protect them. Over the course of the day we had a minimum of at least six birds (likely a few more), including a flock of four flying around together. At the time of our visit 13 birds were considered to have made it back to Melaleuca to attempt breeding; as I write this report 21 birds are considered to have returned this year. This species really is living close to the edge. It was an honor to see them, and hopefully conservation efforts will work and more people will get the opportunity to enjoy this beautiful *Neophema*.



Orange-bellied Parrot



Other species noted during the day included the endemic **Black Currawong**, and **Southern Emu-wren**, **Striated Fieldwren**, endemic **Yellow-throated**, and **New Holland**, and **Crescent Honeyeaters**, **Beautiful Firetail**, and **Olive Whistler**, but really the day was all about one very rare and beautiful parrot (and some incredible scenery, as well as some exceptional, locally sourced food and drink).

Day 5, October 28. Birding near Hobart before afternoon flight to Melbourne, Victoria

Today was a mop-up day for any remaining endemics we still needed, but as we'd seen them all well already, we decided to have a relaxing walk around a few waterbodies close to Hobart before our afternoon flight to Melbourne. Species recorded not previously seen included Freckled Duck, Australasian Shoveler, Australasian Swamphen, Latham's Snipe, Brush Bronzewing, Eastern Rosella, and Musk Lorikeet. Further sightings of most of the endemics were also had, including very nice views of Strong-billed Honeyeater. A smart adult male Australian Golden Whistler was also very popular as it came and showed off his voice and looks at close range.

An uneventful flight got us safely to Melbourne, where we prepared to hit the road early the next morning after a relaxing few days chalking up over 100 species in Tasmania, including all endemics and a large number of endemic subspecies.

Australia: From the Outback to the Wet Tropics

Day 1, October 29. Melbourne to Aireys Inlet

We met Simon, our local guide, in the morning before driving to the world-famous Werribee Western Treatment Plant, where we had an exciting morning just scraping the surface of this huge site. New birds came thick and fast; waterfowl included Australian Shelduck, Pinkeared Duck, Blue-billed Duck, Musk Duck, Glossy Ibis, Royal and Yellow-billed Spoonbills, and numerous herons, egrets, and cormorants. We got our wader (shorebird) list moving with White-headed and Banded Stilts, Red-necked Avocet, Banded Lapwing, Red-kneed Dotterel, Red-capped Plover, and Latham's Snipe, as well as a number of sandpipers. Terns also featured heavily with a nice flock of Fairy Terns observed among hundreds of Whiskered and several Little Terns. Star birds were an Australian Crake that showed well feeding in a quiet ditch and a Brolga in cracking plumage that stood looking all regal on a bund.

Raptors were well represented with Black-shouldered, Black and Whistling Kites, Little and Wedge-tailed Eagles, Brown Goshawk, Swamp Harrier, a perched White-bellied Sea Eagle, Nankeen Kestrel, Brown Falcon, and Australian Hobby. We also had good looks at some passerines including Little Grassbird, Zebra Finch, Australian Reed Warbler, Horsfield's Bush Lark, White-fronted Chat, and a pair of Golden-headed Cisticola that were mating but then hung upside down for at least five minutes before we left them!

We then continued southward along the coast towards Aireys Inlet for the night. A few strategic stops along the route gave us more quality birds such as Horsfield's and Shining Bronze Cuckoos, Sacred Kingfisher, Australian King Parrot, Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, Crimson Rosella, Purple-crowned Lorikeet, Southern Emu-wren, White-eared Honeyeater, Eastern Spinebill, Chestnut-rumped Heathwren, Striated Fieldwren, Rufous Whistler, White-winged Chough, Eastern Yellow Robin, and Red-browed Finch. A short drive after our evening meal produced Southern Boobook and Tawny Frogmouth, along with common brushtail and common ringtail possums and red-necked wallaby.





Golden-headed Cisticola

Day 2, October 30. Aireys Inlet to central Victoria

Our first stop of the morning produced great views of the local **Rufous Bristlebird**, seemingly unconcerned by our presence as it hopped around at our feet, as **Shy Albatross**, **Australasian Gannet**, and **Short-tailed Shearwater** flew past offshore! A small group of the rather interesting-looking **Gang-gang Cockatoos** flew in and gave nice views as they looked inquisitively at us before continuing on their way.



Rufous Bristlebird



Our breakfast stop gave us our first kangaroos of the trip with a couple of eastern grey kangaroos standing to attention. After a few tantalizing fly-over birds a nearby stop produced excellent views of a feeding flock of stunning **Blue-winged Parrots** at very close range. Another stop produced further new species, such as a pair of displaying **Satin Bowerbirds** at an active bower. A short while later we were all enjoying views of one of Australia's most famous and sought-after mammals – koala. A patch of woodland held at least five, including a mother with a baby.

We continued our journey into central Victoria, and as the landscape became progressively drier we noticed the species changing. A drive along a river gave us excellent, prolonged looks at a pair of **Powerful Owls** on their day roost. The male even had a possum in its claws as per the field guide illustration! This is a real brute of a *Ninox*, and Australia's largest owl. Afternoon birding produced the following highlights: **Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo**, **Blackeared Cuckoo**, **Little Lorikeet**, **Brown Treecreeper**, **Yellow-tufted Honeyeater**, **White-browed Babbler**, **White-browed** and **Dusky Woodswallows**, **White-winged Triller**, **Varied Sittella**, and **Crested Bellbird**.



Powerful Owl

Day 3, October 31. Central Victoria to Ouyen

A wet and cool morning with a big thunderstorm greeted us as we awoke. We managed to work around it and got the day running with a very obliging **Shy Heathwren** and a flock of **Long-billed Corella**, **Red-rumped Parrot**, and **Eastern Rosella**. Continuing through the thunderstorm we got to the other side of it and recommenced birding. Again new birds were plentiful, including the vulnerable **Painted Honeyeater**, of which at least four males were seen displaying and drying off after the rain. Other birds noted at this stop included **Southern Whiteface**, **White-winged Triller** (with two young fledglings), **Gilbert's Whistler**, and the stunning **Diamond Firetail**.

As we continued north we stopped at Lake Tyrell and had some very cooperative Yellow-throated Miners, Rufous Fieldwrens, White-winged Fairywrens, Black-faced Woodswallows, and Eastern Bluebonnets. A baby Gould's sand goanna sat in the road, giving nice views.

After lunch we moved on to Wyperfeld National Park, where a couple of short walks produced White-browed Treecreeper, Striped Honeyeater, Masked Woodswallow,



Hooded Robin, and the simply stunning **Splendid Fairywren** – a certain contender for 'bird of the trip'. However, the Fairywren was not going to have it all its own way when we discovered a small flock of the equally impressive **Major Mitchell's Cockatoo**, which gave great views, even showing their colorful crests.



Major Mitchell's Cockatoo

We were not done for the day yet, so we carried on to the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park area, where an evening drive produced the hoped-for **Malleefowl** and **Emu**, along with **Australian Owlet-nightjar**, **Spotted Nightjar**, and a rather large flock (250+) of **Regent Parrots**. Non-avian interest included western gray kangaroo, (several huge) red kangaroos, and a central bearded dragon.



Australian Owlet-nightjar



Day 4, November 1. Birding Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and Plains-wanderer

Today was expected to be a real highlight day of the tour, and it didn't disappoint! First up was a trip into the mallee at Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, where we quickly started finding our targets: a daytime look at **Spotted Nightjar**, **Chestnut-crowned Babbler**, **Southern Whiteface**, **Splendid Fairywren**, **Jacky Winter**, **Apostlebird**, **Chestnut-backed Quail-thrush**, **Striated Grasswren**, and the star bird, the endangered **Mallee Emu-wren**, which eventually gave itself up to all. The mallee is home to a wide range of reptiles, and in our short time here we found shingleback lizard, mallee military dragon, and short-clawed ctenotus.



Chestnut-backed Quail-Thrush

After an exciting morning we hit the road, when it started to rain, to move across the border into New South Wales to meet up with Phil and a local landowner, Robert, who took us out for an incredible evening spotlighting session. Our principle target was the endangered **Plains-wanderer**, one of the most genetically diverse species on the planet. The only member of its family, it may have the look and habits of a quail, but its closest relatives are the South American seedsnipes. The statistics about the decline of this species make grim reading, though, and after spending time with Robert and Phil it's good to know there are people trying to conserve this intriguing species. So after an hour or so of driving round a huge paddock we were all incredibly excited when we locked eyes on a stunning adult female bird and spent the next few minutes in awe of this unusual species. After enjoying the Plainswanderer we decided to have a look for some other wildlife and soon found a flock of Inland Dotterel and an Australian Owlet-nightjar (as well as several nesting Emu). There had been a lot of rain the day of our visit, so we were hoping to find some good frogs/toads, and we were not let down, with good looks at common spadefoot toad, giant banjo frog, and the bizarre crucifix toad. Mammal interest included a common brushtail possum and fat-tailed dunnart.





Crucifix toad

Day 5, November 2. Transfer to Chiltern via Gulpa Island

After a late night we had a late, relaxing start as we made our way back into Victoria. However, before we left NSW there was one other target – **Superb Parrot**, and we didn't have to wait long to find one that sat around and gave excellent close-up views as it preened. We made a few roadside stops, picking up **Leaden Flycatcher**, **Wedge-tailed Eagle**, **Rainbow Bee-eater**, **Zebra Finch**, and a very approachable lace monitor.

A late-afternoon walk in the Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park gave us some new birds and promised well for the following morning. Highlights included **Painted Buttonquail**, **Common Bronzewing**, **Pallid** and **Fan-tailed Cuckoos**, **White-throated Treecreeper**, **Speckled Warbler**, **White-throated Gerygone**, **White-browed Babbler**, **Olive-backed Oriole**, and **Eastern Yellow Robin**. As dusk approached we clocked a yellow-footed antechinus (a small carnivorous marsupial) and swamp wallaby.



Superb Parrot



Day 6, November 3. Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park to Healesville

A cold early morning walk in Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park was worth it when we found a nice pair of the stunning **Turquoise Parrot** that gave very close views as they fed on the ground in front of us. While waiting for the parrots to drop in we had plenty to look at, including **Black-chinned**, **Brown-headed**, **White-naped**, **Yellow-tufted**, and **Fuscous Honeyeaters**, **Jacky Winter**, **Restless** and **Leaden Flycatchers**, and **Eastern Yellow Robin**. A bit of exploring in the local area gave us **Red-capped Robin**, **Painted Buttonquail**, **White-throated Treecreeper**, **Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo**, **Pallid Cuckoo**, **Crested Shriketit**, **Rufous Songlark**, and another flock of roving **Gang-gang Cockatoos**.

As we drove towards our next destination, a strategic stop at some wetlands provided us with another tour highlight – a pair of (the usually shy and secretive) showy **Lewin's Rails** with two chicks. We also had a brief **Azure Kingfisher** and our first introduction to **Bell Miners!** By late-afternoon we'd made it to our next destination – Healesville. A brief walk at Toolangi State Forest gave us more new birds set within some seriously impressive forest. Our walk resulted in good looks at **Rose** and **Eastern Yellow Robins**, **Eastern Spinebill**, **Lewin's Honeyeater**, and **Black-faced Monarch**. A tantalizing **Superb Lyrebird** gave an incredible vocal rendition just out of sight behind a huge tree-fall, but views of that would have to wait... An enjoyable walk at night resulted in **Greater Sooty Owl** and **Southern Boobook**, as well as numerous greater gliders, yellow-bellied glider, and common wombat.



Lewin's Rail

Day 7, November 4. Birding near Melbourne

Our final day with Simon in Victoria got off to a good start, with fine views of **Superb Lyrebird**, several **Pilotbirds**, a nesting **Satin Flycatcher**, more **Gang-gang Cockatoos** and **Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos**, **Australian Golden** and **Olive Whistlers**, **Eastern Yellow**, **Rose**, and **Flame Robins**, and **Australian King Parrot**.

As we headed back towards Melbourne an afternoon walk gave us a few more species, including point-blank looks at possibly Australia's best-looking Treecreeper, **Red-browed Treecreeper**, along with a breeding pair of **Eastern Whipbird** taking food back to a nest, **Rufous Fantail**, numerous **Crimson Rosellas**, and more **Superb Lyrebirds**. A final stop gave us all great looks at a nesting **Tawny Frogmouth**, and then we bade farewell to Simon. Unfortunately a huge thunderstorm hit near sunset, so that curtailed the birding for the day.



Day 8, November 5. Transfer from Melbourne to Lamington National Park

An early morning flight saw us leaving Melbourne and touching down in the much warmer Brisbane. We spent some time birding in the mangroves and around some waterbodies near the city, where we added a range of wildfowl and waders to our growing list of Australian birds, such as **Bar-tailed Godwit**, **Whimbrel**, and the impressive **Far Eastern Curlew**. We also had great looks at **Mangrove Gerygone**; the best thing about this species is probably its song! A family group of **Collared Kingfishers** showed well. **White-bellied Sea Eagle**, **Brahminy Kite**, and **Eastern Osprey** were all noted. Other new birds included **Oriental Dollarbird**, **Pale-headed Rosella**, **Variegated** and **Red-backed Fairywrens**, **Common Cicadabird**, **Australasian Figbird** (the "Green" subspecies, *S. v. vieilloti*), **Spangled Drongo**, **Torresian Crow**, **Tawny Grassbird**, and nest-building **Chestnut-breasted Mannikin**. Another pretty reptile, a bar-sided forest-skink, showed from outside its cavity in the mangroves.

As we headed up the mountain to our base for two nights at O'Reilly's before dusk, we made a brief stop at an opening in the forest, where we enjoyed our first **Wonga Pigeons** and **Brown Cuckoo-Doves** of the trip, along with the more familiar **Australian King Parrots** and **Crimson Rosellas**. **Satin Bowerbird** showed well, but Regent Bowerbird proved less cooperative. A small family group of whiptail wallabies showed very well, including a female with a joey in its pouch! It was clear that a storm was fast approaching, and it hit just before sunset and kept going most of the night, which, unfortunately, meant we were unable to get out for any night-time birding/wildlife watching.



Whiptail Wallaby

Day 9, November 6. Full day birding Lamington National Park

Thankfully the overnight rain had finished, and we awoke to a beautiful view and our balconies covered in **Crimson Rosellas**, **Australian King Parrots**, **Satin** and **Regent Bowerbirds** – a hit of early-morning color to go with the hit of early-morning caffeine. We spent the whole day walking trails around the national park, gradually knocking off lots of the area's specialties, including **Australian Brushturkey**, **White-headed Pigeon**, **Topknot Pigeon**, **Noisy Pitta**, **Albert's Lyrebird**, **Green Catbird**, **Yellow-throated** and **Large-**



billed Scrubwrens, Eastern Whipbird, Black-faced Monarch, Paradise Riflebird, Eastern Yellow and Rose Robins, and probably the group's favorite: Australian Logrunner. We got extremely close views of several groups of birds, including adults with recently fledged young.



Australian Logrunner

As is usual for the area we enjoyed looking at a wide-range of non-avian species, such as brown antechinus, long-nosed bandicoot, short-eared and common brushtail possums, common ringtail possum, red-legged and red-necked pademelons, red-bellied black snake, eastern carpet python, eastern water skink, and southern angle-headed dragon. Again an impressive thunderstorm came across, which curtailed the night walk, but not before we'd seen some interesting animals.

Day 10, November 7. Transfer from Brisbane to Cairns, birding the Cairns Esplanade

We spent the morning birding again around Lamington, where we got a similar range of species as those listed above. It was great to be able to get continued close views of many of these birds, particularly **Green Catbird**, **Satin Bowerbird**, **Regent Bowerbird**, **Noisy Pitta**, and the parrots. As we drove down the mountain to get our flight to Cairns we had views of a **Russet-tailed Thrush** that was busily feeding in the leaf-litter.

A hassle-free flight got us into Cairns mid-afternoon. We checked into our hotel and had a quick walk along the Esplanade. The tide situation was far from ideal, although we still had some birds, including **Bush Stone-curlew**, **Masked Lapwing**, **Black-fronted Dotterel**, **Bartailed Godwit**, **Far Eastern Curlew**, **Great Knot**, and **Red-necked Stint**. Passerine interest included **Brown** and **Varied Honeyeaters**, **White-breasted Woodswallow**, **Australasian Figbird** (the "Yellow" subspecies, *S. v. flaviventris*), **Metallic Starling**, and **Scaly-breasted Munia**.

Day 11, November 8. Great Barrier Reef

The Great Barrier Reef is an ecosystem of many superlatives that no words can do justice, and it was a real privilege to be able to get out and enjoy it from above and below the water. We made our way out to Michaelmas Cay, where we enjoyed fantastic close-up views of a large **Sooty Tern** and **Brown Noddy** breeding colony. Scattered among these terns were breeding **Brown Boobies**, complete with their large, dumpy, pure white nestlings! Making use of the cay were several **Ruddy Turnstones**, **Silver Gulls**, and **Great Frigatebirds**, as



well as **Greater Crested**, **Lesser Crested**, **Bridled**, **Little**, and **Black-naped Terns**. Offshore a few **Lesser Frigatebirds** were noted. After spending plenty of time enjoying the birds we ventured into the water at nearby Hastings Reef, where we were all taken aback by the underwater spectacle of amazing corals and beautiful tropical fish of all shapes and sizes, a real highlight of the tour in its own right.



Brown Booby

On reaching dry land the tidal situation was better than the previous afternoon, so we had a quick look along the Cairns Esplanade, adding the following species to those listed above: Red-capped Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Black-tailed Godwit, Marsh Sandpiper, Greytailed Tattler, Terek Sandpiper, Red Knot, Curlew Sandpiper, and Broad-billed Sandpiper. We then headed up to Kuranda for our overnight stay, ready for our first day of birding in the forests of tropical northern Queensland.

Day 12, November 9. Birding Kuranda, transfer to Crater Lakes Rainforest Cottages
Early morning saw us waking up to a real treat in form of displaying adult male Victoria's
Riflebirds right in front of our accommodation! It was a real joy to watch these birds making
all kinds of shapes and sounds! At least one female was interested and watched on as intently
as we did. While it was tempting to look at the riflebirds all morning, those of us that took
our eyes off them were rewarded with good views of a Red-necked Crake walking quietly
through a damp forest ditch, along with a nearby musky rat kangaroo. We saw several of the
inquisitive Australian Brushturkeys and our final of the three Australian 'mound-nesting'
species – Orange-footed Scrubfowl.

We enjoyed a tasty breakfast in the company of Macleay's Honeyeater and Pale-yellow Robin and then headed out into the forest for our main target. After an hour or so of walking, stopping, looking, and listening, we were handsomely rewarded when we found our prize – and we'd hit the jackpot – an adult male Southern Cassowary, with two stripy chicks in tow! Words cannot do this species justice, you feel like you've just stepped back in time to another age. As easily as they appeared they disappeared into the forest and were gone. We were buzzing! We had a little look around the local area, taking in Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo, Wompoo Fruit Dove, Noisy Pitta, Spotted Catbird, Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Spangled Drongo, and Spectacled Monarch before we were on our way.





Southern Cassowary

As we headed to our next accommodation, a couple of the monstrous Channel-billed Cuckoos flew over, and a couple of stops produced an Australian Bustard, Forest Kingfisher, Cotton and Green Pygmy Geese, Comb-crested Jacana, Double-barred Finch, and some confiding Red-tailed Black Cockatoos. An evening stakeout produced very nice close views of three sugar gliders, northern brown bandicoot, fawn-footed melomys, and red-legged pademelon.

Day 13, November 10. Birding Atherton Tablelands

We spent the day birding around the Atherton Tablelands, maximizing the habitats we explored in order to catch up with the birds we wanted in the area. First up were a couple of very friendly **Grey-headed Robins**, **Barred Cuckooshrike**, **Little Shrikethrush**, and more displaying **Victoria's Riflebirds**. A wave of beautiful Flycatchers moved through and included **Black-faced**, **Spectacled** and **Pied Monarchs**. As we drove through some arable areas we were treated to numerous elegant **Sarus Cranes**, with a few **Brolga** scattered in with them. It felt a little strange watching a flock of over 200 **Sulphur-crested Cockatoos** following a tractor and plough. At our next stop we were treated to the wonderful sight of a stunning male **Golden Bowerbird** visiting his 'maypole bower', seemingly unconcerned by our presence. While we were enjoying the areas sights a huge rainstorm came in pretty undetected and started to deluge over us! We made a hasty retreat to a café to dry off and have some lunch.

The rain lasted a couple of hours and was extremely heavy — "most we've had for months" was the local view! Once it stopped pouring we headed out for some wetland birding (knowing there was a hide there in case the rain hadn't quite finished with us!). Here we were treated to a spectacle of hundreds of Magpie Geese and Plumed and Wandering Whistling Ducks — the three species whirling about above our heads was great to see and hear. Other birds noted around the water included Pink-eared Duck, White-headed Stilt, Black-fronted Dotterel, Latham's Snipe, and Marsh Sandpiper. An area of nearby scrub produced Eastern Yellow Robin, Scarlet Myzomela, and White-cheeked Honeyeater.





Golden Bowerbird

An evening walk along a pretty river resulted in one of the non-avian tour highlights, with a minimum of three platypus seen well as they went about their business, oblivious to our excited presence. Other non-avian treats included agile wallaby, red-legged pademelon, Australian water dragon, and the endemic and range-restricted chameleon gecko.



Chameleon Gecko

Day 14, November 11. Birding Atherton Tablelands

A morning walk around the Crater Lakes provided us with great views of some confiding **Double-eyed Fig Parrots** and numerous musky rat kangaroos. The lake was fairly benign for waterfowl but did contain a flock of 40 **Great Crested Grebes**, most in full breeding plumage. We were also treated to some very vocal **Tooth-billed Bowerbirds** as they sat above their bowers of upturned leaves. I almost had my head taken off by a low-flying **Pacific Emerald Dove**, an **Azure Kingfisher** made a brief appearance, and a pair of **Yellow-breasted Boatbill** sat above us. **Grey-headed Robins** were numerous, as were **Spotted Catbird** and **Victoria's Riflebird**.

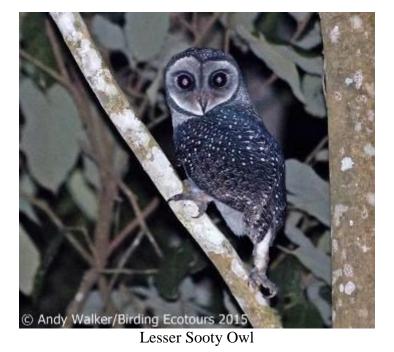


We headed north into an area of dry forest, where we found yet another bowerbird species — this time **Great Bowerbird**. This particular bird is a bit of a local celebrity, and his 'avenue bower' is well stocked with goodies from the nearby primary school. Other birds in the dry areas we visited included **Australian Bustard**, **Pacific Baza**, **Square-tailed Kite**, **Little Eagle**, **Squatter Pigeon**, **Crested Pigeon**, **Bar-shouldered Dove**, **Channel-billed Cuckoo**, **Pheasant Coucal**, **Pale-headed Rosella**, **Red-winged Parrot**, **Red-tailed Black Cockatoo**, **Grey-crowned Babbler**, **Rufous-throated Honeyeater**, **Pied Butcherbird**, **Red-backed Fairywren**, and **Double-barred Finch**.



Great Bowerbird

We ended the day at the world-famous Kingfisher Park Birdwatchers Lodge with the sound of **Noisy Pitta** and **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher** ringing out. A nocturnal walk produced northern brown bandicoot, agile wallaby, black and spectacled flying foxes, bush rat, Boyd's forest dragon, and several species of frogs, though the real highlights were **Barking Owl** and a young **Lesser Sooty Owl**, which both showed well.



Birding Ecotours

Day 15, November 12. Mount Lewis, Kingfisher Park, and Daintree River Cruise

It is always exciting birding at Kingfisher Park and Mount Lewis, and we awoke with a sense of excited anticipation. Pretty much the first thing I heard on waking up was the kingfisher, followed by the pitta, so we made these our primary targets before breakfast. Within a short while the **Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher** was well and truly 'in-the-bag', freshly arrived from Papua New Guinea a few days before our arrival. Safe to say everyone was impressed by this beautiful bird, constantly 'tick-tock-ing' its long white tail. We continued for our next target, but kept getting distracted by more kingfishers! Eventually a **Noisy Pitta** was in range, and as we walked up to it we were pleasantly surprised to find a pair of birds hopping around feeding in front of us, and great, prolonged views were had by all. A bit of post-breakfast birding around the local area gave great views of a pair of nesting **Papuan Frogmouth** and a brief **Lovely Fairywren**, along with both **Yellow-spotted** and **Graceful Honeyeaters**. Other critters included Boyd's forest dragon and major skink.

We headed up Mount Lewis, home of numerous Atherton endemics, and within a couple of hours had found most of our targets and had excellent views of most, including Whiteheaded Pigeon, Topknot Pigeon, Superb Fruit Dove, Tooth-billed, Golden, and Satin Bowerbirds, Spotted Catbird, Bridled Honeyeater, Fernwren, Atherton Scrubwren, Mountain Thornbill, Chowchilla, Bower's Shrikethrush, Grey Fantail, Victoria's Riflebird, Grey-headed Robin, and Blue-faced Parrotfinch. A very good morning indeed! Satisfied with our haul we headed off the mountain and down to the Daintree River, where we met up with 'The Daintree Boatman' for an afternoon boat ride along this beautiful river. Highlights were numerous, but some of the key species we enjoyed were two Great-billed Herons, Black Bittern, a nesting Papuan Frogmouth, Wompoo Fruit Dove, Brahminy Kite, Azure Kingfisher, Black Butcherbird, White-throated Needletail, Brown-backed and Macleay's Honeyeaters, Large-billed Gerygone, Green Oriole, and numerous nesting Shining Flycatchers. There was a constant stream of ibises, egrets, and Torresian (Pied) Imperial Pigeons around us, and a dingo even put in a brief appearance.



Great-billed Heron



A long day wasn't quite finished, with evening highlights including **Eastern Barn Owl**, **Lesser Sooty Owl**, **Bush Stone-curlew**, a stunning jungle carpet python, and the tiny feathertail glider, the world's smallest gliding mammal (size of a mouse, and a local rarity!).



Jungle Carpet Python

Day 16, November 13. Kingfisher Park to Cairns

The final day's birding of the tour had arrived in no time, and we spent the day heading back towards Cairns. Birding highlights during the morning included Cotton and Green Pygmy Geese, Eastern Osprey, Black-shouldered Kite, Spotless Crake, Pied Oystercatcher, Pacific Golden Plover, Greater Sand Plover, Grey-tailed Tattler, Terek Sandpiper, Great Knot, Greater and Lesser Crested Terns, (more) Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfishers, Rainbow Bee-eater, Spectacled and Pied Monarchs, and Pale-yellow Robin. A couple of afternoon stops produced a few new birds, or better looks of several species, including Lovely Fairywren, Black Butcherbird, and Green Oriole. A three-way aerial tussle between a Black Kite, Brahminy Kite, and Brown Falcon was interesting to watch, the falcon finally winning the prize meal. We checked into our hotel and had a final look along the Cairns Esplanade. No new rare waders/shorebirds were found, but it was nice to have further close-up views of birds such as Great Knot, Terek Sandpiper, and Grey-tailed Tattler. Our final new bird of the trip was found just before the sun went down, a pair of Mangrove Robins completing the species list.



Mangrove Robin



We had our final evening meal in Cairns and temporarily paused to watch the very impressive (and loud) gathering of spectacled and little red flying foxes and a couple of **Bush Stone-curlews** in the CBD.

Day 17, November 14. Transfer to Cairns International Airport

Due to tour participants' flight times out of Cairns there was no birding today, just an early morning airport transfer, where this successful and enjoyable tour concluded.

A huge thank you to everyone who made this tour what it was!

"Top Five" Birds

Southern Cassowary, Plains-Wanderer, Orange-bellied Parrot, Major Mitchell's Cockatoo, Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher.

AUSTRALIA 2015 BIRD LIST

(E) = country endemic

Status: NT = Near-threatened, VU = Vulnerable, EN = Endangered, CE = Critically Endangered

Common Name (IOC 5.4)	Scientific Name (IOC 5.4)	Trip
	CASUARIIFORMES	
Cassowaries	Casuariidae	
Southern Cassowary - VU	Casuarius casuarius	1
Emu	Dromaiidae	
Emu (E)	Dromaius novaehollandiae	1
	ANSERIFORMES	
Magpie Goose	Anseranatidae	
Magpie Goose	Anseranas semipalmata	1
Ducks, Geese and Swans	Anatidae	
Plumed Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna eytoni	1
Wandering Whistling Duck	Dendrocygna arcuata	1
Cape Barren Goose (E)	Cereopsis novaehollandiae	1
Black Swan (E)	Cygnus atratus	1
Freckled Duck (E)	Stictonetta naevosa	1
Australian Shelduck (E)	Tadorna tadornoides	1
Pink-eared Duck (E)	Malacorhynchus membranaceus	1
Maned Duck (E)	Chenonetta jubata	1
Cotton Pygmy Goose	Nettapus coromandelianus	1
Green Pygmy Goose	Nettapus pulchellus	1
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	1
Pacific Black Duck	Anas superciliosa	1
Australasian Shoveler	Anas rhynchotis	1
Grey Teal	Anas gracilis	1



Chestnut Teal (E)	Anas castanea	1
Hardhead	Aythya australis	1
Blue-billed Duck (E) - NT	Oxyura australis	1
Musk Duck (E)	Biziura lobata	1
. ,	GALLIFORMES	
Megapodes	Megapodiidae	
Australian Brushturkey (E)	Alectura lathami	1
Malleefowl (E) - VU	Leipoa ocellata	1
Orange-footed Scrubfowl	Megapodius reinwardt	1
Pheasants and Allies	Phasianidae	
Brown Quail	Coturnix ypsilophora	1
	PROCELLARIIFORMES	
Albatrosses	Diomedeidae	
Shy Albatross	Thalassarche cauta	1
Petrels, Shearwaters	Procellariidae	
Short-tailed Shearwater	Ardenna tenuirostris	1
	PODICIPEDIFORMES	
Grebes	Podicipedidae	
Australasian Grebe	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae	1
Hoary-headed Grebe	Poliocephalus poliocephalus	1
Great Crested Grebe	Podiceps cristatus	1
	PELECANIFORMES	
Ibises, Spoonbills	Threskiornithidae	
Australian White Ibis	Threskiornis moluccus	1
Straw-necked Ibis	Threskiornis spinicollis	1
Glossy Ibis	Plegadis falcinellus	1
Royal Spoonbill	Platalea regia	1
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	Platalea flavipes	1
Herons, Bitterns	Ardeidae	
Black Bittern	Dupetor flavicollis	1
Striated Heron	Butorides striata	1
Eastern Cattle Egret	Bubulcus coromandus	1
White-necked Heron	Ardea pacifica	1
Great-billed Heron	Ardea sumatrana	1
Great Egret	Ardea alba	1
Intermediate Egret	Egretta intermedia	1
White-faced Heron	Egretta novaehollandiae	1
Little Egret	Egretta garzetta	1
Pelicans	Pelecanidae	
Australian Pelican	Pelecanus conspicillatus	1
	SULIFORMES	



Great Frigatebird	Fregata minor	1
Lesser Frigatebird	Fregata ariel	1
Gannets, Boobies	Sulidae	
Australasian Gannet	Morus serrator	1
Brown Booby	Sula leucogaster	1
Cormorants, Shags	Phalacrocoracidae	
Little Pied Cormorant	Microcarbo melanoleucos	1
Black-faced Cormorant (E)	Phalacrocorax fuscescens	1
Little Black Cormorant	Phalacrocorax sulcirostris	1
Australian Pied Cormorant	Phalacrocorax varius	1
Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	1
Anhingas, Darters	Anhingidae	
Australasian Darter	Anhinga novaehollandiae	1
	ACCIPITRIFORMES	
Ospreys	Pandionidae	
Eastern Osprey	Pandion cristatus	1
Kites, Hawks and Eagles	Accipitridae	
Black-shouldered Kite (E)	Elanus axillaris	1
Square-tailed Kite (E)	Lophoictinia isura	1
Pacific Baza	Aviceda subcristata	1
Little Eagle	Hieraaetus morphnoides	1
Wedge-tailed Eagle	Aquila audax	1
Grey Goshawk	Accipiter novaehollandiae	1
Brown Goshawk	Accipiter fasciatus	1
Collared Sparrowhawk	Accipiter cirrocephalus	1
Swamp Harrier	Circus approximans	1
Spotted Harrier	Circus assimilis	1
Black Kite	Milvus migrans	1
Whistling Kite	Haliastur sphenurus	1
Brahminy Kite	Haliastur indus	1
White-bellied Sea Eagle	Haliaeetus leucogaster	1
	OTIDIFORMES	
Bustards	Otididae	
Australian Bustard	Ardeotis australis	1
	GRUIFORMES	
Rails, Crakes and Coots	Rallidae	
Red-necked Crake	Rallina tricolor	1
Lewin's Rail	Lewinia pectoralis	1
Australian Crake (E)	Porzana fluminea	1
Spotless Crake	Porzana tabuensis	1
Australasian Swamphen	Porphyrio melanotus	1
Dusky Moorhen	Gallinula tenebrosa	1



Tasmanian Nativehen (E)	Tribonyx mortierii	1
Eurasian Coot	Fulica atra	1
Cranes	Gruidae	
Sarus Crane - VU	Grus antigone	1
Brolga	Grus rubicunda	1
	CHARDRIIFORMES	
Buttonquail	Turnicidae	
Painted Buttonquail	Turnix varius	1
Stone-curlews, Thick-knees	Burhinidae	
Bush Stone-curlew	Burhinus grallarius	1
Oystercatchers	Haematopodidae	
Pied Oystercatcher	Haematopus longirostris	1
Sooty Oystercatcher (E)	Haematopus fuliginosus	1
Stilts, Avocets	Recurvirostridae	
White-headed Stilt	Himantopus leucocephalus	1
Banded Stilt (E)	Cladorhynchus leucocephalus	1
Red-necked Avocet (E)	Recurvirostra novaehollandiae	1
Plovers	Charadriidae	
Banded Lapwing (E)	Vanellus tricolor	1
Masked Lapwing	Vanellus miles	1
Red-kneed Dotterel	Erythrogonys cinctus	1
Inland Dotterel (E)	Peltohyas australis	1
Pacific Golden Plover	Pluvialis fulva	1
Red-capped Plover	Charadrius ruficapillus	1
Lesser Sand Plover	Charadrius mongolus	1
Greater Sand Plover	Charadrius leschenaultii	1
Hooded Dotterel (E) - VU	Thinornis cucullatus	1
Black-fronted Dotterel	Elseyornis melanops	1
Jacanas	Jacanidae	
Comb-crested Jacana	Irediparra gallinacea	1
Plains-wanderer	Pedionomidae	
Plains-wanderer (E) - EN	Pedionomus torquatus	1
Sandpipers, Snipes	Scolopacidae	
Latham's Snipe	Gallinago hardwickii	1
Black-tailed Godwit - NT	Limosa limosa	1
Bar-tailed Godwit	Limosa lapponica	1
Whimbrel	Numenius phaeopus	1
Far Eastern Curlew - VU	Numenius madagascariensis	1
Marsh Sandpiper	Tringa stagnatilis	1
Common Greenshank	Tringa nebularia	1
Grey-tailed Tattler - NT	Tringa brevipes	1
Terek Sandpiper	Xenus cinereus	1



Common Sandpiper	Actitis hypoleucos	1
Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres	1
Great Knot - VU	Calidris tenuirostris	1
Red Knot	Calidris canutus	1
Red-necked Stint	Calidris ruficollis	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Calidris acuminata	1
Curlew Sandpiper	Calidris ferruginea	1
Broad-billed Sandpiper	Limicola falcinellus	1
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers	Laridae	
Brown Noddy	Anous stolidus	1
Silver Gull	Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae	1
Pacific Gull (E)	Larus pacificus	1
Kelp Gull	Larus dominicanus	1
Gull-billed Tern	Gelochelidon nilotica	1
Caspian Tern	Hydroprogne caspia	1
Greater Crested Tern	Thalasseus bergii	1
Lesser Crested Tern	Thalasseus bengalensis	1
Little Tern	Sternula albifrons	1
Fairy Tern - VU	Sternula nereis	1
Bridled Tern	Onychoprion anaethetus	1
Sooty Tern	Onychoprion fuscatus	1
Black-naped Tern	Sterna sumatrana	1
Whiskered Tern	Chlidonias hybrida	1
	COLUMBIFORMES	
Pigeons, Doves	Columbidae	
Rock Dove	Columba livia	1
White-headed Pigeon (E)	Columba leucomela	1
Spotted Dove	Spilopelia chinensis	1
Brown Cuckoo-Dove (E)	Macropygia phasianella	1
Pacific Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps longirostris	1
Common Bronzewing (E)	Phaps chalcoptera	1
Brush Bronzewing (E)	Phaps elegans	1
Crested Pigeon (E)	Ocyphaps lophotes	1
Squatter Pigeon (E)	Geophaps scripta	1
Wonga Pigeon (E)	Leucosarcia melanoleuca	1
Peaceful Dove	Geopelia placida	1
Bar-shouldered Dove	Geopelia humeralis	1
Wompoo Fruit Dove	Ptilinopus magnificus	1
Superb Fruit Dove	Ptilinopus superbus	1
Torresian Imperial Pigeon	Ducula spilorrhoa	1
Topknot Pigeon (E)	Lopholaimus antarcticus	1
	CUCULIFORMES	



Cuckoos	Cuculidae	
Pheasant Coucal	Centropus phasianinus	1
Pacific Koel	Eudynamys orientalis	1
Channel-billed Cuckoo	Scythrops novaehollandiae	1
Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx basalis	1
Black-eared Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx osculans	1
Shining Bronze Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx lucidus	1
Pallid Cuckoo	Cacomantis pallidus	1
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Cacomantis flabelliformis	1
Brush Cuckoo	Cacomantis variolosus	1
	STRIGIFORMES	
Barn Owls	Tytonidae	
Greater Sooty Owl	Tyto tenebricosa	1
Lesser Sooty Owl	Tyto multipunctata	1
Eastern Barn Owl	Tyto delicatula	1
Owls	Strigidae	
Powerful Owl (E)	Ninox strenua	1
Barking Owl	Ninox connivens	1
Southern Boobook	Ninox boobook	1
Morepork	Ninox novaeseelandiae leucopsis	1
	CAPRIMULGIFORMES	
Frogmouths	Podargidae	
Papuan Frogmouth	Podargus papuensis	1
Tawny Frogmouth (E)	Podargus strigoides	1
Nightjars	Caprimulgidae	
Spotted Nightjar	Eurostopodus argus	1
	APODIFORMES	
Owlet-nightjars	Aegothelidae	
Australian Owlet-nightjar	Aegotheles cristatus	1
Swifts	Apodidae	
Australian Swiftlet (E)	Aerodramus terraereginae	1
White-throated Needletail	Hirundapus caudacutus	1
	CORACIIFORMES	
Rollers	Coraciidae	
Oriental Dollarbird	Eurystomus orientalis	1
Kingfishers	Alcedinidae	
Buff-breasted Paradise Kingfisher	Tanysiptera sylvia	1
Laughing Kookaburra (E)	Dacelo novaeguineae	1
Blue-winged Kookaburra	Dacelo leachii	1
Forest Kingfisher	Todiramphus macleayii	1
Collared Kingfisher	Todiramphus chloris	1
Sacred Kingfisher	Todiramphus sanctus	1



Azure Kingfisher	Ceyx azureus	1
Bee-eaters	Meropidae	
Rainbow Bee-eater	Merops ornatus	1
	FALCONIFORMES	
Caracaras, Falcons	Falconidae	
Nankeen Kestrel	Falco cenchroides	1
Australian Hobby	Falco longipennis	1
Brown Falcon	Falco berigora	1
Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	1
	PSITTACIFORMES	
Cockatoos	Cacatuidae	
Red-tailed Black Cockatoo (E)	Calyptorhynchus banksii	1
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo (E)	Calyptorhynchus funereus	1
Gang-gang Cockatoo (E)	Callocephalon fimbriatum	1
Galah (E)	Eolophus roseicapilla	1
Major Mitchell's Cockatoo (E)	Lophochroa leadbeateri	1
Long-billed Corella (E)	Cacatua tenuirostris	1
Little Corella	Cacatua sanguinea	1
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Cacatua galerita	1
Old World Parrots	Psittaculidae	
Superb Parrot (E)	Polytelis swainsonii	1
Regent Parrot (E)	Polytelis anthopeplus	1
Australian King Parrot (E)	Alisterus scapularis	1
Red-winged Parrot	Aprosmictus erythropterus	1
Red-rumped Parrot (E)	Psephotus haematonotus	1
Eastern Bluebonnet	Northiella haematogaster	1
Mulga Parrot (E)	Psephotellus varius	1
Green Rosella (E)	Platycercus caledonicus	1
Crimson Rosella (E)	Platycercus elegans	1
Pale-headed Rosella (E)	Platycercus adscitus	1
Eastern Rosella (E)	Platycercus eximius	1
Australian Ringneck	Barnardius zonarius	1
Swift Parrot (E) - EN	Lathamus discolor	1
Blue-winged Parrot (E)	Neophema chrysostoma	1
Orange-bellied Parrot (E) - CE	Neophema chrysogaster	1
Turquoise Parrot (E)	Neophema pulchella	1
Little Lorikeet (E)	Parvipsitta pusilla	1
Purple-crowned Lorikeet (E)	Parvipsitta porphyrocephala	1
Rainbow Lorikeet (E)	Trichoglossus moluccanus	1
. ,		1
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet (E)	Tricnogiossus chiorolepiaotus	
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet (E) Musk Lorikeet (E)	Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus Glossopsitta concinna	1



	PASSERIFORMES	
Pittas	Pittidae	
Noisy Pitta	Pitta versicolor	1
Lyrebirds	Menuridae	
Albert's Lyrebird (E) - NT	Menura alberti	1
Superb Lyrebird (E)	Menura novaehollandiae	1
Bowerbirds	Ptilonorhynchidae	
Green Catbird (E)	Ailuroedus crassirostris	1
Spotted Catbird	Ailuroedus melanotis	1
Tooth-billed Bowerbird (E)	Scenopoeetes dentirostris	1
Golden Bowerbird (E)	Prionodura newtoniana	1
Regent Bowerbird (E)	Sericulus chrysocephalus	1
Satin Bowerbird (E)	Ptilonorhynchus violaceus	1
Great Bowerbird (E)	Chlamydera nuchalis	1
Australasian Treecreepers	Climacteridae	
White-throated Treecreeper (E)	Cormobates leucophaea	1
Red-browed Treecreeper (E)	Climacteris erythrops	1
White-browed Treecreeper (E)	Climacteris affinis	1
Brown Treecreeper (E)	Climacteris picumnus	1
Australasian Wrens	Maluridae	
Lovely Fairywren (E)	Malurus amabilis	1
Variegated Fairywren (E)	Malurus lamberti	1
Superb Fairywren (E)	Malurus cyaneus	1
Splendid Fairywren (E)	Malurus splendens	1
Red-backed Fairywren (E)	Malurus melanocephalus	1
White-winged Fairywren (E)	Malurus leucopterus	1
Southern Emu-wren (E)	Stipiturus malachurus	1
Mallee Emu-wren (E) - EN	Stipiturus mallee	1
Striated Grasswren (E)	Amytornis striatus	1
Honeyeaters	Meliphagidae	
Dusky Myzomela	Myzomela obscura	1
Scarlet Myzomela (E)	Myzomela sanguinolenta	1
Eastern Spinebill (E)	Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris	1
Brown Honeyeater	Lichmera indistincta	1
Crescent Honeyeater (E)	Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus	1
New Holland Honeyeater (E)	Phylidonyris novaehollandiae	1
White-cheeked Honeyeater (E)	Phylidonyris niger	1
Painted Honeyeater (E)	Grantiella picta	1
Striped Honeyeater (E)	Plectorhyncha lanceolata	1
Macleay's Honeyeater (E)	Xanthotis macleayanus	1
Little Friarbird	Philemon citreogularis	1
Hornbill Friarbird (E)	Philemon yorki	1



Silver-crowned Friarbird (E)	Philemon argenticeps	1
Noisy Friarbird	Philemon corniculatus	1
Blue-faced Honeyeater	Entomyzon cyanotis	1
Black-chinned Honeyeater (E)	Melithreptus gularis	1
Strong-billed Honeyeater (E)	Melithreptus validirostris	1
Brown-headed Honeyeater (E)	Melithreptus brevirostris	1
White-throated Honeyeater	Melithreptus albogularis	1
White-naped Honeyeater (E)	Melithreptus lunatus	1
Black-headed Honeyeater (E)	Melithreptus affinis	1
White-eared Honeyeater (E)	Nesoptilotis leucotis	1
Yellow-throated Honeyeater (E)	Nesoptilotis flavicollis	1
White-fronted Chat (E)	Epthianura albifrons	1
Rufous-throated Honeyeater (E)	Conopophila rufogularis	1
Brown-backed Honeyeater	Ramsayornis modestus	1
Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater (E)	Acanthagenys rufogularis	1
Little Wattlebird (E)	Anthochaera chrysoptera	1
Red Wattlebird (E)	Anthochaera carunculata	1
Yellow Wattlebird (E)	Anthochaera paradoxa	1
Bridled Honeyeater (E)	Bolemoreus frenatus	1
Yellow-faced Honeyeater (E)	Caligavis chrysops	1
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater (E)	Lichenostomus melanops	1
Bell Miner (E)	Manorina melanophrys	1
Noisy Miner (E)	Manorina melanocephala	1
Yellow-throated Miner (E)	Manorina flavigula	1
Varied Honeyeater	Gavicalis versicolor	1
Singing Honeyeater (E)	Gavicalis virescens	1
Fuscous Honeyeater (E)	Ptilotula fusca	1
Yellow-plumed Honeyeater (E)	Ptilotula ornata	1
White-plumed Honeyeater (E)	Ptilotula penicillata	1
Graceful Honeyeater	Meliphaga gracilis	1
Yellow-spotted Honeyeater (E)	Meliphaga notata	1
Lewin's Honeyeater (E)	Meliphaga lewinii	1
Bristlebirds	Dasyornithidae	
Rufous Bristlebird (E)	Dasyornis broadbenti	1
Pardalotes	Pardalotidae	
Spotted Pardalote (E)	Pardalotus punctatus	1
Forty-spotted Pardalote (E) - EN	Pardalotus quadragintus	1
Striated Pardalote (E)	Pardalotus striatus	1
Australasian Warblers	Acanthizidae	
Fernwren (E)	Oreoscopus gutturalis	1
Pilotbird (E)	Pycnoptilus floccosus	1
Scrubtit (E)	Acanthornis magna	1



Chestnut-rumped Heathwren (E)	Calamanthus pyrrhopygius	1
Shy Heathwren (E)	Calamanthus cautus	1
Striated Fieldwren (E)	Calamanthus fuliginosus	1
Rufous Fieldwren (E)	Calamanthus campestris	1
Speckled Warbler (E)	Pyrrholaemus sagittatus	1
Atherton Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis keri	1
White-browed Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis frontalis	1
Tasmanian Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis humilis	1
Yellow-throated Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis citreogularis	1
Large-billed Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis magnirostra	1
Weebill (E)	Smicrornis brevirostris	1
Brown Gerygone (E)	Gerygone mouki	1
Mangrove Gerygone	Gerygone levigaster	1
Western Gerygone (E)	Gerygone fusca	1
Large-billed Gerygone	Gerygone magnirostris	1
White-throated Gerygone	Gerygone olivacea	1
Fairy Gerygone	Gerygone palpebrosa	1
Mountain Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza katherina	1
Brown Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza pusilla	1
Inland Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza apicalis	1
Tasmanian Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza ewingii	1
Chestnut-rumped Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza uropygialis	1
Buff-rumped Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza reguloides	1
Yellow-rumped Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza chrysorrhoa	1
Yellow Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza nana	1
Striated Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza lineata	1
Southern Whiteface (E)	Aphelocephala leucopsis	1
Australasian Babblers	Pomatostomidae	
Grey-crowned Babbler	Pomatostomus temporalis	1
White-browed Babbler (E)	Pomatostomus superciliosus	1
Chestnut-crowned Babbler (E)	Pomatostomus ruficeps	1
Logrunners	Orthonychidae	
Australian Logrunner (E)	Orthonyx temminckii	1
Chowchilla (E)	Orthonyx spaldingii	1
Whipbirds, Jewel-babblers, Quail-		
thrushes	Psophodidae	
Eastern Whipbird (E)	Psophodes olivaceus	1
Chestnut Quail-thrush (E)	Cinclosoma castanotum	1
Boatbills	Machaerirhynchidae	
Yellow-breasted Boatbill	Machaerirhynchus flaviventer	1
Woodswallows, Butcherbirds and allies	Artamidae	
White-breasted Woodswallow	Artamus leucorynchus	1
Masked Woodswallow (E)	Artamus personatus	1



White-browed Woodswallow (E)	Artamus superciliosus	1
Black-faced Woodswallow	Artamus cinereus	1
Dusky Woodswallow (E)	Artamus cyanopterus	1
Black Butcherbird	Cracticus quoyi	1
Grey Butcherbird (E)	Cracticus torquatus	1
Pied Butcherbird (E)	Cracticus nigrogularis	1
Australian Magpie	Gymnorhina tibicen	1
Pied Currawong (E)	Strepera graculina	1
Black Currawong (E)	Strepera fuliginosa	1
Grey Currawong (E)	Strepera versicolor	1
Cuckooshrikes	Campephagidae	
Black-faced Cuckooshrike	Coracina novaehollandiae	1
Barred Cuckooshrike	Coracina lineata	1
White-bellied Cuckooshrike	Coracina papuensis	1
Common Cicadabird	Coracina tenuirostris	1
White-winged Triller	Lalage tricolor	1
Varied Triller	Lalage leucomela	1
Sittellas	Neosittidae	
Varied Sittella	Daphoenositta chrysoptera	1
Australo-Papuan Bellbirds	Oreoicidae	
Crested Bellbird (E)	Oreoica gutturalis	1
Whistlers and allies	Pachycephalidae	
Crested Shriketit (E)	Falcunculus frontatus	1
Olive Whistler (E)	Pachycephala olivacea	1
Gilbert's Whistler (E)	Pachycephala inornata	1
Grey Whistler	Pachycephala simplex	1
Australian Golden Whistler	Pachycephala pectoralis	1
Rufous Whistler	Pachycephala rufiventris	1
Bower's Shrikethrush (E)	Colluricincla boweri	1
Little Shrikethrush	Colluricincla megarhyncha	1
Grey Shrikethrush	Colluricincla harmonica	1
Figbirds, Orioles	Oriolidae	
Australasian Figbird	Sphecotheres vieilloti	1
Olive-backed Oriole	Oriolus sagittatus	1
Green Oriole	Oriolus flavocinctus	1
Drongos	Dicruridae	
Spangled Drongo	Dicrurus bracteatus	1
Fantails	Rhipiduridae	
Willie Wagtail	Rhipidura leucophrys	1
Grey Fantail	Rhipidura albiscapa	1
Rufous Fantail	Rhipidura rufifrons	1
Monarchs	Monarchidae	



Black-faced Monarch Monarcha melanopsis 1 Pied Monarch (E)	Spectacled Monarch	Symposiachrus trivirgatus	1
Magnie-lark Grallina cyanoleuca 1		<u> </u>	1
Magnie-lark Grallina cyanoleuca 1	Pied Monarch (E)	Arses kaupi	1
Leaden Flycatcher Myiagra rubecula 1 Satin Flycatcher Myiagra alecto 1 Shining Flycatcher (E) Myiagra inquieta 1 Restless Flycatcher (E) Myiagra inquieta 1 Crows, Jays Corvidae Toresian Crow Corvus orru 1 Forest Raven (E) Corvus tasmanicus 1 Little Raven (E) Corvus coronoides 1 Australian Raven (E) Corvus coronoides 1 Australian Raven (E) Corcoractide 1 White-winged Chough (E) Corcoract melanorhamphos 1 Australian Mudnesters Corcoract melanorhamphos 1 White-winged Chough (E) Corcoract melanorhamphos 1 Apostlebird (E) Struthidea cinerea 1 White-winged Chough (E) Struthidea cinerea 1 Paradisa Riflebird (E) Piloris paradiseus 1 Victoria's Riflebird (E) Piloris paradiseus 1 Victoria's Riflebird (E) Piloris paradiseus 1 Pervoica's Riflebird (E) Petroica's cinereifrons 1 Mangrove Robin (E) Hete	` '	-	1
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Pink Robin (E) Petroica rodinogaster 1 Flame Robin (E) - NT Petroica phoenicea 1 Scarlet Robin (E) Petroica boodang 1 Red-capped Robin (E) Petroica goodenovii 1 Larks Alaudidae Horsfield's Bush Lark Mirafra javanica 1 Eurasian Skylark Alauda arvensis 1 Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae Welcome Swallow Hirundo neoxena 1 Fairy Martin Petrochelidon ariel 1 Tree Martin Petrochelidon nigricans 1 Reed Warblers and allies Acrocephalidae Australian Reed Warbler Acrocephalus australis 1	Jacky Winter	Microeca fascinans	1
Flame Robin (E) - NT Scarlet Robin (E) Petroica boodang Red-capped Robin (E) Petroica goodenovii 1 Larks Alaudidae Horsfield's Bush Lark Mirafra javanica 1 Eurasian Skylark Alauda arvensis 1 Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae Welcome Swallow Hirundo neoxena 1 Fairy Martin Petrochelidon ariel 1 Tree Martin Petrochelidon nigricans 1 Reed Warblers and allies Acrocephalidae Australian Reed Warbler Acrocephalus australis	Rose Robin (E)	Petroica rosea	1
Scarlet Robin (E)Petroica boodang1Red-capped Robin (E)Petroica goodenovii1LarksAlaudidaeHorsfield's Bush LarkMirafra javanica1Eurasian SkylarkAlauda arvensis1Swallows, MartinsHirundinidaeWelcome SwallowHirundo neoxena1Fairy MartinPetrochelidon ariel1Tree MartinPetrochelidon nigricans1Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Pink Robin (E)	Petroica rodinogaster	1
Red-capped Robin (E)Petroica goodenovii1LarksAlaudidaeHorsfield's Bush LarkMirafra javanica1Eurasian SkylarkAlauda arvensis1Swallows, MartinsHirundinidaeWelcome SwallowHirundo neoxena1Fairy MartinPetrochelidon ariel1Tree MartinPetrochelidon nigricans1Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Flame Robin (E) - NT	Petroica phoenicea	1
LarksAlaudidaeHorsfield's Bush LarkMirafra javanica1Eurasian SkylarkAlauda arvensis1Swallows, MartinsHirundinidaeWelcome SwallowHirundo neoxena1Fairy MartinPetrochelidon ariel1Tree MartinPetrochelidon nigricans1Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Scarlet Robin (E)	Petroica boodang	1
Horsfield's Bush Lark Eurasian Skylark Alauda arvensis Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae Welcome Swallow Hirundo neoxena Fairy Martin Petrochelidon ariel Tree Martin Petrochelidon nigricans 1 Reed Warblers and allies Acrocephalus australis 1	Red-capped Robin (E)	Petroica goodenovii	1
Eurasian Skylark Alauda arvensis Swallows, Martins Hirundinidae Welcome Swallow Hirundo neoxena 1 Fairy Martin Petrochelidon ariel 1 Tree Martin Petrochelidon nigricans 1 Reed Warblers and allies Acrocephalidae Australian Reed Warbler Acrocephalus australis 1	Larks	Alaudidae	
Swallows, MartinsHirundinidaeWelcome SwallowHirundo neoxena1Fairy MartinPetrochelidon ariel1Tree MartinPetrochelidon nigricans1Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Horsfield's Bush Lark	Mirafra javanica	1
Welcome SwallowHirundo neoxena1Fairy MartinPetrochelidon ariel1Tree MartinPetrochelidon nigricans1Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Eurasian Skylark	Alauda arvensis	1
Fairy MartinPetrochelidon ariel1Tree MartinPetrochelidon nigricans1Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Swallows, Martins	Hirundinidae	
Tree MartinPetrochelidon nigricans1Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Welcome Swallow	Hirundo neoxena	1
Reed Warblers and alliesAcrocephalidaeAustralian Reed WarblerAcrocephalus australis1	Fairy Martin	Petrochelidon ariel	1
Australian Reed Warbler Acrocephalus australis 1	Tree Martin	Petrochelidon nigricans	1
1	Reed Warblers and allies	Acrocephalidae	
Grassbirds and allies Locustellidae	Australian Reed Warbler	Acrocephalus australis	1
	Grassbirds and allies	Locustellidae	



Rufous Songlark (E)	Megalurus mathewsi	1
Brown Songlark (E)	Megalurus cruralis	1
Little Grassbird	Megalurus gramineus	1
Tawny Grassbird	Megalurus timoriensis	1
Cisticolas and allies	Cisticolidae	
Golden-headed Cisticola	Cisticola exilis	1
White-eyes	Zosteropidae	
Silvereye	Zosterops lateralis	1
Starlings, Rhabdornis	Sturnidae	
Metallic Starling	Aplonis metallica	1
Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis	1
Common Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	1
Thrushes	Turdidae	
Russet-tailed Thrush	Zoothera heinei	1
Common Blackbird	Turdus merula	1
Flowerpeckers	Dicaeidae	
Mistletoebird	Dicaeum hirundinaceum	1
Sunbirds	Nectariniidae	
Olive-backed Sunbird	Cinnyris jugularis	1
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches	Passeridae	
House Sparrow	Passer domesticus	1
Waxbills, Munias and allies	Estrildidae	
Beautiful Firetail (E)	Stagonopleura bella	1
Diamond Firetail (E)	Stagonopleura guttata	1
Red-browed Finch (E)	Neochmia temporalis	1
Zebra Finch	Taeniopygia guttata	1
Double-barred Finch (E)	Taeniopygia bichenovii	1
Blue-faced Parrotfinch	Erythrura trichroa	1
Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata	1
Chestnut-breasted Mannikin	Lonchura castaneothorax	1
Wagtails, Pipits	Motacillidae	
Australian Pipit	Anthus australis	1
Finches	Fringillidae	
European Greenfinch	Chloris chloris	1
European Goldfinch	Carduelis carduelis	1
TOTAL	<u>'</u>	416

AUSTRALIA 2015 MAMMAL LIST		
Common Name (IUCN)	Scientific Name (IUCN)	Trip
	MONOTREMATA	
Echidnas	Tachyglossidae	



Short-beaked echidna	Tachyglossus aculeatus	1
Platypus	Ornithorhynchidae	
Platypus	Ornithorhynchus anatinus	1
	DASYUROMORPHIA	
Dasyurids	Dasyuridae	
Yellow-footed antechinus	Antechinus flavipes	1
Brown antechinus	Antechinus stuartii	1
Fat-tailed dunnart	Sminthopsis crassicaudata	1
	PERAMELEMORPHIA	
Bandicoots and echymiperas	Peramelidae	
Northern brown bandicoot	Isoodon macrourus	1
Long-nosed bandicoot	Perameles nasuta	1
	DIPROTODONTIA	
Koalas	Phascolarctidae	
Koala	Phascolarctos cinereus	1
Wombats	Vombatidae	
Common wombat	Vombatus ursinus	1
Brushtail possums and cuscuses	Phalangeridae	
Short-eared brushtail possum	Trichosurus caninus	1
Common brushtail possum	Trichosurus vulpecula	1
Feathertail gliders and pygmy gliders	Acrobatidae	
Feathertail glider	Acrobates pygmaeus	1
Gliders and striped possums	Petauridae	
Sugar glider	Petaurus breviceps	1
Yellow-bellied glider	Petaurus australis	1
Ringtail possums	Pseudocheiridae	
Greater glider	Petauroides volans	1
Common ringtail possum	Pseudocheirus peregrinus	1
Musky rat kangaroo	Hypsiprymnodontidae	
Musky rat kangaroo	Hypsiprymnodon moschatus	1
Kangaroos, wallabies and relatives	Macropodidae	
Agile wallaby	Macropus agilis	1
Whiptail wallaby	Macropus parryi	1
Eastern grey kangaroo	Macropus giganteus	1
Western gray kangaroo	Macropus fuliginosus	1
Red kangaroo	Macropus rufus	1
Bennett's wallaby	Macropus rufogriseus rufogriseus	1
Red-necked wallaby	Macropus rufogriseus fruticus	1
Swamp wallaby	Wallabia bicolor	1
Tasmanian (Rufous-bellied) pademelon	Thylogale billardierii	1
Red-legged pademelon	Thylogale stigmatica	1
Red-necked pademelon	Thylogale thetis	1



	CHIROPTERA	
Old World fruit bats	Pteropodidae	
Black flying fox	Pteropus alecto	1
Spectacled flying fox	Pteropus conspicillatus	1
Little red flying fox	Pteropus scapulatus	1
Horseshoe bats	Rhinolophidae	
Eastern horseshoe bat	Rhinolophus megaphyllus	1
	RODENTIA	
Old World mice and rats and allies	Muridae	
Fawn-footed melomys	Melomys cervinipes	1
White-tailed giant rat	Uromys caudimaculatus	1
Bush rat	Rattus fuscipes	1
Canefield rat	Rattus sordidus	1
	CARNIVORA	
Coyotes, dogs, foxes, jackals, and		
wolves	Canidae	
Red fox	Vulpes vulpes	1
Dingo	Canis lupus dingo	1
Cats	Felidae	
Domestic cat	Felis catus	1
	LAGOMORPHA	
Hares and rabbits	Leporidae	
European rabbit	Oryctolagus cuniculus	1
European hare	Lepus europaeus	1
Domestic goat (feral)	Capra hircus	1
TOTAL		42

AUSTRALIA 2015 REPTILE LIST		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Trip
	SQUAMATA	
Knob-tail geckos	Carphodactylidae	
Chameleon gecko	Carphodactylus laevis	1
Geckos	Gekkonidae	
Common house gecko	Hemidactylus frenatus	1
Skinks	Scincidae	
Shingleback lizard	Tiliqua rugosa	1
Short-clawed ctenotus	Ctenotus brachyonyx	1
Major skink	Egernia frerei	1
Eastern water skink	Eulamprus quoyii	1
Bar-sided forest-skink	Eulamprus tenuis	1



Ragged snake-eyed skink	Cryptoblepharus pannosus	1
Red-throated rainbow-skink	Carlia rubrigularis	1
Monitor lizards	Varanidae	
Gould's goanna	Varanus gouldii	1
Lace monitor	Varanus varius	1
Agamids	Agamidae	
Australian water dragon	Intellagama lesueurii	1
Mallee military dragon	Ctenophorus fordi	1
Central bearded dragon	Pogona vitticeps	1
Boyd's forest dragon	Hypsilurus boydii	1
Southern angle-headed dragon	Hypsilurus spinipes	1
Elapids	Elapidae	
Red-bellied black snake	Pseudechis porphyriacus	1
Pythons	Pythonidae	
Eastern carpet python	Morelis spilota mcdowelli	1
Jungle carpet python	Morelis spilota cheynei	1
TOTAL		19

AUSTRALIA 2015 AMPHIBIAN LIST		
Common Name	Scientific Name	Trip
	ANURA	
Australian ground frogs	Myobatrachidae	
Clicking froglet	Crinia signifera	1
Cogger's barred frog	Mixophyes coggeri	1
Australian ground frogs	Limnodynastidae	
Giant banjo frog	Limnodynastes interioris	1
Common spadefoot toad	Neobatrachus sudelli	1
Crucifix toad	Notaden bennettii	1
Black-soled frog	Lechriodus fletcheri	1
Tree frogs and allies	Hylidae	
Northern Stoney Creek tree-frog	Litoria jungguy	1
White-lipped tree frog	Litoria infrafrenata	1
Growling grassfrog	Litoria raniformis	1
True toads	Bufonidae	
Cane toad	Bufo marinus	1
TOTAL		10

