



Noosa Parks Association Inc.



BIRD OBSERVERS GROUP – 2021 PROGRAM

All Sunday outings commence at **8am**. Friday morning's guest speakers will form part of the Friday Environment Forum (on the given days). A quarterly meeting will be held at the Environment Centre to deal with bird-related matters. All members are welcome to attend.

An Interpretive Birding Walk takes place every **second** and **forth** Friday only before each Friday Environment Forum. Meet in the Environment Centre car park at Wallace Park, Eumundi Road, Noosaville beside the Library at 8:30am. *PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DAYS FOR THIS YEAR*

Date	Event/Speaker	Details
Tuesday 2 nd February	Bird Observers meeting	9am at the Environment Centre
Friday 12 th February	Speaker Steve Popple	'Birdscaping' our gardens
Sunday 21 st March	Outing Eumundi	Private property Don Napier Road Eumundi
Friday 9 th April	Speaker Lisa Ryan	ClimateWatch: Recruiting Sunshine Coast citizen scientists now!
Tuesday 4 th May	Bird Observers meeting	9am at the Environment Centre
Sunday 16 th May	Outing Kin Kin Site 15 Noosa Bird Trail	Meet at Sports Ground behind Kin Kin Hotel to walk the Kin Kin Countryside Trail.
Friday 11 th June	Speaker Judith Hoyle	Yandina Creek Wetlands and the 'Blue Heart' initiative,
Sunday 18 th July	Outing Black Mountain	Private property Ash Lane Black Mountain
Tuesday 3 rd August	Bird Observers meeting	9am at the Environment Centre
Friday 13 th August	Speaker Dr. Daniella Teixeira	Malleefowl recovery
Sunday 19 th September	Outing Boreen Point Site 19 Noosa Bird Trail	Meet at Apollonian Hotel car park Boreen Point
Friday 8 th October	Speaker Alex Western	'Food and Fire: The effect of fire on Glossy Black-Cockatoo feeding habitat'
Tuesday 9 th November	Bird Observers meeting	9am at the Environment Centre
Friday 12 th November	Speaker Russell McGregor	Paradise Parrot: <i>Some reflections on the centenary of its rediscovery</i>
Sunday 21 st November	Outing Nambour	Cilento Bushland Conservation Reserve, Waterfall Road Nambour. Turn off Mapleton Road opposite Nambour Hospital. On-street parking at end of road.

ALL ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO
 Coordinator Valda McLean
Phone: 5476 2123 or **Email:** braeloch@bigpond.com



Noosa Parks Association Inc. Bird Observers Group ANNUAL REPORT 2020



The year of 2020 began well. On 14th February, Eric Anderson gave a great presentation about the natural assets of Brimblebox Nature refuge. Following this presentation, I sent a letter, on behalf of the group, objecting to the proposed mining of that area. Judith Hoyle was unable to speak about the Yandina Creek Wetland in April, so that presentation has been rescheduled for 2021. In August, Tim Siggs showed his stunning films of Rainforest birds of South East Queensland. Jessica Drake's very educational presentation in October was well received as she covered many issues faced by a bird vet such as window collisions, and entanglement, and told how observers can help. In October, Steve Popple explained how the local Birdlife competition works. 'Birding in the Zone of Happiness' has become a very popular pastime as local observers try to photograph as many species as possible during the year.

Following a request for a bird list, this year's field outings started with a visit to a private property at Kandanga. The group recorded 47 bird species and identified an amazing 29 different butterfly species. The outing to John's Landing was cancelled due to restrictions and uncertainty relating to the Covid virus. By 19th July, observers were more than keen to enjoy a group outing after the lockdown. Twenty-four people attended our second survey of the Noosa Koala Corridor at Ringtail Forest and recorded 42 bird species. For September's outing, the group re-visited Doug Castledine's property at Pomona to see what birds were enjoying his revegetation. As well as recording 59 species, we saw where Glossy Black-Cockatoo had been eating the cones of casuarina. For the final outing of the year, we surveyed a section of the Tewantin National Park at Lake Macdonald, a highlight of which was seeing Crested Shrike-tit. For this outing, we first met at Kookaburra Park where the first stage of the spillway upgrade has started. To make way for the new bridge, trees have been cut and mulched. I recorded 21 species there including nesting birds. Lunch in the Botanical Gardens completed the day and year's activities. The average species count for the four outings was 45, which was slightly lower than the previous year, while average attendance was higher at 20.

In line with Friday Forum restrictions, Wallace Park surveys were reduced to 19 this year compared to the usual 41. The average of 14 observers participating, was the same as the previous year as was the average of 24 species recorded. A pair of Glossy Black-Cockatoo were seen flying over Wallace Park in August. The Flying Fox colony, absent during the first few months, returned to the melaleuca forest later in the year. The resident pair of Tawny Frogmouth again, successfully raised two chicks. This year our group did not see the Black Bittern in the creek but Greg Roberts saw and photographed one in late December, at Crank's Creek.

Thanks again to Lyn McAndrew for recording the minutes for our quarterly meetings as well as providing interesting UpToDate information to the 'Bird Corner'. Bob Carey Maxine and Spencer, along with the Glossy Team Sunrise, have continued to monitor the Glossy Black-Cockatoo population, fight for their habitat, and report sightings to the Conservancy. As I write, there is still a cloud over the Sunshine Beach food habitat trees, threatened by Blue Care development. I have continued to write a monthly newsletter about bird related topics locally and elsewhere. Since March 2020, when the Covid virus entered our world, travel restrictions have meant that observers have been mostly limited to local areas. Those who would normally plan to do some overseas birding, were unable to do so, and interstate visits were very limited. Even our New Zealand friends have been unable to visit. The restrictions may have encouraged more observers to the hobby and others to look more closely, understand and enjoy the huge variety of local Sunshine Coast bird species.

Valda McLean