



FAR SOUTH COAST BIRDWATCHERS Inc.

Affiliated with BirdLife Australia

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

Regent Honeyeater

Barbara Jones and Pam Handyside

Listed as **Critically Endangered**, there are only about 250 – 300 Regent Honeyeaters remaining in the wild and they are now confined to Victoria and New South Wales, on the western slopes of the Great Dividing Range. Clusters of them are found in the Capertee Valley in the Upper Hunter Valley, with active conservation work being undertaken by volunteers planting thousands of trees to provide suitable habitat. In partnership with the Australian Government and BirdLife Australia a breeding programme was established in 1995 at Taronga Zoo in Sydney and hundreds of leg-banded captive-bred birds have since been released. Some of them have been recorded breeding with wild birds – a great success.

According to historic records, in the last thirty years there have been 10 Regent Honeyeater sightings in the Bega Valley. FSCB have also had a few unconfirmed sightings 'flying past window' and the best way to have confirmation is with a photo. Easier said than done! One memorable presence was an unbanded bird in the garden of David and (the other) Barbara Jones at Kalaru in 2009 where it stayed for five days and was well photographed by many members having their first view of a Regent Honeyeater. It's one we all dream of seeing!

Then one day - - - - - Pam Handyside writes:

It was 24 October 2024. A beautiful spring day. A beautiful garden in the gorgeous Nethercote Valley. I travelled to Barbara Jones' property to photograph the Scarlet Honeyeaters that had arrived in abundance, attracted to the Callistemons and other flowering plants in the garden.

As it turned out, the Scarlet Honeyeaters had to compete with the White-naped, New Holland, Brown-headed and Yellow-faced Honeyeaters, Eastern Spinebills, Little Wattlebirds and Silvereyes all in the same single Callistemon tree.

A bird photographer's delight. As I snapped away, a movement right in the middle of the shrub caught my eye and as I focussed and pressed the shutter, I said to Barbara 'It's a Regent Honeyeater!', and we lost the bird within the dense vegetation.

The photographs confirmed the identification. It was clearly colour-banded on the left leg and we were also able to confirm part of the number on the silver band.



Regent Honeyeater Image: Pam Handyside

I immediately reported the Regent Honeyeater sighting to the Woodland Birds and Conservation Action Plan at BirdLife Australia who very quickly responded with the following information:

'This bird was part of a cohort of captive-bred birds from Taronga Zoo, that was released in Tomalpin Woodlands near Cessnock in July of this year.'

Further photographs of the right leg were needed to identify the individual bird, which I did not have, so this bird cannot be uniquely identified. It was pure luck that I had focussed on the right part of the shrub at the right time and it was all over in a couple of minutes.

Mick Roderick, the Regent Honeyeater Recovery Advisor with BirdLife Australia, then advised me that even without knowing the specific identity of this particular bird, it had broken the NSW record for distance recorded from the initial release site. 'This Regent Honeyeater travelled 470km breaking the previous record by 120km. It was released at Kurri Kurri only three months ago.'

And the chances of it landing in Barbara's garden must be one in a zillion. Mick still can't believe it. Neither can I.

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2025 Calendar

We still have some FSCB 2025 calendars available at the usual price of \$10 (or \$14 including postage)

They will be available at walks and meetings until sold out.

You can also contact Hayden or another committee member and we will organise to get your calendars to you.



NEW MEMBERS We extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

John Lawson from Kalaru
Natalie Totterdell from Tathra

FSCB DIRECTORY 2024 All mail to PO Box 180 Pambula NSW 2549. Email: fscbirds@fscb.org.au
Subscriptions due 1 Jan annually: Family \$20. Single \$15

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2024 to be presented to the AGM Dec 12, 2024

Hayden Kingston

This year has finished much the same as last year and as I am writing this report the whole region is receiving some wonderful rain.

Our birdwatching activities have continued throughout the year with walks held across the region. Our appreciation goes to those who volunteered to organise and lead walks and the landowners who welcomed us onto their property. Members also assisted with the four seasonal bird surveys at Panboola.

We have not had as many rare and unusual bird sightings in our region this year, but the highlight was the sighting of a Regent Honeyeater at Nethercote in October. The report is in the December newsletter. Unfortunately it didn't stay around for others to get a look.

The evening meetings featured guest speakers with stimulating subjects such as Rohan Bilney talking about his White-bellied Sea-Eagle project and the recovery of birds in State Forests since the bushfires and Sam Nerrie's photos of winter birds and spectacular scenery in Norway and Norfolk.

Steve Sass spoke about the Australian Painted Snipe project and it is encouraging to see this project has had recent success with more birds found and being tracked. Olivia Williams presented photos from around Broome and the Pilbara after her trip to Western Australia and it was great to get Dave McCreery along to talk about the post-fire recovery of various species in the Nadgee Nature Reserve.

We are appreciative of Alan Scrymgeour and the variety of his presentations that fascinated us throughout the year. Likewise, our gratitude goes to those who presented photos for our enjoyment and to those who help with organising and running meetings.

Once again we supported the Bournda Bird Olympics organised by Doug Reckord and held at Potoroo. Copies of our publication "Looking at Birds on the Far South Coast" were provided as prizes giving the students a ready reference for birds they may observe. Also thanks to Barbara and Pam for attending and for Barbara taking on the tough job of co-judge.

Substantial donations have again been made to Panboola and BirdLife Australia.

The calendar continues to be popular with members and others and nearly all have been sold. Thank you to all the photographers who presented photos for consideration. Thank you to Robyn Kesby for looking after sales of our "Looking at Birds" book; sales continue to be strong and highlight the interest in birdwatching in our area.

My thanks to our committee members for their continuous support. 2025 is our 30th year and we look forward to another great year of birdwatching.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Far South Coast Birdwatchers Inc will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th December at the Uniting Church Hall, Henwood Street, Merimbula.

Nominations for the committee and vacant roles will be gratefully accepted until Thursday 5th December. Contact a committee member to learn more and get a nomination form if you are interested

The AGM will be followed by contributions from members and a festive supper.

Evening Meeting Thursday 10 October 2024 Jill Burrige

On a warm spring evening Hayden opened the meeting thanking Leo for his photos and welcoming our guest speaker Dave McCreery, the NPWS team leader for the Conservation area of Nadgee Nature Reserve and Nadgee Wilderness, and eighteen members. There were three apologies.

Sightings and Observations:

- Nankeen Night Heron at Berrambool
- Two Buff-banded Rail at Wallagoot
- Scarlet Honeyeater, the first of the season, at Tathra
- A rarely seen Grey Plover at Murrah
- Unusual sightings in Perisher Valley of Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo in winter and Masked Lapwing in spring
- Channel-billed Cuckoo and Powerful Owl at Brogo.

Dave McCreery aka Macca: Nadgee Nature Reserve - A significant Biodiversity Area and Recovery after Bush Fires

Macca has had a long association with Nadgee. He has loved this area since he walked through it after finishing university and remains passionate about its history, culture and protection.

He acknowledged that Nadgee is a significant cultural place in a bigger cultural landscape, important for local people and connected through story and song to the north, south and west. Middens and stone artefacts indicate a long history of occupation and habitation.

History

There has been very little disturbance from European occupation. There is history from 1860 of sheep grazing, wattle bark industry, alluvial gold 1890-1936 and cattle grazing in the 1930s. In 1957 Allan Fox was instrumental in advocating for Nadgee Reserve to be gazetted and subsequently in 1997, with an emphasis on the highest level of wilderness protection, a NPWS plan of management was developed to continue surveying and monitoring of Nadgee's unique biodiversity values.

Nadgee Nature Reserve is 20671 ha in the south-east corner of NSW between Wonboyn and the Victorian border and is managed by NPWS; the majority is declared wilderness and is managed for wilderness values. It has no external inputs and is therefore considered to be *A Pristine Environment*. There are 342 fauna species, of which 51 are threatened, and 831 flora species, of which 6 or more are threatened, living in diverse habitats from coastal and upland heath, sclerophyll forest, intermittently closed and open lakes (ICOLLS) to remote ground water catchments. It is a nil treatment area so no fox, dog or dingo control.

The coastal and upland heath has been listed as an *Asset of Intergenerational Significance* which seeks to protect geographical sites that are critical for a suite of threatened species which means both the species and their habitat is afforded protection.

Fire History

1920's - Reports of intense fires around Nadgee River

1972 - Country was totally burnt, similar to 2020 fires

1980 - Fire burnt significant parts of the reserve but not as severe as 1972

2020 - The Border Fire (2019 - 2020) came up from Mallacoota before finally running to the coast later in February 2020.

Fire suppression in a remote area like Nadgee is very difficult; however, fire has been regenerative for much of the heath communities.

Macca showed an interesting map of Fire Extent Severity (FESM) using spectral imaging of canopy where the least severe areas of fire are green then yellow, orange, red and black to most severe.



Fire scar 2020 Image: Tony Mitchell (DELWP)

The heath on the coast and uplands show black - full canopy consumption, sclerophyll patches are typically lighter - yellow orange.

Threatened Heathland Birds

Eastern Bristlebird, Eastern Ground Parrot and Striated Fieldwren are iconic, threatened, heathland birds living in Nadgee Nature Reserve. They all have distinctive calls, unique personalities and exist in isolated disjunct populations in four main areas of habitat - upland heath and three coastal heathlands that hug the coast.

Monitoring has been undertaken for around 20 years, led by NSW NPWS and now supported through the SoS (Save our Species) program. Due to the remoteness of Nadgee only a single survey at each heathland is supported each year which results in high variability.

Eastern Bristlebird

A small rufous brown and white bird, semi flightless and cryptic. More often heard than seen with a distinctive call which is used in the surveys.

The survey technique: Early morning transects (5) are walked while listening and watching for Bristlebirds. The survey results from 2001 to 2024 show a long recovery from previous fires (1972 and 1980), a large drop after the recent fires with some recovery evident in the five post fire surveys. It is expected that the Nadgee Eastern Bristlebirds will slowly recover over the next 20 years because there is low genetic diversity.



Eastern Bristlebird

Image: Charles Dove

Eastern Ground Parrot



Eastern Ground Parrot

Image: Chris Grounds

It is closely related to the Night Parrot with emerald green colouring and a small red spot between the eyes. Difficult to see, they live low to the ground in thick heath and shrubland and are rarely seen unless flushed by accident. Rarely heard as they are the last bird calling in the evening. They have a distinctive call which is used to advantage in the survey.

The survey technique: Late evening listening points that begin at sunset, standing in clouds of mosquitoes listening for the thin, slow-paced, high-pitched whistle of ground parrots. The survey results from 2004 to 2024: monitoring shows a fairly stable population up until the fires, post fire recovery is large and positive, mainly driven by just two of

four heathlands - hence the large variation. More mobile than the Bristlebird in its ability to avoid fire. One was found, post fire, on the beach dunes among the spinifex in 2020.

Striated Fieldwren

Wren-like with cocked tail, tawny olive colouring and distinctive black streaking. Has a melodious trilling call that it typically advertises from the tops of bushes. This species has had the least focus to date out of the three birds surveyed.

There is no official monitoring program for the Striated Fieldwren at the moment. Monitoring shows results from 2014, 2016-2020 and four post fire surveys. The rough data shows a stable population which has survived the fires and is persisting. More support for monitoring is required.

Associated bird research into connectivity and genetic diversity is ongoing throughout NSW.



Striated Fieldwren

Image: Lachlan Hall

“KEEP NADGEE WILD” is Macca’s message to the world.

Discussion about the feasibility of accessing Nadgee to walk and birdwatch ensued. Macca said the walk to Cape Howe takes three days and is a self-sustained, back pack walk with water being the limiting factor. Fresh water has been compromised by Samba Deer. He suggested that there are areas around Green Cape that are a good substitute for the inaccessibility of Nadgee.

Hayden thanked Macca for his interesting presentation and asked him to draw the raffle. David Merrick and Sal Phillips were the lucky winners of a Correa and Callistemon generously donated by Pambula Mitre 10.

A delicious supper was served - thank you to all helpers and contributors.

Message from the Treasurer

Membership subscriptions are due on 1 Jan 2025, a membership form has been sent with this newsletter.

Fees remain the same at \$15 for a single and \$20 for a family.

Payment can be made to BSB 062 649. Account number 2800 1376. Reference - your name please

Bird Olympics at Potoroo Palace

Thursday 24 October, 2024

Barbara Jones

Bournda Environmental Education Centre (Bournda EEC) once again held their annual Bird Olympics at Potoroo Palace, their seventh since the event was revived. Primary Schools from Bega Shire were invited to send a small group of students to spend the day circulating around set up activities covering all aspects of ‘birds’. Doug Reckord, Principal and his staff kept things rolling along, with their teachers accompanying students and supervising activities. There was also free time to explore the native birds and animals and befriend the free roaming ones.

After lunch Doug held a Bird Brains Quiz. This was not a trivia quiz! Individual scores were added to each school’s tally for the day, aiming to become the winning school to take home the perpetual trophy. Finally the Bird Calling contest began.

With Floss Adams from the ABC and her camera and microphone almost ‘in their face’ each child produced their well-practised call. Margaret Liston and I were the judges. Margaret was a participant from Merimbula Public School years ago when they were consistent winners and the contest was State-wide.



Image: Pam Handyside

The standard of calling gets better each year! Popular were the Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo, Laughing Kookaburra, Australian Raven and Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, which must have been a strain on their vocal chords, and the quieter Spotted Dove, Tawny Frogmouth, Wood Duck and others. Our scores were noted then secretly added to each school’s average and the winning school was announced: Tathra Public School again! Jimmy Parker was photographing for the press, capturing responses to the awards being presented and here is where Far South Coast Birdwatchers added our bit with one of our ‘Looking at Birds’ books for each student, and a certificate to FSCB for our support.

It was a pleasure to be among these well-behaved confident young children and observe their interactions with fellow students. Applause for other schools as they performed, comfort for one who was so disappointed not to win, pats on backs with ‘well done’ from fellow students. It was such a happy day and I’m sure they all learnt so much about birds and interacting with people they had never met.

Thanks to Doug Reckord and staff for putting such an effort into this event. Potoroo Palace presents the perfect venue.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Panboola Spring Survey

9 October 2024

Dot Green

A small group of seven participants gathered at Watsons Waterhole car park for the Panboola Spring Survey. The weather was cool, sunny and with no wind. The temperature was only 4 degrees when we started, but pleasantly increased throughout the morning.

Even before the group had left the car park, a flurry of bird activity resulted in a bird count of 20 species. Early on in our walk, we were all treated to an excellent view of a Golden-headed Cisticola. This bird caught Leo's attention through its call and then it generously exhibited itself at the top of a small bush, where it continued to sing and entertain us. The calls of Australian Reed-Warblers were numerous and melodious and were heard all around Tips Lagoon.

A Swamp Harrier was spotted in two locations during our walk. This bird was first seen on the ground, in a paddock next to the Pambula River. It noticed our group and slowly took flight. The second sighting of this bird occurred at the far end of the racecourse.

Another highlight was the viewing of a beautiful Black-shouldered Kite, which was seen 'hawking' in many locations, but did not seem to successfully find any prey.

In Tips Lagoon, Pam used her excellent observation skills to spot a Buff-banded Rail that was difficult to see on the far side of the lagoon. It was quietly feeding along the edge and trying very hard not to be spotted.

Two highlights of the walk were a Scarlet Honeyeater, which is a very stunning bird and always a pleasure to view, and some members were lucky to observe a White-fronted Chat feeding its young.

The main highlight was the recording of a new species for the Panboola site of a White-throated Gerygone. How exciting!!

Fifty-four species were observed and all participants had a very pleasant outing.



Scarlet Honeyeater Image: Hayden Kingston

Numbugga

Saturday 12 October 2024

Barbara Jones

A small group of ten members met Hayden on Wents Rd, Numbugga surrounded by open farmland with large scattered trees. This is where we usually see and hear several species before setting off for the day. Today was different. Why? The country is very dry, from lack of rain and many days of drying winds. Birds were scarce and remained so all day.

We set off in cars, planning a few stops at likely places such as dry creek beds, and old trees, and also walked along the road. The 'apartment' tree, usually full of birds in all the hollows, was quiet. Excitement! The White-throated Gerygone was calling and gave everyone a good chance to hear and recall its tinkling call. Close to the fence-line with shrubbery extending up from a creek a small patch of drying pasture with

sun shining on it was our focus for quite a while. A mixed group of Buff-rumped, Brown and Yellow-rumped Thornbills, mingled together, up and down from feeding to the fence and down again. Four White-winged Choughs wandered off up the hill.



Spotted Pardalote

Image: Rob Mansfield

Moving on we side-tracked, with permission, through private property to a lush area beside Numbugga Creek, an inviting place for morning tea. This creek was running nicely spilling over rocks with shady spots to sit near the bank and watch. A walk upstream turned up Rufous and Golden Whistler, Spotted and Striated Pardalotes, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrikes and a Crested Shrike-tit, all either seen or heard. The White-throated Geryones had been calling all morning.

Heading towards Bega we swung along Parrabel St to Angledale Rd and were greeted by hundreds of cows moving home for milking. As they went their accompanying Cattle Egrets took off in flight enabling them to be counted – 53.

Sharp eyes saw a White-bellied Sea-Eagle sitting on a fence post beside the lagoon.

Turning back from this circuit we ended up at the Bega Cheese Heritage Centre, with lunch on the grass below the centre, and enjoyed refreshments to add to lunch. Disappointment for some – they had sold out of Bega Heritage Cheese.

Checking out the bird list we found we had notched up 53 species for the day. Thank you Hayden for leading the trip and Leo for entering the sightings to Birdata.

Lake Curalo and Cocora Beach, Eden

Sunday 27 October 2024

Barbara Jones

Curalo Lake at Eden is often forgotten by our northern members but can offer excellent birding. It is a large tidal lake feeding into the sea at the north end of Aslings Beach. A walk of about 5 km around the lake affords a good variety of habitats but for the last year the water level has been too high and it has been closed to the sea with no tidal influence. Authorities open it mechanically according to it reaching certain levels, but this year they are waiting for a rain event to open it naturally and give it a good flush! We are all waiting for rain!

Our leader today was Pam Handyside who has lived in Eden for about three years and gave us interesting commentary as our group of only nine members progressed, firstly from the Scout Hall entry path and turning towards the sea on the wide boardwalk. High water meant no sandy/muddy flats for the expected collection of birds resting, and with the water now extending into the bush that's where we found coots, ducks and a Hoary-headed Grebe. No Buff-banded Rail there today as the usual saltmarsh area was under water. We walked only about 100 metres (noting the boardwalk has developed quite a lean) before turning back and heading north.

Firstly we inspected a long-standing Satin Bowerbird's bower. This part of the track crosses two feeder creeks where we paused to search the trees along the banks. By now we had recorded quite a variety of birds including a lone Noisy Friarbird on a dead tree with a Dusky Woodswallow, two Varied Sittellas, Rufous and Golden Whistler and Eastern Yellow Robin. A kayaker disturbed a Great and Little Egret from their rest and they took wing above us, and a Latham's Snipe rose up from the marshy section with a squawk as it flew. Black Swans were seen around the lake, 88 in all.

By now our species count was a surprising 53. Time for morning tea and we drove to Cocora Beach for refreshments and the decision to either walk part of the Bundian Way or the circuit around the hidden 'pond' behind the picnic area. The latter was chosen, with the thick undergrowth turning up Black-faced Monarch, Brown Gerygone and a Superb Lyrebird. While lunching a White-bellied Sea-Eagle circled overhead.

David was thanked for recording our total of 60 species for the day and Pam was thanked for leading her first walk for the group and her knowledge of Lake Curalo.

Tura Flora Reserve and Mundooi Walk

Saturday 9 November, 2024

Rob Mansfield

Another day of great spring weather saw a gathering of 16 participants in the Tura Flora Reserve. Established in 1992, the reserve boasts a rich assemblage of animals, birds and wildflowers, in a relatively small area, surrounded by suburban homes.

We were greeted by the 'doodle-do' of a Peaceful Dove, always present at this site but not a familiar bird to most of us. It persisted calling during our visit.

Sue Romane led the group through a number of walking tracks featuring large native trees as well as dense bush. Highlights included a Satin Bowerbird and an Eastern Yellow Robin pair guarding a nest with young! Jackie Miles, plant guru, caught up with us, answered many questions and gave us information about a plant growing right beside the road; a Merimbula Star-hair, *Astrotricha* sp. Wallagaraugh, an Endangered plant species found only in four places and locally common in Tura Beach. (A search engine gives more info).

Moving to the Tura Beach car park, the group took a morning break. On resuming, Leo took some of the group on the Mundooi walk to Back Lake, yielding waterbirds, a White-bellied Sea-Eagle and a good sighting of a Shining Bronze-Cuckoo. The remaining group scouted the golf course ponds, to include two Dusky Moorhen chicks sighted with parent.



Eastern Yellow Robin Image: Rob Mansfield

The two groups joined back at the car park for lunch. Another stellar bird count of 51 species for the day, and of course great company!

Bermagui

Sunday 24 November 2024

Leo Berzins

A mild morning saw 19 members gather on the south side of the recently repaired Wallaga Lake bridge. The large sand islands nearby held a good variety of birds for us to identify, including four species of cormorant (Pied, Little Pied, Great and Little Black), an Eastern Curlew, three Bar-tailed Godwits and a White-bellied Sea-Eagle enjoying a late breakfast.

Moving on to the parking area opposite the lake entrance, we commenced our walk to Morunna Point. The sound of cicadas, while not quite deafening, was loud enough to make picking up bird calls difficult for most



Pacific Gulls

Image: Liz Allen

of us. Not so for Barbara, who detected a Black-faced Monarch amidst the cacophony. On reaching the point, we scanned the exposed sand flats and saw three tern species (Little, Crested and Caspian), another Eastern Curlew and more cormorants. Our return journey yielded Yellow and Brown Thornbills, Superb Fairy-wrens and an Eastern Yellow Robin.

Following morning tea, we moved to the Camel Rock area where a short walk through the bush was again dominated by the sound of cicadas. Best sighting here was a pair of Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos flying past.

Next stop was the southern end of Long Swamp where we managed distant views of a Musk Duck. While some of us wandered up the track and found not much more than a few Silvereyes, a patient Jen stayed at the first bird hide and was rewarded with the sighting of a Pied Stilt.

A few extra sightings on the drive back to Bermagui for lunch brought the day's total to 53 species recorded.

Far South Coast Birdwatchers uses the nomenclature of birds as used by BirdLife Australia
They have released their **Working List of Australian Birds v4**
<https://birdlife.org.au/conservation/science/taxonomy>

FSCB GOOGLE GROUP and FACEBOOK

Go to the welcome page at <http://groups.google.com/group/fscb?hl=en> and follow the instructions. If you have trouble contact David on dpadams@gmail.com or Barbara. In the set-up process you will be asked to give your email address and a password which will be yours just for the chat line (not your personal email password).

You won't be inundated with email. Maybe one or two a day, then nothing for a week/weeks, but the more people use the service the more useful it will become. Try it and see.

Have you seen our FACEBOOK page? Please like the page and share the link with your friends! Or you can view without signing up, by going to <https://www.facebook.com/Farsouthcoastbirdwatchers>.

Editor's note

I hope you have enjoyed this latest edition of the newsletter. I look forward to receiving more terrific local stories and photos for future editions so don't forget if you have any story suggestions, or better still if you can write the story, send them in.

Similarly, if you see something of interest, take a photo and submit it with some details for inclusion. Remember your smartphone can take a great photo suitable for the newsletter.

Contributions for the next newsletter need to be in by the 29th January 2025, send trip reports and articles to Sue on seromane@hotmail.com and send photos to me on president@fscb.org.au and please send sightings to Barbara on jonesbarbara@bigpond.com

A SELECTION of SIGHTINGS from October 2024/November 2024

Please report your sightings, especially threatened species

Threatened Species

This group are listed under the EPBC Act (Commonwealth) and the NSW Biodiversity Act

Date	Species	Count	Location	Observer	Notes
9/11/24	Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	2	Tura, Mundooi Walk	FSCB outing	
10/11/24	Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	1	Merimbula Boardwalk	D & P Green	west end
13/11/24	Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	1	Mogareeka	L Collins	WM tag
24/11/24	Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	2	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	
24/11/24	Aust. Pied Oystercatcher	2	Wallaga Lake causeway	FSCB outing	
17/10/24	Beach Stone-curlew	1	Mogareeka	D & H Merrick	also 8/11/24
27/10/24	Dusky Woodswallow	2	Eden, Lake Curalo	FSCB outing	
2/11/24	Eastern Osprey	3	Merimbula, Berrambool	M Sutcliffe	watch nest daily
19/10/24	Far Eastern Curlew	7	Eden, Curalo Lake	L Berzins	
20/10/24	Far Eastern Curlew	10	Eden, Curalo Lake	P Handyside	
15/11/24	Far Eastern Curlew	1	Merimbula, Top Lake	S Romane	
24/11/24	Far Eastern Curlew	1	Wallaga Morunna Pt	FSCB outing	
1/10/24	Gang-gang Cockatoo	2	Mogilla	J Plumb	
26/10/24	Gang-gang Cockatoo	3	Wonboyn, Jewfish Bch	P and D Green	2 adults 1 young
22/11/24	Glossy Black-Cockatoo	4+	Mandeni, Nth Tura	C Peters	
13/11/24	Hooded Plover	2	Wonboyn, Greenglade	D & P Green	
27/11/24	Hooded Plover	4	Wallagoot Beach, sth	Wallis/Mihara	together
27/10/24	Latham's Snipe	1	Eden, Lake Curalo	FSCB outing	
20/11/24	Latham's Snipe	2	Panboola	W Lehwald	
24/10/24	Little Eagle	1	Sth Pambula	J Reed	low over house
30/10/24	Little Eagle	1	Tura Beach	D Green	
16/11/24	Little Eagle	1	Candelo, Niagara Lane	S Romane	circling nr bridge
20/10/24	Little Tern	6	Mogareeka, in flight high	L Berzins	first returns
24/11/24	Little Tern	2	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	
28/11/24	Magpie Goose	2	Panboola (Tips)	M Sutcliffe	
20/10/24	Powerful Owl	1	Bega, Reedy Swamp	A Robinson	in forested gully
24/10/24	Regent Honeyeater	1	Nethercote	Handyside/Jones	photo, see article
9/11/24	Sanderling	2	Wallagoot Beach	L Berzins	on surf line
22/11/24	Sanderling	2	Wallagoot Beach	Wallis/Mihara	
29/10/24	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1	Merimbula Lake	S Romane	
10/10/24	Square-tailed Kite	1	Wyndham	B Harris	Kingfisher Rd
25/10/24	Square-tailed Kite	1	Brogo, Hawkshead Rd	J Miles	overflow
27/10/24	Varied Sittella	2	Eden, Lake Curalo	FSCB outing	
9/10/24	White-fronted Chat	5	Panboola	FSCB survey	feeding young
15/10/24	White-fronted Chat	10	Panboola Racecourse	S Romane	
12/10/24	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	2	Wallagoot	Wallis/Mihara	on nest
26/11/24	White-throated Needletail	6	Sth Pambula	Kingston/Reed	
27/11/24	White-throated Needletail	4	Sth Pambula	Kingston/Reed	

Other Species

Date	Species	Count	Location	Observer	Notes
12/10/24	Australasian Pipit	1	Numbugga Creek	FSCB outing	
13/10/24	Australasian Pipit	1	Panboola Racecourse	S Romane	
23/10/24	Australian Figbird	1m	Tathra	S Romane	with nest material
26/10/24	Australian Figbird	6	Tathra, Bega St	O Williams	3 pairs
9/10/24	Aust. Owllet-Nightjar	1	Tathra, Pacific St	J Plumb	feeding at street light
9/10/24	Aust. Reed-Warbler	7	Panboola	FSCB survey	
12/10/24	Australian White Ibis	40	Bega Cheese Factory	FSCB outing	
10/11/24	Azure Kingfisher	1	Merimbula B'walk, west	D & P Green	
22/10/24	Black-faced Monarch	2	Lochiel, Pambula River	S Romane	first for season here
27/10/24	Black-faced Monarch	1	Eden, Cocora Beach	FSCB outing	
1/11/24	Black-faced Monarch	1	Nethercote	B Jones	
2/11/24	Black-faced Monarch	1	Merimbula, Berrambool	M Sutcliffe	photos

2/11/24	Black-faced Monarch	1	Merimbula, Berrambool	M Sutcliffe	with nest material
24/11/24	Black-faced Monarch	1	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	
1/10/24	Black-faced Monarch	2	Mogilla	J Plumb	
9/10/24	Black-shouldered Kite	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
18/10/24	Brown Cuckoo-Dove	2	Towamba	S Skelton	1st time at this site
23/10/24	Brown Cuckoo-Dove	1	Nethercote	B Jones	at door
27/10/24	Brown Gerygone	2	Eden, Cocora Beach	FSCB outing	
24/11/24	Brown Goshawk	1	Bermagui, Long Swamp	FSCB outing	
17/10/24	Brown Quail	1	Panboola Racecourse	S Romane	Calling, also 21/10
13/11/24	Brown Quail	1	Nethercote	B Jones	regular
16/10/24	Brown-h'ded Honeyeater	6	Sth Pambula	Kingston/Reed	In birdbath
24/10/24	Brown-h'ded Honeyeater	6	Nethercote	B Jones	in Regent HE tree
22/10/24	Brush Cuckoo	1	Nethercote	B Jones	first for season here
9/10/24	Buff-banded Rail	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
27/10/24	Buff-banded Rail	1	Eden, Lake Curalo	FSCB outing	
12/10/24	Buff-rumped Thornbill	2	Numbugga, Wents Rd	FSCB outing	
15/11/24	Caspian Tern	1	Merimbula Top Lake	S Romane	
24/11/24	Caspian Tern	4	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	
12/10/24	Cattle Egret	53	Bega, Parrabel Rd	FSCB outing	
9/11/24	Cattle Egret	10	Pambula Flats	B Jones	
1/10/24	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Mirador	P Roberts	heard, heading sth
4/10/24	Channel-billed Cuckoo	2	Millingandi	S Romane	chased by 2 ravens
6/10/24	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Tura	A Knight	
6/10/24	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Nethercote	B Jones	2:00 AM
7/10/24	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Millingandi	S Romane	chased by 2 ravens
10/11/24	Channel-billed Cuckoo	1	Tura	G Merrick	
25/11/24	Channel-billed Cuckoo	4	Wolumla Peak Rd	S Romane	flock, calling
4/10/24	Collared Sparrowhawk	1	Nethercote, in gums	B Jones	same as last yr
16/10/24	Collared Sparrowhawk	2	Nethercote, last yrs nest	C Peters	noisy
8/11/24	Collared Sparrowhawk	1	Sapphire Coast Drive	S Romane	call 8:35 am
23/10/24	Common Cicadabird	1	Nethercote	B Jones	first for season here
3/11/24	Common Cicadabird	1	Sth Pambula	S Romane	calling
20/11/24	Common Cicadabird	1	Nethercote	B Jones	most days
10/10/24	Crested Shrike-tit	1	Nethercote	B Jones	most days
12/10/24	Crested Shrike-tit	1	Numbugga Creek	FSCB outing	
16/10/24	Dollarbird	1	Wolumla Creek,	S Romane	1st for season
2/11/24	Dollarbird	1	Coolagolite	M Bohn	video
9/10/24	Dusky Moorhen	8	Panboola	FSCB survey	
9/11/24	Dusky Moorhen	1+2y	Tura Country Club	FSCB outing	
9/10/24	Eastern Great Egret	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
23/10/24	Eastern Great Egret	1	Tura Headland garden	J Gotley	photo, few times
27/10/24	Eastern Great Egret	1	Eden, Lake Curalo	P Handyside	
24/11/24	Eastern Great Egret	1	Wallaga Lake causeway	FSCB outing	
9/10/24	Eastern Koel	1	widespread on coastal strip		More than previously
9/10/24	Eurasian Coot	22	Panboola	FSCB survey	
12/10/24	Eurasian Coot	20	Bega, Parrabel Rd	FSCB outing	
9/10/24	European Goldfinch	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
9/10/24	Golden-headed Cisticola	2	Panboola	FSCB survey	
24/11/24	Great Cormorant	80	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	
24/11/24	Great Pied Cormorant	2	Wallaga Lake causeway	FSCB outing	
24/11/24	Great Pied Cormorant	6	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	
24/11/24	Great Pied Cormorant	2	Bermagui, Long Swamp	FSCB outing	
9/11/24	Great Pied Cormorant	1	Tura, Mundooi Walk	FSCB outing	
9/11/24	Grey Goshawk	1	Tura Flora Reserve	FSCB outing	
27/10/24	Hoary-headed Grebe	2	Eden, Lake Curalo	FSCB outing	
1/10/24	Laughing Kookaburra	2	Mogilla	J Plumb	in nest box
2/10/24	Leaden Flycatcher	1	Nethercote	B Jones, daily	
24/11/24	Little Black Cormorant	30	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	
12/10/24	Little Corella	30	Bega Cheese Factory	FSCB outing	
27/10/24	Little Egret	1	Eden, Lake Curalo	FSCB outing	
24/11/24	Little Egret	1	Wallaga, Morunna Point	FSCB outing	

9/10/24	Little Grassbird	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
12/10/24	Little Raven	4	Numbugga Creek	FSCB outing	
27/10/24	Little Raven	4	Eden, Cocora Beach	FSCB outing	
9/10/24	Masked Lapwing	6	Panboola	FSCB survey	
9/10/24	Nankeen Night-Heron	1	Berrambool	L Johnson	
27/10/24	Nankeen Night-Heron	1	Wallagoot 'Watery Fowls'	Wallis/Mihara	
27/10/24	Nankeen Night-Heron	1	Eden, Lake Curalo	P Handyside	
27/10/24	Noisy Friarbird	1	Eden, Lake Curalo	FSCB outing	
13/10/24	Pacific Gull	2 ad	Merimbula Beach	L Allen	
30/10/24	Pacific Gull	1 imm	Green Cape rocks	S Romane	
5/10/24	Pallid Cuckoo	2	Tanja	J Oakeshott	
9/11/24	Peaceful Dove	1	Tura Flora Reserve	FSCB outing	
12/10/24	Peregrine Falcon	1	Bega Cheese Factory	FSCB outing	
24/11/24	Pied Stilt	1	Bermagui, Long Swamp	FSCB outing	
29/11/24	Pied Stilt	35	Bega, opp Glebe Park	H Kingston	mud flat before rain
14/11/24	Red Knot	4	Merimbula, Spencer Pk	L Collins	confirmed by Leo
26/10/24	Red-browed Finch	60	Pambula, Oaklands Rd	A Seddon	in garden daily
2/11/24	Red-browed Finch	ad + Y	Merimbula, Berrambool	M Sutcliffe	photos
20/10/24	Red-capped Plover	8	Curalo Lake mouth	P Handyside	
13/11/24	Red-necked Stint	6	Mogareeka	L Collins	
1/10/24	Rose Robin	1	Mogilla	J Plumb	
5/10/24	Rose Robin	1	Nethercote	B Jones	Most days
7/11/24	Ruddy Turnstone	1	Mogareeka	L Berzins	
10/11/24	Rufous Fantail	1	Merimbula Boardwalk	D & P Green	west end
27/11/24	Rufous Fantail	1	Nethercote	B Jones	at water nr window
9/10/24	Rufous Whistler	4	Panboola		widespread in district
1/10/24	Sacred Kingfisher	1	Mogilla	J Plumb	
14/10/24	Sacred Kingfisher	1	Bega River picnic area	B Jones	
21/10/24	Sacred Kingfisher	1	Nethercote	B Jones	first for season here
15/11/24	Sacred Kingfisher	pair	Tathra STW	S Romane	
9/10/24	Scarlet Honeyeater	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
14/10/24	Scarlet Honeyeater	20+	Nethercote	B Jones	on callistemons
6/11/24	Scarlet Honeyeater	1	'Watery Fowls'	Wallis/Mihara	flowering grass tree
2/11/24	Shearwater spp	0000's	Merimbula Bay	G Holden	on water around bay
12/11/24	Shearwater spp		coastal beaches	N Mayeux	lots dead
24/11/24	Small grebe spp	2	Bermagui, Long Swamp	FSCB outing	
8/10/24	Southern Boobook	1	Berrambool	M Sutcliffe	
18/11/24	Southern Boobook	1	Sth Pambula	Kingston/Reed	calling late evening
27/11/24	Southern Boobook	1	Nethercote	B Jones	calling regularly
1/10/24	Southern Boobook	1	Mogilla	J Plumb	
9/10/24	Swamp Harrier	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
12/11/24	Tawny Frogmouth	1	Wallagoot	Wallis/Mihara	
13/11/24	Tawny Frogmouth	1	Tura Beach	Sa Romane	calling intermittently
22/11/24	Tawny Frogmouth	1	Nethercote Rd, 'Amberill'	F Peters	photo, newly fledged
5/11/24	Wedge-tailed Shearwater	1	Terrace Beach	L Berzins	sitting on water
15/11/24	Whimbrel	1	Merimbula Top Lake	S Romane	
9/10/24	White-necked Heron	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	
7/11/24	White-necked Heron	1	Wallagoot	Wallis/Mihara	seen couple of times
28/11/24	White-necked Heron	1	Panboola	M Sutcliffe	photos
9/10/24	White-throated Gerygone	1	Panboola	FSCB survey	new bird for here
12/10/24	White-throated Gerygone	2	Numbugga, Wents Rd	FSCB outing	
15/11/24	White-throated Gerygone	1	Kalaru Racecourse	S Romane	
13/11/24	White-throated Nightjar	1	Sth Pambula	Kingston/Reed	calling, usual spot

Please email sightings to Barbara Jones jonesbarbara@bigpond.com

COMING EVENTS

Thursday 12 December, 2024 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND MEMBERS PRESENTATIONS**

Following the AGM is the time to socialise. Enjoy a screen presentation from your fellow members. Members are asked to bring a small plate of festive food for the supper table.

Saturday 14 December, 2024 **TRADITIONAL LAST DAY AT BROGO DAM**

Meet Barbara (0487 840 740) at 9:15 am at the Brogo Fire Shed, about 1 km along Warrigal Range Rd. (About 20 km north of Bega turn left on to Warrigal Range Rd, the Brogo Dam Road.) Car pool at Fire Shed if desired, otherwise we'll go to the top car park on the left beyond the manager's cottage at the Dam. Bring all you need for a good day of birds and friendship.

Wednesday 15 January, 2025 **PANBOOLA SURVEY**

Meet Robyn (0414 864 873) at 7:00 am at the Panboola Centre, Watsons Waterhole, next to the Idlewilde Motel, Bullara St, Pambula for the summer survey. Early start to avoid possible heat. Sturdy shoes, hat, snack and insect repellent advised. Usually takes 3 hours.

Monday 20 January, 2025 **COMMITTEE MEETING (3rd Monday Jan, March, May, July, Sept, Nov.)**

Meet at 9:15 for 9:30 start in the Panboola Office, Watsons Waterhole, Bullara St, Pambula, next to the Idlewilde Motel. It's now air-conditioned. Thank you Panboola for having us for our committee meetings.

Sunday 26 January, 2025 **START UP GET TOGETHER**

A late afternoon start to 2025. Come to the Panboola Centre area, beside the Waterhole, under the trees, between 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm with your picnic tea and a chair (although there are tables and seats there). A walk is optional; however, this is a good chance to meet and chat with fellow members. Please try to come. (Cricket and tennis viewers can leave in time for final games on TV.)

Saturday 8 February, 2025 **GOODENIA RAINFOREST**

Meet at 8:45 am in the parking area behind the Tea Tree Roadhouse, Mt Darragh Rd, Sth Pambula so we can car pool **OR** proceed independently to Goodenia Rainforest car park to meet John (0448 219 991) by 9:30 am. Goodenia is on Chalkhills Rd, Lochiel. Take Mt Darragh Rd and drive 10 km from Sth Pambula/Princes Hwy corner. Turn right here and travel carefully, can be rough, for about 8 km. Take time to look for Spotted Quail-thrush along the roadside. There are two options for the walk, staying high and dry on the top road or walking a steep and often slippery track through the rainforest, but worth it. Bring a snack and lunch. Sometimes the Chalkhills sign is missing so if you reach Wyndham turn around!!!!!!!

Thursday 13 February, 2025 **EVENING MEETING**

Meet in the Uniting Church Hall, Henwood St, Merimbula for a 7:30 pm start with program and speakers to be finalised by new committee. Keep your eye on the website coming events at fscb.org.au

*Held on the second Saturday and fourth Sunday of each month and odd weekdays.
Evening Meetings on the second Thursday of February, April, June, August, October and December.
Information about outings or help with transport contact anyone on committee (see FSCB Directory)*

Season's Greetings to all