



# birds

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## SPOTLESS CRAKE

The status and distribution of the Spotless Crake (Porzana tabuensis) is given by McGill (1958. A Handlist of the Birds of New South Wales) as being "Rather rare. Not often observed and mainly confined to coastal marshland, although there are a few inland occurrences."

Therefore it is of interest to record that a live bird was caught by a group of Scouters in a paddock adjoining Little Wheeney Creek, North Richmond on 24th April, 1971. This bird was kept in a suburban house at Lalor Park and it subsequently died before I took possession of it. On examination the bird was found to be an immature female, differing from most Museum specimens in that it had very pale grey feathers under the chin. Whether or not this is a feature of immature birds it is not known.

With the permission of the Curator of Birds at the Australian Museum, I examined the Reference Collection which consists of 20 Spotless Crakes, the latest collected in 1917. In other words 54 years since a specimen has been received! Of the 20, a male and female were collected in King Georges Sound, W. A. in 1866; one from Norman River in the Queensland Gulf Country; six had no "locality" on the labels; one was taken at Burringbah, Tweed River in July, 1908; and the remainder were collected by Mr. H. E. S. Jeboult at the then swamps of Randwick and Botany between 1906 and 1917, including one downy chick. Apart from two collected at King Georges Sound, none of the other birds had been sexed, so their reference value is very limited.

Recent published observations of Spotless Crakes in New South Wales include a single bird observed at Lake George, February, 1960 (Lamm, "The Emu" 64:114-127); Four on a lagoon Uralla, June, 1970 (Cooper, "Birds" 5:19); and a single bird at Yeramba Lagoon on 25th October, 1970 (Dibley, "Birds" 5:46).

Conservation Officer.

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### BUSH CURLEWS - ATTACHMENT TO A LOCALITY

The Bush Curlew or Stone Plover (Burhinus magnirostris) was once well dispersed throughout the Sydney District, especially in the open forests and grasslands of the "Shale" country west of the city. It also frequented, and maybe still does, the more open parts of sandstone forests near clearings. Other habitats are samphire flats bordered by she-oaks on the land side and mangroves on the nearby tidal flats and channels.

Nowadays it is not often seen within 30 miles or so of Sydney. Many of its former haunts have become populous suburbs or have been much altered by settlement and cultivation. Another cause of the decrease in numbers is thought to be the depredations of the introduced fox. However, in some parts of Australia this interesting bird is still plentiful. On the Rockhampton Common, in central coastal Queensland, for instance, Laurie Amiet observed, in May 1955, a party of 45 Bush Curlews resting in the shade of a few trees on the edge of a swamp.

Since the early 1950's several observers have seen Bush Curlews at Careel Bay, on the Pittwater Peninsula, about 20 miles north of Sydney. It was in this locality that Ernest Hoskin and I, acting on "information received," saw two of these birds in a grove of she-oaks and, later, on an adjoining samphire flat on the southern side of the Bay in September 1952. Subsequent visits up to 1967 showed that the Curlews were still present. On one occasion, in October 1954, we watched them for some time until the smaller of the pair and presumably the female, eventually sat on an egg laid on bare ground amongst the samphire. A week or so later exceptionally high tides washed the egg from its site and it was abandoned.

When passing Careel Bay recently, in February 1971, I decided to call in on the Curlews hoping they might still be at home. Close to the same spot where they were first seen 19 years previously I flushed one bird which flew into an open growth of shrubby mangroves it being low tide. The black primaries and the white "window" in the wing are conspicuous when the birds are in flight, a flight that is often "jerky" or erratic because of uneven wing-beats.

How long will the Bush Curlews remain at Careel Bay? What was, until recent years, an interesting bird spot largely untouched by man is now being rapidly altered - the planners would use the word "developed." Playing fields cover one section of the mangroves the local rubbish-tip is covering another large portion and I understand that shortly a sewerage disposal plant will occupy a considerable part of what remains. Already wide swathes of felled mangroves and scooped out channels intersect the area and tracks and an access road cut across the flats. The sight is depressing and the smell offensive. Pity the Bush Curlews which may soon be driven from their old haunts.

Late K. A. Hindwood,  
Lindfield. N. S. W.

### YOUNG BIRDS THAT "DEMONSTRATE"

Bob Miller's report of Turquoise Parrots nesting near outback Nymagee (BIRDS, July '71) is a reminder that this pretty species, though not common, extends over a somewhat wide area. Personally, I have seen it in recent years breeding in the Pilliga Scrub (sub-interior) and also a few miles west of Sydney. Sites ranged from 25 feet aloft to a tree-hollow only 5 feet from the ground.

I have not, however, had experience of well-grown young in a nest and am impressed by the statement that in the Nymagee case the chicks were so vocal that they "could be heard clearly from 200 yds. away" - a remarkable contrast to the usual modest calls of the adult birds.

My chief recollection in this matter relates to a batch of half-grown Pale-headed Parrots met at their birthplace in a hollow post in south-west Queensland. The vocal power of those youngsters astonished me. Moreover, a local resident who was introduced to the little group received a hearty shock - he almost toppled backward when

on peering into the hollow (as I tapped on the post) he was greeted with a sudden uproar.

Why is it, I wonder, that parrots - or at least some parrots - are so strongly vocal when young? Has this assertiveness some relevance to their practice of breeding in hollows?

That may be so. But, of course, declamation in young birds is not restricted to parrots. I recall that in country Victoria a few years ago I found two of the fibrous, domed nests of the small Brown Weebill, situated some 10 feet up in saplings, simply through hearing in each instance loud announcements by the half-grown chicks.

In addition to being amazed by the vocal strength of those tiny birds, I was surprised by their lack of discretion in betraying the nest-sites. There was no sound reason to do so because neither a parent bird nor an intruder was close by to excite them.

Most young land-birds "demonstrate" only when disturbed and not always then. The nestling Lyrebird, for example, maintains a cautious silence until an intrusion occurs (upon which it emits a piercing protest); and, to cite a smaller terrestrial species, the young of the Speckled Warbler are normally quite tranquil, only producing their curious "hiss" when alarmed.

Juveniles of another distinctive species that exercises vocal restraint - in contrast with their strong vocalism when adult - are those of the Crested Bellbird. In my experience, these youngsters never utter a sound when the cup-shaped nest is visited, but in some cases they close their eyes, stretch their necks and oscillate their heads in a manner suggesting the actions of processional caterpillars.

Obviously, behaviour of young birds in nests offers much scope for fruitful observation.

Alec Chisholm.

### WHITE-QUILLED PYGMY GEESE

On 1st August, 1971, an unseasonably hot, showery day, we called in at Rocky Dam watering reserve 96km NNW of Inverell.

The small scooped earth dam situated in savannah woodland, is an isolated body of water 13km from the Macintyre River.

A party of Maned Geese (Chenonetta jubata) was resting on the bank; three Pee-wees (Grallina cyanoleuca) trampled in circles to squeeze up small creatures of the mud; and, surprisingly, a white quilled Pygmy Goose (Nettapus coromandelianus) swam near the bank while a pair fed in the reeds and weeds on the far side of the dam.

Observations were made at a distance of 45m with 8 x 30 lens before moving gradually closer to the bank where the lone Pygmy Goose swam only a few metres away.

This bird in the brown plumage of a female, was feeding in the reeds by flattening its head and neck upon the water and moving rapidly sifting the water as it sped by, then, with a peculiar upward flick of the head, the catch was swallowed.

After a few minutes food gathering the goose paddled lazily along, jumping occasionally at an insect or including in a dive which ended some distance away.

The recorded range of the White-quilled Pygmy Goose appears to be along the Queensland coast extending to the Clarence River in N. S. W. so this observation for the North-west slopes may be rare although the geese could be more widespread than at present thought.

The White-quilled Pygmy Goose bears a superficial resemblance to the Little Grebe (Podiceps novae-hollandiae) and could be overlooked in a large flock of small waterfowl. Apart from slightly larger size, this Pygmy Goose has more white on the face and throat and the stubby goose bill contrasts with the sharp one of the Little Grebe. Again, the constant diving of the grebe is opposed to the surface riffling of the goose.

The presence of the Pygmy goose on this small dam suggests that more will be found along the rivers of this district.

Merle Baldwin,  
Gilgai, via Inverell, N. S. W.

SOME VERY STRANGE "RECORDS"

How remarkable are the "revelations" made, on various occasions, when newspaper neophytes discuss wildlife! Naturalists are apt to be advised of occurrences undreamed of in their philosophy.

For example, a contributor to Sydney's "Sunday Telegraph" of 13th June, when writing about the Royal National Park, assured us that "herds of deer roam the area." Then, warming to his subject, he proclaimed that "flights of tufted parakeets, macaws, and kookaburras cloud the angophora gums."

Obviously, all naturalists who have roamed the National Park over the years must now hang heads in shame; for not one of our band has reported even the existence of "tufted parakeets;" not one has located flocks of South American macaws; and even in the case of genuine (home-grown) birds such as kookaburras, devil a one of us has been observant enough to see "clouds" of them festooning the angophora "gums."

Not less dashing were the "discoveries" made in the new Angourie National Park - this time by a female writer - and announced in the "Sydney Morning Herald" on 21st June. Having confided that in this coastal area she sighted many examples of Sturt's desert pea and the rock-loving flannel-flower, all blooming in "the mixed confines of swamp and heathland," this blithe adventurer went on to reveal some startling bird observations.

Her recordings included the odd spectacle of brolgas "flapping in the dust" beside a road; the highly novel sight of "armies of quail marching through the paperbark trees;" and, passing from "armies" to a mere individual, the unique experience of having "a nightingale tap on my window at 7 a. m."

Now, being enlightened, we careless naturalists must try to make amends for our missed opportunities. First, we must re-visit the Royal National Park to seek, in particular, those "tufted parakeets" (which appear to be a new species), and also to try to locate the "flights" of macaws that have, somehow, drifted over from South America.

Those matters adjusted, we must visit Angourie in order, especially, to try to behold brolgas rolling in roadside dust and to attempt to see armies of quail drilling among the tea trees.

But we must not be unduly optimistic. It seems quite improbable that (even with the aid of daylight saving) any of us will be lucky enough to have an English nightingale tap on any one of our windows at, precisely, 7 a. m.

Alec Chisholm.

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#### AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM KEITH HINDWOOD MEMORIAL FUND

Early this year naturalist Keith Hindwood died while on a bush walk in Royal National Park in New South Wales.

All of us had hoped that, with his retirement from business life, he could devote many years to recording the vast amount of knowledge he had accumulated in a lifetime of study by sea, shore, swamp and bush - particularly in New South Wales.

For Keith Hindwood was essentially a "one State" man. He felt it was better to know one area intimately than to spread his energies too far afield. In this he resembled the great naturalist, Gilbert White of Selbourne who restricted his studies to those areas he could reach either by walking or on horseback. Keith, born in Willoughby in 1904, learned the Sydney area by walking over much of it. Later he began to explore further by car and there were few places in New South Wales he did not know. Although his over-riding interest was ornithology, he spread his net wider in order to have a fuller understanding of the birds he loved.

In 1930 he was made Honorary Ornithologist of the Australian Museum and in 1944-46 became President of the R. A. O. U. In 1959 he was awarded the Australian Natural History Medallion - the highest honour which can be bestowed in this field.

Keith was a mine of information on birds and he generously shared this knowledge with all who asked for it. Each year he replied to hundreds of enquiries from all over Australia. In an active life he wrote numerous scientific papers and a number of books, The best known are "The Birds of Sydney" with A. R. McGill. "The

Waders of Sydney" with E. S. Hoskin. "Birds in Colour" and "A Portfolio of Australian Birds" with William Cooper.

So he had his place both in the world of science and the world of the layman. Keith, again following the Gilbert White tradition, was one of the great amateurs who have enriched the history of science.

Because of all these things and because we loved him and the work he was doing, many naturalists want his memory to remain green, his work to continue through the establishment of a Memorial Fund.

The actual shape the memorial will take will depend on the amount of money donated. The organising committee leans towards a Bird Studies Centre. This, if it develops along the lines of similar institutes abroad, would be a haven for the amateur student, a place where he could have access to a scientific library, record material, and which would be a nerve centre to concentrate and stimulate work by amateurs.

Should enough money be raised we would hope to be able to buy headquarters and pay for modest staffing, with options for future growth. At the very least we hope we would be able to start such a centre staffed on a voluntary basis.

Another suggestion is for a nature trail in Royal National Park, the bush he knew so well and in which he died.

A dream of Keith's was to have a local wetland sanctuary owned by ornithologists which could be developed along the lines of Peter Scott's sanctuary at Slimbridge; this is a third suggestion.

We welcome other memorial suggestions from donors to the appeal and all will be carefully considered.

The final decision will embody the principle of providing assistance to amateurs and not to use the money for the kind of project which can and should be carried out by Governments or Institutions.

The Trustees of the Australian Museum have generously consented to set up this Memorial Fund.



Please make cheques payable to the "Australian Museum Keith Hindwood Memorial Fund." Donations will be receipted.

We would be grateful if you could mention this appeal to your friends or organisations with which you are associated. Any suggestions of people or firms to contact will be welcomed by the organising committee.

Every donation is not only a memorial to a great man but will ensure that the ideals for which he stood will be carried on to assist naturalists in future years.

"The Australian Museum Keith Hindwood Memorial Fund" Committee comprises -

- Dr. F. H. Talbot (Chairman)
- Mr. V. Serventy (Secretary and Convenor)
- Mr. G. E. Dibley
- Mr. J. H. de S. Disney
- Mr. S. G. Lane
- Mr. A. R. McGill
- Dr. D. L. Serventy

### NOTICES

- Office Bearers for the current year, elected at the Annual General Meeting, are -
- |                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Patron               | - | A. H. Chisholm, O. B. E., F. R. Z. S.                                |
| President            | - | Mr. G. Dibley  |
| Vice-President       | - | Dr. R. Mason   |
| Editor               | - | Mr. L. Courtney-Haines,<br>10 Loquat Valley Rd., Bayview. 2104.      |
| Secretary-Treasurer  | - | Mrs. L. Smith, 84 Arabella St.,<br>Longueville. 2066. Phone: 42.2418 |
| Activities Officer   | - | Mrs. N. Dibley, 18 Russell St.,<br>Oatley. 2223. Phone: 570.1298     |
| Records Officer      | - | Mr. A. Rogers  |
| Conservation Officer | - | Mr. H. Battam  |
| Asst. Conservation   | - | Mr. A. Morris  |
| Asst. Records        | - | Mr. T. Kenney  |
| Asst. Editor         | - | Miss B. Chegwiddden  |
| Asst. Secretary      | - | Mr. R. Cooke   |

XV1 International Ornithological Congress

The International Ornithological Committee agreed at the end of the XV International Ornithological Congress in the Hague, Netherlands, that the next Congress would be held in Australia in 1974. Professor J. Dorst was appointed President. The Australian invitation had been proffered jointly by the R. A. O. U. and the Australian Academy of Science.

The R. A. O. U. appointed Dr. H. J. Frith as Secretary-General and an Australian Advisory Committee has been formed. After close examination of the possibilities the Australian Advisory Committee has decided that the XV1 International Ornithological Congress should be held in the Australian National University in Canberra in the period 12th August to 17th August, 1974. A programme of scientific sessions, major and minor excursions and ornithological exhibits will be organised.

Applications for membership will be accepted until March 1, 1974. Applications for the presentation of papers and for arranging Specialist's Meetings should reach the Secretary-General not later than February 1, 1974. It is probable that, apart from those presented by invitation in a Symposium, there will be some selection of the papers that are actually read. Accordingly it is essential that each offer of a paper should be accompanied by a summary of about 200 words.

Information regarding the XV1 International Ornithological Congress can be had from -

The Secretary-General,  
XV1 International Ornithological Congress,  
P. O. Box 84,  
Lyneham, A. C. T. 2602.

Field-List of the Birds of Canberra and District

A Field-List of the Birds of Canberra and District is available, 40c. per copy, from the Sales Officer, P. O. Box 301, Civic Square, Canberra. A. C. T. 2608.

RECORDS

Members are reminded that all noteworthy observations of Birds in N. S. W. should be forwarded regularly to the Records Officer, C/- 84 Arabella St., Longueville. 2066.

Subscriptions - 1.7.71 to 30.6.72

Full Member - \$2.00

Family Member - \$2.50

Junior Member - \$1.50

Members are reminded that subscriptions for the current year are now overdue. Further issues of "Birds" will not be posted to members who are unfinancial at the date of issue.

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SHORT NOTESNESTING BEHAVIOUR OF THE GIBBER BIRD  
(ASHBYIA LOVENSIS)

During mid October 1970, a pair of Gibber Birds were nesting on the edge of a big red clay pan covered by gibber stones on an open plain, approximately 60 miles south of Ivanhoe N. S. W. The nest was kept under observation for five days at close range. After the first day, the birds showed little signs of alarm. The nest was placed at the base of a tuft of grass on the ground, which contained two small chicks with pin feathers.

The nest itself was well built and consisted of long blades of dried grass matching that of the tuft it was placed near. Large amounts of soft bindi-eye were used to mat the nest together, thus adding camouflage.

Both adult birds fed the young. Food consisted of grass-hoppers, cut grubs, moths and good numbers of cicadas, which they hunted on the ground.

During mid-day, the heat would rise around 80 degrees and the male would stand over the young with wings partly out-stretched for hours on end, shading the chicks, while the female hunted food. Little food was sought after about mid-day.

The broken wing act was used if one approached too close, similar to other chats. A large gibber stone near the nest was frequently used by both birds to survey the surroundings by hopping upon it. Several times a day, the birds would rise in the air like a songlark, then power dive to the ground, calling as they did so.

The young were extremely docile and showed no fear. It was interesting to note for ground building birds, that the young were fully feathered by the sixth day and had not left the nest! Their backs were a perfect camouflage with the ground.

They were photographed in black and white, also colour and about 40 feet of 16mm movie in colour was obtained. A truly remarkable little ball of yellow of our semi arid land.

Bob Miller, Hon. Ranger for Wildlife,  
Rankins Springs, 2678. N. S. W.

#### A TOWN BOOBOOK OWL

Since October 1970, when first seen, a Boobook Owl, (Ninox novaeseelandiae) has roosted during the day, on a branch, towards the outer foliage of an Evergreen Oak, about 20 feet up over the path on which I walk to work, in the Southern half of Hyde Park in Sydney.

It is not there every day and often appears absent after rain. It has been definitely noted in October, November, January, March, April, May, June and July. The writer was away much of December and February. In June 1971, several pellets recently ejected and still wet were collected and analysed. They consisted of many beetle elytra and moth scales and the bones and fur of the House Mouse, (Mus musculus.) The moths and beetles were probably caught near the lights in the Park.

H. J. de S. Disney  
Curator of Birds,  
Australian Museum.

MEETING, 17th June, 1971

Mr. John de S. Disney, Chairman Ornithological Section of R. Z. S. gave The Chairman's Address. Subject - "Birds of Lord Howe Island."

Mr. Disney addressed the meeting about his work on the birds of Lord Howe Island. He has made several trips to the island over the past year as part of a survey being carried out on behalf of "The Lord Howe Island Board" by the C. S. I. R. O., Australian Museum and National Parks and Wildlife Service. With Alan Morris he camped on Mt. Gower studying and banding Woodhens. He illustrated his talk with many slides of the Woodhen, their habitat and sea-birds on some of the off shore islands. Little, Fluttering, Fleishy-footed Shearwaters; Red-tailed Tropic Birds; Masked Gannets; Noddy and Sooty Terns were all well photographed.

All those fortunate enough to be at the meeting felt they really learned a good deal about Lord Howe Island and its avifauna.

Observations

Mr. R. Noske, Pitt Town Lagoon, 21st May - 1 Jabiru, 2 Glossy Ibis.

Mr. A. McGill and Mr. J. Hobbs, Bakers Lagoon, 22nd May - Oriental Pratincole. This bird was again observed on 23rd May by Mr. A. Colemane and Mr. D. Stringfellow.

Mr. A. McGill and Mr. A. Colemane, Bringelly, 5th June - 14 Crested Pigeon, 200+ Yellow-tipped Pardalotes.

14th June - Flock of 30 to 40 Quarrion and at lagoon "Maryland" Homestead, Bringelly - White-breasted Sea Eagle.

Mr. A. Lloyd (per G. Dibley), Peakhurst, 6th June - Green Rosella (injured by flying into window). This bird has been in area for the past 6 months.

MEETING, 15th July, 1971

Mr. Dave Purchase of the C. S. I. R. O. Division of Wildlife Research gave a talk about Brown Skuas (Catharacta lonnbergi) breeding on Macquarie Island and his findings as to what regulates the population and successful rearing of two chicks per nest.

Macquarie Island is located some 800 miles south east of Tasmania. It is 23 miles long, three miles wide and consists mostly of a plateau about 800 feet above sea level, steeply dropping to the ocean or in some places to raised beach terraces. Highest point on the island is just over 1400 feet. Precipitation occurs on 300 days per year. Temperature ranges from 15<sup>o</sup> F to 55<sup>o</sup> F with an average of 40<sup>o</sup>. Winds vary from 20 knots to 90 knots. There are very few sunny or calm days. The Base is situated on the north tip of the island.

Forty species of birds have been recorded on the island. Two endemic species have been wiped out; a sub-species of Banded Landrail and Red-fronted Parakeet. Early sealers wiped out colonies of Fur Seal and Elephant Seals and almost eliminated the Penguins. However, N. Z. Fur Seal and Elephant Seal populations have built up again. Seven species of Penguin breed on the island. One slide showed a large breeding colony of Royal Penguin numbering some 500,000 birds.

Of the island's population of about 2000 Brown Skuas, only half breed. Dave, in his spare time, (Penguins were his official study) mapped out breeding territories. Many birds laid two eggs but mostly only one chick was reared.

Conclusions reached from information compiled showed that the amount of food available (penguin eggs and chicks, seal placenta, dead and new born seal pups) regulated the number of breeding areas and also the percentage of pairs rearing two chicks.

Graphs were shown to support these findings and the few slides shown really gave an indication of the terrain of Macquarie Island and its animal life. The first slide of a Brown Skua was a superb picture.

Dave's sense of humour made his talk most enjoyable and members went away glad they did not have to experience Macquarie Island's appalling climate and terrain to see Brown Skuas.

REPORTS OF FIELD DAY EXCURSIONSHeathcote State Park - 20th June, 1971

36 members attended the Field Outing led by Mrs. Marj. Barnes. The weather was mild and sunny.

Starting from Waterfall, the party followed the Mooray Track to Heathcote Creek, lunch on Myuna Creek thence back to Waterfall via Bullawarring Track.

A total of 32 species of birds were recorded and the Little Eagle was added to the list for the Park. Nine species of honeyeaters were recorded including Fuscous and Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters. Pilot Bird and Heath Wrens were heard calling. Excellent views were had of Rock Warblers and Spotted Pardalote.

G. Dibley.

Royal National Park - 24th July, 1971

34 members and two visitors - one from Victoria and one from West Australia - met at Couranga Track on McKell Drive in the Royal National Park. Weather was cold, bleak and rainy.

The party divided into three groups - one followed the Couranga Track, another went up Waterfall Creek and a third followed the Hacking River upstream. When we assembled back at the cars for lunch some of the more interesting observations were Ground Thrush, Wonga Pigeon, Green Catbird, Rose Robin, Golden Whistler, White-throated and Red-browed Treecreepers and Lyrebird.

The main purpose of the outing was to locate Lyrebirds and those who made an early start were rewarded with a few sightings. Five birds were observed and at least another twelve birds were heard calling in different areas.

After lunch it was decided to call it a day owing to the rain but folks poured out of their cars again to observe 5 Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos, making a good end to a rather dismal day. A total of 41 species were recorded.

Leaders: G. & M. Dibley.

NOTICE OF FIELD EXCURSIONSSaturday and Sunday, 18th-19th September

Wattagan State Forest.

Leader:- Jim Gray. Sydney Contact:- G. Dibley, 570.1298.

This is a one day - or two day camping trip. Meet at 9.30 a. m. at Morisset Railway Station, Saturday, 18th September. Cars coming from Sydney turn left from Highway at Doyalson, travel 8 miles then turn right and Railway Station is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile. For campers - water is available but needs to be boiled.

As meeting place is about 84 miles from Sydney, please let Dibleys know if you are coming.

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Saturday, 16th October, 9.00 a. m.

Bluegum Creek, Springwood.

Leader:- A. R. McGill, 599.1195.

This is the same area visited last November - a delightful place with abundant bird-life. Easy access along fire trails.

Meet on the road from Springwood to Hawkesbury lookout at junction with White Cross Road,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Western Highway, ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Hawkesbury Lookout). Cars will be parked at end of White Cross Road. Carry lunch.

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Special - Holiday Weekend, 2nd-4th October

Several members plan to spend the weekend at Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, 22 miles east of Mudgee. Those interested contact Dibleys, 570.1298.

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