



All photos: Sylvia Alexander

Bird Walks in Brisbane's Inner West—2020—Part 1

Saturday, 15 Feb 2020—7:00am-9:00am

Merri Merri and Dillingen Street Parks, Chapel Hill

We move between two rehabilitation sites in the foothills of Mt Coot-tha where one arm of Cubberla Creek originates. This location is among the newer ones being assessed for birdlife. We can see the more than promising and partly well advanced habitat improvements and are eager to observe the development. We have seen other fauna return, let's observe our avian friends.

Where: entry to Merri Merri Park, Greenford St, opp. Farnworth Street

Saturday, 29th Feb 2020—7:00am-9:00am

Clarina Street Park, Chapel Hill

We continue our assessment of birdlife on site and the observation of gradual habitat changes going hand in hand with rehabilitation work conducted. The site is an important bushland remnant with great potential and part of the *Witton for Wildlife* fauna movement corridor.

Where: Park entrance in Clarina Street, Chapel Hill

Saturday, 14th March 2020 — 7:00am-9:00am

Biami Yumba Park and Brisbane River, Fig Tree Pocket

What better way to start a weekend than to visit the lagoon at Biami Yumba Park and observe water fowl, usually present in abundance. An extension of the walk along the Brisbane River provides additional highlights with many smaller birds seen and heard. These are wonderful locations for birding in Brisbane's inner west.

Where: near playground off Fig Tree Pocket Road

Saturday, 28th March 2020 — 7:00am-9:00am

Toowong Creek and Anzac Park, Toowong

Our young rehabilitation site very close to Brisbane's CBD is improving with every working bee of the local bushcare group. Birds are still a little hesitant, but this is only a matter of time. Larger birds include Powerful Owl, Grey Goshawk, King Parrots, Yellow-tailed black cockatoo and others. Who knows what we find on the day. Our walk extends to Anzac Park where there is always a little surprise in store.

Where cnr Broseley Rd and Kent Street, Toowong

Saturday, 18th April 2020 — 7:00am-9:00am

Land for Wildlife Properties, Fig Tree Pocket

We'll visit one of our best birding sites in Brisbane's inner west, and are again guests on private Land for Wildlife properties known for their abundance of native fauna and especially avian life. We will observe birds and see changes of species and abundance following seasonal and altitudinal migration. Registration is essential.

Where: We'll provide the address latest on the day before the birding event.



Thursday, 7th May 2020 — 7:00am-9:00am

Chapel Hill reach of Mount Coot-tha

We chose a weekday because the walking tracks are very popular on the weekend. This way we will be able to listen to bird calls a little more than would otherwise be possible. Naturally, the mount is bird heaven and always a joy to explore, with many different species calling Mt Coot-tha home.

Where: Meeting point is the parking space off Fleming Road, opp. Greenford St, Chapel Hill

Saturday, 16th May 2020 — 7:00am-9:00am

Moore Park, Indooroopilly

Another visit to this important bushland remnant in the Witton Creek catchment. The park has seen much rehabilitation and uncounted volunteer hours over the last twenty years. The site promises some decent sightings including pardalotes and hopefully some other smaller birds. The neighbourhood knows of owls and the Channel-billed cuckoo, sees pale-headed rosellas and other medium sized birds regularly.

Where: parking space near little wooden bridge off Russell Terrace

Saturday, 30th May 2020 — 7:00am-9:00am

Rainbow Forest Park and beyond Indooroopilly and Fig Tree Pocket

If you want a beautiful birding site, this is it. Rainbow Forest has remnant rainforest, is well advanced in rehabilitation work, and provides ample bird habitat for many birds including those migrating seasonally. The walk also leads us to the lower reaches of Cubberla Creek past the Brisbane Girls Grammar School's sport campus and past small bird habitat. What will we see on the day?

Where: park entry on Dobell St, opp. Clandon St



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New to birding?

If you are interested in bird walks but new to birding, don't worry. We all started somewhere, and we all learn while listening. You don't need to recognise all calls, there are plenty of experienced birders on the walks. Come along, get to know our beautiful catchments while discovering a very important part of local biodiversity

What to bring?

Wear protective clothing and closed walking shoes. BYO binoculars and your water bottle.

Lyn Cole will guide our walks and be at hand with identification, explanations and information all things birds. Lyn is also a very active rehabilitator and will provide ample information on habitat requirements for birds.

Please register for each bird walk by emailing to office@cwcn.org.au. If you have any questions, ring Lyn on 0427 599 890.



CWCN is in the process of surveying avian fauna across the catchments and compare the results with historical data gathered between 1960 and 2000 and published in our Symposia papers in 2001.

Bird populations are likely to have changed as our catchments area has seen many changes in land use since the 1960s. Wildlife corridors were interrupted by the construction of the Western Freeway and the Centenary Highway. Developments and infrastructure projects have increased and displaced much habitat. Residential properties tend to be substantially smaller than they were 50 years ago, new houses now come with barely any garden which means more habitat loss and loss of insects which are an essential part of a bird diet. Traffic has increased, roads have become busier and wider. Small birds like little Fairy-wrens are miserable flyers and don't travel far like cockatoos are able to. They need vegetation that not only provides insect diet in abundance but also covers shelter and nesting needs. You will not see small birds where vegetation communities are not suitable, or where dogs, cats and foxes pose a threat, or where other interference with their habitat occurs.

CWCN's Birder Group visits several sites twice per year to record our local birds and to include changes related to seasonal and altitudinal migration.

BIRD WALKS

in Brisbane's inner West

Feb - May 2020

