



# EARTHCARE NEWS

*we do what we can where we are*

March 2007

## Earthcare Annual General Meeting

# Coral Sea Trip

After the formal proceedings Andrew McCutcheon will take us on a journey well beyond the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef to explore the little known Coral Sea and its reefs, islands and wildlife.

Thursday 22nd March  
7.30 for 8.00pm  
Port Phillip Ecocentre

### Earthcare AGM

Consider coming onto the committee

Nominate yourself prior to the meeting

You could become.....

President, Vice President,

Secretary or Treasurer

Or you could share one of these positions.

You could also come onto the committee as a general committee member.

We only have 5 or 6 meetings a year, usually one and a half hours long

**Your input into this long running organisation is important to its success**

I .....would like to nominate myself for the position of

.....

Post to Earthcare St Kilda PO Box 287 Elwood 3184

or

email [earthcarestkilda@gmail.com](mailto:earthcarestkilda@gmail.com)

or

call secretary 0402 164 482



Whiskered Tern



Port

Black Shouldered Kite

Phillip Nature Watch  
October 2006 - February 2007

Despite it being a very dry year, which is generally not good for wildlife and having been away at the end of September and almost all of December there is still plenty to report on wildlife in CoPP. In this newsletter I am covering a longer period than usual as there was no PPNW report in the December/January Earthcare News.

Sightings reported include:

- Vanessa from SKINC discovered a Peron's Tree Frog at the nursery in Port Melbourne, which is south of the frog's natural range. How it got there is a mystery.
- Jill Sokol saw a Nankeen Night heron along Elwood canal on October 16. I went to the canal the following night and managed to see it for myself in the same location. It has been repeatedly seen in the canal until February this year.
- Neil Blake passed on a report from a Fisherman who saw a small school of approx 6 Yellow-tailed Kingfish (600 - 800 mm in length) sighted on the north side of St Kilda Pier about half way to Kiosk. on October 19, 2006.
- Neil Blake passed on a report from James Brinkat, Parks Victoria. He found a pair of Tawney Frogmouths breeding in a large cypress near the light rail and path under from Cowderory Street on 31 October 2006. They are most likely to be the same birds reported to me by Jo Samuel-King on 29 August 2006.
- Neil Blake recorded a frog calling at the St Kilda BG creek on 6 November 2006. He later matched the call to Plains Froglet, *Crinia parinsignifera* by checking with recorded calls on the frogs.org website. This is unusual as the closest location of their natural range is north of the Central Highlands. They have also been heard in Westgate Park.
- Judi Solomon reported a pair of Eastern Rosellas plus a young bird the same size as the adults but more motley in colour on 8 January 2007. They were seen at Gasworks site and later in her backyard nearby in Albert Park. Jill Sokol also reported a pair of rosellas in her Elwood backyard later in the same month.

And now to my sightings:

While checking to see if the Blue-winged Shovelers were still at Westgate Park, I got more than I bargained for by finding a single Pink-eared Duck near the viewing platform over the lake on 13 November 06. Only one Blue-winged Shoveler, a female was in the lake at the time.

At least a dozen Whiskered Terns appeared over Albert Park Lake from 8 November 06. They remained there until early January 07. I have seen them also in the Jawbone Reserve in Williamstown and over Lake Wellington in Gippsland. In response to the drought they seemed to have moved south from dried up inland waters to find areas still holding water.

A juvenile Black-faced Cormorant was observed resting on a rock on the eastern edge of Webb Dock, during one of our rakali watch surveys on Wed 22 November.

A Black-shouldered Kite was seen flying and hovering over Point Ormond and Elwood foreshore on three separate occasions in January (8th, 12th & 31ST).

If you see any interesting wildlife please send me a report.

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Andrew McCutcheon