

species have greater capacity to respond through natural selection.

All of this is comprehensively referenced and beautifully laid out. The paired maps showing species' current core habitat and projected climatic suitability are particularly informative.

I only had one question about the approach – the fact that the authors chose to examine likely exposure in 2085 under current greenhouse emission rates – the business as usual emissions scenario (RCP 8.5 in IPCC parlance) – rather than more optimistic scenarios in which emissions reductions are factored in (RCP 6.5, 4.5 or 2.5). Professor Garnett explained that the more extreme models are necessary as a first step in identifying species at risk and that further monitoring and modelling will be the key to understanding the vulnerability and adaptability of Australian birds.

Professor Garnett said that he and the other authors hope that the hypotheses presented in the book will advance the conversation about climate change adaptation among wildlife. I hope so too.

Dr Joanne Banks

Office of the Chief Scientist



Finding Australian Birds: A Field Guide to Birding Locations

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/pid/6518.htm>
Editors: Tim Dolby and Rohan Clarke
CSIRO Publishing
ISBN: 9780643097667
AUD\$49.95

"With the assistance of many of Australia's' most experienced bird watchers and many years of intensive field work, Dolby and Clark introduce readers to over 400 of the best bird watching locations in Australia."

This excellent book by bird enthusiasts Tom Dolby and Rohan Clark is a thorough and extensive guide to the best bird watching sites in Australia. Dolby and Clarke are both prominent members of Australian bird watching communities and have contributed enormously to avian conservation in this country. Ecologist Rohan Clarke has been involved with the discovery of 15 species of birds previously unrecorded in Australia while Tom Dolby was the principal editor of 'Where to See Birds in Victoria' and is involved in the organization of many bird watching events.

With the assistance of many of Australia's' most experienced bird watchers and many years of intensive field work, Dolby and Clark introduce readers to over 400 of the best bird watching locations in Australia. A broad range of bird watching skills ranging from beginners through to those seeking to find rare and elusive birds are skillfully accommodated.

At 600 plus pages this volume is beautifully illustrated with high quality photos of birds and stunning Australian landscapes. The first chapter begins with an overview of geographical features of the Australian continent and is followed by tips for finding birds in Australia. Information for local and international visitors includes what to expect of road conditions

in all parts of the country and the effects of seasonal variations on bird watching opportunities. The chapter closes with information about getting around the country such as flight schedules and car rental companies. The book is then divided into chapters – one for each state including Australia's offshore islands and territories. Pelagic trips on offer in each state are also included. Indexes include an annotated bird list, lists of place names, common bird names and contact information for local groups and resources.

State by state chapters begin with geographical and regional overviews and are followed by suggested bird watching itineraries ranging from 3 to 10 days encompassing the best bird watching areas in each state. Detailed information on each area includes maps of national parks, wetlands, wildlife reserves and conservation parks with lists of key species likely to be found at these locations. For each location listed, information about the dominant vegetation is clearly articulated complete with flowering times of Australian eucalypts and other native trees and shrubs.

Clear and precise directions to specific bird watching sites within each park are carefully recorded with defined distances to turnoff points and landmarks. Detailed information on car parks, walking tracks, bird hide accessibility, spotlighting, and even specific stands of roadside bushes that may harbor the elusive sought after species are thoroughly explained throughout. Also thoughtfully included are attractions for non-birding companions and family members.

Dolby and Clark have done an impressive job of this book. Each chapter is attractively set out with clear to read maps, stunning photos of birds and colourful insets highlighting local birding locations. Unlike other volumes that often leave the visitor stranded in the middle of a National Park not quite knowing where to go, this book directs the reader to the exact bush, tree, dam or pathway where the bird is most likely to be found. Interspersed with visitor information and locality guides is a wealth of information about the lives and diversity of the 898 birds represented in this book.

Bird watching is more than a casual pastime for many. Committed and passionate people from all walks of life donate countless hours of their time in monitoring, research and conservation efforts as well as raising public awareness of some of our Australia's most critically endangered species. The popularity of 'twitching' or 'birding' has grown exponentially over the years with both local and international visitors travelling to sites all over the country in the hope of sighting and recording many species of Australian birdlife.

Finding Australian Birds is the perfect companion guide for bird watchers of all persuasions and used in

tandem with a good field guide is a must for anyone interested in birdlife and bird watching in Australia.

Lynnette Saint

RMIT



AMSA Western Australia

Christine Hanson

The AMSA WA AGM and honours prize night was held on the 30th April 2014 at the University of Western Australia. Existing members of the committee took on new roles, and new faces were also introduced. The AMSA WA committee now consists of:

- President: Joanna Browne
- Vice President: Christine Hanson
- Secretary: Alicia Sutton
- Treasurer: Ben Davis
- General Committee Members: Lynnath Beckley, Matt Harvey, Kevin Bancroft, Jane Fromont, Karen Miller, Joel Williams, Eloise Ashworth, Sarah Marley, Tiffany Simpson, Simone Strydom

Thanks are given to previous AMSA WA President Matt Harvey, and many thanks and goodbye are given to Karen Hillman, Renae Hovey, Sarah Scott, Claire Smallwood, Kate Greenfeld and Pierre Bouvais for their roles on the committee over the past years.

Eleven submissions for the honours prize night were made by completed marine science students from Murdoch University, Curtin University and the University of Western Australia. Five finalists were chosen to give a presentation on their honours project. Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes went to Sammy Andrzejczek, Jessica Leask and Samantha Twiname, respectively. The night was well attended by students and professionals, followed by some networking over drinks and pizza. Thanks are given to sponsors of the night – MScience, Department of Parks and Wildlife and the University of Western Australia.

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