

BIRD WEEK LEADERS FOR 2016



Image Provided By Katherine Castle

BIG PETE O'REILLY

Big Pete O'Reilly is the founder of Australia's longest running bird week and has attended every year since its inception in 1978. He has travelled all over the world, but Big Pete's favourite birding location is still Lamington National Park.

TIM O'REILLY

Tim is a third-generation family member, with over 20 years of guiding experience in Lamington. He no longer lives on the mountain, but will always retain a strong interest in its birds and habitats.

Dr IAN GYNTHIER

As a Senior Conservation Officer with the Threatened Species Branch of Queensland's Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP), Ian has a very broad knowledge of Australian fauna. Ian is a co-editor of the 'Field Companion to The Mammals

Dr BILL McDONALD

Bill is an Honorary Research Associate at the Queensland Herbarium. He is a leading authority on the flora of south-east Queensland and has co-authored several books on the identification of rainforest plants. Bill's expertise will broaden our understanding of the role of birds in the rainforest ecosystem.

DUNCAN FOWLER

As our most experienced full-time activities guide, Duncan has a wealth of local knowledge of Lamington National Park and knows the current birding 'hot spots'. His passion for all aspects of nature and easy-going style have made him a popular and valuable part of Bird Week.

GLEN THRELFO

As a guide at O'Reilly's for over 30 years, Glen has an intimate knowledge of the ecosystems of the Lamington region. He has produced numerous publications and documentaries that showcase the spectacular flora and fauna of the park

SPECIAL GUESTS

A special guest artist for 2016 is Katherine Castle – Katherine will set up paintings and show her works, paint and photograph new subjects for further paintings. Katherine Castle has been creating unique works of wildlife art mainly focusing on Australian birds for over 25 years. Each artwork is filled with light and colour, capturing the atmosphere of the scene and the personality of the subject. She works in exquisite fine detail, mainly in oils as well as watercolour, pencil and pastel. Her work is published on books, cards and many other products as well as by Maxwell and Williams on to their fine bone china mugs, plates and placemats which are sold around the world.

TIM LOW

Tim Low is a biologist and best-selling author of seven books. His latest, *Where Song Began*, became the first nature book ever awarded the Australian Book Industry Award for best non-fiction of the year. An earlier book, *Feral Future*, inspired the formation of a conservation group, the Invasive Species Council. Tim has served on the Australian environment minister's advisory committee, writes a blog for Australian Geographic magazine, and has written features for a wide range of publications, including the *Weekend Australian*, *Wildlife Australia* and *Vogue*. As a teenager he discovered new lizard species, one of which (*Pygmaescincus timlowi*) was named after him.

STEPHEN PARISH

Stephen William Parish OAM is an Australian. He is a passionate photographer, naturalist, author, educator, public speaker and publisher, connecting people, especially children, to nature, through his emotive, inspirational, life-enhancing images of Australia's unique wildlife, flora, landscapes and places, presented to his audiences through workshops, public talks and publications.