



Join bird lovers for Australia's longest running birding program

From 8th to 15th November, 2020 – birders will have the opportunity to rub shoulders with some of Australia's most well-known bird researchers, authors and photographers as they spot over 200 species of the 230 varieties residing in our World Heritage-listed Lamington National Park – which is home to Australia's largest collection of sub-tropical birds.

The seven day event combines insightful live presentations from Australia's most reputable bird enthusiasts plus guided bird tours throughout O'Reilly's World Heritage-listed Lamington National Park, nearby Kerry Valley and Stradbroke Island.

If interested to share your photos, be sure and tag **#oreillysbirdweek** for the chance to get your images posted on our social media channels with credit to you.

43rd Annual **BIRD WEEK**

Nov 8 - 15, 2020



Tim O'Reilly

Tim O'Reilly will be your host of November Birdweek and is a third-generation family member with over 20 years of guiding experience in Lamington. Tim's qualifications include working at the guesthouse for over 20 years, managing the activities department, collating the Mammal Guide and Guide to Birds of Lamington booklets, and guiding international birders to the park and surrounds over many years. Tim has been hosting and guiding Birdweeks since 2000.



Tim studied a double degree in Environmental Science and has been birding in Asia, Africa and the UK. Recently he has been involved in environmental programs through 'Wild Mob' and other environmental based organisations taking groups on conservation projects targeting threatened species recovery programs. Tim will be the main host, MC and leading tours. Tim will be checking final numbers for longer tours, and doing logistical support during the week.



Peter O'Reilly

As a second generation O'Reilly family member, growing up at O'Reilly's and later managing the guesthouse operations with his brother Vince, Peter has a deep knowledge of the plants and wildlife of Lamington National Park.

In 2002, Peter was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his work with the Environment and Tourism.

Dr Bill McDonald

Bill has a long history of research and exploration of Lamington National Park and hence has long been a part of O'Reilly's and National Park history stretching back several decades and loves coming to the area as much as possible. Bill is a qualified Zoologist and an Honorary Research Associate at the Queensland Herbarium and has had a long career both there and in the field.



He is a leading authority on flora and in particular the flora of South East Queensland and has co-authored several books on the identification of rainforest plants. This has also led to his detailed knowledge of local wildlife. Bill and Peter O'Reilly have undertaken what is believed the longest continual rainforest research study in the world. His expertise will broaden our understanding of the role of birds in the rainforest ecosystem and how they are related. Bill has birded, worked and travelled comprehensively around Australia and across the globe.



Dr Ian Gynther

Ian Gynther is a Zoologist and works as a Senior officer in the Threatened Species Unit of the Queensland Environment Department. Ian is an expert on the fauna of Australia but in particular Queensland.

Ian has been a leader in well over 17 Birdweeks and has previously led frog, mammal and wildlife weeks. He is involved in fieldwork in Lamington and across Queensland. Ian co-authored the comprehensive Guide to Australian Mammals and has been regarded as knowing virtually everything that moves. Ian will be leading on most of the full day outings and facilitates the bird counts and record keeping register of Birdweek sightings.





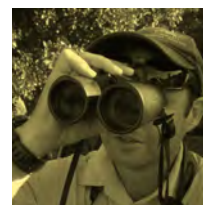
Glen Threlfo

Glen started working at O'Reilly's in Birdweek 40 years ago with a birdcall workshop and has been working for O'Reilly's guiding ever since. He has attended nearly all of the Birdweeks. Glen has an affection and intimate knowledge of the ecosystems of the Lamington region and is a good friend to all the birds close to the Guesthouse Retreat area!

He has produced numerous publications and documentaries that showcase the spectacular flora and fauna of the park. He has travelled and filmed far and wide, taking him to Africa, India, Antarctica and much of Australia - particularly the top end. Glen's recent work involves filming Peregrine Falcons nesting in Sydney and weaving a new documentary from his catalogue of amazing footage. We will hope to see some of Glen's latest work this week.

Duncan Fowler

Duncan has been living, working and adventuring in the region for over 30 years. He worked at O'Reilly's from 2004 until July 2020 as a Senior Guide. Duncan started guiding in a multitude of adventures and organisations in the region since 1987. He has worked in environmental research projects, EIS studies and rainforest regenerations projects before working in outdoor education, recreation and tourism. He has been involved in leading Spring and Autumn Birdweeks since 2007. Duncan returns as a guest Guide.



Professor Hugh Possingham

We are very pleased to welcome Internationally acclaimed conservation biologist, Professor Hugh Possingham as our guest speaker for Birdweek, 2020.

"Following a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford, he has worked at the Australian National University, the University of Adelaide, and at the University of Queensland, where he currently resides holding a number of leadership roles."

He currently holds a number of positions including: Chief Scientist, The Nature Conservancy, Member, Board of Directors, BirdLife Australia, Member, The Wentworth Group, Threatened Species Index Researcher, National Environmental Science Program Hub Head, The Possingham Lab, University of Queensland and Chair of the Environment Institute Advisory Board.

Matthew Kelly

Matthew Kelly originated from the Northern Beaches in Sydney. He has worked as a guided in Waratah National Park, near Sydney, Kakadu in the Northern Territory and El Questro in the Kimberly.

Matt first became a guide at O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat in August 2010. His is part of the O'Reilly's Discovery Team as a full time guide and is our resident Stinson Trek Guide. He also guides birding groups throughout the year.

He is passionate about our wildlife, rainforest and natural surroundings and enjoys being able to educate and show people from all over the world a place he loves and something that he is passionate about.

Matt has been slowly finding sites where our difficult rare birds have been hiding out. This should be of interest during Birdweek.



Artist - Tamlyn Geiger

Canungra Artist Tamlyn Geiger is excited to return to teach again this year at Birdweek. Working as an Artist and Designer in many mediums, Tamlyn is a sought after teacher in the Scenic Rim and on the Gold Coast.

This year's theme is "Colours in Flight".

This workshop is designed for all levels. You are encouraged to bring your own bird photos or use photos supplied by Tamlyn. Placing your bird in a bright setting that you will design in watercolour and acrylic. It's all about the colours and technique!





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DAY 1 - Sunday 8th November - Forest Weekend closes, Bird Week begins

4:00pm - Welcome and Introduction to Bird Week in the Theatre

Meet the leaders and hear a brief overview of the program.

4:30pm - **Birds of Lamington National Park presentation**

As an introduction to the birds of O'Reilly's, we'll run through some images and sounds of several of the local species you'll encounter.

5:30pm - Toast to Bird Week with a view - Meet at the Observation Deck (above the pool) to mingle with fellow birders and enjoy a mountain sunset.

6:45pm - Dinner in the Dining Room

Reminder to hand in your selected field trip itinerary options to Reception this evening or tomorrow please, then advise as soon as possible for any future changes. Some tour options will have limited numbers so changes in advance will allow for leaders, logistics, catering and transport to be planned.

DAY 2 - Monday 9th November - Local day mountain birding and birding workshops

6:00am - Local rainforest bird walk (1.5 hr) - Meet at front door of the reception area for this walk each day. Today we'll split into groups along the Border Track, Booyong Walk and main road - back for Breakfast.

7:30am - Breakfast

9:00am - Wishing Tree walk (1.5km, 3 hr) - Sub-tropical rainforest birding at a relaxed pace. Seeking *Paradise Riflebird*, *Noisy Pitta*. Downhill, some uneven surfaces, bus return from Cedar Tree.

9:00am - Python Rock Lookout (3km, 3 hr) - Vehicle drop off and pick up at track start. A wonderful sub-tropical rainforest walk, possibilities including *Paradise Riflebird* and *Noisy Pitta*, with potential eucalypt species and raptor sightings along the escarpment from the lookout deck.

1:00pm - Lunch

1:45pm - Group Photo

2:00pm - Walking the Border Track towards Picnic Rock (2.5 hr, up to 4.5 km - turn around whenever you want) More stunning subtropical rainforest with a chance of finding a *Lyrebird*.

2:00pm - Duck Creek Road (2.5 hr) - Eucalypt forest edge, seeking *Red Browed Treecreeper*, *Variegated Fairy-wren* etc. Short walks near bus.

DAY 2 - Continued

2:00pm - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger

This year's theme will be "Colour in Flight". You will be guided and encouraged to produce your own work of art. This workshop is designed for all levels. You are encouraged to bring your own bird photos or use supplied photos.

By placing your bird in a bright setting that you will design in watercolour and acrylic. It's all about the colours and technique! You may be surprised at what you can do. Meet at the Pavilion.

5:30pm - **Guest Speaker - Dr Hugh Possingham, Chief Scientist at the nature Conservancy - Gather in the theatre promptly please**

We are very pleased to welcome Internationally acclaimed conservation biologist, Professor Hugh Possingham as our guest speaker for Birdweek, 2020.

Following a Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford, he has worked at the Australian National University, the University of Adelaide, and at the University of Queensland, where he currently resides holding a number of leadership roles.

His expertise is in ecology, applied mathematics, marine spatial planning, population viability analysis and economic instruments for conservation outcomes.

He has one obsession: A compulsive desire to watch birds.

7:00pm - Dinner in the Dining Room

Reminder to hand in your selected field trip itinerary options to the Discovery Centre this evening or tomorrow please.

DAY 3 - Tuesday 10th November Coastal Tour or searching for mountain species

6:00am - Local bird walk Tree-top Walk and botanic gardens

6:00am or 7:30am - Breakfast

6:30am - Coastal Waders tour - See what birds we can find at the nearby coastal habitats at the coastal extremity of the local river catchment area where the waders gather. Depart for Gold Coast, including boat charter. Full day, packed lunch out. Spaces limited.

9:00am - **Birds and Botany walk with Bill Macdonald** (3hr)





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DAY 3 - Continued

9:00am - Morans Valley (3 hr, back for lunch - vehicle based, short nearby walks) - Various stops across diverse habitats such regrowth rainforest, wet eucalypt forest and escarpment. Stopping at the Flying Fox, Moran's clearing and Balancing Rock.

1:00pm - Lunch

2:00pm - Charlies Waterhole (2.5 hr) - Vehicle based birding and a short walk to a Bell Miner colony.

2:00pm - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger

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By placing your bird in a bright setting that you will design in watercolour and acrylic. It's all about the colours and technique! You may be surprised at what you can do. Meet at the Pavilion.

7:00pm - Dinner in the Dining Room

8:00pm - Night Birding (2 hr) We will visit a few sites along the main road in search of *Sooty Owl* and *Marbled Frogmouth*. Bring a torch and binoculars.

DAY 4 - Wednesday 11th November - Mountain to valley day and local options

6:00am - Early bird walk - Towards Centenary Track (1½ hr)

7:00am - Breakfast

8:00am - Stockyard Creek track - Full day walk (mostly downhill!) 7km, 8hr. This track was the original access to O'Reilly's for guests and supplies. Steep edges, loose underfoot medium-high fitness. Lunch out and remember to take extra water. Top to bottom birding, seeking eucalypt forest birds such as *Glossy Black-Cockatoo* and lowland rainforest species such as *White-eared Monarch* and *fruit-doves*. Travel home by bus. Packed lunches.

8:00am - Beaudesert - Western Lagoons and Kerry Valley bus trip. This tour targets lowland species in the farmland, parkland and drier woodland areas around Canungra and Beaudesert as well as waterbirds at numerous dams in the area. Birding is from the bus and on short nearby walks. Packed lunches.

DAY 4 - Continued

9:00am - Eucalypt forest bus to Duck Creek Road - Shepard's, Kerry Lookout area - (3hr) Seeking open forest birds. Short walks near bus up to 1km.

Lunch - those not going on full day trips can collect their packed lunch from Reception.

2:00pm - West Cliffs/ Pats Bluff circuit (5km, 3 hr, rough underfoot with some uphill sections). A variety of habitats towards the western escarpment including rainforest, eucalypts and spectacular escarpment that is home to the *Peregrine Falcon*.

2:00pm - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger

This year's theme will be "Colour in Flight". You will be guided and encouraged to produce your own work of art. This workshop is designed for all levels. You are encouraged to bring your own bird photos or use supplied photos. By placing your bird in a bright setting that you will design in watercolour and acrylic. It's all about the colours and technique! You may be surprised at what you can do. Meet at the Pavilion.

6:00pm - Bird Count in the Theatrette

6:30pm - Dinner in the Dining Room

DAY 5 - Thursday 12th November -Local areas and Top of the range trek, the *Scrub Bird* and *Olive Whistler* challenge

6:00am - Local Birding - 1.5 hr down the main road

7:00am - Breakfast

8:00am - Border Track to Antarctic Beech forest - (13 - 16 km return). Search among the ancient Antarctic for the elusive *Rufous Scrub Bird* and *Olive Whistler*. Many rainforest species will be found along the way. Lunch out.

9:00am - Main road birding Lamington National Park Road. (4hr, bus-based tour with short nearby walks). You would have already passed this country but not stopped to seek out its birds.

1:00pm - Lunch

2:00pm - Raptor Watch - Marie's Gate, Luke's Bluff (2.5 hr) - A chance at trying to locate any birds of prey with many other possibilities along the way. Great scenery, several nearby sites visited. Bring a scope if you have one!

2:00pm - Walking Moonlight Crag to O'Reilly's (3 hr. 4 km, loose underfoot, some uphill sections). Scenic views over Lost World, a mix of rainforest, wet eucalypt and escarpment habitat. Medium fitness required.





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DAY 5 - Continued

6:00pm - Bird count

7:00pm - Dinner in the Dining Room

8:00pm - Night Birding (2 hr) - We shall explore the local area and Moran's valley to search for the mysterious *Marbled Frogmouth* and *Sooty Owl*. Bring a torch and binoculars.

DAY 6 - Friday 13th November - Eastern Lagoons, Eagleby and Mountain birding

6:00am - Bird Walk - Border Track and Booyong Walk

7:00am - Breakfast

7:30am - Bus departs for Eastern Lagoons and Eagleby Wetlands - Lunch out, full day, short walks. Bring a scope if you have one.

9:00am - West Canungra Creek track (3hr, up to 5km, turn around whenever you want, gradual ascent on the way home). Lovely sub-tropical rainforest on the descent towards West Canungra Creek.

9:00am - Birds and Botany walk with Bill Macdonald (3hr)

1:00pm - Lunch

2:00pm - Wishing Tree walk (1.5km, 3hr) - Sub-tropical rainforest birding at a relaxed pace. Seeking *Paradise Riflebird*, *Noisy Pitta*. Downhill, some uneven surfaces. Bus return from Cedar Tree.

2:00pm Python Rock Lookout (2.5 hr) - Vehicle drop off and pick up at track start. A wonderful sub-tropical rainforest walk, possibilities including *Paradise Riflebird* and *Noisy Pitta*, with potential eucalypt species and raptor sightings along the escarpment from the lookout deck.

6:30pm - Dinner in the Dining Room

DAY 7 - Saturday 14th November - Top to bottom and all around-the last chance 'clean up day' to boost the species sightings

6:00am - Local Bird Walk - Local bird walk 1.5 hr - Villa track area/Campground

6:00am - Early Breakfast begins

7:00am Canungra Valley and Beyond Bus - The valley 'clean up bus' targeting birds we may have missed in the valley. Time is of the essence on this tour so will be prioritising target species. Packed lunches.

DAY 7 - Continued

9:00am Bus drop off departs for (Upper) Cainbale Falls off track walk - Take a trek along the old horse riding route down to Cainbale falls-and take all day! Starting at Luke's Farm we trek 4 km down a Hoop pine forest ridge to Cainbale Creek Falls. Then a 2 km gradual uphill journey to Duck Creek Road at Belson's Ridge for return transport. Drier rainforest, eucalypt and escarpment habitats will be encountered. Packed lunches, rough underfoot with some steep sections, medium to high fitness required.

9:00am - Eucalypt forest bus to Duck Creek Road-Shepard's, Kerry Lookout, Belsen's Road area (3hr) Seeking open forest birds. Short walks near bus up to 1km.

1:00pm - Lunch

2:00pm - Villa Trail (shortcut) to Moran's Falls, Centenary Track Circuit (4.5km, 2.5 hr - rough underfoot in places, gradual ascent on the way home) Interesting circuit combining rainforest, rainforest edge and escarpment.

6:30pm - Bird Week Final Dinner. BBQ Dinner in Pavilion, speeches, reflections and presentation of the prestigious Bird Week Awards. Thank you everyone for being part of a great week!

DAY 8 - Sunday 15th November - Departure day - Thank you all and travel well!

Please Note:

* The program is subject to change at short notice. Changes to the program are covered in bird call reviews at day end or often during dinner, so please attend to stay in the loop.

* All activities are optional. Please feel free to be involved day and night or as casual as you wish. No one is obliged to attend all activities on the program. If, however, any activities on the regular Discovery Centre program (reduced for Birdweek) also take your fancy please book and attend for these. Be sure to keep a track of your bird sightings for the bird call reviews.

* Some birders don't have a luxury of time and will be attending single sessions, single days or several days. Of course, please make them feel welcome too.

* Lower Duck Creek Road may not be safely accessible due to damage, roughness, difficulty from the road condition. Tours will avoid descent below John Shepard Lookout and all valley tours will travel via Canungra main road unless conditions dramatically improve.

* Please wear your name tags throughout the week.

