

44TH ANNUAL BIRD WEEK

FLOCK TO O'REILLY'S - NOV 7 - 14, 2021



JOIN BIRD LOVERS FOR AUSTRALIA'S LONGEST RUNNING BIRDING PROGRAM

From 7th to 14th November, 2021 – 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.

Image (Regent Bowerbird): Grant Batterham

Tim O'Reilly - Host

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. His 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. He will be the main host, MC and leader checking final numbers for all tours during the week.



Peter O'Reilly - Host

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 - Leader

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 - Leader

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 18 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.

John Allsop - Leader

Birding has been a significant part of John's life since childhood. He lived and birded extensively in England and in Malaysia and throughout Australia.

John joined the then RAOU in 1968 and maintained his membership through the subsequent reincarnations of what is now BirdLife Australia. His membership of BirdLife Gold Coast began in 1999 and, in March 2019, he established and became the administrator of the Gold Coast Bird Observers Facebook Page. John was also a contributor to the recent publication: "The Australian Bird Guide".





Barry Davies - Leader

Barry Davies owns and operates Gondwana Guides and is one of Australia's most experienced guides and the only person to twice be named Australian EcoGuide of the Year by Ecotourism Australia.

He is based at Beechmont on the edge of World Heritage listed Lamington National Park and provides a range of birding services in Australia and overseas. He has extensive knowledge of Lamington National Parks and surrounds.

Dr Penn Lloyd - Guest Speaker, "The Secret Socials of Yellow Robins"

Dr Penn Lloyd has worked as an ecological consultant based in Brisbane for the past 12 years. Besides development assessments, his varied consulting work includes monitoring migratory shorebirds in Moreton Bay, threatened mammals, frogs and a crayfish in Main Range National Park, a threatened moth and beetle in northern New South Wales, threatened plants in Great Artesian Basin spring wetlands and successfully translocating several threatened plant species in South-East Queensland.



Prior to moving to Australia, he worked as a research ornithologist at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. To keep up an interest in bird research he started a study of Eastern Yellow Robins in the Sunshine Coast hinterland, fitting colour bands to their legs to individually identify nearly all birds in the study population.

His talk will delve into the intricacies of the breeding biology and social networks of this quintessential Australian woodland bird.



Glen Threlfo - Leader

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.

Matthew Kelly - Leader

Matthew Kelly originated from the Northern Beaches in Sydney. He has worked as a guide 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. He 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.



Tamlyn Geiger - Artist

Artist/Textile Designer, Tamlyn Geiger is ready for her 4th year at the Annual Bird Week in 2021.

'Sketch Me Quick' will include live sketching of local birds and study of formation using collated reference work to create a finished artwork. You will learn technique and skills working to your level with art equipment, paper and mixed media materials supplied.

You can also bring your own bird photos for reference or use mine. Tamlyn is a sought after teacher from Canungra and recently launched her website featuring a COVID Isolation Exhibition Video - 'To Broome and Back', it can be viewed at - www.tamlyng.com.au.





BIRD WEEK

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DAY 1 - Sunday 7th November - Forest Weekend closes, Bird Week begins

3pm - 3:50pm - Shuttle buses to the Lost World Conference Centre

Please meet outside the Discovery Centre.

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 - Mingle with fellow birders and enjoy a mountain sunset.

6:30pm - Shuttle buses to Reception

7:00pm - 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. Please check the Notice Board in the Discovery Centre for tour lists, information and changes.

DAY 2 - Monday 8th November - Local day mountain birding

Reminder to hand in your selected field trip itinerary options to Reception by this morning.

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.

DAY 2 - Continued

9:00am - Duck Creek Road (3 hr) - Eucalypt forest edge, seeking *Red Browed Treecreeper*, *Variegated Fairy-wren* etc. Short walks near bus.

1:00pm - Lunch

1:45pm - Group Photo

2:00pm - 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.

2:00pm - 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.

2:00pm - Duck Creek Road (3 hr) - Eucalypt forest edge, seeking *Red Browed Treecreeper*, *Variegated Fairy-wren* etc. Short walks near bus.

6:15pm - Dinner

7:45pm - Night Birding (2 hr) We shall explore a few sites along the main road in search of the *Sooty Owl* and *Marbled Frogmouth*. Bring a torch and binoculars.

DAY 3 - Tuesday 9th November - Coastal Tour or searching for mountain species

6:00am - Local bird walk Tree-top Walk & 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 McDonald (3hr)

9:00am - Moran's 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





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DAY 3 - Continued

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

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 - 'Sketch Me Quick'

Fun with live sketching of local birds and study of formation using collated reference work to create a finished artwork. You will learn technique and skills working to your level with art equipment, paper and mixed media materials supplied. You can bring your own bird photos for reference though or use mine. The aim is to get a better understanding of line and movement ... but also having fun! Meet at the Pavilion.

6:00pm - Bird Count

7:00pm - Dinner

8:00pm - Harry Hines talk, Guest Speaker - We are very pleased to welcome Harry Hines as our guest speaker for tonight.

The title of Harry's talk is '**Assessing the extent, severity and impact of the 2019-20 Black Summer bushfires in south-east Queensland**'.

Harry will discuss efforts to establish how much of south-east Queensland's national parks, including its precious World Heritage areas, were damaged by the Black Summer bushfires and what the ecological impacts of this unprecedented event were. He will also describe some significant work being done to monitor the post-fire recovery of threatened species in these protected areas.

DAY 4 - Wednesday 10th 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.

DAY 4 - Continued

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.

2:00pm - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger - 'Sketch Me Quick'

Fun with live sketching of local birds and study of formation using collated reference work to create a finished artwork. You will learn technique and skills working to your level with art equipment, paper and mixed media materials supplied. You can bring your own bird photos for reference though or use mine. The aim is to get a better understanding of line and movement ... but also having fun! Meet at the Pavilion.

4:45pm - 5:20pm - Shuttle buses to the Lost World Conference Centre

Please meet outside the Discovery Centre.

5:30pm - Guest Speaker - We are very pleased to welcome Dr Penn Lloyd as our guest speaker for Birdweek, 2021.

The topic of Penn's talk is '**The Secret Socials of Yellow Robins**'.

Penn has an interest in bird research and has started a study of Eastern Yellow Robins in the Sunshine Coast hinterland, fitting colour bands to their legs to individually identify nearly all birds in the study population. His talk will delve into the intricacies of the breeding biology and social networks of this quintessential Australian woodland bird.

6:45pm - Shuttle buses to Reception

7:00pm - Dinner





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DAY 5 - Thursday 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.

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 - Moran's Falls (2.5hr - 2.3km downhill, bus return). Rainforest walk ending at eucalypt forest and escarpment, with chance of *Noisy Pitta* and *Red-browed Treecreeper*.

2:00pm - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger - 'Sketch Me Quick'

Fun with live sketching of local birds and study of formation using collated reference work to create a finished artwork. You will learn technique and skills working to your level with art equipment, paper and mixed media materials supplied. You can bring your own bird photos for reference though or use mine. The aim is to get a better understanding of line and movement ... but also having fun! Meet at the Pavilion.

6:00pm - Bird count

6:30pm - Dinner

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 12th November - Eastern Lagoons and Mountain birding

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

7:00am - Breakfast

7:30am - Bus departs for Eastern Lagoons, Arundel, Coombabah, and Emerald Lakes - 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 McDonald (3hr)

1:00pm - Lunch

2:00pm - Session on Wildlife Photography

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 - Bird count

7:00pm - Dinner

DAY 7 - Saturday 13th 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

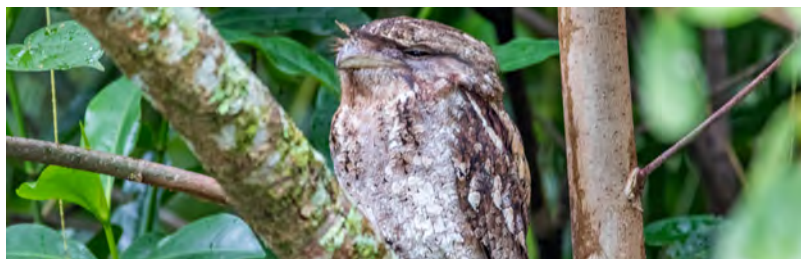
7:00am Canungra Valley and Beyond Bus - The valley 'clean up bus' targeting birds we may have missed in the valley. Time is of the essence on this tour so will be prioritising target species. Packed lunches.





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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.

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*.

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 14th 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 during dinner, so please attend to stay in the loop. Information will also be on the notice board in the Discovery Centre.*

** 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.*

