



# 45TH ANNUAL BIRD WEEK

## FLOCK TO O'REILLY'S - NOV 6 - 13, 2022



### JOIN BIRD LOVERS FOR AUSTRALIA'S LONGEST RUNNING BIRDING PROGRAM

Join us as we venture into UNESCO World Heritage Lamington National Park and surrounds searching for migratory birds that may be about to leave for wintering grounds further afield.

Explore a range of habitats from dry rainforests to lagoons, while taking in amazing scenery.

This six day event combines guided tours with specialized bird guides, as well as presentations by local experts, and is a photographers paradise with expertise assistance on hand throughout the week by our wildlife photographers.

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.

### **Tim O'Reilly - Host**

Tim O'Reilly will be your host of November Birdweek and is a third-generation family member with over 21 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 over 19 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 T. Moss - Guest Speaker**

John T. Moss is a retired medical practitioner with interests in cicada taxonomy, native freshwater fishes, moths and butterflies and their host plants, (especially mistletoes, grasses, sedges and matrushes) as well as Australian native plants generally, and has published in all these disciplines.

He is a member of the Queensland Region of the Australian Native Plants Society (NPQ), a long-standing member of both the Queensland Naturalists' Club and the Entomological Society of Queensland and is a founding member of the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF), the Australia and New Guinea Fishes Association (ANGFA) and of the Butterfly and Other Invertebrates Club (BOIC).



John currently lives in the Redlands east of Brisbane, on a small acreage block, where he grows his native plants and encourages the wildlife to come and eat them!







### **Dr Richard Noske - Leader**

Richard obtained a PhD from the University of New England in northern New South Wales, based on his research on the ecology of bark-foraging birds. After a brief stint as a science teacher, he was appointed Senior Lecturer in Biology at Charles Darwin University (CDU) in Darwin, Northern Territory, a post he held for 26 years. Soon after moving to Brisbane in 2010, he joined Birds Queensland (BQ) and was President of this society from 2012 to 2016. He currently serves on committees for BQ, BirdLife Australia and Protect the Bush Alliance.

In addition to three books, a dozen book chapters and numerous non-refereed articles, Richard has authored or co authored 110 scientific journal papers, mostly concerning the breeding biology and ecology of tropical birds of Australia and Indonesia. He has played editorial roles for three journals, including Chief Editor of the Indonesian bird journal Kukila for almost two decades. Richard has guided many bird tours in northern Australia and Papua, and has worked with Japan's NHK TV on three documentaries about birds.

### **Dave Stewart - Leader**

Dave will be joining us for Birdweek as a leader and guest presenter. As a long time resident and birder of Northern NSW and SE QLD, he has vast experience of the regional birdlife. Dave has been involved in birding and wildlife survey across all corners of Australia since the 1960's and more recently, internationally. Dave has familiarity with most Australian bird species accrued through travelling, surveying, researching, consulting and cataloguing wildlife. Dave is THE most renowned wildlife sound recordist in Australia and has the most comprehensive collection of quality digital Australian bird recordings, exceeding 700 species. His work is catalogued in natural history libraries and archives worldwide.



### **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 became a guide at O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat in August 2010. His is part of the O'Reilly's Discovery Team and is our resident Stinson Trek Guide. He also guides birding groups during 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. 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**



This is Tamlyn's 5th year at the Annual Bird Week teaching art. Over the last four years, topics have included mixed media, techniques and design.

This year Tamlyn would like to include pattern and color mixing into the workshop. These patterns are for all levels and you will work with watercolor and mixed media. Working to a plan to produce colorful artwork which will include birds, leaves and flowers. All equipment is supplied, all you need to bring is an apron and any of your own bird photographs. (or use mine).

Watercolor mixing is an additional bonus, Tamlyn will teach the art of mixing colors and color matching while working on designs. Please visit Tamlyn at [www.tamlyng.com.au](http://www.tamlyng.com.au) to view her work.





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## DAY 1 - SUNDAY 6TH 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 Lost World Conference Centre**  
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 - Welcome Drinks**

**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 7TH NOVEMBER LOCAL DAY MOUNTAIN BIRDING AND BIRDING WORKSHOPS

*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.

**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.

**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 in the Dining Room**

**1:45pm - Group Photo - meet outside the Discovery Centre**





## DAY 2 - MONDAY 7TH NOVEMBER - CONTINUED

**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.

**5:30pm - Guest Speaker - We are pleased to welcome John Moss as our guest speaker for Birdweek**

The topic of John's presentation is "Mistletoes and the Bird Connection". His talk will explain several of the mistletoes that are commonly utilised by birds as well as pollination of mistletoes by honeyeaters, use of mistletoe fruit as food for birds and the role some birds play in propagating and spreading mistletoes.

**7:00pm - Dinner in the Dining Room**

**8:30pm - 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 8TH NOVEMBER MOUNTAIN TO VALLEY DAY AND LOCAL OPTIONS

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

**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 - 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.

**Lunch - Packed lunches for everyone today.**

**For those not going on full day trips can collect their packed lunches from Reception.**

**2:00pm - Charlies Waterhole** (2½ hr) Vehicle based birding and a short walk to a Bell Miner colony.





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## DAY 3 - TUESDAY 8TH NOVEMBER - CONTINUED

**2.00pm - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger.** Fun with sketching to warm up and formation to get you thinking! Then onto condensing line and creating movement that we will simplify to create patterns. All equipment is included, please bring your own bird photographs and reference work (or use mine). This workshop is aimed for fun and nurturing the creative you! No need to do every day, but bookings are required.

**6.30pm - Bird Count in the theatrette**

**7.00pm - Dinner in the Dining Room.**

## DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY 9TH NOVEMBER EASTERN LAGOONS AND MOUNTAIN BIRDING

**6:00am - Local Birding - 1 ½ hr - down the main road**

**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 Cliffs/ Pats Bluff circuit** (5km, 3½ 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 Peregrine Falcon.

**9:00am - Raptor Watch - Marie's Gate, Luke's Bluff** (3 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!

**1:00pm - Lunch in the Dining Room**

**2:00pm - Birds and Botany walk with Bill Macdonald** (3hr)

**2.00pm - Moran's Falls** (2.3km downhill, bus return, 2½ hr). Rainforest walk ending at eucalypt forest and escarpment, chance of Noisy Pitta, Red-browed Treecreeper.

**2.00pm - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger**

**6.30pm - Dinner**







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## DAY 5 - THURSDAY 10TH NOVEMBER LOCAL AREAS AND TOP OF THE RANGE TREK, THE SCRUB BIRD AND OLIVE WHISTLER CHALLENGE

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

**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 - Walking the Border Track towards Picnic Rock** (2½ hr, up to 4.5 km – turn around whenever you want). More stunning subtropical rainforest with a chance of finding Lyrebird.

**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.

**9:00am - Painters workshop with Tamlyn Geiger**

**1:00pm - Lunch in the Dining Room**

**2:00pm - Main road birding Lamington National Park Road** - (3hr, bus-based tour with short nearby walks). You would have already passed this country but not stopped to seek out its birds.

**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.

**6:00pm - Bird Count**

**6:30pm - Dinner in the Dining Room**

**8:00pm - 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 6 - FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER COASTAL TOUR OR SEARCHING FOR MOUNTAIN SPECIES

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

**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.





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## DAY 6 - FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER - CONTINUED

**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 in the Dining Room**

**2:00pm - Session on Wildlife Photography**, with Glen Threlfo

**2:00pm - Python Rock Lookout** (2½ 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 - Walking Moonlight Crag to O'Reilly's** (3hr. 4 km, loose underfoot, some uphill sections). Scenic views over Lost World, a mix of rainforest, wet eucalypt and escarpment habitat. Medium fitness required.

**6.30pm - Bird Count in the Theatre**

**7:00pm - Dinner**

## DAY 7 - SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

### TOP TO BOTTOM AND ALL AROUND -THE LAST CHANCE 'CLEAN-UP DAY' TO BOOST THE SPECIES SIGHTINGS

**6:00am - Local bird walk** 1 ½ hr-villa track area/campground

**6:00am - Early Breakfast** begins for those on the Canungra Valley bus.

**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

**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 4km down a Hoop pine forest ridge to Cainbale Creek Falls. Then a 2km 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 in the Dining Room**

**2:00pm - Villa Trail (shortcut) to Moran's Falls, Centenary Track Circuit** (4.5km, 2½ hr - rough underfoot in places, gradual ascent on the way home) Interesting circuit combining rainforest, rainforest edge and escarpment.







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## DAY 7 - SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER - CONTINUED

**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 Peregrine Falcon.

**6:30pm - Bird Week Final Dinner.** BBQ Dinner. Speeches, reflections and presentation of the prestigious Bird Week Awards. Final Celebration of the 45th Annual Bird Week.

*Thank you everyone for being part of a great week!*

## DAY 8 - SUNDAY 13TH 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.

