

Birds of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton

'a new generation botanical experience'



The Turtle Garden

The welcoming surrounds of the Turtle Garden provide the perfect place to sit and be serenaded by our resident magpies, as they warble in the trees at the entrance to the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton. Preferring a habitat of trees and adjacent open space, the magpies have made this area of the Gardens their home.

The Australian magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*) is a medium-sized black and white passerine bird, native to Australia and southern New Guinea. It is not related to the European magpie, which is of the corvid or Raven Family.

Adult magpies, have distinctive black and white plumage, gold brown eyes and a solid wedge-shaped bluish-white and black bill. Males have pure white feathers on the back of the head, while the females have white blending to grey feathers on the back of the head.

Magpies nest in this area between August and October and some males have become defensive and territorial during the breeding season and may swoop intruders who approach their nests.

At this time of year we suggest you take the alternate path around the back of the mound to the top of Honeysuckle Rise.



The adults range in height from 37 to 43cm. GB



They walk along the ground searching for food. MC



They are omnivorous, eating both animal & plants. CG

Bird Observation

BirdLife Murray-Goulburn members have conducted regular bimonthly bird surveys throughout the diverse environs of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton with over 100 species sightings being logged into the World Atlas (eBird) and BirdLife Australia's Birdata since their inception in 2012.



Symbols

- 🏠 Resident
- ☀️ Spring migrant
- ☀️ Summer migrant
- 🍂 Autumn migrant
- ☔ Winter migrant
- 🦅 Aerial
- 🌊 Waterway
- 🌳 Riverbank
- 🌿 Ground feeder
- 🌳 Shrubs
- 🌿 Mid-storey
- 🌳 Canopy

(M) Male (F) Female

Photographers

- GB Graham Boast
- BC Beatrix Clarke
- MC Marg Clarke
- DC David Corke
- CG Catarina Gregson
- RJ Russ Jones
- DP Diana Padrón
- PS Pauline Schreenan
- DS Dianne Smith
- LW Lorna Ward



The beautiful photographs in this brochure have been supplied by BirdLife Murray-Goulburn members.
Front Cover: Graham Boast

Honeysuckle Rise

Providing a diverse habitat, the landscaped gardens on Honeysuckle Rise attract a diverse variety of birds. The wide open space attracts grass and seed feeding birds and flying above are the aerial birds. Plantings of grevilleas and eremophilas have provided a stable source of food for the nectar feeding species.



Brown Goshawk



Welcome Swallow



Australian Wood Duck (M)



Grey Teal



White-faced Heron



Eastern Great Egret



Silveryeye



White-plumed Honeyeater



Pacific Black Duck



Eurasian Coot



White-necked Heron



Yellow-billed Spoonbill



Willie Wagtail



Crested Pigeon



Dusky Moorhen



Masked Lapwing



Magpie-lark (M)



Black-fronted Dotterel



The Wetlands

Nestled between the Goulburn and Broken Rivers, the floodplain was excavated to provide the clay to cap and seal the former landfill site creating huge borrow pits. These borrow pits then filled during flood events providing a habitat for wetland birds.

The Wetlands

The varying water depths within the wetland area provides refuge for ducks, muddy edges for dotterels and lapwings, and a gentle graduation from shallow water for wading birds such as herons and egrets to deeper water for diving waterbirds.

The Native Forest Walk

As you walk through the remnant forest area, that is now being restored with extra indigenous plants, the resident and migratory birds have made use of the existing naturally regenerating habitat of interconnecting layers that provide a refuge and food sources in this area.



Red-capped Robin (M)



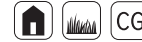
Flame Robin (M)



Grey Shrike-thrush



White-winged Chough



Grey Fantail



Buff-rumped Thornbill



Scarlet Robin (M)



Superb Fairy-wren (M)



Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike



Red Wattlebird



Spotted Pardalote (M)



Striated Pardalote



Golden Whistler (M)



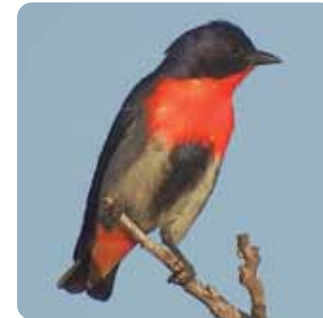
Rufous Whistler (M)



Noisy Miner



Little Friarbird



Mistletoebird (M)



White-throated Treecreeper (F)



The Native Forest Walk

The understory of native grasses, mainly poa's and perennial herbs such as the blue devils attract insects and invertebrates for ground feeders. Shrubs like the Silver Wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) provide refuge and in the mid-storey you may find birds pulling the bark away searching for insects.

The Native Forest Walk

In the canopy are the flowering red gums that provide a source of nectar and pollen. On the eucalypt leaves are white shell like bumps known as lerps, a food source of the Pardalotes. Look for mistletoe hanging from the branches of the red gums, its flowers and fruits are important for the Mistletoebird.

The Billabong & River Walk

In the sheltered area of the ephemeral Billabong and the open space of the River Walk, the paths will lead you to the Broken River where the Sacred Kingfishers and Laughing Kookaburras nest in hollows in the magnificent red gums. Along the river bank the Azure Kingfisher makes a nest chamber in the riverbank.



Laughing Kookaburra



Sacred Kingfisher



Blue-faced Honeyeater



Rainbow Bee-eater



Azure Kingfisher



Sulphur-crested Cockatoo



Pied Currawong



Dollarbird



Galah



Long-billed Corella



Eastern Rosella



Rainbow Lorikeet

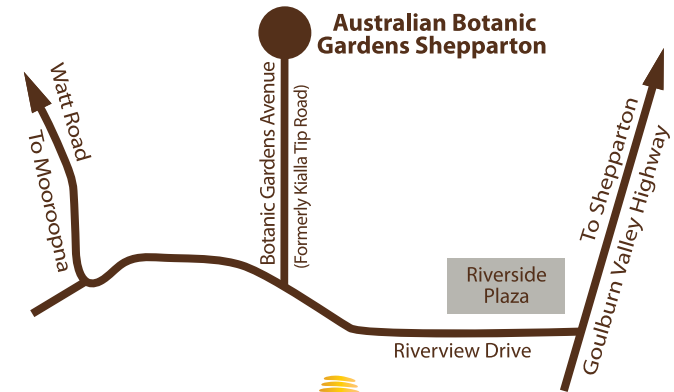


The Billabong & River Walk

Depending on the season there is always someone living here. Our resident birds in this area of the Gardens are joined during spring/summer by the Sacred Kingfisher, Rainbow Bee-eater and Dollarbird with the Pied Currawong taking up residence in the autumn/winter months.

Explore, Enjoy, Anytime

We are Open Every Day
Free Entry



AUSTRALIAN
BOTANIC GARDENS
SHEPPARTON

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