

LIBRARY

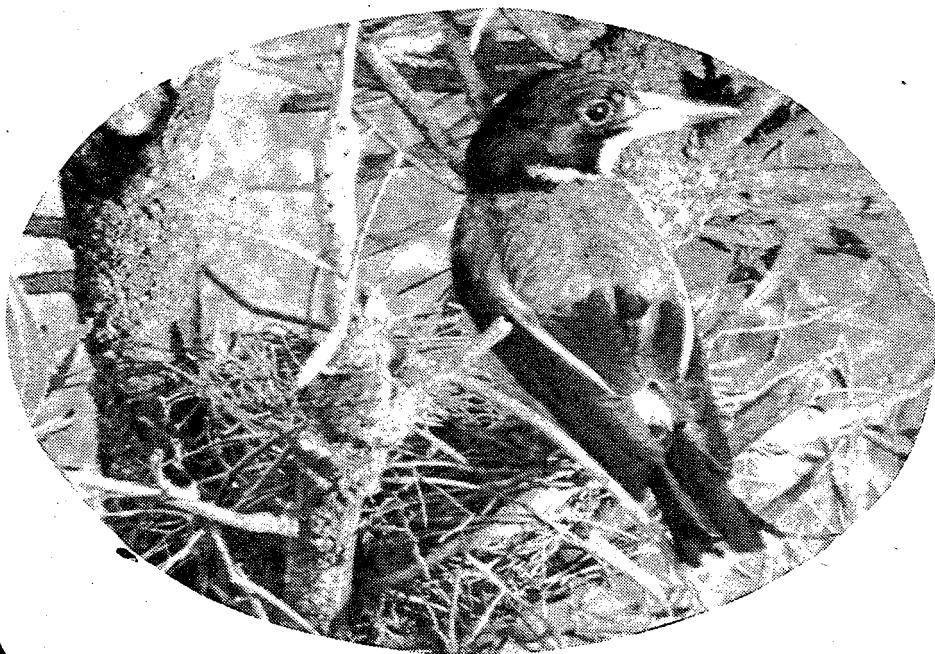
Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

This PDF has been created for digital preservation. It may be used for research but is not suitable for other purposes. It may be superseded by a more current version or just be out-of-date and have no relevance to current situations.



CHECKLIST OF BIRDS

STIRLING RANGE NATIONAL PARK



B I R D S
O F T H E
S T I R L I N G R A N G E

AN ANNOTATED LIST

collected from various sources, compiled by
NATIONAL PARKS AUTHORITY Ecologist B.G. Muir
and produced by the Authority's PUBLICATIONS OFFICE

All data in this booklet is extracted from Storr, G.M. and
Johnson, R.E. (1979). Field Guide to the Birds of Western
Australia. Western Australian Museum, Perth.

Other References:

SLATER, P. A Field Guide to Australian Birds Part 1.
Non-Passerines (1970), Part 2
Passerines (1974). Adelaide: Rigby

SERVENTY, D.L. & WHITTELL, H.M. (1976) Birds in Western
Australia. Perth. University of W.A. Press

FRONT COVER PHOTO OF GREY BUTCHER BIRD AT NEST BY B. G. MUIR

HOW TO USE THIS BIRD LIST

The list is in alphabetical order, with the bird "group" name first, e.g., honeyeaters, wrens. This facilitates comparison of birds within the groups. Length is given to encourage watchers to accurately estimate bird size. Descriptions allow identification but also encourage close, detailed observation of characters frequently overlooked when one is familiar with a particular species. Where possible, sexual differences in plumage are mentioned to make observations on behavior more interesting. Species in this list which require confirmation of sighting are indicated in the text.

Confirmed bird sightings are always of interest. Should you make any definite observations of species not listed herewith, please record their name, number and location and leave with the Ranger or any National Parks Authority office.

Stirling Range National Park (098) 279230 or 279218.
Perth - National Parks Authority - 386 8811.

AVOCET, RED-KNECKED*Recurvirostra novaehollandiae*

Length 42-48 cm. Bill very long, strongly upturned. Head, throat and upper neck chestnut; wing quills and some wing coverts blackish brown; rest of plumage white; bill blackish; legs pale bluish grey.

Fresh, brackish or salty swamps and lakes throughout much of Australia.

BEE-EATER, RAINBOW*Merops ornatus*

Length 19-24 cm (including the two long central tail feathers of adults). Forehead pale green, extending back as line over eye; crown and nape orange-brown, crown sometimes washed with green; black stripe from bill through eye to ear coverts, bordered below with pale blue; neck, mantle and wing coverts bronzy green; lower back pale blue, becoming darker on tail coverts; tail black, tinged with greenish blue; chin and cheeks yellow to chestnut; black patch on throat; breast pale bronzy green, merging on belly with pale blue of vent and under tail coverts.

Breeding in all but coolest and wettest parts of Australia and wintering in northern Australia and on islands from the Lesser Sundas to the Solomons.

BRONZE WING, COMMON*Phaps chalcoptera*

Length 32-36 cm. Forehead brownish white (adult male) or dark grey; crown purplish brown (adult male); large patch of fiery red or bronzy green in wing (colour varying with angle of light); rest of upper parts brownish; black line from eye to bill; white line from under eye to ear coverts; side of neck grey (male) or brown; rest of under parts purplish grey in male (duller and paler in female).

Open forests and scrubs throughout much of Australia and Tasmania.

BUSTARD, AUSTRALIAN*Otis australis*

Length; males 105-120, females 75-85 cm. Top of head black; face and neck white faintly freckled with greyish brown; rest of upper parts mostly dark brown, finely marked with pale brown; wing coverts blotched blackish brown and white; narrow indistinct black band on breast; rest of under parts mostly white.

Open or lightly wooded country in Australia and southern New Guinea, but now extinct in southeastern Australia.

BUTCHER BIRD, GREY*Cracticus torquatus*

Length 27-31 cm. Adults: lores and side of neck white; rest of head and neck black; back and scapulars dark grey; upper tail coverts white; tail black, all but central feathers tipped white; wings blackish brown, the secondaries broadly edged with white; under parts greyish white to pale grey. Immatures: upper parts dark greyish brown to blackish brown, the head and neck streaked and mottled with reddish brown; under parts greyish white, mottled with greyish brown; bill dark.

Scrubs and open forests throughout much of Australia and Tasmania, but not the wettest and driest regions. The above description applies to the subspecies (*torquatus*) inhabiting the southern half of W.A.

BUZZARD, BLACK-BREASTED - See Kite, Black Breasted.

CALAMANTHUS

Sericornis fuliginosus

Length 11-14 cm (greater in south than north). Male: forehead dull reddish brown, streaked with black; white line over eye; rest of head, neck, back and tail coverts olive, coarsely streaked with blackish brown; wings dark brown, the feathers edged with pale greyish brown; tail dark, slightly reddish, brown with a subterminal blackish band, the feathers tipped with white or pale greyish brown; throat white, streaked with blackish brown, rest of under parts buffy white, the breast and flanks streaked with blackish brown. Female: slightly duller than male, with streaks paler and narrower, and little or no pattern on end of tail.

The above description applies to southern birds. Low vegetation (heath, saltbush, samphire and spinifex) in Southern Australia and Tasmania.

CHAT, WHITE-FRONTED

Epthianura albifrons

Length 12-13 cm. Male: forehead and side of head white; crown and nape brownish black, neck and back brownish grey; wing, tail coverts and tail dark brown to brownish black, all but central tail feathers broadly tipped white; broad curving black band on breast extending narrowly up over side of neck to nape; rest of under parts white. Female: upper parts brownish grey to brown, all but central tail feathers tipped white; curving blackish brown band on breast; rest of under parts whitish.

Southern Australia and Tasmania, in open country with scattered bushes and weeds.

COCKATOO, BAUDIN'S

Calyptorhynchus baudinii

Length 53-60 cm. Upper bill with long tip. Mostly brownish black, the feathers edged with pale yellowish-brown; ear coverts brownish white in male, patch larger and yellowish white in female; white band towards tip of tail, broken in middle; bill dark grey in male, pale horn-coloured with dark grey tip in female; bare skin around eye pink in male, dark grey in female.

Humid and subhumid forests of southwestern W.A., north to the Darling Range and east to Albany; commonly visiting apple orchards. Endemic to W.A.

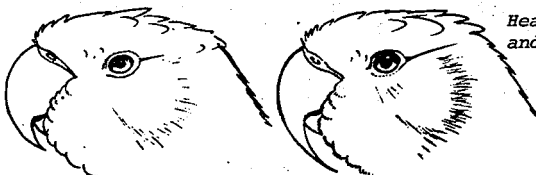
COCKATOO, CARNABY'S

Calyptorhynchus latirostris

Generally similar to Baudin's Cockatoo, but tip of upper bill shorter.

Woodlands and scrubs of semi-arid interior of W.A., in off-season wandering in flocks to coastal areas, especially pine plantations. Endemic to W.A.

COCKATOO, WHITE-TAILED BLACK - See Cockatoo, Baudin's and Carnaby's.



Heads of Carnaby's Cockatoo (left) and Baudin's Cockatoo.

COOT*Fulica atra*

Length 32-42 cm. Plumage all black or dark grey; forehead plate white; bill pale grey; legs dark grey; toes lobed.

Open fresh and brackish waters, occasionally enclosed seas, throughout Australia and Tasmania; also Europe, north Africa and Asia.

CUCKOO, FAN-TAILED*Cuculus flabelliformis*

Length 24-28 cm. Upper parts mostly dark grey; tail glossy black, feathers tipped and deeply notched with white; chin and face grey, rest of under parts reddish brown. Male call: a trill.

Southwestern W.A., north to the lower Murchison and east to Israelite Bay; also eastern Australia, Tasmania and New Guinea.

CUCKOO, GOLDEN BRONZE - See Cuckoo, Shining Bronze**CUCKOO, HORSEFIELD'S BRONZE***Chrysococcyx basalis*

Length 15-17 cm. Top of head, neck and ear coverts brown; back, wings and tail bronzy green; outer tail feathers basally chestnut and distally notched with white; whitish line over eye, curving down to side of neck; under parts whitish, barred in adults with brown (barring indistinct on throat and broken medially on belly). Male call: a drawn-out descending "pee-er".

Australia and Tasmania, occasionally visiting Indonesia; leaving south of W.A. in summer and returning in early winter.

CUCKOO, PALLID*Cuculus pallidus*

Length 28-33cm. Adult: upper parts mostly brownish grey, palest on head, darkest on tail; outer tail feathers notched with white; under parts mostly pale grey. Immatures: upper parts more mottled than in adults; under parts partly barred. Male call: a rising series of whistling notes. Female call: a harsh drawn-out single note.

Australia and Tasmania, leaving southern parts of W.A. in summer and returning in early winter.

CUCKOO, SHINING BRONZE*Chrysococcyx lucidus*

Length 15 - 17 cm. Top of head, neck and mantle dark bronzy brown, glossed with purple; lower back, wings and tail coverts dark metallic green; central tail feathers bronzy green; outer tail feathers dark brown, notched with white; indistinct white line over eye; under parts white, barred in adults with dark bronzy brown. Male Call: quickly repeated "pee-pee-pee....." (like someone whistling up a dog), occasionally followed by a drawn out "pee-er" (like that of Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo).

Breeding in southwestern and southeastern Australia, Tasmania and southwest Pacific, many birds spending winter in equatorial regions (Lesser Sundas to the Solomons).

CUCKOO-SHRIKE, BLACK FACED*Coracina novaehollandiae*

Length 31 - 33 cm. Adult: crown, neck, back tail coverts and wing coverts bluish grey; wing quills black, edged with grey or white; tail dark grey to black, tipped white; forehead, cheeks, ear coverts and throat black; upper breast dark grey, becoming paler on lower breast and belly and white on under tail coverts. Immatures differing mainly in black of head restricted to broad stripe from bill to ear coverts.

Wooded country throughout Australia and Tasmania, southern birds wintering in northern Australia and the islands to north.

CURRAWONG, GREY

Strepera versicolor

Length 46 - 55 cm. Dark grey to brownish black, except for white patch in wing (visible in flight), white tip to wing and tail quills, and white under tail coverts; bill black; eye yellow.

Open forests and scrubs of southern Australia and Tasmania.

DOTTERAL, HOODED - See Plover, Hooded

DOTTERAL, RED-CAPPED - See Plover, Red-capped

DUCK, BLACK

Anas superciliosa

Length 47 - 61 cm. Top of head and stripe through eye blackish brown; brownish white stripe above and below dark eye stripe; cheeks and throat brownish white; speculum (rectangular patch in wing) metallic green; under wing white; rest of plumage dark brown to blackish brown, most feathers edged with pale brown; bill grey; legs yellowish brown. In flight no white in upper wing.

Australia, Tasmania and many islands in southwest Pacific from Indonesia to New Zealand.

DUCK, BLUE-BILLED

Oxyura australis

Length 35 - 44 cm. A diving duck with short stiff tail. Male: head, throat and neck glossy black; back dark chestnut; upper tail coverts brownish black, tipped dark chestnut; wings dark brown; tail blackish brown; breast and flanks dark chestnut; rest of under parts whitish, mottled with blackish brown; bill slate grey, becoming bright blue in breeding season. Female: upper parts blackish brown, the feathers indistinctly barred with pale reddish brown; under parts greyish white, mottled with blackish brown; bill dull grey.

Permanent open waters in southern Australia and Tasmania;

DUCK, MOUNTAIN

Tadorna tadornoides

Length 55 - 72 cm. Male: head and neck brownish black, bordered below by a narrow white collar; breast and mantle orange-brown; rest of plumage blackish brown to black, except for white, green and chestnut patches in wing; bill and legs blackish grey. Female as in male except for white ring around eye and dark chestnut breast. Immatures as in female, but more white around eye.

Southern Australia and Tasmania; occasionally wandering north in W.A. to the Kimberleys.

DUCK, WOOD

Chenonetta jubata

Length 44 - 51 cm. A grazing duck with short goose-like bill. Male: head and neck brown except for black "mane"; back and wing coverts mostly grey; speculum large, bright green, broadly edged with white; wing quills, lower back and tail black; breast mottled greyish brown, white and black; centre of belly and under tail black; flanks white, very finely barred with black; under wing white. Female: head and neck pale brown; upper back, wing coverts and tail coverts greyish; wing quills brown; lower back and tail black; throat brown, freckled

white; breast and flanks dark brown, mottled with white; belly and under tail white.

Short grass in vicinity of fresh water in much of Australia (except far north) and Tasmania.

EAGLE, WEDGE-TAILED

Aquila audax

Length 88 - 105 cm. A huge, very dark hawk with long wedge-shaped tail, long fingered wings and completely feathered legs. Adult: back of head and neck streaked with golden brown; rest of plumage blackish brown. Immature paler, especially on head, neck and scapulars.

Australia, Tasmania and southern New Guinea.

EMU

Dromaius novaehollandiae

Largest Australian bird (up to 2m tall). Wings very short and normally hidden in greyish brown thatch-like body plumage. Feathers on crown blackish; feathers on neck short and sparse, revealing bright blue skin. Chicks dark brown with pale longitudinal stripes. Eggs dark green, with heavy pitted shell, ca 13cm long and 9cm wide.

Most of W.A., but not sandy deserts or dense forests; also eastern Australia; extinct in Tasmania.

EMU-WREN, SOUTHERN

Stipiturus malachurus

Length 16 - 18 cm (including the very long, filamentous tail). Male: upper parts greyish brown (tinged with reddish on forehead and crown), streaked with brownish black; cheeks and ear coverts dark brownish grey, finely streaked with white; line over eye, chin, throat and upper breast pale blue; rest of under parts rusty brown, becoming white in centre of belly. Female differs from male in blue replaced with pale rusty brown.

Sedges and low shrubs, especially in damp places, in southwestern W.A., north to Dirk Hartog I. and east to Israelite Bay; also southeastern Australia and Tasmania.

FAIRY-WREN, BLUE BREASTED

Malurus pulcherrimus

Length 13 - 15 cm. Differing from Variegated Wren (southern subspecies) mainly in the throat and breast of breeding male being glossed with purplish blue (discernible only in good light).

Semi-arid thickets and scrubs of southern W.A., north nearly to Shark Bay and east nearly to Eucla, but absent from wetter parts of southwest (south of the Moore River and west of Cheyne Beach), which are occupied by the next species; also Eyre Peninsula (S.A.)

FAIRY-WREN, RED WINGED

Malurus elegans

Length 14 - 16 cm. Breeding male: head blue, palest on ear coverts; neck and lower back black; upper back pale blue behind a narrow band of white; scapulars chestnut red; rest of wings greyish brown; tail dull blue; lores, throat and breast black, the throat and upper breast glossed with purplish blue; rest of under parts whitish, becoming pale brown on flanks. Adult female and immatures: upper parts dull brown, tinged with reddish brown on scapulars and bluish grey

on tail; lores and eye-ring chestnut; under parts whitish; bill black.

Forest undergrowth in southwestern W.A., north to the Darling Range and east to Many Peaks. Endemic to W.A.

FAIRY-WREN, SPLENDID

Malurus splendens

Length 12 - 14 cm. Breeding male mostly dark blue (paler and less purplish on forehead and ear coverts); narrow black band on upper breast extending to black collar on neck. Non-breeding male: wings partly and tail wholly dull blue; rest of upper parts greyish brown; under parts whitish. Female differs from non-breeding male in having reddish brown (instead of black) bill, lores and eye-ring; no blue in wing; and tail dull blue.

Thickets, scrubs and forest undergrowth of southern W.A.; also arid and semi-arid scrubs of eastern Australia, mainly south of the Tropic.

FALCON, BROWN

Falco berigora

Length 38 - 50 cm. A moderately large falcon with legs and tail longer, wings less pointed and held higher, flight slower and behaviour more stealthy than in other falcons. In desert regions and occasionally visiting wetter country adults are kestrel-coloured, i.e. reddish brown above and pale below. Immatures from the desert and adults from elsewhere are dark brown above (often blackish brown in the Kimberleys) and dark brown or reddish brown below. In all variants there is a dark "moustache".

Australia, Tasmania and New Guinea.

FALCON, LITTLE - See Hobby, Australian

FALCON, PEREGRINE

Falco peregrinus

Length: males 36 - 40, females 45 - 50 cm. A medium-sized chunky falcon with relatively short tail, short broad wings, and dark hood contrasting sharply with pale throat and side of neck. Adult: head, nape and cheeks black; rest of upper parts bluish to blackish grey; throat buffy white; rest of under parts pale reddish brown, finely barred with black. Immature: upper parts, face and cheeks blackish brown; under parts reddish brown, heavily streaked with blackish brown.

Much of Australia and Tasmania; almost cosmopolitan.

FANTAIL, GREY

Rhipidura fuliginosa

Length 15 - 16 cm. Upper parts dark brownish grey except for white line over eye, some white in wing and white edge and tip to all but central tail feathers; throat and cheeks white; band on upper breast dark grey; sides of breast brownish grey; rest of under parts buff to buffy white.

Forests and scrubs of Australia, Tasmania and the southwest Pacific (New Hebrides to New Zealand).

FIRETAIL, RED EARED

Emblema oculatum

Length 11-13cm. Bill, patch below and behind eye, tail coverts and edge of tail bright red; forehead spot, lores and eye-ring black; rest of upper parts olive grey finely barred with blackish grey; throat and upper breast pale brown, finely barred with blackish grey; rest of under parts mottled black and white.

Densely vegetated gullies in the wetter parts of southwestern Australia, north to the Darling Range and east to the Cape Le Grand National Park. Endemic to W.A.

FLYCATCHER, RESTLESS

Myiagra inquieta

Length 20 - 21 cm in south, 17 - 18 cm in north. Upper parts glossy black to brownish black (back blacker and glossier in north); under parts white. Distinguishable from Willie Wagtail by white (rather than black) throat and harsh grinding notes (rather than pleasant "sweet pretty creature").

Open forests of northern, eastern and southern Australia and southern New Guinea; in W.A. confined to the South-West and Kimberleys.

FLYEATER, WESTERN

Gerygone fusca

Length 9 - 11 cm. Upper parts mostly greyish brown; indistinct whitish line from bill to above eye; lores blackish brown; base of tail dark greyish brown, all but central feathers with a white band; tip of tail blackish brown with white squarish blotches; under parts whitish, clouded with grey on throat and breast; bill and legs black; eye reddish brown.

Wooded parts of W.A. north to southern interior of Kimberley; also interior of eastern Australia.

FROGMOUTH, TAWNY

Podargus strigoides

Length 34-42 cm. In south and northwest generally dark brownish grey, mottled with brownish white and streaked with black. Kimberley birds are smaller, paler, more reddish and more delicately patterned.

Open forests and woodlands of Australia and Tasmania.

GALAH,

Cacatua roseicapilla

Length 31 - 35 cm. Crown and nape pink; collar pinkish red; rest of upper parts grey; under parts mostly pinkish red; eye dark brown in male, pink in female.

Lightly wooded parts of W.A. but not deep south-west or south coast; also most of eastern Australia.

GOSHAWK, AUSTRALIAN - See Goshawk, Brown

GOSHAWK, BROWN

Accipiter fasciatus

Length: males 40-43 cm, females 47-56 cm. A moderately small (male) or medium-sized hawk with broad rounded wings, long rounded tail and very long yellow legs. Adult: upper parts dark greyish brown with or without a reddish brown collar on neck and indistinct dark bands across tail; under parts reddish brown, finely barred with whitish. Immature: dark brown, the under parts coarsely barred with whitish.

Australia and Tasmania, and many islands to north and east from the Lesser Sundas to Fiji.

GREBE, HOARY HEADED

Podiceps poliocephalus

Length 27-30 cm. Head dark brown to black, streaked with white (these streaks are long hair-like feathers); neck, back and wings dark brownish grey; throat brown; rest of under parts whitish. In winter head paler and unstreaked.

Open still waters (usually fresh, occasionally salt) throughout much of Australia, but mainly south.

GULL, SILVER

Larus novaehollandiae

Length 38-43 cm. Adult: head, neck, tail coverts, tail and under parts white; back and most wing coverts pale grey; two outermost wing quills mostly black with a large white spot ("mirror") towards tip; eye white; bill, eye-rim and legs red. Immature differing from adult in having grey parts of plumage, especially back and wings, mottled with brown, eye dark brown, bill blackish and legs grey.

Coasts of Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, New Caledonia and South Africa; also inland waters in eastern Australia.

This record requires confirmation, Silver Gulls generally not penetrating this far inland.

HARRIER, MARSH

Circus aeruginosus

Length 50-60 cm. A moderately large, lanky hawk with very long slender legs, long tail and long fingered wings which are held high above body when gliding. Adult: upper parts dark brown except for white upper tail coverts; under parts reddish brown, with or without dark brown streaks. Immature: upper parts blackish brown, except for pale brown rump.

Mainly swampy country in southern Australia and Tasmania, commonly visiting wetter parts of northern Australia; also much of Europe, Africa, Asia and the southwest Pacific.

HARRIER, SPOTTED

Circus assimilis

Length 50-60 cm. A moderately large, lanky hawk with very long slender legs, long tail and long fingered wings which are held high above body when gliding. Adults: head reddish brown, coarsely streaked with dark greyish brown, shoulders reddish brown, finely spotted with greyish white; rest of upper parts bluish or brownish grey, the wing and tail coverts spotted with greyish white and the tail barred with dark brown; facial disc and most of under parts reddish brown, the breast and belly spotted with white. In immatures the upper parts are brown where adults are grey; there are no white spots; and the upper tail coverts are pale - all of which make it hard to distinguish from the Marsh Harrier; the reddish head and habitat are the best guide.

Drier parts of Australia, occasionally visiting wetter parts of continent, Tasmania and islands to north.

HAWK, BROWN - See Falcon, Brown

HERON, PACIFIC

Ardea pacifica

Length 79-91 cm. Head and neck white, with or without black spots on foreneck; back, wings and tail blackish, except for white shoulders and long dark purplish feathers on side of back.

Freshwaters throughout Australia.

HERON, WHITE-FACED

Ardea novaehollandiae

Length, 63-73 cm. Face and throat white; rest of plumage mostly bluish grey; legs greenish yellow.

Australia, Tasmania and islands from Indonesia to New Zealand. The most plentiful and widespread heron in Australia; found mainly on freshwaters, but also on coasts and in short grass.

HERON, WHITE-NECKED - See Heron, Pacific

HOBBY, AUSTRALIAN

Falco longipennis

Length 30-35 cm. A small falcon with long narrow wings and dark hood. Adult: upper parts dark grey (darkest on crown and wing quills, palest on lower back); face, cheeks and moustachial stripe blackish, separated from dark grey of side of neck by an incomplete pale collar; throat whitish, rest of under parts reddish brown (darkest on lower breast), finely streaked with blackish brown. Immature: forehead, crown and nape reddish brown; rest of upper parts dark grey, the back feathers and wing-coverts edged with pale reddish brown.

Greater part of Australia; also Lesser Sunda and Molucca Is.

HONEYEATER, BROWN

Lichmera indistincta

Length 13-14 cm in males. 11-12 cm in females. upper parts mostly olive brown; head brownish grey in male (like back in female); wing and tail quills edged with olive yellow; behind eye a small triangular patch of very short white or yellow feathers; throat and upper breast pale brownish grey; rest of under parts yellowish white. Bill noticeably longer, stouter and less curved in male.

Thickets of flowering trees and shrubs throughout much of western, northern and eastern Australia, but not the coolest or wettest regions, also from Bali east to New Guinea.

HONEYEATER, BROWN-HEADED

Melithreptus brevirostris

Length 12-14 cm. Head (except for brownish white line around nape) and ear coverts dark greyish brown; back and tail coverts olive green; wings and tail mostly dark greyish brown; cheeks whitish; throat and breast pale brownish grey; rest of under parts brownish white; bare skin around eye pale orange.

Semi-arid eucalypt woodlands and scrubs of southern W.A., north nearly to Shark Bay; also south-eastern Australia.

HONEYEATER, NEW HOLLAND

Phylidonyris novaehollandiae

Length 17-19 cm. Head and throat black, except for white stripe from above eye to side of nape, whitish patch on side of forehead, white "moustache" and "whiskers" and white patch on side of neck; rest of upper parts mostly blackish brown, the back streaked with white and brown, the wing quills conspicuously edged with yellow and the tail feathers edged with olive yellow and tipped with white; rest of under parts white, streaked brownish black, eye white.

Thickets, especially along watercourses, in gullies and around swamps, in southern Australia and Tasmania; in W.A. north to Dandaragan, Beverley and Lake King.

HONEYEATER, PURPLE-GAPED

Meliphaga cratitia

Length 16-17 cm. Forehead, crown and nape dark grey, rest of upper parts mostly olive green; wing and tail quills edged with yellowish olive; lores and feathers around eye black, ear coverts dark grey, behind which a narrow patch of bright yellow plumes, yellow streak from bill down side of throat; throat and breast olive grey, faintly streaked with olive yellow; rest of under parts pale yellowish grey; gape wattle purple (adults) or yellow (immatures).

Mallee and other semi-arid thickets in south-western and south-eastern Australia.

HONEYEATER, SINGING

Meliphaga virescens

Length 16-21 cm. Upper parts mostly greyish brown, wing and tail feathers edged with olive yellow; lores and stripe through eye to side of nape black, bordered below by yellow line from gape to ear coverts, behind which a patch of greyish white; under parts buffy or brownish white, streaked with greyish brown (most heavily on breast). Larger and darker in south than in north or arid interior.

Thickets and scrubs in all but wettest parts of Australia.

HONEYEATER, TAWNY CROWNED

Phylidonyris melanops

Length 16-17 cm. Forehead and front of crown reddish brown; rest of upper parts greyish brown, tinged olive on neck and faintly streaked on back; white stripe from side of forehead over eye to side of nape; black strips from lores through eye; ear coverts blackish brown (tipped brownish white), continuous with curving band on side of neck and breast; throat and centre of breast and belly white, side of breast and flanks brownish grey.

Southern Australia and Tasmania, mainly in low sandplain vegetation; in W.A. from Kalbarri to Israelite Bay.

HONEYEATER, WHITE CHEEKED

Phylidonyris nigra

Length 16-18 cm. Head and throat black, except for white stripe from side of forehead over eye and large white patch from cheek to side of neck; rest of plumage as in New Holland Honeyeater; eye dark brown.

Tall flowering shrubs in coastal sandplains and in forest understorey from Kalbarri to Esperance, also eastern Australia.

HONEYEATER, WHITE-EARED

Meliphaga leucotis

Length 17-19 cm. Forehead, crown and nape grey, streaked or mottled with blackish grey; neck, back and wing and tail coverts olive green tinged yellow; wing and tail quills dark greyish brown, edged with yellowish olive, ; black line from lores over eye to side of nape; ear coverts white; cheeks, throat and upper breast black; lower breast olive green tinged yellow; rest of under parts yellowish grey.

Semi-arid scrubs and woodlands of southern W.A. from the Wheat Belt east to Eucla; also eastern Australia.

HONEYEATER, WHITE-NAPED

Melithreptus lunatus

Length 14-15 cm. Head (down to below eye) and ear coverts black, except for white line on nape; rest of upper parts mostly olive green; under parts white; bare skin above eye white, below eye pale blue, immatures of this and the next species have the head brownish, but are distinguishable from Brown-headed Honeyeater by pure white under parts.

Eucalypt forests of south-western W.A.; also eastern Australia (where eye skin red).

HONEYEATER - YELLOW PLUMED

Meliphaga ornata

Length 14-18 cm. Upper parts mostly greyish brown; head and tail coverts tinged with yellowish olive; lores and feathers around eye blackish grey; dull yellow line below eye; indistinct dark greyish brown streak behind ear, behind which a patch of yellow plumes, under parts whitish, the throat, breast and flanks streaked with dark greyish brown.

Mallee and other semi-arid scrubs of southern Australia.

KESTRAL, AUSTRALIAN

Falco cenchroides

Length 30-35 cm. A very small, slender falcon with long wings and tail and great skill at hovering. Male: feathers of head and neck bluish grey, edged with reddish brown and finely streaked with blackish grey, mantle and wing coverts reddish brown, many of the latter with a small blackish spot; wing quills blackish, rump, tail coverts and tail pale bluish grey, with a black subterminal band and pale tip; dark moustachial stripe; face, cheeks and under parts whitish, the breast suffused with pale reddish brown and finely streaked with dark brown. Female: upper parts reddish brown, except for blackish wing quills and blackish streaks on head and neck, triangular spots on back and wing coverts, and bands on tail (the last much the widest); under parts as in male but streaking coarse and more extensive.

Sparsely wooded parts of Australia and Tasmania, occasionally wandering to nearby islands.

KESTRAL, NANKEEN - See Kestral, Australian

KINGFISHER, SACRED

Halcyon sancta

Length 19-23 cm. Loes and collar on neck white to pale reddish brown; black band from bill through eye and ear coverts to nape; crown, mantle and scapulars greenish blue; rest of wings, lower back and tail blue; throat white; rest of under parts buff to pale reddish brown. Females are more greenish, less bluish, than males. In immatures the feathers of the breast and collar are edged with dark brownish grey.

The better watered and wooded parts of Australia and Tasmania, southern birds wintering in northern Australia and on islands to north (Sumatra to the Solomons) also New Zealand and other islands in southwest Pacific.

KITE, BLACK-BREASTED

Hamirostra melanosternon

Length 55-60 cm. A moderately large, powerful hawk with eagle-like flight (the strongly fingered wings are held well above the body when soaring); in flight a large white circular spot towards tip of wing; tail short and square-cut; lower leg unfeathered; bill large and strong. Dark phase; head, back, throat and breast blackish; neck, flanks, thighs and under tail coverts reddish brown; tail greyish. Pale phase; upper parts mainly brown, feathers edged with reddish brown, breast pale reddish brown, streaked black. Immature like pale-phase adult but plumage more mottled.

Australia, except southern and eastern coastal areas.

KITE, SQUARE TAILED

Lophoictinia isura

Length 50-56 cm. A moderately large, long-winged hawk with a white spot towards tip of wing (not so circular or prominent as in Black-breasted Kite); wings held well above body in flight and extending well beyond tail when at rest; crest not as prominent as in Little Eagle; tail long and square-cut; lower leg bare; bill much weaker than in Black-breasted Kite. Flight reminiscent of harriers as they search the canopy of trees for birds and eggs. Forehead, face and chin whitish; top of head, neck and under parts reddish brown, streaked black, back blackish brown feathers with pale edges; tail brownish grey, barred blackish brown.

Patchily distributed in better wooded parts of Australia, but absent from southeast

KOOKABURRA, LAUGHING*Dacelo gigas*

Length 41-47 cm. Head and neck brownish white and pale brown with blackish brown streaks; broad blackish brown stripe through eye to ear coverts; back and wings dark brown; wing and tail coverts more or less tipped with sky blue; tail chestnut, the feathers tipped and edged with white and barred with black, under parts greyish white.

Eastern Australia, now established in W.A. and Tasmania.

LORIKEET, PURPLE-CROWNED*Glossopsitta porphyrocephala*

Length 15-17 cm. Bill black; forehead orange, merging with red of lores; crown purplish black, ear coverts orange-red, shoulders blue; rest of upper parts mostly green; under wing coverts red; rest of under parts mostly pale blue.

Southern Australia, north in W.A. to the mulga-eucalypt line.

MAGPIE, AUSTRALIAN*Cracticus tibicen*

Length 37-43 cm. Adult female: head glossy black, neck white; back black, the feathers edged with greyish white; rump grey, the feathers edged with white; tail coverts white; tail white, broadly tipped black, scapulars and wing quills black, wing coverts mostly white; under parts mostly black, bill bluish white, tipped black. Adult male: younger birds are similar to adult female but back feathers are black with little or no pale edging; later the back is pale grey, streaked and mottled with black, finally (at four years old) the back and rump are white (i.e. birds are white from nape nearly to end of tail). Immatures: head and tip of tail black, narrow collar, wing and tail coverts and basal two-thirds of tail white; rest of upper parts blackish brown, the back feathers edged with brownish grey, under parts mostly blackish brown, mottled with greyish brown; bill blackish.

Lightly wooded country in all but the driest and wettest parts of Australia and Tasmania.

MAGPIE, WESTERN - See Magpie, Australian

MAGPIE-LARK*Grallina cyanoleuca*

Length 26-30 cm. Adult male: glossy black except for white stripe from above eye to side of nape, short line curving under eye, long patch from ear coverts to side of neck, large patch on wing coverts, tips of some secondaries, upper and under tail coverts, basal half and tip of tail, belly and flanks; bill and eye whitish. Adult female differing in having white forehead, chin and centre of throat, white of side of neck continuous with white of side of breast, but no white stripe over eye or white line under eye. Immatures differing from adult male in having white stripe over eye broader, white chin and centre of throat, dark bill and eye, and no white line under eye. Nest a large bowl of dried mud.

Well watered and lightly wooded parts of Australia and Tasmania. Popularly known as "mudlark" or "peewee".

MALLEE FOWL,

Leipoa ocellata

Length 55-67 cm. Upper parts generally grey or brown, the feathers of mantle, wings, tail coverts and tail barred or blotched with greyish white and black, throat pale reddish brown; rest of under parts whitish except for black median streak on upper breast and blackish brown barring on flanks.

Mallee and other dry scrubs of southern Australia, formerly with an outlying population in the coastal thickets of the deep southwest of W.A.

MARTIN, FAIRY

Hirundo ariel

Length 11-13 cm. Tail square-cut. Head chestnut; mantle speckled black and white; back and wing coverts black, glossed purplish blue; rump and tail coverts brownish white; wing quills and tail dark brownish grey; throat white, stippled with dark greyish brown, rest of under parts white. Mud nest shaped like a flask on its side and placed under bridges, culverts and overhanging cliffs and tree trunks.

All but the coolest and wettest parts of Australia.

MARTIN, TREE

Hirundo nigricans

Length 12-13 cm. Tail square-cut. Forehead spot reddish brown, rump brownish white; tail coverts pale greyish brown; rest of upper parts black, glossed purplish blue (except on wing and tail quills); under parts greyish white, finely streaked on throat and breast with dark brownish grey. Nesting in holes in trees.

Breeding in southern Australia and Tasmania and wintering in northern Australia and on islands to north, also a resident subspecies on Timor.

MINER, YELLOW-THROATED

Manorina flavigula

Length 23-27 cm. Forehead and front of crown yellowish olive; lores, line below eye and ear coverts blackish, rest of upper parts mostly greyish brown in south (paler and greyer elsewhere); tail coverts pale greyish brown in south (whitish elsewhere); wing quills dark brown, edged with yellowish olive; tail dark brown, tipped with brownish white; chin dark grey in south (white elsewhere); throat and breast greyish brown in south (elsewhere pale greyish brown, the side of neck and breast splashed with olive yellow); rest of under parts pale greyish brown in south (white elsewhere); bill and bare skin at gape and behind eye yellow; legs yellowish brown.

Lightly wooded country throughout most of W.A. also drier parts of eastern Australia.

MISTLETOEBIRD

Dicaeum hirundinaceum

Length 9-11 cm. Male: upper parts glossy blue-black throat, breast and under tail coverts bright red; wide black streak down centre of belly; rest of under parts greyish white. Female: upper parts mostly brownish grey; wings dark grey, slightly glossed with blue; tail black, glossed with blue; under tail coverts pale red; rest of under parts whitish. Call: an excited "seepa, seepa..."

Wooded country throughout Australia, especially where mistletoe plentiful; also Aru. Is.

OWL, BOOBOOK

Ninox novaeseelandiae

Length 28-33 cm. Upper parts dark reddish brown in south, pale reddish brown in north, the wing coverts and rump spotted with white or brownish white, facial disc whitish in front of eye, greyish brown behind eye; under parts in south reddish brown, mottled with buff and brownish white, in north white, streaked and mottled with reddish brown. Call: a two-noted "boo-book" or "mo-poke", the second syllable lower; remarkably like call of European Cuckoo, but of course only uttered at night.

All wooded parts of Australia and Tasmania; also from the Lesser Sunda Is. to New Zealand.

OWLET NIGHTJAR, AUSTRALIAN

Aegothele cristatus

Length 21-24 cm. In far south upper parts blackish grey with slightly paler stripe over eye, collar on neck and bars on tail; under parts greyish white, stippled with blackish grey on throat, breast and flanks. Northwards, birds become smaller, paler and more reddish (especially on head, throat and breast)

Australia, Tasmania and southern New Guinea.

OWLET-NIGHTJAR, CRESTED - see Owlet-nightjar, Australian

PARDALOTE, RED-TIPPED - See Pardalote, striated

PARDALOTE, SPOTTED

Pardalotus punctatus

Length 8-10 cm. Male: white stripe over eye; forehead, crown, nape, tail and much of wings black, spotted white; neck, back and scapulars blackish grey, spotted yellowish brown, rump chestnut; upper tail coverts red, cheeks, ear coverts and side of neck dark grey, freckled white; throat and under tail coverts orange-yellow; rest of under parts buffy brown, darker on flanks. Female: spots on head and stripe from bill to eye pale yellowish brown, throat buffy. Call: a monotonous "sleep baby".

Open forests and southwestern and southeastern Australia and Tasmania.

PARDALOTE, STRIATED

Pardalotus striatus

Length 10-11cm. Stripe from bill over eye to side of nape orange-yellow in front, white behind; crown, nape and ear coverts black with short white streaks; neck, back and scapulars olive grey, rump and tail coverts reddish brown, tail black lightly tipped white; wing quills blackish brown, edged with white and pale brown; black line from lores through eye; centre of throat and upper breast yellow; rest of under parts buffy white, becoming pale brown on flanks. Head of immatures dark olive grey. Call: a sharp "wit-wit" or "wit-a-wit".

Open eucalypt forest and woodlands throughout Australia and Tasmania. The above description applies to the subspecies (*substriatus*) inhabiting southern and north-western W.A.

PARADLOTE, YELLOW RUMPED

Pardalotus xanthopygus

Length 9-11cm. Very like the Spotted Pardalote, but rump orange-yellow, neck and back spotted greyish white, and head of female spotted yellow.

Replacing the Spotted Pardalote in semiarid woodlands of southern Australia, west in W.A. to Tambellup and the Stirling Range.

PARROT, ELEGANT

Neophema elegans

Length 21-24cm. Narrow forehead band from eye to eye in adults dark purplish blue edged above with pale blue; rest of upper parts olive green except for pale blue shoulder patch and some dark purplish blue in wings and tail; lores yellow; throat and breast yellowish green, becoming yellow on belly, under tail coverts and edge of outer tail feathers. Female slightly duller and lacking orange patch in lower belly. Distinguishable from Rock Parrot by brighter and more greenish upper parts and yellow lores.

More open parts of southwestern W.A., ordinarily north to Moora and east to Esperance, occasionally wandering north to the Pilbara; also southeastern Australia.

PARROT, PORT LINCOLN - See Parrot, Ring-necked

PARROT, RED-CAPPED

Platycercus spurius

Length 35-38cm. Male: forehead, crown and nape dark red; rump bright yellowish green; rest of upper parts mostly dark green; cheeks green, side of neck bright yellowish green; throat, breast and belly purple; thighs and under tail coverts red. Female generally duller than male, e.g. breast olive grey, belly greyish purple, and red of head and under tail coverts largely replaced with green. Immatures much duller, e.g. breast and belly dull reddish brown, and red almost completely replaced with green. Flying from the observer it is easily distinguished from the Ring-necked Parrot by the pale rump.

Southwestern eucalypt forests (especially those with marri) north to Dandaragan and east to Esperance. Endemic to W.A.

PARROT, RING-NECKED

Platycercus zonarius

Length 35-44cm. Forehead spot dull red; head brownish black; yellow collar on neck; cheeks blue; rest of plumage green with some blue in wings and tail.

The above description applies to the "Twenty-eight Parrot" (*P. z. semitorquatus*), the subspecies of southwestern W.A. north to Armadale and the Stirling Range. The "Port Lincoln Parrot" (*P. z. zonarius*) from the Wheat Belt north to the Pilbara and southeast Kimberley and east to the Flinders Ranges, S.A., is smaller, has little or no red on forehead, has a yellow belly and utters a two-noted whistle (sounding like "twenty" rather than "twenty-eight"). Birds from the Perth Metropolitan Area are intermediate between these two subspecies. Other subspecies in interior of eastern Australia.

PARROT, TWENTY-EIGHT - See Parrot, Ring-necked

PIGEON, CRESTED

Ocyphaps lophotes

Length 30-34cm. Forehead and crown grey; erect crest black; wings brownish barred black, with a metallic purple and green patch on secondaries; rest of upper parts greyish brown; under parts mostly pale grey.

Throughout the drier and more lightly wooded parts of Australia (but not deserts).

PIPIT, AUSTRALIAN - See Pipit, Richards.

PIPIT, RICHARDS

Anthus novaeseelandiae

Length 14-17cm. Upper parts dark brown, the feathers edged with pale brown; stripe over eye brownish white; sides of tail white; under parts whitish, the breast streaked with dark greyish brown.

Bare or sparsely vegetated ground throughout much of Old World.

PLOVER, BANDED

Vanellus tricolor

Length 25cm. Head black, except for white stripe running back from eye; neck and back brown; tail white with broad black band at tip; wing dark brown to black with a broad white stripe; throat, upper breast and belly white; side of neck and lower breast black; bill, eye and eyelid yellow; small wattle in front of eye red; legs purplish.

Open grassy plains (including pastures and airfields) of southern Australia and Tasmania.

PLOVER, HOODED

Charadrius cucullatus

Length 20cm. Head and throat blackish; white collar on back and side of neck; mantle, scapulars, wing quills, central tail coverts, and tail blackish brown; rest of upper parts pale greyish brown (a conspicuous white wing-strip in flight); rest of under parts white; bill orange, tipped black; eye-ring red; legs pink. In immatures the head and throat are pale brown and dark brown, speckled with white.

Coasts of southern Australia and Tasmania; also saltlakes in W.A.

PLOVER, RED-CAPPED

Charadrius ruficapillus

Length 15cm. Male: stripe from bill through eye to ear coverts black; forehead white, separated from bright reddish brown crown and neck by a black line, patch of reddish brown on side of neck, margined in front with black; rest of upper parts mostly greyish brown; under parts white; bill and legs black. Female: reddish brown duller and paler; no black markings.

All coasts and some inland waters of Australia and Tasmania.

QUAIL, STUBBLE

Coturnix novaezelandiae

Length 17-19cm. A relatively large quail with a whitish stripe on centre of crown and over each eye; back and wings conspicuously pale-streaked; call a loud melodious rising whistle "chu-chi-wit". Male: upper parts generally brown, coarsely streaked with brownish white and variegated with pale brown and black; throat, cheeks and side of neck pale reddish brown; rest of under parts mostly whitish, the breast heavily mottled with black and the belly streaked with blackish brown. Female: upper parts as in male; under parts whitish, the sides of head and neck dotted with dark brown, and the breast and flanks spotted and streaked with dark brown.

Open country in southern Australia, occasionally wandering to northern Australia; formerly in New Zealand.

RAINBOW-BIRD - See Bee-eater, Rainbow

RAVEN, AUSTRALIAN

Corvus coronoides

Length 47-50cm. Hackles in adults (long, pointed feathers on throat, conspicuous when birds calling). All black, glossed with purple and bluish green; base of neck feathers (revealed in wind) grey; eye white in adults, brown in immatures. Voice: a series of very loud, slowly repeated, deep notes "aah, aah, aah ... aaaaaah", the last drawn-out, descending in pitch and facing away.

Southern and eastern Australia; in W.A. north to the lower Murchison, Eastern Goldfields and southern fringe of the Nullabor Plain. Usually in pairs.

ROBIN, SCARLET

Petroica multicolor

Length 12-13 cm. Adult male: forehead white; rest of head, throat, neck, back and most of wings and tail black; strip in wings and sides of tail white; breast and belly bright red; rest of under parts white. Adult female: forehead spot white; rest of upper parts dark greyish brown except for white stripe in wings and white sides of tail; throat greyish brown; breast pale red; rest of under parts greyish white.

Forests of southwestern and southeastern Australia, Tasmania and the southwest Pacific (the Solomons to Norfolk I.).

ROBIN, WESTERN YELLOW - See Robin, Yellow

ROBIN, YELLOW

Eopsaltria australis

Length 14-15cm. Head, neck, upper back and scapulars dark grey; rump and tail coverts yellowish green; wings and tail dark greyish brown; lores black; throat white, breast grey; rest of under parts bright yellow.

Forests and woodlands of southern and eastern Australia. The grey-breasted subspecies (*E. a. griseogularis*) of W.A. and Eyre Peninsula is sometimes treated as a separate species from the yellow-breasted forms of eastern Australia.

ROSELLA, WESTERN

Platycercus icterotis

Length 25-30cm. Male: head, neck and under parts red except for pale yellow cheeks; feathers of mantle, upper back and scapulars black, edged with green and (in drier parts of range) with red; lower back and upper tail coverts olive green. Female much duller, e.g. red of head restricted to forehead, and red of under parts mixed with green. Immatures mostly green with red duller and less extensive than in female and no yellow in cheeks.

Southwestern forests and woodlands north to Moora and east to the Norseman district. Endemic to W.A.

SANDPIPER, CURLEW

Calidris ferruginea

Length 18-21cm. Bill long and slightly down-curved. Upper parts mostly greyish brown; white stripe over eye; white wing-stripe in flight; upper tail coverts mostly white; under parts mostly white; bill and legs black.

Breeding in far northern Asia and spending northern winter on coasts of Africa and from southern Asia to Australia. The record requires confirmation.

SCRUB-WREN, SPOTTED - See Scrub-Wren, White-Browed

SCRUB-WREN, WHITE-BROWED

Sericornis frontalis

Length 11-13 cm. Upper parts mostly dark brown or greyish brown; forehead spot and lores blackish brown in male, brown in female, bordered above by white line to above ear coverts; feathers below shoulder black, conspicuously edged with white; throat and upper breast greyish white with elongate black spots; lower breast and belly pale buffy yellow in wetter parts of range, white in drier; eye yellowish white.

Thickets in southwestern, southern and eastern Australia and Tasmania; north in W.A. to the Abrolhos and Shark Bay.

SHOVELER, BLUE-WINGED

Anas rhynchos

Length 46-53cm. A dabbling duck with bill very long, straight in profile and widened at tip. Male: crown, base of bill and chin blackish brown; whitish crescent in front of eye; rest of head and neck bluish grey; back and tail blackish brown; wing coverts greyish blue; speculum green; rest of under parts chestnut mottled with black; patch of white at side of base of tail; bill dark; legs orange-red. Female duller than male, e.g. no bluish sheen on side of head or pale crescent in front of eye.

Southwestern and southeastern Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand: occasionally wandering north in W.A. to the Pilbara.

SHRIKE-THRUSH, GREY

Colluricincla harmonica

Length 23-26cm. Upper parts grey or brownish grey; lores whitish; throat and upper breast greyish white or pale grey, streaked with grey; breast pale grey; belly buff, buffy grey or buffy white; vent and under tail coverts buffy brown (paler in Kimberley); bill black in adult male, brown in female and immatures.

Open forests and woodlands throughout Australia, Tasmania and southeastern New Guinea.

SHRIKE-THRUSH, WESTERN - See Shrike-Thrush, Grey

SHRIKE-TIT, CRESTED

Falcunculus frontatus

Length 17-18cm. Bill very deep, Adult male; head, neck and throat black except for white lores, broad white strip from above eye to side of nape and broad white stripe from cheek to side of neck; rest of upper parts yellowish olive green except for greyish brown wing and tail quills; breast bright yellow; belly whitish; under tail coverts pale yellow. Adult female has the throat grey tinged with yellowish olive green and a much shorter crest.

Eucalypt forests of northern, eastern and southwestern Australia. The above description applies to the southwestern subspecies (*F. f. leucogaster*).

SILVEREYE, WESTERN - See White-eye, Grey-breasted.

SITTELLA, AUSTRALIAN

Daphoenositta chrysoptera

Length 10-13 cm. Male: forehead and face white; crown black; collar on neck pale greyish brown; black and scapulars greyish brown; wings blackish brown, a large orange-brown patch on quills conspicuous in flight; tail coverts white; tail blackish brown, all but central feathers tipped white; under parts mostly white. Female has more black on head (extending to forehead, nape and below eye to lores and ear coverts). Immatures have the head and neck streaked with white, the wing and tail feathers tipped or edged with reddish brown, and no yellow on base of bill.

Open forests and woodlands throughout Australia. The above description applies to the subspecies (*pileata*) inhabiting the greater part of W.A.; it is replaced in Kimberley by a subspecies (*leucoptera*) with white wing-patch and back coarsely streaked with blackish brown.

SITTELLA, BLACK-CAPPED - See Sittella, Australian

SONGLARK, BROWN*Cincloramphus cruralis*

Length: male 22-25cm, female 17-19cm. Male: lores black; head, neck, rump and tail coverts greyish brown; rest of upper parts dark brown; breast and flanks greyish brown; centre of belly dark brown. Female: lores and line over eye whitish; rest of upper parts brown, the feathers edged with pale brown; chin white; rest of under parts brownish white, mottled with brown (heavily on centre of belly).

Grassy country throughout much of Australia, but scarce in far north.

SONGLARK, RUFOUS*Cincloramphus mathewsi*

Length 15-21cm. Male: lores blackish brown; line over eye whitish; rump and tail coverts reddish brown; rest of upper parts mostly brown, coarsely streaked with blackish brown; throat whitish; breast pale greyish brown; rest of under parts buffy. Female considerably smaller; lores paler.

Lightly wooded grasslands throughout most of Australia.

SPARROWHAWK, COLLARED*Accipiter cirrocephalus*

Length: males 28-33 cm, females 35-39 cm. A small hawk with broad rounded wings, long square-cut tail and very long yellow legs. Coloration as in Brown Goshawk except for dark slaty grey head contrasting with dark greyish brown back; thus, unless tail shape is clearly seen, these hawks can only be distinguished on size, and this only applies to the male sparrowhawk and the female goshawk, which are grossly different in this respect; the female sparrowhawk is too similar to the male goshawk (especially of the northern subspecies) to be identified on size alone. In the hand the sparrowhawk can be distinguished by its extremely long and slender middle toe (remembering that the middle toe in the goshawk is considerably longer than outer toes).

Australia, Tasmania and New Guinea.

SPINEBILL, WESTERN*Acanthorhynchus superciliosus*

Length 12-15cm. Male: forehead, crown and nape dark greyish brown; white line from above eye to side of nape; blackish stripe from lores through eye, bordered below by white stripe from chin to ear coverts; neck and throat chestnut; rest of upper parts mostly brownish grey, tinged olive on black; much white in outer tail feathers (conspicuous in flight); narrow white crescentic band on upper breast and side of neck, bordered below by a brownish black band; rest of under parts buffy. Female: upper parts similar to male except for duller, paler and narrower chestnut collar; throat and breast pale greyish brown; rest of under parts buffy.

Scrubs and forests of southwestern Australia from Jurien Bay to Israelite Bay. Endemic to W.A.

STILT, BANDED

Cladorhynchus leucocephala

Length 37-45cm. Bill long and straight. Broad dark chestnut band on breast (absent or pale in immatures) in contact with brownish black centre of belly; wings brownish black with white trailing edge; rest of plumage white; legs pink.

Saltlakes in southern Australia, including Rottnest I.

STILT, BLACK-WINGED

Himantopus himantopus

Length 35-40cm. Bill long and straight; legs extremely long. Adults white except for black nape, anterior half of neck, upper back and wings; bill black; legs bright pink. Immatures white except for grey crown, nape and neck and greyish brown back and wings.

Throughout Australia, mostly on freshwaters; all other continents and many islands.

STILT, WHITE-HEADED - See Stilt, Black-winged.

STINT, LITTLE - See Stint, Red-necked.

STINT, RED-NECKED

Calidris ruficollis

Length 14-16cm. Upper parts mostly greyish brown, mottled with dark brown; white stripe over eye, white wing-stripe in flight; outer tail coverts white; under parts mostly white; bill and legs black.

Breeding in northeastern Siberia and northwestern Alaska and spending northern winter on coasts from eastern Asia to Australia. The smallest and most abundant shorebird in W.A.

SWALLOW, WELCOME

Hirundo neoxena

Similar to Barn Swallow, but bill and tail streamers shorter, chestnut forehead spot larger, and no black band on throat. The cupshaped mud nest is placed in caves and mine shafts and under shop and hotel verandahs etc.

Southern and eastern Australia, Tasmania and (recently) New Zealand; breeding in W.A. north to the Monte Bello Is, Onslow and Meekatharra, occasionally wandering north in winter to south Kimberley

SWAN, BLACK

Cygnus atratus

Length 100-130cm. Plumage black except for white wing quills; bill red, with white bar towards tip, legs blackish.

Australia (except far north), Tasmania and New Zealand; north in W.A. to South Kimberley.

TEAL, GREY

Anas gibberifrons

Length 37-48cm. Upper parts dark greyish brown, most feathers edged with brownish white; speculum (rectangular patch on wing) black and green; cheeks pale greyish brown; throat whitish; breast and belly pale greyish brown, feathers with darker centres; bill and legs dark grey. In flight a white bar in wing.

Throughout Australia and Tasmania; also many islands from the Andamans (Bay of Bengal) through Indonesia to New Zealand.

TERN, CRESTED

Sterna bergii

Length 41-52cm. Crest long; tail deeply forked. Forehead and neck white; crown (to just below eye) and nape black; rest of upper parts grey, darkest on wings, palest on tail; under parts white; bill lemon-yellow; legs black. In non-breeding birds the head is streaked with white.

Coasts throughout Australia and Tasmania; also from south and east Africa through south and southeast Asia to the tropical west Pacific.

TERN, GULL-BILLED

Sterna nilotica

Length 34-42cm. Bill shorter and thicker, legs longer and tail less deeply forked than in most grey terns. Breeding plumage; forehead, crown (down to level of eye) and nape black; back and wings very pale grey, becoming darker towards wing tips; tail coverts, tail and under parts white; bill and legs black. Non-breeding adults have the head streaked white and blackish brown. Immatures have the head speckled white and blackish brown, and the wings mottled with dark brown.

Inland waters and sheltered seas over much of Australia; all other continents.

The above description applies to the Australian subspecies (*macrotarsa*). This record requires confirmation.

THORNBILL, BROAD-TAILED

Acanthiza apicalis

Length 10-11cm. Forehead dark brown, scalloped with pale reddish brown or brownish white; rest of head, neck, back and wing coverts brown tinged olive; tail coverts dull reddish brown; tail greyish brown with a blackish band towards tip, the outer feathers tipped white; throat and breast white, streaked with blackish brown; rest of under parts pale brown or brownish white; eye reddish brown. Northwards and inland the birds become paler.

Thickets, scrub and forest undergrowth north to the northern limits of mulga; also arid and semiarid zones of eastern Australia.

In the southern interior of W.A. there are three species of thornbill with reddish upper tail coverts. The Broad-tailed can be distinguished by its long halfcocked tail, scalloped forehead and strongly streaked under parts; the Chestnut-rumped by its white eye, bright upper tail coverts and little or no pattern on forehead and under parts; and the Slaty-backed by its clear grey back, finely streaked head and unstreaked under parts.

THORNBILL, WESTERN*Acanthiza inornata*

Length 9-10cm. Upper parts mostly olive grey or olive brown; forehead inconspicuously freckled with pale reddish brown; dark brown band towards tip of tail; under parts brownish white, becoming buffy on flanks and lower belly; eye whitish.

Endemic to forests of southwestern W.A.

THORNBILL, YELLOW-RUMPED*Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

Length 9-11cm. Upper parts mostly greyish brown; forehead blackish brown, dotted white; whitish line over eye; rump, upper tail coverts and base of tail canary yellow; rest of tail blackish brown, tipped pale brown; under parts brownish white; eye pale grey.

Lightly wooded country in southern two-thirds of Australia, north in W.A. to about the Tropic.

THORNBILL, YELLOW-TAILED - See Thornbill, Yellow-rumped.

TREE-CREEPER, RUFOUS*Climacteris rufa*

Length 16-18cm. Lores, line over eye, and ear coverts reddish brown; crown nape and neck brownish grey; rest of upper parts mostly brown, tinged with reddish (especially on rump, tail coverts and tail); wing-band pale reddish brown, conspicuous in flight; blackish band towards tip of tail; under parts reddish brown, the upper breast streaked with greyish white (streaks edged with black in males).

Open eucalypt forests and woodland of southern W.A. and western S.A.

TRILLER, WHITE-WINGED*Lalage sueurii*

Length 15-18cm. Breeding male: head (to just below eye), neck and mantle glossy black; lower back and tail coverts grey; tail black, outer feathers tipped white; wings glossy black except for broad white band and white edges to secondaries; under parts whitish. Non-breeding male differs mainly in having head, neck, mantle and scapulars brown. Female: pale brown stripe over eye; indistinct dark stripe through eye; rest of upper parts brown, many wing feathers edged with buff or brownish white and outer tail feathers tipped and edged with brownish white; under parts whitish, the flanks faintly barred with greyish brown.

Open forests and woodlands throughout Australia and Tasmania, southern birds wintering in northern Australia; also from Java to Timor.

WILLIE WAGTAIL*Rhipidura leucophrys*

Length 18-21cm. Throat and upper parts glossy black to brownish black, except for white line over eye; rest of under parts creamy white.

Lightly wooded country throughout Australia and on islands to north.

WARBLER, WESTERN - See Flyeater, Western.

WATTLEBIRD, LITTLE

Anthochaera chrysoptera

Length 26-30cm. Upper parts mostly dark brown, the back finely streaked with white, the wing edged narrowly with brownish white and broadly with chestnut, and the rump feathers, tail coverts and outer tail feathers tipped white; blackish brown streak through eye; silvery white patch below and behind eye; throat dark greyish brown, dotted white; breast brown, finely streaked with whitish; rest of under parts whitish, the flanks mottled with brown. Distinguishable from the Red Wattlebird by the chestnut wing-patch in flight, the more rhythmic and less raucous cries ("cook-cackle, cook-cackle..."), and the absence of ear wattle and of yellow on belly.

Scrubs and open forests of southwestern Australia from Geraldton to Israelite Bay; also southeastern Australia and Tasmania.

WATTLEBIRD, RED

Anthochaera carunculata

Length 31-35cm. Forehead and crown blackish brown; neck, back and wing coverts dark greyish brown, finely streaked with white; wing quills blackish brown, edged with pale greyish brown and tipped with white; tail blackish brown tipped white; widening silvery white streak from lores to below eye, below which a red wattle; pale greyish brown tuft of feathers on side of neck; centre of belly yellow; rest of under parts brown, streaked with whitish. Raucous cries.

Open forests and woodlands of southern Australia, north in W.A. to the mulga-eucalypt line.

WEEBILL

Smicrornis brevirostris

Length 8-9cm. Bill shorter and paler than in flyeaters. In south: head, wings and tail greyish brown; back olive green, more yellowish on rump; pale line over eye; blackish brown band towards tip of tail; small white triangular blotch near tip of outer tail feathers; throat and breast pale yellowish grey; belly pale yellow; bill and legs greyish brown; eye white. Northwards the back becomes paler and more yellowish and the under parts yellow. Australia's smallest bird; very active, constantly fluttering among the leaves of the canopy, uttering its loud, excited call (sounding like its name, "wee-bill").

Open eucalypt forests, woodlands and scrubs throughout Australia.

WHISTLER, GOLDEN

Pachycephala pectoralis

Length 16-18cm. Bill short, Adult male: head (to below eye) and nape black; yellow collar on neck; back and tail coverts yellowish olive green; wing feathers greyish brown, edged with pale olive and brownish white; tail brownish grey, broadly tipped with blackish brown; throat and cheeks white; black band on foreneck, narrowly continuous with black of head; rest of under parts rich yellow, narrowly continuous with collar on neck; bill black. Female: head, neck and back brownish grey; rest of upper parts greyish brown, the wing feathers edged with pale brown; throat pale grey; breast greyish brown; rest of under parts buffy brown; bill brown.

Forests and scrubs of southern and eastern Australia and Tasmania. This and the following whistler are probably only subspecies of a widespread species (*P. caledonica*) ranging from Java to Fiji.

WHISTLER, RUFOUS

Pachycephala rufiventris

Length 14-16cm. Adult male: head, neck and back grey; wing and tail feathers blackish brown, edged with grey; throat and cheeks white; curving black band on upper breast; rest of under parts reddish brown (rich in south, duller and paler in north). Female: upper parts as in male; throat white, streaked with blackish brown; rest of under parts buff, the breast streaked with blackish brown.

Open forests and woodlands throughout Australia; also New Caledonia.

WHITE-EYE, GREY-BREASTED

Zosterops lateralis

Length 11-12cm. Upper parts mostly olive green; eye-ring white; throat and under tail coverts olive yellow; rest of under parts pale brownish grey.

Coastal thickets and near-coastal forest undergrowth in southern and eastern Australia and Tasmania, north in W.A. to Shark Bay; also southwest Pacific (Fiji to New Zealand).

WOODSWALLOW, BLACK-FACED

Artamus cinereus

Length 16-19cm. Adults: upper parts mostly brownish grey; upper and under tail coverts black; tail black, all but central feathers tipped white; small facial mask black (from bill and chin back to a little beyond eye); rest of under parts pale brownish grey. Immatures: no facial mask; head streaked and back speckled with pale brownish grey.

Lightly wooded country in all but the wettest and coolest parts of Australia; also Timor.

WOODSWALLOW, DUSKY

Artamus cyanopterus

Length 18-19cm. Adults: head, neck and mantle moderately dark brown, becoming blackish brown on lower back and tail coverts; wings greyish black with conspicuous white outer edge; tail greyish black, all but central feathers broadly tipped white; under parts moderately dark brown. Immatures have the head and body streaked with greyish and brownish white.

Well-wooded country in southern and eastern Australia and Tasmania.

WREN, BANDED BLUE - See Fairy-wren, Splendid

WREN, BLUE-BREASTED - See Fairy-wren, Blue Breasted

WREN, FIELD - See Calamanthus

WREN, RED-WINGED - See Fairy Wren, Red-Winged

WREN, SPLENDID - See Fairy-Wren, Splendid