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BIRDWATCHING IN THE PARK

Perth is fortunate enough to have an area of over 400ha of native vegetation, parks and gardens in the middle of the city. This provides a home for over 70 species of birds, many of which live here permanently and others visit at various times of the year

Morning is the best time for bird watching. Good places to see birds are the Botanic Garden, the banksia woodlands in the spring and the edges of the woodland where the trees meet the grassed area. To see some of the rarer species such as thornbills, you can take a quiet walk along some of the trails throughout the park.

This brochure tells you about 40 of the most common birds of Kings Park. By using your eyes and ears you should be able to find many of them.

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71 Oceanic Drive
Floreat, Western Australia, 6014
Telephone: 9383 7749

The Western Australian Group can be contacted at the above address for further information on native birds of Western Australia. New members are welcome.

Kings Park and Botanic Garden Information Centre
9.30am - 4pm daily Tel: 9480 3634

*Visit the Annual Wildflower Festival
held in Kings Park each September*

KEY

R - Resident all Year	C - Common
V - Visitor for part of year	M - Moderately Common
B - Breeds in Kings Park	U - Uncommon

KINGS PARK
& BOTANIC GARDEN
BOTANIC GARDENS & PARKS AUTHORITY

Birds of Kings Park & Botanic Garden



Prepared by
Birds Australia WA Group

PARROTS AND GALAHS

These birds look for hollows in trees for nesting. They have strong bills for cracking seeds and nuts.

Australian Ringneck

Barnardius zonarius

Ringnecks are often seen feeding on the ground. They have a wide variety of calls
(B, R, C)



Galah

Cacatua roseicapilla

Galahs have expanded their range south from the Murchison and they now breed around Perth.
(B, R, U)

Short-billed Black-Cockatoo

Calyptorhynchus latirostris

These birds are visitors to the coastal plain in autumn-winter from the wheatbelt. They have developed a taste for pine tree seeds. Note their weird call, 'wee-yu', when flying.
(V, U)



Rainbow Lorikeet

Trichoglossus haematodus

These lorikeets were introduced from the eastern states in the nineteen-sixties and have now spread widely throughout the metropolitan area. Lorikeets have a brush-tipped tongue for collecting pollen and nectar. (B, R, M)

HONEYEATERS

Honeyeaters are found in every major vegetation zone in Australia. They are important pollinators of Australian plants and are very active in their search for nectar and insects. The following honeyeaters can be found in Kings Park in all seasons.

Red Wattlebird

Anthochaera carunculata

This is the largest of our honeyeaters and is very noisy and aggressive.

(B, R, C)



Little Wattlebird

Anthochaera chrysoptera

The Little Wattlebird is smaller than the Red Wattlebird and can often be seen in the Botanic Garden perched on top of a bush giving its chortling call.

(B, R, M)

Brown Honeyeater

Lichmera indistincta

The Brown Honeyeater has a brownish plumage. It has a number of loud, musical calls.

(B, R, C)



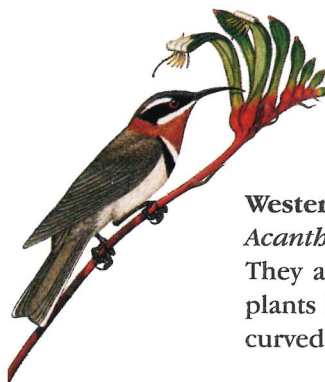
HONEYEATERS

Singing Honeyeater

Lichenostomus virescens

The Singing Honeyeater prefers open woodland throughout the park. They are Perth's second most common garden bird.

(B, R, C)



Western Spinebill

Acanthorhynchus superciliosus

They are often found feeding in plants below 2m. Note their fine curved beak.

(B, R, M)

White-cheeked Honeyeater

Phylidonyris nigra

The White-cheeked Honeyeater can usually be seen in the Botanic Garden. A similar species, the New Holland Honeyeater, may sometimes be seen.

(B, R, M)



Mistletoebird

Dicaeum birundinaceum

The Mistletoebird visits the park in search of mistletoe berries or small fruits of introduced plants.

(V, U)



CUCKOOS

Three cuckoos are regular visitors to Kings Park. Cuckoos lay their eggs in nests of other birds. (hosts)

Pallid Cuckoo

Cuculus pallidus

The Pallid Cuckoo visits Kings Park from May to November and relies on large honeyeaters as a host for their young.

(B, V, M)



Fan-tailed Cuckoo

Cacomantis flabelliformis

Fan-tailed Cuckoos visit the Perth area in winter. They feed on caterpillars.

(V, U)



Shining Bronze-Cuckoo

Chrysococcyx lucidus

They are usually most common from August to December and migrate to Indonesia in winter. They mostly rely on Thornbills as hosts.

(B, V, M)



CROWS AND RAVENS

Australian Raven

Corvus coronoides

Australian Ravens are omnivorous and are often seen feeding in the picnic areas.

(B, R, C)



FANTAILS

Fantails have a conspicuous fan-like tail. They are restlessly active in their search for insects, grubs and spiders.

Willy Wagtail

Rhipidura leucobryis

These lively birds are usually found on lawns and in open country. They defend their territory aggressively when nesting. (B, R, C)



Grey Fantail

Rhipidura fuliginosa

Grey fantails are more common from April to November. They are very inquisitive and will often come close to intruders. (B, V, C)



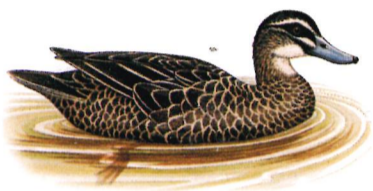
WATER BIRDS

Several water birds visit the Pioneer Women's Memorial Fountain and others are residents including the following.

Pacific Black Duck

Anas superciliosa

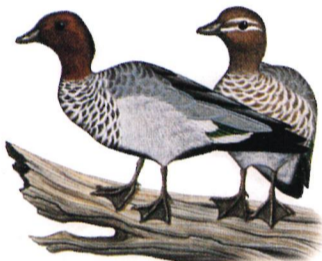
They appear on most lakes and waterways around Perth and are often seen loafing about in the daytime.



Australian Wood Duck

Chenonetta jubata

They are usually nomadic but will remain at a site if food, especially lawn grass, is available.



GROUND FEEDERS

Australian Magpie

Gymnorhina tibicen

Magpies live in groups in permanent territories where they feed, roost and breed. They are aggressive in breeding season and may swoop on passers-by. (B, R, C)



Yellow-rumped Thornbill

Acanthiza chrysorrhoa

They are occasionally seen in small flocks along tracks and mown lawns. (B, R, U)



Common Bronzewing

Phaps chalcoptera

This is a very shy bird which likes to feed on wattle seeds. It comes each day at dusk to drink at taps and other watered areas. (R, U)



Magpie Lark

Grallina cyanoleuca

Magpie Larks are territorial and the young form flocks after breeding. They have a musical call 'tee-he-pee-o'. (B, R, U)



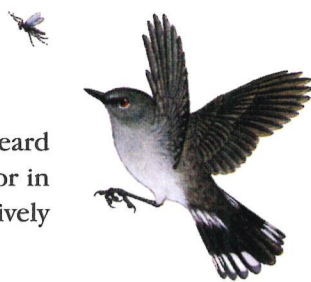
GLEANERS

These smaller birds live in the foliage and collect insects from the leaves.

Western Gerygone

Gerygone fusca

They are more often heard than seen, usually singly or in pairs. They have a distinctively mournful call. (B, R, C)



Weebill

Smicrornis brevirostris

The Weebill is Australia's smallest bird and is often heard before it is seen as it moves through the canopy of eucalypts. Listen for its call 'wee-bit'. (B, R, M)

Striated Pardalote

Pardalotus striatus

Listen for its loud, distinctive call 'chip-chip'. They eat many foods including insects, cells of leaf bugs and sometimes nectar. (B, R, C)



Silvereye

Zosterops lateralis

Silvereyes move in flocks through the bushes with their contact call of 'psec-psec'. They feed on a wide range of foods including aphids, berries and Marri nectar. (B, V, C)

GROUND FEEDERS

Laughing Turtledove

Streptopelia senegalensis

These birds were introduced to Western Australia from Asia in 1898. They are now common around Perth. (B, R, C)



Spotted Turtledove

Streptopelia chinensis

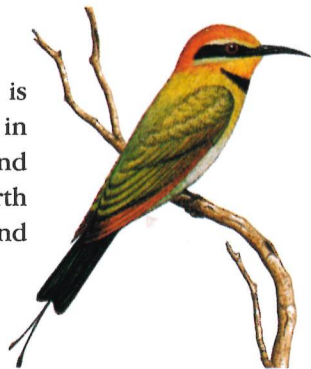
This is a slightly larger bird than the above and is not as common. It has a black and white patch on back of neck. It was also introduced from Asia.

AERIAL FEEDERS

Rainbow Bee-eater

Merops ornatus

Their brilliant plumage is obvious as they fly about in search of bees, wasps and dragonflies. They visit Perth from the north in spring and summer. (B, V, C)



Welcome Swallow

Hirundo neoxena

(R, M)

Tree Martin

Hirundo migicans

(B, R, M)

Can you identify these in their flight for insects?

PREDATORS

Predators hunt for insects, lizards, small mammals and young birds.

Grey Butcherbird

Cracticus torquatus

Grey Butcherbirds live in permanent territories and prefer bushland bordering parks and open spaces. They have a number of loud melodious calls. (R, B, M)



Nankeen Kestrel

Falco cenchroides

They are often seen hovering over scarp at Kings Park in their search for food. (V, U)

Brown Goshawk

Accipiter fasciatus

They are usually present during winter and spring when nesting in eucalypt trees in the centre of the park. They may swoop on you if you approach the nest. (V, B, U)



Laughing Kookaburra

Dacelo novaeguineae

The Kookaburra was introduced to Western Australia from Eastern Australia in 1898. It has now spread throughout the South-West. (R, B, C)

SOME INTERESTING BIRDS

Sacred Kingfisher

Todiramphus sanctus

The Sacred Kingfisher is a breeding visitor from September to March. It is usually found in the woodland area. (B, V, M)



Rufous Whistler

Pachycephala rufiventris

This bird is usually found in Jarrah woodland either singly or in pairs. Its loud, musical call is often heard. (B, R, C)

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike

Coracina novaehollandiae

When perched, notice how they give a peculiar display in which the wings are lifted alternately on the back. (B, V, C)



Tawny Frogmouth

Podargus strigoides

Tawny Frogmouths live in pairs in a permanent territory. They feed by night on ground animals such as mice and centipedes. (B, R, U)