

# The Belongil Estuary Bird and Field Report – Jan Olley

Report: No 2  
Date: 23/9/04  
Time of visit: 10am to 1300

Dear Bird Buddies,

It was an over-cast day on Belongil, and no Little Terns in sight. One man with a little poodle coming from Sunrise Estate was the only dog I saw in two hours. The dog was let off the leash but stayed under the master's control. Even with my new Non Violent Communications training I didn't attempt to press the point. No dog tracks were crossing the area that I could see. There were also a couple of guys exploring the creek in a kayak.

About 12.30 a strong sea-breeze came in, making it a little uncomfortable on the beach, so I decided to explore the inland tracks. I discovered something you all probably know, the track followed the creek and ended in a clearing about 400mts further up the creek. A bird-watcher heaven, heaps of waders and other waterbirds, as well as mum and dad Oyster Catcher hanging out with a pretty big baby chick.

Here's my list of birds.

## **Beach**

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Seagulls x 30  
Crested Terns x 15

## **Mouth of Creek**

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Galah x 2  
Red-capped Plovers x 6  
Welcome Swallows x 2  
Masked Plovers x 2 (nesting)  
Rainbow Bee-eaters x 2 (building nests ie holes in the side of the dunes)

## **Flying Over**

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Osprey x 1  
Little Black Cormorant x 8

## **Inner Creek**

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Pied Oyster x 2 adults plus (1 chick)  
Pacific Golden Plovers x 7  
White Ibis x 9  
White-faced Heron x 1  
Little Egret x 1  
Great Egret x 1  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper x 8  
Black-winged Stilts x 9  
Bar-tailed Godwits x 7  
Common Greenshank 1 (I think as difficult to ID)

## **Surrounding Bush**

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Brush Wattle Bird, Lewin's Honeyeater, Whipbird, White-cheeked Honeyeater, Scarlet Honeyeater

Regards Jan

02-Report 23-9-04