

## The Belongil Estuary Bird and Field Report – Jan Olley

Report No 4  
Date 28/10/04  
Time 8.45am to 12.30

Dear Bird Buddies

It's always exciting going for my weekly visit to the creek, as you never know what new bird will turn up. Today it was a Sanderling, actually three of them, at least I think that was what they were as I find it hard to distinguish them from the Red-neck Stint. The creek has filled up from the recent rains and therefore there is no high ground up the creek for the wader birds to rest on. So, most have gone with only a few remaining on the spit at the mouth of the creek.

Reid was also at the creek to-day. He reported that he assisted Bob and also Hank with the NSW wader bird count over the week-end of the Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. Apparently a large number of Little Terns were spotted on Seven Mile Beach. So, it seems they have decided not to visit us this year. The Beach Stone-curlew that Reid sighted in the grassy area inside the fence a couple of weeks ago, was not sighted today.

Robin Buckley and I joined the Brunswick Valley Bird group outing on Sunday and enjoyed ourselves spotting lots of birds on Flat Rock and at Ballina, including a small number of Little Terns and a pair of Sooty Oystercatchers. The group usually has an outing every 2nd Wednesday and they are interested in visiting Belongil. Could BB's invite them to visit on a Wednesday as that would be suitable for a number of us to tag along? Anyone interested?

As discussed at the meeting, I plan to start the monthly species ID for Birds Australia next Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> starting 8.30 am. Anyone interested can meet me at the fence on the beach.. However if you cannot attend and need some help with identification I will be happy to arrange other days to suit either individually or as a group, just let me know.

Here's my list of birds for 28<sup>th</sup> October 2004

### **Beach**

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Seagulls x 105  
Red-capped Plovers x 2

### **Mouth of Creek**

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Red-capped Plovers x 4  
Welcome Swallows x 1  
Pacific-golden Plover x 30 (24 flew in while we were watching)  
Pied Oyster x 3 (one being the pledged chick)  
Sanderlings x 3  
Crested Terns x 9  
Seagulls x 20  
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper x 5  
White-faced Heron x 1  
Rainbow Bee-eaters 2 (still attending their nest)

**Flying Over**

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Torresian Crow x 1

**Inner Creek**

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Black Cormorant x 1

Great Egret x 1

Pied Cormorants x 3

**Surrounding Bush**

Brush Wattle Bird, Lewin's Honeyeater, Whipbird, Dollar Bird, Common Koel,  
Sacred Kingfisher, White-cheeked Honeyeater,

Regards Jan



Sacred Kingfisher

Photo Reid Waters