

The Belongil Estuary Bird and Field Report – Jan Olley

Report: no14
Date 24/2/02
Time 09.15 to 12.30

Dear Bird Buddies

It was hot and sultry at the Belongil today. Lots of people, four dogs and lots of Terns. Full moon at the moment, so very high tides. Most of the birds were resting on the sandspits inside the fence and the only thing disturbing them was a pair of Ospreys.

Paul and Kathleen first reported 150 Little Terns on the 22nd and 30-40 Common Terns. Today I counted about 125 Little Terns and 150 Common Terns. As Paul and Kathleen said, some yellow, black tipped beaks, but according to my books the breeding season should be over, though nothing is ever certain in nature.

It always pays to look carefully, as amidst the 14 Red-capped Plovers was a non-breeding Double-banded Plover looking very much like a female Red-capped, only slightly bigger.

My visit next week will be on Wednesday instead of Thursday with a group of people from the Brunswick Valley Bird Club. We'll be meeting at the Becton Golf Course parking at 8am if anyone else would like to join us.

To Pete, my report's coming and to Howie, I'm still thinking about your bomb drop and I must say I too, am very sorry to hear of your resignation as your input was valuable. I hope you re think and come back and join the group with the prospect of working something out.

Here's my list of birds for today 24th of February 2005.

Beach

Red-capped Plovers x 14 (still in residence up the beach)
Double-banded Plover x 1

Mouth of Creek

Pacific Golden Plovers x 28
Little Terns x 125
Common Terns x 150
Crested Terns x 4
Pied Oystercatchers x 2
Greenshank x 1
Masked Lapwing x 2
Seagull
Willy Wagtail

Flying Over

Black-winged Stilt x 2
Osprey x 2

Inner Creek

Little Black Cormorants x 14

White-faced Heron x 5

Surrounding Bush

Lewin's Honeyeater, Whipbird, Brush Wattlebird, Brown Honeyeater, Eastern

Yellow Robin, Superb Blue Wren, Yellow Robin, Currawong, Dollarbird.

White-cheeked Honeyeater

Regards Jan



Masked Lapwing