

The Belongil Estuary Bird and Field Report – Jan Olley

Report No: 15
Date: 21/3/07
Time of visit 10.30am to 1300

Dear Bird Buddies,

A special thanks to the Beach Hotel and other Bird Buddies for a delightful evening of celebrating the end of season for the Belongil Birds last Thursday. The table setting was especially beautiful with Birds of the Belongil place mats and the complimentary meal was very generous.

I missed my usual Thursday visit last week and I won't be there this Thursday, so before I had withdrawals, I visited on Monday. On arrival, the tide was low and I could see lots of Terns on the beach as well as on the sandspits inside the fence. Closer inspection revealed only Common and Crested Terns with lots of juvenile Crested Terns. So the last sighting of the Little Terns appears to be Paul's, on Sunday 13th March.

The Golden Plovers are still there, some now have very black breast feathers. From now on I'd be expecting to see more migrating birds calling in for a rest, so keep the your eyes tuned. Due to the mouth of the creek silting up, the water levels in the inner creek are still high, therefore only a small number of wader sightings.

Although there were no dogs on the beach on Monday, dog footprints are still visible even on the inside of the fence. No nude men either.

List of birds for 21st March 2005.

Beach side

Red-capped Plovers x 11 (moving further north up the beach)

Mouth of Creek

Pacific Golden Plovers x 22 (one in the inner creek)
Common Terns x 120 (includes some outside the fence)
Crested Terns x 15 (many juveniles)
Pied Oystercatchers x 2
Greenshank x 3 (two in the inner creek)
Seagulls, Masked Lapwing

Inner Creek

Black-winged Stilt x 6
White-faced Heron x 7

Surrounding Bush and Around Golf Course

Lewin's Honeyeater, Eastern Yellow Robin, Currawong, Grey Fantail, Brown Thornbill, Crested Pigeon; Galah, Willy Wagtail, Noisy Miner, Magpie Lark, Australian Wood Duck, Australian Magpie

Regards Jan