



Where good things just come naturally...



## Recent Bird Sightings - as at June 22nd, 2006

The wild weather which was a feature of the summer is now a distant memory as we've been blessed with perfect winter conditions in recent weeks. These sunny, calm days are perfect for birding, and while the last of the migrants have departed there is still plenty of activity for those willing to put in the time.

### *Here's a brief summary of recent sightings:*

**Albert's Lyrebird** – a male has been delighting birders of late by appearing regularly near the Booyong Walk, sometimes within 100 metres of our front reception! With the cool weather, sightings are occurring regularly on all rainforest tracks, especially the Python Rock and Border tracks. To see a male in display, an early visit to the Python Rock track in the next couple of months is the best bet.

**Paradise Riflebird** – calling infrequently now but sightings are still occurring, including a male displaying on the Elabana track recently. Can appear on any rainforest track but Python Rock and upper Wishing Tree are always worth a look. Watch for falling debris as they probe rotting wood or epiphytes.

**Noisy Pitta** – rarely seen through the winter months with sightings most likely in rainforest areas at lower elevations: the Python Rock, Cainbale and lower Wishing Tree tracks are a chance, as is an early morning drive down the Canungra Road. They won't be calling (except occasionally on dusk or at night) so you'll have to spot them feeding inconspicuously in the leaf litter.



**Noisy Pitta**

**Regent and Satin Bowerbirds** – male Regents are notorious for being somewhat elusive through the autumn and early winter, but become more prevalent from now through the spring.

Our pre-breakfast bird walk represents the best chance of seeing them, and they often perch atop the Hoop Pines in the guesthouse grounds through the day. Satin's are more cooperative and are easily seen in the guesthouse grounds and on the bird walk. A new bower has recently been constructed beside the fence (although hidden behind shrubs) in front of the unit 37 – 44 block.

**Rose Robin** – less conspicuous now as they rarely make their relatively prominent advertising song, but they will continue to utter a soft, buzzing call. You may locate one foraging on the sunny rainforest edges, but they are most regularly seen in winter in eucalypt forest on the mountain and down into the surrounding valleys.



**Wompoo Fruit Dove**

**White-headed Pigeon** – being reported occasionally flying over the guesthouse and feeding in fruiting trees on several of the rainforest tracks. They can be inconspicuous but listen for their soft, booming calls.

**Wompoo Fruit-Dove** – several reports from the drier rainforests around Cainbale Creek and Kamarun Lookout.

**Grey Goshawk** – seen fairly regularly along the Red Road and around the Cedar Tree. It's also worth scanning for soaring birds from any of the escarpments.

**Wedge-tailed Eagle** – regularly perching in the large dead trees on the opposite ridge from the guesthouse and soaring above Balancing Rock and Luke's Bluff areas.

**Australian Owlet-nightjar** – recent records from the same area of the Border Track, about 500 metres from the guesthouse. Michael O'Reilly's group had beautiful views recently of one roosting on a low, open perch. All the regular hollows are worth checking at any time; ask the guides in the Discovery Centre for directions or the latest sightings.



*Australian Owlet-Nightjar*

**Southern Boobook** – appearing commonly in the grounds, most regularly on the buildings, the flagpole and nearby trees at the back of the guesthouse.

**Marbled Frogmouth** - several recent records, mostly from the slightly drier rainforests down the road from the guesthouse.

**Spotted Quail-thrush** – sighted regularly on the Duck Creek Road around Kurrajong and Kerry lookouts and near the Kurrajong turnoff. The long grass at the moment means that they often feed on the road early in the morning.

**Glossy Black-Cockatoo** - scarce at present but three birds sighted recently beside the Canungra Road just above 'Bundaleer' house. Can turn up anywhere in drier eucalypt areas in fruiting Forest Oaks.