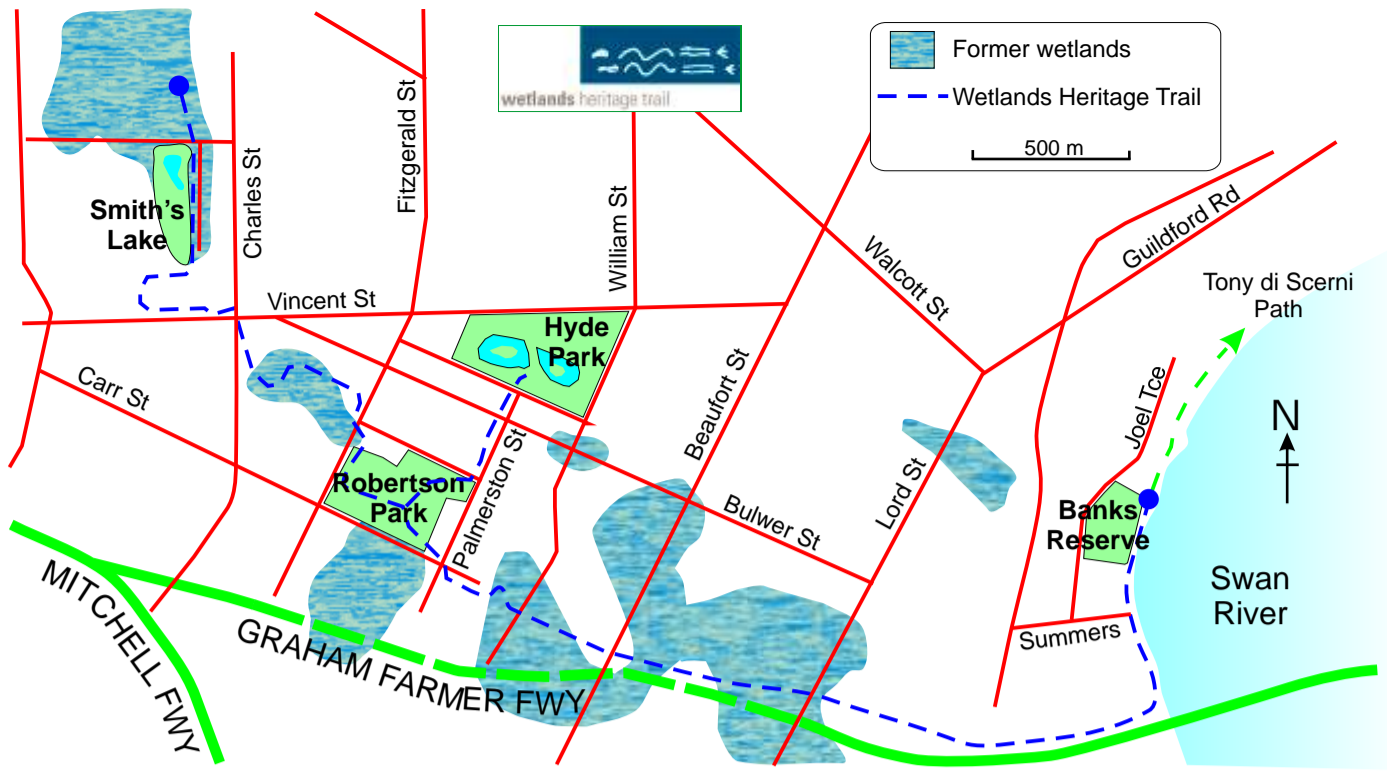


Birds of the Town of Vincent



Discover the birds in your backyard by following the **Wetlands Heritage Trail** which links current and former wetland habitats across the Town of Vincent.

Looking carefully across **Smith's Lake** you might spot the shy Buff-banded Rail in the sedges, or the honeyeaters in the flowering shrubs. Picnic on the grassy banks of this permanent wetland, walk the boardwalk for a bird's-eye view of the water or rest in the shade of mature trees as you watch for birds.

Hyde Park is the ideal place to watch waterfowl with their young in spring and early summer. The two shallow permanent lakes have extensive bird life with bushy islands providing shelter and safe breeding sites. As one of Perth's oldest formal parks there are extensive grassy areas with many mature exotic trees and shrubs attracting a wide range of species. Nesting boxes have been installed to tempt pardalotes and bats back to the native flora garden.

Birds are welcome in **Robertson Park** at the revegetated 'Little Bojoormelup' seasonal wetland.

Thickly planted native sedges and shrubs provide shelter and a food source for birds. Once part of the Claise Brook drainage system, the park has mature native and exotic trees and open grassy picnic areas to enjoy.

Banks Reserve is located next to the Swan River. Sit on the grass in the shade of well-established trees and look for birds using Walters' Brook for drinking, bathing or as a food source. Native and introduced plants provide an inviting habitat for a variety of birds. Nesting holes of the Sacred Kingfisher are visible among the leaf bases of the nearby palms.

Head north on the **Tony Di Scerni Path** looking out for raptors over the open river and grasslands. Walk to the jetty to view birds foraging in remnants of the riverine vegetation.

For information on the trail, visit www.vincentwetlands.com.au



Red Wattlebird

Supported by the State Government's Environmental Community Grants program



Prepared by Birds Australia Western Australia
No. 58a in a series of bird guides of Western Australia
December 2009



WATERFOWL

Black Swan S(Br) H(Br)—M—Res/Vi



Australian Shelduck S H(Br)—C—Res/Vi



Large, boldly marked. Feeds on grasslands or by sifting food from water.

Australian Wood Duck S(Br) H(Br) B(Br)—C—Res



Often seen feeding on grassed areas.

Grey Teal S—Ra—Vi/Nom



Smaller, more wary than Pacific Black Duck.

Northern Mallard* / Domestic Duck* S H B—U—Res/Vi



Pacific Black Duck S(Br) H(Br) B(Br)—C—Res/Vi

Feeds on plant or animal food by upending. Often nests in tree hollows.

Hardhead S H(Br)—U—Res/Vi



Prefers deeper water; dives for molluscs and seeds. Male has a white eye.

GREBE

Australasian Grebe S(Br) H(Br)—C—Res



Tiny diving bird. Builds a floating nest of water weeds.

Hoary-headed Grebe H B—Ra—Nom
Finely-streaked head pattern, dark nape stripe, silver eye.

PIGEON, DOVE

Rock Dove* S—U—Vi
Introduced from Europe. Also known as Feral Pigeon.

Laughing Dove* S H R B—C—Res



From Asia; is smaller with black-speckled lower throat.

Spotted Dove* S H R B—M—Res



From Africa/India. Less common, slightly larger with spotted collar.

CORMORANT

Australasian Darter B—U—Vi



Specially jointed neck allows it to stab prey under water; submerges with barely a ripple.

Little Pied Cormorant S H B—C—Vi



Stubby yellow bill; usually fishes alone.

Great Cormorant B—U—Vi
Larger black bird with a conspicuous yellow facial patch. More likely on Swan River.

Little Black Cormorant S H B—M—Vi
Similar to Little Pied but all black. Sometimes seen fishing in flocks on the river.

HERON, IBIS, ALLIES

Australian Pelican S H B—U—Vi

Eastern Great Egret S H B—U—Vi
Stately white bird, usually alone. Waits motionless then makes lightning thrusts at prey.

White-faced Heron B—Ra—Vi

Feeds by wading in shallow waters or on grassy banks.



Nankeen Night-Heron S H—U—Res/Vi



Stocky, hunched posture. Feeds at dawn, dusk; roosts in trees during day.

Australian White Ibis S H B—M—Vi
Large white bird with long black down-curved bill. Probes water-logged areas for small aquatic animals.

Yellow-billed Spoonbill S H—Ra—Vi



Sweeps bill from side to side in search of small aquatic animals.

RAPTOR

Brown Goshawk H—Ra—Vi

Heavy brow gives 'glaring' expression. Often flies through trees when hunting.



Peregrine Falcon B(Br)—Ra—Res



Dives on prey at speed, with half-closed wings.

CRAKE, RAIL, ALLIES**Purple Swamphen** S H(Br) B—U—Res

Feeds on tender reed stems. Grazes on grassed areas.

**Buff-banded Rail** S—Ra—Vi

Usually shy. In dense vegetation along water's edge.

Dusky Moorhen S(Br) H(Br) B—C—Res

Prefers fresh water. Feeds on vegetation, insects and frogs.

**Eurasian Coot** S(Br) H(Br) B—C—Res

Has flattened lobed toes. Feeds on land or in water.

SHOREBIRD**Black-fronted Dotterel** H—Ra—Res

Feeds on mudflats. Nests on ground, relying on cryptic colouring and distraction displays for protection.

**NODDY, TERN, GULL****Caspian Tern** B—U—Vi

Heavy red bill is diagnostic. Plunges for prey.

Silver Gull H B—C—Res

Common 'seagull' found in picnic areas.

PARROT**Galah** S B—U—Res

Has moved south from Murchison. Nests in hollows. Feeds mainly on the ground.



Three species of Corella are seen in the Perth area but only one is recorded locally. All flocks have built up due to aviary escapes.

Little Corella* S H B—U—Vi

The smallest and plainest with the shortest bill. Lacks the red breast slash of Long-billed Corella.

Rainbow Lorikeet* R S H B—C—Res/Vi

From aviary escapes in the 1960s. Now occurs throughout the metro area and beyond.

**Australian Ringneck** S B—U—Res

Also known as Twenty-eight, from one of its many calls. Eats fruit, seeds, insects and larvae.

CUCKOO**Shining Bronze-Cuckoo** B—Ra—ViWi

Lays its egg in nest of a small bird such as a thornbill, which then rears the cuckoo chick.

KINGFISHER**Laughing Kookaburra*** H B—U—Vi

Introduced from Victoria in the 1890s. Nests in tree hollows.

Sacred Kingfisher S H B(Br)—U—ViSu

Nests in hollows. Feeds on insects and small reptiles.

**BEE-EATER, ROLLER****Rainbow Bee-eater** S H B—U—ViSu

Excavates a nest tunnel in sandy areas. Eats bees and other insects caught in flight.

SCRUBWREN, ALLIES**Western Gerygone** S—Ra—Vi?

Tiny bird more easily located by slow, dreamy call. Searches for insects in foliage.

**PARDALOTE****Striated Pardalote** R S H B—M—Res

Tiny bird. Searches for insects among eucalypt foliage. Two note 'chip-chip' call.

HONEYEATER**Singing Honeyeater** R S H B—C—Res

Common garden bird. Note black stripe through eye, and off-white breast with darker streaks.

**Western Wattlebird** S B—U—Nom

Slightly smaller than Red Wattlebird, less raucous. Rufous wing patch seen in flight.

Red Wattlebird R S H B—C—Res

Largest of honeyeaters with fleshy red neck wattles. Noisy; aggressive to other birds (see cover).

Brown Honeyeater R S H B—C—Nom

Small honeyeater with long curved bill. Has a number of musical calls.

New Holland Honeyeater R S H B—M—Res

Boldly marked with bright yellow wing patch. Usually in small parties, often noisy.

**CUCKOO-SHRIKE, TRILLER****Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike** R B—M—Res

Undulating flight; shuffles wings on landing. Feeds on insects, berries and seeds.

BUTCHERBIRD, CURRAWONG**Australian Magpie** R S H B—M—Res

Family groups; proclaims territory with song. White-backed bird is the male.

FANTAIL**Willie Wagtail** R S H B—C—Res

Plucky, friendly. Builds a neat nest of spiderweb. Feeds on insects, spiders and worms.

**RAVEN, CROW****Australian Raven** R S H(Br) B—C—Res
Omnivorous. Builds a substantial stick nest.**FLYCATCHER, MONARCH****Magpie-lark**

R S H B—C—Res

Mud-nest builders which retain the same mate and territory for life.

**OLD WORLD WARBLER****Australian Reed-Warbler** S H B—Ra—Res

Lives and nests among tall reeds. Rich, strong varied call in spring/summer.

Little Grassbird B—Ra—Res

Elusive; in dense vegetation near water. More often identified by its melancholy, three-note call.

WHITEYE**Silvereye** S B—M—Nom

Moves in flocks searching for grubs, aphids, berries and nectar. Variety of thin high calls.

**SWALLOW, MARTIN****Welcome Swallow** R S B—C—Res/ViSu

Note deeply forked tail. Builds a mud nest. Catches insects in flight.

Tree Martin R S B—U—ViSu

Distinguished from swallows by pale rump and only slightly forked tail.

**CODES****Areas**S Smith's Lake
H Hyde Park
R Robertson Park
B Banks Reserve & Tony Di Scerni Path**Abundance**C Common
M Moderately common
U Uncommon
R Rare**Status*** Introduced species
Br Breeds in area
Res Resident
Vi visitor Wi winter Su summer
Nom Nomadic

Names of birds illustrated are shown in blue.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:Artists: S. Tingay, P. Free, J. Blyth, M. Bamford.
Photos: J. Vogel.**WHAT IS BIRDS AUSTRALIA?**

Birds Australia is a non-profit organisation working for the enjoyment, study and conservation of Australia's birds.

The Western Australian members of Birds Australia are state-wide and are offered a variety of activities and services including conservation and research projects, excursions, camp-outs, bird surveys and social activities.

We also have a library, books for sale and information about birds.

To view our full range of bird guides and bird lists, visit our web site.

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