

BIRDS OF YATMERONE WILDLIFE RESERVE 2016
(records from 2009-16, the period before and after restoration began in 2010)

Species	Observer	First record	Status
BROLGA, COOTS, GREBES & SWANS			
Australasian Grebe	JH	09/2009	M
Black Swan	JH	09/2009	C
Brolga	DM	01/2012	R
Eurasian Coot	JH	09/2009	M
Hoary-headed Grebe	JH	09/2009	M
DUCKS & GEESE			
Australian Shelduck	JH	09/2009	U
Australasian Shoveler	JH	09/2009	U
Australian Wood Duck	JH	09/2013	U
Blue-billed Duck	DM	01/2014	R
Grey Teal	JH	09/2009	C
Hardhead	JH	10/2012	M
Magpie Goose	PD	Pre-2009	R
Pacific Black Duck	RB	01/2010	C
MOORHENS, NATIVE-HENS & SWAMP HENS			
Black-tailed Native-hen	DM	12/2011	R, s
Dusky Moorhen	DM	07/2012	U
Purple Swamphen	JH	09/2009	C
CORMORANTS & DARTER			
Australian Darter	RB	04/2013	R
Little Black Cormorant	JH	09/2009	M
Little Pied Cormorant	JH	09/2009	C
HERONS, EGRETS, IBIS, SPOONBILLS			
Australian White Ibis	JH	09/2009	C
Cattle Egret	JH	09/2009	C
Eastern Great Egret	DM	02/2012	U
Intermediate Egret	PD	2012	R
Nankeen Night-heron	JJ	07/2012	R
Royal Spoonbill	PD	06/2012	U
Straw-necked Ibis	JH	09/2009	C
White-faced Heron	JH	09/2009	C
White-necked Heron	JH	09/2009	C
Yellow-billed Spoonbill	DM	01/2012	M
GULLS			
Silver Gull	DM	01/2012	U
SHOREBIRDS/WADERS			
Black-fronted Dotterel	RB	02/2016	U
Black-winged Stilt	DM	2015	U
Latham's Snipe	RB	01/2010	U, s
Masked Lapwing	JH	09/2009	C
Wood Sandpiper	RB	02/2016	R
GRASSBIRD, CISTICOLA, REED-WARBLERS			
Golden-headed Cisticola	PD	01/2012	U
Little Grassbird	DM	10/2012	M
RAPTORS			
Black Falcon	SG	04/2013	R
Brown Falcon	JH	09/2009	M
Collared Sparrowhawk	RB	02/2016	U
Nankeen Kestrel	JH	09/2009	C
Peregrine Falcon	JJ	07/2012	U
Swamp Harrier	DM	21/2014	C
Wedge-tailed Eagle	RB	01/2010	M
Whistling Kite	JH	09/2009	C

OTHER SPECIES			
Australian Magpie	JH	09/2009	C
Brown Thornbill	SG	03/2014	U
Buff-rumped Thornbill	RB	04/2013	U
Common Blackbird	JH	09/2009	M
Common Starling	DM	12/2011	C
Crested Pigeon	RB	01/2015	U
European Goldfinch	JH	09/2009	C
European Greenfinch	PD	01/2015	U
Forest Raven	SG	03/2014	U
Galah	JH	09/2009	M
Grey Fantail	DM	2015	U
House Sparrow	JH	09/2009	C
Little Raven	JH	09/2009	C
Long-billed Corella	JH	09/2009	U
Magpie-lark	JH	09/2009	U
Red-rumped Parrot	DM	10/2012	U
Red Wattlebird	PD	09/2013	U
Silvereye	JH	09/2009	M
Striated Fieldwren	DM	01/2012	M
Superb Fairy-wren	SG	03/2014	U
Stubble Quail	DM	12/2011	M, s
Welcome Swallow	JH	09/2009	C
White-fronted Chat	DM	02/2012	U
Willie Wagtail	JH	09/2009	M
Yellow-rumped Thornbill	JH	09/2009	M
Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo	DM	03/2011	M

Status (the likelihood of a visitor to this wetland seeing a listed species here):

R= Rare (mostly only 1 or a few birds), U = Uncommon (mostly in low numbers),
M = Moderately common (but often in low numbers), C = Common (perhaps in low numbers),
s = seasonal migrants (cuckoos, snipe, song-larks, quail, etc.)

The list was compiled from sightings made by members of the following groups:

- Hamilton Field Naturalists Club
- Friends of Yatmerone
- Birdlife Hamilton

Observers:

DM – Dave Munro

JJ – Jeff Jellie

RB – Rod Bird

JH – Jane Hayes

PD – Phil Doherty

SG – Samantha Greiner

The list of birds currently (Feb. 2016) stands at 71 species; 35 waterbirds and 36 other species. The list of non-waterbirds (particularly honeyeaters, whistlers, thornbills and robins) will grow as the planted trees and shrubs develop. The list of waterbirds is less likely to expand much, since the water is not deep even in winter, with little open water for diving birds, and there is little fringing mudflat to attract waders. Both conditions might be improved if the outflow was restricted to lift the winter level.

The reserve is situated on the basalt plains about 1 km west from Penshurst and Mount Rouse. The swamp arises from rain water soaking into the volcanic scoria cone of Mount Rouse (*Kolor*) which erupted about 330,000 years ago. The water runs out over relatively impermeable clay formed from the 2 and 4.6 million-years-old basalt that surrounds the volcano. The spring occurs in a depression in the 333,000 year-old stony rises about 1 km from the mount. The area of water in the swamp was enhanced many years ago when the adjacent landholder blocked the exit arm. The swamp presently covers about 8 ha and, despite being quite shallow, is rarely dry.

Due to its relatively shallow depth the swamp vegetation is dominated by Water Ribbons (*Triglochin procera*). Many water plants grow on the verges, including the attractive purple-flowered Creeping Monkey-face (*Mimulus repens*). An old stand of *Pinus radiata* and other introduced trees and shrubs occur on a rocky area above the swamp on the south side. Ruins of an early homestead exist nearby.

From 2010 the Friends of Yatmerone arranged the removal of livestock from the area and tackled the introduced shrubs that had invaded parts of the site. They planted the eastern end of the reserve with indigenous trees and shrubs. A dry-stone feature wall was constructed at the entrance and an informative sign board has been provided there. A path was made from the entrance along the eastern edge of the reserve to a bird hide erected on the stony barrier near the SE corner.