

was laid because some children had felled undergrowth right against the nest. She did not build again that season. A Lyre-Bird has also been known to feed and attend to her young after the nest had been moved bodily to a place of safety by some scrub-cutters. Mr. A. W. Freeman, of Nyora, told me he once took home a young nestling, intending to rear it, but changing his mind after keeping it away all night, he took it back to its nest, and caused it to call out, when the mother bird appeared, and he left them together. In this case the young bird was eventually safely reared. Mr. Freeman also informed me that a friend of his found a nest containing two eggs at Binginwarri, Victoria. My supposition is that the second egg was laid by another female. I have on three occasions seen these birds shot at night in mistake for opossums, while perching high up in the eucalyptus trees. A peculiar habit I have noticed in this interesting bird is its propensity for building, and sometimes roosting, in most unlikely places. For example, in the acre of scrub before mentioned they have nested for the last three years, not in the most secluded part—so rough, indeed, that cattle are unable in many places to penetrate it—but, on the contrary, right on the outskirts of the scrub, and within some 10 yards from the road. This year's nest is plainly visible to anyone passing, although the traffic is considerable. Indeed, it was a cream carrier who first drew my attention to the exact whereabouts of the birds this season, and he assured me he rarely passed without seeing them. The trees they roosted on this year are also on the outskirts. From the road the two females could be very distinctly seen on their perches, one of them 150 feet up.—L. C. COOK. Poowong (Vic.)

* * *

BIRDS OF INVERLOCH (VIC.)—During the Christmas vacation I had an opportunity of visiting Inverloch, which lies 12 miles south of Outtrim, on Anderson's Inlet, and while there found much to interest an ornithologist. Generally speaking the country in that locality is undulating, the highest parts being covered with a somewhat stunted growth of eucalypts and bracken fern, and the lower portions with heath, tea-tree, sword-grass, &c. In the former birds were numerous, though not representative of many species, those most frequently met with being the Butcher-Bird (*Cracticus destructor*), Buff-rumped Tit (*Acanthiza reguloides*), and Wood-Swallow (*Artamus sordidus*). In the heath country the dearth of bird-life was very noticeable. Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrikes (*Graucalus melanops*), Pallid Cuckoos (*Cuculus pallidus*), and Wood-Swallows were numerous, and very busy amongst the caterpillars which were to be found on the grass and low bushes. In the dense fringe of banksias and tea-trees along the ocean coast, Red and Brush Wattle-Birds

(*Acanthochæra carunculata* and *A. mellivora*), Brown Tits (*Acanthiza pusilla*), and White-browed Scrub-Wrens (*Sericornis frontalis*) were plentiful, while on the ocean beach Silver Gulls (*Larus novæ-hollandiæ*), Pacific Gulls (*Gabianus pacificus*), Black and Pied Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax carbo* and *P. hypoleucus*), Hooded and Red-capped Dottrels (*Ægialitis cucullata* and *Æ. ruficapilla*) were seen, and eggs of the last-named were noted on 23rd December, the late nesting being due, perhaps, to the fact that my brother took eggs from the same locality on 18th and 23rd November. A Hooded Dottrel's nest containing four eggs (two being the usual clutch) was found on 18th November. These eggs were probably laid by two female birds which were seen in close proximity to the nest. The most interesting part of this district from an ornithologist's point of view is the long, narrow strip of land terminating in Point Smythe, and separating the inlet from the ocean. A fringe of high sand-dunes and tea-tree-clad ridges runs along the coast in a south-easterly direction, and effectively protects the inland portion from the southerly gales. The soil at the western end of this peninsula is sandy, undulating, and more or less covered with banksias, tea-trees, and stunted eucalypts. Banksias grow profusely here, and attain a large size in the more open localities. Bird-life is much in evidence, and the harsh notes of the Red and Brush Wattle-Birds may be heard in every direction. Several pairs of Coach-whip-Birds (*Psophodes crepitans*) were seen or heard in the dense tea-tree scrub. It was noticed that the Brown Tits were found only in the tea-tree along the coast on either side of the entrance to the inlet, while the Buff-rumped and Yellow-rumped species were to be found in the timbered country on the mainland, and always at some little distance from the coast.

Curlews (*Numenius cyanopus*), Red-capped Dottrels, and Black Ducks (*Anas superciliosa*) could be seen nightly making their way down the inlet from the mud-flats to the sandy beach within the entrance.

I had no opportunity of visiting the eastern end of the inlet, but my brother, who was there on 20th November, noted a great number of waders and swimming birds of different kinds, and heard Coachwhip-Birds in the reeds and coral fern growing at the entrance of the Tarwin River. Probably the extensive clearing of timber in the neighbourhood may account for the birds being driven into country so different from what they usually inhabit.

I noticed the following birds, and several others that I was unable to identify :—

Harrier (*Circus gouldi*), Kestrel (*Cerchneis cenchroides*), Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike (*Graucalus melanops*), Lalage (sp.), Oriole (*Oriolus viridis*), Magpie-Lark (*Grallina picata*), Grey Shrike-Thrush (*Collyriocincla harmonica*), Brown Flycatcher (*Micræca fascians*), Blue Wren

(*Malurus cyaneus*), White-shafted Fantail (*Rhipidura albiscapa*), Black-and-White Fantail (*R. tricolor*), Brown Tit (*Acanthiza pusilla*), Yellow-rumped Tit (*A. chrysorrhoa*), Buff-rumped Tit (*A. reguloides*), White-browed Scrub-Wren (*Sericornis frontalis*), Coachwhip-Bird (*Psophodes crepitans*), Rufous Song-Lark (*Cinclorhamphus rufescens*), Striated Field-Wren (*Calamanthus fuliginosus*), Rufous-breasted Thick-head (*Pachycephala rufiventris*), White-throated Tree-creeper (*Climacteris leucophaea*), Orange-winged Tree-runner (*Sittella chrysoptera*), White-fronted Chat (*Ephthianura albifrons*), White-backed Magpie (*Gymnorhina leuconota*), Butcher-Bird (*Cracticus destructor*), Yellow-breasted Shrike-Robin (*Eopsaltria australis*), White-eye (*Zosterops cerulescens*), Yellow-faced Honey-eater (*Ptilotis chrysops*), Red Wattle-Bird (*Acanthopneuste carunculata*), Brush Wattle-Bird (*A. mellivora*), Orange-tipped Pardalote (*Pardalotus assimilis*) (?), Swallow (*Hirundo neoxena*), Fairy Martin (*Petrochelidon ariel*), Pipit (*Anthus australis*), Wood-Swallow (*Artamus sordidus*), Sacred Kingfisher (*Halcyon sanctus*), Laughing Jackass (*Dacelo gigas*), Pallid Cuckoo (*Cuculus pallidus*), Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chalcococcyx plagosus*), Fan-tailed Cuckoo (*Cacomantis flabelliformis*), Crimson Parrakeet (*Platycercus elegans*), Rosella (*P. eximius*), Bronze-wing (*Phaps chalcoptera*), Stubble Quail (*Coturnix pectoralis*), Bald-Coot (*Porphyrio melanonotus*), Coot (*Fulica australis*), Pied Oyster-catcher (*Hæmatopus longirostris*), Hooded Dottrel (*Ægialitis cucullata*), Red-capped Dottrel (*Æ. ruficapilla*), Curlew (*Numenius cyanopus*), Snipe (*Gallinago australis*), Painted Snipe (*Rostratula australis*), Silver Gull (*Larus novæ-hollandiæ*), Pacific Gull (*Gabianus pacificus*), White-fronted Heron (*Notophox novæ-hollandiæ*), White-necked Heron (*N. pacifica*), Black Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*), Little Cormorant (*P. melanoleucus*), Little Black Cormorant (*P. sulcirostris*), Gannet (*Sula serrator*), Pelican (*Pelecanus conspicillatus*), Little Penguin (*Eudyptula minor*), Black Swan (*Chenopsis atrata*), Cape Barren Goose (*Cereopsis novæ-hollandiæ*), Wood-Duck (*Chenonetta jubata*), Mountain-Duck (*Casarca tadornoides*), Shoveller (*Spatula rhynchotis*), Grey Teal (*Nettion gibberifrons*).

—G. F. HILL. 17/1/09.

From Magazines, &c.

IN *The Avicultural Magazine* in the issues of August, September, November, and December of last year, Mr. D. Seth-Smith, F.Z.S., the editor, gives the first instalments of a series of Australian field notes and bird observations. It will be remembered that Mr. Seth-Smith visited Australia in the interests of the Zoological Society of London, and that he returned to England with a splendid collection of live stock for the Gardens. The field notes above mentioned, which are written in an extremely entertaining manner, refer to his brief sojourn in Western Australia, and were made chiefly in the company of Messrs. E. A. and L. Le Souëf, of the Perth Zoo. Mr. Seth-Smith enjoys the reputation of being a successful aviculturist. He now proves himself expert in the art of field observation. Readers will look forward to the balance of Mr. Seth-Smith's notes as they appear from time to time.



Hill, G F. 1909. "Birds of Inverloch (Vic.)." *The Emu : official organ of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union* 8(4), 221–223.

<https://doi.org/10.1071/mu908214j>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/88007>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1071/mu908214j>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/379588>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.