



BIRDLIFE SUNSHINE COAST 2026

Half-Year Programme

BirdLife Australia Sunshine Coast acknowledges the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the Sunshine Coast and pays respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.



CALENDAR IN BRIEF – OUTINGS

January

- **Sat 10 Jan** — Noosa Botanical Garden — *Russell McGregor*
- **Wed 21 Jan** — Baroon Pocket Dam (south side) — *Russell McGregor*

February

- **Sat 7 Feb** — Toorbul — *Robyn Combes*
- **Wed 25 Feb** — Chris Kenny Park (Cooran) — *Russ Lamb*

March

- **Sat 14 Mar** — Maleny Precinct — *Jamie Walker*
- **Wed 25 Mar** — Hamilton Rd / Noosa Trail 7 (Lake Macdonald) — *Russ Lamb*

April

- **Sat 11 Apr** — Kirby Road, Obi Obi — *Jamie Walker*
- **Wed 22 Apr** — Eumundi Conservation Park — *Russ Lamb*

May

- **Sat 16 May** — Dularcha NP (from Mooloolah) — *Robyn Combes*
- **Wed 27 May** — Nambour Walks: Petrie Creek & Cilento Park — *Ken Cross*

June

- **Sat 6 Jun** — Mary Valley (Imbil) Rail Trail — *Ken Cross / Vince Lee*
- **Wed 17 Jun** — Maroochy Wetland Sanctuary — *Ken Cross*

July

- **Sat 18 Jul** — Beginner's Bird Walk: Wappa Dam — *Russell McGregor*
 - **Wed 29 Jul** — Beginner's Bird Walk: Park Lakes, Bli Bli — *Ken Cross*
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BIRDS & BEERS NIGHTS – 2026

Venue: Commercial Hotel, Nambour

Evenings: Wednesdays

- 6:00 pm — Arrival
- 6:30 pm — Dinner orders
- ~7:30 pm — Talk begins - (*Talks run 45–60 minutes including questions*)
- Finish before 9:00 pm

1. **Wed 18 Feb** — *Gillian Matthew*
Up Close and Personal: Seeing What You Can't Through Your Bins – Bird Banding
2. **Wed 20 May** — *Greg Roberts*
Changes in Sunshine Coast Bird Populations Over the Past Half-Century
3. **Wed 29 Jul** — *Ken Cross*
Birds and Birding in India
4. **Wed 21 Oct** — *Steve Popple*
Birding Madagascar
5. **Wed 18 Nov** — *Carol Popple*
Birding Brazil

CONTACTS

- **Ken Cross** [Convenor of Birdlife Sunshine Coast] — friarbird43@bigpond.com
- **Russell McGregor** — russell.mcgregor@jcu.edu.au
- **Russ Lamb** — lambmk49@yahoo.com.au
- **Jamie Walker** — jameswalker41@gmail.com
- **Robyn Combes** — robyn.combes62@gmail.com



CALENDAR IN DETAIL – OUTINGS

Saturday 10 January - Noosa Botanical Garden — *Russell McGregor*

Meet: Car park adjacent to Lake Macdonald Boat Ramp

Time: 7:00–9:00 am | 9:00 am bird call & morning tea

Facilities: Toilets on site

Highlights: Planted gardens and lakeside vegetation. Expect fruit-doves (including **Wompoo**), other frugivores, and a range of waterbirds.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, sun protection, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Wednesday 21 January - Baroon Pocket Dam (South Side) — *Russell McGregor*

Meet: Baroon Dam car park (via North Maleny)

Time: 7:00–9:00 am | 9:00 am bird call & morning tea

Facilities: Toilets on site

Highlights: Eucalypt forest and lakeside birding. Likely species include **Great Crested Grebe**, honeyeaters, **White-throated Treecreeper**, **White-throated Gerygone**, *et al.*

Bring: Binoculars, camera, sun protection, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Saturday 7 February - Toorbul — *Robyn Combes*

Meet: Southern end of Toorbul Esplanade

Time: 1:00 pm (for 1:50 pm high tide)

⚠ NOTE DIFFERENT TIME

Facilities: Toilets 2 km away at Toorbul boat ramp

Highlights: Migratory shorebirds around high tide, plus **Mangrove Gerygone, Torresian Kingfisher, Mangrove Honeyeater**, and many **Black Swans**.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, sun protection, folding chair, morning tea.

Wednesday 25 February - Chris Kenny Park (Cooran) — *Russ Lamb*

Meet: Cooran Football Club, within Chris Kenny Park, Cooran

Time: 7:00–9:00 am | 9:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Russ Lamb — lambmk49@yahoo.com.au

Facilities: Toilets and ample parking nearby

Highlights: Level walking through re-vegetation and native riverine forest. Expect a good variety of species including **Olive-backed Oriole, Varied Triller, Spangled Drongo, Eastern Shrike-tit**, *et al.*

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Saturday 14 March - Maleny Precinct — *Jamie Walker*

Meet: Parking adjacent to Maleny District Sport & Recreation Club

(Down the road from Barung Landcare)

Time: 7:00–9:00 am | 9:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Jamie Walker — jameswalker41@gmail.com

Facilities: Nearest public toilets in Maleny township

Highlights: Re-vegetated creek edge and wetlands. **Arrive early for a chance of platypus!** Expected species include **Grey Goshawk, Pacific Baza, Silvereye, Golden Whistler, Whipbird, Fairy Martin, Welcome Swallow, Pale-headed Rosella**, *et al.*

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Wednesday 25 March - Hamilton Road (Lake Macdonald) — Russ Lamb

Meet: Drive past Noosa Botanical Gardens (Lake Macdonald on right).
Turn left into Hamilton Road and park roadside just before the forest begins.

Time: 7:00–9:00 am | 9:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Russ Lamb — lambrk49@yahoo.com.au

Facilities: Nearest toilets at Noosa Botanical Gardens

Highlights: Expected species include **Double-barred Finch**, **Red-browed Finch**, **Varied Triller**, **Grey Shrike-thrush**, among others.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Saturday 11 April - Kirby Road Environment Reserve, Obi Obi — Jamie Walker

Meet: Turn off Obi Obi Road onto Lower Suses Pocket Road (before Kirby Road).
Continue along Kirby Road to the gate; sealed car park on the left.

Time: 7:00–9:00 am | 9:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Jamie Walker — jameswalker41@gmail.com

Facilities: No toilets on site

Highlights: Sunshine Coast Council Reserve with diverse native habitats and re-vegetation.
Expect woodland species such as **Brown Thornbill**, **Spectacled Monarch**, **Bell Miner**. Scan overhead for **Wedge-tailed Eagle** and **Brown Falcon**.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Wednesday 22 April - Eumundi Conservation Park — Russ Lamb

Meet: From Eumundi–Noosa Road turn into Seib Road, then left into Verrierdale Forest Road (to end).

Time: 7:00–9:00 am | 9:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Russ Lamb — lambrk49@yahoo.com.au

Facilities: No toilets on site; nearest in Eumundi township

Highlights: Forest birding with **Spotted** and **Striated Pardalotes**, **Varied Sitella**, **Variegated** and **Red-backed Fairywrens**, honeyeaters, shrike-thrushes, *et al.*

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Saturday 16 May - Dularcha National Park — *Robyn Combes*

Meet: Dularcha NP Northern Entrance, South Paget Street, Mooloolah

Time: 8:00–10:00 am | 10:00 am bird call & morning tea ⚠ **NOTE WINTER TIMES**

Leader: Robyn Combes — robyn.combes62@gmail.com

Facilities: Toilets in Mooloolah town centre

Highlights: Approx. 2.5 km return walk to the historic railway tunnel. Expect **White-throated Treecreeper, Rufous Whistler, Olive-backed Oriole, White-bellied Cuckooshrike, et al.** Dularcha's tunnel is an important seasonal roost for microbats, particularly **Large-footed Myotis**.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

Wednesday 27 May - Nambour Walks: Petrie Creek & Cilento Park — *Ken Cross*

Meet: Petrie Park Road, adjacent to the sports field

Time: 8:00–10:00 am | 10:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Ken Cross — friarbird43@bigpond.com

Highlights: Two short, easy walks. Petrie Creek re-vegetation (**platypus possible**), followed by a loop at Cilento Park (Waterfall Road, near hospital). Ideal for beginners. Expect a variety of common woodland birds.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

⚠ **NOTE WINTER TIMES**

Saturday 6 June - Mary Valley (Imbil) Rail Trail — *Ken Cross / Vince Lee*

Meet: Trailhead car park off William Street, Imbil

Time: 8:00–10:00 am | 10:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Ken Cross — friarbird43@bigpond.com

Facilities: Public toilets in Imbil main street

Highlights: Flat walking along disused railway line through forest and farmland. Expected species include **Chestnut-breasted Mannikin, Double-barred Finch, Variegated**

and **Red-backed Fairywrens, Rose Robin, Eastern Yellow Robin, Leaden and Restless Flycatchers, et al.**

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

 **NOTE WINTER TIMES**

Wednesday 17 June - Maroochy Wetland Sanctuary — Ken Cross

Meet: Education Centre car park

Time: 8:00–10:00 am | 10:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Ken Cross — friarbird43@bigpond.com

Facilities: Toilets on site

Highlights: Flat walking through Melaleuca and mangrove woodlands. Expect **Mangrove Gerygone, Brown and Lewin's Honeyeaters, White-throated Treecreeper, Grey and Rufous Fantails, Rufous Shrike-thrush, et al.**

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

 **NOTE WINTER TIMES**

Queensland Garden Show - Friday 10 – Sunday 12 July

The Queensland Garden Show is held from 10–12 July in the Sunshine Coast hinterland town of Nambour. Visitors can explore the state's largest collection of plants in one location and enjoy free talks, demonstrations, and workshops led by some of Australia's top gardening experts. Birdlife Sunshine Coast exhibits in the 'Living Backyard' area.

For details contact **Robyn Combes** — robyn.combes62@gmail.com

Saturday 18 July - Beginner's Bird Walk — Wappa Dam — Russell McGregor

Meet: Car park adjacent to toilet block

Time: 8:00–10:00 am | 10:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Russell McGregor — russell.mcgregor@jcu.edu.au

Highlights: Lakeside birding and forest edge. Expect **Great Crested Grebe, Cotton Pygmy Goose, White-breasted Sea Eagle**, and common wetland and woodland species.

Please consider bringing new birdwatchers.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

 **NOTE WINTER TIMES**

Wednesday 29 July - Beginner's Bird Walk — Park Lakes, Bli Bli — *Ken Cross*

Meet: Car park adjacent to the sports field, Park Lakes Bli Bli

Time: 8:00–10:00 am | 10:00 am bird call & morning tea

Leader: Ken Cross — friarbird43@bigpond.com

Facilities:  *No toilets on site*

Highlights: Artificial wetlands, re-vegetation, and remnant bushland.

Expect many honeyeaters — **Lewin's, Brown, Scarlet, White-cheeked, White-throated, Dusky** — plus **Little Wattlebird** and friarbirds. **60+ species** possible.

Please consider bringing new birdwatchers.

Bring: Binoculars, camera, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, folding chair, morning tea.

 **NOTE WINTER TIMES**

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birds are in our nature



A FINAL INVITATION



Backyards for Biodiversity SEQ Inc *Nature Starts Here!*

Many members will know that a small group of us have started a **not-for-profit initiative** promoting backyard nature and wildlife gardening — fostering a deeper appreciation of biodiversity.

We'd love you to consider joining us. **We'd love it even more if you did.**

<https://backyardsforbiodiversity.org/resources>

👉 Please look us up online and/or join our Facebook group.