

## The Turtle Garden

The welcoming surrounds of the Turtle Garden provide the perfect place to sit and be serenaded by our resident magpies, as they warble in the trees at the entrance to the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton. Preferring a habitat of trees and adjacent open space, the magpies have made this area of the Gardens their home.

The Australian magpie (*Gymnorhina tibicen*) is a medium-sized black and white passerine bird, native to Australia and southern New Guinea. It is not related to the European magpie, which is of the corvid or Raven Family.

Adult magpies, have distinctive black and white plumage, gold brown eyes and a solid wedge-shaped bluish-white and black bill. Males have pure white feathers on the back of the head, while the females have white blending to grey feathers on the back of the head.

Magpies nest in this area between August and October and some males have become defensive and territorial during the breeding season and may swoop intruders who approach their nests.

At this time of year we suggest you take the alternate path around the back of the mound to the top of Honeysuckle Rise.



The adults range in height from 37 to 43cm. GB



They walk along the ground searching for food. MC



They are omnivorous, eating both animal & plants. CG

## The Wetlands

Nestled between the Goulburn and Broken Rivers, the floodplain was excavated to provide the clay to cap and seal the former landfill site creating huge borrow pits. These borrow pits then filled during flood events providing a habitat for wetland birds.



Australian Wood Duck (M)  
Icons: House, Grass, Water, DP



Pacific Black Duck  
Icons: House, Grass, Water, DC



Dusky Moorhen  
Icons: House, Grass, Water, DC



Grey Teal  
Icons: House, Water, MC



Eurasian Coot  
Icons: House, Water, MC



Masked Lapwing  
Icons: House, Grass, Water, CG

## The Wetlands

The varying water depths within the wetland area provides refuge for ducks, muddy edges for dotterels and lapwings, and a gentle graduation from shallow water for wading birds such as herons and egrets to deeper water for diving waterbirds.



White-faced Heron  
Icons: House, Grass, Water, GB



White-necked Heron  
Icons: House, Grass, Water, GB



Magpie-lark (M)  
Icons: House, Grass, Water, MC



Eastern Great Egret  
Icons: House, Water, DS



Yellow-billed Spoonbill  
Icons: House, Water, RJ



Black-fronted Dotterel  
Icons: House, Water, MC

## Honeysuckle Rise

Providing a diverse habitat, the landscaped gardens on Honeysuckle Rise attract a diverse variety of birds. The wide open space attracts grass and seed feeding birds and flying above are the aerial birds. Plantings of grevilleas and eremophilas have provided a stable source of food for the nectar feeding species.



Brown Goshawk  
Icons: House, Bird, DC



Silvereeye  
Icons: House, Bird, Flower, MC



Willie Wagtail  
Icons: House, Grass, CG



Welcome Swallow  
Icons: House, Bird, RJ



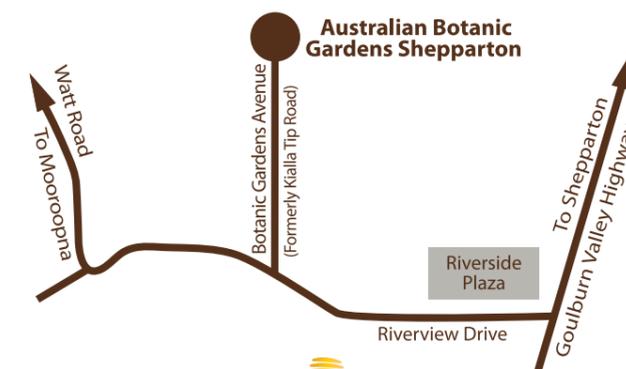
White-plumed Honeyeater  
Icons: House, Bird, Flower, CG



Crested Pigeon  
Icons: House, Grass, RJ

Explore, Enjoy, Anytime

We are Open Every Day  
Free Entry



AUSTRALIAN  
BOTANIC GARDENS  
**SHEPPARTON**

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President: Pat Feehan pat.feehan1@gmail.com

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Shepparton Mooroopna Urban Landcare Group:  
03 5821 3530

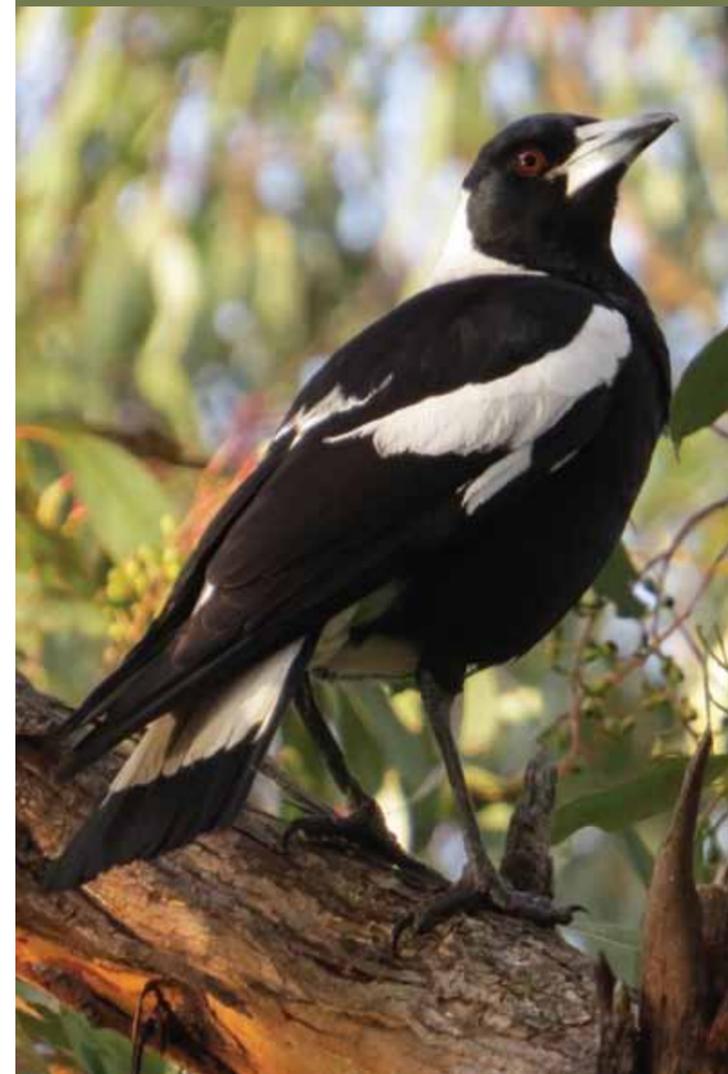
Event Bookings:  
Greater Shepparton City Council 03 5832 9700



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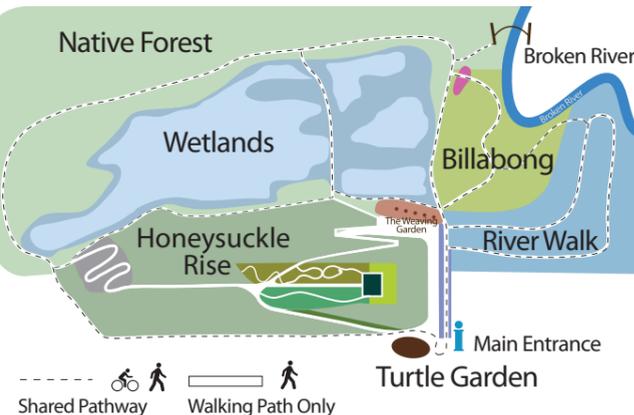
## Birds of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton

'a new generation botanical experience'



# Bird Observation

BirdLife Murray-Goulburn members have conducted regular bimonthly bird surveys throughout the diverse environs of the Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton with over 100 species sightings being logged into the World Atlas (eBird) and BirdLife Australia's Birdata since their inception in 2012.



**Symbols**

- Resident
- Spring migrant
- Summer migrant
- Autumn migrant
- Winter migrant
- Aerial
- Waterway
- Riverbank
- Ground feeder
- Shrubs
- Mid-storey
- Canopy
- (M) Male (F) Female

**Photographers**

- GB Graham Boast
- BC Beatrix Clarke
- MC Marg Clarke
- DC David Corke
- CG Catarina Gregson
- RJ Russ Jones
- DP Diana Padrón
- PS Pauline Schreenan
- DS Dianne Smith
- LW Lorna Ward

# The Billabong & River Walk

In the sheltered area of the ephemeral Billabong and the open space of the River Walk, the paths will lead you to the Broken River where the Sacred Kingfishers and Laughing Kookaburras nest in hollows in the magnificent red gums. Along the river bank the Azure Kingfisher makes a nest chamber in the riverbank.

<b>Laughing Kookaburra</b> [Resident] [Riverbank] [Canopy] [GB]	<b>Sacred Kingfisher</b> [Spring migrant] [Summer migrant] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [MC]
<b>Azure Kingfisher</b> [Resident] [Riverbank] [CG]	<b>Sulphur-crested Cockatoo</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Canopy] [MC]
<b>Galah</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [RJ]	<b>Long-billed Corella</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [CG]

# The Billabong & River Walk

Depending on the season there is always someone living here. Our resident birds in this area of the Gardens are joined during spring/summer by the Sacred Kingfisher, Rainbow Bee-eater and Dollarbird with the Pied Currawong taking up residence in the autumn/winter months.

<b>Blue-faced Honeyeater</b> [Resident] [Mid-storey] [Canopy] [DP]	<b>Rainbow Bee-eater</b> [Spring migrant] [Summer migrant] [Aerial] [BC]
<b>Pied Currawong</b> [Autumn migrant] [Winter migrant] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [DC]	<b>Dollarbird</b> [Spring migrant] [Summer migrant] [Aerial] [CG]
<b>Eastern Rosella</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [MC]	<b>Rainbow Lorikeet</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [GB]

# The Native Forest Walk

As you walk through the remnant forest area, that is now being restored with extra indigenous plants, the resident and migratory birds have made use of the existing naturally regenerating habitat of interconnecting layers that provide a refuge and food sources in this area.

<b>Red-capped Robin (M)</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [RJ]	<b>Flame Robin (M)</b> [Autumn migrant] [Winter migrant] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [RJ]
<b>Scarlet Robin (M)</b> [Autumn migrant] [Winter migrant] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [CG]	<b>Superb Fairy-wren (M)</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [LW]
<b>Golden Whistler (M)</b> [Autumn migrant] [Winter migrant] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [CG]	<b>Rufous Whistler (M)</b> [Spring migrant] [Summer migrant] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [RJ]

# The Native Forest Walk

The understory of native grasses, mainly poa's and perennial herbs such as the blue devils attract insects and invertebrates for ground feeders. Shrubs like the Silver Wattles (*Acacia dealbata*) provide refuge and in the mid-storey you may find birds pulling the bark away searching for insects.

<b>Grey Shrike-thrush</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [DC]	<b>White-winged Chough</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [CG]
<b>Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike</b> [Resident] [Mid-storey] [Canopy] [LW]	<b>Red Wattlebird</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [DC]
<b>Noisy Miner</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [PS]	<b>Little Friarbird</b> [Spring migrant] [Summer migrant] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [CG]

# The Native Forest Walk

In the canopy are the flowering red gums that provide a source of nectar and pollen. On the eucalypt leaves are white shell like bumps known as lerps, a food source of the Pardalotes. Look for mistletoe hanging from the branches of the red gums, its flowers and fruits are important for the Mistletoebird.

<b>Grey Fantail</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [DC]	<b>Buff-rumped Thornbill</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [DC]
<b>Spotted Pardalote (M)</b> [Resident] [Mid-storey] [Canopy] [CG]	<b>Striated Pardalote</b> [Resident] [Mid-storey] [Canopy] [CG]
<b>Mistletoebird (M)</b> [Resident] [Ground feeder] [Shrubs] [Canopy] [MC]	<b>White-throated Treecreeper (F)</b> [Resident] [Mid-storey] [Canopy] [GB]

The beautiful photographs in this brochure have been supplied by BirdLife Murray-Goulburn members. Front Cover: Graham Boast