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| [COVER] |
| Property of the Estate of A. Graham Brown [illustration] [caption] J. Gould & H. C. Richter, del et lith Prints by courtesy of the London Library JAY – Garrulus glandarius rufitergum.[/caption] |

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| [INSIDE COVER] |
| A. Graham Brown. 24c Campden Hill Gardens. London W. 8. Colac Victoria |

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| 29 [page number] |
| Bird Day-Book |

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| 28.6.47.  (14) | On the 28th June 1947 The Orion arrived at Fremantle and we had our first sight of Australia and its birds. SILVER GULLS abounded in the harbour, their silver-grey backs and red bills being well remembered. I was astonished at the number of SKUAS there were in the harbour. They were feeding on the water or flying round the ship with the gulls but were never seen to harry the latter. Alexander (Birds of the Ocean p.p. 207, 208) gives two species – the Southern Skua and the dark Skua (Catharacta antarctica and C. lonnbergi) both with a distribution including Fremantle. They appear to be Inseparable at sea. Cayley (p 282) recognises only C. lonnbergi which he calls the Dark Southern Skua!  Though we saw many TURTLE DOVES on the bus into Perth our first Australian land bird was in the company of Dr. DL Serventy outside the W.A. Museum – a WILLIE WAGTAIL. More came in the afternoon with a visit to Kings Park – ~~YELLOW~~ RED WATTLE-BIRD, WESTERN MAGPIE (whose call was delightful to hear again and which both Joan and Macdonald immediately rendered [guess] ''ogley – ogley''), WESTERN SPINEBILL, SWALLOW, FAIRY MARTIN and a very large flock of SILVER-EYES. I had |

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| [28.6.47]  29.6.47 – 3.7.47  (2)  3.7.47 (2)  4.7.47.  (12) | never seen such a large flock before. With several  YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS they were feeding in  the leafy parts of trees and bushes as well as  on the ground. One KOOKABURRA was seen  but unfortunately it was silent. Looking across  the Swan River there could be seen on each  of many posts in the water, either a LITTLE BLACK  CORMORANT or a LITTLE PIED CORMORANT.  On the journey across the Bight (and for several days before reaching Fremantle) many  birds on the Australian list were seen but  they have been fully entered up in a note book  of birds of the voyage. Port Phillip was only  responsible for SILVER GULLS and PACIFIC GULLS in  all stages of maturity as we crept up to our  berth in the early morning.  The first day in Melbourne I was particularly impressed by the universal spread throughout  the city of ~~[?]~~ INDIAN MINAHS and TURTLE-DOVES,  both of which were far more numerous than  I can ever remember.  We went for a drive in the Dandenongs. Our  first stop was for a flock of ~~Be~~ BELL-BIRDS  which could be heard all about us, but as  usual not in sight. A pair of CRIMSON ROSELLAS |

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| [4.7.47] | fed quietly on the road-side as we walked to within ten  yards of them giving Joan a splendid sight of her  first parrots. Even when they flew it was only  to a perch just above our heads. WHITE-BACKED MAGPIES  and MAGPIE-LARKS were both very common in the  ~~bush~~ country. MINAHS were in flocks in open country.  Several KOOKABURRAS were seen close to where a  party of boys were picnicking, picking the food  from round the tables. They too were silent.  TURTLE-DOVES were present in pairs in the bush  and made odd companions feeding with the  Crimson Rosellas. The latter were also seen in  flocks with the EASTERN ROSELLAS. YELLOW ROBINS  were everywhere (I had quite forgotten them!) and  their repeated, almost mechanical call, was the  most common sound in the bush. A STRIATED  THORNBILL and a pair of WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPERS  were seen just at the entrance to Sherbrooke  Forest. When we had penetrated into the  very damp bush we saw Lyre-bird scratchings  and then after a rustling, obtained a very  good view of a female LYRE-BIRD, hen-like with  large head moving quietly through the under- growth with the inevitable Yellow Robin in  attendance. Once more in the open country |

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| [4-7-47]  5-7-47  (5) | on the way back to Melbourne were SWALLOWS and  it then struck me as odd to have this bird  about when it was middle of winter.   We went for a drive down the Bay to Mornington  returning by the Pt Nepean Rd. SWALLOWS were again  felt as incongruous but down the Bay PACIFIC  GULLS (singly or in small groups) and SILVER GULLS  in hundreds were very much in their place.  The later were indulging in a type of display\*  but of what nature could not be decided. As  we had lunch at Brighton a flock of LITTLE  BLACK CORMORANTS flew off shore into a head  wind coming from the Nw at first bunched  and then strung out into a long echelon,  landing on the water 200 yds to our right.  They then drifted back, down-wind and  parallel to the shore. It was soon noticed  that they were over a school of fish but  if they knew when they flew past us that  there was a school there and if so how  they knew, I do not know. They were  continually diving so that at least half were  under water at the same time. The SILVER  GULLS flocked in the air over them harassing  them as they came to the surface with their |

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| [9.7.47]  9.7.47  (29) | prey and even chasing them when a Cormorant  flew off to escape the pestering. The Gulls were  also fluttering onto the water and feeding off it.  The flock then split in two, the larger drifting  on with the wind, the other returning into  the wind feeding all the time and continually  mobbed by the GULLS: LITTLE PIED CORMORANTS were also seen.  Just before leaving Joan I went for a  walk round Spring St and Exhibition Gardens and I made the following list. STARLING, SPARROW INDIAN MYNAH, TURTLE-DOVE, BLACKBIRD, THRUSH, GOLDFINCH and GREEN-FINCH (heard only); MAGPIE-LARK MAGPIE, SCARLET ROBIN and WREN. Twelve birds of which two-thirds are introduced!!  On the trip to Colac were seen SWANS by the Old Swamp Rd out of Melbourne MAGPIES, CROWS and SWALLOWS, WILLIE-WAGTAILS were very common by the young plantations next to the road. Also PLOVERS were seen in paddocks by water though whether Banded or Spur-winged I could not tell.  We had lunch on the foreshore at Corio when we saw on the Lagoon SILVER GULLS, PACIFIC GULLS, LARGE and LITTLE PIED CORMORANT, LARGE PIED CORMORANT, HERON and CRESTED TERN. A SKYLARK was singing and YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS were in the Cypruses as |

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| [9.7.47]  20.7.47 ~~COLAC~~  (22) | I so well remember.  When we arrived at Buenelle I was greeted with CRIMSON ROSELLAS, a WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER and a GREY FANTAIL – a very welcome trio to find in one's own garden.  Besides the three birds mentioned above, Colac was soon found to have a large population of its own. MAGPIE-LARKS, MAGPIES and even a KOOKABURRA was heard calling in the morning (though it is possible that it was not a wild bird). TURTLE DOVES were plentiful in pairs, and these I can never remember having seen in Colac before. SPARROWS and STARLINGS of course! ~~YELLOW~~ RED-WATTLE-BIRDS are plentiful, particularly round the Hospital. But the most surprising increase in the numbers of SILVER GULLS which are all over Colac in small groups or in large flocks, feeding in back-yards, roads and empty blocks. The variety and number of birds was well exemplified by a walk Joan and I took through the gardens on this Sunday – a fine sunny afternoon, STRIATED THORNBILLS, YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS, GOLDFINCHES, BLACKBIRDS, SWALLOWS, WHITE-PLUMED HONEYEATER, NATIVE THRUSHES and CRIMSON ROSELLAS in large numbers in that immature plumage which once puzzled me so. These birds, with many of the others mentioned above were in |

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| [20.7.47]  27.7.47  (15) | the Gardens and by the Lake were WHITE-FACED HERONS, an EGRET, LITTLE BLACK CORMORANTS, BLACK DUCK, BLUE-WINGED SHOVELLERS (a pair) and MUSK DUCK. It was subsequently noticed that there is constantly present in the bay east of the Point a party of six or so of the latter duck which are so distinctive – even when they are almost only dots on the water. A single PLOVER (species?) flew along the shore, calling. All these together with a SILVER-EYE which was heard singing a  very soft melodious song from the rhododendrons in Brenelle brings the Colac species within twelve days of arrival up to twenty-six!  We went for the day down to Lorne, lunching at the Pacific Hotel and going for a walk up the Cumberland  in the afternoon. On the way down beside MAGPIES and SWALLOWS we saw a beautiful flock (circ 200) SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOOS feeding on hay in a paddock which had been put down for cattle. Keeping up a constant harsh call they would walk along into the wind, all the time odd birds flying up to the front. On alarm they would all rise together and the yellow under wing coverts were beautifully shown. In Lorne was seen a female or immature BLUE WREN, a WHITE- CHEEKED HONEYEATER, MAGPIE-LARK, while on the shore were SILVER GULLS and one ~~BAN~~ PLOVER (species). Up the |

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| [27.7.47]  11, 13.8.47  (8)  14.8.47  (19) | CUMBERLAND we saw a pair of GREY CURRAWONGS whose call I had forgotten, YELLOW ROBINS whose call was again everywhere, YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS and STRIATED THORNBILLS one of which was so tame that it remained literally at our feet as we approached, GREY FANTAILS feeding in the rain from branches and over the river, KOOKABURRAS (silent again!) and on a stone in the middle of the stream a ROSE ROBIN – the existence of which I had completely forgotten.  On these two windy showery days I got calls to Larpent. MAGPIES were plentiful everywhere, particularly by a pine plantation. From the ground on the windward side they would rise and sweep up and backwards over the pines. MAGPIE-LARKS were all round water and farms. The NATIVE THRUSHES were extremely common on the roads by young plantations and by farms where also were WILLIE-  WAGTAILS + SCARLET ROBINS. A pair of EASTERN ROSELLAS rose from the trees by a stream and nearby a flock of GOLDFINCHES on a haystack was watched over by a BROWN HAWK perched on a fence-post.  A call came to go down to Yeodene. MAGPIES + MAGPIE- LARKS were plentiful throughout the open country. On Ball's Dam were PURPLE-WATER-HENS just where I had always remembered seeing them, feeding on the banks by the most "rushy" part of the dam. On |

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| [14.8.47]  16.8.47 | the open water were COOTS (a Touch of ENGLAND) and LITTLE GREBES. SWANS were everywhere on the water and feeding on the squelchy banks and there were also  ten nests each occupied with a sitting bird. With the  weather wet and bleak they struck me as very early (as of course the first nesting bird in each season does!) SWALLOWS and FAIRY MARTINS fed low over the water.  The ridge from the edge of the bush (where parrots are always to be seen – EASTERN and CRIMSON  ROSELLAS this time) along to Yeodene + Culliamurra is packed with birds and is the most fruitful hunting ground I have found so far – NATIVE THRUSHES, SCARLET + FLAME ROBINS, YELLOW ROBINS and KOOKABURRAS (much on the ground) BLUE WRENS – two beautiful males and a flock of RED-BROWED FINCHES, which kept moving just in front of me as I walked up the track. A flock of SULPHUR CRESTED COCKATOOS was seen in the distance wheeling over the bush. A pair of SHELDUCK rose from a paddock and flew swiftly off.  On a trip to Melbourne I had a good day. A CROW on a nest in a solitary gum by ~~B~~ Warncoot with of course the MAGPIES and MAGPIE-LARKS always. WILLIE-WAGTAILS by every plantation, flying out from branch or post to flutter 4 or 5 feet over the ground |

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| [16.8.47] | GOLDFINCHES in small flocks but more than one  became accustomed to in England, while the  SKYLARKS were soaring and singing. SWALLOWS  appeared to be on the increase but no definite  movement was noted. YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS  were seen by nearly every young plantation at the  roadside. A solitary SHELDUCK by Bleak House was  feeding in a marsh and a KESTREL was  seen, just as its English counterpart, hovering  over a paddock. STARLINGS, though seen  frequently, were never in large flocks – perhaps  it is not now the season. A WHITE-FRONTED CHAT  surprised me by appearing at Armytage on  the road side and there was another one by  Lara though that was nearer where I remember  them. In both places the sides of the road  were sodden. Just going into WERRIBEE a  flock of BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKES flew over the  road – extremely handsome birds. As soon as  Melbourne came – Footscray cemetery – the TURTLE-  DOVES appeared, the SWANS were by the Old  Swamp Road and finally the INDIAN MINAHS  could be seen in large flocks, particularly  by the river in Toorak. A drive along the  Esplanade showed the SILVER GULLS |

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| 31.2.47  (5)  9.9.47  (7) | We took a picnic tea to Yeodene. It was pouring with rain on the drive out but eased as we boiled  the billy until eventually the wind dropped and it was  a moist calm evening. Even in the pouring rain we had seen CRIMSON ROSELLAS at their usual place by the road. When evening came birds all around us broke into song. A pair of WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATERS played from the twigs of a bush. Flying up into the air and behaving exactly as do flycatchers or fantails. The brilliant yellow wing-patch was the exact gold of the wattle by which they were. BLUE WRENS were  singing vigorously and though many "brown" kinds were  seen – only one bluey. YELLOW ROBINS were heard with  their loud repetitive note gradually getting slower and weaker as if they were running out of breath. MAGPIES too were calling. Many other songs were heard – one  perhaps that of the White-plumed honeyeater but the majority I did not recognize. The evening was drawing  in so that I could not search for and find the  originator of the song but Yeodene enhanced its reputation for birds. In only one respect did it fall short – Joan has still to hear her first Kookaburra!  This morning I was able to spend a few  minutes in the morning by the Lake bank. There |

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| [9.9.47] | was not a breath of wind, the sky was pure blue and even the lake looked beautiful. The previous day had been blowing a gale from the west with frequent heavy rainstorms. There had  not been a bird to be seen on or near the Lake. This morning the ~~YELLOW~~ RED WATTLE-BIRD was in its accustomed group of flowering gums. The WHITE- FRONTED CHAT was seen for a flash in its haunt at the western end of Queens Avenue. A single ~~BANDED~~  SPUR-WINGED PLOVER flew calling along the edge of the  lake, alighting by the shore where I had been accustomed to see the pair. Whether one is  nesting I don't know but this one ran daintily along the "seaweed" craning its head down to feed. Four MUSK DUCK, three male + one female, floated thirty yard out; one diving, the other three being content to swim round and round, simply looking wary. SILVER GULLS were  there but in few numbers. They are also not so plentiful in Colac so I think that the island in Lake Corangamite near Foxhow must  now be well tenanted. Far to the west, in Six Bird Bay I could see the PELICANS. By the waters edge near the Point were a pair  of WHITE-FACED HERONS. The grebes had gone! |

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| 13.9.47  (19) | Colac – The Lake Bank. I visited in the morning  during my rounds. It was a perfectly still calm day, nearly all the sky was blue – one of the  few days when L. Colac really rises above itself. Opposite Queen's Avenue to the west of Colac there were SILVER GULLS scattered over the lake, BLACK SWANS could be immediately spotted in pairs at various parts of the Lake – even in the centre by a pair of black  necks – like parallel lines drawn on the blue  water. The odd HERON stalked along the edge and there was one perched on the end of the pier. One LITTLE PIED CORMORANT was being harried by a pair of gulls and LITTLE BLACK CORMORANTS were perched on  the wreck. A few MUSK DUCK floated off sure by now an accept part of that end of the lake. Out in the centre were scattered many duck whose  identity I could not find out. So beautiful was  it that I went down to Colac East and ran  out to the end of Church St. where I could look over the mouth of the creek. There was a fine  selection – both species of CORMORANT, BLACK SWANS, HERONS (again perched on a fence post), 3 PELICANS sleeping soundly on a small spit, COOTS, CRESTED GREBES and about 20 MOUNTAIN DUCK walking by the water or afloat, upending for food. There were |

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| [13.9.47]  13.9.47 | with them some BLACK DUCK. Near at hand were  MAGPIES, MAGPIE LARKS, BLACKBIRDS, SWALLOWS, STARLINGS, SKYLARKS singing overhead, GOLDFINCHES twittering and  to the east the harsh cry of a scolding ~~BANDED~~ SPUR-WINGED PLOVER. The day was still but the air was full of the sound and song of birds.  Joan and I in the evening went for a drive out along [?] Hill, Barongarook W, to  Irrewillipe. There we tried to get through to  Bungadir\* [Bungador] but could not find a track. So we made for Swan Marsh and returned via the Stony Rises. It was an evening of bright sky and  heavy clouds piled in masses moving swiftly from the west. The bush was wet from showers. In the fringes of the bush we met a  few CRIMSON ROSELLAS and very many EASTERN ROSELLAS, particularly round Irrewillipe where they flashed by the car in pairs or sat in gums twittering softly. Many MAGPIES were seen as were their nests, but few MAGPIE- LARKS. STARLINGS were everywhere and must cause considerable competition for the parrots for nesting sites in that area. Many MOUNTAIN DUCK were seen singly in the field – possibly the mate being sitting at the time. One very dirty |

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| [3.9.47]  14.9.47  (43) | SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOO was feeding by itself in a  paddock and, as Joan suggested, its discolouration may well have been due to nesting. In the bush were numerous GREY FLYCTCHERS, SCARLET ROBINS,  YELLOW ROBINS, YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATERS and NATIVE  THRUSHES. A single KOOABURRA was seen in open forest as were the ~~YELLOW~~ RED WATTLE-BIRDS in brush and saplings. One BLACKBIRD looked very out of place  in the "township" of Irrewillipe. A BLACK-FACED  CUCKOOSHRIKE was glimpsed by Irrewillipe. A BLUE-WREN and a BROWN HAWK were seen in the  Rises and as we were just leaving them with  the sun setting behind us a SILVER GULL flew, brilliantly white against a black cloud.  After the fill up of the previous afternoon we  made good use of my first week-end off for some weeks by rising at 6.0 A.M. and setting  forth for Lorne. It was a glorious morning giving promise to an exceptionally fine day – what in fact it turned out to be. The morning was soft-coloured before the sun made the landscape hot. MAGPIES were on the plains in their hundred and as we passed Warncoort school a pair mobbed a ~~RAVEN CROW~~ RAVEN bringing it to the ground. One NOISY MINER was on a fence- |

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| [14.9.47] | post opposite Lanigan. All my memories of Noisy Miners are from the paddock below Lanigan, a fact which is emphasised by Mr. Vernon Dennis who say that though he knows of them in abundance in that spot he has only seen 2-3 at Korongee the whole time he has been there. A pair of SHELDUCK were flying round Tarndwarncoort and we met them again along Birregurra and Dean's  Marsh. In the latter place a pair were leading nine very new chicks by some swamp water in a paddock. A pair of PIPITS and a pair of EASTERN ROSELLAS we saw at Warncoort. At Birregurra FAIRY MARTINS were feeding round the Barwon R. and CRIMSON ROSELLAS made their first appearance flying by the road a little further on. We stopped the car to watch a party of 3 FAN-TAILED CUCKOO and a PALLID CUCKOO – the first cuckoos in spring. In the  tree in which the former were, were a pair of WILLIE-WAGTAILS singing most beautifully – "Timothy Twitchet-Twitchet" but changing to a scolding as I approached. They did not appear to react to the cuckoos in the same tree. As we stopped we  had opportunity to see and hear in the  stillness more of the birds on all hands – |

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| [14.9.47] | YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS, MAGPIE-LARKS, ~~YELLOW~~ RED WATTLE-  BIRDS, SPARROWS, SKYLARK, KESTREL. A little further  on we stopped to watch a BROWN HAWK being  mobbed by a pair of ~~BANDED~~ SPUR-WINGED PLOVER, and a  few HERONS scattered on the low lands around  Dean's March. SWALLOWS were abundant here too.  Then we were up into the bush where  we immediately were greeted with the call of  the NATIVE THRUSH and BLUE WREN, and the sight  of STRIATED THORNBILLS, YELLOW ROBINS and  SCARLET ROBINS. We drove over to Allenvale (to  the car's surprise) and parked it by the George R.  With the two latter species, the GREY-FANTAILS made  a trio which were all about us. The Scarlet  Robin was the only one not singing and was  found in the more open parts and on the fringe  of the bush. Sparrows, I fear, were loitering  round the farm-house. Friendly as they are in  cities their place is not Allenvale. GOLDFINCHES,  Magpies and Swallows were in the more open  paddocks cut in the bush while on the  fringes and in the bracken were Blue Wrens  and RED-BROWED FINCHES. Up on the hill-sides  were seen and heard the GREY CURRAWONGS,  calling "currawong", "clink-clink"(which makes me |

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| [14-9-47] | wonder if they may not be Clinking Currawongs) and  a curious harsh high note which at first puzzled  us.  Then into the bush proper on the Phantom Falls  track – the smell of the bush strong and fresh –  where the Native Thrushes were singing in all  directions, Striated Thornbills flitted across the path  though not in such large numbers as the Yellow- tailed Thornbills and YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATED \*[HONEYEATER]  chipped away in the wattle. A WHITE-CHEEKED  HONEYEATER climbed up a tree very much as a  tree-creeper feeding on insects in the bark. FLAME  ROBINS were met with singly in the bush, the  hen being very different to the hen Scarlet Robin,  with no red on the breast and pinkish wing-bars.  Back at Allenvale for lunch and a very  quiet stroll after lunch by the George, we  saw a large flock of SILVEREYES. So used  am I to them in gardens and parks, they  looked very much as if they had "gone bush".  A Fantail and Cuckoo was heard trilling by Allenvale  and a ~~J~~ JACKY WINTER sat on a fence-post by  an open paddock. RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRDS were heard  We left Allenvale in early afternoon  and got onto the Ocean Road. SILVER GULLS |

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| [14-9-47] | of course were on the rocks but not in great  numbers. Just as we left Lorne a pair of  GANNETS came down the coast flying SW at  about 100 above the still blue water. One  dived, straight as an arrow with tremendous  force. Though they often feinted no other dive  was seen before they became white specks against  the bush on the headland. In our drive  along to Airey's Inlet we saw white cheeked  Honeyeaters, BLACKBIRDS, Blue Wrens, Striated  Thornbills, a scrub-wren of sorts (I must track one  down one of these days) and Yellow-Wattle-birds.   As we came into Airey's Little Pied  Cormorants were drying their wings in the  afternoon sun. We spent the evening with  the Allan Nobles. By their house, Anganock [guess], is  a swamp (lagoon sic) on which are a mixture  of duck. The wild BLACK DUCK have been  crossed with the farm yard variety and  Mallards – the results being most confusing.  They came to feed at Mr Nobles call  puddling round us – one even stepped on my  feet. HOARY-HEADED GREBES were also nesting  on the swamp and the previous year had  caused a nuisance of themselves by diving up |

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| [14.9.47]  28.9.47  (30) | under the ducklings, grabbing + breaking their legs.   We made our trip back by night –  the only bird we saw being a BARN OWL at  Moriac, just where I had seen one previously.  It was a truly magnificent day – what in fact  I had been dreaming about for the last  few years. And Joan heard her first KOOKABURRA,  once in the bush at Deans Marsh, then when  at the Nobles at Aireys Inlet.   Joan and I had an invitation to lunch at  Turkeith and set off at midday. It was a showery day with high winds but with periods of sun  which freshened the plains. The birds we met  by Warncoort were the same as we have met  on many recent occasions, even as far as a  pair of MAGPIES mobbing a CROW in exactly the  same place as a fortnight ago. Having turned  off to the left we broke new ground onto the  plains with the rocky volcanic outgrowths in all  directions making the land undulating. In a  paddock were large numbers of ~~Crows~~ RAVENS – and they were still there on our return in the afternoon.  The Magpies and MAGPIE-LARKS were scattered in  pairs across the plains. PIPITS were seen in fair  numbers but only one SKYLARK. A LITTLE GRASS-WREN |

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| [28.9.47] | flew hastily for cover off the road into the tussocks ,a BROWN HAWK sat on a fence-post but was not long left in peace for it was soon mobbed by a pair of excited ~~BANDED~~ SPUR-WINGED PLOVERS, a pair of MOUNTAIN DUCK had three chicks with them, making off at high speed, the hen  with the chicks, the cock, a much larger bird bringing up the rear. A flock of YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS flew up from the road, yellow flashing, as they made for a young gum plantation. A HERON and a pair of WHITE-FRONTED CHATS completed our list on the  way out.   Turkeith has a wonderful garden which was alive with birds – GOLDFINCHES being everywhere, the air full of their sweet twittering. A BLACKBIRD plumped on the lawn, tail up. The most noticeable birds however were a pair of RESTLESS ~~flycatchers~~ FLYCATCHERS hovering over the lawn and  diving down to the ground. Their action was quite different to the WILLIE-WAGTAIL (which we saw just outside the garden, one bird riding on a sheep's back) for they rose from the ground, hovered,  and dived down. Only once did we see one perched on a look-out. Their excited grating  call was uttered as they hovered just before  they darted for an insect – a kind of Tally ho! |

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| [28.9.47] | SPARROWS were round the buildings and STARLINGS at one stage further removed. A flock of immature  CRIMSON ROSELLAS shrieked and piped in the trees, a WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER fluttered silently from bush to bush and SWALLOWS twittered endlessly as they fed over the lawn and flew up under the  eaves.  Mr. Ramsay and I talked birds a great deal. He showed me his bird book in which he kept notes on birds (as well as flowers and animals) since 1909 at least. The entries under  Brolga and Bustard were interesting as  indeed were many other entries. He took me to a plantation near a swamp and as we walked through it I counted twenty-one SNIPE rise and zig-zag off over the ~~[?]~~ trees uttering their harsh grating call. On the swamp itself were a pair of BLACK DUCK and a solitary SILVER GULL perched on a stone.  On the way back, a mile or so south-east of Mt Gellibrand a parrot got up from the side of the road. I got out and went back. I was well rewarded by the sight of a BLUE-WINGED  PARROT feeding by the road, its head jerking up and down. When flushed it flew low to a |

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| 52 [page number] | |
| [28.9.47]  4.10.47  (30) | fence before returning to the ground. It called with  a sweet twittering note – my first New Bird since I  got back.   At Larrigan where we had tea we were in  the open forest type of country peculiar to that  spot, mannah\* [manna] gums scattered on the hill. The  first and most noticeable bird was the NOISY  MINER, "noisy and in flocks.". Second in  conspicuousness was the EASTERN ROSELLA in  noisy flocks, feeding on the ground or darting between  the trees. FAIRY MARTINS and ~~YELLOW~~ RED-WATTLE  BIRDS abounded and over the house flew a  WHISTLING EAGLE. That patch of typical country  yielded five very typical birds.  Joan had gone down by the morning train  to Geelong and as soon as I could get away  I drove down and joined her. We then drove  out to Anakie Gorge, marvelling at the stamina I  had at school to do that distance and  arrive at dawn – a dawn which I well  remember for the birds were calling their first  of the day in all directions, a chorus I have  never forgotten.  The first bird to attract our attention was  a JACKY WINTER flying off from a fence post and |

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| 52 [page number] | |
| [4.10.47] | calling sweetly. A little way away were a pair of  RESTLESS FLYCATCHERS, hovering in the manner so  typical of them. A PIPIT sat on the side of the road looking up at  us, and several ~~sky~~ SKYLARKS sang out of sight  in the sky. MAGPIES, RAVENS, GOLDFINCHES were in  the fields about us and on the edge of the bush to  our left MAGPIE LARKS and NATIVE THRUSHES were  heard. KOOKABURRAS laughed more consistently  than I have heard since my return. An AUSTRALIAN  GOSHAWK flew along the edge of the timber and  I was out of the car to start looking for the  birds!  EASTERN ROSELLAS flew screaming between the  trees and RED WATTLE-BIRDS made their extraordinary  calls. A well-remembered bird of that part was  the NEW-HOLLAND HONEYEATER which flew in flocks  noisily chasing each other in the foliage. A flock  of YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS flew by and as we  entered the bush proper we saw a pair of  immature CRIMSON ROSELLAS sitting side by side on  a bough.   Crossing a stream we came up onto a small  level area in which grew a few young saplings  and round about was thicker bush. I've just  stood and watched as the birds came to us. |

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| 54 [page number] | |
| [4.10.47]  5.10.47  (40) | First a WHITE-NAPED HONEY-EATER came and fed,  clinging upside down in the foliage. A RUFOUS WHISTLER  flew from tree to tree uttering a brief song. A  TREE-CREEPER crept upwards but not mouse-like  as his English counter-part. BLUE WRENS and YELLOW  ROBINS sang all about us. A DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW  flew up and made a high piercing trill, while two  DIAMOND SPARROWS sat on a twig and jumped up  and down as if testing its strength.  We walked on up to Gorge and came  across a flock of SILVEREYES and two EASTERN  SHRIKE-TITS. One WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER was  seen, easily confused with the New Holland, if  not carefully looked for. GREY FANTAILS of course  were present. Suddenly a wild clapping of  wings from our right and up from the  stream, quacking loudly flew two BLACK DUCK.  Back at the car before we left a  SWALLOW flew round us and a pair of SWAMP  HAWKS were pouncing in a nearby field. I  had forgotten what a good place ANAKIE was  for birds but while we were there they  were around in hundreds.   This was the last Sunday Joan and I  would have Á deux so we drove out on |

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| 55 [page number] | |
| [5.10.47] | the Apollo Bay road. The weather was grey and  showery with a few bright patches but it  was mild and very pleasant driving. Out  on the plateau above Colac we immediately  ran into the trio – MAGPIES, RAVENS, MAGPIE-LARKS,  the former in large numbers. At Ball's Dam a  PURPLE WATER-HEN fed a chick along the bank which  was carefully imitating its parent. SWANS led  well grown cygnets but a rise in the water-level  appears to have swamped many nests that I saw  on August 14th. COOT and WATER HEN were  there as were a HERON, SWALLOWS, FAIRY MARTINS,  a ~~BANDED~~ SPURWINGED PLOVER and a WILLIE-WAGTAIL. A solitary MUSK DUCK swam on the dam. At the  far end a MOUNTAIN DUCK stood by the water.  By a farm – a SPARROW of course.  Onto the edge of the bush by Yeodene  and a pair of EASTERN ROSELLAS flew across  the road. A NOISY MINER and a pair  of BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKES were two new birds  to the locality. STARLINGS and RED WATTLE-BIRDS  were two newcomers to that piece of open  forest.   Into the bush and the BLUE WREN and  SCARLET ROBIN were immediately in evidence. |

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| 56 [page number] | |
| [5.10.47] | Further in Gerangamete were YELLOW-ROBINS,  GREY FANTAILS and a single YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER.  Then to our surprise there floated over the bush  a pair of WEDGE-TAILED EAGLES, soaring round and  round till they finally disappeared. A solitary  SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOO made a lovely picture  as it flew over the bush. NATIVE THRUSHES and  CRIMSON ROSELLAS were deep in the bush at  Barramunga, as were BLACK BIRDS and GOLDFINCHES.  I notice that the two taller birds are frequently  found in the same habitat in the bush, in  partially cleared land. A WHITE-EARED  HONEYEATER made loud fussy calls as we  approached Mt. Sabine where we also met  KOOKABURRAS, PIED CURRAWONGS and a RED-BROWED  FINCH. Then we spotted a WHITE GOSHAWK  sitting on the top of a burnt stump. A really  beautiful sight. When it flies the wings give  its motion a peculiar softness, not unlike that  of a cockatoo. Its yellow legs are striking. Just  before we moved on we saw the other one of  the pair. Very little was seen or heard in  Turtou's Pass where we had lunch but on emerging  at Olangolah we saw a pair of GREY CURAWONGS  – with stupid walk like an oversized starling |

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| 57[page number] | |
| [5.10.47]  23.10.47  (19) | Passing along the ridge to Beech Forest there is a pine plantation on the left in which sat a solitary Crimson Rosella and a large flock of Goldfinches flew down from the trees to the open ground. We here saw a solitary YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL. Descending from Beech Forest we again saw a pair of  WEDGE-TAILED EAGLES. They were soaring out from the hillside at about our level and it was interesting to see them use one side of their wedged tail for steering. A little further down we saw a third WHITE-GOSHAWK at first in a tree with much foliage and from there it flew to a fence-post by the road. Another view of a beautiful bird.  The only further bird seen was in the Gellibrand Valley where DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOWS were numerous. One bird, the FLAME ROBIN which we saw in Turtons Pass brings to a very handsome total the birds seen during the day, particularly as nearly the whole time was spent in the car.  I had a call to Balintore in the morning – the northern shores of Lake Colac. Heavily settled with dairy farms it is an undulating country liberally strewn with volcanic rocks with groups of pine trees and cypruses \*[cypresses]. |

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| 58 [page number] | |
| [23.10.47]  25.10.47  (22) | At the end of Ryan's Lane which runs eastwards to the  northernmost tip of the Lake is a small flooded swamp  on which were hundreds of birds. It was a cold  day with a strong SW wind bringing up heavy  showers and I decided to come back in two  days time, on my afternoon off to investigate further.  The only bird I saw then which was not present  when I returned was the WHISKERED TERN – a small  party of which was beating up and down the shore.  I returned on a warm afternoon with a slight  breeze to the same spot – equipped with camera  which I had no opportunity to use. Of the  birds of that particular country-side the most common  was the MAGPIE of which many young immature  birds were seen on the ground. MAGPIE-LARKS, RAVENS  STARLINGS, SPARROWS, SKYLARKS (singing magnificently) and  PIPITS were all to be expected in that habitat. The  ubiquitous YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL was there in  small parties as were a very large number of  GOLDFINCHES. Both the latter species I think were  particularly abundant because of the pines and  cypruses, from which the twittering of the GOLDFINCHES  could always be heard. The odd WILLIE WAGTAIL  fluttered over the road-side pool and here on the  first day was a flock of SWALLOWS which hovered into |

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| 59 [page number] | |
| [25.10.47] | the wind a few inches from the water. On my second  day the only bird I saw was one which came, beak  snapping, low over the meadow in the evening. A  single KESTREL hovered over the stones. SILVER GULLS were  in large flocks behind the plough or in the wet fields, they  flew singly over the paddocks swinging from side to  side, but very few were on the swamp itself. HERONS  stood singly by the water, one flying low over me  croaking, to settle on a stone on top of an  outcrop, crouched forward, statuesque.  On the surface of the swamp were SWANS –  I counted 432 of them, most of them feeding with  necks extended down, bills dabbling on the bottom.  Among them were many MOUNTAIN DUCK, some  with young while on a nearby sodden paddock  was a flock of fifty or so. Hundreds upon hundreds  of BLACK DUCK floated on the surface, rising in  flocks to circle at great speed before swishing onto  the water again.  On the edge of the swamp were WHITE-HEADED  STILTS poised on long legs, heads thrown forward,  bills sinking into the moist grass. As I was lying on  the ground one flew over me – rose-red legs trailing –  yelping like a small puppy. Also by the water were  Sandpipers, moving from one spot to another in silver |

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| 60 [page number] | |
| [25.10.47]  26.10.47  (29) | flocks, or feeding in small groups. By crawling to them on the ground I could approach within a few yards. At first they seemed through the glasses to be just brown and white birds. I watched for an hour, feeding, walking, flying, preening or sleeping, by the end of which I felt I knew every feather and they were a "distinct species" not just a sandpiper. They were COMMON SANDPIPERS which I had last seen on the  banks of the Derwent at Borrowdale!  I walked southwards on the west side of the ~~la~~ swamp to the Lake from which it was separated by some hundred yards of dry land. There were twenty-five PELICANS which swam disdainfully out as I neared,  more SWAN and ~~B~~ MOUNTAIN DUCK as well as several pairs of LITTLE PIED CORMORANTS and a single MUSK DUCK. The sun was low as I returned the other side of the swamp and the wind brought across to me the cacophony of SWANS – flute-like calls as the \*[they] fed in numbers on the swamp.  On the following day – a warm and rather close one- I went in the afternoon to Yeodene, To the north and west was bush which had at one time been cleared and is now a new growth of gums while a few hundred yards away is a gully as deep and wet as any in the Otways. To the south is a beautiful view of |

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| 61 [page number] | |
| [26.10.1947] | Barwon Downs with the Otways in the distance. The air  was full of bird song.   The most striking bird was the WHITE-EARED  HONEYEATER whose call came from all quarters -- "Kyoo – rup," rich  and fruity while they preened or explored the bark and the  leaves of the gums. Many YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATERS also were  calling from the bush. YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS and  STRIATED THORNBILLS fluttered from bush to bush. In the  wide open country KOOKABURRAS and MAGPIES called, MAGPIE- LARKS fed on the ground while BLUE WRENS sung from  the bracken.   I then walked into the scrub where a YELLOW- WINGED HONEYEATER sat preening itself in silence in a  bush. A PEREGRINE FALCON flew like an arrow over  the bush. In a short time it reappeared flapping  vigorously to gain height before swooping with wings  half-closed on a WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE which glided  serenely and undisturbed to the south. Over the bush  flew a pair of RAVENS, cawing loudly while from the  depths came the song of the NATIVE THRUSH. I dropped  down into the gully and a pair of WHITE-BROWED SCRUB- WRENS were feeding silently close-by. A YELLOW ROBIN  fluttered to a sapling where it stuck sideways, watching  me with bright eyes. Their call was not nearly so  common as it was a month or so ago. Up out of the |

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| 62 [page number] | |
| [26.10.1947]  15.11.47  (37) | gully I made a circle back to the car through scrub  where a RESTLESS FLYCATCHER flew uttering a sharp  grating note to proclaim its identity, and a party of  RED BROWED FINCHES flew over, their mournful note proclaiming  theirs. Back at the car a BLACKBIRD flew, startled, out of a bush, clacking loudly and discordantly. A BLACK- FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE sat on the limb of a dead tree grating harshly. RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRDS were heard.   On the way back EASTERN ROSELLAS were seen in the patch of open forest while both PIPITS and SKYLARKS flew by the road as it ran between paddocks. Two flocks of BANDED PLOVERS on each side of the road fed with little runs in the grass. Passing Ball's Dam I noticed a flock of 26 [guess] SPUR-WINGED PLOVERS, SWANS, HERONS, EASTERN SWAMP-HENS and a pair of MOUNTAIN DUCK. A single DABCHICK swam on the surface of a small dam in a paddock, but when I got  out to investigate it disappeared completely and apparently for good.  We took tea out to Yeodene, including Michael, three and a half weeks old. We went up the hill just beyond Culliamurra [guess] drawing the car in just where the bush starts after the valley clearing.  In Balls\* [Ball's] Dam on the way we saw the EASTERN MOORHENS which had left the bank for the |

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| 63 [page number] | |
| [15.11.47] | centre of the dam, DUSKY MOORHENS, COOTS, SWANS, GULLS, SWALLOWS, FAIRY MARTINS and in exactly the same place as before the flock of SPUR-WINGED PLOVER. In the pines above the dam were YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS and a WILLIE-WAGTAIL while in the surrounding country there were the MAGPIES, MAGPIE-LARKS, GOLDFINCHES, STARLINGS and SKYLARKS. No Ravens were seen but new inhabitants of the dam were a group of BLACK DUCK. At the first turn past the dam we stopped by a Blue-tongued Lizard on the road. It curled + bucked as we stood over it, with mouth open and blue tongue waving. I picked it up and got well nipped by a closely- set row of fine teeth. Just further on we came across the BANDED PLOVER, on either side of the road, exactly where they were twenty days before.  Both species of Plover would appear to be extraordinarily local.  In the open forest on the ridge we saw  EASTERN ROSELLAS and NOISY MINERS. Going down into the bush were the songs of the WREN, NATIVE THRUSH, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER and YELLOW ROBIN. As we descended into the valley a small dark Wallaby bounced off the road.  We strolled down a track in the bush – the |

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| 64 [page number] | |
| [15.11.47]  16.11.47  (28) | sun warm and the bush smelling strongly. A pair  of WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATERS fed in the outer foliage of the young gums, STRIATED THONNBILLS \*[THORNBILLS] and GREY FANTAILS were extremely plentiful. A WHITE-THROATED ~~WOOD-SWALLOW~~  TREE-CREEPER bathed in a pool in the track and preened himself at stops en route the ~~the~~ tree-top. A WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN rather surprisingly hopped up onto the top of a log surveying the bush about him.  Back at the car a SCARLET ROBIN hovered  round as we had tea. I then walked on the fringe of the bush in open forest and first saw a pair of DUSKY WOODSWALLOWS ~~HAWKING~~ hawking above the trees. A JACKY WINTER flew from stump to stump and eventually  flew angrily at a KOOKABURRA which flew off to join several others in a wild chorus of laughing. CRIMSON ROSELLAS fringed the bush and from the stream below rose a solitary HERON. A KESTREL flew over the bracken from a dead ring-barked tree. The last sounds from  the bush as we left were the calls of YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATERS and a FANTAIL CUCKOO. As we climbed out of the valley a large grey kangaroo thumped along by the car.  The following day I set out at 5.45 am for Grub Lane on the Geelong-Queenscliffe Road to join the G.G.S. Bird Club camp under Mr |

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| 65 [page number] | |
| [16.11.47] | Ponder. Bright and sunny as I set off it soon clouded over and became cool. During the morning the clouds cleared until at midday it was hot  and cloudless with very little wind. I arrived at 7 o'clock to find them clearing away breakfast with some others still to come in. I had a bit to eat and set off to find Mr Ponder.  It was dry bush on sandy soil with little growth other than Black-boy and a coarse grass. Below are photos I took showing the type of bush it is. [photo] Nearby was a reservoir, with little water in it extensive reeds and mud flats surrounding the reservoir was [photo] light scrub and one large field of wheat. We met Ponder returning from setting up his camera at the |

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| 66 [page number] | |
| [16.11.47] | [photo] nest of a BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE. We  returned and had  some breakfast. The  camp was in a  clearing and the  birds immediately  obviously were WILLIE  WAGTAILS, flitting round and singing. The boys  had been looking for a nest and later in the  day I found the beginnings of a nest on a  horizontal gum bough some 4 ft from the ground.  It had not yet been firmly bound to the  bough and looked most unstable as the bird  stood on it, working fresh material into it.  WHITE-PLUMED HONEYEATERS abounded in large  numbers, being definitely the dominant bird of  their family. I saw one nest later – a thin  cup shaped structure of fine grasses slung amongst  the foliage on the periphery of a young gum.  Many too I found lying on the ground. NATIVE  THRUSHES were singing all about as also were BLUE  WRENS at a nest of which I later watched ~~PONDER~~  Ponder setting up his camera. A thin dome-shaped |

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| 67 [page number] | |
| [16.11.47] | nest, it was 4 1/2 ft from the ground in a bush, made of small grasses and containing young Throughout the day I found as many "Blueys" as I did brown birds NOISY MINERS were also in this type of bush and it ~~who~~ was noticeable that they kept to that part where there was little or no undergrowth – photo (2). They were also found in the pine plantation by the reservoir.  After breakfast we set out to the Black Faced Cuckoo-shrikes nest where the camera was set up – some 15 ft up on a monopod rather by God and by guess but seven pictures were eventually taken. We then moved on to the other end of the reservoir where a camera was set up at the nest of a Native Thrush in a pine, leaving a bag hidden in a ditch, with a long string trailing. With one bag I walked round the reservoir back to the camp. EASTERN ROSELLAS and STARLING were plentiful in the bare open land. While a SWAMP-HAWK flew high over a wheat-field where it was thought to have a nest. SWALLOWS and FAIRY MARTINS hawked insects over the water, and along the edge were many pairs of WHITE-FRONTED CHATS |

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| 68 [page number] | |
| [16.11.47] | and two BLACK-FRONTED DOTTREL \*[DOTTEREL]. Walking on the stones at the end of the dam was a COMMON SANDPIPER with well marked ~~grey~~ brownish neck and the same tail-pattern as those seen on Lake Colac. One SNIPE rose and zig-zagged away over the reeds. Approaching the bush again we met MAGPIE-LARKS and SKYLARKS while on the open ground round about were a pair of SPUR- WINGED PLOVER, MAGPIES and RAVENS. As we met the bush we saw a KOOKABURRA and in a young gum was an EASTERN SHRIKE-TIT.  I then set about photographing a DUSKY-WOODSWALLOW on her nest which was built in the space between the trunk and the bark which curved away from it. It was some six feet from the ground and the tripod was erected on "extensions", the camera set at six feet and the rubber tubing attached. Very quickly the bird returned and with press of the bulb my first bird photo was taken. Another five quickly followed, the bird being either on the nest or just approaching. I then moved off to the nest of a ~~yellow~~ YELLOW ROBIN which was even tamer and easier. In fact I even tried time exposures of up to 10 seconds of |

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| 69 [page number] | |
| [16.11.47] | f64 but over exposed the film! The results were  fair – in fact most encouraging – though the subjects were a bit small in the finished  result.   After lunch I went for an extensive  walk and met in addition a NEW-HOLLAND  HONEYEATER and heard the GREY-BUTCHER-BIRD  though never saw it. I flushed a young  BRONZEWING PIGEON which rose with a clatter  and overhead a WHISTLING EAGLE floated  above the bush.   The boys packed up and were in  the truck soon after 3:30 pm and as I  was manoeuvring my car out of the lane  where it had been parked I noticed a  BLACK-FRONTED DOTTREL giving a threat-  display in front of my wheel. There, where  I had nearly run over it, was a  nest, right in the centre of the lane with  three eggs. They had been looking for  it during the whole week-end and it  was only found when it was too late to  take any pictures! I had a superb  day – a Saturday-party again in  grand scale. |

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| 70 [page number] | |
| 6 + 7.2.47  (33) | On Saturday afternoon we took Michael and  nurse down to Gellibrand, just beyond La Mimosa where the road begins to turn up to the left into the bush from the valley. The cleared valley reminded Joan and I of Ceylon with the paddy-fields surrounded by hills and mountains of jungle – but with a difference, tussocks, sheep and rabbits in the valleys! I wandered off to look out the lay of the land and find nests. I didn't wander far from the valley where there were GREY FANTAILS and BLUE WRENS singing in abundance. I soon found a female of the latter with material in her bill which I followed to a nearly completed nest, three feet from the ground in a tussock. SWALLOWS and MARTINS were feeding low over tussocks while RED- BROWED FINCHES fed among them on the ground. GANG-GANG COCKATOOS were heard and not seen. CRIMSON ROSELLAS with mature and immature flew & called noisily through the bush. Then to my surprise a pair of BLUE-WINGED PARROTS flew across the valley to settle on a dead tree. In the evening I again came upon them – three in all – which flew from the ground up to a dead tree where they perched silhouetted |

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| 71 [page number] | |
| [6 + 7.12.47] | against an evening sky. YELLOW ROBINS and NATIVE-THRUSHES  were of course plentiful and heard singing on every hand, though more than the song the thrushes gave their sharp 'Ee-aw'. Three KOOKABURRAS perched  on stumps surrounding a paddock which was  being ploughed, every so often gliding down on  to the earth to feed. GOLDFINCHES and BLACKBIRDS  were seen everywhere on cleared cultivated  ground, the former quite silent. Also MAGPIE-LARKS  were feeding daintily over the paddocks in pairs.  A single BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE was seen in  soft undulating flight over the bush. Another surprise in the bush was a SWAMP-HARRIER beating  up and down a bracken covered hillside – far  from the swamps and plains with which it is  normally associated. Just before leaving a small  falcon flew very swiftly along the valley –  probably the LITTLE FALCON.  Next day I drove down early (disturbing a wallaby which was just packing a joey into her pouch before bounding into the bush  off the road). I set up my camera at  the Wren's nest I had found the day  before but though both birds flew on to  the tussock, neither visited the nest. After |

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| 72 [page number] | |
| [6+7.12.47] | half-an-hour a flock of sheep surrounded me  and I packed up with a photo of the  nest but no bird. Then I climbed up out of the valley to the top of the ridge, along which I slowly made my way. The Swamp Harrier was still there beating up and down the same beat. A pair of ~~WHITE~~ DUSKY ~~BROWED~~ WOOD-SWALLOWS chased a WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE gliding inexorably up the valley. The  previous evening I saw one of a pair of Eagles  in what was probably a courtship flight – an undulating glide not dissimilar  to that of a pigeon.  In the bush were three common  Honeyeaters – YELLOW-FACED, WHITE-EARED and NEW HOLLAND. Also were STRIATED THORNBILLS dancing up from the bracken to the lower  twigs of the gums. A single GREY CURRAWONG was seen. On stumps above the bracken  and near to each other were a FLAME  ROBIN and a JACKY WINTER each feeding in a very similar manner. Though not seen a FANTAIL CUCKOO'S trill was heard in the bush as also was a mournful single  note of the ~~ORANGE-TIPPED~~ SPOTTED PARDALOTE. |

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| 73 [page number] | |
| [6 + 7/12/47] | I then descended from the ridge down  some very thick scrub to the gully at the  bottom where the first bird saw was a  RUFOUS FANTAIL – a great friend of the thick, wet  gully. WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WRENS hopped  tamely nearby – always a surprise in a  bird that is more often heard than seen.  As I sat having lunch by an old saw-mill  three more honeyeaters appeared – WHITE-  NAPED, WHITE-CHEEKED and EASTERN SPINEBILL,  the latter the first meeting since my return  though I have been watching assiduously for  it. All around me on both days had  been heard the call of the RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD. At last after a long period of still I moved.  There was a flash of rufous disappearing  into the bracken. At last I have actually  set eyes on the bird though ever since I  returned have been surrounded by  their calls. It was an extremely fine  week-end with good weather no snakes  but no nests either. However I spent  the whole day in close contact with the  bush (as wheals [guess] still showed next day) and  with its scent. |

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| 74 [page number] | |
| 14.12.47 | In the afternoon we went out to  Larrigan to play tennis. It was not by any  means a bird afternoon but there were five  birds present which [photo] are typical of that  kind of country and  which I always  expect to find there.  Eastern Rosellas were  in large numbers,  mostly in pairs.  Noisy Miners were everywhere and one was  seen chasing a Pardalote. Mr Laurie Dennis told  [photo] me that they drive  all small birds  away. A Whistling  Eagle flew round  and among the  gums below the  house where it had  nested. It can be  seen just above Mt. Gellibrand! Lastly there  were Gang-gangs which at one time never  left the bush but now are such regular  visitors that they are missed if not present. |

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| 75 [page number] | |
| 27.12.47  (13) | Joan and I drove with Aunt Molly through  Beeac and North Cundane to Lake Corangamite. The region north of the Wairions [guess] is volcanic, much in contour as the Stony Rises but not wooded. But there are the swamps and on these we got beautiful views of AVOCETS, feeding in pairs, walking into the wind along the shore, swinging their bills to and fro under the water. Another pair in the middle of the swamp were floating down wind feeding in exactly the same way as they went. Very many COMMON SANDPIPERS flew and fed by the shores. HERONS rose singly from the water's  edge, only few SILVER GULLS were seen, and  those singly throughout the district. Five or six WHISKERED TERNS were fluttering above one particular swamp.  We walked out to the end of ~~PELICAN~~ Pelican Point. In the Lake were large numbers of MOUNTAIN DUCK which rose in  flocks as I approached. The shore was alive with waders – RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL, Curlew-Sandpipers and RED-NECKED stint easily distinguished from the commoner species  by its smaller and broader form. SPUR-WINGED |

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| 76 [page number] | |
| [27.12.47]  28.12.47  (30) | PLOVERS rested in pairs by the lake's edge. In the country round about were seen SKYLARKS, WHITE-FRONTED CHATS and a SWAMP-HARRIER, the latter feeding along the shore.  A hot sunny day I spent by myself exploring the Stony Rises between Pirron Yallock and Pomborneit. I turned down the Hawk's Nest Road where I saw (a family of?) four WHISTLING EAGLES about a swamp, perched on rocks and stumps watching carefully. I stopped after about six miles just by a large and  very dead snake on the road. Though I  spent the whole day scrambling over the  rocks in that notorious snake country I never caught site \*[sight] of a live one though I kept a very careful watch out. I did a large circuit from the road, climbing over the [photo] rocky borders down into the steep valleys between them, none  of which in that part I found to be swampy. The predominant honey- eater was immediately |

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| 77 [page number] | |
| [28.12.47] | seen to be the WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER which was excessively common. Shortly I disturbed a flock of SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOOS which when it caught sight of me started the most extraordinary din imaginable. Several birds flew round me [photo] and settled in the trees in a ring about me setting up a continual ear- splitting cacophany\* [cacophony]. After about half an hour they departed leaving an almost uncanny silence upon the bush which was in reality filled with bird-song. Next I came  upon the nest of a RED-TIPPED PARDALOTE some twenty-five feet up in a gum, a small smooth round hole in the [photo] main trunk of a gum. I spent  forty minutes timing the visits of the parents which were  evidently feeding young. Actually the |

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| 78 [page number] | |
| [28.12.47] | the whole district rang with their cries "whit-a-took" Other birds seen in that part of the rises were –  BLUE WRENS YELLOW WATTL-BIRD \*[WATTLEBIRD] KOOKABURRA NATIVE THRUSH DUSKY WOODSWALOW BLACK-FACED CUCKOO SHRIKE HERON GOLDFINCH KESTREL EASTERN ROSELLA STARLING SKYLARK MAGPIE MARTIN SWALLOW MAGPIE-LARK FANTAIL CUCKOO YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER  For lunch I moved on across the Prince's Highway and turned south from Pomborneit. I made a circle of Mt Porndon and its ring, turning south again and stopping for lunch where the road almost touches the Ring. I climbed over  the Barrier which is at that point about 30' [foot] high and sat for lunch on the inner slope looking round the ring. I was looking round in the trees for the birds when my  eyes veritably lit upon a Koala! A large fellow, he was asleep in a fork with his back against the main bough and sitting in what looked like an extraordinarily uncomfortable position. From time to time it shifted position, scratched a very round tummy with small black paw and gave sleepy looks around it. I watched it for half-an-hour |

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| 79 [page number] | |
| [28.12.47] | during which time it showed no inclination to move. So I made a circuit of the  surrounding bush looking for others. The  piece of bush in which it was was most circumscribed being roughly 20 acres with paddocks on all sides and I found no more. Birds additional to those already seen that day were –  PALLID CUCKOO YELLOW ROBIN YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL NOISY MINER GREY BUTCHER-BIRD SWAMP-HARRIER GREY FANTAIL COLLARED SPARROW-HAWK  I came straight back to Colac then, collected Michael in his cot and Joan, and hurriedly returned to the Koala. It was still in the same spot and woke as we approached us, staring with small wondering eyes. I got beneath the tree and tapped the trunk. The "bear" climbed down the branch it was on to the main trunk up which it bounded uttering harsh cries. Scarcely stopping at all, it reached the topmost foliage where it apparently completely forgot us, proceeding to feed upon the young leaves. We were naturally thrilled with our find, returning home after a very fine day. |

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| 80 [page number] | |
| 10,11-1-48  (23) | Joan and I spent the night with Michael at Lorne with Sheila Dennis. It was not a real "bird-weekend" but I of course kept notes. Walking along the cliff above the rocks on the way to the beach I had a perfect view of two PEREGRINE FALCONS, perched in a dead gum above a busy road and in front of the houses. Half an hour later I was on the cliffs beyond the pier and looking out to the sea when I saw, lazily lifting itself over the waves, a BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS, which took me back most nostalgically to the Orion. And what a contrast in avifauna within an hour –  and what a contrast in the perfection of two different forms of flight!  In the garden of the house in which we stayed I saw BLACK-BIRD KOOKABURRA BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE GOLDFINCH GREY FANTAIL WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATER RED WATTLE-BIRD NATIVE THRUSH WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER SWALLOW STRIATED THORNBILL WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER SPOTTED PARDALOTE BLUE WREN  After lunch on Sunday I went straight up the hill behind the house to |

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| 81 [page number] | |
| [10,11.1.48]  25.1.48  (24) | Teddy's Look-out where a few more species were seen YELLOW ROBIN MAGPIE SCARLET ROBIN RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD  On the beach were silver GULLS and three CRESTED TERNS. On the whole not a very good total for Lorne (not even a parrot) but as is shown much of the watching was from the house where the birds were noted in detail – and an Albatross was good to see again!  The family and Aunt Molly who was staying with us went for lunch to Turkeith It was a very hot day with a north wind, trying conditions but a day I always associate with the plains. In the plains as we drove out were WHITE-FRONTED CHATS, RAVENS, MAGPIES, BROWN HAWKS, KESTRELS, SWAMP-HAWK and GROUNDLARKS. Around the  house in what is an oasis – their garden - were BLACKBIRDS, huge numbers of GOLDFINCHES WILLIE WAGTAIL, RESTLESS FLYCATCHER, RED WATTLE-BIRD and SPARROWS.  In the afternoon I circled the large swamp nearby which had a very rich and varied population on its |

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| 82 [page number] | |
| [25.1.48] | surface and round its shores. The first and most outstanding bird was a solitary YELLOW- BILLED SPOONBILL, very wary, flying long before I got near it and when a mob of sheep came dundling down to the water. It flew with lazy beats around the swamp before gliding down to a new position. Very large flocks of SPUR-WINGED PLOVER stood on the high banks while MAGPIE-LARKS fed singly by the waters-edge. On the water were many HOARY-HEADED GREBES, MOUNTAINDUCK, BLACK-DUCK a few PINK-EARED DUCK & HARDHEAD. Every so often the duck would rise, circling in large flocks over-head, the faint hurrying rustle of their wings and soft whistling betokening their excitement. Many WHISKERED TERNS fed, diving over the water, the solitary HERON arose suddenly from ~~INVISIBILITY~~ invisibility and as I walked round two SNIPES rose from close to my feet.  It was a perfect day for swamp birds particularly as the heat had concentrated them near the water. But it  was not perfect for the watcher who returned full of heat, grass-seeds and thirst. |

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| 83 [page number] | |
| 1.3.48  (23) | Joan, Michael and I went out to Barangarook, to the old orchard where we had so many picnics when I was young. It was a fine sunny afternoon with a few clouds blown swiftly across the sky. We were rather harassed by people ~~a~~ picking blackberries and having tea within a few  yards of us. On the trip out we saw in the more  open country MAGPIE-LARKS, STARLINGS, NOISY MINER and EASTERN ROSELLAS. SWALLOWS are still plentiful both  in the open and in the bush and MAGPIES frequent both.  As we drew up we were greeted by a GREY FANTAIL, a pair of young BLUE WRENS, a YELLOW ROBIN calling and the harsh cries of young CRIMSON ROSELLAS. Joan and I walked down into the valley where we heard but did not see the RED-TIPPED PARDALOTE, saw a pair of DUSKY WOODSWALLOWS and a strangely silent WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER. I heard a RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD and stood on the edge of the scrub, still for quarter of an hour. Though I heard rustlings I did not catch sight of the bird. While I was  watching a BEAUTIFUL FIRETAIL came and perched on the flowers of a tall rush, eating at the berries. I did not recognize it – certainly, that it was a brand "new bird". As I watched I also saw |

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| 84 [page number] | |
| [7.3.48]  9+10.3.48  (31)(36)  (46) | many WHITE-CHEEKED HONEYEATERS, mostly young in  brown plumage. I returned up the hill to hear GANG-GANGS in the neighbourhood and see a flock of YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS disappear up into a tree. I also saw another thornbill which I at first thought was a striated thornbill but which had rather a reddish rump and white-tipped tail. White we were having tea an EASTERN SPINEBILL probed delicately in a nearby tree, a KOOKABURRA flew over and a RED WATTLE-BIRD cackled. I then went back to that thornbill, found him and at long last got a good look at him before he was chased away by a STRIATED THORNBILL. It was in fact a CHESTNUT-TAILED THORNBILL – the  second brand "new bird" for the day. Which just goes to show what can be done on a  Sunday's afternoon's outing.  On the Monday + Tuesday I did the Moloney testing + immunisation of children at Forrest (9.0 am), Tanybryn (9.45 am), Apollo Bay (10.30), Beech Forest (1.30 pm) Gellibrand (2.30 pm) and Carlisle River (3.15 pm). It was a long trip, about 120 miles but each day gave beautiful weather and it was most enjoyable throughout. I took Taylor, the Borough Health Inspector, with me who |

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| 85 [page number] | |
| [9+10.3.48] | proved good company and was not at all alarmed by bird-watching while negotiating the bush roads.  Our first area of course, was the plateau over Colac with its open paddocks and Ball's Dam. On the former were MAGPIES, MAGPIE-LARKS, RAVENS and STARLINGS, on the latter were SPUR-WING PLOVER, EASTERN SWAMP-HEN, SWANS, WHITE-FACED HERON and three WHITE-NECKED HERON, these latter I do not remember having seen in the district before. On the first day there were also MARSH TERNS on the dam.  On the second day EASTERN ROSELLAS and NOISY MINERS were seen on the fringe of the bush. Monday gave us immediately we entered the bush BLUE WRENS, GREY SHRIKE-THRUSHES, YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILLS, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATERS and YELLOW ROBINS. These, with GREY FANTAILS are the "common-birds" of the bush and we were  very struck to find next day that they were all almost absent except for the Grey Fantail. But on the second day SWALLOWS were much in evidence. At Forest we met SPARROWS, WHITE-THROATED SCRUB-WRENS, KOOKABURRAS, a flock of SILVEREYES, and STRIATED THORNBILL. High up round Mt. Sabine we met CRIMSON ROSELLAS, the adults in pairs the immature in flocks, and a RESTLESS FLYCATCHER. As we drew up at Tanybryn school a FLAME ROBIN sat  upon a fence. |

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| 86 [page number] | |
| [9+10.3.48] | Then down the Wild Dog Road – 18 miles of hair-pin bends round which the car slithered on a very rough surface. The first bird in evidence was the BLUE-WINGED PARROT, three of which were  seen on both journeys there and back (four times, in the same place. On the second morning they were being chased by a GREY GOSHAWK which they easily out-distanced. A KESTREL, GOLDFINCHES, BLACKBIRDS, RED-BROWED FINCHES and PIPITS were seen on this road as it wound down the steep, bald valley.   We lunched at Apollo Bay looking over the rocks and water by the pier. GULLS and  CRESTED TERNS were abundant. On the second day, besides a solitary GANNET there were at  least seven BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSSES circling in the  bay just beyond the pier – an extraordinary and most gratifying sight. Back up the long wind to Burtons Track where we saw a RUFOUS BRISTLE- BIRD cross the road and several PIED CURRAWONGS. Two SCARLET ROBINS were seen and little new except a FAIRY MARTIN at BEECH FOREST until we came down to GELLIBRAND where there were DUSKY- WOOD-SWALLOWS, WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATERS and a pair of  COLLARED SPARROW-HAWKS. At Barangarook on Tuesday there were a flock of GANG-GANGS. |

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| 87 [page number] | |
| 15+16.3.48  (41)(41)  (49) | On this Monday and Tuesday we did  the other half of the Otways – Ferguson (9:00 am),  Weeaproinah (9:30 am), Wyelangta (10:00 am), Lavers Hill (10:00 am), Kennedy's Creek (11:00 am) and  Devondale (11:30 am). We had lunch on the  Lower Gellibrand road where the bark of the  trees had been torn to shreds, probably by  Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos. Then on to Lower  Gellibrand (1:05 pm) up to the ridge to Yullong at  (1:45 pm) and down to Glen Aire (3:00 pm). It’s  a long road down from Lavers Hill and as  I did not want to go back I went  across the cape to Apollo Bay and home  through Lorne arriving back at 4:00 pm – a  twelve hour journey of 185 miles – very  tiring but exceedingly fine country. The  first day I had no passenger, but the  second I took Deborah Gavens which made  a lot of difference. The weather on both  days was beautiful though on Tuesday we  started off in cloud and mist. I will not  enumerate in detail how we came upon  each bird but pick out those of interest   BLUE-WINGED PARROTS were common all  along the Ridge, on the Charley's Crk Rd and |

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| 88 [page number] | |
| [15+16.3.48] | a large flock was seen flying low at great  speed at Glen Aire. One AUSTRALIAN GOSHAWK  was seen at Weeaproinah a WHITE GOSHAWK on  both days, a KESTREL on the same post at  KENNEDY'S CREEK, A WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE high on a dead tree at Yullong, a WHISTING EAGLE at  Glen Aire and as dusk was falling on the second  day a PEREGRINE flew over the car on the Ocean  Road. The Raptores \*[Raptors] were well represented!  BRONZE-WING PIGEONS were met on both days on the stretch of road between CHAPEL VALE and Devondale. In a small pool high upon the  cliff by the Ocean Rd was a LITTLE GREBE. On  Tuesday the sea off the coast was in parts  almost covered by rafts of GANNETS.  SWALLOW DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW RED-BROWNED FINCH CRESTED TERN WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPER KOOKABURRA RUFOUS FANTAIL HERON GREY-SHRIKE-THRUSH GREY FANTAIL RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD STRIATED FIELDWREN YELLOW ROBIN FLAME ROBIN MAGPIE-LARK GREY BUTCHER-BIRD STRIATED THORNBILL GOLDFINCH SCARLET ROBIN FANTAIL-CUCKOO MAGPIE BLACKBIRD SWAN BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE WREN STARLING SPUR-WINGED PLOVER GANG-GANG RAVEN NOISY-MINER MUSK DUCK YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL CRIMSON ROSELLA SPARROW SILVERGULLS FAIRY MARTIN WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER WHITE-BROWNED SCRUB-WREN CHESTNUT-TAILED GROUND-WREN |

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| 89 [page number] | |
| 20-3-48  (31)  11-3-48  (41) | On Saturday afternoon Joan, Michael and I went  out and had tea at Yeodene. It was a warm  afternoon, sunny with a beautiful view of the  Otways to the south. A GREY BUTCHER-BIRD sang down  in the valley and WRENS, NATIVE THRUSHES and ~~YELLOW~~ WHITE-EARED HONEYEATERS sang everywhere about. I was  particularly pleased to come across the STRIATED  FIELD-WREN at close quarters for I followed it and  watched for some time. Such an unobtrusive bird  has given me some trouble though it is common  enough to have become well known by now. Other  birds seen that afternoon EASTERN-SWAMP-HEN BLACK-BIRD SCARLET ROBIN  DUSKY MOORHEN WILLIE WAGTAIL JACKY WINTER SPUR-WINGED PLOVER RESTLESS FLYCATCHER NOISY MINER WHITE-FACED HERON YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL RED-BROWED FINCH STARLING EASTERN ROSELLA KOOKABURRA MAGPIE-LARK WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER CRIMSON ROSELLA MAGPIE GREY FANTAIL GANG-GANG RAVEN YELLOW ROBIN  The following day the family went down into  the bush for the day – Gellibrand, Carlisle, Avondale,  Lavers Hill, Ferguson down the Charley's Crk Rd back to  Gellibrand. We had lunch on the Lower Gellibrand  where the cockatoos had had torn the bark off the |

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| 90 [page number] | |
| [11.3.48] | the trees. There I was surprised to see a  KOOKABURRA glide down from a tree and dive with  semi-closed wings to submerge itself. It flew back  to its perch with a fish in its bill. There also was a  ~~sacred~~ SACRED KINGFISHER bobbing up and down over  the river, and a WHITE GOSHAWK in a tree above  us heavily mobbed by smaller birds.   The lower ground ~~[?]~~ in the Gellibrand  Valley is heath-land of grass-trees, dry shrubs  and gums, frequently much burnt out. It is  very typical country and just before we got to  Carlisle I walked through it for half-an-hour  and saw – BLUE WRENS, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER  YELLOW-WINGED HONEY EATER,SWALLOW, FAIRY MARTIN, STRIATED FIELD-WREN, SCARLET ROBIN, STRIATED THORNBILL SILVEREYE, CRESCENT HONEYEATER, YELLOW ROBIN.   Other birds seen during the day –  EASTERN ROSELLA YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER ROSE ROBIN CRIMSON ROSELLA RED WATTLE-BIRD EASTERN SPINEBILL. MAGPIE NOISY MINER WHITE-NAPED HONEY-EATER MAGPIE-LARK BLACKBIRD STARLING NATIVE-THRUSH BRONZEWING WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE GREY FANTAIL PAINTED QUAIL PIED CURRAWONG ~~KOOKABURRA~~ GOLDFINCH CHESTNUT-TAILED ~~WAR~~GROUND-WREN GANG-GANG RAVEN SPARROW EASTERN SHRIKE-TIT DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW RED-BROWED FIRETAIL SPINE-TAILED SWIFT |

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| 91 [page number] | |
| 22+23.3.48  (20)(26)  (39) | Another Monday + Tuesday on immunisation  this time in another direction: Swan Marsh (9.00 am)  Pirron Yallock (9.30 am)., Cororooke (10.0 + 10.30); Balintore  (1.0 pm), Alvie (1.30 pm), Warrion (2.0 pm), Ondit (2.30 pm).  Both were very hot cloudless days not unusual  for this time of year. I was by myself  but the trip was only 60 miles and I had  ample opportunity to keep my eyes open for  birds. On the second day I visited at  lunch the west shore of Lake Colac because  the swamp at Balintore which had been so  fruitful in October was dry. There were there simply hundreds of MOUNTAIN DUCK, BLACK DUCK and SWAN, with lesser numbers of PELICANS, SILVER GULLS RED-CAPPED DOTTERELS, WHITE-FRONTED CHATS, BANDED PLOVER, LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT, PINK-EARED DUCK + MUSK DUCK (11).  At the end of each day I came over  the Warncoort hill past Ball's Dam where the  total of birds on both days was MAGPIE-LARK  MAGPIE, RAVEN, SPUR-WINGED PLOVER, STRAW-NECKED IBIS  SWAN, WHITE-FACED HERON, DUSKY MOORHEN, EASTERN SWAMPHEN  LITTLE GREBE, MOUNTAIN DUCK, BLACK DUCK, GULL-BILLED TERN,  YELLOW-BILLED SPOONBILL, SWALLOWS, WILLIE-WAGTAIL, JACKASS,  BROWN HAWK, WHISTLING EAGLE. (19)  Besides these, other birds seen in the two |

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| 92 [page number] | |
| [22+23.3.48] | days were SKYLARK, GANG-GANGS, WHITE COCKATOO PIPIT STARLINGS SPARROWS GOLDFINCH RED WATTLE-BIRD NOISY MINER GREY FANTAIL YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL KESTREL.  [photo] 15,16, 21/3/48 (see pp 87 + 89) A tree at Lower Gellibrand the bark of which has been torn to shreds by cockatoos  [photo] 15,16, 21/3/48 see pp 87 + 89  The Lower Gellibrand River showing the stretch of water into which the Kookaburra dived |

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| 93 [page number] | |
| April 3-5th  [1948]  (53) | A weekend at Airey's Inlet  Taking Michael with us, Joan and I spent the weekend at Airey's Inlet with Mr and Mrs Alan  Noble. It was over cast and showery on the  Saturday afternoon on which we went down, but the next day was fine, with small white clouds blown swiftly across a blue sky from the south-west. It was a very happy weekend, most successful also from the birds seen.  On the trip down we saw the birds of the plains as far as Moriac – RAVENS MAGPIES  and MAGPIE-LARKS. GANG-GANGS were in a  plantation near Winchelsea. Turning right into  the dry Mess-mate bush from the Prince's  Highway through Anglesea to Airey's Inlet we came upon CRIMSON ROSELLAS and NATIVE  THRUSHES. On a post overlooking a small pool  in the bush was a LITTLE PIED CORMORANT.  The Noble's house Anganook [guess] is situated  beside the river surrounded by river flat with  sand-dunes on the south (the leeward) side. Pines surround the house which has a garden and  fruit-trees including a fig-tree on which the SILVER-EYES were gorging themselves. On one side of the house is the "lagoon" – a reedy swamp. |

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| 94 [page number] | |
| [April 3-5th]  [1948] | Around the house were seen YELLOW-TAILED, THORNBILLS  YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATERS, EASTERN SPINEBILL GREY FANTAIL  BLACKBIRD, STARLING, INDIAN TURTLE-DOVE, WILLIE-WAGTAIL and  SPARROWS. On the swamp were MOORHEN, COOT incl [guess] BLACK-DUCK – wild, which did not associate with the  sixty or so tame interbred duck there – and KOOKABURRA.  At dusk I counted 97 SWALLOWS on the telephone  wires which crossed the swamp.   On Sunday morning I went for a  walk along the river, into the sand-dunes and  back along the beach. I saw PIPITS, SPUR-WINGED  PLOVER, SWANS, HERONS, WHITE-FRONTED CHATS in the mesembrianthemum STRIATED FIELD-WRENS and BLUE  WRENS in the tussocks. In the sand dunes were  many GREENFINCHES. On the beach was only one  SILVER GULL but I was very pleased to see a  pair of HOODED DOTTEREL on the rocks just above  the tide.  In the afternoon we went into the  bush by a reedy creek. The bush was  dry, the eucalypts being mainly messmate  and iron-bark so typical of that stretch  of coast. The birds were there in hundreds,  the WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN and the YELLOW- ROBIN being so tame they hopped around our feet |

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| 95 [page number] | |
| [April 3-5th]  [1948] | after food. As I was walking down the creek a  large brown bird was flushed out of the reeds  and perched on a log spanning the river. It  was obviously an immature Nankeen Night-heron  or a BITTERN, and because of the habitat and  the bill colouring (upper mandible blue, lower green) I  identified it as the latter. The accompanying  [photo] photo was taken looking  across the creek. The over grown nature of the banks  with dense reeds can be  seen. On the log in the  centre can just be seen  the Bittern itself.  In the mess-mate  bush itself the following  birds were seen in  addition to some already  mentioned –  WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER  RESTLESS FLYCATCHER DIAMOND SPARROW DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW RED WATTLE-BIRD BROWN THORNBILL WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPER YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER ROSE ROBIN EASTERN SHRIKE TIT OLIVE WHISTLER |

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| 96 [page number] | |
| [April 3-5th]  [1948]  6,7th April 1948  (40) | Walking down the river further I left the bush  and got into more open forest with bracken- covered hill-sides. There saw I saw GOLDFINCHES,  RED BROWED FINCHES, GOSHAWK and a NOISY MINER.  Altogether on that afternoon's outing I saw 27  species. We had our camp with a Mr Ritchie  who spends most of his time camped there. In  his younger days he used to get out camping  with Charles Belcher and he now knows so  little about birds that he hesitated in giving  the Yellow Robin its name!  We left at the crack of dawn next  morning and as were leaving we saw  a pair of LITTLE GREBES on the Aireys R. and  going through Lorne a SCARLET ROBIN.  I did the first inspection and test of  40 children at Warncoort, Irrewarra, Dreeite, Wool Wool  and Nalangil. It is all plain country, the  latter half being the bare Stony Rises, the  lava outflows from the Warrion group. The  following is a list of birds seen on that  route – HERON MOUNTAIN DUCK WREN MAGPIE PIPIT WILLIE WAGTAIL WHISTLING EAGLE RAVEN SPARROW KESTREL GOLDFINCH MAGPIE-LARK SWALLOW BROWN HAWK YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL STARLINGS SWAN NOISEY MINER SPUR-WINGED PLOVER |

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| 97 [page number] | |
| [6,7th April 1948]  8, 9th April 1948  (45)  (45)  (54) | RED-WATTLE-BIRD STRIATED FIELD-WREN SCARLET ROBIN SKYLARK SILVER GULLSTINT (? L. Corangamite)  On the 6th Ball's Dam was visited before we began and in addition I saw EASTERN SWAMPHEN;  BLACK DUCK and LITTLE GREBES.  The first day after we had finished I went on down through Tomahawk Creek along a wood- cutters track. The land is high and the country fairly dry with light undergrowth. The birds seen, in addition to a few of the above were –  KOOKBURRA NATIVE THRUSH GREY FANTAIL BROWN THORNBILL WHITE-EARED HON. CRIMSON ROSELLA DUSKY WOOD-SWALLOW PIED CURRAWONG YELLOW ROBIN YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO SPOTTED QUAIL-THRUSH.  The last mentioned bird was, as far as I am concerned, a new one to the district. At  Irrewillipe East a GREY BUTCHER-BIRD was seen. The following two days were  spent testing and immunising Elliminyt East, Yeodene,  Gerangamete, Barangarook, Irrewillipe East, Irrewillipe  and Larpent. Ball's Dam was therefore visited each day and the following birds were seen EASTERN SWAMP HEN DUSKY MOORHEN SWALLOW. HERON. SWAN MOUNTAIN DUCK STARLING RAVEN WILLIE-WAGTAIL LITTLE PIED-CORMORANT LITTLE GREBE BLACK DUCK SPUR-WINGED PLOVER MAGPIE-LARK |

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| 98 [page number] | |
| [8, 9th April 1948] | Other birds seen on this route were MAGPIES  SPARROWS PIPIT GANG-GANG  KOOKABURRA SPINE-TAILED SWIFT YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL  NOISY MINER CRIMSON ROSELLA EASTERN ROSELLA GREY BUTCHER-BIRD STRIATED THORNBILL BLUE WREN RED-BROWED FINCH YELLOW ROBIN GREY FANTAIL JACKY WINTER NATIVE THRUSH RED WATTLE-BIRD WHITE-EARED HONEYATER SCARLET ROBIN YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE YELLOW-WINGED HON. ~~HONEYEATER~~ GOLDEN WHISTLER DUSKY WOODSWALLOW KESTREL  WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN.  After I had finished, the first day I came   back via the west coast of the Lake and saw, in   addition to some that had been on Balls Dam  BROWN HAWK GOLD FINCH SILVER GULLS MUSK DUCK  I had lunch on the second day in  the bush at the end of one of the access roads  in Irrewillipe East. There were CRESCENT HONEYEATERS  RUFOUS BRISTLE-BD OLIVE WHISTLER and BROWN-HEADED  HONEYEATER. After the days work I attempted  to get through to the Carlisle from Irrewillipe East. The  beginning of the track was severely eroded with   washaways but needed only careful driving. Lower  down I came to the Carlisle R heath land where   the sand was deep and I stuck several times. |

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| 99 [page number] | |
| [8, 9th April 1948]  19th April 1948 (30) | Eventually I made it, the eight miles taking two hours  and a lot of sweating. In fact I did not see  many birds, but whether that was because there were  only a few or whether I had all my attention on  the track (sic). However two new birds were  added to my local list – a flock of WHITE-WINGED  CHOUGHS and a flock of LITTLE CUCKOO-SHRIKE. Also seen  were a SINGING HONEYEATER and a PIED CURRAWONG at  Carlisle.  I did my second trip to Apollo Bay  It was a good day for birds. In the bush  I saw the following list – MAGPIE MAGPIE-LARK RAVEN CRIMSON ROSELLA NATIVE THRUSH BLUE WREN YELLOW ROBIN RED-BROWED FINCH AUSTR.GOSHAWK STARLING GOLDFINCH FLAME ROBIN SCARLET ROBIN RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD GREY FANTAIL SILVEREYE SWALLOW KOOKABURRA WHITE-EARED HON. BLACKBIRD PIED CURRAWONG RED WATTLE-BIRD NOISY MINER SPARROW WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN.  At Apollo Bay a STRIATED FIELD-WREN flew up from  some grass in an allotment in the middle of the  town and SILVER GULLS + CRESTED TERNS were seen on the  shore. A very dead FAIRY PENGUIN was picked up  on the golf links, while BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSSES  followed the fishing fleet in or sat in large  numbers on the water further out. |

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| 100 [page number] | |
| 20th April 1948  (31) | I did the second trip through Lavers  Hill, Chapel Vale, and Glen Aire. It was a  wet day to begin with but heavy rain was  not met with until we were going from Lavers  Hill to Lower Gellibrand (we had had to come  back that way for the Lower Gellibrand Road was  impassable). However from Lower Gellibrand  through to Apollo Bay we only had light  showers, the country being very beautiful. I had  Joan and Michael and Fay Bibon [guess] with me. We  had fish and chips at Apollo Bay and came  home by the Skenes Crk Road in the dark. with  fog and rain round Mt Sabine.   Counting the Lake-bank, where we picked up  Fay the birds seen on the day were  PELICAN RAVEN SILVEREYE MAGPIE SILVER GULLS CRIMSON ROSELLA RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD BLACK DUCK RED-BROWED FINCH WHITE EARED HONEYEATER LITTLE GREBE GREY BUTCHER-BIRD GOLDFINCH MUSK DUCK SWALLOW CRESTED TERN SPUR-WINGED PLOVER NATIVE THRUSH MAGPIE LARK SWAN YELLOW ROBIN RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL BLUE WREN SCARLET ROBIN SWAMP-HARRIER BLACKBIRD HERON FLAME ROBIN KOOKABURRA STARLINGS EASTERN SWAMPHEN |

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| 101 [page number] | |
| 25 April 1948  (29) | Joan and I with Michael, took Nel Maloney  out into the bush at Yeodene, just past [?] for tea.  It was a lovely afternoon and I had time to  stand and observe – which lead to a most  humiliating identification. Birds seen on the way and  in the bush WHITE-FRONTED CHATS RAVENS  MAGPIE STARLING MAGPIE-LARK SWALLOW WILLIE-WAGTAIL PIPIT SCARLET ROBIN YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL EASTERN SWAMPHEN SWAN SPUR-WINGED PLOVER YELLOW-FACED HEN WHITE-EARED HON. BLUE WRENS NOISY MINER NATIVE THRUSH EASTERN ROSELLA YELLOW ROBIN WHITE-THROATED TR-CR. CRIMSON ROSELLA WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER WHITE-BR. SCRUB-WREN GREY FANTAIL SPOTTED PARDALOTE.   And the Thornbills. Having seen many  "Striated Thornbills" I saw a bird in a Banksia  which was a STRIATED THORNBILL which led me  back to the other and more numerous bird, in fact  a bird which is one of the commonest in the  district. It was reidentified as the BROWN  THORNBILL. Ever since I was a boy when the  Thornbill with the striated chest was called the  Striated Thornbill I have uncritically accepted it  as such despite the fact that my room in  England there for the past eight years has been |

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| 102 [page number] | |
| [25 April 1948]  28th April 1948 (30) | being with Gould's Plate of Acanthisa striata! I have  vowed to go carefully through the whole of the local list carefully for similar misidentifications. However since the 22nd April last, when Joan presented me with North's Nest and Eggs, is the first time I have had an adequate account of each Australian bird.  I immunised on the Swan Marsh to Ondit "circuit". It was a dull day except for tea which I had at Meredith Park where I counted 119 Musk Duck and heard their thin whistling across the still water. It is remarkable however that I saw more birds on this day than on the previous Sunday afternoon in the bush. It is an indication of the wealth of water-birds which I separate in the following list. SPARROW MAGPIE SWALLOW RAVEN RED WATTLE-BIRD MAGPIE-LARKS WILLIE-WAGTAIL STARLING GOLDFINCH BROWN HAWK KESTREL YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL SCARLET ROBIN PIPIT SKYLARK  KOOKABURRA [line separating table]  HERON COOT BLACK DUCK SWAN LITTLE RED CORMORANT RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL MOUNTAIN DUCK LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT EASTERN SWAMP HEN MUSK DUCK SILVER GULL HOARY-HEADED GREBE SPUR-WINGED PLOVER PELICAN |

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| 103 [page number] | |
| 11th May 1945 (44) | Today I did the second round from  Warncoort to Nalangil via Dreeite. It started  off with drizzly rain but became clearer the  further out in the plains we were. I had  lunch on the shore of Lake Corangamite at the  end of Coate's Lane. It was calm and grey, and  felt a long way away from anywhere. The son of  the schoolmaster at Dreeite North showed me a  Native Cat he had trapped the day before. About  the size of a domestic cat with small almost hand-like  paws and a large bushy tail it had ~~[?]~~ a very  pointed snout. It was almost black with  white spots the size of a shilling – a very  handsome animal.   After we had finished I went down  to Tomahawk Crk but it was raining in the  hills and the road was to \*[too] greasy to go to where  I had seen the Spotted Quail Thrush. So I  had tea at Barangarook West and watched  Grey Currawongs feed on the side of the  tree-trunks like cockatoos. The interesting  find of the day was an Eastern Whiteface  feeding with Yellow-tailed Thornbills on the  ground at Dreeite. The complete list (a good  one) of the day follows – |

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| 104 [page number] | |
| [11.5.48]  12 ~~April~~ May 1948  (43) | MAGPIE RAVEN MAGPIE-LARK STARLING SPARROW GOLD FINCH  SCARLET ROBIN SWALLOW SWAN SPUR-WINGED PLOVER EASTERN SWAMPHEN DUSKY MOORHEN HOARY-HEADED GREBE MOUNTAIN DUCK SKYLARK  PIPIT WHISTLING EAGLE GOSHAWK KESTREL KOOKABURRA WILLIE-WAGTAIL YELLOW ROBIN WHITE-FACED HERON WHITE IBIS STRAW-NECKED IBIS BLUE WREN STRIATED FIELDWREN YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL SILVEREYE EASTERN WHITE-FACE WHITE-FRONTED CHAT. RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL MUSK DUCK BLACK DUCK BANDED PLOVER SILVER GULL BROWN THORNBILL GREY CURRAWONG WHITE-BROWED SCR-WREN YELLOW-WINGED HON. EASTERN ROSELLA  – Today the round of immunization from Gerangamete to Irrewillipe. Low clouds in the morning which disappeared later to give a gloriously  blue sky with cool westerly breeze. I had lunch at the end of the access road with branches off the Carlisle Rd. Walking there in health country which had  sprung up after considerable timber cutting a kangaroo lolloped off and I could hear the  thumping for quite a time after he had disappeared. The health was well out. |

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| 105 [page number] | |
| [12 May 1948] | After we had finished I circled Lake Corangamite  through Pomborneit North up the west side of the Lake through very rich country to Foxhow, Cressy and home. The  Scarlet and Flame Robins were seen throughout from  the edge of the bush as far north as Foxhow in great  numbers. At Larpent I saw distinctly an ~~Black-capped~~ Orange-winged  Sittella which I first took to be a Black-capped Sitella\* [Sittella].  As the cap in the former male is "brown, almost black"  I cannot but accept it as such and ~~not~~ record the  other so far from its range. At Foxhow I  counted eleven Whistling Eagles on the shore looking  very much like vultures. GREY CURRAWONG SCARLET ROBIN WHITE-PLUMED HONEYEATER WHITE-FRONTED CHAT WEDGE-TAILED EAGLE ORANGE-WINGED SITELLA HOARY-HEADED GREBE SWALLOW GOLDFINCH WHISTLING EAGLE FLAME ROBIN WILLIE-WAGTAIL BLACK DUCK NATIVE THRUSH SWAN SILVER GULLS GREY FANTAIL EASTERN SWAMPHEN DOTTRELL \*[DOTTEREL] MAGPIE MOUNTAIN DUCK YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER YELLOW ROBIN BROWN THORNBILL WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER BROWN HAWK CRIMSON ROSELLA RAVEN BLACKBIRD RED WATTLE-BIRD MAGPIE-LARK NOISY MINER SPUR-WINGED PLOVER PIPIT WHITE-FACED HERON KOOKABURRA SKYLARK EASTERN ROSELLA WREN YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATER CRESCENT HONEYEATER RED-BROWED FINCH |

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| 106 [page number] | |
| 1.6.48  (32) | Today I did the third and last immunizing  trip to the Apollo Bay half of the Otway Shire, taking  with me Bill Walls, the Town Clerk. It was a  filthy wet day, except at Apollo Bay where we  had some blue sky and tea for our lunch  interval. In the evening the wet hills  showed a beautiful deep blue with wisps of  cloud against them.   By Yeodene in the morning we saw a  large kangaroo. At Apollo Bay we saw, far  out to the sea, albatrosses round the fishing boats.  At the mouth of the Wild Dog Creek we had a  superb close view of a Plumed Egret of which  every feather could be seen in the glasses. Owing [guess] to  the season of course it had no plumes. Except  for a huge flock of Crimson Rosellas at Olangolah it was a poor day for birds. SWALLOW EASTERN ROSELLA NOISY MINER NATIVE THRUSH BROWN HAWK MAGPIE YELLOW ROBIN WHITE-BROWED ALBATROSS  BLUE WREN MAGPIE-LARK YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL LITTLE PIED CORMORANT STRIATED FIELD WREN SWAN BLACKBIRD PLUMED EGRET BROWN THORNBILL DUSKY MOORHEN STARLING GOLDFINCH GANG-GANG EASTERN SWAMPHEN FLAME ROBIN RAVEN PIPIT CRIMSON ROSELLA RED-BROWED FINCH KOOKABURRA SCARLET ROBIN GREY CURRAWONG SILVER GULL AUSTRALIAN GOSHAWK |

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| 107 [page number] | |
| 2.6.48  (29) | A really beautiful day wound up the immunisation  in the Otways via Lavers Hill, Devondale and  Kennedy's Creek. We came home (I had Nell Maloney  with me) from Glen Aire to Apollo Bay which we reached just as darkness was falling. Mr. Longhorn  was not too well after being pushed into a ditch on the Charley's Creek Road and at lunch-time Mr Strahle [guess] sprained his ankle. So Nell and I did Glen Aire by ourselves.  Another (or perhaps the same bird) Plumed  Egret was seen at Glen Aire together with many waterfowl on the flooded river flats. A bird which I had seen occasionally and could not  place turned out to be the Ground-Thrush – the  existence of which I had forgotten since my return  On the whole it was a poor day for the birds surprisingly enough on such a lovely day. MAGPIE MAGPIE –LARK GREY THRUSH BLUE WREN YELLOW ROBIN GOLDFINCH SWALLOW KOOKABURRA RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD CRIMSON ROSELLA BLACKBIRD GREY CURRAWONG BROWN THORNBILL STARLING SPARROW HERON SCARLET ROBIN GREY FANTAIL RED-BROWED FINCH SWAN BLACK DUCK EASTERN SWAMP HEN PLUMED EGRET STRIATED FIELD WREN SILVER GULLS GROUND-THRUSH WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN YELLOW-TAILED BLACK COCKATOO WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER |

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| 108 [page number] | |
| 3.6.48  (11)  8.6.48  (5)  T.5 | This morning was a very heavy frost and the day began with bright cold sunshine. I went  past the lake-bank in the morning which was  beautiful – the mist blocking the further shore  and the lake a pure calm silver broken only  where scattered flocks of GULLS, BLACK DUCK and  MUSK DUCK ruffled the surface. Near inshore [guess]  a loose flock of HOARY-HEADED GREBES kept  bobbing up, the numbers always changing. By  the reeds SWANS were feeding while further off towards the Point a single PELICAN and ~~LITTLE~~ WHITE  EGRET were inspecting the water, each in its  peculiar way. In the reeds HERONS and  SPUR-WINGED PLOVERS tilled at the wet ground.  Up on the bank a solitary SWALLOW and  KOOKABURRA flew about their business.   Brisbane + Rockhampton. I was at lunch on the  lookout for birds during the 24 hours in Brisbane. I  had a very nice chat with Barker, Queensland sec.  of the RAOU who advised us to go down to  Sandgate to see the Lotus-Bird but we didn't  have the opportunity. MAGPIE-LARKS and the JAVA  DOVE were very common about the city – the  former I have found to be very much more  common throughout the state than it is in Victoria. |

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| 109 [page number] | |
| [8.6.48]  9.6.48  (31)  32 | Flying round the bridge over the Brisbane River was  a flock of FAIRY MARTINS while flying up stream was  a solitary Crested Tern.   As our plane made an approach for  landing at Rockhampton I saw a WHISTLING EAGLE  flying low over the scrub which consisted of  well spread out stunted gums and grass.   We had arrived the previous night at  Mackay in darkness so that our first touch  with the local birds was when, with morning  tea in our rooms, we read in the local (and very  good) paper that large numbers of Ibis were  frequenting the town streets. Which sounded  good.   After we had dealt with what small  business we had, we hired bikes to explore  the town. We went first to Queen's Park where  there were both Straw-necked and White Ibis and  Spurwinged Plover walking in the grounds. Then  we road \*[rode] on a path leading east toward the  beach through a mangrove swamp in which  there were numerous Honeyeaters which I think  were Purple-gaped but of whose identity I am  still not quite sure. Sacred Kingfishers were  also there as well as four Curlews. |

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| 110 [page number] | |
| [9.6.48] | After we had circled back into the town and  had a milk-shake we set out for the Outer  Harbour, three miles [guess] off. The road led us through  mangrove, scrub and a few sugar plantations  to the sea. I was struck with the number  of Black-faced and Little Cuckoo-Shrikes, particularly  round the cane. There were many Kestrels  a few Whistling Eagles and two Rainbow  Birds. A flock of Pipits flew from the  beginning of the breakwater while Crested  Terns rested on the leeward rocks of it.  On the way-back we saw a Red Butcher-  bird, a Black-backed Magpie and a Pied  Goose in a swamp.  It rained most of the afternoon  which finished our bird-watching, though  we strolled round the local areas, admiring  the elephant with the two young and a young Emu. MAGPIE-LARK LITTLE CUCKOO-SHRIKE JAVA DOVE BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE SPUR-WINGED PLOVER WILLIE-WAGTAIL LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT CURLEW PIED OYSTERCATCHER PLUMED EGRET PEACEFUL DOVE WHITE EGRET |

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| 111 [page number] | |
| [29.6.48]  10.6.48  212  T49  (+6) | MANGROVE HERON SACRED KINGFISHER LITTLE WATTLE-BIRD HELMETED FRIAR-BIRD PLUM-HEADED FINCH PURPLE-GAPED HONEYEATER CROW WHITE IBIS SILVER GULL KESTREL STRAW-WRECKED IBIS RAINBOW-BIRD CRESTED TERN PIPIT WHISTLING EAGLE AUSTRALIAN GOSHAWK BLACK-BACKED MAGPIE PIED BUTCHER-BIRD PIED GOOSE At 9.0 we were off north in a very peculiar motor train to ~~Mackay~~ Proserpine, 90 odd miles north, stopping at Kohjo and Bloomsbury for refreshments. The first half of the journey was through sugar-cane and then bush which at this point is almost what I would call open forest – small  gums (many in flower) with grass beneath. A very pleasant looking country which made me itch  to explore it (as I am sure the grass-seed would  if I had done so).   The train (sic) was completely open so  that we were very pleased it was a good day. A lot of birds were seen the most interesting  being a beautiful blue Forest Kingfisher and a Blue-winged Kookaburra (besides the common  species. Pardalotes. Parrots and a wren were seen but all were unidentifiable. |

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| 112 [page number] | |
| [10.6.48] | At Proserpine we detrained and inbused for Cannondale 14 miles of on the sea [guess]. I saw a mixed flock of finches – some of which  were Gouldian in the town before setting off.  On the trip Joan saw what was evidently a Cockatiel but I missed it.   We had a long wait for lunch at Cannondale so I went off. A pair of Mangrove Herons were diving from the palings of the swimming pool and allowed a good approach. In the bush was a  PALE SILVEREYE, a LEADEN FLYCATCHER and a  MISTLE-TOE BIRD as well as two Honeyeaters one of which I think was a MANGROVE HONEYEATER.   We were slow embarking and on the trip out I saw a Pied Cormorant, and Osprey At Daydream Island where we landed Passengers was a beautiful sea-eagle and  in the Norfolk Pines was a flock of Masked Wood-swallows. It then got dark so  that we arrived at Hayman Island in  the pouring rain, disembarked into a flat- bottomed boat and made the final two hundred yards wading over coral and sand. |

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| 113 [page number] | |
| [11.6.48]  11.6.48  (21)  T54  (46) | MAGPIE-LARK SACRED KINGFISHER KOOKABURRA CROW BLACK-BACKED MAGPIE PLUM-HEADED FINCH WILLIE-WAGTAIL STRAW-NECKED IBIS KESTREL CRESTED TERN BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE FAIRY MARTIN LITTLE WATTLE BIRD WHITE-FACED HERON PIED BUTCHER-BIRD WHISTLING EAGLE RAINBOW BIRD FOREST KINGFISHER WHITE EGRET PEACEFUL DOVE PARDALOTE sp? PARROT sp? SWALLOW BLUE-WINGED KOOKABURRA GRAY BUTCHER-BIRD WREN sp? LITTLE BLACK CORMORANT GOULDIAN FINCH HERON sp? COCKATIEL ? SILVER GULL MANGROVE-HERON GREY FANTAIL PALE SILVEREYE MANGROVE HONEYEATER LEADEN FLYCATCHER HONEYEATER sp? SEA-EAGLE MISTLETOE BIRD PIED CORMORANT OSPREY MASKED WOOD-SWALLOW We awoke with interest next morning to see what our islands looked like. Much  higher than I expected, it was also, to my delight much more heavily timbered which meant, I hoped, birds. The huts and hall are strung out along a beach facing south protected by a long southward arm to the east. Behind the huts is a flat area along which runs a dry creek, at the moment consisting of wet mud and yabbie holes and a semi-mangrove scrub. The huts themselves are |

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| 114 [page number] | |
| [11.6.48] | [diagram] [diagram labels] gums, tall grass and rocks. gullies with thick scrub. dry creek and scrub. 810’[feet] huts Norfolk pine reef North HAYMAN IS  HOOK IS [/diagram labels]  built beneath a grove lining the shore of Whitsunday  Island Magnolias. Behind the huts the island  rises with two gullies separating the east and west areas  from a centre shoulder which rises to the islands peak.  The gullies are thick and matte with vines but  curiously dry after the Otway gullies. On either  side of the gullies is rank grass growing amongst  loose rocks which with small gums covers most  of the southern aspect of the island. In the  gullies are a few large Norfolk Pines but it is |

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| 115 [page number] | |
| [11.6.48] | the east side of the island which is covered with  this pine and a very fine sight it makes.   On this morning (Friday) Joan and I climbed  from the western arm up the ridge, it was very  hard going, the loose stones twisting the ankles and  the grass covering us with seeds and burrs. A SEA- EAGLE flew over the headland hardly moving its  huge wide wings and several OSPREYS also  circled over the shore. An AUSTRALIAN GOSHAWK  flew swiftly down the hillside while a little  further a KESTREL hovered. Several SWALLOWS  darted in amongst the trees. We did not  go far up the ridge because we were easily  tired and on the way down to the western gully  we saw a flock of Black-faced CUCKOO-SHRIKES.  That was all there was on the hillside – no  small birds. At the gully bottom was a female  LEADEN FLYCATCHER.  About "the camp" are many MAGPIE-LARKS,  WILLIE-WAGTAILS, KOOKABURRAS (which woke us with  their dawn chorus at 6:15 am) and CROWS which  also feed out on the tidal flats. All day long  we hear the screeching of a large flock of  WHITE COCKATOOS which frequent the southern  aspect of the island well up the hillsides. In |

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| 116 [page number] | |
| [11.6.48]  12.6.48  Is. 34  T 63  (46) | the Magnolias are a pair of SACRED KINGFISHERS which  fly down onto the sand at low tide. There on  the sand are also SILVER GULLS, PIED OYSTERCATCHERS  and what I feel sure are a pair of MANGROVE  HERONS. In the evening I went for a walk  (we had slept throughout the afternoon) to the eastern  arm and saw 20 WHIMBREL on the sand  just above high water. Many WHITE-FRONTED  HERONS were on the reef though many I  counted then were probably dark forms of  the REEF HERRON – many white birds being present  then. Out beyond the reef was a  solitary BROWN GANNET.  One bird I have forgotten to mention  around the camp is a flock of PIED  CURRAWONGS which feed behind the kitchen.  Two of them trapped themselves in a chicken  run and flapped noisily about. It was  a good day and held fair promise of birds I was up at 6.15 to see what I could see and came almost immediately on a small bird with well curved bill but the light was so poor that I could see no colours. Provisionally it went down  as a SUNBIRD. Then I met a MISTLETOE-BIRD   in the dry creek being able as the light became |

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| 117 [page number] | |
| [12.6.48] | better to see the red under the throat and tail. I then flushed a pair of pigeons which at first I thought were parrots so brightly coloured were they. They had a bright yellow eyebrow but in other respects they could be identified as RED-CROWNED PIGEONS. As these displace the  Rose-crowned Pigeon geographically (the later  having the yellow eyebrow). I think I will  find when I get a better description of the  former they will have the yellow eye-brow.  After breakfast Joan and I set out for the western gully and could not see or hear a thing. We were caught in heavy rain storm and were feeling a bit damped.  When however the storm cleaned the bush burst into song and I was kept busy. A  GREY FANTAIL was singing and besides a Leaden Flycatcher was a SPECTACLED FLYCATCHER, a beautiful bird, a WHITE-EARED FLYCATCHER looking rather like a Mudlark in miniature, a female RUFOUS WHISTLER and a VARIED TRILLER, another beautiful bird with the same colour scheme as the two black + rufous flycatchers.  When I returned, very wet, Joan who had gone on home earlier told me that |

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| 118 [page number] | |
| [12.6.48] | PEACEFUL DOVES were caught in the chicken run and  also that she had seen another species. The latter I found and confirmed to be three BAR-SHOULDERED DOVES which kept close to the kitchen feeding  on the ground from scraps. In the early  afternoon I wandered in the magnolias and saw in their branches a WHITE-HEADED PIGEON. It certainly reminded me that Queensland is the  place for pigeons.  We went for an afternoon cruise to Hook Is (Butterfly Bay) on which at the beach,  were piles of empty oyster shells left, I am told by aborigines + Japanese pearlers. We had a long look at the coral – a fantastic world. The only interest in birds was the sight of a CRESTED TERN and chasing a Black-faced  CUCKOO-SHRIKE out from the foliage – a SPANGLED DRONGO – the bird with the Lewis Carol name.  We got back after dark when the wind had risen, too many of us were transferred to an  almost water-logged flat-boat which the motor- boat could not pull even before it broke down. Fortunately our shouts were heard and  eventually I used the oars in ferrying three  loads, eventually wading ashore. |

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| 119 [page number] | |
| 13.6.48.  Is 36  T. 64  (46) | After breakfast Joan and I set off  around the east point going slowly looking at the shells and animals in the reef, including the monstrous black sea urchins. I saw an OSPREY perched on the very top of a  Norfolk Pine and when it flew off saw that there was a nest there. Later the  bird came back with a stick in its talons which it added to the nest. A little further out I watched it fishing, diving obliquely into  the water to arise shaking the water from itself. A little later we saw the most gorgeous pair of Sun-birds playing in a  Norfolk Pine. At the end of our walk on the easternmost part of the Island were three LITTLE CUCKOO-SHRIKES in the pines. It was there too that we disturbed a pair of SOOTY OYSTER CATCHERS which fled nearby on the rocks. When we reached home at the same time as a storm a male Sunbird was singing its canary-like song by the door of our hut.  After lunch it was wet and I began  these notes and apart from a visit to the  Whimbrels on the sound-bank the day's birds were over. |

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| 120 [page number] | |
| 14-6-48  Is 38  T66  (6) | Sunday showed the first real promise of fine  weather since our arrival. Until 11:00 a.m Joan + I sat on the sand and let the sun warm us. Then I went up to the east gully bare to the waist. perspiring pleasurably. On my way across the grass flats behind the huts I was surprised to disturb a  STONE-CURLEW – a much bigger bird than I had thought it would be. Its uneven flight and  comical tail waggle when it stopped between runs were noticeable. Also as I crossed the flat a PEREGRINE came down from the heights like a bullet its shoulders hunched, black cheeks, whistling low over me. In the gully were the White-eared Fly catcher,  the Varied Triller, Rufous Whistler, and a family of quarrelsome Grey Fantails.  After lunch we went out in a launch to a bay on the west side of the island where there  was a Sea-eagle, magnificently imposing on the  bare bough of a latt [guess] dead tree. On the way back we saw two huge turtles basking on the  surface, raising their heads skywards. We also saw a few porpoises. The island just to the west of Hayman is a spot to which all the Reef-Herons go at high tide and the rocks were covered with  them including 18 Whitefaced Herons (?). |

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| 121 [page number] | |
| 15.6.48  Is 40  T. 68.  (T6) | Has just ended a perfect day. This morning I  went off round the east point to do some photography The Ospreys were at the nest when I arrived and just as I set up they left. I gave them till 11:0 am (25 mins) to return. One returned at 11:05! I took it on the nest, the white breast gleaming against the sky but failed to get a bird approaching.  After lunch I set off toward the east gully photographing the habitats. Many Spangled Drongos were caterwauling (I had seen the first on  Hayman the previous day). Then I had a  beautiful view of a honeyeater – just brown, aptly named the Dusky Honeyeater. It must be the most sobre of all its family. Across the  shoulder of land to the west gully, taking photos of the islands out to sea, I met, when I arrived a PHEASANT-COUCAL which reminded me immediately of the English Pheasant, hopping clumsily in the foliage.  After tea a swim and we have  just watched one of the most beautiful sunsets across still blue water to our feet. The mainland mountains purple to deep blue and the islands a wonderful red. |

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| 122 [page number] | |
| 16 June 1948  IS ~~39~~ 41  T 68  (6) | A beautiful day was set apart for an  all day excursion in the cruising boats 'Marlin' and 'KingFish'. We were all loaded aboard from a flat bottomed boat in the lagoon and when the  boats started they found themselves both aground. So  back we came to the shore and that was that day's  cruise! The whole party was to have a picnic  on the flats behind the huts but we decided to  have a walk round the island.  We started off at 10.10 with Mr + Mrs  Calman – Heather + Irwin, – a most delightful  couple on their honeymoon. For the first part  we took a path leading north from the western  arm of the bay. It did not take us far  before impossible rocks forced us upward. It was  there that I saw a Heron which seemed  larger than the Reef Heron with lanceolated feathers  down the nape and back. I have so far not  been able to identify it.  As we climbed we came upon a  goat with two kids a few days old. We had  quite away to go before we dropped down into  a beach where there were a Bar-shouldered  Dove, a Mangrove Heron and a pair of Stone-curlews.  From that beach to the next we had a very fine |

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| 123 [page number] | |
| [16 June 1948] | piece of rock-climbing, which took us to where we  bathed from the launch on the 14th. Another piece  of rock-climbing took us to the point which was not  negotiable without going up so we had lunch high  up on a large flat rock.   Climbing after lunch we came upon a pair  of Stone-curlews on the ridge. Then a brute of a  climb down to a beach through steep thick scrub.  It was a small coral beach with cliff at the  farther end. On a projection of this cliff was  an Osprey's nest which when I climbed to it  found it to contain 3 eggs. The birds were  pinking anxiously about. I took a photo  and left it. We climbed on till we found  that we had to traverse another wide thick  gully to the next headland.   So we went on up the ridge to  arrive on the peak at 5.0 pm. On the way up  a small party of Rainbow-birds flew over towards  the west. The view from the top was magnificent,  the islands laid out at our feet in deep blue water  with the sky approaching sunset.  We scrambled down over rocks + thick  tall grass, falling almost every step, to stumble  home at 6.0 pm. |

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| 124 [page number] | |
| 17th June  Is 42  T 70  (6) | We did this day actually go for a  cruise all day in the Marlin. We went south down the west coast of Hook Is turning round its  tip at the south into Narra Inlet. There we  dropped two fishermen in the dingy and  aquaplaned up + down the inlet. It was  easier than I thought though on each  occasion I tried to pull the nose of the board  up too far – the first time [guess] tiring my wrists unneccesarally \*[unnecessarily], the second putting my weight  too far back on the board making it too unstable  and coming off when I was going into the  waves. Of the five of us who tried, I was  the only one to come off. Joan was very  good.  We had lunch at the mouth of a creek  at the bottom of the inlet, where there was some  fresh water. Afterwards we went up the creek  a way and I saw Leaden Flycatchers, Dusky  Honeyeaters and White-eared Flycatchers and  heard a Rufous Whistler and the screeching of  Lorikeets. The latter I could not see but just  before we were leaving several flew high over the  inlet to the east, screeching and I could make  out the green, with red bellies and blue wings |

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| 125 [page number] | |
| [17th June]  18th June  Is 43  T ~~9~~ 70  (6)  19th June  Is44 [guess]  T ~~69~~ 70  (6) | the Rainbow-Lorikeet which is evidently the common  member of the parrot family in these parts. At  the mouth of the creek in the mangroves was a  Mangrove Kingfisher. We rested. In the morning I sat on the  beach and while Joan read and knitted I  counted the herons that passed eastwards across  the mouth of the bay from Ackhurst Is to the  reef which was rapidly being exposed by the  falling tide. I found that there were  two main waves at a half-hour interval, and  that the white-fronted Herons landed to be taken  on to the reef. After lunch I went to look  for the Red-crowned Pigeons which I could  hear almost every day and succeeded in getting  a very good view of them. But it was  a very quiet day and for the first time no  new birds were added to the list. was another very quiet day. In the morning I again counted the herons, confirming the previous day but not to quite such an extent as then. In the evening we walked out on the reef and were fascinated by the  multitude of forms of life there – another  very lazy day. |

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| 126 [page number] | |
| 20th June  I48 (1)  T73  (7) | was Sunday and we went on a  whole day cruise to Daydream and South Molle Islands. On the way a Petrel crossed the course of the boat – dark above with black primaries, dark throat and white  abdomen – I fear I cannot yet place it.  At Daydream Is we saw the Catalina land  and take off with passengers and did some  aquaplaning on a lighter and much more  efficient board on which one could sweep  backwards and forwards across the wake.  This time I did not come off.  On the island was a single Masked  Wood-swallow, a pair of Mangrove Honey-eaters,  a GREY-BREASTED SILVEREYE, and a male  GOLDEN WHISTLER, accompanied by a bird which  should have been the female except that it  had bright yellow under-tail coverts. We had  lunch at Daydream and then were  dropped at South Molle Island to wander  before being picked up in two hours time.  We heard what sounded very like the  cry of a Koala which we hear are  found on these islands. A sun-bird  was singing by the guest house, a pair |

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| 127 [page number] | |
| [20th June]  21st June  I49 (1)  T94  (9)  22nd June  23rd June I49 (1)  T94 [guess] | of Dusky Honeyeaters were in company with  a noisy flock of Mangrove Honeyeaters and as  we were leaving a pair of Rainbow Lorikeets  flew high overhead screeching.   I have since realised that we have  another sea eagle with us – the RED-BACKED  SEA-EAGLE which is, incidentally, the first I saw  at Cannondale.  – at the moment of writing I am on the  Nami [guess], en route to the Outer Reef. So far only  a Crested Tern following the boat but it explains, with the swell why my handwriting  has got so bad! Later we came upon more Terns  and several Brown Boobies off the Outer Reef. We "landed"  at 2.30 and wandered over it fascinated till 4.30. We  saw a sea-snake, a Carpet Shark and myriads of  forms of life of every conceivable size, shape and colour.  It was a fantastic experience. A Greater Frigate-bird  flew over the Reef chasing a Tern – a beautiful  stream-lined creature. It was a long trek back  – 30 miles and not a fruitful bird day – but not  an experience to miss.  Nothing to report – swimming + reading in the sun.  Except for a walk on the rocks in Ackhurst direction  our last day was spent getting our things together |

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| 128 [page number] | |
| 24.6.48  I 49 (1)  T 74  (7)  25.6.48  75 (7) | On Thursday we made an early start  in the Marlin for Bowen. It was quite  rough and the boat tossed about a lot. There  was only one mal-de-mer aboard out of  seven which wasn't bad! A school of  porpoises played round our boat and  the only birds on the trip in to the  mainland were Brown Gannets and  Crested Terns. A flock of Pied Cormorants  was nesting on some rocks off a small  island inside Gloucester Passage. So ended  the birds of the islands and seas round  them – fifty species with one unidentified.   At Bowen – a one horse town if  ever there was one! – there were no  further birds of interest that day which  we had not already seen at Mackay.  At the airfield next morning a  flock of HORSE-FIELD BUSHLARKS\* [Horsfield's bush lark] was seen –  remarkable by their almost finch-like  bill and curious hesitant flight. We  touched down at Mackay where I spent  an all too brief ten minutes with  Macdonald, regretting the Mornington SS  trip, hearing his news, trying to hear news |

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| 129 [page number] | |
| [25.6.48]  26-27.6.48  83  (8) | of this birds and then tearing away to the plane – too laughable for words! Nothing of particular interest was seen at Rockhampton or Brisbane except a white Egret near the latter airfield.   Two days in Sydney – not bird  watching – but the suburban birds added several to the list – RED-WHISKERED BULBULS, INDIAN MINAH, STARLING, GOLDFINCH, YELLOW ROBIN, BLUE-WREN, NATIVE-THRUSH, RED-WATTLE-BIRD, and round a fishing boat well out to sea many  ALBATROSSESS (sp?). And that brought up the  holidays total. Very satisfactory on all counts even though it was the bird's off-season. Whether anything in it is worth recording I don't know. I am  writing away to Barker in Brisbane to see if I have anything of importance which may be worth publishing but I doubt  it. At any rate, to a Victorian it was a marvellous holiday, even apart from the birds. And I must say that it gave me an urge to find some way in which I could spend my whole time after them. |

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| 130 [page number] | |
| 7th August 1948. (12)  8 August [1948] (25) | Our first trip out into out into the bush  since our return was made with Fay Bilson to Wonga Wonga, a high spur overlooking the Gellibrand Valley. There is a Forests Commission lookout Tower on the top from which we could pick  out the various valleys and roads leading  from Gellibrand. Birds were very scarce oddly enough – CRESCENT HONEYEATERS in Banksia scrub and many GREY CURRAWONGS in the open paddocks on the ridge. Otherwise all that were there were WRENS BROWN THORNBILL CRIMSON ROSELLA MAGPIE RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD KOOKABURRA GREY THRUSH WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER SPARROW STARLING  It was not till we had come to Kawarren on our return that we saw a YELLOW ROBIN  The next day we went out and spent  a couple of hours at Yeo. On the way out on the plateau were RAVENS, MAGPIE-LARKS, with SKYLARKS and PIPITS, the former in flocks the latter in pairs. Ball's Dam had a very  small collection – up to 50 SWANS (no nests seen) SPUR-WINGED PLOVERS (mainly on the paddocks round about), a few EASTERN SWAMPHENS SWALLOWS and a ~~wh~~ WHITE-FACED HERON. There was however |

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| [8th August] | one variety – a ROYAL SPOONBILL, whose black legs & bill  stand out even in fairly poor light. In a  small dam nearby was a single WHITE-NECKED  HERON.  At Yeo we pulled the car off the road by the  Cherry-tree which used to mark the entrance to  the Hancock's property where we were last on  15th November 1947, when Michael was three weeks old.  I wandered off down the track which led off  into "young bush" which was left after the timber  folk had left it. It makes a typical habitat  and a very pleasant area of which the more  prominent birds are YELLOW ROBINS, CRIMSON ROSELLAS,  WRENS, STRIATED PARDALOTE, NATIVE THRUSH, WHITE-NAPED  HONEYEATER, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER, BROWN THORNBILL and  SCARLET ROBIN. The track crosses a swampy creek  full of a course \*[coarse] grass and reed with thick  whip-stick tea-tree scrub in which were CRESCENT  HONEYEATERS & YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATERS. On the  fringe, on many stumps that dotted the  paddock were KOOKABURRAS – and of course  EASTERN ROSELLAS and NOISY MINERS in the ridge  before Yeodene.  I walked back down this creek and  had not gone far before a Black Wallaby |

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| 132 [page number] | |
| [8th August]  10th August  (12) | jumped out of my way. A little further on a  large kangaroo suddenly stood upright and  stared, his alert ears well above the level  of my head, before bounding off. As I  went on four large kangaroos moved slowly  through the scrub on my left, not hurrying  though they saw me, but continued their  leisurely feeding. I cut back to the Track  by a kangaroo-path on which could be  seen many of their marks with deep cut  marks of their claws as they leapt.  We returned through Gerangamete and  Barwon Downs, where there were EASTERN  ROSELLAS, NOISY MINERS, MAGPIES, RAVENS and a  large flock of WHITE COCKATOOS feeding in a  young oats crop. At Warncoort a WHISTLING  EAGLE was forced to the ground by a fiercely  attacking MAGPIE.  Was a lovely cold clear day on which  the lake from Queen's Avenue was looking its  best – a hard silver with the ripple-marks  of birds upon it. There were very many  SILVER GULLS making a nuisance of themselves  by harrying the feeding CRESTED GREBES. Many  BLACK DUCK were scattered among the reed |

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| 133 [page number] | |
| [10th August 1948]  28th August  (20) | at the water's edge, HOARY-HEADED GREBES and a few  pairs of MOUNTAIN DUCK were a little further out, and  a little beyond were large numbers of MUSK DUCK.  LITTLE PIED CORMORANTS were sunning themselves on the jetty with the gulls. Walking through the  reeds were WHITE-FACED HERONS, SPUR-WINGED  PLOVER and the WHITE EGRET which has now  been present for several months.  In the flowering gums on the  Lake-bank were WATTLE-BIRDS, and a  solitary KOOKABURRA flew in front of the car  down the length of the Avenue.  We had Mr John Ponder up to stay with  us and he fortunately brought with him  fine weather after several foul weeks. In the afternoon we took him, as we do most visitors  to Red Rock from where we showed him the countryside. Visibility was excellent and much water gleamed after the rains. On the  lake to the east of Red Rock were huge numbers of HOARY-HEADED GREBES – about a 100 in all in flocks up to 40.  Lake Corangamite was very full as we passed it and MOUNTAIN DUCK were on the shore in pairs. We went through Pirron |

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| 134 [page number] | |
| [28th August]  29th August.  (29) | Yallock and turned off onto the Hawks Nest  Road which is three-dimensional in its activity,  and not much fun for passengers. WHITE FRONT  and WHITE-NECKED HERONS were present as well  as WHISTLING EAGLES and SWAMP HARRIERS. We  stopped where I went one Sunday (28.12.47)  and birds noted were STRIATED FIELD WREN BLUE WREN WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER STRIATED PARDALOTE FAN-TAILED CUCKOO ?BRONZE-CUCKOO YELLOW-FACED HONEYEATER MAGPIE MAGPIE-LARK GREY BUTCHER-BIRD NOISY MINER CRIMSON ROSELLA STARLING.  On our way back on one of the  swamps in the Rises were SWANS and  EASTERN SWAMPHENS. The following day we went off  into the bush south through Barangarook,  Kawarren, Gellibrand and Carlisle to a  heathland where we paused. There were  NATIVE THRUSH YELLOW-WINGED HONEYEATER  CRESCENT-HONEYEATER BLUE WREN WHISTLING EAGLE  GANG-GANG KOOKABURRA WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN  MAGPIE SWALLOW.  We moved on through Devondale  up to Laver's Hill and stopped just before the  summit where the bush was extremely thick |

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| 135 [page number] | |
| [29th August] | and quite impenetrable. Going through there  before I had wet my lips at what  must have dwelt in that lush green  tangle. But it was silent except for the song  of the RUFOUS FANTAIL, and so impractical  that we moved on and I felt not a little foolish.  We had lunch at Wyelangta and watched  a pair of WEDGE-TAILED EAGLES playing. Later  we stopped a little further on where before  (21.3.48) and seen many birds. But apart  from many BROWN THORNBILLS there was nothing.  By this time we had done a lot  of motoring for very little return in the way  of birds. So I hurriedly made for  the old saw-mill by Gellibrand which  I visited (7.12.47) before and there we had better luck – YELLOW ROBIN GREY FANTAIL WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER CRIMSON ROSELLAS RUFOUS BRISTLE-BIRD BROWN THORNBILL WHITE-NAPED HONEYEATER GOLDEN WHISTLER WHITE-THROATED TREE-CREEPER STRIATED THORNBILL EASTERN SPINEBILL SCARLET ROBIN  Then in the evening we moved  off, but not before I had found the  remains of a Wrens nest which I has so |

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| 136 [page number] | |
| [29th August]  5th September 1948 (14) | unsuccessfully tried to photograph the previous  year.  Other birds seen during the day were  EASTERN ROSELLA NOISY MINER RAVEN MAGPIE-LARK RED-BROWED FANTAIL   Admittedly we did too much driving  but nevertheless it was a poor bird day  and Ponder went away with an even  gloomier impression of the Otway birds On the Sunday afternoon  Joan, Michael + I, with Molly [guess],  drove out to see Alan + Kath Noble at Warncoort.  It was a grey day with a cold west  wind. As we drove along the track  across the paddock a Pipit sidled out of the  grass and watched us carefully as we  drove past reminding me of the Black-fronted  Dotterel that displayed at the wheels of my car  at Grub Lane. The plantation behind which  their house shelters is a mixture of pine and  sugar gum. Flying out from the plantation  and feeding round the house were a pair of  WILLIE-WAGTAILS, but no nest could be found. A  flock of SPARROWS flew up from the building  material that still surrounds the house. |

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| [5th September 1948] | After tea Alan and I went for a walk out  to the corner of the Creek Paddock on Bleak House  property where Charlie Dennis had previously  seen a pair of Native Companions. MAGPIE LARKS were  on the paddocks in pairs and one nest seen.  MAGPIES were numerous as were also their nests  in the sugar-gums of a young plantation. RAVENS  were about and their bulky nests were also  seen. SKYLARKS were singing out of sight –  the sound brings back to me at one and  the same time the foreshore at Cavio [guess] and the  English country side.  We eventually arrived at a swampy  corner of the paddock which I imagine  should be ideal for the nesting Brolga, but  none were seen. A WHITE-FACED HERON and  an anxious SPUR-WINGED PLOVER were the only  signs of life to be seen.  When we got back I briefly explored  the home plantation and found two nests of  the YELLOW-TAILED THORNBILL about 5 feet apart  in two pines. They were 8 + 10 feet from  the ground respectively on the leeward end of  a branch, plainly open to view. The lower  one was well built with an unlined [guess] |

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| [5th September 1948]  9th September.  [1948] | cocks nest on top and young inside the  main entrance which was nearly vertically  up from below.  In the evening I watched the  beginnings of roosting activity. Magpies  Ravens and a croaking Heron settled in the  pines. Starlings flew in from the surrounding  country setting up a great wheezing in the  evening air. A flock of GOLDFINCHES flew  restlessly up and down the plantation over  the tops of the trees. A BROWN HAWK was  seen at some distance on a barrier by a  rabbit burrow watching for the evening exodus  of the rabbits. Finally as it was dusk a  flight of SILVER GULLS beat their way  steadily westward over the creek, heading  perhaps for L. Murdeduke.  This morning Thursday I had  a call out to Alvie and so I took  the opportunity to return by Ryan's Lane  and the road that skirts the lake. It was  a grey windy morning with storms  coming swiftly from the west, blotting  out everything with driving rain. The  obvious bird of interest was the COOT, which |

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| 139 [page number] | |
| [9.9.48]  14th September 1948 (32) | was present in flocks of more than a  hundred birds – huge black rafts of  them strung out along the shore moving  southward. Between these flocks were  the glistening white breasts of many  CRESTED GREBES and the splashes of the  MUSK DUCK. Duck were not very much  in evidence – a few pairs of MOUNTAIN  DUCK and a few swiftly flying BLACK DUCK.  SWANS were there in considerable numbers  feeding on the water-logged paddocks, their  necks S-shaped as their heads were driven  down into the grass. Only a few SILVER  GULLS were seen by the water’s edge or  on posts.  In a water-logged paddock 200 yards  or so away were a WHITE-FACED HERON and one  EASTERN SWAMPHEN which rose sleepily as the  car approached. I set out on the first round  of the western part of the Colac Shire patch- testing school + preschool & Volmer patches for T.B.  contact. I was accompanied by Nell Maloney  + Mr & Mrs Stan Taylor. The route was  Barangarook, Irrewillipe E, Irrewillipe, Swan |

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| 140 [page number] | |
| [4th September 1948] | Marsh + Pirron Yallock, stopping in the Stony Rises for lunch. In the afternoon – Larpent Cororooke + Balintore where we had tea.  The open forest of the first part of  our Tour produced NATIVE THRUSH, EASTERN  ROSELLA, MAGPIE, MAGPIE-LARK and STARLINGS. In the Stony Rises were many NOISY MINERS  mainly in pairs but sometimes gathering  in noisy parties. It was a beautiful  hot day but a search produced very  few birds in the spot where we had  lunch. EASTERN ROSELLAS probably nesting  BROWN THORNBILLS, RAVENS, and a single  BUTCHER BIRD. STRIATED PARDALOTES were  heard as was a STRIATED FIELD-WREN. One  WHISTLING EAGLE flew over. At Swan Marsh  on the edge of the Rises were SWALLOWS, a  FAIRY MARTIN (first of the season) SILVER GULLS  MOUNTAIN DUCK in pairs though no young  were seen. Also there were WHITE-FACED  HERONS, SPUR-WINGED PLOVER, PIPITS and a  KESTREL.ch  In the very different country north  of the main road we first met a  WILLIE WAGTAIL then a GREY FANTAIL. On a |

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| 141 [page number] | |
| [14th September 1948]  17th September  (45) | swamp at Cororooke were many SWANS, LITTLE  PIED CORMORANTS and a pair of GULL-BILLED TERNS flying over the dairy + swamp country. At  BALINTORE were GOLDFINCHES, SKYLARKS and  SPARROWS while on the swamp which now contained water were, besides SWANS, many BLACK DUCK and COMMON SANDPIPERS – a  visitor it was good to see. As we were driving away a ~~[?]~~ PALLID CUCKOO flew across the road. At the west corner of  the Lake were EASTERN SWAMPHEN (swampy  ground a few hundred yards away) and COOT, again in large flocks on the water.   We repeated the same route as before.  This time I was accompanied only by Taylor and the day was grey but not too cold The open forest of the first part of the run produced much the same birds – KOOKABURRA NOISY MINER MAGPIE, MAGPIE-LARK, STARLING, NATIVE  THRUSH, WHITE-BROWED SCRUB-WREN (scuttled in front of  the car), BLACK-FACED CUCKOO-SHRIKE, SWALLOW WHITE-FACED HERON, YELLOW-TAILED THORN BILL and EASTERN ROSELLAS. At Swan Marsh we picked up a  few more birds – RAVENS, SWANS, SILVER GULLS, WILLIE WAGTAIL and MOUNTAIN DUCK. We had |

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| 142 [page number] | |
| [17th September] | lunch looking over the swamp-land by the  Hawk's Nest Rd and there there [sic] were six  WHITE IBIS, WHITE COCKATOOS in pairs feeding on  the swamp. SPUR-WINGED PLOVER, KESTREL and  SKYLARK. I then went for half an hour  and sat on a stony barrier in the rises  where were seen GREY BUTCHER-BIRD, STRIATED  PARDALOTE, RED WATTLE-BIRD, WHITE-EARED HONEYEATER  BLUE WREN, GOLDFINCHES. Also both STRIATED and  BROWN THORNBILLS were present and I got  extremely good views of both so that the  identity is finally settled. Also there were  in the rises, WHISTLING EAGLES and what I  think were GOSHAWKS.  Besides SPARROWS which were met  in the Cororooke area, the rest are birds  of the swamp – BLACK DUCK, TEAL (? on Cororooke  Swamp), COMMON SANDPIPER (? long way away) WHITE-  HEADED STILT – two pairs one at Cororooke and  one on L Colac W – COOT, MUSK DUCK, HOARY-HEADED  GREBE, CRESTED GREBE, LITTLE BLACK CORMORANTS,  LITTLE PIED CORMORANT, EASTERN SWAMP-HEN and  RED-CAPPED DOTTEREL. That was a  really excellent day and for the two trips  a total of fifty one species were seen. |

[Pages 143 & 144 cut out of notebook]

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[table]  
Page Date  
 30 28.6.47 Fremantle  
 31 29.6.47-3.7.47 Australian Bight (reference only)  
 31. 3.7.47 First day in Melbourne.  
 31. 4.7.47 Dandenongs.  
 33. 5.7.47 Down to Bay to Mornington  
 34 9.7.47 Last day in Melbourne. Trip up to Colac.  
 35 20.7.47 Colac – Gardens.  
 36 27.7.47 Colac – Lorne.  
 37 11,13.8.47 Larpent  
 37 14.8.47 Yeodene.  
 38 16.8.47 Colac – Melbourne  
 40 31.8.47 Yeodene  
 40 9.9.47 The Lake-bank  
 42 13.9.47 The Lake-bank  
 43 13.9.47 Irrewillipe, Swan Marsh.  
 44. 14.9.47 Lorne – Aireys Inlet   
 49 28.9.47 Turkeith + Larrigan [guess]  
 52 4.10.47 Anakie  
 54 5.10.47 The Otways.  
 57 23.10.47 Balintore   
 58 25.10.47 Balintore  
 60 26.10.47 Yeodene  
 62 15.11.47 Yeodene

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64 16.11.47 Grub Lane  
70 6,7.12.47 Gellibrand  
74 14.12.47 Larrigan [guess], Warncoort  
75 27.12.47 L. Corangamite, Dreeite  
76 28.12.47 Stony Rises  
80 10,11.1.48 Lorne  
81 25.1.48 Turkeith  
83. 7.3.48 Barongarook.  
84 9,10.3.48 Forrest, Apollo Bay, Beech Forest, Gellibrand Carlise  
87 15,16.3.48 Gellibrand, Ferguson, Lavers Hill, Kennedys Creek, Devondale, Lower Gellibrand, Lavers Hill, Glen Aire, Apollo Bay, Lorne  
89 20.3.48 Yeodene  
89 21.3.48 Gellibrand, Carlisle, Devondale, Lavers Hill, Ferguson, Gellibrand  
91 22,23.3.48 Swan Marsh, Pirron Yallock, Cororooke, Ondit, Balls Dam  
93. 3-5.4.48 Aireys Inlet  
96 6,7.4.48 Warncoort, Irrewarra, Dreeite, Wool Wool, Nalangil  
97 8,9.4.48 Elliminyt E, Yeodene, Gerangamete, Barongarook, Irrewillipe  
99 19.4.48 Forrest, Apollo Bay, Beech Forest, Gellibrand, Carlisle  
100 20.4.48 Ferguson, Lavers Hill, Kennedys Crk, Lower Gellibr. [Gellibrand],

Gl.[Glen] Aire, Apollo B.[Bay]

101 25.4.48 Yeodene + Barwon Downs  
102 29.4.48 Swan Marsh, Cororook\* [Cororooke], Ondit, Meredith Park  
103 11.5.48 Warncoort, Dreeite, Nalangil, Tomahawk Crk  
104 12.5.48 Gerangamete, Barongarook, Irrewillipe, Foxhow. [/table]

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106 1.6.48 Forrest, Apollo Bay, Beech Forest, Gellibrand, Carlisle – Colac  
107 2.6.48 Lavers Hill, Kennedy's Crk, Lower Gellibrand, Glen Aire, Apollo Bay  
108 3.6.48 Lake-bank, Colac   
109 8.6.48 Brisbane, Rockhampton  
109 9.6.48 Mackay  
111 10.6.48 Mackay – Prosperpine – Cannondale – Daydream Island  
113 11.6.48 Hayman Is.

116 12.6.48 Hayman Is., Hook Is.   
119 13.6.48 Hayman Is.   
120 14.6.48 Hayman Is.

121 15.6.48 Hayman Is.

122 16.6.48 Around Hayman Is.

124 17.6.48 Hook Is.   
125 18.6.48 Hayman Is.  
125 19.6.48 Hayman Is.   
126 20.6.48 Daydream Is. South Molle Is.   
127 21.6.48 Outer Barrier Reef  
127 22.6.48 Hayman Is.   
127 23.6.48 Hayman Is.   
128 24.6.48 Hayman – Bowen  
128 25.6.48 Bowen – Brisbane – Sydney.  
129 26,27.6.48 Sydney.  
130 7.8.48 Wonga Wonga

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130 8.8.48 Yeo [Yeodene] + Barwon Downs  
132 10.8.48 Lake-bank  
133 28.8.48 Red Rock, Stony Rises  
134 29.8.48 Carlisle, Devondale, Lavers Hill, Gellibrand.  
136 5.9.48 Warncoort.   
138 9.9.48 Cororooke – L. Colac west.  
139 14.9.48 Barongarook – Irrewillipe – Pirron Yallock – Balintore  
141 17.9.48 Barongarook – Swan Marsh, Hawk's Nest Rd – Pirron Yallock,

Cororooke Balintore

[/table]

[INSIDE BLACK COVER]

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[BACK COVER]

[Colour illustration of a black bird on a tree branch. Forest and cottage in background]  
[image caption] [italics]

J. Gould & H.C. Richter, del et lith The 6th and last of a series of British Birds

[/italics]   
 ROOK – Corvus f. frugilegus.  
[italics] "Then rooks, the guttural talkers, three times or four repeat  
 A clear cool note, and often up there in the treetop cradles,  
 Charmed by some unfamiliar sweet impulse we cannot guess at,  
 Gossip among the leaves : they leave when rain is over  
 To visit again that baby brood, their darling nests."  
 From Cecil Day Lewis' translation of the Georgics of Virgil.

[/italics] [/image caption]