

*Podargus strigoides*, (Latham, 1802)

**Common name:** Tawny Frogmouth

**Current status in Tasmania:**

The Tawny Frogmouth is common and widespread in forests and gardens.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It feeds at night on beetles, moths and mice.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: September to December

Nest: A flimsy platform of twigs on a horizontal branch.

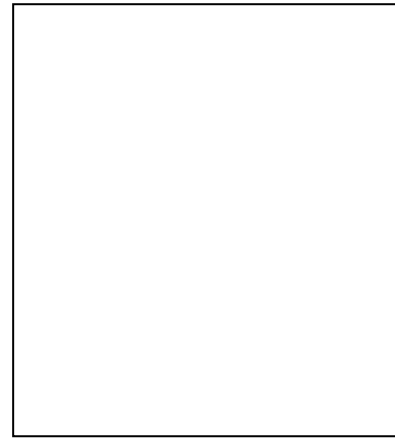
Eggs: Two, white.

Pairs mate for life.

**Other notes:**

The Tawny Frogmouth roosts during the day by resting along a dead limb which resembles its feather colours. This camouflage makes the bird very difficult to see.

**For more information**



*Platycercus caledonicus*, (Kuhl, 1820)

**Common name:** Green Rosella

**Current status in Tasmania:**

The Green Rosella is found only in Tasmania and is common in all types of forest, parks and gardens.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

The birds are quite tame and often feed on the ground even alongside busy roads. Seeds of native trees and shrubs are taken as well as fruit, nectar and buds.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: November to February

Nest: In a tree hollow, usually in a eucalypt.

Eggs: Four to seven. Only the female incubates the eggs

**Other notes:**

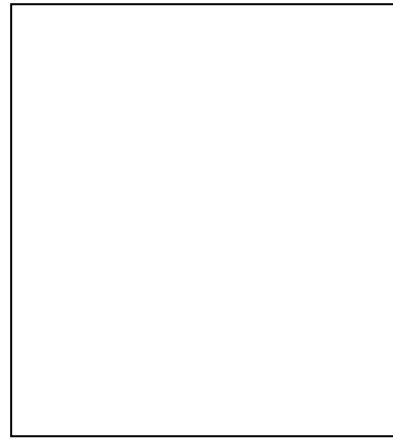
In wetter areas the birds appear to be darker green with duller plumage.

It usually occurs in small flocks and feeds quietly whilst making a low chattering contact call. When disturbed it makes a loud "kussick, kussick" alarm call.

A small colony at Port Arthur lives amongst the ruins of the old convict settlement and breeds in the gapes in the walls.

**For more information**

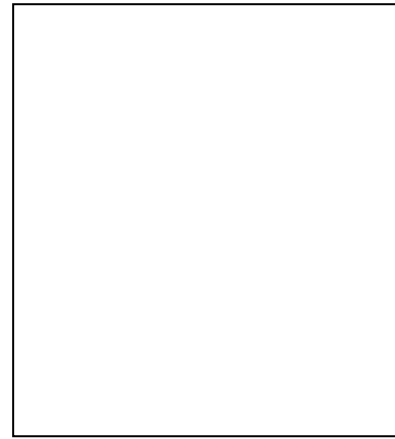
<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=5160>



*Petroica boodang*, (Lesson, 1838)

**Common name:** Scarlet Robin

**Current status in Tasmania:**



The Scarlet Robin is common and widespread, and found in a variety of habitats such as forests, woodlands and the edge of cultivated land. It may visit gardens in winter.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It feeds on worms, spiders, and other small insects.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: October to December.

Nest: Cup-shaped grass and bark nest in a tree or bush

Eggs: Three to four pale blue/green or brown eggs with dark brown spots.

The male Scarlet Robin feeds the female while she is incubating the eggs. After the eggs hatch the male also feeds the chicks for the first few days.

**Other notes:**

Like many robins it finds a convenient low perch from which to find its prey and then drops down onto it.

The female Scarlet Robin has a red breast, but it is not as coloured as the breast of the male. It is the only female robin to have a red breast.

**For more information**

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=13136>

*Malurus cyaneus*, (Ellis, 1782)

**Common name:** Superb Fairy-wren

**Current status in Tasmania:**

Common and widespread in Tasmania.

The Superb Fairy-wren is common in gardens, hedges and light scrub mainly on or near the ground.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It feeds on aphids, insects and grubs and is readily attracted to a bird table with cheese or bits of fat and crumbs.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to January.

Nest: A domed structure, built of grass, low down in dense vegetation.

Eggs: 3-4. White with reddish spots.

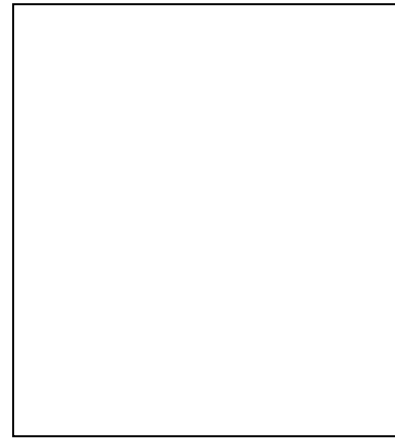
Family groups assist in raising the young.

**Other notes:**

It is tame and friendly and hops quickly in and out of vegetation. It is often seen in pairs or small social groups.

The male wrens are always easily recognized by their blue tails even when they lose their bright colours out of the breeding season. Females are grey brown and have a brown tail.

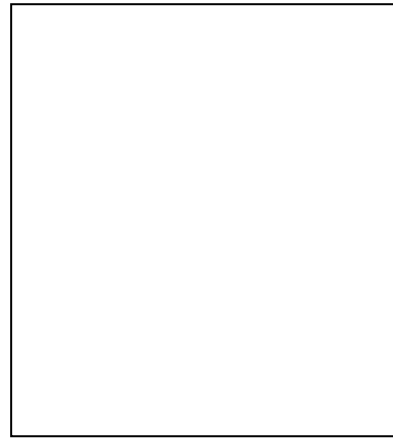
**For more information**



*Calyptrorhynchus funereus*, Gould, 1838

**Common name:** Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

**Current status in Tasmania:**



This common bird frequents forests and woodlands but often visits the coastal heaths in winter. Small numbers sometimes come into suburban gardens.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

The Black Cockatoo uses its bill to strip bark from trees and rip apart rotten logs in order to find wood boring grubs. It also eats the seeds of pine trees and banksias by pulling apart the cones.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: October to May

Nest: In a deep hollow high up in a tall tree, usually eucalypt.

Eggs: Two, white and round eggs are laid, but only one chick survives.

**Other notes:**

It is a social bird and is usually found in small noisy flocks. The flocks are often made up of family groups of three. This is because the chick stays with its parents until the following breeding season.

When a flock is feeding one bird will keep guard and if an intruder appears, it will warn the rest of the flock by screeching loudly.

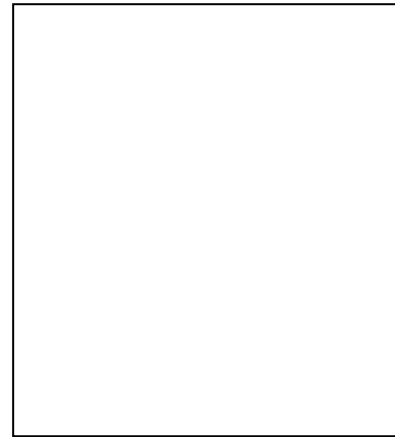
It has a buoyant, lazy flight with slow wing-beats.

**For more information**

*Accipiter fasciatus*, (Vigors & Horsfield, 1827)

**Common name:** Brown Goshawk

**Current status in Tasmania:**



The Brown Goshawk is common and widespread favouring forest and scrub habitats.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It feeds on small birds, lizards, rodents and insects.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to November

Nest: Made of sticks and lined with leaves, built in a fork high in the treetops.

Eggs: Two to four white eggs, blotched with brown.

**Other notes:**

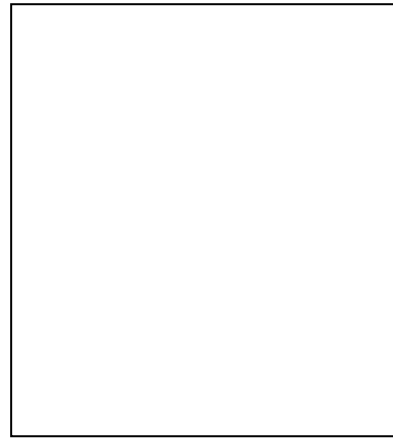
The Brown Goshawk is a short winged hawk with a long tail ideally suited to dashing through scrub and trees in search of prey.

**For more information**

*Corvus tasmanicus*, Mathews, 1912

**Common name:** Forest Raven

**Current status in Tasmania:**



The Forest Raven is common throughout Tasmania. It is found in many habitats, ranging from the coast to the highlands, forest and woodlands and is increasingly common in improved pasture.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

The Raven feeds on dead animals and has become a common bird along the roadside feeding on road-kills. It also feeds on insects, worms and fruit.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to December.

Nest: A large bowl of sticks and twigs in a tall tree

Eggs: Four to six pale green eggs, spotted with dark brown markings.

**Other notes:**

It has a rich, deep gravelly voice and makes a call of “korr-korr-korr-korr” with the last note drawn out. This is delivered with the head thrust forward, the throat hackles extended and the tail lowered.

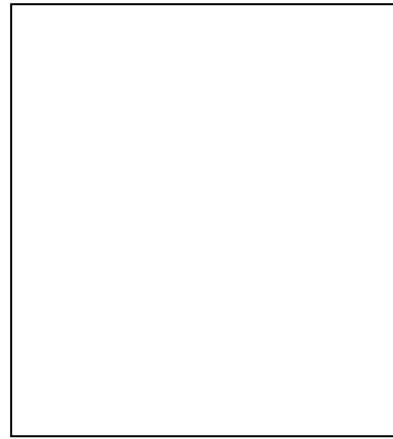
The forest Raven is becoming increasingly common in Tasmania, even on beaches competing for food scraps with Silver Gulls.

**For more information**

*Cracticus torquatus*, Gould, 1837

**Common name:** Grey Butcherbird

**Current status in Tasmania:**



The Grey Butcherbird is common and widespread. It favours clearings, parks and gardens, but avoids forested areas.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It feeds on insects, lizards and small snakes and occasionally small birds which it hunts for prey. The Grey Butcherbird gets its name from the practice of wedging its prey in the fork of a tree, returning later to eat it at leisure.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to November

Nest: A cup of woven twigs and lined with grass in a bushy tree.

Eggs: Three to four, green, spotted with red and purple.

During the breeding season the male is strongly marked, appearing almost black and white. Grey Butcherbirds will aggressively defend their nest and young.

**Other notes:**

Adult birds have a lovely flute like song that can be heard from a considerable distance. Often a pair of birds will sing together as a duet.

**For more information**

*Accipiter novaehollandiae*, (J.F. Gmelin, 1788)

**Common name:** Grey Goshawk

**Current status in Tasmania:**

Endangered.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

A fast flying hawk, it often catches its prey by surprise and the speed of its attack. Its food consists of birds, rabbits, small mammals and insects.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to December

Nest: Large and made of sticks, lined with leaves and built among the top branches of a tall tree.

Eggs: Two to three, bluish-white with a few pale brown markings.

**Other notes:**

The Grey Goshawk favours rainforest and thickly timbered areas particularly along watercourses.

Although known as the Grey Goshawk, Tasmanian birds are almost always white. Many people in Tasmania called it the "white hawk".

**For more information**

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=13530>



*Glossopsita concinna*, (Shaw, 1791)

**Common name:** Musk Lorikeet

**Current status in Tasmania:**

It is commonly found in forests and open woodland but regularly visits parks and gardens.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

Nectar is their main food but they will also feed on flowers, fruits, insects and seeds. Although they have the same shaped beak as a parrot, the tongue is brush-like and used to collect nectar from flowers.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to January

Nest: In a tree hollow

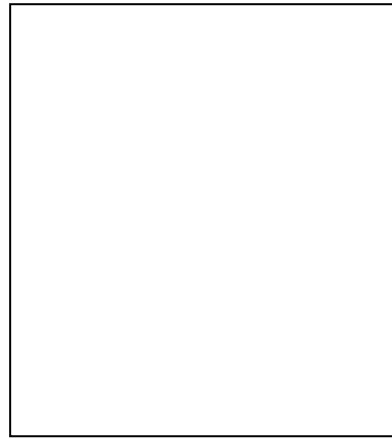
Eggs: Two, white eggs.

**Other notes:**

Lorikeets spend most of their time in the tree tops. They are very fast fliers and often occur in noisy flocks. They can usually be identified by their call which is a shrill metallic screeching noise.

While feeding amongst the flowers of trees they continuously chatter.

**For more information**



*Malurus cyaneus*, (Latham, 1802)

**Common name:** Pallid Cuckoo

**Current status in Tasmania:**

Common in lowland dry eucalypt forests and woodlands.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It feeds on insects, especially hairy caterpillars and can often be seen perching still on a branch watching for prey.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: September to January.

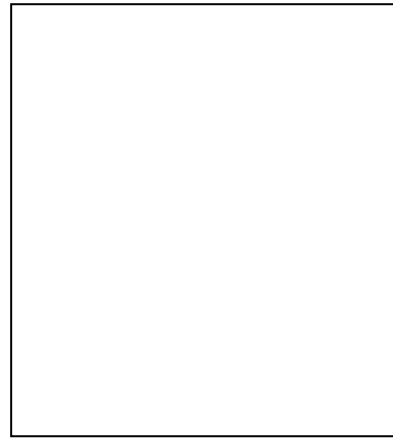
Eggs: One pink egg in each nest of other birds.

They lay their eggs in the nests of other birds particularly those of honeyeaters who then rear the young cuckoos.

**Other notes:**

Migrates to Tasmania from northern Australia during September and returns north during March.

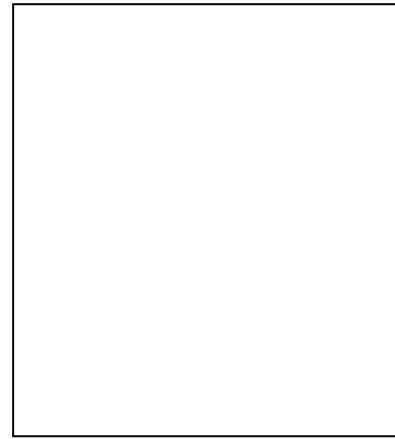
**For more information**



*Zosterops lateralis*, (Latham, 1802)

**Common name:** Silvereeye

**Current status in Tasmania:**



The Silvereeye is common throughout Tasmania in forests, woodlands, coastal heath, gardens, and orchards.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

Silvereeyes feed on fruit, seeds, nectar and insects.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: September to February.

Nest: A cup-shaped nest placed in the fork of a low bush or tree.

Eggs: Three to four pale blue eggs.

**Other notes:**

A number of different subspecies of Silvereeye are recognised but those from Tasmania can be distinguished from the mainland ones by being slightly larger and by having darker plumage.

After forming medium sized flocks in autumn, most of the population migrates to mainland Australia, returning in spring to breed.

Tracking birds by bird banding, has shown that individual Silvereeyes follow the same migration path every year.

Its call can be a pleasant warble or a single sharp note.

**For more information**

*Coturnix pectoralis*, Gould, 1837

**Common name:** Stubble Quail

**Current status in Tasmania:**

Uncommon in Tasmania. Its numbers appear to be diminishing and it is considered to be rare in the southern part of the State, though it is common on King Island.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It mainly feeds on seeds and some insects.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: October to January.

Nest: A grass-lined depression in pasture or crops.

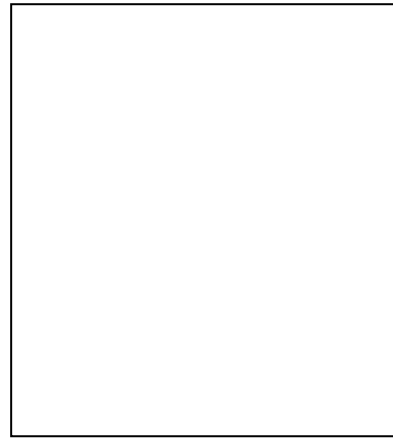
Eggs: Seven to eleven buff-coloured eggs, evenly covered with dark brown freckles.

During the breeding season it makes an attractive repeated call of "two-to-tweep".

**Other notes:**

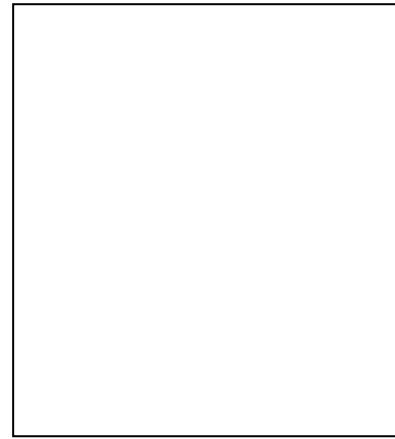
It is not easy to find these birds as they run quickly through rough grass or pasture when disturbed.

**For more information**



*Cacatua galerita*, (Latham, 1790)

**Common name:** Sulphur-crested Cockatoo



**Current status in Tasmania:**

The Sulphur-crested Cockatoo is common in the dry northern midlands of Tasmania but is also found in the wetter west coast forests.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

It feeds on seeds, berries and roots, and may cause damage to seed crops.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to January

Nest: In a deep hollow, high up in a tree, usually a eucalypt.

Eggs: Two to three white eggs.

**Other notes:**

Flock size can vary from a few birds to several hundred.

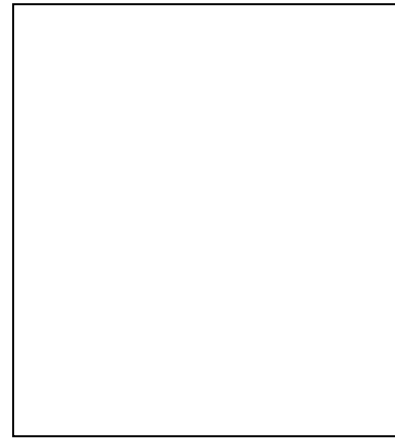
When a flock is feeding some of the birds will keep guard and if an intruder appears, they will warn the rest of the flock by screeching loudly.

**For more information**

*Lathamus discolor*, (Shaw, 1790)

**Common name:** Swift Parrot

**Current status in Tasmania:**



Swift Parrots are endangered due to a reduction in suitable feeding and breeding areas. This parrot breeds only in Tasmania, mainly in the southeast of the State where it relies on Blue Gum and other flowering forest trees.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

The Swift Parrot feeds mainly on nectar but also insects, seeds and fruit.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: October to December in Tasmania only.

Nest: In a eucalypt tree hollow.

Eggs: Three to four white eggs.

**Other notes:**

Despite the bright colours it is often hard to see amongst the foliage of gum trees.

It migrates to the mainland in winter and returns to breed in the spring.

It is usually found in small numbers flying rapidly and calling constantly with a high pitched "clink-clink"

**For more information**

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=5132>

*Egretta novaehollandiae*, (Latham, 1790)

**Common name:** White-faced Heron

**Current status in Tasmania:**

It is common in estuaries, swamps, marshes and ponds, and even along the shoreline.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

The heron feeds on small fish, which it catches by stalking then darting its head forward, frogs, crabs, reptiles and grass-hoppers.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: October to December

Nest: A loose platform of twigs built in a tall tree.

Eggs: Four to five, light blue-green.

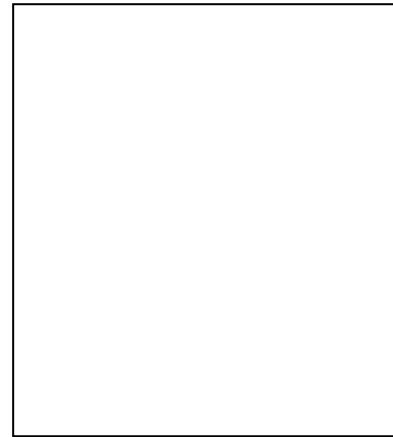
**Other notes:**

The White-faced Heron is often called the “Blue Crane” and is the heron that is most often seen in Australia. Flocks from mainland Australia fly over to spend the winter in Tasmania.

They perch and roost in trees.

When flying it pulls its head back to its body by folding its neck, and its legs trail beyond the tail.

**For more information**



*Lichenostomus flavicolis*, (Vieillot, 1817)

**Common name:** Yellow-throated Honeyeater

**Current status in Tasmania:**

Common and widespread in Tasmania.

The Superb Fairy-wren is common in gardens, hedges and light scrub mainly on or near the ground.

**History:**

**Feeding:**

As with most honeyeaters it feeds on both nectar and insects, sometimes catching them on the wing.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to December.

Nest: Cup-shaped and lined with wool and hair. Placed in thick vegetation close to the ground.

Eggs: Two to three, pale pink, spotted with reddish brown and grey.

Adult birds only pair for the breeding season.

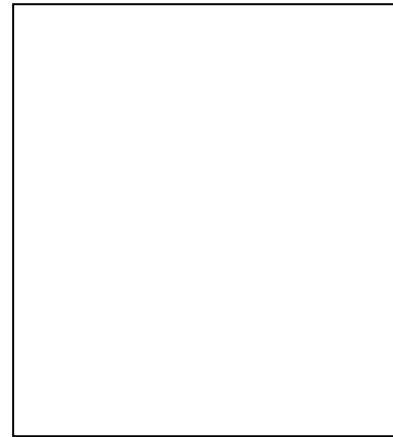
**Other notes:**

The Yellow-throated Honeyeater is found in both wet and dry forests and coastal heaths.

It is an active and aggressive bird often chasing small honeyeaters from its territory.

**For more information**

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=5189>



*Anthochaera paradoxa*, (Daudin, 1800)

**Common name:** Yellow Wattlebird

**Current status in Tasmania:**

Found only in Tasmania, but not on Flinders Island.  
Common throughout the island.

**History:**

Until 1972 these birds were hunted as game during a winter shooting season as they were considered good eating.

**Feeding:**

It feeds on nectar from flowering gum trees and banksias, but also eats a variety of insects and spiders.

**Reproduction:**

Nesting Season: August to December

Nest: Bulky, loose and saucer shaped, made of twigs and strips of bark. Often high in a tree fork.

Eggs: Two to three, pinkish-buff eggs spotted with brown and grey.

**Other notes:**

The Yellow Wattlebird prefers forests with flowering eucalypts but can also be found in coastal woodlands, heathlands, parks and gardens.

The Yellow Wattlebird is the largest honeyeater found in Australia. Females are smaller but both males and females have a dangling yellow wattle on both sides of their face. In winter the birds form small groups and travel in search of food.

**For more information**

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/index.aspx?base=5184>

