



Wood Duck (46cm) Just as likely to oe seen on land as on water, sometimes even perching in trees.



Pacific Black Duck Also known as the Painted Duck because of its facial markings - it looks as though it's wearing makeup!



to be on a boat.



Chestnut Teal

Only the male is chestnut. And his head is green. Or black - the colour is iridescent and depends on the light.



Wedge-tailed hearwater (42cm)

Shearwaters are better known as Muttonbirds. The waters off the Illawarra coast are a world hotspot for seabirds like this.



Pelican (170cm)

It's bill really can hold more than it's belly can. And the Australian species has the biggest bill in the world.

White-faced

Heron (68cm)

A common sight

near any body of

water. Like all

herons its neck

has a 'hinge' - an

adaptation for

spearing its prey.



Little Pied

Cormorant (60cm) Like all cormorants it's not very waterproof, to make diving and catching fish easier. So it has to hang its wings out to dry!

White Ibis

(70cm)

Sometimes called

the Sacred Ibis as it

was worshipped by

the ancient Egyp-

tians. Look out also

for the Straw-

necked Ibis which

has a black back.



Great Cormorant

The largest of our four local cormorants - black with a yellow face. (The Little Black Cormorant has an all-black face.)



White-bellied

Sea Eagle (80cm) Watch out for it majestically patrolling our coastline. With luck you might see it pluck a fish out of the ocean, hardly getting its feet wet.



Great Egret (90cm)

Its enormous neck is longer than its body. Other white Egrets you might see are the Little Egret (smaller, hyperactive when feeding) and the Cattle Egret (follows cows!)



Dusky Moorhen

(38cm)

One of our commonest water birds; in the breeding season its beak is red, with a ellow tip. The similar Coot has a white beak.



Purple Swamphen

Royal Spoonbill

The Spoonbill moves

its bill from side to

side in shallow water

to catch fish and oth-

er prey. Our other,

rarer Spoonbill is the

Yellow-billed Spoon-

bill.

Bigger and more colourful than the Moorhen. Both have a part of the beak that extends over the forehead - this is called its shield.



< Sooty / Pied > Oystercatcher (46cm)

Their orange beak doesn't quite match their pink legs, but is perfect for prising open shellfish.



Black-winged Stilt (35cm)

Stilts live up to their name by having the longest legs (relative to body length) of any bird. Often seen around Lake Illawarra.



Bar-tailed Godwit (40cm)

Breeding in Siberia and Alaska, it holds the record for the longest known non-stop migration flight of over 11,000 kms.



Ruddy Turnstone

Its name tells you how it finds its food. Known to

travel an incredible 27,000 km on its annual migration to the Arctic and back.



Red-capped Plover



Masked Lapwing (36cm)

This bird and its kek-kek-kek' alarm call are well-known. It is a brave defender of its young, swooping on predators and sometimes humans.



Crested Tern

(46cm)

If you see a seagull diving into the ocean and catching fish, then it's probably not a seagull! It is most likely to be a Crested Tern, our commonest Tern.



Silver Gull (40cm)

Gull are pirates, often taking food from other birds, so if one steals your chips it's only behaving naturally!





Brown Cuckoo-Dove

A long-tailed bronzecoloured pigeon often seen sitting amongst the oliage. Its loud 'wh-oo-rk' call is a familiar sound of the rainforest



Wonga Pigeon

Most often seen walking along paths in the rainforest. Its call is a continuous 'whoopwhoop-whoop' - a bit like a reversing truck!



A spectacular bird and one well as the calls of many other birds, it is said to copy the sounds of cars, phones, even chainsaws!

Superb Lyrebird



White-throated Treecreeper (17cm

Hunts insects by walking up tree trunks from bottom to top; it then flies down and starts again on the next tree. It's call is a piercing, repetitive whistle.



Golden Whistler

Green Catbird

Named for it's ex-

crying!

This is a classic example of how in many birds the nale is very brightly coloured, but the female is a dull



Grey Fantail (16cm)

Honeyeater (20cm)

One of many Austra-

lian honeyeaters

(nectar-feeders), this

one has a yellow ear-

patch. Its call has been

compared to the sound

of a machine gun.

A lively, inquisitive bird that lives up to its name. Its call is very highpitched - beyond the hearing of some people.



(16cm)

Yes we do have robins with red breasts in Australia, but they are uncommon here. This is the robin you are most likely to see, often perching on the side of a tree trunk.



Whipbird

Often heard but rarely seen. The 'whipcrack' is the nale's call; a 'cheep cheep' afterwards is the reply of an interested female.



brown!