



Australian Raven

This intelligent and adaptable bird is not a crow - note beard-like throat hackles. Australia has 2 crow and 3 raven species.

C 52cm



Pied Currawong

Expanding in Sydney. Mainly black with white on rump & wings, more easily seen in flight. Predate on small birds. Listen for chiming bell-like call.

C 45cm



Australian Magpie

Familiar suburban bird seen mostly on the ground. Some males may be aggressive in the breeding season. Variety of calls include a beautiful liquid warbling.

C 40cm



Grey Butcherbird

Hook-tipped beak. Has a loud, beautiful, piping call.

C 21cm



Magpie-lark

This mud nester is also known as a Peewee, due to its loud, brassy call. Note the different facial markings on the male & female (inset).

C 28cm



Willie Wagtail

A feisty little bird, often seen on the ground. Its call can be a sweet whistle or a scolding chatter.

C 21cm

Monochromes & Parrots

Learning the names of birds can be quite overwhelming when starting out. There are so many it's best to break them down into groups.

Begin with the most common species. There are several types of black and white (monochrome) birds you see every day. Colourful parrot species such as Lorikeets and Rosellas and the larger Cockatoos are also widespread.



Red-rumped Parrot

Male is emerald-green with yellow belly & red lower back. Female is a duller green. Seen feeding on the ground in parks.

U 26cm



Eastern Rosella

Colourful rosella with a white patch on the face and a soft, piping call. **Crimson Rosellas** are red with blue wings.

R 30cm



Galah

One of the few birds with a one-word name. They are very intelligent and usually feed on the ground.

U 35cm



Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo

Slow graceful flight with a haunting call. Seen in groups, especially in winter.

U 62cm



Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

An iconic bird with a long yellow crest is often swept back but stands up when excited. Listen for loud, screeching calls.

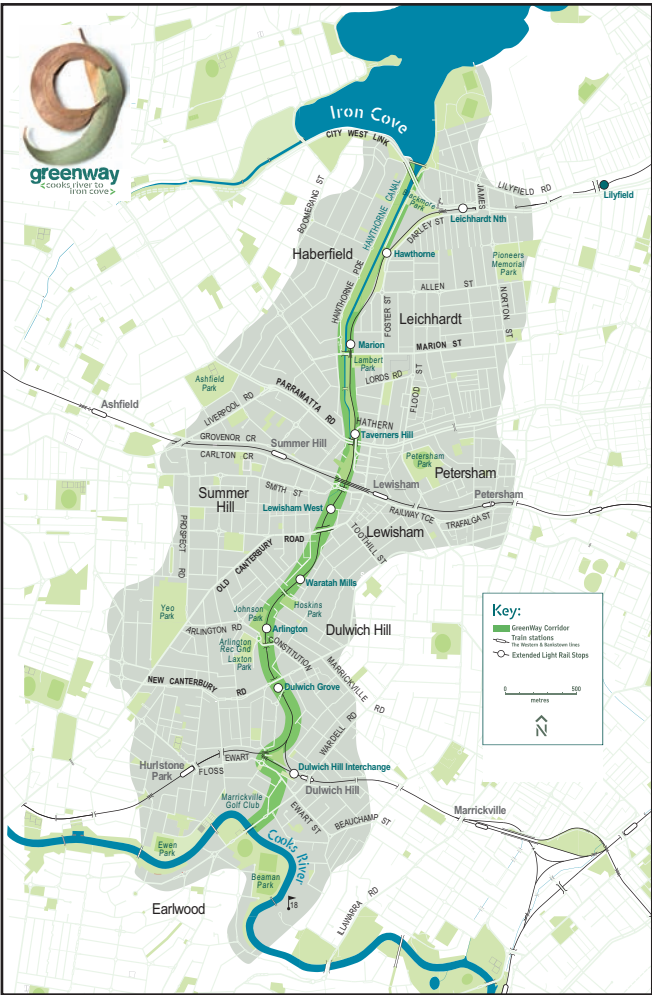
U 47cm



Little Corella

Can occur in large flocks. Listen for gentle, laughing call. Look for the less common Long-billed Corella with a red slice across its chest.

C 35cm



Joining the local GreenWay bird watching group will help build your bird knowledge with other local residents.

We hold two monthly bird walks & surveys starting at 7.30am. The first is on the second Wednesday from Taverners Hill light rail station to Hawthorne Reserve along the Hawthorne Canal, Leichhardt. The other on the fourth Saturday is a loop from Waratah Mills light rail station in Dulwich Hill.

For more information please email Jo Blackman, joathome@bigpond.net.au or message the facebook page of the Inner West Environment Group. You may want to try to identify the other nearly 400 birds of the Sydney region. It's a lot of fun and its free!

Most of the birds you'll encounter are in this guide. Note their status along the GreenWay. **C** Common, **U** Uncommon, **R** Rare

NON-NATIVES

Animals such as cats and foxes have devastated Australia's wildlife. The birds listed here add to the pressure faced by Sydney's native birds by competing for food and nest sites



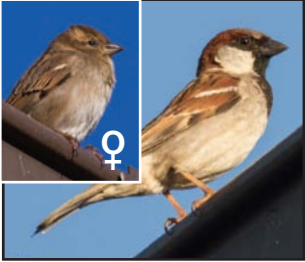
Spotted Dove From Asia. These common garden birds have a typical cooing dove call. **C** 32cm



Common Myna From Asia. Also known as Indian Myna. Brown with black head. Forages on ground. **C** 24cm



Red-whiskered Bulbul From Asia, Unmistakable, its whistle is commonly heard in gardens. **C** 20cm



House Sparrow From Europe. Easily detected by their chirpy calls. **U** 15cm



Rock Dove From Europe. Feral or homing pigeon, Breeds all year. **C** 34cm



Common Starling From Europe. Dark, metallic sheen with spots, young birds are plainer. **U** 23cm



Common Blackbird From Europe. Female/juveniles are brown with streaked underparts. **U** 25cm

Can you help our small birds?

Some birds are thriving but we are losing small birds in our urban areas. They need more habitat and your backyard can be a haven that provides water, food and shelter, helping them move across the landscape.

Some of the birds we only see as juveniles: the GreenWay doesn't provide enough habitat and food for them to breed here. That's why we need to help them in our gardens.

5 steps to create a small bird refuge

- 1. Small birds are shy and vulnerable.** They need places to hide from predators. Observe what plants small birds are using in your garden before tidying up.
- 2. Plant layers of vegetation.** Dense or messy is good! It means hiding places and insects for food.
- 3. Go easy on the pesticides as many birds eat insects.**
- 4. Provide water.** Keep it shallow & clean for safety & off the ground near a shrub.
- 5. Keep cats and dogs away.** Keep cats in a cat run or enclosure and inside at night.

Join our birdscaping project

Help us enhance and increase small bird habitat in backyards near the GreenWay. Please email Jo Blackman joathome@bigpond.net.au or message the facebook page of the Inner West Environment Group IWEG.

Bird watching tips

Having a field guide, or a bird app on your phone, and a pair of binoculars make seeing and identifying birds much easier and more rewarding.

Most birds are easier to hear than see, so try to 'tune in' to the calls. Each bird has a unique sound, and usually a number of different calls – contact calls to stay in touch with their group, alarm calls to warn of predators etc. Start with one or two species like the Magpie or the Raven and slowly get to know your local patch through 'tuning in' to the bird calls you hear.

For further tips and information visit the Birds in Backyards website – they have a section on creating places for birds (as well as information for identifying birds) <https://www.birdsinbackyards.net/places> Habitat Network website <https://www.habitatnetwork.org>

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A PHOTO GUIDE to the BIRDS of the GREENWAY

A green corridor in Sydney's Inner West

A project of the Inner West Environment Group (IWEG)



HONEYEATERS



Noisy Miner
Aggressive honeyeater that works as a group to drive out smaller birds, especially in landscaped parkland with large trees & lawn. Communal breeders. Steal food at outdoor cafes. **C** 26cm



Eastern Spinebill
This small, colourful honeyeater flits around in branches or hovers like a hummingbird. Loud, rapid whistle. **U** 14cm



New Holland Honeyeater
This heathland bird has adapted well to suburban gardens. **C** 16cm



Red Wattlebird
Largest of our local honeyeaters. Red wattles on the face & yellow belly help distinguish it from the Little Wattlebird. Has a loud, cackling call. **C** 28cm



White-plumed Honeyeater
Commonly feed in eucalypt blossom. A green-grey honeyeater with a yellowish head & a white streak on each side of the neck. **C** 14cm



Little Wattlebird
Less common around the GreenWay than the Red Wattlebird. **C** 26cm



Grey Fantail
Related to the Willie Wagtail but it lives in dense shrubbery. It's usually only seen along the GreenWay from autumn to spring. **C** 16cm



Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Shuffles its wings when it lands. Black face & throat, blue-grey above & pale below. **U** 33cm



Topknot Pigeon
Like a big feral pigeon with banded tail & backswept hairdo. Feeds on fruit in canopy, seen in suburbs depending on the availability of fruit in the rainforest. **U** 43cm



Olive-backed Oriole
Green bird with a heavily streaked white chest. Look for the red eye & beak. Call sounds like its name - 'or-ee-ol'. **U** 26cm



Australasian Figbird
Commonly feed in fig trees. Male is colourful with black head & red skin around the eye. Female has dull brown head, underparts whitish with brown streaks. **C** 28cm



Australian Brushturkey
AKA Scrub turkey. Bare red head & the neck has a bright yellow wattle. Ground dwelling but roosts high in the heat of day & at night. Eggs laid in mound 4m across by 1.5m high. **R** 65cm

OTHER SMALL BIRDS



Superb Fairy-wren
Listen for high-pitched squeaks or song. Also known as blue wrens. Females & non-breeding males are plain & are known as Jenny wrens. **C** 14cm



Silvereye
Feeding flocks move through shrubs. Listen for tuneful whistles. In winter look for rufous-flanked birds from Tasmania. Feeds on fruit and insects. **C** 12cm



Spotted Pardalote
Forages high in tree canopies. Listen for a repetitive 2 note call. **C** 10cm



White-browed Scrubwren
Calls loudly while hiding in dense vegetation. Some calls sound scolding. **U** 13cm



Red-browed Finch
Also known as Red-browed Firetails. Feeds on seeds & insects. **R** 12cm



Brown Gerygone
'Little brown bird' with pale underparts & white spots on the end of the tail. **R** 10cm

LOOK OUT FOR MIGRANTS

Many of these birds use the GreenWay when they migrate north in autumn after breeding further south, & pass through on their return in spring. Yellow-faced & White-naped Honeyeaters may be seen migrating in small groups.

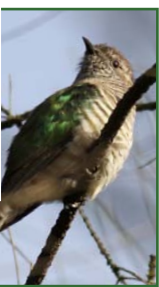
CUCKOOS



Pacific Koel
Male's loud, repetitive 'koel' or coo-ee call is well-known, especially at night. Female makes a keek keek call. Male is black, female/young are mottled cream & brown. She lays a single egg in (usually) a Red Wattlebird nest. **C** 42cm



Fan-tailed Cuckoo
One of 8 Sydney cuckoos that lay their eggs in the nest of another bird species. Passes through the GreenWay corridor when on migration. **R** 26cm



Shining Bronze Cuckoo & Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo (inset)
Barring across the breast is broken, where the Shining Bronze Cuckoo has more complete barring. Spring & Autumn migrants. **R** SBC - 16cm, HBC - 17cm



Channel-billed Cuckoo
Huge pale cuckoo. The female lays her eggs in the nest of a Pied Currawong. Loud raucous call. **C** 62cm

NOCTURNAL



Tawny Frogmouth
Marbled grey/brown, pale underparts with fine streaks. Roost by day on tree branch. Call is a low oom-oom. Active at dusk. Male larger. **U** 33-50cm



Southern Boobook
Also called Mopoke after its call. Small brown owl with brown & white streaks on breast, goggle eyed. Female is larger. **U** 25-36cm

RAPTORS



Brown Goshawk
Grey-brown above, barred rufous/white below, rufous collar, yellow legs & eyes. Female is larger, 50cm. Male smaller 40cm, similar to Collared Sparrowhawk. **U**



Peregrine Falcon
The Peregrine is one of the world's fastest creatures. Widespread throughout the world but is uncommon. Female is larger. **U** 36-47cm.

White-throated Needletail

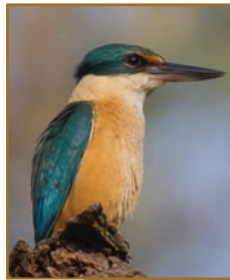


One of the world's fastest birds. Forehead, throat & undertail white, short tail. They appear in humid, unsettled weather, feeding on rising insects. **C** 20cm

Oriental Dollarbird



Stocky upright bluish green with red bill, shows white wing spot when flying. Sits on dead trees or powerlines. **R** 28cm



Sacred Kingfisher
Summer visitor that nests in a hollow or a mud bank. Has a monotonous harsh call. **U** 21cm

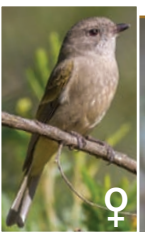


Rufous Whistler
The male is quite distinctive, the female has a streaked chest. Passes through occasionally on migration in autumn & spring. **R** 19cm

Leaden Flycatcher



Male has leaden grey back & throat with white underparts. Female has orange-buff throat & breast. Occasionally seen migrating in late summer or autumn. **R** 15cm



Australian Golden Whistler
Females & young birds are plain. Resident in thick forest in summer & juveniles spread out in winter. Listen for a loud 'seep' call in winter months. **U** 18cm

Yellow-faced Honeyeater



A loud 'chirrup' or a small 'chip-chip' call in flight, often heard as small migratory groups fly north in autumn. Occasionally one is seen along the Greenway, mainly in autumn. **U** 16cm



White-naped Honeyeater
Sometimes seen migrating north in autumn with Yellow-faced Honeyeaters, & one is occasionally seen in a GreenWay garden. **U** 14cm

WETLAND BIRDS



Silver Gull
Bold seabird that has adapted to human habitation. Young birds have mottled brown wings. **U** 42cm



Australian White Ibis
Familiar wetland 'refugee' that has adapted to suburbs. **C** 70cm



Little Black Cormorant
Wholly black with bronze tinge to the wings when breeding. Cormorants sit with their wings outstretched to dry. **C** 60cm

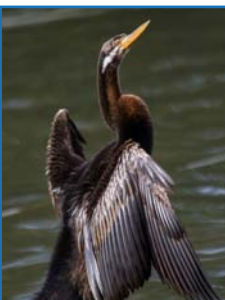
Royal Spoonbill
Occasionally seen in shallow water, moving its beak from side to side looking for food. **U** 74-80cm



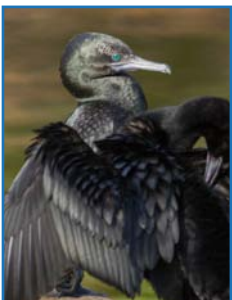
Pacific Black Duck
Tame brown duck in parks with ponds or waterways. Distinctive black stripe through the eye, white underwing seen when flying. **U** 54cm



Chestnut Teal
Male is colourful, fawn-coloured female may be confused with similar Grey Teal, note pale throat. **C** 43cm



Australasian Darter
Long snake-like neck and long, rounded tail. Male birds are darker than females and immature birds. **R** 88cm



Little Pied Cormorant
Similar to the larger Australian Pied Cormorant, which is a more coastal species. **C** 60cm



White-faced Heron
Slender pale grey 'heron' with white face & long yellow legs. Now considered an egret. Solitary hunter in shallow water. **C** 68cm



Striated Heron
Dumpy unobtrusive heron. Crouches as it stalks fish or crabs, sometimes on the walls of the Hawthorne Canal. **U** 45cm