

MOST COMMON BIRDS OF THE HERITAGE PARK

*Birds which have an asterisk in front of their names are endemic to the South West of Western Australia

01

Australian Wood Duck *Chenonetta jubata*

One of the most common Australian water birds in the South West, Australian Wood Ducks are easy to see feeding on the grass or swimming in the water, especially early in the morning or later in the afternoon. And don't be surprised if you see them in the tree canopy. They will be looking for nesting hollows in the older eucalypts – one of several duck species who don't nest on the ground.

02

Pacific Black Duck *Anas superciliosa*

Pacific Black Ducks are easy to see feeding on the grass early in the morning or swimming in the water, at other times. They are one of the most common birds all over Australia.

03

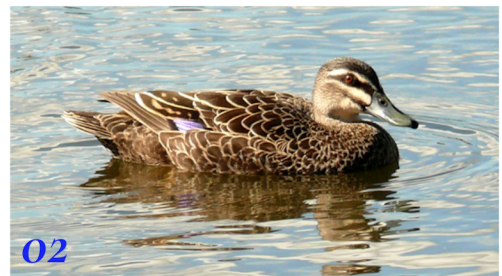
Common Bronzewing *Phaps chalcoptera*

Common Bronzewings are easy to see, but are even easier to hear. Their low, repetitive 'Oooom' is often a constant, leading you to where they are sitting quietly in the shade. They are shy, and so will walk quickly away if they suspect they are being looked at. If panicked, they burst upwards in flight to get away from curious eyes.

04

Buff-banded Rail *Gallirallus phillippinsis*

If you are here very early in the morning before people are around you may see these colourful birds boldly striding across the lawns in front of the waterways. But they will quickly run back to the reeds if they sense you.



05

Australasian Swamphen *Porphyria melanotus*

These large waterbirds aren't so common in the Park. If they do visit, they will be hanging around the ponds and waterways amongst the reeds, their stunning purple and blue plumage shining and their fluffy white tails twitching constantly.

06

Spotless Crane *Zapornia tabuensis*

The little spotless cranes will run for cover whenever they think humans are around. Best seen feeding on the mud when the pond water is low before the world has woken up. – You have to be early to see these shy little creatures.

07

Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*

The distinctive laugh of these birds will alert you to their presence. Unfortunately, they are not native to Western Australia, and decimate the population of smaller birds and reptiles which are their food source. – Not a welcome visitor!

08

Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus*

Although part of the 'kingfisher' family, and most common along riverbanks and waterways, the Sacred Kingfisher is also found in woodland settings. Like the Kookaburra, they prey on larger insects, larvae, spiders and smaller reptiles.



09

Red-tailed Black Cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus banksii*

You will know the magnificent Red-tailed Black Cockatoos are around because of that 'squeaky gate' sound high up in the larger eucalypts. Watch out if you walk under the trees where they are feeding. They regularly drop the gumnuts they have chewed willy-nilly, oblivious to the humans walking underneath.

10

***Baudin's Black Cockatoo** *Zanda baudinii*

One of the endemic local cockatoos, Baudins are one of the white-tailed black cockatoos which roam the South West. They prefer forested areas, so only come to town to take advantage of the gumnuts when those seeds are ready. They are best identified by their call, but this is tricky, since their cousins, Carnaby's Black Cockatoos have a similar call.

11

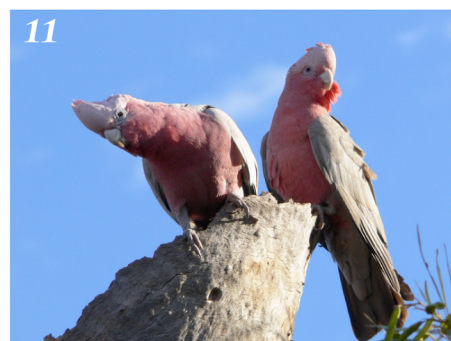
Galah *Eolophus roseicapilla*

Galahs are more common further north in WA. However, there is a flock which has made Manjimup their home. They mostly live in the suburbs though, not in our beautiful Heritage Park.

12

Elegant Parrot *Neophema elegans*

You are more likely to hear the scratchy sound of these swift little parrots as they rocket across the sky. They rest only briefly up high in the eucalypts. At the right time of year, however, they will come down to feed on grass seeds. But they mostly seek to avoid being noticed by humans. We are giants to them.



13

Australian Ringneck *Barnardius zonarius*

The much-loved 'Twentyeight' can be seen flying from tree to tree or feeding on grass seeds. They don't mind being seen, but prefer not to get too close. They don't mind being heard, however, and you can often hear their chatter up in the canopy.

14

***Western Rosella** *Platycercus icterotis*

The stunning red and green male birds and their green-ish female and young birds like to feed on grass seeds when no one is around. However, they do not like to be noticed. If in danger of being seen, they will launch into flight to hide in the foliage, in which they are camouflaged.

15

***Red-capped Parrot** *Purpureicephalus spurius*

The red-capped parrot is larger than Australian Ringneck parrots, but much shier. You will hear their scratchy squawks more often than you see these colourful natives.

16

Purple-crowned Lorikeet *Parvipsitta porphyrocephala*

Known by some as 'pocket rockets,' these little birds are most obvious through their high-pitched and constant scratchy chatter in the canopy, where they feed on eucalypt blossom. They can also be seen crossing the sky in small groups. Their gaudy colours are a treat to see if you can spy them at eye level



17

***Red-winged Fairywren** *Malurus elegans*

The red-winged fairywren is our own little emblem. Endemic to the South West corner of Western Australia, this cheerful little fairywren hides in thick undergrowth in the Heritage Park. It will be found in small families which include males in their distinctive bright breeding plumage, with the plainer female and juvenile birds – who tend to be braver! The bold ones may visit your picnic table, but if not they will sing at you on the paths on the woodland walks.

18

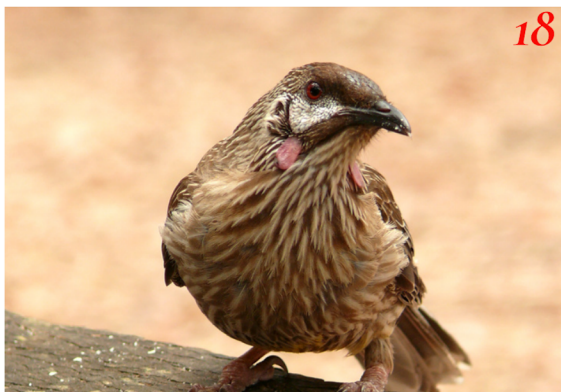
Red Wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata*

The Red Wattlebird is endemic to southern Australia, from New South Wales and Victoria across to Western Australia. It is common in the Park, and can be seen flying from tree to tree, often to chase away smaller honeyeaters. It is best recognized by its red 'wattles' – flaps of skin hanging down on either side of the bill. - And by its ugly 'chock' or 'kwok' sound, which is heard frequently here.

19

Brown Honeyeater *Lichmera indistincta*

The Brown Honeyeater is a small honeyeater with dullish, olive-green brown plumage. If you are lucky enough to see it, you will know it by the yellow triangle of skin behind the eyes. In season it is one of the noisier birds in the Park. Despite its small size it has a big voice.



20

New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*

One of the most common honeyeaters of Australia, the New Holland Honeyeater is black with white stripes, with notable yellow feathers in the wings. It is an aggressive medium-sized Honeyeater. It is often seen chasing other birds out of the flowering bushes, and is more likely to be in company with others. There are plenty in our Park. Listen out for their loud 'cheeps'.

21

***Gilbert's Honeyeater** *Melithreptus chloropsis*

Gilbert's Honeyeater is easy to recognize by its plumage: black head, with a white line which passes from ear to ear round the back of its head, and an olive-green back. Its song and cheeps are less distinctive than the grating throaty sound it makes when socializing in the canopy.

22

Spotted Pardalote *Pardolotus punctatus*

One of the smallest birds in the Park, the Spotted Pardalote is easier to hear than it is to see. It makes a single, high-pitched pure note repeatedly in the right season. If you are lucky enough to spy one you will know it from the bright white and yellow spots on its head to wings & back, which contrast with its smart black, yellow and red patchwork of colours.

23

Striated Pardalote *Pardolotus striatus*

The Striated Pardalote is a similar size and shape to its Spotted cousin, but is less obvious because the striations on its head are less obvious than the other's spots. It is easiest to identify by the yellow in its eyebrow, and the white line along the outer wing. It also has the very small stubby bill of all pardalotes. It also has a distinctive, oft-repetitive two-note call.



24

Spotted Scrubwren *Sericornis maculatus*

The Spotted Scrubwren is one of the small birds who hides in the undergrowth. Often found with the red-winged fairywrens, it is easy to identify by its obvious white eyebrow which joins with a similar stripe from bill to ear. And of course, its spotted breast, which actually looks more striated than 'spotted'. It often calls in an aggressive way, as if to scare or challenge intruders. It isn't so brave though, in coming out to face its human adversaries.

25

Inland Thornbill *Acanthiza apicalis*

The Inland Thornbill is a cheery little bird who, again, hides in undergrowth or in the canopy of bushes and trees. It is constantly busy, searching for lerps and other insects in and behind leaves – which are often the same size as the bird. It has large brown-red eyes, a stripey breast and a cocked tail. If you can hear incessant cheery, bubbly mixed birdcalls, the sound may belong to this little bird, who is also a master of mimicry.

26

Yellow-rumped Thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*

Yellow-rumped Thornbills tend to be too busy to scare easily. Thus they are some of the easiest birds to see in the Heritage Park. They are most easily recognized by the 'tinkerbell' quality of their cheery song. They are often seen picking along the grass in small groups. The males and females look identical, and can be recognized by their spotted black heads, and bright yellow rumps, seen in flight. - Which is the reason they are nicknamed 'butter-bums!'



27

Western Gerygone *Gerygone fusca*

The Western Gerygone is one of the small birds which are endemic to Australia. They are somewhat plain little brown birds, whose most notable feature is their white eye-rings and red eyes. They are most often identified by their pretty if tuneless song. Though their call is distinctive, it seems they are one bird species which is tone deaf.

28

White-browed Babbler *Pomatostomus superciliosus*

White-browed Babblers are charming and very sociable, medium-sized birds. You may hear them before you see them. Their wide range of chatter-y calls help individuals to keep in contact with the group, which can sound like scolding, or like a cat's meow. They hop across the lawn, under or in bushes in their constant search for insects to feed on. They nest communally in structures which can be several feet long, hanging vertically a metre or so above the ground.

29

Grey Shrikethrush *Colluricincla harmonica*

Although a plain-ish, medium-sized bird, the Grey Shrike-thrush (GST for short) is best known and recognized by its crystal clear voice. Although often difficult to see because of its dull plumage, its pure and pretty call will ring out from the woodlands or undergrowth, alerting you to its presence. Despite being a larger bird, it spends its time on the ground, foraging in the undergrowth for insects.

30

Western Whistler *Pachycephala fuliginosa*

The stunning Western Whistler is endemic to Southern Australia, from the West coast to lower Victoria. The male is easily recognizable for its bright yellow plumage and black head and 'necklace'. The females and juveniles are relatively plain, being medium-sized grey birds with a white belly. Luckily, all individuals have a beautiful voice, so are easily recognizable by their calls.



31

Dusky Woodswallow *Artamus cyanopterus*

The Dusky Woodswallow is constantly on the move, flying overhead to capture insects on the wing. Woodswallows are commonly found in the Park, but can be hard to distinguish from Welcome Swallows or Tree Martins when flying above. Apart from recognition of their distinct twittering, you may glimpse the distinctive white line on the edge of both wings when the birds are resting, and their darker faces and all-over grey bodies.

32

Australian Magpie *Gymnorhina tibicen*

Australian Magpies are more likely to be heard than seen in the Park. Though magpies look similar all over Australia, they do have slight differences in the amount of white on individuals. In the South West the male of our subspecies has a completely white back and rump, with a black edge to their tails. The magpie is one of Australia's favourite birds because of their beautiful carolling.

33

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys*

Willie Wagtails are much-loved and widely occurring all over Australia, including in the Manjimup Heritage Park. Rather than being intimidated by humans, Willie Wagtails are curious black and white birds, who won't hesitate to visit your picnic site or follow where you have walked, in the hope that you disturb insects – their favourite food. They are well-named for the distinctive wagging of their tails which is almost constant.

34

Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa*

Grey Fantails are an endearing small grey bird, with a grey body, white trims, and a distinctive grey 'necklace' across a pale, yellow-ish belly. Their single 'cheeps' are often followed by a distinctive, cheery up-and-down-again trill which announces their presence. Like Willie Wagtails, they can't seem to keep their tails from wagging. It is highly likely you will find these happy little birds in the Park.



35

Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*

Magpie Larks are smaller than Magpies, and can often be mistaken for the young of that species by those who are new to birds. They are black and white, and can be found over much of Australia. They are more commonly heard rather than seen in the Heritage Park. Although similar to each other, individuals can be identified to their sex by the colour of the centre of their faces (the part around their beaks). Males have completely black faces, while females have white faces.

36

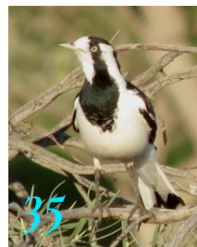
Australian Raven *Corvus coronoides*

The Australian Raven occurs over the eastern half of Australia, and in the South Western corner is the only corvid (family name) you will see. Known for their high intelligence, they look very similar to Crows although they are a different species. Ravens have 'hackles' while crows do not. Look for the bunched, elongated feathers under the Raven's throat to see the difference. Though uncommon, they are likely to be heard in the Park, if not seen. Their wide diet means they are very well-adapted to the modern world, and while other species' numbers are falling, ravens are increasing in number.

37

***White-breasted Robin** *Eopsaltria georgiana*

One of the few special birds which lives only in the South West of Western Australia, the White-breasted Robin is often mistaken for other species because of its plain, grey and white colouring. It is inconspicuous because of its habit of hiding in thicker undergrowth. It is often only detected by its regular 'tick' sound. Its characteristic pose is to sit on the side of trunks up to 1.5 m from the ground, which gives it an advantage over the insects and small prey it pounces on from above.



38

Tree Martin *Petrochelidon nigricans*

Tree Martins are one of the birds most commonly seen flying swiftly above and through the canopy of the Heritage Park. They are insectivorous, which explains their swift flight, chasing down midges and other airborne insects. When perched, it is easier to distinguish them from Welcome Swallows because their rufous facial colouring is limited to the forehead. They are noticeably striated on the lower face and upper breast compared with Welcome Swallows. In flight, the most salient feature is the white rump which shows along the lower part of the back.

39

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

Silvereyes are a common bird across much of southern and eastern Australia. In the Heritage Park these little green-yellow birds are often found moving through the low bushes, foraging for insects, fruits or nectar, which is its primary foodsources. They have a soft call which is often amplified because several individuals in a flock are making this sound. This is an easy way to know that Silvereyes are passing by or are in the vicinity. The birds in our park have green backs, which distinguishes them from silvereyes in other parts of Australia, which have grey backs.

40

***Red-eared Firetail** *Stagonopleura oculata*

Who could not notice Red-eared Firetails? – Actually, although their red ears, tail and beaks are stunning, these little birds can be hard to see because of their habit of hiding shyly in the deep undergrowth in wet areas. Again, you are more likely to hear their call: a pure single upward note, than see them.

