

# Red-tail News

Issue 39 September 2014

## WELCOME

Welcome to the 2014 spring Edition of Red-tail News. There has been a hive of activity since our last edition with the completion of our annual count and flock counts, restoration activities as part of our partnerships with Zoos SA and Timberland Pacific and a suite of education events

including the Lucindale Field Days, Vic School Visits and our highly successful Kids helping Cockies Project. Our latest newsletter will provide all the details and news from these and other upcoming projects that we are involved in as part of the Recovery Project.



Pair of Red-tails

Photo  
Steve Bourne

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## CALL FOR SIGHTINGS

Over the years we have collected thousands of sighting reports of Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos from across the cockatoo's range in South Australia and Victoria. These sightings, large and small, have and continue to help us gain a better understanding of patterns of habitat use, range extent and the bird's movements from year to year.

The Red-tail Recovery Team is always interested in hearing from anyone who sees Red-tails, no matter how large or small the flock size. This time of year we are particularly interested in sightings of pairs of birds or single adult males, as they may help us to locate more nest sites of the cockatoos.

We are always very interested in any uncommon sightings, such as those either close to or beyond what we consider their normal range; where the birds have not been sighted for some time and/or sightings of birds in areas where birds pass through but there is an absence of records. For example, in our last edition we put a call out for sightings between Keith and Bordertown where we have a clear absence of records, but know that birds pass through.

Although Red-tails are difficult to find, they often leave clues as to their presence. Red-tails are quite messy eaters, leaving lots of trash (leaves and twigs) underneath the stringybark trees that they have been feeding in. If the leaves are quite fresh you know to keep your ears and eyes open. You're more likely to hear a Red-tail before you see one.

Recording a sighting is easy. Observers can simply phone 1800 262 062, email [redtail@birdlife.org.au](mailto:redtail@birdlife.org.au) or report the sighting through the Red-tail website [www.redtail.com.au](http://www.redtail.com.au). When reporting a sighting please remember to include: date and time, place (CFS/CFA map reference is appreciated), how many birds, what they were doing (i.e feeding, drinking, flying), and your name and phone number/email.





Volunteer counters at Baileys Rocks BBQ and Campout, Saturday 3 May 2014.

## ANNUAL COCKY COUNT RESULTS

Every year BirdLife Australia and the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo Recovery Team coordinate a range-wide count for the endangered South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo across south-western Victoria and south-eastern South Australia.

This involves coordinating volunteer search groups to conduct searches for Red-tails across more than sixty annual sites in stringybark habitat from Keith to Mount Gambier in South Australia and Little Desert National Park to Nelson in Victoria. Many landholders who have remnant stringybark on their land also participate by searching their own property on the day.

Information gained from the annual count is used to determine the location of large flocks, patterns of habitat use and the minimum population size. It also raises awareness of the needs of the cockatoo and offers volunteers a chance to become involved in recovery activities.

This year the annual count was held on 3 May in less than ideal conditions. Heavy rain and high winds on both the Friday and Saturday made locating birds difficult. Many of the tracks were impassable due to boggy conditions, while the gusty winds proved to be problematic for our counters when trying to listen for Red-tails.

While the weather conditions and inaccessibility of tracks resulted in a poor count by sunset that day, extensive follow up work by several counters resulted in an additional 462 birds included in the final tally. The additional birds have brought the final number of Red-tails recorded to 1064, which is slightly down on last year's tally of 1118 birds and 404 birds down on our record count in 2012.

Red-tails are highly nomadic so finding them over an 18,000km<sup>2</sup> area can be challenging. It's more likely that birds were simply missed on the day, rather than the population suffering a significant rapid decline over the last two years.

This year the birds were dispersed widely across the range, with counters finding Red-tails near Dergholm, Nangwarry, Comaum, Clear Lake, Edenhope, Lucindale, Frances, Wandilo, Keith and Naracoorte. The biggest flocks encountered this year were 372 birds near Boilaar Swamp in Roseneath State Forest and 122 birds in Nangwarry Native Forest Reserve.

There was an absence of birds in some of the cockatoo's more usual haunts, such as around Casterton where last year a huge flock of 233 birds were recorded. It appears that these birds have moved north to feed in the stringybark around Dergholm. This may be due to the fruiting patterns of the stringybark and the large area of stringybark habitat around Casterton affected by fire.

Unfortunately, there were no birds recorded in Rennick State Forest despite a flock of up to 60 birds having been recorded

feeding and roosting there in the months leading up to the count. The recent planned burns may be to blame, with both the birds' feeding habitat and roosting site having been burnt.

This year 131 volunteers participated in the count, ranging from locals, including farmers who chose to search their own land, and metropolitan participants who travelled from as far as Adelaide and Melbourne to help out on the day.

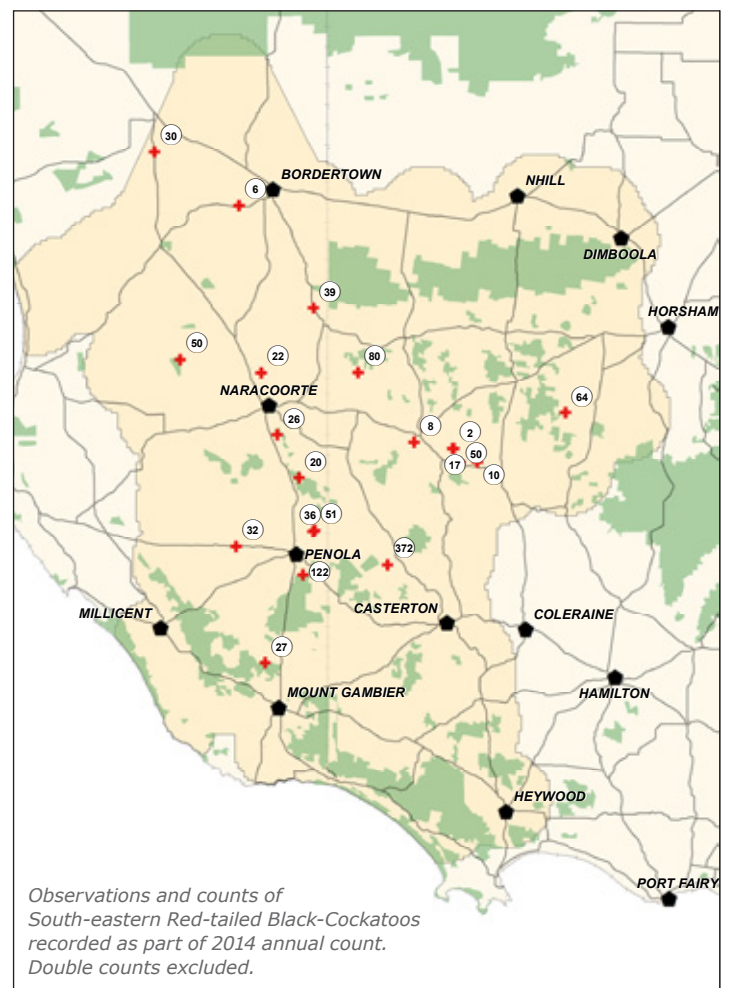
Around 15 of our volunteers braved the wintery conditions and converged on Baileys Rocks for the annual BBQ and campout. As usual volunteers compared stories and tales of their days' adventures, with cockatoos proving to be difficult to find this year.

This year's winners of the most birds counted on the day (Saturday 3 May) go to Jim Childs and Kathleen and Bevan Staude, who located 110 cockatoos near Nangwarry. Follow up counts resulted in additional 12 birds being added to the tally, bringing the flock total for Nangwarry to 122 birds.

On behalf of BirdLife Australia and the Red-tail Recovery Team I would like to express many thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who have helped out yet again to make this event so successful. Without your incredible effort, this event would not be possible – so a big thanks to all.

I'd also like to say a special thanks to Evan Roberts, Ros Bradey, and Kerry Gilkes for their assistance with promoting the count and getting local landholders involved on the day; Dick Cooper for his efforts in searching for birds in the lead-up to the count; Felicity Lord for her work with recording and entering sighting reports in the lead up to the count; and Tim Burnard for running the training session in Casterton and organising the campsite at Baileys Rocks.

For more information on past count results please go to the website [www.redtail.com.au](http://www.redtail.com.au).





Flock of South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos drinking from a trough on private land near Comaum.

Photo Bruce Gregory.

## COUNTING FLOCKS

Flock counts are done in autumn each year to gain an indication of breeding success in previous seasons. Because young Red-tails are indistinguishable in the field from juveniles and females of any age, we count the number of adult males in each flock. Adult males are recognisable by their uniform black colour and red tail feathers. All other Red-tails are spotted and barred, with barred tail feathers. The proportion of adult males in flocks in autumn varies from year to year, according to how many young birds have been produced in the preceding breeding seasons. More successful nesting means more young birds, thus a lower proportion of adult males.

This year flock counts were undertaken during May at three sites near Comaum, Dergholm and Nangwarry, based on flocks identified during the annual count. The largest flock of 372 birds was recorded and counted as they came in to drink at fresh water puddles along a track situated near Boilaar Swamp in Roseneath State Forest. The remaining two flocks of 121 and 48 were recorded coming in to drink at cattle troughs on private property near Nangwarry and Comaum, respectively. This brings the total number of birds counted in this year's flock counts to 541, meaning that just over a third of the estimated population of 1500 individuals were included in the count.

Tim Burnard reported an amusing scene at Boilaar Swamp. Red tails are quite loyal to a watering site once they find one, often drinking every night at the same spot for weeks on end. After several days spent finding the Boilaar drink site (just a wheel rut in the road), when Tim came to count birds the hole had all but dried up. If the birds arrived to an empty waterhole they would move to a new place which could take days more searching to locate. In a mad dash to avoid this, Tim used

two x 2 litre water containers to run to and fro from a nearby dam and replenish the wheel rut come waterhole. Thus the hole went from about two litres to twenty and the birds still used the site. Tim admits he's not as fit as he used to be and it was hard to get his breath back in order to conduct an accurate count.

Of the total number of birds counted, 42% were determined to be male. Thus, assuming a 1:1 ratio of males to females, the percentage of juveniles in the population this year is estimated to be only around 16%. Unfortunately the percentage of males in the population has increased slightly upon last year's total of 40%. Our best breeding seasons have been in 2004-05 and 1998-99, where the proportion of males was determined to be 37%.

The fact that the 541 birds came from just three flocks increases the reliability of the count as large flock counts are considered to provide a better indication of total male/barrred ratio than that of small flocks (say under 25).

The analysis of flock count and food availability data has shown that the proportion of adult males has increased with time and that the most important predictor or factor affecting the proportion of males was the amount of stringybark fruit available three years prior to the count. These results confirm that breeding success and population size is limited by food availability.

*Tim Burnard / Bronwyn Perryman*

## WEBSITE FACELIFT

Over the coming weeks Tin Shed Creations designer, Jennifer Cleary, will be helping us to re-develop the Red-tail website to give it a brand new look. The new website will feature more amazing images and video footage of birds, and will be far more user-friendly for smart phone and tablet users, meaning it can be easily accessed on any device at any time.

On the website, you can keep up to date with news, events and projects, report your sightings, view our gallery of images, and learn more about the cockatoo, its requirements, and how you can get involved with recovery projects and other monitoring activities.

To visit the website follow the link [www.redtail.com.au](http://www.redtail.com.au).

## KIDS HELPING COCKIES UPDATE

Naracoorte Primary School with the support of a Nature Resource Management Community Grant and the Kids Helping Cockies Project have been very busy propagating and planting stringybark and other native species to create suitable feeding habitat for Red-tails.

On a very cold wintery day in June, Mrs Donnelly and Mrs McRostie's classes with the help of parents and volunteers went out to a property along the Naracoorte Range to plant out the trees they had been propagating along with further seedlings supplied by Eucaleuca Native Services nursery.

The students were very efficient working in teams to dig holes, plant, guard and stake the seedlings. Although the conditions were a little challenging with intermittent showers the children thrived on being outdoors and the job at hand. In just over two hours the children and helpers had planted 530 trees and were able to enjoy a picnic lunch on a neighbouring property in some remnant stringybark habitat.

The school will continue with the project next year propagating seedlings for the Naracoorte North Nature Park.

*Kerry Gilkes*

*Left: Xavier from Naracoorte Primary School busy planting a seedling to create more habitat for Red-tails.*

*Right: Melanie and George from Naracoorte Primary working together to guard a seedling planted as part of the project. Photos: Kerry Gilkes*



*Sophie, Sophia, Henry C, Tahlia and Kayla W from Naracoorte Primary School helped to plant out seedlings grown as part of the school's stringybark habitat propagation project.*

## SUPPORT FOR RED-TAIL RESEARCH

The Red-tail Recovery Team would like to commend the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) for embarking on a series of research projects based around habitat management for the South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.

At a recent Recovery Team meeting, DEPI Recovery Team representative Richard Hill outlined four research projects being delivered by the DEPI with regard to Red-tails over the coming nine months. Projects to be delivered will focus around fire modelling, population modelling, stringybark fire recovery and mapping of feeding hotspots around Casterton. Results from this research will provide important information on habitat requirements and how we can best manage the cockatoo's habitat to ensure the species' survival.

The Recovery Team is particularly happy to see that the projects take a broader view than just specific planned burning issues and how to meet asset protection obligations while also providing protection from catastrophic habitat loss due to wildfire.

The knowledge gained from the research will be an important tool for the management of the cockatoo's habitat across the species' range. For example, modelling of the bird's feeding hot spots will greatly improve our understanding of why a certain area is preferred to another. It will also help us to prioritise and target areas for future protection and restoration of critical Red-tail habitat.

The Recovery team is very pleased with the DEPI's commitment and investment in this research and looks forward to bringing you more information and an update on progress in future editions of Red-tail News.



Pair of South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoos in stringybark habitat.

Photo: Wayne Bigg

## COCKIES HELPING COCKIES UPDATE

The Zoos SA, SE Red-tailed Black Cockatoo Stringybark Habitat Project has been very busy planting seedlings on private land to provide a future food source for our Red-tails.

On our larger sites we have been using planting teams and volunteers to ensure the seedlings get in the ground at their optimum time. A local planting team – Eucaleuca Native Services planted 5 hectares of a 10 hectares ex pine plantation which is being converted back to a stringybark woodland habitat. Last year 5 hectares of this site was planted out with stringybark and associated species and with a 91% success rate of seedling survival after 12 months this site is looking very promising for providing feeding habitat for our Red-tails in 10-15 years. This site along with many others revegetated are situated near larger remnant habitat or link in with remnant roadside habitat and known feeding areas.

Conservation Volunteers Association supplied another team who worked in and around Lucindale the first week of July planting seven sites on four properties across 17 hectares. The Conservation Volunteers were from France, America and Korea and along with their Team Leader Noni Brislin, they gained a greater understanding of the project and the importance of planting feed trees. Many of the properties were diverse in their vegetation and although the team did not get to see any Red-tails they really enjoyed the tranquillity of our open spaces and Australian bush.

All seedlings for the sites were grown by Ralph and Helen Scheel, Eucaleuca Native Services who have been supplying quality seedlings to the project since 2009. Also a big thank you to Russell Frisk who volunteered to grow seedlings from some locally collected seed.

The Red-tail Habitat Project continues to join the dots following the ranges from Naracoorte to Lucindale connecting remnant patches, Heritage sites, Conservation Parks and roadside revegetation with further plantings undertaken on private land. If you have property along these ranges and are keen to plant some stringybark habitat you can contact Kerry Gilkes p:0429660027 for further information and funding assistance.

Kerry Gilkes



1. Removing guards from seedlings planted last year at Old Fairview.  
2. Volunteers from Conservation Volunteers Australia helped to plant more than 17 hectares of Red-tail habitat across four properties around Lucindale in the first week of July 2014. Photos: Kerry Gilkes

## RESTORING HABITAT FOR RED-TAILS

Over the last few months Red-tail Recovery Team Staff have been working collaboratively with forest company Timberlands Pacific to help improve and restore stringybark habitat for Red-tails at three sites near the South Australia/Victorian border.

The team was approached by Timberland Pacific's EMS Coordinator, Joel Turner, to assist with advice and delivery of a project to revegetate and install nest boxes for the cockatoo following a \$10 000 grant from New Forests to support habitat management for the species within their estate.

Three small existing habitat remnants, totalling an area of 5.7 hectares, were targeted for supplementary revegetation works using desert stringybark and the installation of nest boxes, including Perkins and Penola Park sites A and B.

Over two sessions, 150 stringybark seedlings were planted out and guarded using corflute and heavy mesh guards across the three sites by a small team of volunteers and staff led by Kerry Gilkes and Joel Turner. Heavy mesh guarding was used in this instance to prevent kangaroo browsing on young seedlings and increase the chance of survival.

Furthermore, a total of 12 nest boxes were installed across two sites (Perkins and Penola Park A) thanks to contractors from Naracoorte Skyworks. Nest boxes were made from large natural hollow logs, which had previously been removed as part of a permitted clearance case. Each of the hollows were re-capped and securely hung/fastened to existing dead and live trees at both sites. Hollows were kindly donated by Erin Deckers from Naracoorte Skyworks.

Over the next few years Timberland Pacific will monitor nest box use and seedling survival across the three sites and undertake maintenance as required. Timberland Pacific are committed to improving habitat of the cockatoo and plan to undertake more on-ground works for the cockatoo at other sites across the estate in the future.

The Recovery Team really values partnership projects such as this and would like to say a big thank you to Timberland Pacific, New Forests, Kerry Gilkes (for offering up her time, advice and expertise with revegetation requirements and costings) and all those volunteers who assisted on the day to help improve and create more habitat for Red-tails.



1. Ben Stratman helping to mesh guard stringybark seedlings planted at Perkins.  
2. Kerry Gilkes and Samantha Glatz planting stringybark seedlings at Penola Park.  
3. Naracoorte Skyworks crew working to install nest boxes at Perkins. Photos: Bron Perryman

## BURNING OF RED-TAIL HABITATS



*After shot of a planned burn undertaken in Toooly-Lake Mundi State Nature Reserve earlier this year.*

While fire is a natural component of the forest and woodlands inhabited by the South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo it poses a key threat to the food supply of the species. Extensive and intense bushfires and inappropriate burning of the cockatoo's stringybark feeding habitat can seriously impact productivity of these habitats, particularly where canopy scorch is excessive.

Past research has shown that where canopy scorch has occurred, it takes an average of 10 years for

the stringybark food trees to return to their previous level of seed production (Koch 2003). As food availability is the primary factor limiting population size, any reduction in food availability presents a serious threat to the Red-tail population. Therefore, maintenance of long unburnt habitats and/or a low proportion of canopy scorch in stringybark within any 10 year period are essential to maintain the food supply and recover the Red-tail population.

Fire management in Red-tail stringybark habitat continues to be a high priority for the Recovery Team given the increased pressure to manage the threat of wildfires through fuel reduction burning, and the implications of this on food availability for Red-tails.

The Recovery Team continues to provide expert advice in relation to improved fire management practices in Red-tail habitat, and has developed and endorsed a list of general fire management strategies to minimise the impacts of burns on Red-tail feeding habitat (refer to the link [www.redtail.com.au/fire-management](http://www.redtail.com.au/fire-management)). Of particular importance is the need to maintain a low proportion of canopy scorch, and/or areas of long unburnt habitat, not only for the benefit of Red-tails, but for many other native flora and fauna dependent on long unburnt habitats.

The Recovery Team has calculated that the historical average percentage of stringybark within the SERTBC's range that had experienced canopy scorch in any 10-year period is approximately 15%. Because the Red-tail is limited by food availability, any increase in canopy scorch extent beyond an average of 15% is likely to result in further reductions in the Red-tail population. It is recommended then that at least 85% of Red-tail stringybark habitat across the species' range in Victoria and South Australia remains unburnt at any one time in any 10 year period.

Although planned burning is an important and effective tool for reducing catastrophic wildfires and risks to life and property, ongoing burning of large areas of the cockatoo's habitats may have disastrous consequences on not only Red-tails, but on a suite of other species dependent on long unburnt habitats.

Victorian Bushfire Royal Commission Implementation Monitor, Neil Comrie, has recommended that the Victorian Government reconsider its area based planned burning program and replace it with a more strategic risk management approach to bushfire management on public land. The Recovery Team welcomes the call to review strategic bushfire management planning in Victoria.

## INCENTIVES CONTINUE FOR THE DISCOVERY OF NEW NESTS



*Female South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo at entrance to nest hollow. Photo: Bob McPherson*

Incentives are again being offered to landholders and members of the public for the discovery of new nest sites of the endangered South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.

Since 2011, BirdLife Australia and the South-eastern Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo Recovery Team have been calling on the public to help locate new nest sites across the range in south-eastern South Australia and south-western Victoria as part of the Red-tail Nest Incentive Scheme.

Over the last three years, a total of 14 new nest sites have been discovered as part of the program.

The scheme, which offers an incentive payment of \$500 for each 'new' nest site located and \$100 for re-use of existing nest sites, is again being offered to landholders and members of the public over the 2014-15 breeding season, thanks to funding provided by the Nature Foundation of South Australia.

The Red-tail Recovery Team believes there are still more active nests out there to be found, and sees this as a great opportunity to engage with the community to help find these.

Red-tails require large hollows (15-50cm) for nesting, which naturally occur in very old, large eucalypts such as River Red Gums. Nests can be in dead or live trees and are more likely to occur in areas where there is stringybark within a 3 km radius.

Knowing the location of nest trees enables us to protect nest trees from terrestrial nest raiders, such as Brush tailed Possums, by placing a collar around the tree at the completion of nesting. It also helps us to understand more about ideal nesting sites for Red-tails, including the distance between nests and their preferred feeding habitat, which assists us to prioritise habitat to protect and restore.

There are a number of conditions required when applying for the scheme, with incentive payments only made once the sighting has been confirmed by the Project Team. Nests reported on private land can only be claimed by the landholder. Those found on public land can be claimed by any member of the public, however some exceptions do apply. While the Recovery Team encourages members of the public to search for nests on freely accessible public land, it emphasises care must be taken not to trespass on private land while searching.

While reporting of all Red-tail nesting activity is encouraged, interference or physical disturbance to nest trees is prohibited. All observations should be done from a safe distance (greater than 100m from nest site). Disturbed birds may abandon their nest, which will result in no payment being awarded.

If you observe nesting behaviour or think you know of a Red-tail nest that is unknown to the Recovery Team please visit our website [www.redtail.com.au](http://www.redtail.com.au) and follow the link to the Nest Incentive Scheme Page. This is where you will find more about the project, nesting behaviour of Red-tails and our guidelines (terms and conditions) for payment. Alternatively you can contact the Project Coordinator on 1800 262 062 or by email [redtail@birdlife.org.au](mailto:redtail@birdlife.org.au).

## COCKIES CAPTIVATE STUDENTS



Year 3 students from Dimboola Primary School thoroughly enjoyed learning all about Red-tails. Photo: Bron Perryman

Over the last few months I've had the absolute pleasure to talk to some very enthusiastic students from three small schools around south-western Victoria, including Dimboola Primary School, Portland Primary School and Portland North Primary School about our endangered South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo.

One hundred and thirty six students ranging from years 3 – 6 were engaged in presentations about the cockatoo across the three schools. Students learnt about what the cockatoos look and sound like, what food they eat, where they live, why they are endangered and what we can do to help maintain and recover the current population.

Again, it was fantastic to see so many students asking questions and taking a keen interest in learning more about one of their locally threatened species. I was also very impressed with their existing knowledge and understanding of the cockatoo, its needs and recovery.

Of particular interest was the knowledge of the local aboriginal names for the cockatoos by students at Dimboola Primary School and Portland North Primary School. A young indigenous student from Dimboola Primary School kindly shared with me the aboriginal names for the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo (Kiren) and Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo (Karwil) in his family's language, while another student from Portland North told me that 'Ponponpooramook'(meaning black cockatoo with red feathers) was the name used by the Gunditjmara people for Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo. The cultural and spiritual connections with the cockatoo are particularly fascinating and something that I would like to learn more about.

The students were also given the opportunity to grow some stringybark from seed as part of the presentations. Supplied with stringybark seed and potting mix, seedlings grown by the students will be planted out later next year. Each student was also given a bumper sticker, while the classrooms were stocked with posters and booklets about the cockatoo.

The visits provide a great opportunity to raise awareness of the cockatoo and encourage students and their families to phone in sightings of the birds, particularly to the south and south-west of Dimboola (Little Desert National Park) where we know the cockatoos occur, but where we rarely receive reports. It is hoped that the students know and feel empowered to phone in reports next time they encounter Red-tails.

Since the visits I have received some really positive feedback from each of the schools regarding the presentations, with Mary French from Dimboola Primary School reporting "the students loved and thoroughly enjoying learning all about the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo".

In the week following my visit to Dimboola Primary School each student was given the chance to tell a cockatoo story, report sightings or share with the class something they learnt about the cockatoo. Mary, their teacher, was kind enough to share some of their responses with me. Here are just a few:

- "Interesting to hear about how to protect nesting cockatoos from possums. Possums eat young birds," said Zarnia and Paddy.
- "I learnt about the differences between Red-tailed and Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos," said Will.
- "The sounds they make are very different. The Yellow-tail is much louder," said Malcolm, Jordy, Paige, Paddy, and Millie.
- "I learnt where they live," said Evan.
- "I found out they are endangered," said Eamon.
- "I have seen black cockatoos in Pimpinio," said Mary.
- "I learnt where Red-tailed Black cockatoos live and what they eat. I didn't know what the Red-tailed Black Cockatoo ate," said Emma.
- "They nest in a big dead tree near our house (Lochiel Bridge on the road to Nhill)," said Harrison.
- "The gum nuts contain seeds as nutrition. Food sources are becoming scarce," said April.
- "There was a possum in a hollow where cockatoos nest near our house (Gerang Gerung)," said Tom.
- "I liked everything about the talk," said Kitt.
- "I had a talk from Bronwyn when I was in Preps at Jeparit and I remember everything she told us," said Ashton.

The presentations not only provide students with a greater knowledge and understanding of the cockatoo, but an appreciation of the bird and its habitat. I look forward to hearing from them with regard to their stringybark propagation later in the year.



Portland Primary School students loved learning about one of their locally endangered species. Photo: Steph Carter



## LUCINDALE FIELD DAYS

Each year Red-tail staff and volunteers descend on the Lucindale Field Days to promote recovery activities and events and share their love and knowledge of Red-tails with the broader community. This year saw more than 150 people stop by over the two days to ask questions and/or chat about their sightings, experiences and how they can become involved with the annual count.

Staff were also delighted to distribute over 300+ stickers and balloons to kids participating in the Blue Yakka Trail, which proved to be a great draw card to the site.

A big thank you to all our wonderful volunteers including Evan Roberts, Kerry Gilkes, Felicity Lord, Ros, Andrew and George Bradey and Rachel Lloyd for offering up their time to help staff the tent and set-up/pack up the site.

*Red-tail volunteers (from left) Ros Bradey, George Bradey, Evan Roberts and Kerry Gilkes helping to staff the Red-tail site at this year's Lucindale Field Days. Photo: Bron Perryman*

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