

## MORE PLACES TO VISIT

While in East Gippsland there are a variety of places to visit. Some can be a quick picnic stop, while at others you may wish to stay awhile or return to, because several are sites for seasonal migrant birds.

### Guide

No.	Location
1.	BAIRNSDALE
2.	LINDENOW
3.	MITCHELL RIVER NATIONAL PARK
4.	PAYNESVILLE
5.	NICHOLSON
6.	METUNG
7.	LAKES ENTRANCE
8.	LAKE TYERS
9.	BRUTHEN
10.	BUCHAN
11.	NOWA NOWA
12.	MARLO
13.	OMEO
14.	MALLACOOTA

## East Gippsland Bird Observers Club (EGBOC)

is a local band of bird watching enthusiasts who have formed the local branch of The Bird Observers Club of Australia (BOCA)

This project received financial support from the



## Australian Bird Environment Foundation

the conservation trust of the Bird Observers Club of Australia.

**ABEF** supports projects:

- Which maintain, improve or extend habitat for birds and other associated native animals and plants.
- Involve the study of the needs of birds in their habitat
- Educate the public to become more aware of birds and the habitat requirements.

**EAST GIPPSLAND  
BIRD OBSERVERS CLUB**  
E-mail: [editor@egboc.org.au](mailto:editor@egboc.org.au)  
[www.egboc.org.au](http://www.egboc.org.au)

**Bird Observers Club of Australia**  
PO Box 185, Nunawading Vic 3131  
183-185 Springvale Road, Nunawading Vic 3131  
Phone: 03 9877 5342 or 1300 305 342 (toll free)  
Fax: 03 9894 4048  
Email: [information@birdobservers.org.au](mailto:information@birdobservers.org.au)  
Web: [www.birdobservers.org.au](http://www.birdobservers.org.au)

# EAST GIPPSLAND BIRDING GUIDE

## BRUTHEN



Black-shouldered Kite – Ken Sherring

**Guide No. 9**  
in a series of guides prepared by  
the East Gippsland Bird Observers Club

## BIRDWATCHING AROUND BRUTHEN

Bruthen was settled in the 1800's because of the rich farm land in the area and is still a lively community today. The lower Tambo River used to be navigable and in the 1860's steamers began carrying produce from Sale, Bairnsdale and Bruthen to Melbourne.

### 1. Fairy Dell

Near Bruthen is Fairy Dell, 48 hectares of rainforest that was set aside in 1967.

The turn off for Fairy Dell is at Wiseleigh. Turn left off the Omeo Highway (Great Alpine Road) and follow Deep Creek Road to Fairy Dell (about 5.5 km). At Fairy Dell there is a car park, bush toilet, bbq and picnic tables. The walking track follows a circular route and winds through rainforest which is becoming ever more scarce in East Gippsland. It is beautifully cool and relaxing at any time of the year. The Rose Robin is readily found here, as well as the Lewin's and Crescent Honeyeater, Australian King Parrot, Olive-backed Oriole, Golden and Rufous Whistler and a variety of Thornbill.

You can explore the area further by walking from the carpark back up to the road, then walk left along the road. A short distance along the road a track to the right that takes you up to a paddock fence. In this area Gang-gang Cockatoo, Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike and White-throated Treecreeper may be seen.

From Fairy Dell retrace your route back along Deep Creek Road to the Highway at Wiseleigh, turn left and continue on to Bruthen. You will pass over the Rail Trail between Wiseleigh and Bruthen. A good access to the Rail Trail is off Station Road.



### 2. Rail Trail

Suitable parking is available at the site of the old railway station (now gone). From this point you can walk along the trail in both directions. South back towards Wiseleigh takes you past natural wetlands (seasonal) and a variety of birds can be seen including Black-shouldered Kite, Spoonbill and Egret, as well as Red-browed Finch, Eastern Spinebill and a variety of Duck.

The trail also heads north towards Bruthen township with similar birds to be found.

The trail leaves Bruthen and crosses the Tambo River. It passes through grazing land on the north side of Kilmorie Swamp and crosses the Bruthen Nowa Nowa Road before entering the Colquhoun State Forest.

### 3. Bruthen

Bruthen itself has picnic and toilet facilities in the main street. The town has an excellent bakery, food and coffee shops.

**ABOUT THE ROADS** – the forest roads in this area have been built for forest management. they are frequently used by timber trucks. You are welcome to use these roads to see the forest for yourself, but please accept them for what they are and adjust your driving to suit the conditions. Many of the roads do not appear on maps.