

Three exciting workshops coming up!

The workshops have been made possible by a grant from the Lockyer Valley Regional Council through their Community Environmental Grants 2020/21.

Please check out the descriptions and relevant details of each of the workshops below. You will find details on how to book your place at the end of this article. The participant numbers for each workshop are capped, so make sure you book as soon as possible to secure your place.

Workshop 1: Bird Identification for Beginners - Presenter: Roger Jaensch

Date: Saturday 14 August 2021, from 9am to 4pm

Venue: Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre

Cost: \$5/pp. (for venue and expenses)

This is a one-day bird identification workshop for people with limited or no experience of bird watching and who want to learn more about identifying birds.

It's not all theory. Time will be split between indoor instruction and guided outdoor birding sessions.

In this workshop participants will learn, among other things:

- how to identify an unfamiliar bird - the key things to do;
- to identify the common birds of prey, parrots and lorikeets, large honeyeaters, small bush-birds, herons, ibises and spoonbills, water hens, and ducks;
- basic minimum equipment, specifications, and how to use and care for it; and
- recommended field guides and other helpful books about birds.

It will not be necessary to bring binoculars to the training.

Roger is based in Toowoomba and has a lifelong interest in Australia's birdlife and a professional career of four decades in nature conservation. Roger is a highly effective communicator, with a record of successful engagement with community organisations, including the facilitation of bird identification workshops. He is well placed to support community members who seek to build their capacity for bird recognition and study.



Workshop 3: Nature Photography - Presenter: Robert Ashdown

Date: Sunday 17 October, from 9am to 3pm

Venue: Lockyer Valley Cultural Centre

Cost: \$5/pp. (for venue and expenses)

This one-day nature photography workshop includes both indoor and outdoor practical work, and individual tuition with equipment brought along. The workshop will focus on enabling participants to:

- increase their capacity to use mainly compact cameras and mobile phones to take quality wildlife photographs;
- take photographs in a way that maximises the potential for identifying the species so that the photographs can usefully be submitted to databases such as iNaturalist;
- explore using photography to enhance appreciation and connection with the natural world;
- understand creative and effective ways to use a camera or mobile phone as tools in exploring and connecting with nature; and
- better appreciate, and interact with, the natural world.

Robert Ashdown is a well-known photographer and naturalist based in Toowoomba and [his website](#) demonstrates the quality and breadth of his nature photography. He has extensive experience in delivering photography workshops.

How to book a place in a workshop

To book your place, email Hanneke Nooren (hannekenooren@gmail.com). In your email, please provide: your name; residential address; email address; phone number; and the name of the workshop you want to join.

You will receive a confirmation email that will provide additional relevant information, such as what to bring and how to pay.

If you later find that you are unable to attend the workshop, please let us know as soon as possible so that someone else can take your place.

For more information, please contact Hanneke, preferably via email (see above) or 0412 624 394, or Gordon, preferably via email (gflaridge@gmail.com) or phone 0401 346 036.
