

BIRDING AT PACIFIC ADVENTIST COLLEGE

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Pacific Adventist College (PAC) is a tertiary institution serving the South Pacific area and provides education for students from French Polynesia in the east to PNG in the west. The college campus and farm are beside the Hubert Murray Highway on the outskirts of the National Capital District. They may be reached by taking the road to Sogeri at the Nine Mile junction.

The estate consists of c. 500 hectares, mostly savanna type country, although there are some small patches of thick bush which attract forest birds. Three small artificial lakes attract many species of waterbirds. To date 120 species have been recorded on PAC property. This list includes rare visits from unexpected birds such as White-necked Heron *Ardea pacifica*, Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia* and White-capped Noddy *Anous stolidus*.

The campus is surrounded by a security fence which is lit in places at night and patrolled regularly. The lights attract night-flying insects which attract night birds which because of the lights can be well seen (for a change). As a result PAC has become a popular birding-locale for viewing birds such as Barn Owl *Tyto alba*, Barking Owl *Ninox connivens*, Papuan Frogmouth *Podagrus papuensis*, and Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulus macrurus* (Hicks 1988).

The campus has been designated a reserve by the principal and many birds nest there unmolested (Halliday 1987).

Birdwatchers are welcome to visit the college Sundays - Fridays. Saturday is our Sabbath and it would be appreciated if bird watchers did not visit on this day. For night-time birding arrangements should be made beforehand, either through the PNGBS or by contacting the college direct (telephone 281112) so that the security team may be alerted and visitors not mistaken for rascals.

Halliday, D. 1987. Nesting notes from Pacific Adventist College. **Muruk** 2: 69-71

Hicks, R.K. 1988. Owling at the Pacific Adventist College, Port Moresby. **Muruk** 3: 25.

Address: Pacific Adventist College, Private Mail Bag, Boroko.

CHECKLIST

Status:

A = Common, recorded on most visits;
B = Uncommon, recorded on some visits;
C = Rare, infrequently recorded;
* = recorded nesting on PAC property.

For migrants, status only applies to the season when they are present.

Australasian Grebe A*
Little Black Cormorant A
Little Pied Cormorant B
Darter B
Pacific Heron C
Great Egret B
Pied Heron B
Intermediate Egret A
Cattle Egret B
White-faced Heron C
Little Egret B
Eastern Reef-Egret C
Rufous Night-Heron B
Black Bittern B
Sacred Ibis C
Royal Spoonbill C
Crested Hawk C
Black Kite C
Whistling Kite A
Brahminy Kite A
Spotted Marsh Harrier C
Grey Goshawk B
Collared Sparrowhawk B
Brown Falcon C
Australian Kestrel C
Peregrine Falcon C
Spotted Whistling Duck A
White-headed Shelduck C
Green Pygmy-Goose A

Grey Teal B
Pacific Black Duck A*
Australian White-eyed Duck C
Brown Quail B
Red-backed Button-Quail C
Buff-banded Rail B*
White-browed Crane A*
Bush-Hen B*
Dusky Moorhen A*
Purple Swamphe A*
Comb-crested Jacana A*
White-headed Stilt B
Masked Lapwing A*
Lesser Golden Plover A
Little Ringed Plover C
Wood Sandpiper B
Common Sandpiper A
Common Greenshank C
Latham's Snipe B
Swinhoe's Snipe B
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper A
Whiskered Tern B
Black Noddy C
Brown Cuckoo-Dove C
Peaceful Dove A
Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove C
Pied Imperial Pigeon B
Greater Streaked Lory C
Rainbow Lorikeet A
Western Black-capped Lory C
Red-cheeked Parrot A
Eclectus Parrot C
Oriental Cuckoo C
Brush Cuckoo A
Shining Bronze-Cuckoo C
Channel-billed Cuckoo C
Pheasant Coucal A*
Barn Owl A*
Barking Owl B
Papuan Frogmouth A*
White-throated Nightjar C
Large-tailed Nightjar B
Uniform Swiftlet B
Fork-tailed Swift C
White-throated Needletail C
Common Paradise-Kingfisher C
Blue-winged Kookaburra A

Forest Kingfisher A
Sacred Kingfisher A
Little Kingfisher C
Azure Kingfisher C
Common Kingfisher B
Rainbow Bee-eater A*
Dollarbird B
Singing Bushlark B
Pacific Swallow A
White-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike A
Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike A
White-winged Triller B
Pied Chat B
Clamorous Reed-Warbler B
Golden-headed Cisticola A
White-shouldered Fairy-Wren A
White-throated Gerygone B
Willie Wagtail A*
Leaden Flycatcher B
Shining Flycatcher C
Grey Shrike-Thrush A
Yellow-bellied Sunbird A
Graceful Meliphaga C
Yellow-tinted Honeyeater B
Helmeted Friarbird A
Brown-backed Honeyeater B
Rufous-banded Honeyeater A
Grey-headed Mannikin A*
Chestnut-breasted Mannikin A
Singing Starling A
Yellow-faced Myna A
Brown Oriole B
Figbird A
Spangled Drongo B
White-breasted Wood-Swallow A
Hooded Butcherbird A
Fawn-breasted Bowerbird A
Glossy-mantled Manucode B
Torresian Crow A