



Birds Queensland

50th Anniversary Meeting

Thursday 4 April 2019

www.birdsqueensland.org.au

Important! Please RSVP by 29.3.2019 for this meeting to: secretary@birdsqueensland.org.au and also advise of any dietary requirements.

Birds Queensland will hold its 50th Anniversary Meeting at the Brunswick Room, Merthyr Road Uniting Church, 52 Merthyr Road, New Farm on Thursday 4 April 2019. Light refreshments will be available from 7.00 pm.

David Niland

Birds Queensland in the 20th century

David will give a personal review of our club over the first 30 years, with special reference to those members who have featured in our Newsletter and Sunbird for one reason or another. Right from the beginning we held monthly meetings, outings and camps and had strong input from a good number of experts, official or otherwise, to advance our aims for 'the study and conservation of birds'.

Below, feral cat with Major Mitchell's Cockatoo, photo © Mark Marathon



Above left, before our newsletters had photos, we had wonderful sketches such as these Grey Fantails by Ivell White.



Left, Two past Presidents at our 30th Anniversary: Professor Jiro Kikkawa & Ian Venables, photo David Niland)



Sarah Legge

The impacts of cats on Australian birds

Cats were introduced to Australia in 1788 and by the 1880s their range covered the entire mainland and most large islands. Feral cats (and the introduced red fox) have been the major cause of the extinctions of over 30 Australian endemic mammals. However, the impacts on birds are less well known and underestimated. From cat dietary studies, Sarah and her colleagues have calculated that an individual feral cat kills 129 birds annually. Every year, feral cats kill 316 million birds while pet cats kill 61 million. More than 98% of these are native birds.

Australian governments recognise that the management of cats is a high priority and in general there is strong community support, although with some vocal opposition.

Sarah will tell us about the strategies that are being used to address this challenging issue.