

Birding for Beginners workshop – 15 October 2024

As part of Bird Month and participating in the annual Aussie Bird Count, Officers Tanya Loos and Kimberley Cook welcomed 20 budding birdwatchers on a drizzly Sunday afternoon in Woodend.

Attendees were mostly local to the Macedon Ranges, but also included members of a photography group from Sunbury and one enthusiastic attendee travelled by train for the day from East Doncaster.

Tanya, an avid bird watcher herself, began the workshop with a presentation that covered the basics such as bird identification, common birds of the Macedon Ranges, binoculars, field guides and apps, and how to record your sightings.

After the presentation, armed with Council's Bird Guide, the group headed out to practice their birdwatching skills by conducting an Aussie Bird Count along Five Mile Creek, Woodend.

An Aussie Bird Count captures a 20-minute snapshot of the species observed. The data is collected on the BirdLife Australia app and is recorded in their national database.

The event was a great success. Each attendee expressed positive feedback and thanked officers before the event ended. The group felt well placed to go back to their own gardens and local parklands to participate in their own Aussie Bird Count survey.

