



Red Centre

# bird festival



*Birding in the Northern Territory is just as much about the bird as it is about the location.*

*The Red Centre is a haven for birds, filled with diverse habitats. Get amongst it and enjoy what the centre has to offer.*

*If you are lucky you may spot Spinifex Pigeon, Dusky Grasswren, Rufous-crowned Emu-wren, Bourke's Parrot and Mulga Parrot.*

20 - 24  
**September**  
2017



@RedCentreBirdFestival #RedCentreBirdFest Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia



## BIRDS BEFORE WORK

**Wednesday 20 September, 7am – 8am**

**Arrive at 6.45am for registration**

**Alice Springs Sewerage Ponds, off Commonage Rd  
Gold coin donation to BirdLife Central Australia.**

Spot local and migrating bird species with local bird experts from BirdLife Central Australia. Recommend BYO binoculars and high visibility vest. Minimum age of 16 years and enclosed shoes required.



## LANGUAGE OF BIRDS

**Wednesday 20 September, 5pm – 6.30pm**

**Simpsons Gap, meet at the Ranger Station**

**Gold coin donation to BirdLife Central Australia.**

Learn about the calls and songs of some of our local birds. How do they make them? What do they mean? Learn the basics of birding by ear and why it is useful. This introductory event will combine a short stroll and an audio-visual presentation.

## BIRDS FOR BEGINNERS

**Thursday 21 September, 7am – 8am**

**Alice Springs Telegraph Station**

**Gold coin donation to BirdLife Central Australia.**

Join a local bird expert to get a taste for bird watching. People of all ages including families are invited to join in the fun. BYO binoculars recommended.

## BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS

**Friday 22 September, 7.30am – 9.30am**

**Alice Springs Desert Park**

**\$90 per adult. Bookings essential, 8951 8788.**

Join a Desert Park bird specialist as you go on a walkabout around the Desert Park environment with an increased chance of spotting Spinifex Pigeon, Splendid Fairy-wrens and Redthroat, to name a few. Finish with a gourmet breakfast hamper amongst the birds. Plus a face to face photo with a bird of prey. Conditions and age limits apply.

## BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY BEGINNERS WORKSHOP

**Friday 22 September, 6am – 11am**

**Olive Pink Botanic Gardens**

**\$90 per adult. Bookings essential, email  
mark@birdingandwildlife.com**

Learn the basics of bird photography with birding and wildlife professional Mark Carter as you explore the natural gardens of the Olive Pink Botanic Gardens.

# RED CENTRE WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

**Capture the essence of the Red Centre and showcase the wildlife of the region!**

Competition opens 9am, Monday 31 July and submissions close 4pm, Friday 25 August 2017. Download the registration form and conditions at the Red Centre Bird Festival Facebook page or [www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au](http://www.alicespringsdesertpark.com.au). Entry fee includes each submission printed and displayed for public viewing. Category for all skill levels, from beginners with a smart phone to professionals.

Gallery on display at Olive Pink Botanic Gardens 8am – 6pm,  
Wednesday 20 September to Friday 29 September 2017.

## GALLERY LAUNCH & JUDGING ANNOUNCED

**Saturday 23 September, 7pm – 8.30pm**

**Olive Pink Botanic Gardens**

**Register to attend, (08) 8951 8788 or email [asdp@nt.gov.au](mailto:asdp@nt.gov.au)**



# JOHN YOUNG REVEALS ALL ON THE NIGHT PARROT

**Thursday 21 September, 7pm - 9pm**

**Alice Springs Desert Park**

**\$35 per person.**

**Bookings essential, (08) 8951 8788, email [asdp@nt.gov.au](mailto:asdp@nt.gov.au)**

**Want to know how to find a Night Parrot?** John Young returns to the Red Centre after a sell-out event in 2014 to lay it all on the table. In 2013, after an absence of more than 75 years, the Night Parrot was rediscovered by John in the culmination of a 15 year search. He'll speak about what his research on the species since has revealed, including exactly how to find them, as well as his work as a Senior Field Ecologist with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy on other high-profile threatened bird species such as the Buff-breasted Button-quail.

**Includes light supper and first beverage. Cash bar at event.**



## THE BIG BIRD RACE

**Saturday 23 September, 6am - 6pm**

**Closing event at Olive Pink Botanic Gardens**

**\$15 per person. Bookings essential, 8951 8788.**

Join the BIGGEST bird race in the heart of Australia! Watch the clock as you race to spot the largest amount of bird species in 12 hours. Wrap up the day with a casual BBQ and quirky awards between 6pm and 7pm.

## FULL DAY PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR

**Saturday 23 September, 6am - 6pm**

**Olive Pink Botanic Gardens**

**\$300 per adult. Bookings essential, email [mark@birdingandwildlife.com](mailto:mark@birdingandwildlife.com)**

Join birding and wildlife professional Mark Carter on a day pursuing some of the iconic species of the region such as Mulga Parrots, Fairywrens, Budgies and Dusky Grasswren.

## 4X4 TAG ALONG WITH BIRDS

**Sunday 24 September, 7am - 2pm**

**Owen Springs Reserve**

**High clearance 4x4. Limited to 5 vehicles.**

**Bookings essential, 8951 8250. \$50 per vehicle.**

**Credit card only. Minimum numbers.**

Join BirdLife Central Australia and Parks and Wildlife Rangers as they lead you through exclusive locations of Owen Springs Reserve. Enjoy a magical display of birdlife and pick up tips on bird watching in the centre. Tour finishes within the Reserve allowing you to return to Alice Springs at your leisure. Meeting details and packing list provided on booking.

## BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY BEGINNERS WORKSHOP

**Sunday 24 September, 6am - 11am**

**Olive Pink Botanic Gardens**

**\$90 per adult. Bookings essential, email [mark@birdingandwildlife.com](mailto:mark@birdingandwildlife.com)**

Learn the basics of bird photography with birding and wildlife professional Mark Carter as you explore the Olive Pink Botanic Gardens.

## ALL THINGS FEATHERED FAMILY DAY

**Sunday 24 September, 7.30am - 6pm**

**Alice Springs Desert Park**

**Standard entry fees apply.**

Celebrate all things feathered with a day exploring the Desert Park with a special program between 9am and 4pm. Something for all ages with walk through aviaries, demonstrations and presentations including the popular Nature Theatre free flying bird show (10am & 3.30pm). Visit the website for full program.

## BIRDS AT SUNSET

**Sunday 24 September, 5.30pm - 6.30pm**

**Arrive at 5.15pm for registration**

**Alice Springs Sewerage Ponds, off Commonage Rd  
Gold coin donation to BirdLife Central Australia.**

Wrap up the Red Centre Bird Festival with sunset bird watching with BirdLife Central Australia. Recommend BYO binoculars and high visibility vest. Minimum age of 16 years and enclosed shoes required.



## WHO IS BIRDLIFE CENTRAL AUSTRALIA?

BirdLife Central Australia is a regional branch for BirdLife Australia.

BirdLife Australia is the country's largest organisation devoted to the future of our native birdlife.

Today, they are an independent, not-for-profit organisation with a single aim: creating a bright future for Australia's birds.



[www.northernterritory.com/birding](http://www.northernterritory.com/birding)

Images supplied by Cam Candy, Mark Carter, Lisa Nunn, Peter Nunn, John Young and Australian Wildlife Conservancy



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Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia

