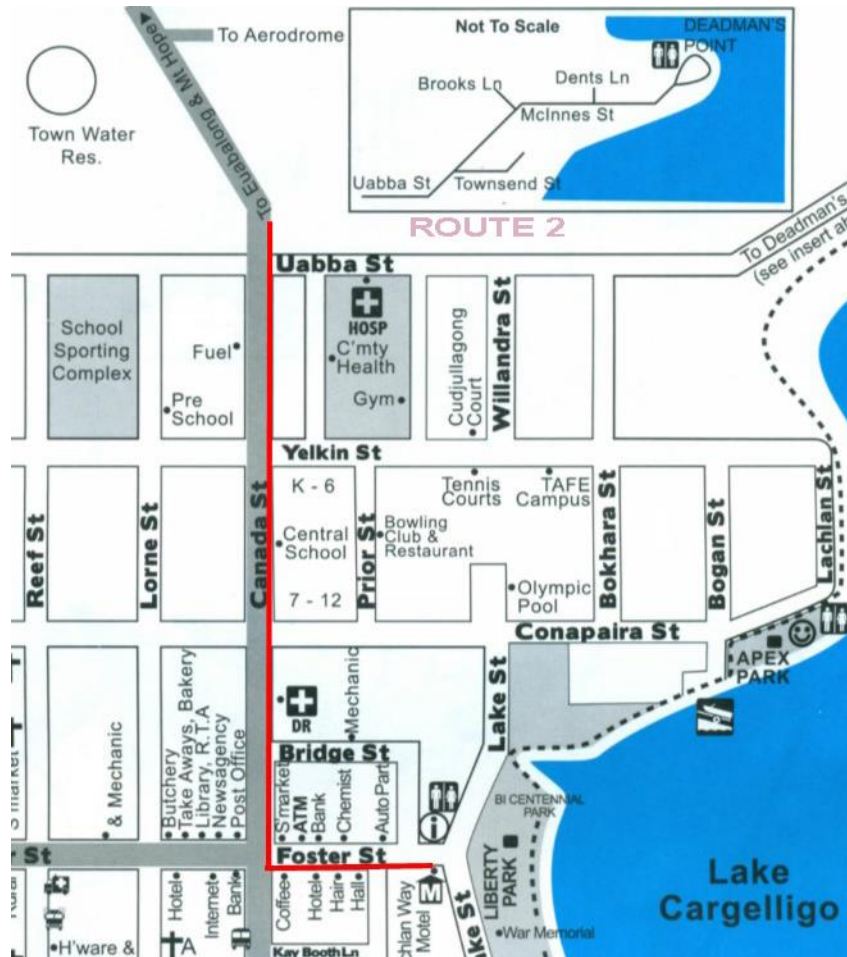


ROUTE 2 – 120 Kilometres

Take the Euabalong road out of town past the airport and cross the Lachlan at Murrin Bridge.



Take the turn to your left 13 km out of the town and go 3 kms to the T-junction with Wallentery Road and turn left where you will find a culvert. The roadside shallow surface drain here is surrounded by saltbush and is known as 'Chat Alley' where you may see Orange Chat, White-winged Fairy-wren, Brown Songlark, Zebra Finch, Banded Lapwing, and Australian

Hobby and Black Falcon. If it has been flooded then Crakes are found in the wet areas.



Chat Alley



CA – CHAT ALLEY AND SURROUNDING GRASSLANDS

235	Australian Hobby	<i>Falco longipennis</i>	M
238	Black Falcon	<i>Falco subniger</i>	M
50	Baillon's Crake	<i>Porzana pusilla</i>	M
49	Australian Spotted Crake	<i>Porzana fluminea</i>	M
51	Spotless Crake	<i>Porzana tabuensis</i>	M
55	Black-tailed Native-hen	<i>Tribonyx ventralis</i>	C
449	Crimson Chat	<i>Epthianura tricolor</i>	U
450	Orange Chat	<i>Epthianura aurifrons</i>	M
448	White-fronted Chat	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	M
509	Rufous Songlark	<i>Cincloramphus mathewsi</i>	M
508	Brown Songlark	<i>Cincloramphus cruralis</i>	M

Just up the road from Chat Alley is a right-hand turn into the road to Nombinnie Round Hill. Not far along this road you will come to Booberoi Creek which is worth stopping for a walk around the creek for Crested Shrike-tit, Pardalote, Honeyeaters and water birds. The road continues through farm land which gradually changes to Mallee country. A cattle Grid marks the beginning of the Nature Reserves and crossing the rail line means Round Hill is now to your right as well as your left. At either point it is worth walking along the fence lines and the road as Malleefowl, Quail-thrush, Emu, Honeyeaters and Whistlers are found using the edges.

The road continues between the two Nature Reserves until the junction with the sealed Euabalong/Mt Hope road. There are two accessible areas

in the reserves but permission from the Cobar NPWS should be sought and vehicles and camping are not permitted in nature reserves.



For Mallee birding, perhaps the best area is around the north-west corner of an old wheat paddock, now regenerating, in the north-east section of Nombinnie Nature Reserve. A track to the paddock can be found 1 km south of the T-section with the Euabalong/Mt Hope Road. The Mallee here is intermixed with scattered Mallee Pine and Broombush with a Spinifex ground cover. This is perfect habitat for Red-lored Whistler, Honeyeaters, Scrub-robin and many other Mallee species.

Honeyeaters here include White-eared, White-fronted and Brown-headed, Yellow-plumed, and Grey-fronted, and watch for mixed flocks of White-browed and Masked Woodswallow hunting for insects overhead, occasionally roosting in trees nearby. Other birds seen included Gilbert's Whistler, Crested Bellbird, Red-capped and Hooded Robin, Inland and Chestnut-rumped Thornbill, Western Gerygone, and Mistletoebird.

Returning to the road drive back to the T-junction and turn right toward Euabalong and after 3.5 kms look for a track leading off to the right to the area known as Whoey Tank (look for post number 3096). A short walk will

bring you into White Cypress Pine woodlands. Watch here for the Black-eared Cuckoo, Spiny-cheeked, Black, Striped, White-fronted, Singing and Blue-faced Honeyeaters. Parrots such as Mallee Ringneck, Mulga Parrot, and Blue Bonnet and Grey-crowed and White-browed babblers can be found by continuing to walk the track which ends up back on the dirt road from Lake Cargelligo to Mt. Hope after about 2 kms. Small passerines around the Tank included Speckled Warbler, Chestnut-rumped, Inland, Yellow-rumped Thornbill, Southern Whiteface, Western Gerygone, White-backed Swallow, Variegated and Splendid Fairy-wrens.

Other birds around Whoey Tank and the access tracks include Spotted Bowerbird, Emu, Collared Sparrowhawk, Peaceful and Bar-shouldered Dove, Common Bronzewing, Crested Pigeon, mallee parrots such as Major Mitchell's Cockatoo, Cockatiel, Fan-tailed and Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo, Grey and Pied Butcherbird, Babbler, Grey Shrike-thrush, and Restless Flycatcher.

Return to the sealed road and travel east towards Euabalong. It is well worth looking around the wheat storage areas at Euabalong West for falcons and the short drive east to Booberoi Creek where Australasian Bittern have been sighted in the Cumbungi along with Pratincoles in summer. Eleven kilometres further and you are in the small village of Euabalong on the Lachlan. There is a camping area and a pub here and the riverine forest, the river itself and surrounding floodplains can produce a variety of species from Sparrow-hawks to quietly feeding parrots.

Your return route can be either across the Lachlan (see Route 5) or the sealed road back to Lake Cargelligo. Watch the ephemeral wetlands that develop here following significant rain for waders such as Black-winged Stilt, Avocet and Spoonbill.

NR – NOMBINNIE AND ROUND HILL NATURE RESERVES

V – vagrant

R- Rare

U – Uncommon

M – Moderately common

C – Common

S – Summer migrant

W- Winter migrant

7	Malleefowl	<i>Leipoa ocellata</i>	U
231	Black-breasted Buzzard	<i>Hamirostra melanosternon</i>	U
236	Grey Falcon	<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	R
237	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	M
18	Little Button-quail	<i>Turnix velox</i>	U
19	Red-chested Button-quail	<i>Turnix Pyrrhothorax</i>	U
14	Painted Button-quail	<i>Turnix varius</i>	R
31	Diamond Dove	<i>Geopelia cuneata</i>	U
30	Peaceful Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>	M
32	Bar-shouldered Dove	<i>Geopelia humeralis</i>	U
306	Blue-winged Parrot	<i>Neophema chrysostoma</i>	R
341	Black-eared Cuckoo	<i>Chalcities osculans</i>	R
561	White-browed Treecreeper	<i>Climacteris affinis</i>	R
499	Shy Heathwren	<i>Hylacola cauta</i>	U
504	Speckled Warbler	<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	U
463	Western Gerygone	<i>Gerygone fusca</i>	M
476	Inland Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza apicalis</i>	M
481	Chestnut-rumped Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza uropygialis</i>	M
466	Southern Whiteface	<i>Aphelocephala leucopsis</i>	C
638	Red Wattlebird	<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	M
585	Striped Honeyeater	<i>Plectroyncha lanceolata</i>	M
646	Little Friarbird	<i>Philemon citreogularis</i>	M
608	Singing Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus virescens</i>	M

617	White-eared Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus leucotis</i>	M
622	Yellow-plumed Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus ornatus</i>	C
623	Grey-fronted Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus plumulus</i>	U
625	White-plumed Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i>	C
583	Brown-headed Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus brevirostris</i>	C
598	Painted Honeyeater	<i>Grantiella picta</i>	U
594	White-fronted Honeyeater	<i>Phylidonyris albigrons</i>	U
589	Black Honeyeater	<i>Sugomel niger</i>	U
602	Pied Honeyeater	<i>Certhionyx variegatus</i>	U
392	Eastern Yellow Robin	<i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	M
441	Southern Scrub Robin	<i>Drymodes brunneopygia</i>	M
437	Chestnut Quail-thrush	<i>Cinclosoma castanotus</i>	M
549	Varied Sittella	<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	M
419	Crested Bellbird	<i>Oreoica gutturalis</i>	M
402	Red-lored Whistler	<i>Pachycephala rufogularis</i>	U
403	Gilbert's Whistler	<i>Pachycephala inornata</i>	M
401	Rufous Whistler	<i>Pachycephala rufiventris</i>	C
425	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina papuensis</i>	M
430	White-winged Triller	<i>Lalage suerii</i>	MS
543	White-breasted Woodswallow	<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	M
544	Masked Woodswallow	<i>Artamus personatus</i>	M
545	White-browed Woodswallow	<i>Artamus superciliosus</i>	M
547	Dusky Woodswallow	<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i>	M
680	Spotted Bowerbird	<i>Ptilonorhynchus maculatus</i>	U

358	White-backed Swallow	<i>Cheramoeca leucosternus</i>	U
-----	----------------------	--------------------------------	---

Rarities which may be subject to confirmation and should be reported

484	Buff-rumped Thornbill	<i>Acanthiza reguloides</i>	R
398	Golden Whistler	<i>Pachycephala pectoralis</i>	R

Acknowledgment: Warren Chad, Graeme Chapman, Tim Dolby, Chris Lloyd, Troy Mutton, Neville Shrader, Mick Roderick, Max Sutcliffe, Russell Woodford (Birding-Aus)



Mallee Fowl