

Grey Butcherbird

Cracticus torquatus

On the Bluff
All year round



Butcherbirds look a bit like a miniature kookaburra, with a similar shaped beak and body. The adult has a black head, grey back and black wingtips and tail. Juveniles have a brown head and back. The underparts are a light grey. Its name is derived from its habit of hanging its prey of small lizards, mice or young birds on a fork on a branch. It may be a day or two before it returns to eat the decaying meat. The call is a loud, rollicking tune.

Beak-to-tail: 25 – 30 cm

On the Bluff
All year round

Australian Magpie

Cracticus tibicen

The **Magpie** must be one of our best known birds. The local sub-species has a white back with the males having a bright white back and the females having darker speckling across the back. Magpies feed on small invertebrates or reptiles. The nest is constructed in a tall tree and is made from sticks and often contains man-made objects such as bits of wire, plastic or coat hangers.

Beak-to-tail: 38 – 45 cm

