

One of his outstanding discoveries was his recognition of a distinct short-billed population of the White-tailed Black Cockatoo. He first observed this species in an article on Birds of Lake Grace published in the Emu in 1933 but was advised to eliminate the formal description he had intended.

By 1948, he had more material available and named this bird as *Calyptorhynchus baudinii latirostris*. Further work by Denis Saunders of CSIRO indicates that this form was quite distinct and it has been elevated to full species status.

Thus Baudin's Cockatoo and Carnaby's Cockatoo are recognised as 2 separate species. They are difficult to identify on the wing because the only visible difference is that the Carnaby has a short bill and the Baudin's has a long bill.

Carnaby's has a short wide bill and a shorter call. As well as being found in the southwest, Carnaby's are found north and east of Perth, and well into the northern agricultural region. Baudin's has a longer bill and call, tending to be found in the wetter south west. Carnaby's feed primarily on proteaceous species and nest inland in Wandoo and Salmon Gum. Baudin's primarily nest in and feed on Marri, but will eat a wide range of other foods when there is little Marri around. They are very difficult to tell apart and with continued habitat degradation and climate change the species' range is increasingly overlapping



CARNABY

BAUDIN

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Common name</b>      | Carnaby's black-cockatoo  |
| <b>Scientific name</b>  | <i>Calyptorhynchus latirostris</i>  |
| <b>Aboriginal name</b>  | Ngoolark  |
| <b>Diet</b>             | Traditionally seeds of native plants (particularly hakea and banksia) as well as flowers, nectar and insect larvae; now also eat plantation pine seeds and orchard fruits |
| <b>Average lifespan</b> | 35 years, possibly longer   |
| <b>Size</b>             | 53–58cm long  |
| <b>Status</b>           | Threatened  |



CARNABY'S BLACK-COCKATOO

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COLLECTIONS

Ivan Carnaby Birds Eggs

BOYUP BROOK



You're absolutely welcome

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IVAN CARNABY, 1964

Ivan Clarence Carnaby (1908 - 1974) was the older brother of Keith Carnaby (1910-1994) whose interest was in entomology and is well known for his collection of jewel beetles. Ivan died in the Boyup Brook Hospital from a heart attack at the relatively young age of 66.

Ivan had little formal schooling as he was troubled with bronchitis throughout his childhood. When he was 14 his father bought an orchard in Parkerville so he could

be living away from the dampness on the coast each winter. He would be accompanied by one of his brothers when there.

From early youth, he was interested in birds and it was at Parkerville that he started his collection of birds eggs which he pursued for the rest of his life. In 1927 the orchard was sold as a deposit on a wheat farm in Lake Grace. In 1934 Ivan went prospecting for gold north east of Lake King, with younger brother Colin. In 1935 Colin and Ivan took up a station and contracted themselves for fence building and well sinking. Sadly, in 1937 Colin accidentally shot himself and Ivan returned to Perth to work with Keith in the family Boat Building shed at Nedlands.

During all this time and changes in habitation, Ivan was adding to his birds egg collection and kept meticulous records of findings. He made extensive natural history tours with two other naturalists - Henry Steadman and Horace Brown. A eucalypt which they collected at Barberton was named *Eucalyptus carnabyi*. Horace Brown instilled an interest in jewel beetles in Ivan as well as Keith who occasionally accompanied them on excursions. Ivan was a superb bushman.

In 1938, Ivan and Keith returned to the North West with a headstone for Colin's grave and their father's ashes. Later their mother's ashes were taken there and it was Ivan's wish that his ashes be interred with them. The grave is a registered grave site.

At the outbreak of war in 1939, Ivan joined up and served in the infantry in various sectors within the state. The opportunity to indulge in his interest in natural history came when he was stationed at North West Cape. A few of his wartime experiences and comments on some of the Officers under whom he served are amusingly recounted in Marshal and Drysdale's book *Journey Among Men* (1962).

In 1945, with the war over and after a period in Perth Ivan took up a large tract of virgin land at Red Creek, near Bailup and on the Toodyay Road. On April 2, 1946 he married Stella Nell Pearce, who was a talented musician, a member of the Perth symphony Orchestra and a teacher of violin but gave it all up to go to live in Bailup. There many members of the Naturalists' Club visited for memorable occasions.

Eventually they sold out profitably and moved to Carnarvon in 1954 to work on stations. In '55 he was appointed by CSIRO's wildlife section to assist E. H. M. Healy (Tim) to study the ecology of the euro at Woodstock Station. Later that year he was awarded a small grant to study the effects of environmental factors on the breeding seasons of birds, from the Science and Industry Endowment fund.

In 1957 he entered an unsuccessful partnership in a lead mine at Mary Springs near the Murchison River crossing and became a partner in a small goldmine at Yalgoo (another unsuccessful venture) to eventually return to Perth to reside in East Victoria Park. From here he periodically went to the outback on various jobs, which were usually so arranged to enable him to engage in appealing egg collecting forays.



Some of the excursions included Barrow Island, the Montebellows and the Kimberleys. This introduction to the Kimberleys lead him to visit the area a number of times later. Sadly Ivan's lengthy absences from home lead to the eventual breakdown of the marriage.

Next, in the life of this restless and adventurous man was farming again, now at Lake Grace, a new base for collecting trips, especially to the Kimberleys for nesting studies. The whole of his extensive Kimberley data was handed to Dr G.M. Storr of the Western Australian Museum.

The Kimberley trip for which he was preparing just before his death was intended to take him over the Mitchell Plateau to Port Warrender, where he planned to stay over the wet season. Instead, he was persuaded to make for Wyndham which would be safer in the 'wet' and where much work still required to be done.

However he collapsed in 1974 on his brother Keith's farm at Wilga, a locality of the Shire of Boyup Brook, whilst loading up his vehicle for the journey and died in the Boyup Brook Soldiers Memorial Hospital.

In addition to his primary bird work, he collected reptiles for Dr Storr. A new species of skink was named after him - *Cryptoblepharus carnabyi*.

He was kind and generous to brother naturalists and aided all in their work. In his studies, he was an acute and thoughtful observer and it is a pity his publishing record is comparatively slight. He found writing arduous and left most of the recording to others, whom he assisted with enthusiasm.



He could deliver, off the cuff, a very erudite lecturettes. One such address was on nesting timetables in the North West, dividing various species into three main categories. Those which would nest any time immediately after good rains; those which nested in a particular season but only if conditions were right; and those that observed a nesting period irrespective of the nature of the season.

**When a private comprehensive collection of his birds eggs was offered to the West Australian State Museum in 2020 they accepted them and completed their previous display and offered the remainder to Boyup Brook. They are found in the Collections Room within the Boyup Brook Visitor Information Centre.**