



## Two new birds for Julimar Forest

### Julimar Forest and Conservation Alliance

Max Howard, Wheatbelt Avon Bird Group

FOR OVER the past 12 months the Julimar Conservation and Forest Alliance with the approval of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservations and Attractions have had field cameras at various locations throughout Julimar Forest to record wildlife, predators, and introduced species.

Two recent sightings of birds have created a lot of interest with bird watchers both within and outside the Shire of Toodyay.

One bird, the White-breasted Robin, an endemic species to Western Australia, has never been recorded within the forest as its main habitats are in the wetter South West forest areas, Darling Range Jarrah forests, and northwards along the coastline in the thick creek-side vegetation.

The other species, the White-fronted Honeyeater, has one historical record from the 1950's, and it is either Harry Butler's survey of the forest in that period or Jim Masters of Glen Avon, via Northam, who shared his data with Butler on the birds of Julimar.

This Honeyeater's normal range is the arid and semi-arid areas of the state.

However, it has been recorded in the Toodyay shire and I would suggest it is an uncommon species although it is turning up more in recent years in community gardens,

especially during the summer months.

The large natural Julimar forest is already a haven for birds with over 120 species being recorded, which is a number similar to the recently created National Park "Dryandra" which is a similar size to Julimar located in the Shires of Cuballing, Williams, and Wandering.

Given the forest is ideally positioned between the Wheatbelt, and the arid areas, and the southern half of the state, more species could be expected in this natural habitat, especially when the above areas are feeling the effects of climate change.

Our thanks must go to Mark and his team for placing the cameras around the forest over the past 12 months.

These two sightings are an example of what can be achieved by field cameras and dedicated people.