

What do they look like?

Grey-crowned Babblers are medium sized birds that spend much of their time foraging on the ground or on the trunks of rough barked gum trees. They have distinctive curved black beaks with a black line from the beak through the eye, prominent white eyebrows, a central grey headstripe and white ends to their tails feathers.



They are poor flyers and can generally be seen hopping on the ground in groups of two to twenty individuals. They are very gregarious they keep up a constant chatter when foraging and a loud and repeated "Yahoo" call when separated. Each group has a matriarch who is the sole breeder of the group, whilst all the family members help to feed the chicks.



Did you know?

Grey-crowned Babblers constantly build round stick nests and the whole family roosts in one every night.



Blue-faced Honeyeater

Old nests are often used by other birds: Blue-faced Honeyeaters sometimes build another nest on top.

Yellow-rumped Thornbills may build a nest suspended underneath even when the Babblers' nest is full of Babbler chicks.



Yellow-rumped Thornbill



The Babbler Habitat Area



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Grey-crowned Babbler

The Babbler Habitat Area

The Babbler Habitat Area has been created and fenced to protect our locally threatened bird, the Grey-crowned Babbler (*Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis*). Although these Babblers have a wide distribution throughout NSW, their continued presence is in danger east of the Divide, and particularly in the Gloucester Shire. Numbers have declined recently and even disappeared from large parts of their range as a result of land-clearing practices that leave habitats fragmented. When groups become isolated, numbers decline to a level where they can no longer breed successfully.

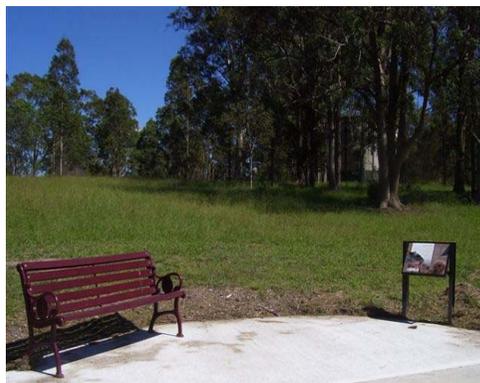
We are fortunate to have a number of family groups of this bird living within the Gloucester township area.



Map 1: Distribution of the Grey-crowned Babbler in Australia



Babbler Habitat Fence



Babbler Walk

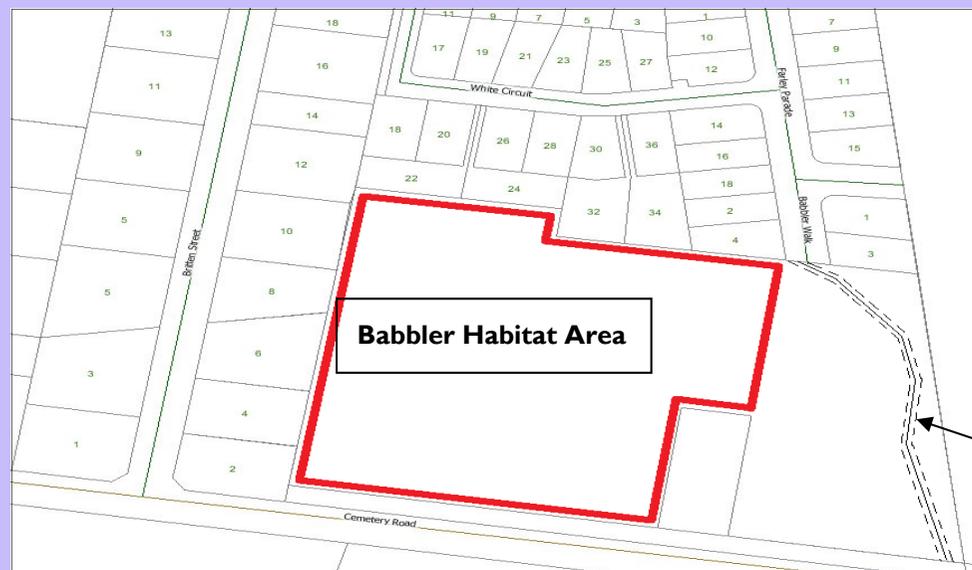
Located off Cemetery Road, the Babbler Habitat Area has been fenced to protect these threatened species from animals that live in urban areas such as foxes, cats and dogs, and to maintain the habitat in which the birds live and breed. The Babbler Walk has also been constructed adjacent to the Babbler Habitat Area with information signs and seats to relax and view the Babblers. Early morning is the best time!



Grey-crowned Babbler

The fence was constructed with a Grant made possible by the NSW Environment Trust and Gloucester Shire Council.

Location



Babbler Walk

