

# Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore

## Bird Walk (Site 10)



### Azure Kingfisher (*Alcedo azurea*)



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#### Local Status - Uncommon

Status relates only to the relative abundance of species on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk

(Photography by B & V O'Leary)

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This little jewel is often seen as an orange and blue flash, darting up and down quiet sections of creeks and waterways, emitting a shrill whistle.

**Bird Size** - 17-19cm.

**Food** - Small fish, crustaceans and insects.

**Nest style** - A chamber at the end of a tunnel.

**Material used** - Nil, though often layers of fish scales and fine fish bones on the chamber floor.

**Nest Site** - In the bank of a stream, the tunnel being from 0.8 - 1.3m long, often placed among tree roots or overhanging vegetation. A stick, dead branch, or other similar perch is usually adjacent to the entrance for use by the nesting bird's partner. Site is often used over a number of seasons.

**Breeding Season & Details** - October to December, with four to seven eggs laid once a year.

**Habits** - Always near water, it inhabits fresh and saltwater streams, inlets, mangroves, ponds and lakes, including those in urban areas. It skims fast and low over the waters' surface giving a shrill whistle, or perches on a stick or similar structure, bobbing it's head before diving for prey.