## Birds of Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Site 6)

## **Silvereye**

(Zosterops lateralis)



Local Status - Uncommon

Status relates only to the relative abundance of species on the Tin Can Bay Foreshore Bird Walk (Photography by Amelia Nielsen)

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Perhaps the most numerous of our small native birds, and known by the common name of "White-eye", referring to it's white eye ring. This delightful little bird is a welcome visitor to urban gardens, often taking full advantage of sprinklers & hoses to bathe themselves. Is also an accomplished mimic.

Bird Size - 12cm

**Food** - Insects, native & cultivated fruits & berries

Nest style - Small and cup-shaped

**Material used** - Fine grasses, hair, rootlets & other soft material, bound by spider webbing, & lined with finer material.

**Nest Site** - Suspended from a thin fork in the outer foliage of a bush, shrub, or small tree. Generally low, but can be up to five metres from the ground.

**Breeding Season & Details** - August to January with two to four eggs laid.

**Habits** - In pairs or small flocks in most habitats and urban gardens. Several races exist, one, a Tasmanian form with rufous flanks & a grey throat migrates to our region in the autumn. Though at times it may damage cultivated fruit, it is extremely useful in insect control.