

## Swans second chance to score: Aussie Backyard Bird Count

- Sydney Swans may not have won on the weekend, but their feathered friends can still take the lead in the third #AussieBirdCount
- Aussie Backyard Bird Count held throughout National Bird Week, 17-23 October
- Aim is to count 1.5 million birds during #AussieBirdCount

While the Sydney Swans may have flown home without the AFL Grand Final trophy, there is still time for them to take out number one spot in the Aussie Backyard Bird Count when it begins on 17 October.

With the AFL season over for another year, the Sydney Swans and their supporters can now give their full attention to counting the birds which share their names, specifically Australia's Black Swans.

Found throughout Australia, most commonly in the south, the Black Swans live in wetlands, from river estuaries, bays and lakes to inundated pasture and water-meadows.

While the team and the birds share a name, the similarities between them is pretty limited—unlike the players who gave it their all on the weekend, the feathered version are clumsy walkers and prefer to stay in the water.

Australians are passionate about their sports and also their birds, and from the Swans to the Kookaburras, the Crows to the Magpies there are countless examples of Australian teams named after feathered friends.

With less than a month until the annual Aussie Backyard Bird Count begins, BirdLife Australia is calling on all Australians, including the Sydney Swans and other bird-named sporting teams, to join the count and head into their favourite outdoor spaces.

The Aussie Bird Count app is free and available to download now, allowing people to count anywhere there are birds.

Download the free app or join the count at [aussiebirdcount.org.au](http://aussiebirdcount.org.au). It's easy!

Results will be updated daily throughout the Count, 17-23 October.

Start spreading the word with #AussieBirdCount.

**For events and activities during National Bird Week visit [aussiebirdcount.org.au](http://aussiebirdcount.org.au).**

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### MEDIA CONTACT ONLY

Contact Jack Walden on [jack@theword.com.au](mailto:jack@theword.com.au) or 0428 300 090 to arrange an interview or for high quality images, sounds and video. Request the Bird Week media kit with more story ideas and images.

**Visit the #AussieBirdCount Media Centre at <http://aussiebirdcount.org.au/media>**