

Common Name/*Scientific name*: **Brown Gerygone/ *Gerygone mouki richmondi***

The Brown Gerygone is one of a group of species of small birds which were formerly known as warblers, due to their loud, melodious song. However, as they are not related to the 'true warblers' that occur in Europe, Africa, the Americas and Asia, their name was changed. Their new name, 'gerygone', which is pronounced 'jer-ig-on-nee', comes from Greek, meaning 'the children of song'. However, the song of the Brown Gerygone is said to be less sweet and sibilant than the songs of Australia's other gerygones.



**Description:** The Brown Gerygone is a small bird, olive-grey (race *richmondi*, south of Cooktown to Vic.) to buff-brown above, with a pale grey face and underparts, with the flanks washed brown. It has a long white eyebrow and a red-brown eye. The tail band is dark and the tail tips are white. It is usually seen in pairs or small parties, fluttering around foliage. Also known as the Brown Warbler.

**Where to look for it in the gardens:** The Brown Gerygone is found in coastal and mountain rainforest, wet gullies and mangroves, so we could expect to see it along the creekside section of the Creek Walk, in the Ephemeral Wetlands, Fern Glade and Mossy Log garden and along the Lagoon Walk (especially the loop section).

**Feeding & Behaviour in the gardens:** The Brown Gerygone forages at all heights of the canopy, snapping up flying insects while fluttering around the foliage. This bird can be found singly or in loose groups of up to four. It feeds quietly, but actively, around the foliage of the trees.

**Nesting:** The Brown Gerygone builds a rounded dome nest with a tapering 'tail' from roots, plant fibres, spider web, moss and lichens, which is suspended from a low branch or vine. Both parents feed the young.

**Similar Species in the gardens:** The more colourful (and more musical) White-throated Gerygone (*G. albogularis*) has been recorded in the gardens very occasionally.