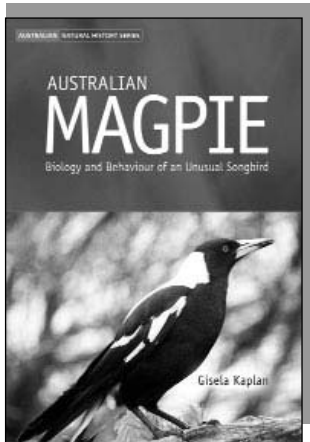


# Australian Magpie

Biology and Behaviour of an Unusual Songbird

Gisela Kaplan

University of New England



The warbling and carolling of the Australian magpie are familiar to many although few of us recognise that it ranks among the foremost songbirds of the world. Its impressive vocal abilities, its propensity to play and clown, and its willingness to interact with people, make the magpie one of our most well-known birds.

*Australian Magpie: Biology and Behaviour of an Unusual Songbird* presents a comprehensive account of one of Australia's best-loved icons. It reveals the extraordinary capabilities of the magpie, including its complex social behaviour, in a highly readable text. The author brings together much of what we know about the magpie's biology and behaviour, including her latest research on magpie vocalisation as well as aspects of anatomy, physiology, development and health not published previously.

## Contents:

1. Origin & classification
2. Anatomy
3. Diet & feeding habits
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5. Bonding & breeding
6. Physical & social development
7. Agnostic & cooperative behaviour
8. Song production
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10. Magpies & humans
11. Epilogue The success of magpies

October 2004 **CSIRO PUBLISHING** 152 pp paperback  
colour illustrations ISBN: 0643090681 **\$39.95**

## The Author

Award-winning author, Professor Gisela Kaplan, is a researcher in the Centre for Neuroscience and Animal Behaviour at the University of New England, Armidale, New South Wales. She is highly regarded internationally for her publications on animal behaviour including books on birds, orangutans and wild dogs. Her research into magpies spans more than ten years and thousands of hours of observation of free-ranging magpies and nest-sites.



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