

# Tawny frogmouth

*Podargus strigoides*

(meaning 'small in the shape of an owl')

Tawny frogmouths are small nocturnal birds that are often confused with owls, and have amazing camouflage.

Tawny frogmouths are distinct from owls in that they catch their food with their beaks, not their feet.

These birds are sometimes seen in broad daylight, sitting very still in a tree (or even a clothesline), relying on their grey-brown feathers to help them blend into their surroundings.



## Facts

- Use their yellow mouths to attract moths
- Can mimic a tree branch
- Belong to a family of birds called 'nightjars'
- Imprint very easily on humans when being hand raised
- Live in eucalypt forest and open woodlands

## At Kanyana

Kanyana has four resident tawny frogmouths.

**Old Tawny** arrived as a hand-raised adult in April 2002. She is unfit for release as she is completely imprinted on humans.

**Bindi** was born in 2013 and came to Kanyana in October as a juvenile. She appeared unable to self-feed or put on weight and was deemed unfit for release.

**Wombian** was relocated to Kanyana in February 2006 from Albany. She can't feed herself and is unable to be released.

**Precious** was a patient in May 2010. He appeared to have been kept in a cage before coming to Kanyana as he was very tame.



You can **meet our tawny frogmouths** on our **nocturnal tours** and on Kanyana's annual open day in early May, **Discover Kanyana**.