

OBSERVATIONS OF BEHAVIOUR OF SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOOS *Cacatua galerita* IN SUBURBAN SYDNEY

KAREN BAYLY

Department of Biological Sciences, Macquarie University, New South Wales, Australia 2109

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A population of Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita* at Ashfield, New South Wales, was observed over a four year period. The birds were intentionally habituated to human observers and contact with humans was positively reinforced. The habituation process allowed behaviour patterns to be observed at distances of 0.5–3 m which is closer than other studies on free-ranging Sulphur-crested Cockatoos. Five previously undescribed behaviour patterns were noted — *pair beak-clacking*, *posing*, *male/male beak-clacking*, *male/male allopreening* and *chorusing*. The *courtship display* differed strikingly from previous descriptions. Other observed behaviour patterns were similar to previous descriptions for *Cacatua* species.