



TUESDAY EVENING MEETING 20th October 2026

Dr Chevonne Reynolds **Who gets to see urban birds?** **And why does it matter?**

Tuesday 20th October 2026

6:45pm for 7:00pm

Wanderer's Club, North Road, Illovo

We are usually in the Champions room upstairs - follow the signs

Cost: Members – R20; Guests – R40

Join us for supper in the restaurant (for your own account). Come early - about 5:45pm.
Good food, great company!

Chevonne Reynolds is an Associate Professor, landscape ecologist and ornithologist at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. She completed her PhD on waterbird ecological function and postdoc on land use change and bird communities at the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology. Since joining Wits in 2018, she has focused more on urban systems—how could you not when living in this mega-city? Her research extensively uses citizen science and open data to understand socio-ecological dynamics in African cities.

Cities function as strong socio-ecological filters that create winners and losers among both birds and people.

These filters create inequalities in access to urban nature, but we still struggle with clear solutions to address them.

As urban populations grow globally, access to urban nature becomes increasingly important for human wellbeing.

Birds provide an ideal lens for examining urban environmental inequality because they respond sensitively to urban change and are charismatic and well-liked.

This talk will take a full tour of what we know about **the influence of urban systems on birds**, and why the loss of connection to nature should be something we should be thinking about in our cities.