

CLASSIFIED SUMMARISED NOTES

Compiled by R. B. SIBSON

Inevitably these notes are patchy and selective. Some districts are more accessible than others; some, which attract great numbers of migratory species, also tend to lure into the field a greater number of observers. In 1978 the large harbours of the north came in for special attention. Not only were the regular censuses of the Firth of Thames, Manukau and Kawhia carried out, but also summer or autumn surveys were made of the Bay of Plenty, Kaipara and Whangarei. These necessitated detailed planning and solid team-work. The results were encouraging and revealing.

A few notes have been gathered in from outside the period 1 July 1977 to 1 July 1978. Notes on the N.Z. Dabchick and the Cattle Egret have been sent to B. D. Heather, who is directing the surveys of these species. I thank all contributors and apologise for any grave omissions.

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BROWN KIWI *Apteryx australis*

Whangarei, Mt Parahaki, heard on 24/6 (WJC); Urquhart's Bay, several calls on 2/7 (TGL). Hunua Ranges, 1 imm. disturbed by scrub-roller (HRMcK). Rotorua/Tauranga road, 1 killed April '78 (AP). Tongariro State Forest, Taurewa camp, heard March-April '76. Plantation Rd, May and December '76 (CS).

BLUE PENGUIN *Eudyptula minor*

Aorangi, Poor Knights, singles seen ashore on rock platform, 2 & 10/1/78 (PMS).

FIORDLAND CRESTED PENGUIN *Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*

Dargaville west coast, 1 dead, 26/11 (DEC). Murphy's Ck., Westland, 1 pr 13/2 (AP). Taiaroa Hd. 1 moulting on 17/2 (PJ; BB).

ERECT-CRESTED PENGUIN *E. sclateri*

Kaikoura, 1 moulting on 21/2 (AP).

CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

L. Heron, 1 pr + 1 young with 'horns' appearing; Pumphouse Bay, 1 single + 1 pr; L. Emma, 2 on 10/2. L. Alexandrina, 16 — no young seen — on 12/2 (RJP; PJ; BB). L. Macgregor, 9 on 2/2 (ARL); 5 on 13/2 (BB). L. Te Anau, single birds near Terrace midsummer and winter (JVM). Nest c/2 on 13/2 (AP). L. Thomas, 1 pr raised 3 young (RRS).

HOARY-HEADED GREBE *P. poliocephalus*

Aupori Pen., L. Wingy, 2 on 30/1 (PF, SMR) whence they moved to L. Half (VHH). L. Horowhenua, 1 on 4/9, non-breeding dress (WFC, BDH). Wanstead, L. Purimu, 1 in breeding plumage 17/12 (BDH). L. Elterwater, 1, Feb. 78 (AP). Swan Lagoon, Ohau, 1 in breeding plumage 17/12 (BDH). L. Elterwater, 1, Feb. 78 (AP). Swan Lagoon, Ohau, 1 in breeding plumage, several occasions 8-17/12/77 (KLO); on 13/2 (PJ, BB), early March '78 (N. Hellyer, P. Anderson). Southland, 2 prs bred successfully, each pair raising one young, after hatching in mid-Jan. By mid-April all seem to have dispersed (RRS). Redcliff Wetland Reserve, 2 in June (Ian Mathieson).

AUSTRALIAN LITTLE GREBE *P. novaehollandiae*

Aupori Pen., Black Lake, 1 in fine plumage on 12/3 (ATE, VHH); earlier, VHH had seen two. Rahutai near Dargaville, 2 ad. + 2 imm. on 22/4/78 (WJC, CDC, ATE). L. Tarawera, 1 on 24/6 (AP). Westland, 1 pr + 2 chicks on 12/3/78 (S. Lauder). Redcliff Wetland Reserve, 3 in June (Ian Mathieson, per RRS).

WANDERING ALBATROSS *Diomedea exulans*

Near Three Kings, several on 10/5 (TGL).

BLACK-BROWED ALBATROSS *D. melanophris*

Off Tutukaka, 1 on 15/4. Near Three Kings and down Northland coast to C. Brett, several on 11/5 (TGL). Te Awanga, Hastings, 2 resting with Gannets on 21/12 (JL & MM).

GREY-HEADED MOLLYMAWK *D. chrysostoma*

Waingake, juv. 15 miles inland on 6/5 (AB).

BULLER'S MOLLYMAWK *D. bulleri*

Tasman Bay, 3 in June with *D. cauta* (JMH).

SHY MOLLYMAWK *D. cauta*

Three Kings, 1 on 10/5 (TGL). Foxton Beach, 3 passing S on 22/10 (JL & MM). Tasman Bay, c.70 together in June (JMH).

LIGHT-MANTLED SOOTY ALBATROSS *Phoebastria palpebrata*

Miranda, FoT, 1 on 18/7 flying S. (R & K Wrang). Waitakaruru, 1 imm. ashore alive on 11/6 (BB). Foxton Beach, 1 passing S. on 22/10; and later one ashore alive (JL & MM).

NELLY *Macronectes giganteus*

Foxton Beach, odd birds offshore Oct-Jan. Clive, 3 near sewage outfall 22/12 (JL & MM). Bluff, Ocean Beach works outfall, c. 150 in mid-Feb. (BB).

ANTARCTIC PETREL *Thalassoica antarctica*

Manawatu, 1976, 1 ashore (O. Burmeister per JAB). Muriwai, 1 on 6/11/77 (MJT, RNT).

CAPE PIGEON *Daption capense*

Nelson sewer outlet, c. 100 winter '78 (JMH). Snares Is, c. 1750 off east coast on water 18/1 (NC).

GREY-FACED PETREL *Pterodroma macroptera*

Three Kings, some on 10/5 (TGL). BoP, N of Volkner Rocks, 1000+ on 9/7/77 (NC).

WHITE-HEADED PETREL *P. lessoni*

Summit of Old Man Range, 5500 ft, 1 on 22/12, some weeks dead, at base of TV translator tower (PC).

SOFT-PLUMAGED PETREL *P. mollis*

Petone, 1 ashore on 24/6/78 (S. Cotter).

PYCROFT'S PETREL *P. pycrofti*

Aorangi, Poor Knights, up to 3 heard towards dusk, 2-4/1/78 (PMS).

COOK'S PETREL *P. cooki*

Papamoa, 1 alive under a house on 14/4 (BG).

BLACK-WINGED PETREL *P. nigripennis*

c.40 miles NE of North Cape, several on 16/4 (TGL). Aorangi, Poor Knights, up to 4 heard and seen most evenings Jan. '78 (PMS).

BLUE PETREL *Halobaena caerulea*

Mason Bay, Stewart I., 1 dead Aug. '77 (RJS).

FAIRY PRION *Pachyptila turtur*

8 miles ESE from North Cape, 10 000+ along a line of scum and debris where two ocean currents or water masses met (NC). Three Kings, flocks of 20+ on 10/5 and numerous off C. Karikari, 11/5 (TGL). South side of Cook St., c.250 on 18/1 (DWW).

BLACK PETREL *Procellaria parkinsoni*

Dargaville, early June, 1 picked up alive (RF). Another, imm. ashore in Manukau below Titirangi (TGL).

FLESH-FOOTED SHEARWATER *Puffinus carneipes*

A few still off C. Karikari on 11/5 (TGL).

WEDGE-TAILED SHEARWATER *P. pacificus*

Mahuta Gap, W. of Dargaville, 1 dead on 20/4 (WJC).

BULLER'S SHEARWATER *P. bulleri*

N. of Three Kings, small groups on 10/5; off C. Karikari, several on 11/5, but few further south (TGL). 330 miles W. of C. Reinga, 1 on 4/12 (NC). In October, some fed at night just off the jetty at Paihia (DFC).

SOOTY SHEARWATER *P. griseus*

Foxton Beach, between 16/12 and 7/5 max. 14 on 21/1 (JL & MM).

FLUTTERING SHEARWATER *P. gavia*

Clive, c.1000 on 22/12. Foxton Beach, 100+ on 8/4. Welling-ton, c.200 on 2/6 (JL & MM).

LITTLE SHEARWATER *P. assimilis*

Near Three Kings, some on 10/5. C. Karikari - Whangamumu, several on 11/5; Bream Bay, small groups on 2/7 (TGL).

LEACH'S STORM PETREL *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*

1 ashore 3 km S. of Bayly's Beach on 2/8/78 (WJC).

GREY-BACKED STORM PETREL *Garrodia nereis*

Coast W. of Dargaville, 1 dead on 1/11 (WJC). Mt Aspiring, 3 or 4 dead at 2480 m, June '78 (L. Esler).

WHITE-BELLIED STORM PETREL *Fregetta grallaria*

Ninety-mile Beach, 1 dead on 23/4 (cf. *Notornis* 17: 75-76) (DEC).

RED-TAILED TROPIC BIRD *Phaethon rubricauda*

Far North: 4 sightings summer 77-78. Awanui Hr, 1 exhausted, heavily infested with black ticks (D. McD. Vincent, per ATE). Taupo, 1 alive on 14/5 (M. Hill, per JAB) cf. *Children of Tane*: 207.

AUSTRALIAN PELICAN *Pelecanus conspicillatus*

L. Clearwater, 1 early Feb. (per BB). Washdyke, 2 on 18/2 (AP). Wainono, 2 on 19/3 (PCL). cf. *Notornis* 25: 89-90.

GANNET *Sula serrator*

On return voyage from Noumea, first logged within sight of Three Kings on 11/5 (TGL). Muriwai, new colony on Pillar Rock, 93 chicks on 23/1 (BDH). Foxton Beach, max. 10 on 22/10. Imms. on 13/11 and 18/6 (JL & MM). Tasman Bay, rafts of 20-30, winter '78 (JMH).

BLACK SHAG *Phalacrocorax carbo*

L. Karapiro, nesting began in June and reached a peak in July, then continuing till November. 25 nests, one being used twice. Incubation c.31 days; fledging 42 days. Usually 3 chicks hatched and 2 reared to flying. L. Ngaroto, 2 small colonies of 3 and 6 nests (JH & BS). Horseshoe Lake, 10 nests on 21/8; L. Purimu, 22 nests on 18/9 (KVT). Foxton, 67 birds on pylons (JL & MM).

PIED SHAG *P. varius*

Kawhia Hr., 1 winter '78, first seen here (JH & BS). Ulva I., 5 roosting in Sydney Cove, 23/2 (BB).

LITTLE BLACK SHAG *P. sulcirostris*

Whangarei, feeding among moored boats on 3/7; wheezy, guttural calls heard from birds feeding at night, L. Rotoiti, on 9/6 (TGL). BoP, abundant, especially in winter (BG, PCL). Awaaiti Reserve, c.40 prs nesting (PCL). Purangi est., Coromandal, 29 on 14/5 (DWW). Ahuriri, c.120 on 15/4; Ngaruroro est., c.40 on 24/6 (KVT). Petone, 3 on 1/12; 7 from 29/5 to 11/6 (JL & MM).

LITTLE SHAG *P. melanoleucos brevirostris*

Waipu est., max. 23 on 4/6, of which 9 were w.t., 5 l.p., 8 black imm. and 1 smudgy (TGL). Hobson Bay, colony continuously active from August-April, including w.t., l.p. and smudgy birds (MJT). BoP Awaaiti Reserve, 16 prs nesting on 22/10 (PCL). L. Wanaka at Clutha outlet, 16, all w.t., on small boulders (PC).

STEWART ISLAND SHAG *Leucocarbo chalconotus*

Rock off Oban, c.30, half being bronze, on 24/2 (BB).

SPOTTED SHAG *Stictocarbo punctatus*

Vagrants to Far North: 1 at Te Hapua, juv. Feb. '78 (CAF); 1 Opuia also Feb. '78 (DEC). Wanganui est., winter visitor, max. 8 on 16/7 (LJ). Large flocks return at end of May to fish in Tasman Bay; x 100 roosting Pepin Is. (JMH).

BLUE SHAG *S. steadi*

Ulva I., c.150 on offshore islet on 26/2 (BB).

WHITE HERON *Egretta alba*

The usual wide scatter, mostly of single birds, with many reports from BoP and Nelson estuaries. Also Kaimaumau, 9 on 23/8/78 (ATE, KB); Jordan's, Kaipara, 5 on 2/11 (BRK, RBS). Weymouth, April-June, 4 (GS, BJB, KF). L. Whangape, 5+ overwintered at Newby's farm (JC). Haumoana, 3 on 22/12 (JL & MM). Rabbit I., 4 on 24/3 (PCL). L. Forsyth, 6 on 14/8 (AH).

LITTLE EGRET *E. garzetta*

Whangateau, again 2 overwintering (GJHM, SPC). Estuary of Clevedon Wairoa, 1 at least from 23/4-7/6 (GKMCK). Manukau, Parau, 1 on 16/9 (CS); Waiuku, 1 on 9/9 (WR). Ahuriri, 1 on 10/7 and 1/4. Hurimoana, 1 on 28/7 (KVT). Manawatu est., 1 on 20-21/5 (JL & MM). Ohau & L. Horowhenua, 1 on 4/9 (BDH). Rabbit I., 3 on 24/1 (DWW), 2 on 23/2 (PCL).

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

Many reports which are being collated elsewhere. An irruption of some hundreds began in the autumn. Flocks have returned to some old areas and seem to have deserted others. They have also appeared in new areas. One flock in the Lower Waikato had built up to 65 by mid-August.

NANKEEN NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax caledonicus*

L. Wairarapa, one reported near SW corner, spring '77 (DS).

BITTERN *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

Aratapu, 2 feeding on grassland among cattle on 11/9 (ATE). Tokaanu, 9 feeding out on open mud on 1/7 (AP, RWJ, GP). Ryburn's Lagoon, 7 feeding out on water weed on 5/1 (DAL).

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus*

Waipapakauri, L. Ngatu, 3 arrived late April; shy; 2 on 15/5 (Mrs McMillan per ATE). L. Wairarapa, 1 on 26/12 (BDH, DS, MDD). Taumutu, 4 on 18/9, 1 on 13/7 (AH).

WHITE IBIS *Threskiornis molucca*

BoP estuaries and lagoons, 1 all winter '77, last seen on 22/10 (PCL, BG). Manawatu est., 1 from at least 30/12-6/5 (JL & MM).

ROYAL SPOONBILL *Platalea regia*

A lean year in the North. Unahi, 2 winter '78 (ATE, KB). Kaituna, BoP, 1 in Nov. '77. Waitotara est., none from 28/8-16/4 (BDH). Manawatu est., present all months except Sept.; max. 28 on 12/3 (JL & MM). Ahuriri, 4 on 6/8/77 and 10/6/78 (KVT). Appleby marshes 5 on 7/8 (JMH), 16 on 24/3 (PCL). L. Wainono, 1, Feb. '78 (AP).

YELLOW-BILLED SPOONBILL *P. flavipes*

Unahi, 1 on 19/8/78; probably the same bird has now stayed for two years on or near Rangaunu Bay (ATE, KB, A & JP).

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

L. Poukawa, 16 on 14/8 (KVT).

CANADA GOOSE *Branta canadensis*

L. Waikare, bred in '77; 18 on 25/6 (BB, AH). Ahuriri, 10 on 5/11 (KVT). Southland, Waituna, 34+ on 18/2; Dawson Dam, 63 on 19/2; L. Luxmore, 320+ on 12/4; Kakapo Swamp, 11 on 12/4 (RRS).

PARADISE SHELDUCK *Tadorna variegata*

Widespread now in Northland. Paua, 48 on 18/10 (ARL). Waipu, 30 on 5/7 (TGL). Near Bayly's Beach, c.60 on 29/4 (WJC). Muriwai lakes, 49 on 12/2 (SMR). Jordan's, 1 pr on 5/6. Kidd's Bay, 15 on 24/6 (JRH). Tuakau, 12 on 9/7 (AH). Moehau, 1 pr on 16/7 (JH & BS). Matata, 155 on 6/5 (PCL). Kaituna, 7 on 22/4 (BG). Ngaroto, 22 in April. Oparau, 6 on 20/8 (BB, BS). Marakopa, 36 in Feb. (RM), 1 pr on 13/7 (RBS). Tokaanu, 21 on 24/3 (JC). Ahuriri, c.80 on 10/6; Puketitiri, 16 on 6/3; Hurimoana, 57 on 28/8; L. Poukawa, c.20 on 14/8; Horseshoe Lake, 15 on 21/8; L. Hatuma, 40+ on 17/12 (KVT, JL & MM). L. Wairarapa, 19 on 4/2; Papaitonga, 12 on 28/5 (BDH). Rabbit I. marshes, 26 on 24/1 (DWW), c.300 on 24/3 (PCL). Blenheim sewage ponds, 41 on 6/8 (AH). L. Rotoiti (Nelson), c.80 on 7/3; Hawea, c.80 on 12/3; Tekapo, 30 on 12/3, Kingston, 50 on 16/3; Kakanui, 30 on 17/3; Wainono, c.300 on 19/3 (PCL). Te Anau, Lagoon Creek tarns, 800+ on 12/4; Waimatuku, 40 on 17/3 (RRS).

GREY DUCK *Anas superciliosa*

Pure Greys are distinctly scarce Manukau, Firth of Thames (DAU, BB, HRMcK, RBS) and Hawkes Bay (KVT).

GREY TEAL *A. gibberifrons*

Port Whangarei, 4 on 24/6 (WJC). Waipu, 1 on 14/5 (TGL). Muriwai lakes, 32 on 12/2 (SMR). A.M.D.B. ponds, 40+ on 1/5 (JAFJ, RBS). Miranda, 14 on 12/1 (AH), 12 on 29/5 (ARL). Pokeno Valley, Ryburn's Lagoon, c.100 on 26/11, c.200 on 5/1 (DAL). BoP: flocks appear in autumn; Kaituna max. 40 on 22/4; Matata, 53 on 6/5 (PCL). Manawatu est., 6 on 6/5 (JL & MM). Abundant in Hawkes Bay: c.40 at Hurimoana on 28/8; 9 on L. Oingo on 8/10; c.80 at Ahuriri on 12/3 and c.350 on 10/6; c.100 on L. Hatuma, 25/6 (KVT); L. Purima, 26 on 17/12 (BDH). Barton's Lagoon, Martinborough, 34 on 22/1 (FNH). Swan Lagoon, Ohau, 11 on 8-17/12 (KLO). L. Wainono, c.40 on 19/3. Hooper's Inlet, c.40 on 18/3 (PCL). Te Anau, 31+ at Dawson Dam on 12/4 (RRS). Southland lagoons, 49 on 30/7.

BROWN TEAL *Anas chlorotis*

Gairloch, Fiordland, 2 on 21/3 (JVM).

N.Z. SHOVELER *A. rhynchos*

Near Bayly's Beach, 20+ on 29/4; Port Whangarei, 13+ on 14/5 (WJC). Muriwai lakes, 34 on 12/2 (SMR). Manukau, a few frequent A.M.D.B. and farm ponds (RBS). Pokeno Valley, Ryburn's Lagoon, c.300 on 24/9; c.200 on 26/11 (DAL). Hamilton Lake, 4 on 9/5 (JC). BoP, visits all suitable waters: Matata, c.150, May '78 (PCL). Manawatu est., c.10 on 7/5 (JL & MM). Foxton No. 2, c.50. Thriving in Hawkes Bay: c.30 on Tutaeke on 16/7; L. Poukawa, c.40 on 14/8; Horseshoe Lake, 5 on 21/8; L. Oingo, 21 on 8/10;

L. Hatuma, 40 on 25/6 (KVT). L. Horowhenua, c.100 on 6/5; 300+ on 16/6, some white-breasted (EBJ). Papaitonga, 1 white-breasted drake on 10/5 (BDH). L. Heron, young seen (BB). Southland lagoons, few on 30/7 (RRS). Middlemarch, Salt Lake, 11 on 24/9. Te Anau, near Terrace, 1 pr, June '78 (JVM).

BLUE DUCK *Hymenolaimus malacorhynchus*

Kaimai Range, Soldiers' Rd, 1 seen 1977 (J. Cheyne per BB). Mckau Falls, 1 on 14/1; Aniwanuiwa bridge, 7 on 15/1 (WJC). Okupata Stream, Tongariro, pr with 3 ducklings on 3/1 (CS). N. of Raetihi, Manganu-a-teau, 3 on 29/1 (FNH). Whangapeka, 3 on Stony Creek; 1 on Taipo on 27/1 (RH). Mikonui R., pr at mouth of Tube River gorge, winter '78 (RHS). Fiordland, seen or heard Pointburn Valley, Kenneth Burn, Kintail Hut (JVM).

N.Z. SCAUP *Aythya novaeseelandiae*

Roundhill Lake, 30+ on 4/7; Kahuparere, Pouto, 6 on 26/3 (WJC). Muriwai lakes, scarce (SMR). BoP, small flocks visit open waters, e.g. Awaiti Reserve, 20 on 25/6 (PCL). L. Tarawera, c.200 on 25/9, Waikareiti, 25 on 19/1 (WJC, P & KM). Karapiro, 32 on 2/10 (DAL). Wanganui, L. Kaitoke, 5 April-June '78 (LJ). Horse-shoe Lake, 30 on 21/8; Hurimoana, c. 50 on 28/8; L. Oingo, 28 on 8/10 (KVT). Kaikoura, L. Rotorua, 3 prs with young, Feb. '78 (AP). L. McGregor, 60+ on 2/2 (ARL) and 100+ mid-Feb. with many young (BB). L. Orbell, pr + 3 young on 12/2 (JVM).

HARRIER *Circus approximans*

Papakura, one chased off by a N.Z. Pigeon on 6/7 (BB). Wakapatu Beach, Southland, 10/5, one cruised to sea from sandhills, gained height rapidly, and flew towards Stewart I. at about 750 m (H. & W. M. Jukes).

N.Z. FALCON *Falco novaeseelandiae*

N.I. Urewera Nat. Pk., 1 on 26/1 (P & KM, WJC). Kaingaroa, 1 on 3/1 (PCL). Recorded winter '78, Pirongia (BB) and Waitomo (RBS). S.I. Little Wanganui R., 1 on 28/1 (RH). 1 on Mt Arthur above 3000 m (JMH). Middlemarch, Gladbrook, 1 often seen winter '77 (JVM). Blackmount, nest, 3 chicks on 20/12 (RRS). Harihari, 1 chasing small passerines out of bush, winter '78 (RHS).

BROWN QUAIL *Synoicus ypsilophorus*

Manukau, Awhitu, Coromandel, BoP, widely but thinly distributed, e.g. 3 coveys totalling 14; several coveys totalling c.40 (DWW, PCL, BB). L. Rotoiti, Okataina turn-off, 1 pr on 16/7 (AP).

WEKA *Gallirallus australis*

Birds from Rawhiti re-introduction have spread N. to Deepwater Cove and SW to Opua (DEC). Rawhiti, very noisy at 3 a.m. during electrical storm (MPK). Waipu est., increasing; Kawau I., calling on 5/2 (TGL). Ulva I., common; Golden Bay, 2 seen, 23/2 (BB).

MARSH CRAKE *Porzana pusilla*

L. Tiniroto, quite a few on 1/5 (AB). Ngatea, Rotorua, 1 on 15/4 (AP). Awarua Bay, in two places (RRS).

SPOTLESS CRAKE *P. tabuensis*

Aorangi, Poor Knights, widespread and feeding on forest floor (PMS). Tiritiri, thriving as the island reverts (John Craig). L. Rotoiti, several at Waiiti on 9/6 (TGL). Rotorua, Ngatea, 1 on 15/4 (AP). Hawera, 2 on farm pond, 12/12 (BDH). Aotea Hr, 2 prs in causeway swamp (BS, BB).

PUKEKO *Porphyrio melanotus*

Whangaparaka Pen., A.R.A. Seaside Park, up to 160 (RBS). Herne Bay, 2 and 8 flying over at night (TGL). Ahuriri, 88 on 10/7 (KVT).

COOT *Fulica atra*

Scarce north of Hamilton: L. Pupuke, 1 on 28/11 (JFW). Hamilton Lake, at least 3 pairs nested (BS), 21 on 26/5 (JC). Colonising more lakes on Volcanic Plateau: Rotoiti, Okewa Bay to Okere Falls, 108 on 22/7 (AP); L. Tarawera, 20 on 25/9 (PCL) and 20+ on 26/10 (CAF, RBS). Virginia Lake, c. 70 on 28/4; L. Kaitoke, breeding, chicks seen Dec. '76 (LJ). Elterwater, 1 on 4/2 (ARL). L. Heron, 6 on 10/2; L. Emma, 1 (BB). L. McGregor, 12 on 2/2 (ARL). Frankton, 1 on 16/3 (PCL).

S.I. PIED OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus ostralegus finschi*

Paua, 40, Aug. '77; 22 in November; up to 40 in March '78; 45 in April and still 40 on 23/7 (ATE). Whangarei Hr survey, 1502 on 11/3 (MPK). N. of Roundhill on coast, 59 on 27/3 (WJC). Waipu, 8 on 6/7 (TGL). Kaipara survey on 25/3, c.13 000. Occupying fresh bays and inlets in Waitemata and Manukau in search of new feeding grounds, e.g. Shoal Bay, Parau, Mill Bay, Cornwallis (CS, JFW). Manukau census, 4594 on 13/11; 19 586 on 31/7; F.o.T., 1998 on 30/10; 7506 on 25/6 (BB *et al.*). Reclamation at Thames 1200+ on 25/2 (RBS), c.4500 on 16/5 (DWW). Kawhia, 1678; Aotea Hr, 250 on 25/2 (JH & BS). B.o.P. survey, only 144, 11-13/1/78. Bowentown, 155 on 15/3 (JC). Wanganui est., max.29 April-May '78 (LJ). Manawatu est., max. 75, 11/3-8/4 (JL & MM). Ahuriri, 17 on 12/3 (KVT). Waikanae, 17 on 22/5 (CAF, RBS). Heathcote-Avon est., 1000+ in Feb.; Karitane, c.50; Waitati, 1200; Haldane, c.60; Fortrose, c.120 (BB). Southland lagoons, 1056 on 30/7, 1013 on 27/12 (RRS, MLB).

VARIABLE OYSTERCATCHER *H. unicolor*

Te Werahi Beach, nest c/2 on 13/2 (CAF). Paua, between Aug. '77 and March '78 numbers (? sub-adult non-breeders) ranged from 20-35 (ATE). Waipu est., max. 67 on 29/7; 45 on 6/7/78 (TGL). Roundhill, 50+ on 31/12 (WJ, JCC). Mercury Bay, 30 mid-May (DWW). Rangiputa Bank, 7 on 31/10; a nest c/3 (JHS). Whangarei Hr, 64 on 11/3 (WJC). Bowentown, 17 (10 black, 7 smudgy) on 25/3 (JC). Sulphur Pt., max. 47 (KF). Kaituna, 53 on 5/3 (AP). Gisborne, Waikanae Creek, 10 (9 black, 1 smudgy) July '78 (AB). Raglan, 2 prs on 18/3 (RBS). Kawhia, 2 on 25/2 (JHS). Manawatu est. max. c.10 on 31/12 (JL & MM). Port Underwood, 3 on 26/1; Robin Hood Bay, 2 (DWW).

SPUR-WINGED PLOVER *Lobibyx novaehollandiae*

N.I. N. of Parengarenga, Shenstone Farm (3000 acres), W. Wymer reported 2 or more present spring '77 and later 7 or 8, some mobbing a Harrier; 2 on 3/4 (per MPK & ATE). Miranda, 1 from

at least 30/10 to 21/1 (RBS, AH). Near Tokoroa, 2 from at least 7/3 to 23/4 (J. C. Davenport). Rangikura, Waverley, 3; L. Waikato, Waitotara, 2 on 11/12, 3 on 15/4 (BDH). L. Kaitoke, 2 on 15/7 (LJ). Manawatu est., 7 on 2/1; Foxton No. 2, 2 prs on 3/6; Tangimoana, 4 on 12/3 (JL & MM). Ahuriri, 4 on 13/11; L. Hatuma, 2 on 20/11 (BDH) and 25/6 (KVT, CS). Carterton, 4 on 2/4; Waikawa Beach, Manakau, 2 on 12/5 (BDH). S.I. Rabbit I., 2 on 24/1 (DWW). L. Pearson, 3 on 7/2 (ARL). L. Tekapo, 10+ on 12/2; L. Waitaki, 15 on 13/2; Wainono and Hook Swamp, 25 (BB). Southland lagoons, 257 on 30/7; 122 on 27/12; Waimatuku, 90+ on 17/3 (RRS, MLB).

More data desirable on post-nuptial flocking.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

Paua, 1, Nov. '77 (ATE). Karaka, 1 on 13/8/78 (RC). Farewell Spit, 4 in Feb. '78 (AP, MDD, HAR); perhaps the same as seen a year before, i.e. 4 in Jan. '77.

EASTERN GOLDEN PLOVER *P. dominica fulva*

Paua, 350 during Nov. '77; later c.200; Jan. & Feb. c.100 (ATE). Whangarei, 3 on 11/3. Kaipara survey, c.50 on 25/3. Manukau Hr, only 5 on census 13/11; but 29 at Kidd's Bay on 15/1 (KF); c.40 on 12/2 (RBS, JAFI) and 37 on 30/3 (MJT, BB). Firth of Thames, 96 on 30/10, mostly at southern end; odd ones seen in late summer at Miranda (BB, RBS). B.o.P., only 62 on summer survey in mid-Jan.: viz. Kaituna 11, Little Waihi 16, Ohiwa 32, Matahui Pt 3 (ATE *et al.*). Welcome Bay, 14 over the summer (KF). Ahuriri, 13 on 12/3 (KVT). Porangahau, 5 on 20/11 (BDH *et al.*). Westshore, c.20 on 19/12; Tangimoana, 1 on 12/3; Manawatu est., max. 2 (JL & MM). Rangitikei est., 4 on 17/1 (BDH). Fortrose, 7 on 25/2 (SLL).

NEW ZEALAND DOTTEREL *Charadrius obscurus*

Te Werahi Beach, c/3, hatching on 13/2 (CAF). Paua, no large flocks found (ATE). Rangiputa Bank, 16 on 31/10 (JHS). Roundhill Stream, occurs both N. & S. 10+ on 17/6 (WJC). Port Whangarei, 15 on 10/3 (MPK); 28 on 24/6 (WJC). Waipu, max. 44 on 14/5 (TGL). Miranda, max. 16 (BB). Manukau winter census, 23 (BB). Bowentown, 8 on 25/3 (JC). Kaituna Cut, 15 on 19/3 (AP). Ohope Spit, 48 on 30/4; 20 on 25/6 (RW). B.o.P. survey, c.70 in mid-Jan. (ATE). Opoutere, c.20 on 9/4 (BB). Kawhia-Aotea summer census, 6 (JH & BS). Farewell Spit, 1 mid-Feb. (AP). Awarua Bay, 5 on 27/12 (RRS).

BANDED DOTTEREL *C. bicinctus*

Paua, 370 in July '77; c.100 August; c.100 Jan.; c.500 Feb.; 200+ March & April; c.100 on 23/7; c.150 on 22/8, finely banded (ATE). Whangarei Hr survey, 355 on 11/3 (MPK). Waipu, 22 on 16/2; 23 on 14/5 (TGL). Roundhill, 12+ on 27/3 (WJC). Whangateau, 16+ on 7/5/77 (RBS). Kaipara survey, c.450 in March (CRV, BB). Manukau, 783 on winter census '78; F.o.T., max. c.100 on 16/3 (BB, RBS). Waikato est., c.50 on 21/5 (JRH). Bowentown, 215 on 25/3 (JC). Ohope, 274 on 30/4; 68 on 25/6 (RW). B.o.P. survey, c.220 in mid-Jan. (ATE). Kawhia, 91 on 25/2; 70 on 8/7 (JH & BS). Hawkes Bay, frequents all riverbeds and most beaches. Tutaekuri est., c.50 on 13/2 (KVT). Wanganui est., max. 27 on 18/3 (LJ). Rangitikei est., 40+ on 17/1 (BDH). Manawatu est., max. c.60 on 25/4

(JL & MM). Waikanae est., 21 on 22/5 (CAF, RBS). Tekapo and Cass River, still common in mid-Feb. A few at Swan Lagoon and L. Waitaki. L. Wainono, 20+ (BB, PJ). Southland lagoons, 32 on 30/7; 131 on 22/5 (RRS, MLB).

More counts of autumn and winter flocks would be welcome.

MONGOLIAN DOTTEREL *C. mongolus*

Kidd's Bay, Karaka, 1 from 13/11-22/3. When last seen, it was developing breeding plumage and was trilling and displaying to Banded Dotterels (BB).

LARGE SAND DOTTEREL *C. leschenaulti*

Paua, 1 in Nov. '77; 1 on 26/2 assuming breeding dress (ATE). Waipu, 1 from 2/2 to 16/2 (TGL). Karaka, 2 on 15/1; colouring by 29/3 (KF); and more coloured on 25/4; probably sub-adult (BB). Farewell Spit, 2 mid-Feb. (AP *et al.*).

BLACK-FRONTED DOTTEREL *C. melanops*

Kaituna, B.o.P., 2 on 11/9; 1 on 13/5 (PCL). Waitotara est., 1 on 16/4 (BDH, WFC). Wanganui est., 1 on 22/9/73 (LJ). Manawatu est., 1 on 20/5 (JL & MM). Southland, Waituna, 1 on 28/11 (RRS). Mataura I., 1 on 20/12 (L. Richards).

WRYBILL *Anarhynchus frontalis*

Paua, March '78, 80+; early April, 110; 20 on 23/7 (ATE). Roundhill Stream, 2 on 27/4; coast W. of Dargaville, c.10 on 9/5 (WJC). Port Whangarei, 120 on 11/3 (MPK); 120+ on 24/6 (WJC). Kaipara autumn survey, c.376 on 26/3 (CRV, BB). Manukau Hr, only 25 on summer census 13/11; winter population perhaps 1500, based on three roosting areas (a) Puketutu and A.M.D.B.; 500+ all winter; 602 on census, 23/7; small flocks crossing isthmus to Tamaki est. and upper Waitemata, e.g. c.40 on 2/7/78 (Rod Hay); (b) Wiroa I. and hovercraft ramp, c.80 on 3/9 (DWW); c.650 on 6/2; c.580 on 7/3 (RVJC, JAFJ, RBS); (c) Karaka, 550 on 24/6 (JRH). F.o.T., 289 on 30/10; 3817 on 25/6 (BB *et al.*). Port Waikato, 20 on 26/2 (AH); 24 on 21/5 (JRH). Sulphur Pt, Tauranga, max. 141 winter '78 (KF). Kaituna, 12 on 5/3, 38 on 16/4 (AP); 33 on 13/5 (PCL). B.o.P. survey, 45 in mid-Jan. (ATE). Gisborne, Muriwai Lagoon, 61 on 9/7/78, biggest local tally (AB). Ahuriri, 1 on 1/4; Ngaruroro, 3 on 16/7, 2 on 27/5 (KVT). Porangahau est., 8 on 20/11 (BDH, MDD, HAR). Manawatu est., max. 32 on 11/3 (JL & MM). Ohau, 14 on 4/9 & 15/10; 3 on 5/11. L. Wairarapa, 1 on 4/2 (BDH).

FAR-EASTERN CURLEW *Numenius madagascariensis*

Paua, 4 on 15/10; 7 on 18/10 (ARL); 5, 14/11-28/1; 3 on 26/2 (ATE). Jordan's, 1 on 25/3 (RBS). Karaka, 1 overwintering 20/7 (SMR) and throughout summer till 30/3 (BB, MJT). F.o.T., 8 on 17/9, 11 on 14/2 (AH, HRMcK). Kawhia, 4 on 25/2 (JH & BS). Kaituna-Maketu, 2 on 9/10; 4 from 22/10 to 19/2 (PCL); 1 overwintering '78 (AP). Ohiwa, 1 on 13/1 (RBS). Manawatu est., up to 3, 8/10-9/4 (JL & MM). Farewell Spit, 13 mid-Feb. (AP). Southland lagoons, 1 on 27/12 (RRS). Fortrose, 1 on 25/2 (SLL).

ASIATIC WHIMBREL *N. phaeopus variegatus*

Paua, 4 on 20/10 (ARL); 9 on 3/11 (JHS); 23 on 28/1; 1 in April (ATE). Kaipara, 20 on 26/3 (AH, BB). Karaka, 2 on 13/11; 4 on 29/1 and 30/3 (BB, MJT). F.o.T., 19 on 30/10 (DAL); 1 overwintering on 25/6. Kawhia, 7 on 25/1 (JH & BS). B.o.P., 11 mid-

Jan., including 9 at Ohiwa (ATE, BB). Kaituna, 1 overwintering '78 (AP); Ohope, 2 on 25/6 (RW). Ahuriri, 2 on 17/12 and over summer (KVT). Farewell Spit, 13+ on 19/3.

AMERICAN WHIMBREL *N. p. hudsonicus*

Paua, 2 on 13/10 (JHS); 1 on 28/11, 2 on 28/1 (ATE). Jordan's, 3 on 12/3 (AH, BJB, BB). Karaka, 1 on 16/10 and probably on 26/11 (BB).

WHIMBREL (subsp. ?)

Miranda, 1 on 29/5 (ARL). Westshore, 1 on 20/12 (KVT). Invercargill est., 2 on 27/12 (RRS).

ASIATIC BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa melanuroides*

Port Whangarei, 1 on 24 & 25/6 (WJC, MKT). Nelson Haven, 1 suspected on 7/6 (JMH).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *L. haemastica*

Paua, 1 early April (JRH, RJP). Whangarei, 2 on 11/3 (MPK).

EASTERN BAR-TAILED GODWIT *L. lapponica baueri*

Paua, c.3000 on 3/11; 2750 on 28/1; x 100 end of March-mid-April; c.100 July '78 (ATE). Port Whangarei, 1237 on 11/3 (MPK), c.55 on 24/6 (WJC). Rangiputa, c.3000 on 31/10 (JH & BS). Round-hill, 24 on 27/3 (WJC). Waipu, max. 36 on 16/2; 13 overwintering '78 (TGL). Jordan's, 4000 in Nov. (RBS). Kaipara, c.5200, autumn survey 25-26/3/78. Manukau, summer census, c.19 000 on 13/11; overwintering 1852 on 23/7. F.o.T., 4873 on 30/10; only 520 on 25/6 (BB *et al.*). Kawhia, 2509 on 25/2; c.100 on 8/7 (JH & BS). B.o.P. summer survey in mid-Jan., c.12 500, from Tauranga Hr. c.7450; Ohiwa c.3600; Kaituna c.1000; Little Waihi, 450 (ATE, RW *et al.*). Ohope, c.320 on 25/6 overwintering (RW). Ahuriri, c.50 overwintering '77; c.400 on 12/3. Tutaeakuri, c.60 on 24/6 (KVT). Westshore, 550+ on 20/12 (JL & MM). Wanganui est., max. 60 in March (LJ). Manawatu est., max. 420 on 11/3 (JL & MM). Porangahau, 150+ on 19-20/11 (BDH, MDD, HAR). L. Wairarapa, 8 on 4/2, 4 on 8/4. Ohau, max 11 on 15/10 (BDH). Nelson Haven, c.800 during summer; increase in early March; c.100 overwintering (JMH). Appleby marshes, 32 on 24/3. Okarito, 4 on 9/3 (PCL). Waitati est., c.500 on 16/2 (BB). Hooper's Inlet, c.20 on 18/3 (PCL). Southland lagoons, c.870 overwintered '77; 2435 on 27/12 (RRS). Fortrose, 131 on 25/2 (SLL).

GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

Te Werahi stream, just S. of C. Reinga, 1 on 13/2 (CAF). B.o.P., 1 near Matahui Pt on 27/11 and mid-Jan. (AP, PCL, BG). Manawatu est., 1 overwintering 20/4 - 4/6 (JL & MM). L. Wairarapa, 1 on 4/2 (BDH). Southland lagoons, 1 on 15/10 & 9/1 (MLB, RRS). Chatham I., 1 on 1/1/78 (RNT).

SIBERIAN TATTLER *T. brevipes*

Paua, 2 on 14/11 (ATE). Waipu, 1, 16/2 to 14/5 (TGL). Miranda, 2 early April (JRH, RJP). Kaituna, B.o.P., 1 from Dec. to March; later 1 in breeding dress on 28/5 (AP, PCL). Kawhia, 1 overwintering '78 (JHS). Farewell Spit, 1 mid-Feb. '78 (AP). Southland, Awarua Bay, 2 on 15/10 and 3 on 9/1 (?sp.) (MLB).

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus*

Karaka, 1 from 6/2 to 22/4 (BB, MJT, RBS). Wiroa I., 1 on 25/3 (DWW, SMR). F.o.T., 2 overwintered '77 (RBS); 3 on 23/9; 5 on 7/1 (AH); 4 still on 11/4 (BB, BHS). 1 on 12/5 (ARL). Ohope, 1 in spring '77, first B.o.P. record (RW).

TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

Paua, c.600 in Oct., rising 674 on 19/10 (ARL), to 900 in Jan. (ATE). "Tremendous flock" ?3000 on 1/4 (RJP, JRH); c.700 on 11/4 (ATE). Rangiputa, c.550 on 31/10 (JHS). Waipu, usually some, max. 38 on 2/2; 3 on 14/5 (TGL). Kaipara survey, c.320, 25-26/3 (CRV). North Head, Pouto, 3 on 9/5 (WJC). Manukau, 560 on 13/11 but 585 at Kidd's Bay alone on 29/3 (BB); 55 on 23/7/78 winter census. F.o.T., c.300 on 9/10 (DAL); 236 on 30/10, summer census; 24 on 25/6 overwintering (BB *et al.*). B.o.P. summer survey, c.270, mostly near N. end. Bowentown, 255 on 25/3 (JC). Manawatu est., up to 5, from 30/10 to 24/1. Westshore, 1 on 20/12 (JL & MM). Ngauroro est., up to 4, Nov. '77 (KVT). L. Grassmere, 39; Kaikoura, c.50 on 9/2 (BB, PJ). Southland lagoons, 341 on 30/7, overwintering; 914 on 27/12 (RRS). Fortrose, 84 on 25/2 (SLL).

KNOT *Calidris canutus*

Paua, c.3000 on 3/11, decreasing to only c.200 in Jan. and c.100 Feb.-March; c.140 on 23/7 overwintering (ATE). Rangiputa, c.4000 on 31/10 (JHS). Waipu, regular in summer, max. 167 on 10/3 (TGL). Kaipara autumn survey, 8000+ on 25-26/3 (CRV, BB). Jordan's, 250 on 5/6. Manukau, 5600 on 13/11, summer census, but 12 000 in Kidd's Bay at end of March and 1500 still on 25/4 (BB, RBS); only 704 on winter census '78; but 2000 towards end of July (KF). B.o.P. summer survey, only 7, the usual puzzling story; and they were at Kaituna where there had been 26 on 15/10 and where 6 on 11/6/78 were overwintering (PCL). Bowentown, 1 on 25/3 (JC). F.o.T., 3006 on 30/10; only 37 on winter census on 25/6 (BB *et al.*). Kawhia, 16 on 25/2 (JH & BS). Wanganui est., 2, Nov. '77 (LJ). Manawatu est., present 25/9-23/4, max. c.75 on 4/12 (JL & MM). Ahuriri, 7 on 5/11/77 (KVT). Porangahau, 30 on 19-20/11 (BDH, MDD, HAR). L. Wairarapa, 4 on 4/2. Ohau, 1 on 15/10; 11 on 16/10; 2 on 5/11 (BDH). Southland lagoons, 118 on 27/12; Little Waituna, 110 on 18/2 (MLB, RRS). Fortrose, 94 on 25/2 (SLL).

SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER *C. acuminata*

Paua, after last year's record tally, only 1 found, on 14/11 (ATE). Whangarei Hr, 4 on 11/3 (MPK). Karaka, 3 from Nov. to Jan.; later 1 (BB). F.o.T., 1 on 23/9; 4 on 30/10 (RBS); 18 on 4/2 (AH); 13 on 16/3 (HRMcK, BB, RBS). Kaituna, max. 9, 26/2 and into March (AP, BG); 1 on 22/4 (PCL). Ahuriri, 14 on 28/11 (KVT). Manawatu est., up to 4, 8/10-9/4 (JL & MM). L. Wairarapa, 6 on 26/12 & 4/2; 4 on 8/4 (BDH, DS, MDD). Farewell Spit, 3 mid-Feb. (AP). Southland lagoons, 16 on 27/12 (RRS).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *C. melanotos*

Miranda, 1 on 30/1 (BB), 2 on 14/2 (PCL) and possibly 4 (AH). Maketu, 1 dark sandpiper continually harassed by the local Sharptails; but identity not confirmed (AH, PCL). Ahuriri, 1 on 12/3 (KVT). L. Wairarapa, 1 on 26/12 & 4/2 (BDH).

CURLEW SANDPIPER *C. ferruginea*

Paua, c.40 on 1/11 (JHS); 20+ on 28/11, then up to 12 till 11/4 (ATE). Gt. Exhibition Bay, 5 on 29/1 at stream mouth (MPK). Whangarei, 1 on 11/3 (MPK). Kidd's Bay, 1 overwintering on 4/6 (DAL); on 30/9, a flock of c.25, flashing white-rumps, clearly seen (BB, BJB); but evidently moved on. F.o.T., 23 or more overwintered. Influx in Sept., c.50 on 22/9, 50+ on 19/10 (HRMcK, JH & BS); 53 on 7/1; 47 on 4/2 (AH). 33, some well coloured, still on 12/5 (ARL). Manawatu est., 2 on 15/10 (JL & MM).

RED-NECKED STINT *C. ruficollis*

Paua, 14 on 3/11 (JHS). 6+ throughout summer, some on 25/3 being well coloured. 1 on 23/7/78 overwintering (ATE). Rangiputa, 1 on 31/10 (JHS). Kidd's Bay, some overwintered. 12-14 throughout summer, but 2 of these were 'difficult' (BB, RBS, JAFJ); 10 still on 22/4; 6 overwintered (BB). Miranda, 8 on 30/10 and all summer till 11/3 (ARL); 3 on 30/4 (BB). Kaituna, 2 in Jan. AP); 6 on summer survey (ATE). Rangitikei est., 2 on 17/1 (BDH). Farewell Spit, 13 in mid-Feb. '78 (AP). L. Grassmere, 3 on 9/2 (BB).

SANDERLING *C. alba*

Waituna, 1 on 14/2 (AP).

PIED STILT *Himantopus leucocephalus*

Paua: in spring numbers declined from 100 to 31 on 28/11; 250 by 28/1 and 800 by 28/3; 800+ on 23/7/78 (ATE). Whangarei, 632 on 11/3 (MPK). Waipu, max. 30 on 14/5 (TGL). Kaipara autumn survey, c.6100, 25-26/3 (CRV, BB). Manukau, 1344 on 13/11; 2790 on 23/7. F.o.T., 255 on 30/10; 2487 on 25/6 (BB, RBS). Kawhia & Aotea, 260 on 25/2; 102 on 8/7 (JH & BS). Waitomo, prs back in paddocks on 13/7. B.o.P. summer survey, 2345 (ATE). Wanganui est., max. 280, winter '78 (LJ). Manawatu est., max. c.200, 11-25 Feb. (JL & MM). L. Wairarapa, c.650 on northern mudflats, 4/2 (BDH). L. Grassmere, c. 200 Feb. '78; low numbers elsewhere in S.I. in Feb. (BB). Kaituna, L. Ellesmere, 278 on 14/8 (AH). Swan Lagoon, Ohau, 84 on 8-17/12/77 (KLO). Little Waituna, 112+ on 18/2 (MLB).

BLACK STILT *H. novaezealandiae*

Jordan's, 3 smudgies on 12/3 (BB). Wiroa I., 1 on 15/1 (RVJC) and 1 smudgy on 7/3 (RBS). Karaka, 2 on 25/4. Miranda, 1 on 25/6, all smudgy (BB). Kawhia, only 1 all winter '78 (JHS). Tokaanu, 1 smudgy, 1-15/1 (AP). Nelson Haven, 1, Nov. (GQ). Kaituna, L. Ellesmere, 1 on 30/7 (AH). L. McGregor, 1 on 7/2 (ARL). Smudgies seen at Grassmere and Wainono (BB). Lower Waiau, 1 on 28/3 (H. Morris per RRS). Glenmore, 1 on 12/3 (PCL). Swan Lagoon, Ohau, 11, incl. 3 smudgies, on 8-17/12 (KLO).

ORIENTAL PRATINCOLE *Glareola maldivarum*

Raoul I., 1 on 28-31/5/76 (L. Andrews per JAB).

SOUTHERN SKUA *Catharacta lonnbergi*

1 off C. Karikari on 11/5; probably this, possibly *maccormicki* (TGL).

POMARINE SKUA *Stercorarius pomarinus*

Te Awanga, 1 light-phase imm. on 20/12 (JL & MM). Farewell Spit, 2 in Feb. '78 (AP). Off Punakaiki, 1 on 4/2 (DO).

ARCTIC SKUA *S. parasiticus*

Bayly's Beach, 1 on 26/12. Kaipara Heads, 1 on 31/12; 5 on 9/5 (WJC). Foxton Beach, max. 4 on 8/4. Te Awanga, up to 10, 18-21/12 (JL & MM). Napier S., 2 on 19/11 (KVT). Punakaiki R., 3 on 4/2 (DO).

SOUTHERN BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus dominicanus*

Napier, c.3000 near sewage outfall on 18/2. L. Hatuma, 10 on 25/6 (KVT).

RED-BILLED GULL *L. novaehollandiae scopulinus*

Numerous between Three Kings and mainland on 10/5 (TGL). Rangiputa, c.660 nest-building, 12 nests with eggs on 31/10 (JHS). Hikinui I., Opoutere, a few nesting on 27/12 (BB). East Clive, c.60 on 18/2; Ngaruroro, c.200 on 24/6 (KVT). Otago Hr, x 1000 feeding on krill, 13/3 (PCL).

BLACK-BACKED GULL *L. bulleri*

Manukau, up to 8, 14-26/11 (KF); 1 on 5/6. F.o.T., 81 on 30/10; no nesting confirmed this summer (BB, RBS); 420 on 25/6. B.o.P. summer survey, 32 all at Ohiwa on 13/1 (ATE, PCL). Tarawera est., winter visitor, up to 11 (PCL). Kawhia, 3 on 25/2 (JH & BS). East Clive, c.200 on 18/2. Ngaruroro est., c.600 on 24/6 (KVT). Small numbers all seasons from Turakina to Otaki (JL & MM, BDH). L. Wairarapa, 122 on 4/2 (BDH). L. Wainono outlet, x 100; Waitaki est., x 1000; All Day Bay, 5000, mid-Feb. (BB). Southland, October survey '77, 37 breeding colonies visited, 3 missed on Eglinton R. Est. c. 75 000 breeding pairs (RRS).

BLACK-FRONTED TERN *Chlidonias albostratus*

B.o.P., 25 on 17/7 at Tarawera est.; 5 on 14/8; then 2 on 12/3; 16 on 25/6 and 27 inland near Awaiti Reserve. Matata, c.40 inland during gale on 18/6 — all told, c.58 wintering in the district (PCL). Ngaruroro est., c.45 on 24/6 (KVT). Manawatu est., 1 on 25/4 (JL & MM). Waikanae est., c.70 on 22/5 (CAF, RBS). Rough I., mid-Feb. up to 16 (JMH, PDG). Motueka, 2 offshore on 13/6 (JMH). Kaikoura, 2 on 9/2. McKenzie country, few; but c.70 on L. Waitaki on 13/2. Wainono, 3 on 14/2; Waitati est., 1 on 16/2 (BB). Mossburn, 132+ coming downstream to roost on Oreti riverbank at 4.35 p.m. on 12/4. Waimatuku, 70+ on 17/3 (MLB).

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *C. leucopterus*

Miranda, 1 on 16/11 (HRMcK, BB). B.o.P., Kaituna, 1 on 9 & 15/10 (AP, PCL). Manawatu est., 1 on 12/3 (JAB). Pauatahanui, 1 on 12/2 (Mrs I. McArthur per JAB). Nelson Haven, 1 on 10/1 (JMH). Waimea est., 2 in mid-Jan. (PDG).

GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Jordan's, 3 seen several times between July '77 and June '78 resting with Caspian and Little Terns on edge of wader-pack or feeding over paddocks (DFB, SPC, BRK, RBS, JRH). Waiuku sandspit, 1 on 11/8 (BB). Southland, Awarua Bay, 1 on 11/2 (RRS). Eight-mile Beach, Westland, 1 on 5/8 (DO).

CASPIAN TERN *Hydroprogne caspia*

Rangipita, c.138 — 31 nests c/1-3; some broken eggs; some scrapes on 31/10 (JH & BS). Waipu est. max. 7 on 14/5 (TGL). Roundhill Stream, c.85 on 31/12; 32 on 27/4 (WJC, JCC). Manukau, 78 on 13/11; 158 on 23/7: F.o.T., 23 on 30/10; 80 on 25/6 (SMR, BB). Waikato est., 90 in a tight group on 25/9; c.100 nests on 19/11 and c.200 adults in attendance; c.200, including c.100 flying young; also 9 almost flying, 1 chick and 7 nests, each c/2 on 15/1 (DAL). B.o.P. summer survey c.250 (ATE). Sulphur Pt, Tauranga, 131 on 26/2; 80 on 26/6 (KF). Rotorua Silica Flats, 46 on 20/4. Whakamaru 2, Kuratau on 9/7 (AP). Ahuriri, 7 on 1/4 (KVT). Kawhia-Aotea, 103, Feb. '78 (JH & BS). Manawatu est., max. 32 on 11/3 (JL & MM). Kaitorete Spit, 1 pr c/1 on 19/11 (AH). Southland lagoons 30/7/77, 8 (RRS). Woodend, 57 prs breeding; 38 chicks banded (MLB).

ANTARCTIC TERN *Sterna vittata*

Port Pegasus, 1 pr seen western end; 3 prs in Islet Cove; breeding proved on 12/1/78 (NC).

FAIRY TERN *S. nereis*

Waipu est., present at all seasons, 2 on 29/7/77; 3 on 6/7/78 (TGL). Tauranga, Sulphur Pt, 1 all year, associating with Little Terns but not quite of them and sometimes rebuffed (KF, BG).

LITTLE TERN *Sterna albifrons*

Rangiputa Bank, 43 on 31/10 (JH & BS). Kaipara: Jordan's, up to 7 in Nov. (RBS); autumn survey, 44, 25/26/3 (CRV); Tabora, 8 on 11/5 (BG, RH). Manukau: Kidd's Bay, up to 13, Jan.-March (KF); Yates Dam and Hihi Creek, 7 on 12/4 (JAFJ, RBS). F.o.T., 6 on 30/10 and over summer; 4 on 30/4; 1 on 25/6 (BB). B.o.P.: Sulphur Pt, 8-10, Nov. '77 to May '78 (KF); summer survey in mid-Jan., 13, 5 being at Ohiwa (ATE). Manawatu est., 3 on 24/10; 1 on 6/11 (JL & MM). Pauatahanui, 1, 31/10 - 2/11 (AG, BDH). Motueka spit, 3 on 6/2 (AP). Karamea, 1 dead, 10/9 (N. Stopforth).

WHITE-FRONTED TERN *S. striata*

Rangiputa Bank, 100+ on 31/10, no eggs (JHS). Waipu est., max. c.200 on 14/5 (TGL). Roundhill, c.650 and a colony of c.100 prs on 31/12 (WJC). Mercury Bay, 320 on 15/5 (DWW). F.o.T., E. coast S. of Coromandel Hr, c.70 nests on 10/12 (J. McCallum). Whatipu, 1500+, very excitable on 19/9 (RBS). B.o.P., big feeding flock stretching from Maketu to Little Waihi, with compact groups of Fluttering Shearwaters, on 4/5 (KF). Rotorua, 1 after gale on 20/4 (AP). Ngaruroro est., colony of 600 dwindled to 8 and one chick by end of Dec. (KVT). Manawatu est., max. 150 on 4/12 and 25/2 (JL & MM). L. Wainono, Waitaki est., Karitane x 100 in mid-Feb. Stewart I., c.450 feeding off Ackers Pt, as well as 300, including young clamouring for food, on rocks (BB). Woodend, Invercargill est., 30+ nests on 26/12 (MLB).

WHITE TERN *Gygis alba*

Palmerston North, 1, June '72, reported by O. Burmeister, flying round D.I.C. building (per JAB).

GREY TERNLET *Procelsterna cerulea*

2 miles N.W. of Groper Rock, 1 on 25/2 (TGL).

KAKA *Nestor meridionalis*

Whangarei Heads, calling at Peach Cove, 2/7 (TGL). Waiheke, 1 on 17/12 (JES). Urewera, seen and heard daily, Jan. 78 (WJC). Hurakia State Forest, 9, Pureora, 9+ on 18/8 (ET). Coromandel, a few (BB, RC). Strays at Ngatea and Patumahoe feeding on Banksias and flowering gums. Moehau, a small flock on 22/10 (DAL). Milford, 4 on 15/3 (PCL).

RED-CROWNED PARAKEET *Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae*

Aorangi, Poor Knights, second commonest land bird (PMS). Bream I., several on 3/7 (TGL). Ulva I., outnumbers Yellow-crowned (BB).

YELLOW-CROWNED PARAKEET *C. auriceps*

Urewera, all positively identified were of this species (WJC). Present in Hurakia and Pureora State Forests (ET). Ketetahi Springs, 1 pr in Miro, Aug. '76 (CS).

SHINING CUCKOO *Chrysococcyx lucidus*

Waipu, well-grown chick fed by Riro between 17/2 & 20/2 (TGL). Mt Somers, 1 heard on 9/2 (BB). W. of Blenheim, 1 imm. on 6/3 (PCL).

LONG-TAILED CUCKOO *Eudynamis taitensis*

Dargaville, 1 chased by Blackbird on 30/9 (RAF). Coromandel Pen., only 1 heard, 24/10 (BB). Otanewainuku, c.10 seen, more heard on 14/1. Franz Josef, juv. fed by pair of Brown Creepers on 10/3 (PCL).

SPINE-TAILED SWIFT *Chaetura caudacuta*

Coast W. of Dargaville, 1 dead on 17/12 (WJC). Bethells Beach, 1 dead on 3/12 (Tina Thomas). Punakaiki, 2 over the bush on 11/11 at dusk (DO).

N.Z. KINGFISHER *Halcyon sancta*

B.o.P., notable increase in winter when "the visitors" are seen all along the sandhills, swamps and coastal areas where they are absent in summer (KF).

KOOKABURRA *Dacelo gigas*

Several reports from Wenderholm, Puhoi, Warkworth (MJT *et al.*).

RIFLEMAN *Acanthisitta chloris*

Moehau on 16/7/78 (JH & BS). Wairapukao forest edge, Kaingaroa, c.10 in native bush on 3/1 (PCL). Rocky Hill Rd, Te Wharau, Wairarapa E. coast (RHDS). Peel Forest, 2 on 11/2 (BB).

ROCK WREN *Xenicus gilviventris*

Mt Oates, 1 above 2000 m (Peter Tucker per BB).

TREE MARTIN *Hylochelidon nigricans*

Punakaiki est., 1 from 5/6 to 3/7 (DO).

WELCOME SWALLOW *Hirundo neoxena*

Kerikeri. A pair which raised three broods in a pumphouse 77/78, roosted nightly in the nest, March-June (ATE). Aorangi, Poor Knights, nest c/4 (PMS). Widespread in winter flocks: Thornton, c.100 on 17/7 (PCL); L. Tiniroto on 1/5, x.100 (AB); Hawkes Bay, 20-60 over any lake (KVT); Hokio Beach, 45 on 26/2 (EBJ); Nelson Haven, 50+ often (JMH). Southland: "The puzzle continues. Many turned up again and in larger numbers than ever before. Where do

they come from? Where do they go in the spring? The very cold weather in June caused a rash of reports from urban areas. One bird was seen feeding over a lagoon with icicles attached to the end of its tail feathers." (RRS).

PIPIT *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

Aorangi, Poor Knights, 1 on 5/1 (PMS). Records in the north now mainly coastal, e.g. Waipu, 1 in flight on 14/5 (TGL); Jordan's, 3 on 25/3 (BJB, RBS). Muriwai cliffs, where a nest c/3 was found by Geoff Moon; Awhitu Pen., Opoutere, Papamoa; Kaituna (BB, PCL). Elusive around Rotorua, but pr nesting in bank at Tarawera, 26/10 (CAF, RBS). Foxton Beach, 2 on 24/1 (JL & MM). Tauranga Bay, C. Foulwind, 4; Hokitika-Kaniere, 12 on 9/3 (PCL). Inland Canterbury and McKenzie country, few (BB). Old Man Range, c.4500 ft on 6/1 and Pisa Range c.6200 ft on 25/2, gleaning invertebrates from surface of snowfields (PC).

HEDGE SPARROW *Prunella modularis*

Waipu, 1 singing on 5/6, first for some time. A marked decline is apparent around Auckland; but persists in coastal scrub, e.g. several singing at Whatipu on 19/9 and at Hamilton's Gap on 19/8 (RBS) and along B.o.P. from Mt Maunganui to Ohiwa; also on Coromandel Pen., nest c/5 on 10/12 (PCL, BB *et al.*). Fox Glacier, 3 on moraine close to snow on 11/3 (PCL). L. Heron and Peel Forest (BB).

FERNBIRD *Bowdleria punctata*

Pouto Pen., widely distributed (WJC, RAF). Awhitu Pen., Aka Aka swamp, Opoutere, persisting and locally doing well (BB, RBS). Ngatea, Rotorua, 2 on 15/4 (AP). Matata, 3 on 6/5 (PCL). L. Ellesmere, 2 along Drain Rd on 12/8 (AH). Awarua Bay in three places on 11/2 (MLB).

BROWN CREEPER *Finschia novaeseelandiae*

Okarito, 6 in manuka scrub on 9/3. Franz Josef, 6+. Milford, c.10 on 14/3 (PCL). Noted at Blue Cliffs, Waitati, Tautuku, Oban; and more common than Fantail on Ulva I. (BB).

WHITEHEAD *Mohoua albicilla*

Urewera, common (WJC). Thinly distributed around Rotorua (RBS). Otanewainuku, c.10 seen and many more heard (PCL). Wairarapa E. coast, Rewa State Forest (beech) in July; Rocky Hill (mixed forest) Nov.'77 (RHDS).

YELLOWHEAD *M. ochrocephala*

Haast Pass, 8+ feeding in crotches of big beeches and sending the detritus raining down. Also singing strongly; 13/3 (PCL). Jan.-March, seen Lower Garnock Burn, Mt Luxmore, Eglinton Valley, Walker Ck (L. Monowai); Hauroko Burn Valley; lower Seaforth and Spey valley: Wilmot Pass (JVM).

FANTAIL *Rhipidura fuliginosa*

Aorangi, Poor Knights, population estimated at 10 (PMS).

PIED TIT *Petroica macrocephala*

Waipoua, reasonably common (WJC). Waitakeres, much more numerous than expected (JFS). Hunua Range, 31 along 4 km of Kohukohunui track on 6/8/77 (TGL). Pirongia, numerous (JH & BS). Coromandel Pen., locally common (BB). Carterton, imm. male on 9/1 in town garden (RHDS).

ROBIN *P. australis*

Otanewainuku, fair population (PCL, BG).

SONG THRUSH *Turdus philomelos*

Levin, anting on lawn, 28/3 (EBJ).

BLACKBIRD *T. merula*

Acrangi, Poor Knights, 4 occupied nests found (PMS). Levin, anting on lawn, 22/4 (EBJ). Rock and Pillar Range, c.1200 m, singing in *Hebe odora* scrub on 16/12 (PC).

SILVEREYE *Zosterops lateralis*

Levin, few seen winter '78 (EBJ). Lincoln College, 28/7, one seen to steal food from a House Sparrow (AH).

BELLBIRD *Anthornis melanura*

Aorangi, Poor Knights, abundant, breeding finished, Jan. '78 (PMS). Coromandel Pen., found to be common by all teams, Labour Weekend surveys '76 & '77 (BB). Otanewainuku (B.o.P.), numerous (PCL). Ulva I., plentiful and feeding on berries of *Coprosma ?australis* (BB).

TUI *Prothemadera novaeseelandiae*

Red Hill, Papakura, up to 7 in June attracted by flowering gums (GLY). Pokeno Valley, 10/7, 2 feeding on ripe Privet berries. This happens annually, the Tuis leaving before dark and heading back to the hills (DAL).

YELLOWHAMMER *Emberiza citrinella*

Foxton Beach, c.500 near No. 1 lake on 3/6 (JL & MM).

CIRL BUNTING *E. cirrus*

Middlemarch, Gladbrook Station, 1 pr Oct. '77 (JVM).

STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Poor Knights, up to 20, Jan. '78 (PMS).

INDIAN MYNA *Acridotheres tristis*

Poor Knights, up to 26, Jan. '78 (PMS). Opoutere, 9/4, partial albino, with head and part of the neck white, and the body pale grey (BB).

KOKAKO *Callaeas cinerea*

Several reports of small populations in different parts of native forest from Taranaki to Coromandel and Urewera. Pirongia — full song on 3/12 (JH & BS). Kohukohunui on 6/8, one seen feeding parrot-fashion on *Polypodium diversifolium*, *Asplenium flaccidum* and *Melicytus ramiflorus* (TGL).

BLACK-BACKED MAGPIE *Gymnorhina tibicen*

Kerikeri Inlet, 1 with rather narrow black band across back. Hybrid? (ATE).

WHITE-BACKED MAGPIE *G. hypoleuca*

S. Pisa Range, Mt Dotterel, 5 at c.1800 m (PC).

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

Miranda, now up to c.60; sometimes feeding over seaside pastures which a few years ago were intertidal flats dotted with small mangroves (BB, RBS). Bay of Plenty, an occasional straggler (RW, BG). Little River, Banks Pen., 22 on 18/6 (AH).