

CLASSIFIED SUMMARISED NOTES, SOUTH ISLAND AND OUTLYING ISLANDS, 1 JULY 1996 - 30 JUNE 1997

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Classified Summarised Notes (CSN) are a selection of bird observations provided by members and friends of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand each year. The purpose of CSN is to record the results of bird census counts, anecdotal observations of behaviour and habitat, sightings of rare species and common species outside their normal range, and to improve our understanding of New Zealand bird distribution and regional status. Compilations from Regional Recorders from West Coast, Canterbury, Otago and Southland were received, but not from Nelson or Marlborough, although several individuals provided sightings from these latter two regions.

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Regional Recorders: B.J. Stuart-Menteath - West Coast, J. West - Canterbury, A. Baines - Otago, I.L. Esler - Southland.

Regional Abbreviations: [NE] Nelson, [MA] Marlborough, [WC] West Coast, [CA] Canterbury, [CI] Chatham Islands, [OT] Otago, [SO] Southland.

Abbreviations: ad adult; AF Airfield; asl above sea level; B Beach; BP Banks Peninsula; Crk Creek; E East; Est Estuary; grp group; Hbr Harbour; Hd Head; HQ Headquarters; ha hectare; h hours; imm immature; incl including; I Island; Is Islands; juv juvenile; km kilometres; L Lake; Lgn Lagoon; max maximum; m metres; min minimum; Mt Mount; NP National Park; Nth North; pr pair; Pen Peninsula; Pt Point; R River; Ra Range; RM River Mouth; Rd Road; SP Sewage Ponds; Sd Sound; SHW State Highway; Sth South; Str Stream; SF State Forest; Str Strait; V Valley; W West.

SYSTEMATIC LIST

South I brown kiwi *Apteryx australis australis*

[SO] Gair Loch, Fiordland, 1 seen, 2 males heard on 25/11/95, many foot prints on 21/9. Lyvia R, 1 pr heard on 6/4/96. Upper Spey V hut, 1 pr heard on 8/10. Woodrow Burn, 1 pr heard on 8/10. Wisely Hut, 1 pr heard on 9/10 (IS).

Australasian crested grebe *Podiceps cristatus australis*

[WE] Westport Hbr, 1 on 9/8 (SBr). [CA] L Pearson, pr + 1 ad on 22/5 (BJS). Hart's Crk, L Ellesmere, 1 sub-adult on 7/7 (SB,AC). L Forsyth, 81 on 10/7 (AC). [OT] Andersons Lgn, ad in full breeding plumage on 17/8 & 28/9 (D&JY), juv on 6/4 (PM), 1 on 24/6. L Benmore, 5 on 28/12, 2 at Glenburn on 29/3 (ARB). [SO] Island L, Fiordland, 1 on 24/12/95 (IS).

[Australasian little grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*

[CA] SHW 1, sth of Ashburton, 2 ad on 21/9, 2/11, 2 ad & 3 large chicks on 16/12 (AC), 3 juvs no ads, pond almost dry on 12/1 (PB,AC), absent on 26/1, 18/2 (AC).]

Wandering albatross *Diomedea exulans*

[SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, 1 on 16/9 (IS). Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 2 on 3/4, 13 on 20/5. Snares Is, total of 6 on 4/4-19/5 (MR).

Southern royal albatross *Diomedea epomophora epomophora*

[SO] Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 1 on 3/4. Snares Is, 1 on 17/4, 1 on 23/4 (MR).

Black-browed mollymawk *Diomedea melanophrys*

[MA] Sth of Kaikoura, 20-30 on 31/3 (SBr). [OT] St Clair B, Dunedin, 4 ad offshore on 17/7 (MR). [SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, 1 on 16/9 (IS). Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 1 ad on 3/4. Snares Is, 1 imm offshore on 6/5 (MR).

Shy mollymawk *Diomedea cauta cauta*

[OT] Taiaroa Hds, 5 offshore on 13/5 (A&CW). [SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, 2 on 16/9 (IS).

Salvin's mollymawk *Diomedea cauta salvinii*

[MA] Sth of Kaikoura, 3 on 2/1 (SBr). [OT] Otago Hbr Hds, 3 on 9/4, 1 on 10/4 (K&JVM,PS). [SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, 2 on 16/9 (IS).

Buller's mollymawk *Diomedea bulleri*

[MA] Sth of Kaikoura, 40-60 on 31/3 (SBr). [OT] St Clair B, Dunedin, 4 offshore on 12/7, 1 on 17/7 (MR). [SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, 1 on 16/9 (IS).

Light-mantled sooty albatross *Phoebastria palpebrata*

[SO] Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 3 on 20/5. Snares Is, 1 offshore on 6/5, 17/5 (MR).

Buller's shearwater *Puffinus bulleri*

[MA] Kaikoura area, 1 on 12/11, c.10 on 9/1, c.50 on 10/1, 1 on 15/1, 3 on 3/3, 600-700 on 31/3, 200-500 on 2/4, c.20 on 5/4. [WC] Off Westport, 2 on 23/1, 4 on 29/1, c.90 on 30/1. Off Greymouth, 82 on 1/2, 3 on 6/2. Off Jackson Bay, 1 on 18/2, c.20 on 19/2 (SBr).

Sooty shearwater *Puffinus griseus*

[WC] Scots Lookout, Heaphy Track, 2-3 birds heard on ground on 30/11 (BJS). [CA] Off Steep Hd, BP, c.1000 on 17/10 (SBr). [OT] Off Kakanui RM, several thousand on 21/4, 23/4 (BJS).

Short-tailed shearwater *Puffinus tenuirostris*

[SO] Between Stewart I and Snares Is, c.50 on 3/4, 1 on 20/5 in Foveaux Str on 20/5 (MR).

Little shearwater *Puffinus assimilis*

[SO] Snares Is, 1 on 11/4, c.2 km offshore, flying SW (MR).

Common diving petrel *Pelecanoides urinatrix*

[MA] Clarence RM, c.100 on 22/8. Off Kaikoura, 1 on 17/8, 2 on 18/8, 1 on 21/8, 12 on 31/3, c.6 on 2/4, c.15 on 4/4, c.20 on 5/4. [WC] Off Jackson Hd, 2 on 7/7, 1 on 14/7, 1 on 18/2 (SBr).

Westland petrel *Procellaria westlandica*

[MA] Off Kaikoura, 1 on 13/8, 5 on 24/8, 20-40 on 6/11, 50-100 on 12/11, c.20 on 2/1, c.20 on 6/1, c.40 on 8/1, c.60 on 10/1, c.20 on 14/1, c.30 on 15/1, 55-85 on 31/3. [WC] Off Greymouth, 3 on 18/7, 6 on 28/7. Off Westport, c.30 on 17/1, c.20 on 30/1 (SBr).

Grey petrel *Procellaria cinerea*

[SO] Snares Is, 1 on 10/4, 1 on 18/4, 1 on 22/4 (MR).

Cape pigeon *Daption capense*

[MA] Off Kaikoura, c.200 on 13/8, c.25 on 17/8, 38 on 18/8, 1 on 19/8, 10 on 21/8, 2 on 22/8, c.100 on 24/8, c.10 on 6/11, 2 on 11/11, 1 on 2/1, 3 on 8/1, 3 on 10/1, 6 on 14/1, 3 on 15/1, 1 on 3/3, 30-40 on 31/3. [OT] Off Moeraki, 3 on 21/6, 3 on 26/6, 2 on 2/12. Cape Wanbrow, Oamaru, 4 on 12/12 (SBr). [SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, max 3 at once on 16/9 (IS).

Antarctic fulmar *Fulmaris glacialisoides*

[MA] Off Kaikoura, 1-2 on 13/8, 3 on 17/8, c.10 on 24/8 (SBr).

Southern giant petrel *Macronectes giganteus*

[OT] St Clair B, Dunedin, 1 offshore on 12/7. [SO] Snares Is, white morph birds seen almost daily in Apr-May, max 12 amongst dark-morph birds (MR).

Giant petrel *Macronectes* sp.

[MA] Off Kaikoura, c.5 on 13/8, 2 on 17/8, 3 on 18/8, 7 on 21/8, 3 on 22/8, c.5 on 24/8, c.10 on 6/11, 1 on 12/11, 1 on 2/1, c.20 on 6/1, 2 on 8/1, 1 on 10/1, 1 on 3/3. [CA] Outer Akaroa Hbr, 1 on 8/6, 1 on 18/6, 1 on 1/9, 1 on 6/9, 2 behind trawler on 21/9, 1 on 17/10, 3 on 4/11, 2 on 22/12, 1 on 23/12. West I, BP, 2 on dead sheep on 27/8. Damons Bay, BP, 1 on 1/9. Pompejs Pillar, BP, 1 on 1/9. Redcliffe Pt, BP, 2 on 17/10. Hickory Bay, BP, 1 on 17/10. Okains Bay, BP, 1 on 24/10. Robin Hood Bay, BP, 1 on 25/10. East Hd, BP, c.2 on 3/4. Pigeon Bay, BP, 1 on 20/12. Dyke Hd, BP, 2 on 28/3. [OT] Off Moeraki, 1 on 21/6, 6 on 2/12, 1 on 7/12 (SBr). [SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, 1 juv on 16/9 (IS).

Fairy prion *Pachyptila turtur*

[CA] Avon-Heathcote Est, 1 sick or injured bird being attacked by Black-backed Gulls on 6/10 (SB).

Broad-billed prion *Pachyptila vittata*

[SO] Foveaux Str, 9 on 2/4 (MR).

Prion *Pachyptila* sp.

[MA] Off Clarence RM, c.2000 on 22/8. Off Kaikoura, 3 on 17/8, c.20 on 18/8, c.100 on 19/8, 3 on 21/8. [WC] Off Westport, 1 on 30/1. Off Greymouth, 1 on 6/2 (SBr).

Cook's petrel *Pterodroma cookii*

[SO] Codfish I, 1 chick (37 g) found in 9 study burrows on 20/1, first confirmed date for hatching of the species on this island. Final breeding result was 19 chicks in 40 study burrows on 21-22/3 (WC).

Mottled petrel *Pterodroma inexpectata*

[SO] Oreti B, 1 feeding in surf on 13/12 (LE). Between Stewart

I and Snares Is, 1 on 3/4, 1 on 20/5. Snares Is, 1 on 6/5 at night, 27 skua-killed between Sinkhole & Razorback in mid-May, 1 on 16/5 (MR).

Great-winged petrel *Pterodroma macroptera*

[SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, hundreds constantly around boat, max 12 at once on 16/9 (IS). Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 2 on 3/4, 3 on 20/5. Snares Is, 1 on 6/5 east of NE Is (MR).

White-headed petrel *Pterodroma lessonii*

[SO] Doubtful Sd to Breaksea Sd, 1 on 16/9 (IS). Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 1-2 on 20/5 at 47°53'S, 166°46'E (MR).

[Soft-plumaged petrel *Pterodroma mollis*

[SO] Snares Is, 1 pied morph offshore on 20 May at 47°57'S, 166°41'E (MR).]

Grey-backed storm petrel *Garrodia nereis*

[SO] Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 1 on 20/5 at 47°38'S, 167°08'E (MR).

Black-bellied storm petrel *Fregetta tropica*

[SO] Snares Is, 1 on 3/4, 20 nautical miles to nth (MR).

Yellow-eyed penguin *Megadyptes antipodes*

[OT] Kakanui RM, 1 on 13/3, 20/3. Cat's Eye Pt, Kakanui, 1 on 28/5 (BJS). Shag Pt, 16 on 14/7 (D&JY). Moeraki, 1 on 21/6. Curio Bay, Catlins, 3 on 27/9 (SBr).

Blue penguin *Eudyptula minor*

[MA] Off Kaikoura, 1 on 18/8, 1 on 24/8, 1 on 25/8, 2 on 2/1, 2 on 6/1, 1 on 10/1, 1 on 14/1, c.15 on 15/1, 1 on 31/3, 2 on 1/4, 1 on 4/4. [WC] Off Westport, 2 on 28/1 (SBr). Twelve Mile, nth of Greymouth, 1 dead on road on 11/8. Seventeen Mile, nth of Greymouth, 1 dead on road on 26/4 (BJS). Off Greymouth, 1 on 19/7, 1 on 20/7, 1 on 26/7, 4 on 6/2. Off Waita RM, 3 on 12/7. Jackson Bay, 2 on 13/2, 1 on 15/2. Open Bay Is, 1 on 4/7, 1 on 6/7 (SBr). [OT] Kakanui RM, 1 in rocks on 11/11, 4 on 21/11, 1 on 5/5 (BJS). Cape Wanbrow, 4 on 12/12. Off Moeraki, 2 on 30/6. Curio Bay, 5 on 25/9. Porpoise Bay, 10 on 26/9 (SBr). [SO] Supper Cove, groups of up to 8 fishing on 28/11/95 (IS).

Fiordland crested penguin *Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*

[SO] Supper Cove, 4 fishing on 28/11/95 (IS). Solander I, 18 between W and Nth-W bays on 22/8 (WC).

[Snares crested penguin *Eudyptes robustus*

[CA] Low Cliff, mid-Canterbury, 1 on beach late Mar-early Apr (DG).]

Australasian gannet *Morus serrator*

[MA] Off Kaikoura, regular in Aug, Nov, Jan, Mar, Apr, max. c.20. [WC] Off Greymouth, 19 on 18/7, c.5 on 19/7, c.40 on 20/7, regular between Buller RM and Westport, max 26 in Feb. Off Haast B, 1 on 6/7, 4 on 12/7. Jackson Bay, 6 on 17-18/2. Cascade Pt, 4 on 5/7 (SBr). [CA] Motunau RM, 2 on 5/8 (SB,AC). Kaitorete Spit, 3 on 7/9 (PFB,SB,AC). Outer Akaroa Hbr, 1 on 22/6 (SB), 1 on 8/6, 1 on 29/10, 3 on 14/3, 1 on 17/3, 3 on 20/3. French Bay, 2 on 8/6. Port Levy, 1 on 14/6. Godley Hd, 1 on 14/6. West I, BP, 1 on 15/6. Birdlings Flat, 1 on 15/6. Robinsons Bay, 2 on 6/9. Horseshoe Bay, 1 on 18/10. Dyke Hd, 1 on 26/10, 3 on 28/3. Murrays Mistake, BP, 3 on 29/10. Pigeon Bay, 3 on 14/11, 1 on 20/12 (SBr). Takamatua Bay, 1 on 28/9 (SB). L Wainono, 1 offshore on 5/10 (PFB,AC). [OT] Kakanui Bay, 2 on 18/10, 5 on 21/10, 2 on 30/12, 5 on 21/4. Campbell Bay, 2 on 25/6 (BJS). Off Moeraki, up to 40 in June-July, 2 on 6/12, 2 on 7/12 (SBr). Brighton coast, 1 on 21/9 (K&JVM). Curio Bay, 8 on 25/9. Porpoise Bay, 5 on 26/9, 7 on 28/9, 1 on 26/11 (SBr). [SO] Little Solander I, 135 birds and 70+ nests in 4 groups on 22/8 (WC).

Black shag *Phalacrocorax carbo*

[CA] Kaituna Lgn, 160 on 22/4 (SB). [OT] Kakanui RM, 10 on 30/3, 15 on 21/4, 12 on 14/5 (BJS), 10 on 21/6 (A&CW).

Pied shag *Phalacrocorax varius*

[CA] Motunau RM, 136 & 55+ nests on 5/8. Bromley SP, 81 nests in 1996/97 season. Horomaka I, Port Levy, 8 ad, 6 nests with large chicks on 30/11, 19 ad with 3 nests on 25/6. Corsair Bay, Lyttelton Hbr, 26 roosting in macrocarpas on 1/7. Rakaia RM, 1 on 1/12 (SB,AC). [SO] L Hakapoua, 2 nests, 1 with 3 large chicks on 14/10/95 (IS). Halfmoon Bay, 1 swallowing a large seahorse on 23/9 (LE).

Little black shag *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*

[CA] Ashley Est, 1 on 24/12 (SP). Linwood Ave Canal, Christchurch, 2 in May & June (AC).

Little shag *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

[WC] Orowaiti Est, Westport, 1 partly albino, mainly white, resembling an odd Stewart Is shag on 7/7 (TC). [CA] Woodford Glen, 21 nests all occupied on 7/9 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 21 on 15/7 (BJS). Hoopers Inlet, Otago Pen, 8 on 15/6 (A&CW).

Stewart I shag *Leucocarbo chalconotus*

[CA] Waitaki RM, 1 bronze phase feeding close inshore on 21/9 (AC). [OT] Shag Pt, 18 on 26/4 (BJS). Hoopers Inlet, Otago Pen, 1 on 15/6 (A&CW). [SO] Tiwai Rocks, Bluff Hbr entrance, 49 nests containing eggs through to fully fledged chicks on 21/9 (WC).

Bounty I shag *Leucocarbo ranfurlyi*

[SO] Snares Is, 1 ad early Apr-20/5, photographed (MR).

Spotted shag *Stictocarbo punctatus*

[WC] Te Miko colony, Punakaiki, 538 active nests on 28/11, c. 1500-2000 birds on colony during fledging (BJS). [CA] Ashley Est, 200 on 21/1 (KCH,SP). Rakaia RM, 67 on 1/12 (SB,AC). Ashburton RM, 1590 on 2/11 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 1 with little shags on 23/6 (BJS). [SO] Tiwai Rocks, Bluff Hbr entrance, 112 on 21/9 (WC).

Blue shag *Stictocarbo punctatus steadi*

[SO] Big Bay, Fiordland, 2 carefully identified on 19/5 (IS).

White-faced heron *Ardea novaehollandiae*

[CA] Boyne Bridge, nr Saltwater Crk, 6 on 3/09 (MJC). Woolston Loop, Heathcote R, 3 on 16/8 (AC). [OT] Kakanui RM, 4 on 8/7, 10 on 21/7, 10 on 14/4 (BJS), 2 on 21/6. Hoopers Inlet, Otago Pen, 12 on 13/5. Tomahawk Lgn, 4 on 7/4 (A&CW). [SO] Awarua Bay Sth, 9 on 24/8, 16 on 15/6. (WC). Snares Is, 1 on 3/4, 1 on 23/4, 1 on 8/5 (MR).

White heron *Egretta alba*

[WC] Greymouth Hbr, 1 on 26/7 (SBr). Arahura V, 1 on 7/8 eating silveryeye (JD). Hapuka Est, 1 on 14/2, 1 on 18/2 (SBr). [CA] Avon-Heathcote Est & Travis Swamp, Christchurch, 1 in winter 1996, last seen on 14/9, 1 in winter 1997 (AC). L Forsyth, 1 on 7/6 (SBr), 1 on 10/7 (AC), 1 on 7/9 (PFB,SB,AC). L Ellesmere, 1 on 7/6, 1 on 2/9, 3 on 5/9, 1 on 10/3, 1 on 25/3, 1 on 30/3, 1 on 7/4 (SBr). Ahuriri Bridge, Omarama, 1 on 20/2 (AC,SE). [OT] Kakanui, 1 on 27/7, 1 on 4/9, 1 on 30/3 (ARB), 1 on 18/5 (AGH), 2 on 27/5 (BJS), 1 on 21/6 (A&CW). All Day Bay, 1 on 31/8 (D&JY), 1 on 30/3 (ARB). Waianakarua, 1 on 18/5 (AGH). Tomahawk Lgn, 1 on 7/4 (A&CW). Andersons Lgn, 1 on 12/5 (K&JVM). Kaikorai Est, 1 on 31/3 (PS). [SO] New R Est, 1 on 2/5 (WC). Martins Bay, 1 on 15/5. Big Bay, 1 on 16/5 (IS).

[Little egret *Egretta garzetta*

[CA] Hammer Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 29/6 (AC).]

Reef heron *Egretta sacra*

[MA] Kaikoura Pen, 1 on 9/11 (SBr).

Cattle egret *Bubulcus ibis*

[WC] Cape Foulwind Rd, Westport, 9 on 3/12. Punakaiki, 1 on 24/4 (BJS). Arahura V, 8 on 25/11 (JD). [CA] Waikuku, 12 on 4/10 (SP). Paddocks, nr Peacock Springs, Harewood, 12 on 17/7, 19/8, 13/11 colouring up. Accommodation Rd, L Ellesmere, 18 on 1/12 (AC,SP), 64 on 11/2, 68 on 21/2 (KCH,SP), 40 on 24/2 (CH). Davidson's Rd, Ellesmere, 32 incl 20+ in breeding plumage on 2/1, Wolfes Rd, Ellesmere, 12 on 7/7 (SB,AC), 13 on 30/7 (PFB,AC), 60 on 29/1 (CH). Gould's Rd, Ellesmere, 2 on 7/2 (SB,AC). Drain Rd, 29 on 7/5 (KCH,SP). Greenpark School, 33 on 23/10 (CH). [CI] Pitt I, 1 on 14/5, 21/5 (S. King). [OT] Contour Channel, Berwick, 10 on 16/5 (DGr). Bull Crk Rd, 2 on 23/5 (PS). Punaweia, Catlins, 1 on 2/8. Catlins L, 7 in 1st week of Feb (D&JY). [SO] Southland, c.40 overwinter in 1997. Wallacetown, 10 in April instead of usual 30 (LE). Big South Cape I, 2 in June (M. Bates). Pikomamuka I, off Halfmoon Bay, 8-12 regularly flying over from Stewart I and roosting (LE). Snares Is, 1 on 22-28/4, 2 on 24/4 (MR).

Australasian bittern *Botaurus poiciloptilus*

[CA] Waimakariri - Kaiapoi confluence, 1 found dead in April (Colin Meurk). Coutts I Swamp, Christchurch, 1 on 2/6 (SB,AC). Drain Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 3/10. Colin Hill Ponds, 1 on 22/2 (CH). Ohau R, 1 possibly 2 pr seen regularly in riparian wetlands and ponds during spring and summer 1996 (PFB,AC), 1 pr flushed by a harrier then flew up and appeared to mob the harrier, calling loudly on 9/11 (AC). [OT] Wyllies Crossing, Taieri, 1 dead on 16/6 (PS).

[Glossy ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*

[CA] L Ellesmere: Geddes Rd, Greenpark, 2 in flooded paddocks on 2/12 (SB). Colin Hills farm, 1 on 13/12, 2 on 24/12 (CH), 2 on 28/12 (AC), 2 on 3/1, 2 on 6/2. Yarrs Rd, 1 on 27/7, 27/10, 2 on 1/12, 2 on 1/2, 3 on 10/4. Embankment Rd, 1 on 21/10 (CH).]

Royal spoonbill *Platalea regia*

[CA] Ashley Est, 3 on 188 (SB,AC). Avon - Heathcote Est / Bromley SP, max 46 on 31/5 (AC). Heathcote R, 1 upriver from Opawa Road bridge on 22/8 (SB), 1 regular during August feeding 5 km upstream of estuary. Linwood Ave, Christchurch, 1 roosting beside house on a flooded lawn on 15/7 (AC). Kaituna, L Ellesmere, 12 on 1/12 (CH), 4 on 12/3, 96 on 25/3, c.100 on 7/4 (SBr), 89 on 23/4 (CFJOD). L Ellesmere: 22 on 28/12 (KCH,SP). Drain Rd, 21+ on 3/10. Yarrs Rd, 21 on 28/1. Kaitorete Spit Tip, 36+ on 17/11 (CH). Washdyke Lgn, 5 on 8/12 (SB,AC). L Wainono, 2 on 5/10 (AC,SG), 1 on 26/10 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 3 on 1/10, 7 on 18/11, 10 on 19/11 (BJS), 7 on 5/12 (SBr), 8 on 19/1, 13 on 6/2, 14 on 18/2. All Day Bay, 1 on 6/2 (BJS). Maukiekie, 3 on 11/9 (TDM). Andersons Lgn, 1 on 8/9, 6 on 17/11 (D&JY), 1 on 15/3 (K&JVM). Hawkesbury Lgn, 4 on 14/6, (A&CW), 1 on 25/8 (D&JY). Waikouaiti, 7 on 29/3 (A&CW), 4 on 4/1 (K&JVM), 1 on 14/6 (A&CW). Blueskin Bay, 2 on 13/4. Coutts Gully Rd, 3 on 25/4 (D&JY). Papanui Inlet, Otago Pen, 14 on 19/1. Hoopers Inlet, 29 on 17/11 (K&JVM), 1 on 13/5 (A&CW). Kaikorai Est, 28 on 20/11, 2 on 16/4 (PS), 1 on 1/2 (K&JVM). Green I, 2 on 15/9 (LJG). Brighton, 22 on 16/10 (DGr). Catlins, 1 on 2/8 (D&JY). [SO] Daffodil Bay, Invercargill Est, 5 on 20/7. Omaui, 93 ad and chicks on 28/1 (LE).

Mute swan *Cygnus olor*

[CA] Boyne Bridge, nr Saltwater Crk, 2 on 3/09 (MJC). Otahuna Pond, 2 on 21/7 (AC). Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 9 on

1/12 (SB,AC), 10 on 29/6 (AC). Drain Rd, 1 on 3/10 (CH). Coopers Lgn, 20+ on 30/7 (PFB,AC), 31 incl 3 imm on 29/6 (AC). Rakaia RM, 1 on 1/12 (SB,AC). Ohau - Tekapo delta, L Benmore, 1 pr resident in summer 1996/97 (PFB,AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 1 on 21/5 (BJS). All Day Bay, 1 on 11/5 (A&CW).

Black swan *Cygnus atratus*

[CA] Styx Mill Basin, Christchurch, pr + 6 small cygnets on 30/7 (PFB,AC). Avon R, Christchurch, 1 at Kerr's Reach on 17/2. Normanby Lgn, 48 on 21/9 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 31 on 31/7 (BJS). All Day Bay, 4 + 2 cygnets on 13/5. Andersons Lgn, 5 on 23/9, 25 on 14/6 (A&CW), 69 on 11/7. Pleasant R Est, 44 on 22/9 (SB). L Logan, Lammermoor Ra, 825 m a.s.l., 1 on 27/10, 23 on 1/4 (K&JVM). Hoopers Inlet, 21 on 13/5, 24 on 15/6 (A&CW). [SO] Supper Cove, 3 on 18/9. Loch Maree, 1 on 19/9. Wainui Lgn, Big Bay, 148 on 19/5 (IS).

Canada goose *Branta canadensis*

[CA] Bromley SP, winter census, 1829 on 21/8. Travis Swamp, Christchurch, max 245 on 21/5. Godley Delta, L Tekapo, 440 on 6/2 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 4 on 4/7 (BJS). Hawkebury Lgn, 33 on 29/12 (JAW), L Logan, Lammermoor Ra, 825 m a.s.l., 1 on 27/10 (K&JVM). [SO] Loch Maree, Seaforth R, 2 on 19/9. Woodrow Burn, 6 on 8/10 (IS).

[Cape Barren goose *Cereopsis novaehollandiae*

[CA] Christchurch Northern Motorway, pr + 4 small goslings on 1/9, 7/9 (TC,SP).]

Paradise shelduck *Tadorna variegata*

[CA] Conway RM, 43 on 28/12 (SB). Boyne Bridge, nr Saltwater Crk, pr on 3/9. Broomfield, 2 pr on 3/9 (MJC). Takamatua Bay, pr + 7 ducklings on 16/10 (SBr). [OT] Kakanui R, pr + 11 ducklings on 23/10 (BJS). Andersons Lgn, 21 on 29/3. Hawkesbury Lgn, 41 on 14/6 (A&CW). Okaia Flat, Otago Pen, pr + 3 newly feathered juvs on 14/12. Hoopers Inlet, 20 on 15/9 (K&JVM), 93 on 13/5, 119 on 15/6 (A&CW). Highcliff, Otago Pen, pr + 6 juvs on 8/12 (K&JVM). [SO] Deep Cove, 1 killing and swallowing mallard duckling on 14/1 (WH).

Blue duck *Hymenolaimus malacorhynchos*

[SO] Lyvia R, 6 on 5-7/4/96. Kintail Hut, 1 male on 21/9. Woodrow Burn, 6 on 8/10. Boatshed Hut, Arthur R, pr on 11/10 (IS). Roaring Burn, Milford Track, 2 on 28/2 (S&JR).

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

[CA] Saltwater Crk, 2 males on 3/9. Broad Rd, 9 on pasture on 3/09. [OT] Kakanui R, >600 on 4/7, 1 fem + 7 ducklings on 7/1 (BJS). All Day Bay, 11 on 11/5, 120 on 21/6. Hoopers Inlet, 71 on 13/5, 63 on 15/6 (A&CW). [SO] Supper Cove, Dusky Sd, 25-30 on 19/9 (IS).

Grey duck *Anas superciliosa*

[SO] Supper Cove, Dusky Sd, 8-10 on 19/9 (IS).

Grey teal *Anas gibberifrons*

[CA] L Forsyth, c.30 on 2/11. Kaituna, L Ellesmere, c.100 on 25/3 (SBr). Ahuriri Delta, L Benmore, summer max 172 on 31/10. Sth Ponds, L Wainono, 360 on 21/9 (AC), 980 on 8/12 (AC,SG). [OT] Kakanui R, c.90 on 4/7 (BJS). All Day Bay, 189 on 11/5. Andersons Lgn, 76 on 29/3, 209 on 15/6. Hoopers Inlet, 493 on 13/5 (A&CW). Waitahuna, 2 on 16/11. L Logan, Lammermoor Ra, 825 m a.s.l., 2 on 27/10 (K&JVM).

[Brown teal *Anas aucklandica*

[SO] Gair Loch, none in spite of thorough search on 24-26/11/95, 1 partial albino on 22/9. Supper Cove, 1 male in mid-moult on 30/11/95, 1 male paired with mallard x grey duck female on 17/9. Loch Maree, pr on 20/9 (IS).]

NZ shoveler *Anas rhynchos*

[CA] Saltwater Crk, 1 female on 3/09 (MJC). Woodend Lgn, 320 on 18/11. Travis Swamp, Christchurch, max 54 on 4/8. L Forsyth, c.70 on 2/11. Kaituna, L Ellesmere, c.100 on 2/11 (SBr). Sth Ponds, L Wainono, 1820 on 21/9. Normanby Lgn, 89 on 21/9. L Waitaki, 50+ on 27/10 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, c.300 on 4/7 (BJS). All Day Bay, 24 on 13/5. Hoopers Inlet, 38 on 13/5, 1 on 15/6 (A&CW). [SO] Waiuna Lgn, Big Bay, 24 on 19/5 (IS). Snares Is, 1 male on 17/5 (MR).

NZ scaup *Aythya novaeseelandiae*

[CA] Coringa L, Motunau, 7 on 5/8 (SB,AC). Amberley B Lgn, 20 on 3/9 (MJC). Heathcote R, 1 bird downriver of Beckford St bridge on 22/8 (SB). Bromley SP, 754 on 31/5, 965 on 23/6. Swan Lgn, nr L Ohau, 130 on 4/12. Ahuriri Delta, L Benmore, 127 on 19/12 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 1 male on 8/7 (BJS). [SO] Seaforth RM, 6 on 30/11/95. Supper Cove, 5 males on 17/9. Waiuna Lgn, Big Bay, 212 on 19/5 (IS).

Australasian harrier *Circus approximans*

[OT] Kakanui R, 1 juv attacked by a grp of mallards on 5/5, also diving at a little shag (BJS). Okaia Reserve, Otago Pen, 1 eating freshly killed song thrush on 11/10 (KM). [SO] Manapouri, c.6 taking many black-billed gull chicks from colony in November (B. Newland). Hollyford V Rd, 1 on 15/5. Martins Bay to Big Bay, 1 on 15-20/5 (IS).

NZ falcon *Falco novaeseelandiae*

[MA] Upper Kowhai V, pr on 1/11, 1 diving at kea at Hutton's shearwater colony on 3/11. [WC] Pororari Lgn, Punakaiki, 1 chasing harrier on 19/7. Canoe Crk, Barrytown, 1 on 22/4. Greymouth AF, 1 catching starling on 18/8 (BJS). Hokitika, several sightings, 1 taking dropped food off ground at the Wild Foods Festival (IB). "The Bluff" picnic area, Maruia, 1 flying across river on 14/03 (MJC). [CA] Castle Hill Reserve, Cass Basin, 1 on 22/5 (BJS). Hooker V, Mt Cook, pr with juv on 8/2, 20/2 (AC,SE). Lower Huxley R, 1 on 22/2 (AC). [OT] Hawea Motor Camp, 1 chasing house sparrows on 17/1 (BJS). Kakanui, 1 on 14/10. All Day Bay, 1 on 27/5, 1 on 26/6. Trotters Gorge, 2 on 26/9, 1 on 17/1 (BJS), 1 on 4/10 (AB&VMB). Dunedin Botanic Gardens, 1 on 2/3 (ARB). Ross Crk, pr on 12/6 (D&JY). Kaikorai V, Dunedin, 1 on 5/11 (DSW). Whare Flat, 1 on 9/6 (D&JY). Three Mile Hill, Dunedin, 1 on 2/8. Berwick Forest, 1 on 29/9. Crookston, 1 on 16/11. Rocklands-Paerau, Lammermoor Ra, 1 juv on 29/10, 1/4 (K&JVM). Adams Flat, 1 on 21/6 (JM). [SO] Knobs Flat, Eglinton V, 1 male carrying food on 22/12/95. Deer Flat, Eglinton V, 1 on 12/4. Mirror Ls, 1 on 2/1. Lower Spey V, 1 on 5/4/96. Te Anau, 1 on lakefront on 9/4 (IS), 1 chasing and bringing to ground a young white-faced heron on 1/3 (S&JR). Tutuko V, 1 juv on 11/4. Gunn's Camp to L Alabaster, 4 on 12/5. Big Bay, 1 on 16/5 (IS). Nevis V, 1 on fence post on 7/6 (RS).

California quail *Callipepla californica*

[OT] Naseby Forest, 2 on 3/1 (K&JVM).

Chukor *Alectoris chukar*

[SO] Top of Coronet Pk, 1 on 4/1 (CG).

Ring-necked pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

[CA] Wolfes Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 male on 28/12, 6/1 (SP).

Wild turkey *Meleagris gallopavo*

[OT] Black Bridge, Lindis Pass, 3 on 22/12 (AC).

Western weka *Gallirallus australis australis*

[SO] Deep Cove, 1 on 16/9 (IS).

Spotless crane *Porzana tabuensis*

[WC] Westport, 2 killed after flying into window in 1996 (JL).

Marsh crane *Porzana pusilla*

[WC] Westport, 1 in wetlands during 1996 (JL). [CA] Ashley Est, 1 flushed from edge of crk at dusk on 17/8, flew 30 m into raupo (SB,AC).

Pukeko *Porphyrio porphyrio*

[CA] Saltwater Crk, 2 in reeds on 3/9. Boyne Bridge, nr Saltwater Crk, 7 on 3/9 (MJC). [SO] Big Bay, 1 on 17/5 (IS). Otatau, seen eating freshwater mussels on 12/8 (LE).

Australian coot *Fulica atra*

[CA] Bromley SP, 9 on 31/5, 4 on 23/6. Ahuriri Delta, L Benmore, 28 on 19/12 (AC).

South I pied oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus finschi*

[CA] Brooklands Lgn, 83 on 2/6 (SB,AC). L Forsyth, 2 on 21/11, a rare occurrence. Geddes Rd, Greenpark, L Ellesmere, 30 in flooded paddocks on 2/12 (SB). Embankment Rd, 40 on 21/10, 6 on 12/4 (CH). Wigram East Retention Basin, Christchurch, pr with 2 chicks on 15/9, first record of nesting within Christchurch City (SB,AC). Cooper's Lgn, 12 on 30/7 (PFB,AC). Rakaia RM, 24 on 1/12 (SB,AC). Ashburton RM, 5 on 2/11, 6 on 29/11, 26 on 26/1. Rangitata RM, 7 on 21/9, 3 on 4/11, 6 on 2/12. Opihi RM, 15 incl 1 pr nesting behind beach on 4/11 (AC). Washdyke Lgn, 45 on 8/12 (AC,SG). Waitaki RM, 9 on 21/9 (AC). Sth end, L Wainono, 52 on 5/10 (PFB,AC), 6 on 8/12 (AC,SG). [OT] Kakanui R, 15 on 4/8 (BJS). All Day Bay, 4 on 21/9. Waianakarua RM, 14 on 21/9. Shag RM, 3 on 22/9 (SB). Moke L, Queenstown, 1 dead female banded on 24/9/1970 on the Avon-Heathcote Est, Christchurch (ARB). Hoopers Inlet, 50 on 13/5 (A&CW).

Variable oystercatcher *Haematopus unicolor*

[CA] Motunau RM, 13 on 5/8 (SB,AC). Ashley Est, 3 on 16/11 (PFB,AC). Avon - Heathcote Est, 16 on 21/10 (AC), winter peak was 69 in June (SB,AC,KCH,SP). Ripapa I, Lyttelton Hbr, 6 on 30/11, 2 on 29/6 (AC). L Forsyth, 2 on 24/7, 3 on 22/8. Akaroa playing fields, 3 on 27/7 (SB). Yarrs Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 in Sept (CH). Opihi RM, 2 on 4/11 (AC). Washdyke Lgn, 14 on 8/12 (AC,SG). [OT] Kakanui RM, 15 on 5/8, pr + 2 chicks on 2/1. Kakanui Bridge, pr breeding on riverbed (BJS). All Day Bay, 2 on 21/6 (A&CW), 1 on 21/9. Andersons Lgn, 2 on 11/7 (SB). Warrington B, 3 pr on 6/10. Victory B, pr on 14/12 (KM). Portobello, 6 on 18/5 (A&CW). Hancock Park, Dunedin, pr banded at Sandfly Bay seen feeding on 13/6 (PS). Porpoise Bay, 10 on 29/9 (SBr). [SO] Supper Cove, 12+ including 1 smudgy on 18/9. Big Bay, 2 pr on 18/5 (IS). Ulva I, nest under macrocarpa tree on beach on 23/11 (LE).

Australasian pied stilt *Himantopus himantopus leucocephalus*

[CA] Conway RM, 31 on 29/1. Brooklands Lgn - Kaiapoi SP, 93 on 2/6 (SB,AC). Avon - Heathcote Est, 70 on 2/12 (AC). Harts Crk, L Ellesmere, 101 on 1/12 (SB,AC). Embankment Rd, 50+ on 21/10 (CH). Ashburton RM, 12 on 2/11, 40 on 29/11 (AC). McCormick's Bay, 112 on 15/5 (KCH,SP). Spider Lgn, 5 on 6/0 (PFB,AC), 56 on 12/12. Opihi RM, 8 on 4/11, 18 on 13/12 (AC). Washdyke Lgn, 79 on 9/7 (SB). Normanby Lgn, 26 on 21/9 (AC). Sth End Ponds, L Wainono, 374 on 5/10 (PFB,AC), 498 on 8/12 (AC,SG). Ahuriri Delta, L Benmore, summer max 52 on 7/11. Ohau Tarns, 86 on 4/12, 70 on 19/1 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 17 on 4/7. Kakanui Bridge, 18 on 14/1 (BJS). All Day Bay, 5 on 11/5, 30 on 21/6 (A&CW), 38 on 21/9 (SB). Andersons Lgn, 20 on 29/3, 11 on 14/6 (A&CW). Hoopers Inlet, pr copulating on 24/8, pr + 3 chicks on 3/11, 3 pr + 3 juvs on 10/11 (K&JVM), 154 on 13/5 (A&CW). Waikawa Hbr, Catlins, c.50 on 27/2 (SBr).

Black stilt *Himantopus novaeseelandiae*

[CA] Ashley Est, 2 nodes G and H on 18/8 (TC). Embankment Rd - Clarke's Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 21/4 with node E (CH). Washdyke Lgn, 1 imm on 6/9 (PFB,AC). Ohau Tarns, 2 on 19/1. Ahuriri Delta, L Benmore, 9 on 20/2 (AC). [OT] Clearburn-Ohau Rd, 1 on tarn on 28/12, 29/3 (ARB).

NZ dotterel *Charadrius obscurus*

[SO] Awarua Bay Sth, 19 incl 3 in full breeding plumage and 7 showing some colour on 28/7, 18 incl 7 fully coloured and 5 well coloured on 24/8, 20 on 20/4, 22 incl 2 still with some colour on 18/5, 27 incl 3 well, and 5 partially coloured on 15/6 (WC). Awarua Bay E, 1 on 14/11. Mason Bay, Stewart I, 11 on 23/9 (LE).

Banded dotterel *Charadrius bicinctus*

[WC] Okari Lgn, 52 on 29/6 (BJS). [CA] Conway RM, 26 on 29/12 (SB). Waipara RM, 28 on 28/10. Kowai RM, 12 incl several nesting prs on 28/10 (SB,AC). Kaitorete Spit Tip, 100 on 15/6 (SP). Ashburton RM, 32 on 29/11, 172 on 26/1. Rangitata RM, 6 on 21/9, 4 on 4/11. Spider Lgn, 41 on 13/12. Opihi RM, 8 on 4/11, 18 on 13/12. Godley Delta, L Tekapo, 60+ on 6/2. Tasman Delta, L Pukaki, 15 on 23/11 (AC). L Wainono, 88 on 8/12 (AC,SG). [OT] Waianakarua Est, 7 on 6/2 (BJS). Andersons Lgn, 9 on 29/3. Waikouaiti R, 7 on 29/3 (A&CW). Flag Swamp, 20 in wet paddock opposite school on 20/7 (D&JY). Kaikorai Est, 4 on 6/2 (KCG,DSW), 3 on 10/5 (K&JVM). [SO] New R Est, 600 on "Jocks Roost" on 6/2 (RS). Big Bay, 11 on 16/5 (IS).

Black-fronted dotterel *Charadrius melanops*

[CA] Waipara RM, 2 on 30/6 (SP). Waipara River Survey, 7 on 1/2 (KCH,SP). Opihi RM, 2 on 13/12 (AC). Washdyke Lgn, 2 on 9/7 (SB), 4 on 6/9, 2 on 9/12 (PFB,AC,MS).

Wrybill *Anarhynchus frontalis*

[CA] Avon - Heathcote Est, 3 overwintered 1996, 1 overwintered in 1997 (SB,AC). L Ellesmere, 44 on 3/11. Embankment Rd, 3 on 2/10, 11/10, 39 on 21/10. Yarrs Flat, 24 on 2/11, 10 on 25/11, 11 on 2/12, 24 on 12/4, 25 on 21/4. Clarks Rd, 50 on 3/1, 70+ on 21/1, 69 on 1/2, 40 on 19/2 (CH). Kaitorete Spit Tip, 12 on 7/9 (PFB,SB,AC), 33 on 17/11 (CH). Ashburton RM, 3 on 2/11, 2 on 29/11. Rangitata RM, 4 on 212/9, 1 on 4/1. Sth End, L Wainono, 5 on 21/9 (AC), 41 on 5/10 (PFB,AC), 11 on 26/10 (AC).

Pacific golden plover *Pluvialis fulva*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 17 on 3/11 (CH). Yarrs Flat, 16 on 2/11 (CH), 22 on 1/12, 17 on 2/1 (SB,AC). Embankment Rd, 16 on 23/10, 2 on 19/4. Clarks Rd, 11 on 25/11. Jarvis Rd, 27 on 1/12 (CH). Ashburton R, 1 feeding on shingle riverbed 400 m above mouth on 29/11. Spider Lgn, 1 on 13/12 roosting in stubble paddock with Banded Dotterels (AC). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 1 on 14/11, 15 on 6/2 (LE).

Spur-winged plover *Vanellus miles*

[CA] Conway RM & B, 64 on 28/12 (SB). Broad Rd, 17 on pasture on 3/9. Broomfield, pr with 2 chicks on pasture on 3/9 (MJC). L Forsyth, 147 on 22/9 (AC). [OT] Kakanui, 80 on 16/7 (BJS). All Day Bay, 20 on 11/5. Andersons Lgn, 53 on 29/3 (A&CW). [SO] Snares Is, 1 on 19/5 (MR).

Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

[CA] Ashley Est, 1 on 16/11 (PFB,AC). Brooklands Lgn, 1 on 6/1 (SB). Embankment Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 2/10, 11 on 21/10, 3 on 23/10, 1 on 23/4 (CH). Kaitorete Spit Tip, 4 on 7/9 (PFB,SB,AC), 11 on 4/11 (CH), 41 on 8/11 (CH,CJ), 17 on 17/11, 6 on 1/12, 1 on 21/4 (CH). Rakaia RM, 2 on 1/12

(SB,AC). Ashburton RM, 1 on 2/11 (AC), 1 on 3/11 (CH), 5 on 29/11, 26/1 (AC). [SO] Awarua Bay Sth, 18 on 27/8, 9 on 20/4, 8 on 15/6 (WC).

Lesser knot *Calidris canutus*

[CA] Ashley Est, 8 on 12/10 (SP), 6 on 16/11 (PFB,AC), 8 on 24/12 (SP), up to 16 over summer (TC). Avon - Heathcote Est, 6 on 2/12 (AC). Yarrs Flat, L Ellesmere, 1 on 25/11 (CH). Clarks Rd, L Ellesmere, 1 on 8/9, 29 on 21/4 (CH). Kaitorete Spit Tip, 4 on 8/11 (CH,CJ), 19 on 17/11 (CH). Sth End, L Wainono, 4 on 5/10 (PFB,AC), 2 on 26/10 (AC). [SO] Awarua Bay Sth, 53+ on 20/4, 12 on 18/5, 47 on 15/6 (WC).

Curlew sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 27 on 3/11, 1 in full breeding plumage (in flock of 9) on 5/1 (TC). Clarks Rd, 1 on 8/9, 19 on 12/4, 13 on 21/4, 3 on 23/4. Embankment Rd, 1 on 21/10, 10 on 21/1, 2 on 6/2. Yarrs Flat, 1 on 2/11, 18 on 1/1, 12 on 19/2 (CH). Kaitorete Spit Tip, 3 incl 2 in partial breeding plumage on 7/9 (PFB,SB,AC), 10, some in partial breeding plumage on 24/9 (SP), 27 on 4/11 (CH), 23 on 8/11 (CH,CJ), 27 on 17/11, 33 on 1/12 (CH). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 1 on 14/11, 1 on 6/2 (LE).

Sharp-tailed sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 5 on 24/9 (SP), 1 on 3/11. Yarrs Flat, 1 on 2/11, 4 on 2/12, 2 on 19/2. Colin Hill Ponds, 5 on 13/12. Clarks Rd, 5 on 3/1, 2 on 1/2 (CH). Sth End, L Wainono, 2 on 21/9 and through summer (PFB,AC). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 1 on 14/11, 6/2 (LE).

Pectoral sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*

[CA] L Ellesmere, 4 all summer (KCH,SP). Kaituna, 1 on 1/12. Yarrs Flat, 1 on 2/12. Colin Hill Ponds, 4 on 13/12, 4 on 24/12, 4 on 3/1 (CH). L Wainono, 1 on 8/12 (AC,SG). [OT] Kaikorai Est, 2 on 6/2 (KCG,DSW).

Red-necked stint *Calidris ruficollis*

[MA] L Grassmere, 1 in full breeding plumage (in flock of 3) on 16/11 (TC). [CA] Kaitorete Spit Tip, 22 on 7/9 (PFB,SB,AC), 46 on 4/11 - 1 orange flag, 68 on 1/12 (CH), 30 on 8/11 - 1 orange flag (CH,CJ), 46 on 3/11, 68 on 17/11, (CH). L Ellesmere, Clarks Rd to Jarvis Rd, 56 on 2/1 (SB,AC), 46 on 3/1, 52 on 21/1, 78 on 1/2 - 1 orange flag (CH), 57 on 31/3 - 1 orange - flagged (KCH,SP). Yarrs Flat, 11 on 9/7, 10 on 25/11 - 1 orange flag, 2 on 2/12, 30 on 19/2 (CH). Embankment Rd, 46 on 6/2 - 1 orange flag, 38 on 12/4, 47 on 21/4 (CH). Ashburton R, 1 juv feeding on shingle riverbed 300 m above RM on 2/11, 3/11 (AC,CH). Opihi RM, 1 ad on 13/12 (AC). L Wainono, 2 on 9/12 (PFB,AC,MS). [SO] Awarua Bay Sth, 15 on 14/11, 40 on 6/2, 21 on 15/6 (LE).

Eastern curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*

[CA] Ashley Est, 1 on 17/8 (PFB,AC), 3 on 17/11 (AC), 4 on 24/12, 20/6 (KCH,SP). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 2 on 14/11 (LE). New R Est, 4 on 6/2 (GM).

Asiatic whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus variegatus*

[SO] Awarua Bay E, 1 on 15/6 (LE).

Whimbrel *Numenius* sp.

[WC] Orowaiti Est, 1 on 19/1 (SBr).

Eastern bar-tailed godwit *Limosa lapponica*

[MA] Kaikoura, 3 on 18/8. [WC] Orowaiti, 27 on 19/1 (SBr). [CA] Ashley Est, 139 on 10/11, 102 on 24/12 (SP). Brooklands Lgn, 105 on 28/10. Avon - Heathcote Est, 298 on 9/8, 1737 on 28/10 (SB,AC), 1492 on 2/12 (AC), 250 on 15/5, 251 on 29/5 (SP,KCH), 242 on 28/6 (AC). Lyttelton Hbr, 307 on 1/12 (SB,AC). Kaituna Lgn, 2 on 26/10, 4 on 17/1. L Forsyth, none present in summer 96/97 (SB). L Ellesmere, Yarrs Flat, 15 on 8/9, 2 on 2/1, 46 on 25/11, 12 on 2/12. Clarks Rd, 31 on 8/9, 9

on 3/1, 1 on 21/1. Embankment Rd, 5 on 2/10, 6 on 6/2 (CH). Kaitorete Spit Tip, 4 on 8/11, 1 on 17/11 (CH,CJ). Rakaia RM, 1 on 1/12 (SB,AC). Washdyke Lgn, 5 on 8/12 (AC,SG). Sth End, L Wainono, 6 on 21/9, 26/10 (AC), Nth End, L Wainono, 7 on 9/12 (PFB, AC,MS). [OT] All Day Bay, 1 on 21/9. Peasant RM, 1 on 22/9 (SB). Blueskin Bay, 224 on 6/10 (K&JVM). Hoopers Inlet, 5 on 13/5 (A&CW). Flag Swamp, 30 in wet paddock opposite school (D&JY). Karitane, 50 on 18/9 (DJO). Porpoise Bay, Catlins, 88 on 28/9, 95 on 29/9 (SBr). [SO] Awarua Bay Sth, 66 on 28/7, 27 on 18/5, 49 on 15/6 (LE).

[Siberian tattler *Tringa brevipes*

[CA] Ashburton RM, 1 feeding on shingle riverbed 600 m above mouth on 2/11, 3/11 (AC,CH), 1 at RM on 26/1 & 29/1 (AC). Washdyke Lgn, 1 on 15/10 (PFB,AC). [SO] Awarua Bay E, 4 on 16/11 (D. Seay), 3 on 6/2/3 (LE).]

Tattler *Tringa* sp.

[MA] Kaikoura Pen, 4 on 16/11 (TC)

[Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

[CA] L Ellesmere, Embankment Rd, 1 on 14/4 (CH).]

Terek sandpiper *Tringa terek*

[SO] Awarua Bay E, 1 on 6/2, 2 on 15/6 (LE).

[Brown skua *Catharacta skua lonnbergi*

[MA] Off Kaikoura, 1 on 3/3, 1 on 2/4. [OT] Porpoise Bay, Catlins, 2 on 27/11 (SBr).]

Arctic skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*

[CA] Sth New Brighton Spit, 2 on 17/11 (PFB,SB,AC). Sandy Pt, Avon - Heathcote Est, 1 imm on 13/1. Spider Lgn, 1 in winter plumage, seen well on 13/12. Ashburton RM, 1 on 26/1 (AC). [OT] Cats Eye Pt, Kakanui, 1 on 19/12 chasing white-fronted terns. Beach Rd, Kakanui, 2 harassing terns on 13/1 (BJS).

Arctic/Pomarine skua *Stercorarius* spp.

[MA] Off Kaikoura, 1 on 2/1, 1 on 8/1, 1 on 10/1, 1 on 14/1, 1 on 15/1, 1 on 31/3, 4 on 1/4, 1 on 2/4, 2 on 4/4. [WC] Off Westport, 2 on 17/1, 1 on 20/1, 3 on 23/1, 1 on 28/1, 7 on 29/1. Off Greymouth, 2 on 31/1, 5 on 1/2, 1 on 3/2, 2 on 5/2, 4 on 6/2, 6 on 8/2. Jackson Bay, 1 on 19/2 (SBr). [CA] Avon-Heathcote Est, 1 on 9/4 (SB). Akaroa Hbr, 9 on 14/12, 2 on 18/12, 1 on 23/12, 1 on 26/12. Pigeon Bay, 2 on 23/3. Port Levy, 1 on 23/3 (SBr).

Black-backed gull *Larus dominicanus*

[CA] Ashley Est, 2 imm "skimming", lower mandible in water while flying along surface of shallow water on 10/11 (TC). [OT] Kakanui RM, c.150 on 30/4 (BJS), 57 on 21/6. All Day Bay, 145 on 21/6 (A&CW). Victory B, attacking and injuring a red-billed gull on 12/10. Rock and Pillar Ra, ad pecked and killed a chick on 8/12 (KM). [SO] Tikore I, Bluff Hbr, c.1000 nests on 1/12 (LE).

Red-billed gull *Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus*

[CA] L Forsyth, 2460 on 22/9 feeding over recently drained lake (AC). Rangitata RM, 30 nesting in a small colony with black-billed gulls on 4/11 - unusual for red-billed gulls to nest on the Sth Canterbury coast (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 72 on 29/7 (BJS). Queens Gardens, Dunedin, attracting earthworms by foot-paddling on wet grass (KM).

Black-billed gull *Larus bulleri*

[MA] Kaikoura, 4 in red-billed gull colony on 21/8, 42 on 9/11, c.75 nests on 13/11, 100-200 on 2/4. [WC] Orowaiti Est, 4 on 19/1. Greymouth, 1 on 6/2. Jackson Bay, c.10 on 15/2 (SBr). [CA] Ashley R, first colony found on 10/11 with 108 nests (SP). Ahuriri Lgn, Motukarara, 1060 on 21/7 (SB,AC). Peacock

Springs, breeding colony in human-made wetland on 15/12 (SP). Ashburton RM, 108 on 29/11. Rangitata RM, 2380 on 21/9, 348 on 4/11 (AC). [SO] Very large July mortality due to prolonged frost following snowfall, 244 dead on road between Winton and Invercargill on 18/7 (JW), population recovered well after successful breeding season (LE). Supper Cove, 6 on 19/9. Big Bay, 34 on 16/5 (IS).

White-winged black tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*

[CA] Kaitorete Spit, L Ellesmere, 2 with 1 in full breeding plumage on 17/5 (TC, SP), 1 on 15/6 (SP). Mailbox Inlet, L Tekapo, 1 in full breeding plumage on 17/12 (PFB,AC,MS).]

Black-fronted tern *Sterna albobristata*

[MA] Off Kaikoura, 5 on 13/8. Kaikoura Pen, nest with 1 egg on 13/11, 1 ad + 1 imm on 5/3. [WC] Jackson Bay, 1 on 8/7. [CA] Port Levy, 1 on 14/6 (SBr). Lower Ashley R, first nests on 10/11. Kaitorete Spit Tip, 100 on 17/5 (SP). Lake Rd South, Ellesmere, 118 hawking insects over paddocks on 7/7 (SB,AC). Rangitata RM, 30 on 21/9, 1 on 4/11 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 2 on 7/1, 3 on 10/1, 1 on 1/4 with white-fronted terns (BJS).

Caspian tern *Sterna caspia*

[MA] Clarence RM, 1 on 22/8. Off Kaikoura, 1 on 25/8. [WC] Westport, 1 on 31/7. Off Greymouth, 1 on 31/1, 1 on 5-7/2. Waita RM, 2 on 18/2. Arawata R, 1 on 19-20/2. Jackson Bay jetty, 5 on 19/2. [CA] Off Conway RM, 1 on 13/8, 1 on 31/3. Raupo Bay, BP, 1 on 31/8 (SBr). L Ellesmere, 111 on 17/5 (SP). Rakaia Bridge, 2 on 8/9. Rangitata Bridge, 3 on 6/9 (PFB,AC). Rangitata RM, 1 on 21/9. Ohau - Tekapo Delta, L Benmore, 5 on 28/11, 7 on 14/1. Maitland Stm, above L Ohau, 2 on 28/1 (AC). Ahuriri River census, min 23 on 20/1 (DoC Twizel). Ahuriri Delta, L Benmore, max 12 on 18/9 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 2 on 6/12, 6 on 19/3, 2 on 30/6 (BJS). Moeraki, 2 on 30/6 (SBr). All Day Bay, 2 on 21/6 (A&CW), 2 on 21/9 (SB), Waikouaiti R, 5 on 29/3 (A&CW). Portobello, dead bird found in April was banded in Dec 1981 in Invercargill (ABB). Waikawa Hbr, Catlins, 2 on 25/9, 1 on 27/2 (SBr). [SO] Big Bay, 3 on 19/5 (IS).

White-fronted tern *Sterna striata*

[CA] Damon's Hd, BP, c.100 pr on 17/10. Akaroa Hbr, c.40 nests on 18/12. Ohahoa Bay, BP, c.100 nests on 23/12 (SBr). Rangitata RM, 203 on 21/9, 730 on 4/11 (AC). [OT] Kakanui R, 2 on 4/7, 3 on 18/11, c.100 on 19/1, c.1500 on 24/2 (BJS). [SO] New R Est shellbanks, 100 nests with 0, 1 or 2 eggs on 8/12 (LE). [SO] Between Stewart I and Snares Is, 1 ad on 20/5 at 47°30'S, 167°19'E, flying sth (MR).

Little tern *Sterna albibrons*

[CA] Kaitorete Spit, L Ellesmere, 2 on 17/5, 15/6 (TC, SP).

NZ pigeon *Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae*

[OT] Kakanui R, 1 on 8/5, first sighting for many years (BJS). Wakari Rd, Dunedin, common from June to March (JAW). Botanic Gardens, Dunedin, feeding on *Crataegus monogyna* fruits on 15/5, on *Toronia tara* fruits on 19/5 and *Pittosporum eugenioides* fruits on 27/5. Berwick Forest, 29 on 29/9 (K&JVM).

Sulphur-crested cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*

[CA] Port Levy, 16 on 25/6 (SB,AC). Kaituna, 3 on 21/10 (SBr).

South I kaka *Nestor meridionalis meridionalis*

[WC] Beginning L Daniells Track, 5-6 beside SHW on 8/11. Lower Wills R, 1 on 11/1 (BJS). Mt Brewster Track, Haast Pass, 6 in flock on 15/1 (JD). [OT] Hunter R, 1 on 14/1 nr Forbes Flat. Makarora Hut, Haast area, 1 on 15/1 (BJS). [SO] Sandhill Pt, 5 on 7/10/95. Waitutu RM, 7 on 15/10/95. Supper Cove, 2 on 28/11/95, 1 on 18/9. Cascade Crk, Eglinton V, 3 on 22/12/95. Loch Maree, 1 on 20/9. Centre Pass, 1 on 23/

9. L Ada, 1 on 13/10. L Hauroko and Hump Ridge, low numbers but widespread, 4 above Teal Bay on 25-28/12 (IS). L Hauroko Outlet, 1 on 5/9 (WC). Ulva I, abundant on 23/11 (LE).

Kea *Nestor notabilis*

[MA] Hutton's shearwater colony, upper Kowhai V, 1 inspecting burrows on 3/11 (BJS). [WC] Wills R Hut, 1 on 11/1. Upper Wills R, 2 on 12/1 (BJS). [CA] Mt Sebastipol, Mt Cook NP, 2 on 7/12 (AC). [SO] Big R, pr and 2 fledged young on 13/10/95. Centre Pass, 2 on 23/9. Kiwi Flat on Doon R, 4 on 4/4. Teal bay, L Hauroko, 2 on 25/12 (IS). Manapouri, digging carrots from gardens during cold snap in July (P Snoep).

Eastern rosella *Platycercus eximius*

[OT] Botanic Gardens, Dunedin, 1-4 seen regularly in May. Glenross, Dunedin, 1 on 23/8. Ellis Park, Dunedin, 2 on 5/9. Three Mile Hill, 1 on 23/7, 3 on 1/1 (KM). Wakari Rd, Dunedin, recorded all year, ranging from 23 in Oct to 1 in April (JAW).

Red-crowned parakeet *Cyanoramphus novaeseelandiae*

[OT] Botanic Gardens, Dunedin, 6 captive bred birds released in early May, 2 seen on 28/5 (KM). [SO] Solander I, the only parakeet species seen, mainly feeding amongst *Poa astonii* tussocks on 2/8 (WC).

Yellow-crowned parakeet *Cyanoramphus auriceps*

[WC] Cataract Pot, Paparoa NP, 1 on 8/1 (BJS). Haast Pass, 5 on 21/11 (BHS). [CA] Mt Oxford, 1 on 14/5 (SP). [SO] L Hauroko outlet, 1 on 25/12. Supper Cove, 2 on 18/9. Loch Maree, 2 on 20/9. West Arm, Manapouri, 3 on 23/9. (IS).

Parakeet *Cyanoramphus* sp.

[SO] L Hauroko and Hump Ridge, low numbers but widespread and including at least 1 yellow-crowned parakeet at L Hauroko outlet on 25-28/12. Supper Cove, 6 including 2 yellow-crowned parakeets on 18/9. Big Bay, 2 on 17/5. Hidden Falls to Demon Trail Hut, 6 associated with tall red beech on 23/5 (IS).

Shining cuckoo *Chrysococcyx lucidus*

[WC] Punakaiki, first song on 17/9, last call noted on 5/3 (BJS). [CA] Woodend, 2 with a black fantail attacking and chasing them on 10/11 (SP). Takamatua V, 1 on 15/10 (SBr). [OT] Kakanui R, 1 on 20/1, 28/1 (BJS). Papanui Inlet, 1 on 10/11. Hoopers Inlet, 1 on 3/11. Camp Rd, Otago Pen, 1 on 28/9, 1 on 20/10, 1 on 3/11. Pukehiki, 1 on 5/1. Botanic Gardens, Dunedin, 1 on 24/10, 1 on 1/11. Dunedin City, 1 on 25/10, 1 on 1/11. Three Mile Hill, 1 on 1/11 (K&JVM). Wakari area, Dunedin, first heard this year on 23/9 (D&JY). Berwick Forest, 2 on 29/9 (K&JVM). [SO] Little R, Stewart I, first Southland record for year on 1/10 (LE).

Long-tailed cuckoo *Eudynamis taitensis*

[WC] Hibernia Crk, Barrytown Flats, 2 heard on 18/10, occasionally heard during night (BJS). [SO] Milford Track, 12 heard on 19/12 (LE).

Morepork *Ninox novaeseelandiae*

[OT] Wakari Rd, Dunedin, seen and heard from Sept to June (JAW). [SO] Port Craig, 1 on 8/10/95 (IS).

Little owl *Athene noctua*

[CA] Takamatua V, 2 on 27/3 (SBr). Accommodation Rd, L Ellesmere, 2 at dusk on 1/12 (SB,AC). [OT] Kakanui R, pr raised 2 young this year, 4 on 25/11, single birds Feb to June (BJS). Seacliff-Warrington, 1 on 20/6 (MR). Wakari Rd, Dunedin, seen and heard Mar to June (JAW). Hoopers Inlet, 1 on 21/7, 1 on 24/8, 1 on 29/12. Camp Rd, Otago Pen, 1 on

31/8. Pukehiki, 1 on 13/7, 1 on 14/7, 1 on 28/9 (KM). Otago Pen, 2 on 9/1. Sealpoint Rd, Otago Pen, 1 on 9/1 (PS).

NZ kingfisher *Halcyon sancta vagans*

[WC] Big Bay, 1 ad, 2 juvs on 16/5 (IS). [CA] Inner Akaroa Hbr Bays, 97 on 29/6 (SB). [OT] Kakanui R, most sightings in autumn and winter months, 4 on 11/7, 4 on 29/7, 2 on 5/5 (BJS). Andersons Lgn, 1 on 29/3. Merton Arm, 1 on 14/6. Taiaroa Hd, 2 on 18/5 (A&CW). Blueskin Bay, 1 on 6/10. Harrington Pt, Otago Pen, 1 on 12/8. Hoopers Inlet, 1 on 24/8, 1 on 19/1, 2 on 16/2 (K&JVM), 3 on 13/5. Portobello, 1 on 18/5 (A&CW), 1 on 21/5 (AB&VMB). Pukehiki, 1 on 1/10, 1 on 2/10. Highcliff, 1 on 16/11, 1 on 17/3. Chisholm Park, Dunedin, 1 harassed fantail on 23/4 (K&JVM). Takahopa R, Catlins, 1 on 4/6. Waikawa, 3 on 14/6 (D&JY). Thisbe Stm, Catlins, pr mobbed twice by yellowheads on 8/11/95. [SO] Supper Cove, 1 on 18/9 (IS).

South I rifleman *Acanthisitta chloris chloris*

[OT] Dunedin Town belt, 1 on 28/7 (ARB).

Rock wren *Xenicus gilviventris*

[SO] Mitre Peak, many on 26/1 (RS).

Skylark *Alauda arvensis*

[WC] Big Bay, 3 on 16/5. [OT] Kakanui R, 6 on 30/9, 5 on 20/11, 5 on 3/12, 5 on 15/1 (BJS). [SO] Martins Bay, 1 on 21/5. Supper Cove, 1 on 18/9 (IS).

Welcome swallow *Hirundo tahitica neoxena*

[WC] Big Bay, 2 on 18/5 (IS). [CA] Saltwater Crk, 1 on 3/9 (MJC). [OT] Kakanui R, 8 on 9/9, 7 on 11/12 (BJS). All Day Bay, 22 on 11/5. Tomahawk Lgn, 3 on 7/4 (A&CW). [SO] Supper Cove, 1 on 18/9 (IS).

[Australian tree martin *Hylochelidon nigricans*

[OT] Clarendon, 1 on 13/12, pr on 14/12, 3 on 17/1 (AN).]

NZ pipit *Anthus novaeseelandiae*

[OT] Kakanui R, 3 on 28/11, 5 on 24/3, 3 on 4/6 (BJS). Flagstaff, Dunedin, 3 on 25/12 (K&JVM).

Hedge sparrow *Prunella modularis*

[OT] St Kilda B, Dunedin, 1 part albino on 6/5 (JVM).

Blackbird *Turdus merula*

[CA] Linwood, Christchurch, singing from 2:00 am until dawn on 5/8 (AC). [OT] Sth Dunedin, first song on 19/7. Otago Pen, short songs on 24/7-11/8, full song by 14/8 (K&JVM).

South I fernbird *Bowdleria punctata punctata*

[WC] Big Bay, 5+ on 17/5. [SO] Martins Bay, 2 on 15/5. Mirror Ls, Eglinton V, 1 on 12/4 (IS).

Stewart I fernbird *Bowdleria punctata stewartiana*

[SO] Mason Bay, colonising more of the inland flats as Island Hill Farm reverts to shrubland (Tim Te Aika).

Yellowhead *Mohoua ochrocephala*

[SO] Loch Maree, Seaforth V, 8 territories with 1-3 birds on 20/9. Upper Spey V, 8 territories on 24/9. Woodrow Burn, 5-6 groups on 8-9/10. Princhester Burn, Takitimu Mts, groups of 2 & 3 on 28/12/95, 3 on 2/1. West Branch, Waikouau R, 1 with brown creepers on 28/1. Lower Doon R, 7-10 with flock of brown creepers on 6/4. Tutoko V, 5 on 11/4 (IS). Milford Track nr "Bus Stop Shelter", 10-15 on 27/2 (S&JR).

Brown creeper *Mohoua novaeseelandiae*

[CA] Woodend Lgn, 1 in willows on 14/7 (TC). Okuti V, BP, 12 on 10/7 (AC). [OT] Trotters Gorge, 3 on 17/1, 1 on 24/1 (BJS).

Grey warbler *Gerygone igata*

[OT] Kakanui R, 2 on 16/7. Trotters Gorge, 3 on 17/1 (BJS).

South I fantail *Rhipidura fuliginosa fuliginosa*

[CA] Woodend Lgn, 1 mobbing 2 shining cuckoos in open cover, flying off after them persistently when they moved on 13/10 (TC). [OT] Low numbers in region being recorded (ABB). Herbert rubbish tip, 11 hawking at once (BJS).

South I tomtit *Petroica macrocephala macrocephala*

[CA] Port Hills, Kennedys Bush, 1 ad male on 22/6 (SB). [OT] Naseby Forest, several on 6/9 (ARB), reportedly common (JAW). [SO] Grant Burn, several catching sandhoppers on beach on 10/10/95 (IS).

South I robin *Petroica australis australis*

[OT] Flagstaff Crk Track, Dunedin, 1 in Douglas fir on 31/3 (K&JVM). [SO] Loch Maree, 5 on 20/9. L Hauroko, swamp forest nr peninsula, 1 on 25/12, 3 on 28/12. L Monowai campground, 1 on 29/12 (IS).

Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*

[OT] Kakanui R, 10 on 17/4, 11 on 21/5, 8 on 30/6 (BJS). Broad Bay, Otago Pen, 20 feeding at bird table on 11/6 (A&CW).

Bellbird *Anthornis melanura*

[CA] Christchurch City, Southshore, 1 in banksia tree on 14/7 (SB). [OT] Kakanui R, 3 on 16/8, 3 on 11/10. Trotters Gorge, 4 on 17/2 (BJS). Broad Bay, Otago Pen, 3 male + 1 female using feeding table on 15/5 (A&CW). Macandrew Bay, 2 males at feeding table on 27/6 (AB&VMB).

Tui *Prothemadera novaeseelandiae*

[OT] Herbert, 1 on 26/9, 1 on 16/12, 2 on 28/5. Trotters Gorge, 1 on 24/1 (BJS). Warrington, 1 in Aug, 2 on 15/9 (CL). Broad Bay, 2 on 12/6 (TS), 2 on 15/5 (A&CW). Macandrew Bay, 1 frequent visitor, at feeding table on 23/6 (AB&VMB). Glenfalloch Gardens, 1 on 1/9 (K&JVM). Wakari Rd, Dunedin, visitor all year (JAW). Outram, 1 on 29/8, 2 on 1/9 (DGr). Waikawa, Catlins, 1 on 28/11 (SBr). [SO] Martins Bay-Big Bay, moderate numbers on abundant kahikatea fruit on 15-21/5. L Hauroko & Hump Ridge, low numbers but widespread, moderately common at lake outlet on 25-28/12. L Ada, 2 on 14/10 (IS). Halfmoon Bay, Stewart I, large numbers feeding on fuchsia and barberry on 2/10 (LE).

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*

[OT] Kakanui R, small flocks of 10-12 during Aug & Sept (BJS).

Cirl bunting *Emberiza cirlus*

[MA] Kaikoura Pen, 1 male in full song on 15/11 (TC). [OT] Kakanui, 2 on 7/7, 2 on 14/8, 1 fem on 31/1, 1 male on 14/2, 1 male on 13-14/5 (BJS).

Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*

[SO] Snares Is, 1 in mid-Apr, 1 on 5/5 (MR).

Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*

[WC] Grey V, between Ikamatua and Moonlight, 200+ on 26/4 (BJS). [SO] Snares Is, 1 on 6/5 (MR).

Redpoll *Carduelis flammea*

[OT] Dunedin Botanic Gardens, 12 on 23/9 (FA).

House sparrow *Passer domesticus*

[CA] Saltwater Crk, 40 feeding on lawn seed on 3/09. Rangiora Shopping Centre Nov 94 - July 97, 1 albino present with a local flock, survival seems unaffected by lack of camouflage, often mistaken for a canary (MJC). [OT] Dunedin, fem feeding inside front grille of parked car on 12/10 (KM).

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

[OT] Hoopers Inlet, 1 imitating yellow-eyed penguin calls on 24/8 (K&JVM).

Australian magpie *Gymnorhina tibicens*

[WC] En route, Stillwater to Ikamatua to Blackball, 17 on 26/4 (BJS). Arahura V, 1 resident pr (JD). [CA] Broad Rd, 21 on pasture on 3/09 (MJC). Off Christchurch Motorway, pr on 26/6 holding a little owl at bay on ground in frosty grass. They flew off when approached and when the owl flew the magpies chased (TC).

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*

[CA] Ridge Rd, Ellesmere, 5 on 29/6 (AC). Akaroa Hbr, Duvauchelles Bay, 7 on 24/8 (SB). [OT] Kakanui, 1 with magpies on 28/5, 5/6 (BJS). Waianakarua, 1 on 18/5 (AGH), Clarendon, 4 on 16/10 (AN). Clarks Junction, 23 on 4/11 (LJG). Maori Pt, nr Tarras, 5 on 22/12 (AC). [SO] Orawia, 9 on 22/2 (LE).

Provisional records

Records yet to be referred to the Rare Birds Committee on either Unusual Bird Report or Rare Bird Report forms are included here within square bracket, pending further examination. Such reports are not to be cited as definite records of the taxa concerned. Future reports of the Rare Birds Committee in Notornis should be consulted before reference is made to these records. All records of taxa on the lists published on the Society web page and available from Regional Representatives and Regional Recorders must be submitted for investigation by the Rare Birds Committee before they can be formally accepted and cited.

Kin recognition in blue penguins (*Eudyptula minor*) on Tiritiri Matangi Island

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We investigated whether little blue penguin (*Eudyptula minor*) chicks could distinguish siblings from other

chicks using auditory cues, by measuring behavioural and heart rate changes during playback experiments with 5 treatments – the begging calls of siblings, neighbouring chicks, and unfamiliar chicks, and 2 controls. The results have indicated that chicks are able to distinguish siblings from strangers but that their ability to discriminate between siblings and neighbours remain uncertain. We also analysed begging calls of each chick to find out whether they are individually distinctive. The results showed each chick's calls were distinctive and could act as a vocal signature.



Letter

Correction: *Leucocarbo* shag at the Snares Islands

O'Donnell & West (2001) contains the following reference to a *Leucocarbo* shag seen by Martin Renner at the Snares Islands in Apr–May 1997:

Bounty I shag *Leucocarbo ranfurlyi*

[SO] Snares Is, 1 ad early Apr–20/5, photographed (MR).

This contradicts Miskelly *et al.* (2001), which contains the following:

Auckland Island shag (*Leucocarbo colensoi*)

A juvenile Auckland Island shag first seen in Boat Harbour on 24 Jul 1994 had gained full adult plumage by Mar 1996 (Plate 4D). This bird was seen on 14 visits and was still present in Oct 2000, often associating with Snares crested penguins on Ho Ho Point, where it defended a nest site in a penguin colony. When penguins were present the shag walked to and from the colony with the penguins, however, when penguins were absent the shag flew to and from its nest site.

The caption to Plate 4D in Miskelly *et al.* (2001) reads:

D, Auckland Island shag (*Leucocarbo colensoi*), Ho Ho Point, Mar 1997. P. Sagar.

Both accounts refer to the same bird. Note that the photograph reproduced as Plate 4D in Miskelly *et al.* (2001) was taken within a month prior to Mr Renner's visit. The shag sightings in April–May 1997 were included among the 14 visits between July 1994 and October 2000 referred to in Miskelly *et al.* (2001), although not explicitly stated in the paper.

Our identification of this bird as an Auckland Island shag is mainly based on facial skin coloration. Auckland Island shags in breeding plumage typically have dark purple facial skin with a strongly contrasting bright

yellow stripe along the base of the upper mandible, extending forward from the gape. This is clearly shown for the vagrant Snares Island bird in Plate 4D in Miskelly *et al.* (2001). In contrast, Bounty Island shags in breeding plumage typically have orange facial skin gradually grading into yellow at the base of the bill, with no prominent contrasting stripe along the base of the upper mandible.

An Auckland Island shag (assumed to be the same bird) has subsequently been seen on Ho Ho Point and in Ho Ho Bay, Snares Islands in Jan and Feb 2001 (P. Scofield and P. Sagar pers. obs.).

This same bird was referred to incorrectly as a vagrant Stewart Island shag *L. chalconotus* in Heather & Robertson (1996: 245), based on an incorrect identification by PMS when the bird was in juvenile plumage in 1994. We suggest that Bounty Island shag *L. ranfurlyi* and Stewart Island shag *L. chalconotus* be omitted from the list of birds recorded from the Snares Islands.

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- O'Donnell, C.F.J.; West, J.A. 2001. Classified summarised notes, South Island and outlying islands, 1 July 1996 – 30 June 1997. *Notornis* 48: 81–89.
- Colin M. Miskelly, Paul M. Sagar, Alan J.D. Tennyson & R. Paul Scofield

Obituary — Ronald Mathias Lockley (1903-2000)

In his 97th year, Ronald Lockley died on 12 April 2000 at the Country Lodge, Te Puke, where he had spent the final years of his life near to the home of his daughter Ann Mark and her family. Eminent as a naturalist, a writer, and a pioneering advocate for conservation projects, Ronald Lockley had migrated from his native Wales to the Auckland suburb of Glendowie in 1970. From that base he remained an active member of the international community for 25 further years. He also took a valuable part in local ornithology, particularly with Sylvia Reed during her 13 years as Regional Representative, and through Miranda Naturalists' Trust of which he was a founding Council Member.

Ronald Lockley offered generous support to many environmental groups besides Miranda Trust, notably Forest & Bird as Auckland Branch Chairman. His influence was crucial in securing several new reserves for habitat protection and his book *The house above the sea* marks a dedication to such efforts. Its title refers to his home adjacent to the Tamaki Estuary with its important wader roosts of which he was a staunch guardian, founding the Tahuna Torea Nature Reserve in 1975. Establishing wildlife reserves was second nature to Ronald!

Few have lived fuller lives than Ronald Lockley. As a young man he dwelt on the Pembrokeshire island of Skokholm where he established one of the first bird observatories in the world. During the Second World War period he farmed in South West England as an essential occupation. In the 1950s when myxomatosis was rampant in Britain he investigated the behaviour of wild rabbits on behalf of the Nature Conservancy. However birds were his first love and ornithological studies were the subject of many reports during his years in the British Isles. He continued these activities in New Zealand as a sage contributor to OSNZ meetings and

surveys; an instance being the visit by 17 members to Savai'i, Western Samoa, in 1979, reported in *Notornis* 27: 151-159. There, Ronald led mist-netting and banding operations; the oldest member of our party and among the most active – on the dance floor at the village feast, as well as in the field.

As obituaries in *The Times* and elsewhere have testified, Ronald Lockley was one of the 20th Century's foremost nature writers with more than 50 books to his credit. Among these are his important monographs on shearwaters and puffins, *Dream Island*, and other accounts of his life on Skokholm, and various guides and travel books to Wales and elsewhere, usually with a strong element of natural history. Works with southern themes include the pictorial volume *New Zealand's birds* (with Geoff Moon's photographs) and several books with a clear conservation message of which *Man against Nature* and *New Zealand endangered species* (with Noel Cusa's paintings) are good examples.

Readers who enjoy autobiography can turn with pleasure to a series of books by Ronald Lockley, especially *The way to an island*, *Myself when young - The making of a naturalist*, and *Orielton*. The research conducted at the Welsh manor Orielton became *The private life of the rabbit*, used later by Richard Adams to provide details for *Watership Down*. This claim to fame aside, Lockley's book is a gem of scientific data for the non-specialist audience. Echoing the words of Eric Hosking, "It would be difficult to discover a more dedicated naturalist than Ronald Lockley." Earlier, Ronald had written a biography of Gilbert White, author of *The natural history of Selborne*. The link is apt; their approach epitomises inquiry for the love of the subject which lies at the heart of ornithology.

Michael Taylor



Errata

- (1) The following Short Note was omitted from the list of Contents of Volume 48, number 1
Keeley, B.R. 2001. Foot-trembling in the spur-winged plover (*Vanellus miles novaehollandiae*). *Notornis* 48(1): 59-60.
- (2) In the South Island Classified Notes for 1996-997 *Notornis* 48(2): 86, the record under black-backed gull (*Larus dominicanus*) of immature birds acting like skimmers at the Ashley Estuary reported by Tony Crocker, actually referred to black-billed gulls (*Larus bulleri*).