

# THE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND (Inc)

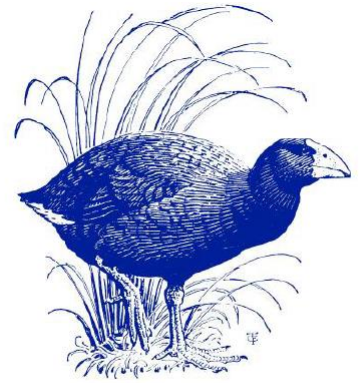
## Wellington Region Newsletter

### OSNZ—Birds New Zealand

**September 2018**

<http://osnz.org.nz/> and

<http://notornis.osnz.org.nz/>



*Birds New Zealand*

#### Greetings

There has been a very pleasing response to our draft documents for the 2019 Birds New Zealand Conference which will be held over Queen's Birthday weekend. There were some good suggestions, criticisms and observations. Ian Armitage and I will write a new version of the Conference programme which will incorporate the responses. Next year we will be asking for volunteers to help in the running of the conference.

The notable new activity during the last 3 months has been the start of the 5<sup>th</sup> Wellington Harbour survey. The value of longitudinal surveys can be seen in the recently published paper by Colin Miskelly which summarises 5 minute bird counts at Zealandia which dated back to 1995 prior to the construction of the fence.

Geoff de Lisle

Wellington Regional Representative, Birds New Zealand

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Wellington Harbour Survey Geoff de Lisle, Stuart Nicholson

Mist netting – Matu Both, [manager@ngamanu.co.nz](mailto:manager@ngamanu.co.nz) Nga Manu, Waikanae

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#### Upcoming Monthly Meetings WHERE and WHEN

Meetings are held at Te Papa's collections building, 169 Tory Street. Go up the steps/ramp and across the carpark.

#### WHERE and WHEN:

The meeting is held on the first Monday of the month at Te Papa's collections building, 169 Tory Street. Go up the steps and across the parking area to the door.

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of October, Geographical Information Systems & their use in Conservation, Parker Jones.

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> of November, Barbara Tomotani, will talk on her overseas studies on the Pied Flycatcher.

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> of December, Stu Coburn, Department of Conservation will talk on the use of acoustic recorders in bird studies.

**July: Alan Tennyson**, Curator of Vertebrates, Te Papa. Extinct species of birds recently described from New Zealand.

In his talk Alan described the recently discovered extinct birds of New Zealand. Prior to 2006 most of the extinct fossil birds were mostly marine species. Subsequently a group of scientists have described 34 new fossil species. The investigations at St Bathans, the site of the large Lake Manuherikia, have over the last 17 years been a major contributor to the list of newly discovered species. They came from the Miocene era approximately 19 million years ago. By 2015 the list of discoveries from St Bathans included, "15 fish, 2 NZ frogs, 1 tuatara-relative, 2 skinks, 2 geckos, 1 turtle, 1 crocodilian, 2 moa, 1 kiwi, 8 geese and ducks, 1 petrel, 2 birds of prey, 1 adzebill, 2 rails, 1 gull, 2 wading birds, 2 herons, a flamingo-like palaelodid, 2 pigeons, 4 parrots, 1 swiftlet, 1 owlet-nightjar, 7 song birds and 5 bats."

Further information on the St Bathans studies can be found at the following websites.

<https://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2015/01/06/fossil-bonanza-reveals-the-history-of-new-zealands-animals/>

<https://www.canterburymuseum.com/discover/blog-posts/the-st-bathans-fauna-a-window-on-new-zealands-past/>

<https://sciblogs.co.nz/lost-worlds/2018/03/19/through-the-looking-glass-fossils-reveal-a-miocene-wonderland-at-st-bathans/>

Another major discovery was a fossil bird from 60 million years ago, a giant penguin, *Kumimanu biceae*, from Hampden Beach, Otago. A highlight of Alan's talk was seeing some of the actual specimens containing the fossil remains.

<https://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2017/12/13/ancient-colossal-penguin-bones-discovered-in-otago/>

**August: Disappointment Island and other wildlife highlights from the Auckland Islands, Colin Miskelly, Curator of Vertebrates, Te Papa**

Colin has an on-going interest in snipe which continues following his PhD studies on snipe on the Snare Islands. Early this year Colin had the opportunity to join an expedition to the Auckland Islands which has its own subspecies of Subantarctic snipe, *Coenocorypha aucklandica aucklandica*. Snipe are very vulnerable to predation and were eradicated on the islands where rats were present, such as the main Auckland Island. Prior to eradication of predators on the Port Ross Islands, the known populations of Auckland Island snipe were Adams Island, Disappointment Island and Ewing Island. Following the eradication of rats, snipe are now present in numbers on Enderby, Rose, Ocean and Ewing Islands in Port Ross. This expedition enabled Colin to get blood samples from not only the Port Ross Islands but also Disappointment Island. There is a fascinating history associated with Disappointment Island including the shipwreck of the Dundonald in 1907. Since 1907 only 10 people, including four from the 2018 expedition have camped overnight on the island. Colin presented some very recent findings of the DNA analysis of the snipe blood samples. The distribution of alleles for all the Port Ross Islands raises the possibility that snipe may have survived on these islands, even in the presence of predators. More can be read of the fauna of the Auckland Islands in the following blogs;

<https://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2018/02/26/a-sniper-in-the-subantarctic/>

<https://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2018/02/09/wildlife-highlights-of-disappointment-island/>

<https://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2018/02/20/albatrosses-and-petrels-of-the-auckland-islands/>

<https://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2018/03/02/the-furtive-fauna-of-the-auckland-islands/>

**September: "25 years of management of Kakerori *Pomarea dimidiata* on Rarotonga", Hugh Robertson, Department of Conservation**

Hugh described the successful programme to rescue the Kakerori from extinction. At the start of the programme the Kakerori was one of the 10 rarest bird species in the world. In spring 1989, there were just 29 birds remaining and without management the species was predicted to be extinct by the year 2000.

*"The kakerori is a small (22 g) forest passerine, endemic to Rarotonga. Both males and females undergo the same set changes in colouration as they grow older: all yearlings are orange, with a yellow base to their dark bill; all 2-year olds are orange, with completely dark bills; 3-year-olds are a variable 'mixed' colour, ranging from some females that are blotchy grey and orange, through to a few males that are entirely grey; all birds 4 or more years old are entirely grey (Robertson et al. 1993; Robertson & Saul unpubl. data)." Robertson, 2008*

The rescue programme was a joint venture between the Department of Conservation, with Hugh taking a leading role, and Rarotonga. Concerted efforts by staff of the Takitumu Conservation Area Project to control rats through a poisoning programme has led to a remarkable turnaround in the fortunes of the species on Rarotonga. Furthermore an 'insurance' population has been established on Atiu Island even though in the presence of cats and kiore and the absence of *Aerobryopsis* moss, their main nesting material on Rarotonga. In 2015, after 25 years of management, the overall population stood at over 580 birds (a 20-fold increase) and the IUCN Red List status has moved from 'Critically Endangered' to 'Vulnerable'.

Lynn Adams was a co-author on this, along with four people from the Takitumu Conservation Area Project.

Robertson, H. (2008) Conservation of kakerori (*Pomarea dimidiata*) in the Cook Islands in 2006/07  
<https://www.doc.govt.nz/documents/science-and-technical/drds296.pdf>

## Waikanae Scientific Reserve

Recently steps have been taken on the Waikanae Scientific Reserve to reduce the adverse effects of human activity on shorebirds such as banded dotterels and New Zealand dotterel. New signage has been erected in an effort to reduce/remove vehicle traffic on the sand spit and there has been articles in the local newspaper urging readers observe the rules regarding activities in this area. There are tensions between some people whitebaiting and those wishing to ensure this activity does not adversely affect the shorebirds in this area.

<https://www.pressreader.com/new-zealand/kapiti-news/20180829/282209421720521>

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/106338870/fighting-on-the-beaches-kpiti-beach-ban-enforcement-shocks-locals>

## Feather wear - fantails.



While on Mana Island in July this year a striking observation was the amount of feather wear in some fantails. Fantails were particularly evident on Mana Island but those with marked feather wear appeared to be most common in those close to the beach. Fantails were feeding on the considerable insect life on an abundant amount of seaweed. Feather wear was particularly evident in the white tail feathers which were either showing significant wear, as shown in the picture, or absent. Lots of pictures were taken of fantail to record this observation but fantails are not very co-operative subjects as they rarely stay still and often do not fan their tail for the photographer. Fantails use their tail feathers when foraging in-flight for insects.

The fantail is of interest in that it occurs in all black and pied forms. The former principally occur in the South Island (5-25%) and are rare in the North Island (<1%). Atkinson (2005) observed that fantail white feathers, especially tail feathers, showed more wear than the black, melanin containing feathers. This observation was also recorded by Mackinven and Briskie (2012). For both the pied and black forms to be maintained in the population there needs to be a balance between competing selection advantages. There is a clear advantage of melanin and black feathers in that they are more resistant to wear than white, non-melanin containing feathers. While the advantage of white feathers is unclear it is possible that it results in higher foraging success through better flushing of insect prey. The reason for the difference between the proportion of black morphs on the North and South Islands is unknown.

Geoff de Lisle, Dallas Bishop

Atkinson, K. (2004). *The adaptive significance of plumage polymorphism*. Ph.D. Thesis, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand. Available online.

Kathryn Mackinven, *Differential wear of feathers in the polymorphic New Zealand Fantail (Rhipidura fuliginosa)—a selective advantage of melanism?* EMU, 154-159. Published online.

Acknowledgements: thanks for Kathryn MacKinven for her comments on the photograph and a copy of her paper; Ralph and Mary Powlesland for their review of the above photograph.

### Does Polly really want a cracker? By: Susan Waugh

Head of Science Dr Susan Waugh introduces Dr Barbara Mizumo Tomotani, arriving in September to look at how our birdlife has adapted to human impact. Te Papa will be welcoming Dr Barbara Mizumo Tomotani in September, to work on the isotopic and morphometric analyses of some of New Zealand's most threatened endemic birds (including some extinct species) – 10 species from kākāpō to huia.

The study will examine how quickly birds have adapted to human impacts on their environment – whether changes in food availability had impacts on their physical form, or in some cases their survival. The biochemical make-up of their feathers will enable Tomotani to understand dietary shifts that have occurred over the decades, with specimens dating back to the 1880s available for the study.

<https://blog.tepapa.govt.nz/2018/07/27/does-polly-really-want-a-cracker/> Note: Barbara has arrived and will be talking at our November meeting (GW de L)



## Foot Trembling – Banded Dotterels

While monitoring banded dotterels on the beach at Lake Kohangapiripiri on 30<sup>th</sup> June this year Dallas Bishop observed and videoed “foot trembling” feeding behaviour in a male banded dotterel. The bird stood on one leg while the other “trembled” for a couple of seconds. The bird often fed after foot trembling and then ran forward for short distance (up to 0.5 m) to repeat the action. This sequence was repeated at least 10 times in the ~30 second video. Foot trembling is thought to enable a bird during feeding to disturb and then locate hidden invertebrates during. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/136999125@N06/shares/w7yw51> . Foot trembling was observed in Auckland Island dotterels (*Charadrius bicinctus exilis*) by Pierce (1980) who commented that it was unlikely to be common in the New Zealand banded dotterel (*C. bicinctus bicinctus*) with a single reference to an unpublished BSc honours project (Dunn PL).

Similar feeding behaviour has been reported in a number of species within the family Charadriidae, especially among plovers, dotterels and lapwings. In New Zealand, in addition to banded dotterels, foot trembling has been observed in black-fronted dotterels, New Zealand shore plover and spur-winged plover.

Dallas Bishop & Geoff de Lisle

### References

- Armitage I. (2008) Foot-trembling and beak probing by the shore plover. *Notornis*, 55:38
- Dunn, PL (1975) Feeding and roosting patterns and foraging behaviour of four wader species at Aramoana, Dunedin. BSc Hons project, University of Otago, Dunedin
- Keeley, B.R. 2001. Foot-trembling in the spur-winged plover (*Vanellus miles novaehollandiae*). *Notornis*, 48: 59-60.
- Pierce, RJ (1980) Habits and feeding of the Auckland Island banded dotterel (*Charadrius bicinctus exilis* Falla 1978) in Autumn. *Notornis* 27:309-323.
- Tarburton, M. K. 1989. Feeding behaviour of the blackfronted dotterel. *Notornis* 36: 249-259.

## Results of Birds New Zealand (OSNZ) Zealandia Study

The latest edition of *Notornis* has a paper by Colin Miskelly (2018) in which he summarises three series of 5-minutes bird counts carried out by Wellington Birds New Zealand members at Zealandia (1995-2016). The study documented the changes in the bird population from before the establishment of the fence and the eradication of pests to 2016 when re-introduced birds had become established. Post 2005 when the introduced birds were established there were significant declines in silvereyes, grey warblers and fantails which were present prior to the establishment of the fence. Thus it appears that although these 3 species could survive in the presence of mammalian predation they were out competed by restored endemic birds in the absence of predators. The forest bird community at Zealandia is now more similar to that of Kapiti Island than to the bird community prior to the establishment of the fence.

Miskelly CM (2018) *Changes in the forest bird community of an urban sanctuary in response to pest mammalian eradications and endemic bird introductions.* *Notornis* 65:132-151

Link to Alison Balance interview with Colin Miskelly on Zealandia study; *Our Changing World*,

<https://www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/ourchangingworld/audio/2018663015/winner-and-losers-native-birds-in-a-pest-free-sanctuary>

<https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2018/09/fantail-population-plummeting-at-predator-free-zealandia-in-wellington.html>



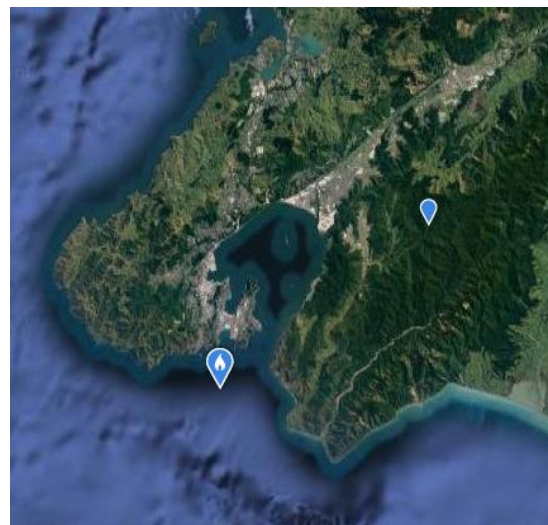
## Mystery Bird Call

Susan Ellis, a volunteer with the Remutaka Forest Park Trust has recently been analysing acoustic recordings taken in 2014. A series of acoustic recorders were used in the park which contain an increasing population of brown kiwi, now believed to number greater than 100 birds.

She came across a call she did not recognise taken from the Wainuiomata Water Catchment, next to the area where the brown kiwi were originally released in the Remutaka Park.

The call was identified as most like a sooty shearwater in flight by a number of experienced ornithologists; Colin Miskelly, Hugh Robertson, Sandy Bartle, Nikki McArthur.

Note, sound recordings can be lodged on eBird. The accompanying map shows the location of the observation in the Wainuiomata catchment and the sound recording can be heard on the following link, <https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S48103620>



## Who will be Aotearoa's #BirdOfTheYear for 2018?

New Zealand's unique native birds are in crisis. A third are at risk of becoming extinct if nothing is done to protect them. Their habitats have been destroyed and introduced mammalian predators such as stoats, possums, and rats kill their eggs, young, birds, and even adults.

Lend your voice to help our birds by supporting Bird of the Year - with your vote, your voice, or a donation.

**Voting opens at 9 am on Monday 1 October and closes at 5 pm on Sunday 14 October. <https://www.birdoftheyear.org.nz/>**

George Hobson is Campaign Manager for the Banded dotterel and urges you to vote for the banded dotterel.

**[Bird Photographer of theYear – 2019.](https://www.photocrowd.com/photo-competitions/photography-awards/bpoty-2019/winners/)** The following link is to some wonderful bird pictures – enjoy. <https://www.photocrowd.com/photo-competitions/photography-awards/bpoty-2019/winners/>



Photo – Dianne Parker

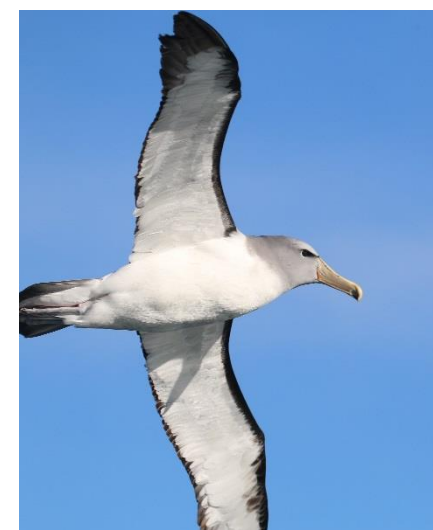
## Cook Strait Pelagic Trip – 1<sup>st</sup> of September

After having two previously trips cancelled (weather and mechanical problems with boat) the third Wellington Birds New Zealand trip for 2018 went ahead. The sea conditions were a bit challenging with a 1-2 metre swell which made photography difficult.

A large supply of chum attracted a good range and number of sea birds. However, more birds would likely have been attracted but for three trawlers operating further out in Cook Strait. The following list is compiled from Colin Miskelly's ebird listings, in addition Christopher Stephens, from his numerous photographs, reports the presence of a mallard duck, Southern giant petrel and a grey-faced petrel and Hugh Robertson's little shag. While birding was the principal reason for the trip there was also time for a bit of fishing. Only one fish was caught and there is some doubt as to whether Dallas caught it or she caught (snagged) the successful line next to hers. The sea bass was shared with Dianne (the other fisher-person).

Thanks to Jono Delich, skipper of Cook Strait Fishing Charters.

	Wellington Harbour	South of Wellington Harbour entrance	Cook Strait – off Wellington Harbour
Variable oystercatcher	5		
Red-billed gull	16	1	1
Black-backed gull	160	55	80
White-fronted tern	7		
White-capped mollymawk		14	25
Salvin's mollymawk		1	4
Black-browed mollymawk		2	7
Southern Royal albatross			6
Northern Royal albatross		1	3
Wandering albatross (Gibson's)		1	
Northern giant petrel	3	1	7
Southern giant petrel			1
Cape petrel	W	2	5
Fairy prion		1	12
White-chinned petrel			1
Westland black petrel		4	15
Grey-faced petrel			1
Fluttering shearwater	15	2	1
Diving petrel		1	
Gannet	2		
Black shag	2		
Spotted shag	14		
Little black shag	3		
Little shag	3		
Pied shag	3		
Mallard duck	1		



Photographs, Top, Westland petrel; middle, white-capped mollymawk; bottom, Salvin's mollymawk.

## Bird Snippets

### Fluttering shearwaters- Wellington harbour

**CMKMStephens** » Thu Jul 05, 2018

Today I didn't see the whale, but it was fantastic to see a large number of Fluttering Shearwaters/pakahā right up at the waterfront by Wharepo Lagoon and the Boatshed. BirdingNZ.net

### Falcon – Shelly Bay

**Peter Hodge** » Fri Jul 06, 2018 7:52 am

I was at Shelly Bay. wharf yesterday morning. A Falcon flew low over the wharves, pursued by several Black-backed Gulls. It called loudly then disappeared over the bush above Shelly Bay. BirdingNZ.net

### Pukeahu Falcon

**Colin Miskelly** » Sun Jul 15, 2018

A falcon flew across the top of Tory St (Pukeahu War Memorial Park) at dusk on 14 July (silhouette only). BirdingNZ.net

### Kakariki Wilton Bush

**ashercook** » Mon Jul 16, 2018

Saw a flock of 6 kakariki flying overhead near the Otari-Wilton bush car park on July 14. Biggest flock I've seen outside of Zealandia.

Also saw a NZ falcon on the skyline walkway on the same day. BirdingNZ.net

### Hutton's Shearwater – Wellington harbour

**George Hobson** » Mon Jul 16, 2018

Myself and a couple of other young birders had a Hutton's Shearwater off the eastbywest ferry between Matiu/Somes and Queens Wharf yesterday.

Good views eliminated Fluttering due to the smokey underwing and no white saddlebags. BirdingNZ.net

### White head – Cornish Street

**ledzep** » Fri Jul 20, 2018

A pair of Whitehead about 200 m from the Cornish St entrance to Belmont Regional Park at Korokoro, near where the iron fence is across the stream. A pair of Pukeko in the same area, as well as Grey Warbler and NZ Pigeon. One or two Bellbirds on the track up to Korokoro Dam. BirdingNZ.net

### Black-browed mollymawk – Taputeranga Marine Reserve

**Peter Hodge** » Sat Jul 21, 2018

Yesterday I saw a Black-browed Mollymawk 200-300 metres offshore from the Sirens in the Taputeranga Marine Reserve (in front of Dive Wellington and the Beach House). It was interesting to see it close to shore - it was flying with several Fluttering Shearwaters in a moderate northwest wind. BirdingNZ.net

### Plimmerton Domain – Song thrushes

**ledzep** » Wed Jul 25, 2018 8:20 pm

Plimmerton Domain is the place to be if you are a Song Thrush. Usually Blackbirds outnumber them on playing fields, but around lunchtime today I counted around 20 Song Thrushes and 5 Blackbirds near the car park in Plimmerton Domain. That is the largest number of Song Thrushes I've seen in one place. BirdingNZ.net

### Canada geese – Waterstone Reserve, Paraparaumu.

Rosemary Heather, 4 Aug, 2018. Reported over 200 Canada geese, plus 8 mallard ducks, 2 paradise shelducks and 1 dabchick.





Dallas Bishop & Geoff de Lisle, 7 Aug, 2018. Lake associated with housing estate, 113 Canada geese. Other birds included black swan (2), paradise ducks (2), mallard duck (8), dabchick (1), pukeko (7) and white-faced heron (1).



#### Little black shags – Duck Creek, Pauatahanui

Dallas Bishop & Geoff de Lisle, 7 Aug, 2018. Flock of 54 little shags on rocks. Note, flocks of little black shags are winter visitors to the Wellington region.

#### Kereru – Mana Island

Dallas Bishop & Geoff de Lisle, 16 Aug, 2018. A single bird seen on three days in a kowhai outside House 3. What was probably the same bird reported by Colin Miskelly on eBird on 17/6/2018, and had been seen by DOC rangers 2 weeks prior to this date. Kereru have rarely been seen on Mana Island. The only other eBird record is from Grant Timlin who saw 6 birds in the Macrocarpas on 10/4/2016.

#### Little black shags – Point Howard

Dallas Bishop & Geoff de Lisle, Sun, 26 Aug, 2018. A flock of 57 little black shags on the rocks at Point Howard. Also 1 little shag with them.

#### Reef Heron – Matiu / Somes Island

Dallas Bishop & Geoff de Lisle, Sat, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sep, 2018. Two reef herons were observed under the East West Ferry wharf. The heron with the fish brought it to the deck of the wharf and eventually managed to swallow it.



#### Falcon Nesting – Waikanae, adjoining Hemimatangi Reserve

Earlier this year a pair of falcon nested on the ground and raised 3 chicks.

## October Big Day 6 October 2018

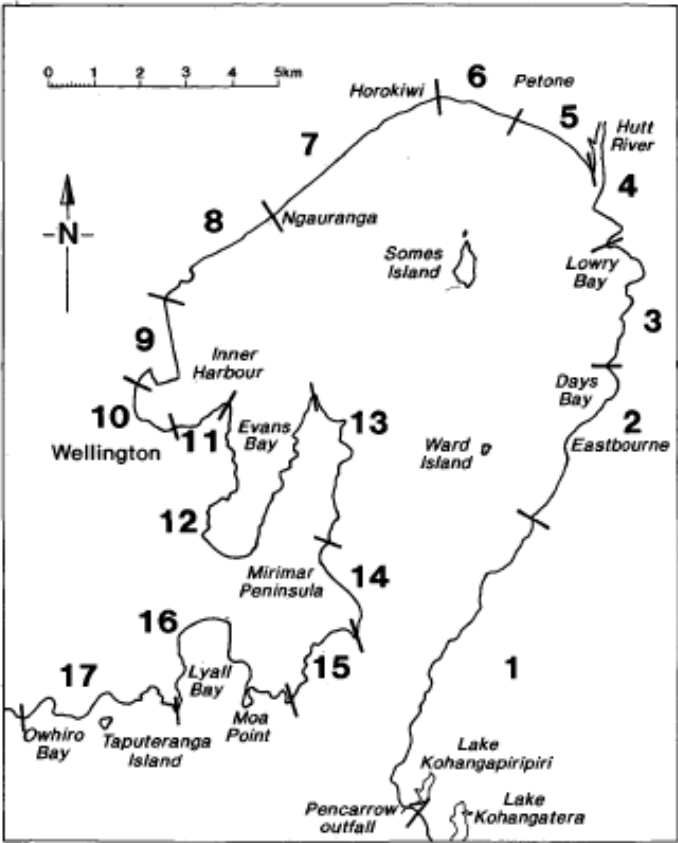
Every year for the last four years Global Big Day has set new heights for a single day of birding. This massively international collaborative birding event has been so great we want to have another worldwide eBird Big Day in October. Why October? Because spring is rejuvenating the southern hemisphere and the northern reaches of the world are in the midst of migration. No matter where you are, we're confident you can find some great birds on 6 October. Let's see what we can find together on the first October Big Day.

<https://ebird.org/news/october-big-day-6-october-2018>



Wellington Harbour Survey, 2018-2019

The fifth Wellington Harbour Survey started in August and will run for two years. The survey is taking place on the second Sunday of each month. The harbour is divided into 17 sections which are surveyed by volunteers. The first Wellington Harbour survey started in 1975 and the same methodology has been used for the following surveys. Such a long-run study provides valuable information not only on what birds are found in Wellington Harbour but also what changes have occurred since 1975 in the number and species of birds. The 2018 survey has an extra component, in addition to counting birds, with data being collected on the presence of dogs (leashed and unleashed) and people on beaches. There is a growing debate in New Zealand on the possible adverse effects of human and dog activities on shorebirds. Collecting this data on dogs and humans will provide information to help.



The following are the combined-section dog counts for the first two months. August was a sunny, calm day whereas September was a cold southerly which almost certainly explains the differences in numbers between August and September.

	On leash	Not on leash	Total
August 2018	66	103	169
September 2018	34	78	112

In the August count one reef heron was recorded and in the September count two were seen. This included the reef heron at Point Howard / Lowry Bay which is regularly being seen on the rocks close to the road.

The picture was taken on the first Sunday of August when we had our training session for the Harbour Survey – it also appeared to be the day when the “dog group” met for the monthly combined walk on Petone beach.

If members wish to help with this survey, even on an occasional basis please let me know.

Geoff de Lisle [osnzwellly@gmail.com](mailto:osnzwellly@gmail.com)

## East Harbour Banded Dotterels

The MIRO led study on the banded dotterels on the East Harbour continues for a third breeding season. There are two major study sites, the beach on the south end of Eastbourne and the area at the outlet of Lake Kohangapiripiri, the lake closest to the Pencarrow lighthouse. Last breeding season birds at both sites were banded and uniquely flagged. At the end of each breeding season banded dotterels leave for their winter feeding grounds which have yet to be definitively determined but probably includes Lake Wairarapa and Pauatahanui inlet and possibly further afield. In July birds started to return to the study sites.



The first nest for the new breeding season was found at the Eastbourne site on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August. Nesting is now underway at both study sites with new nests being regularly found. However, there have been nest failures at both study sites. The cause of the failures has not been determined but hopefully this will be revealed using trail cameras.

There have been a number of observations of birds banded and flagged during the previous breeding season. Included among the birds at Lake Kohangapiripiri is DVU which was first banded as an adult at the Lakes block on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, 2016. While not part of the MIRO study banded dotterels also occur and breed at Lake Kohangatera, the other Pencarrow Lake. A limited number of observations at Lake Kohangatera have revealed the presence of birds flagged at both Eastbourne and Lake Kohangapiripiri, including DVT, a bird that was banded as a chick on Eastbourne beach in November 2016. A chick has recently been seen at Lake Kohangatera by Darren Lees, Greater Wellington Regional Council. Details of the banded dotterels, 2018/19 breeding season will be presented in the December Wellington Birds New Zealand (OSNZ) newsletter.



The adult falcon was seen at the Lake Kohangapiripiri site on 10<sup>th</sup> of September. The banded dotterel pictured is DVU, the first bird to be banded as part of this study.

Geoff de Lisle



The U.S North American Bird Conservation **Initiative (NABCI)** Committee is a forum of government agencies, private organizations, and bird initiatives helping partners reach their common bird conservation initiatives. The following are links to three articles on countering the adverse effects of pets on birds in North America.

<https://nabci-us.org/changing-dog-owner-behavior-conserves-piping-plovers-at-a-nebraska-beach/>

<http://ternandplover.unl.edu/monitor/birdhumaninteraction.asp>

<http://nabci-us.org/social-science-is-key-to-solving-free-roaming-cat-issues/>