

TARA

Birds New Zealand

Auckland



I would like to thank Birds New Zealand (Auckland) for the funding to attend the 2015 BNZ conference in Blenheim. As it was OSNZ's 75th anniversary, it was fitting that the much of the focus was on the society's history and founding members.

Hands-on workshops gave lessons in mist netting, bird measuring, event management or e-bird use. Talks from members included those by our own Mel Galbraith and Judy Nicholson. Discussion between birders was a great opportunity to highlight the value of our individual regional contributions to ongoing bird data (such as the dabchick survey, pg. 3).

During the field trip I had the pleasure of meeting a wonderful falcon at the Brancott vineyard up close, who showed us all her powerful sight and flight abilities. Being a part of this event, especially for the 75th OSNZ anniversary was a fantastic opportunity, and I would like once more to give my sincere thanks for all the support making this possible.

Sarah Killick,
Tara editor

Issue 1, 2015

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Birds of a feather...

Wairau Lagoon

Birds New Zealand Conference
field trip 2015

Photograph by Mel Galbraith



Dabchick Survey: 2015

The Dabchick survey, held each year on Anzac Day, has been conducted for any years in association with South Head Landcare. A beneficial arrangement for both parties since we then have the numbers to cover all the wetlands involved and the benefit of a great deal of local knowledge. On the other hand locals turn up and go on a day's birding accompanied by OSNZers who can give information and encouragement to those developing an interest in birds. So, education and inspiration on the one hand, and local knowledge and assistance on the other, not to mention the BBQ courtesy of SKL for a bit of socialising after the morning's work. Altogether a good arrangement. This year local man Greg Smith and I surveyed and photographed all the dried lakes at the back of the Otakanini Block (owned by local iwi) a job only to be accomplished with expert driving over difficult terrain and good knowledge of the area we were visiting. Sadly all lakes on the fringe of the forest had dried, many of them full of pampas and woolly nightshade. And many of these lakes once held Dabchick. It will be interesting to see, if once the forest is felled, the lakes will once more fill allowing Dabchick to return.

- Judy Bendall



*Michael and Kathy, Dabchick survey day,
April 25th 2015.*

Photograph courtesy of Judy Bendall.



Ornithological Society of New Zealand (Auckland Region) **South Kaipara Lakes Survey and Dabchick Census 2015**

Date: April 25, 2015

Weather: Fine

compiled by Judy Bendall

| 2015 Species Total | | Waller's Ponds | South Head Lake | Green (Kowhai) Lake | Shrimp Ponds | Rototoa (Ototoa) | Kuwakatai | Tupare Main | Tupare Flats | Te Kanae | Kereta North Group | Kereta North Swamp | Kereta Main | Kereta South 1 | Kereta South 2 (dry) | Kereta South Swamp | Karaka Main (dry) | Karaka South Group | Hedley's Lakes | Poutoa (dry) | Otakanini Topu North | Ngakaru | Tarawera Lakes | Piripoua (dry) | Otakanini Topu South | Susan's Ponds (2014) | 2015 Species Total | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | CENSUS SPECIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | dry | | dry | | dry | dry | dry | dry | dry | dry | dry | | | | | | | |
| 12 | NZ Dabchick (Adult) | | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | 3 | | | dry | | | | | | 12 | 11 | 14 | 25 | 21 | 22 |
| 1 | NZ Dabchick (Juv.) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | Au Little Grebe (Adult) | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 10 |
| 0 | Au Little Grebe (Juv.) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 0 | Unident. Grebe Species | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 14 | Total Grebe Species | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 13 | 19 | 29 | 24 | 38 |
| 19 | Black Shag | | | | 2 | 1 | 2 | 11 | | | | | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 19 | 20 | 29 | 12 | 18 | 31 |
| 103 | Pied Shag | | | | | 9 | 67 | 5 | 2 | | | | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 103 | 47 | 39 | 27 | 31 | 46 |
| 28 | Little Black Shag | | | | | 14 | 13 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 28 | 50 | 52 | 78 | 39 | 39 |
| 33 | Little Shag | | | 10 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 12 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 33 | 40 | 22 | 6 | 8 | 34 |
| 7 | White-faced Heron | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 3 | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 7 | 6 | 6 | 15 | 15 | 11 |
| 1 | Bittern | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 42 | Black Swan | | | 2 | | 2 | 14 | 12 | 7 | | | | 2 | 1 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | 42 | 52 | 59 | 48 | 39 | 63 |
| 122 | Canada Goose | | | | | | | 66 | 56 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 122 | 3 | 16 | 65 | 2 | 20 |
| 0 | Feral Goose | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 0 | 2 | | 14 | | |
| 104 | Paradise Shelduck | 24 | | | 1 | | 41 | 12 | | | | | 3 | 2 | | | 21 | | | | | | | | | | 104 | 463 | 282 | 164 | 24 | 59 |
| 177 | Mallard | | | 12 | 14 | | 101 | 12 | 9 | | 14 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 12 | | 177 | 184 | 176 | 57 | 127 | 204 |
| 19 | Grey Duck | | | 4 | | | 2 | 11 | | | | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 19 | 47 | 46 | 63 | 48 | 257 |
| 333 | Mallard/Grey Duck | | | 18 | | 100 | 201 | | | | | | 9 | | | | 5 | | | | | | | | | | 333 | 186 | 172 | 134 | 135 | 54 |
| 32 | Austr.Shoveler | | | | | | | 32 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 32 | 16 | 16 | 118 | 30 | 51 |
| 140 | Grey Teal | | | 20 | | | 12 | 108 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 140 | 45 | 107 | 261 | 60 | 84 |
| 6 | NZ Scaup | | | | | | | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | 15 | 10 | 29 | 4 | 27 |
| 1180 | Total Census Species | 24 | 0 | 68 | 21 | 132 | 457 | 293 | 79 | 0 | 14 | 3 | 38 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 1180 | 1191 | 1053 | 1121 | 607 | 1020 |

| | OTHER SPECIES | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Harrier | p | | | | | p | | | | | | p | | | | p | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Welcome Swallow | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pukeko | p | | | p | | | p | p | | | | | p | | | p | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pied Stilt | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| 2015 Species Total | | Waller's Ponds | South Head Lake | Green (Kowhai) Lake | Shrimp Ponds | Rototoa (Ototoa) | Kuwakatai | Tupare Main | Tupare Flats | Te Kanae | Kereta North Group | Kereta North Swamp | Kereta Main | Kereta South 1 | Kereta South 2 (dry) | Kereta South Swamp | Karaka Main (dry) | Karaka South Group | Hedley's Lakes | Poutoa (dry) | Otakanini Topu North | Ngakaru | Tarawera Lakes | Piripoua (dry) | Otakanini Topu South | Susan's Ponds (2014) | 2015 Species Total | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|----------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 7B | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | | | | | |
| | Spur-winged Plover | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Caspian Tern | | | | | | | | p | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Pheasant | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | SIPO | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Peafowl | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Fernbird | | | | | | | | p | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Reef Heron | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Kingfisher | | | | | | p | | p | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Turkey | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Spotless Crake | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1180 | Total Number of Birds | 24 | 0 | 68 | 21 | 132 | 457 | 293 | 79 | 0 | 14 | 3 | 38 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 1180 | 1191 | 1053 | 1121 | 607 | 1020 |

p = present

Participants:

Paul & Enid Asquith, Kathy Barrow, Judy Bendall, Mel Galbraith, Phil Hammond, Keith Knewstubb, Helen Martin, Ian McLean, Richard Morris, Chelsee Neverman, Judy Nicholson, Denise Poyner, Gwenda Pulham, Greg Smith, Helen Smith, Trina Smith, Michael Taylor, Oscar Thomas, Neil Waller, David Wilson (21 participants)

Comments:

Regional field trip – Mataia Restoration Project

We ran a field trip to the Mataia Restoration Project at Glorit (South Kaipara) in February. This trip was postponed last year because of bad weather, but was well worth the wait until summer. Gill and Kevin Adshead at the historic Mataia Homestead hosted us.

Gill and Kevin briefed us about the restoration project, sharing their experiences of the recent releases of North Island brown kiwi to establish a new population in the covenanted bushed block. Some of the kiwi were fitted with transmitters, and we were able listen-in on their signals with a demo of how these are used to locate individuals. We were shown a burrow (unoccupied on the day) in typical regenerating habitat. The burrow had been excavated at a site where the stump of a pine tree had rotted away – easy digging for a kiwi!

Michael Taylor took the opportunity to remind us that during the 10-year period 1979 to 1988 a number of attempts were made to re-establish the NI brown kiwis in the Auckland region, including a Kaipara site. None of these attempts were successful, so we hope that current species translocation techniques, coupled with the management of mammalian predators, will prove Mataia to be different.

During a refreshment break on our walk within the project, we were rewarded with the sight and sound of North Island fernbird. Apparently their numbers have increased markedly following the management of the mammalian predators. Banded rail, alas, were not so obliging in disclosing their whereabouts despite their numbers also responding positively to the predator control.

All-in-all, a great day out, and we extend our thanks to Gill and Kevin for welcoming us to their project.
Mel Galbraith



Searching through the *Gleichenia* (Galbraith 2015)



Burrow found! (Galbraith 2015)

Kaipara Winter Survey 2015

A great effort as always was made to conduct the winter census of the Kaipara this year, on what was a very pleasant winter's day. Coverage around the southern Kaipara was very good and most species were present in near average numbers except godwits. The 15-year average is around 1500 but only 957 were counted this year. Red knot were almost absent with only 13 seen and 45 turnstone is close to the average of 49. The 99 NZ dotterels counted was the second highest number since 2000. Thank you to everyone who took part, the effort is very much appreciated. The summer census will be on Saturday 28 November when high tide will be around 1pm.

-Adrian



Photograph taken at Kaipara survey by Trina Smith (2015)

Ornithological Society of New Zealand - WADER CENSUSES 2004 - 2015

OSNZ REGION

YEAR

MONTH

CENSUS DATE

AUCKLAND
2015
JUNE
20.06.15

MAIN SITE

MANGAWHAI

COMPILER

Gwen Pulham

Tide Height, Time, Weather etc

Tide 3.1m at 10:03

 DATE >
 TIME >
 PRINCIPAL COUNTER >
 LOCAL SITES >

SITE TOTALS >

SPECIES v TOTALS

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Pied Oystercatcher | 13 |
| Variable Oystercatcher | 160 |
| Pied Stilt | 21 |
| Black Stilt/Hybrid | |
| New Zealand Dotterel | 216 |
| Banded Dotterel | 104 |
| Black-fronted Dotterel | |
| Wrybill | 4 |
| Pacific Golden Plover | |
| Spur-winged Plover | |
| Turnstone | 8 |
| Lesser Knot | |
| Curlew Sandpiper | |
| Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | |
| Pectoral Sandpiper | |
| Red-necked Stint | |
| Far-eastern Curlew | |
| Whimbrel | |
| Bar-tailed Godwit | 24 |
| Black-tailed Godwit | |
| Grey-tailed Tattler | |
| Marsh Sandpiper | |
| Terek Sandpiper | |

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | | 4 | 9 | |
| | 9 | 85 | 37 | 29 |
| | | | 11 | 10 |
| | | | | |
| | 18 | 24 | 143 | 31 |
| | | 4 | 94 | 6 |
| | | | | |
| | | | 4 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | 8 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | 24 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |


OTHERS

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Black Shag | 2 |
| Pied Shag | 44 |
| Little Shag | 1 |
| Little Black Shag | |
| Black-backed Gull | 49 |
| Red-billed Gull | 140 |
| Black-billed Gull | |
| Caspian Tern | 5 |
| White-fronted Tern | 38 |
| Fairy Tern | |
| Little Tern | |
| White-faced Heron | |
| Royal Spoonbill | 4 |
| Mallard | |
| Paradise Shelduck | 21 |
| Grey Duck | 8 |
| Little Egret | 1 |

MAIN SITE TOTAL > 863

| |
|-----------------|
| Participants |
| 8 |
| Gwenda Pulham |
| Jan Velvin |
| David Wilson |
| Dion Pou |
| Bernard Michaux |
| Dave Howse |
| Darryl Jeffries |
| Noel Ward |

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OSNZ SOUTH KAIPARA CENSUS

Tide 3.9m - 13:10 Clear calm sunny

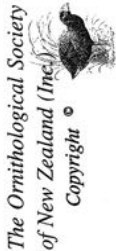
| 06.Jun.15 WINTER 2015 | SPECIES TOTALS V | Papa- kanui Bomb | Papa- kanui Waller | Wai- neke School | Hedley | Maire- tahi | Rat Is Shelly Beach | Tupare Lagoon | Haranui Rd | Parakai Park- hurst | Oyster Point | Jordan Farm | Kakanui | Araparere | Matala | Omaumau | Hoteo | Tauhoa from LTB | Walker Island | Lemon Tree Bay | Burma McLean Farm | Tapora School | Tapora South | Tapora North | Gibbs |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|-----------|--------|---------|-------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
| SITE TOTALS > | | 524 | 908 | 940 | 480 | 1372 | 179 | 55 | 1326 | 0 | 594 | 220 | 2324 | 1907 | 734 | 1770 | 374 | 142 | 393 | 42 | 179 | 250 | 3432 | 1421 | 0 |
| SPECIES | 19,566 | HS | AMH | AMH | DP | DP | DP | DP | DP | DP | BM | BM | ACR | ACR | PA | ACR | ACR | DW | PH | DW | DW | BW | GAP | DW | |
| Pied Oystercatcher | 11,956 | 255 | 758 | 887 | 15 | 1300 | 43 | | 1200 | | 348 | 161 | 1490 | 1750 | 330 | 1010 | 260 | | 245 | 12 | | 250 | 730 | 912 | |
| Variable Oystercatcher | 110 | 47 | 29 | | | | 1 | 8 | | 2 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | 12 | 4 | |
| Pied Stilt | 2,604 | 25 | 9 | 5 | 453 | 16 | | 43 | 20 | | 80 | 31 | 520 | | 245 | 110 | | 100 | 110 | | 175 | | 477 | 185 | |
| Black Stilt | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stilt "Smudgles" | 3 | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | |
| New Zealand Dotterel | 99 | 15 | 24 | | | | | | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | 39 | 17 | |
| Banded Dotterel | 925 | 79 | 16 | | | | | | | | 1 | | 152 | 22 | | | | | | | | | 580 | 75 | |
| Large Sand Plover | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mongolian Dotterel | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Wrybill | 193 | 32 | | | | | | | | | | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | 153 | | |
| Pacific Golden Plover | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grey Plover | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spur-winged Plover | 74 | | | 8 | | 4 | | 9 | 8 | | 7 | | 4 | 14 | | 8 | | | 9 | | | | 3 | | |
| Turnstone | 45 | 7 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 37 | | |
| Lesser Knot | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 13 | | |
| Great Knot | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sanderling | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Curlew Sandpiper | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sharp-tailed Sandpiper | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Red-necked Stint | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Eastern Curlew | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Whimbrel | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Bar-tailed Godwit | 957 | 30 | 2 | | | | | 21 | | 58 | | | 34 | | 15 | 355 | | | | | | | 372 | 70 | |
| Black-tailed Godwit | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hudsonian Godwit | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grey-tailed Tattler | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Marsh Sandpiper | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Terek Sandpiper | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black Shag | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pied Shag | 21 | 2 | 6 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | 8 | |
| Little Black Shag | 9 | | | | 9 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Little Shag | 3 | | | | | | 2 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White-faced Heron | 438 | 3 | 6 | 31 | 1 | 3 | | 2 | 31 | | 12 | 16 | 68 | 22 | 61 | 125 | 48 | | 6 | 2 | | | 1 | | |
| Kotuku | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reef Heron | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| Cattle Egret | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bittern | 2 | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Royal Spoonbill | 166 | | | | | 47 | 23 | | | | | | | | | | 50 | 42 | | | 4 | | | | |
| Black Swan | 168 | | | | | | | | | | 46 | | | | 11 | | | | | | | | 27 | 84 | |
| Canada Goose | 40 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 40 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cape Barren Goose | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paradise Duck | 209 | 2 | | | 2 | 2 | | | 40 | | 33 | | 21 | 46 | 19 | 12 | 16 | | 16 | | | | | | |
| Mallard | 8 | | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 6 | | |
| Grey Duck | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grey Teal | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | 10 | | | | | | | | | | 14 | | |
| Shoveler | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black-backed Gull | 69 | 7 | 21 | 2 | | | 3 | | | | | | | | 4 | | | | 1 | 28 | | | 1 | 6 | |
| Red-billed Gull | 237 | | 1 | | | | 6 | | | | | | 16 | | 55 | 150 | | | | | | | 1 | 8 | |
| Black-billed Gull | 51 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 43 | 3 | |
| White-winged Black Tern | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gull-billed Tern | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black-fronted Tern | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Caspian Tern | 89 | | 15 | 2 | | 1 | | | 4 | | 2 | | | | 5 | | | | | | | | 19 | 41 | |
| White-fronted Tern | 1,009 | 14 | 6 | | | | | 94 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 889 | 6 | |
| Sooty Tern | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fairy Tern | 20 | 1 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 | | | | 4 | | |
| Little Tern | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 3 | | |
| Common Tern | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pukeko | 3 | | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dabchick | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gannet | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Spotted Shag | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Banded Rail | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arctic Skua | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Brown Teal | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |

Marietahi included birds on inland paddocks (pc) = partly counted (NC) = not counted (nb) = no birds

Compiled By
Adrian Riegen

Many thanks
to all 18
Participants

Tony Habraken
Helen Smith
Michael Taylor
Denise Poyner
Kathy Barrow
Bernard Michaux
Adrian Riegen
Will Perry
Paul Asquith
Phil Hammond
Darryl Jeffries
Chris Cooke
Dave Howes
Gwenda Pulham
Noel Ward
Heather Rogers
Bartek Wypych
David Wilson



Note Adrian saw 65 spoonbill take
off from Rat Island and head NW
at 11:00:00 am

Adrian Riegen and Will Perry saw
c50 Spoonbill at 12:30e on
Moturemu Island(see Hoteo)

Walker Island was scanned
from Hwy 16 by ACR
2km distant
Walker Island had a small
tern don't know what sp



Auckland members observing the waterfowl during the picnic stroll.
Mel Galbraith (2015)

The summer picnic was held at Western Springs and resulted in a bird list of 34 species, and the area is good for birds at any time of the year. Royal spoonbill have been seen back on the island – they were observed building nests last year, but left without any breeding attempts. Perhaps one day they will stay!



Pictured right: A royal spoonbill photographed by Jack Warden at the pied shag colony in Whangaparapara Harbour (Great Barrier Island) on 2nd Jan 2015. The species seems to be being seen more regularly on GBI, with personal observations in the area by the editor over late 2013 / early 2014.

This is perhaps indicative of the general increase in numbers and distribution of royal spoonbill seen in the rest of the region. Jack has also reported a male tomtit on Hirakamata (Mt Hobson) in July. This sighting may be a welcome indicator of the local tomtit population increasing in numbers as there several local sanctuaries where rat control is in place





What's been happening on...

Birds Auckland



07 June, D. Tearne (53 likes!)
Flying fantail



Social media websites such as Facebook provide an unprecedented way to reach large numbers of people. It allows the instant sharing of photos and short text freely.

To date, our "Birds Auckland" Facebook group has 484 members!

Here is a quick overview of some of the most popular posts:



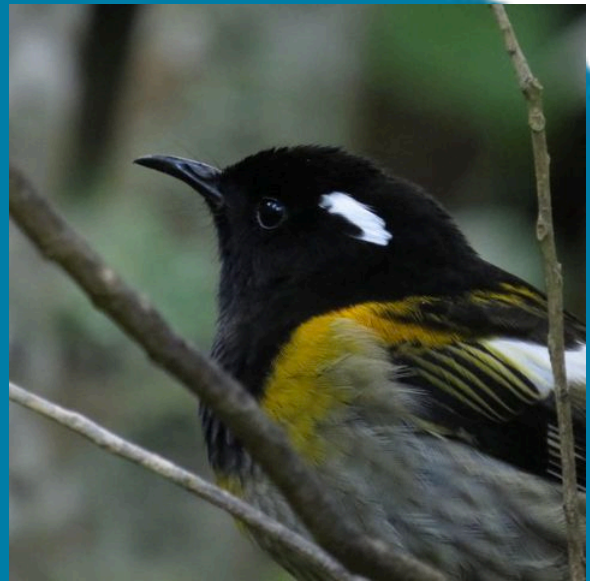
21 May, Z. Christiansen
This long-tailed cuckoo was a window casualty before being revived and released



19 June, A. Irving
Pied shag trying (but failing!) to get an 'eely' big meal



14 June, Anna Stevens Photography
Goldfinch



18 May, N. Ward
Hihi on Tiritiri Matangi Island

**Thanks to everyone who
contributed to the Birds
Auckland Facebook page!**

**13 May
K. Walker**
Incoming kereru!



ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND



Programme 2015

*Meetings 1st Tuesday of every month, held 7.30pm at
Unitec Institute of Technology (Mt Albert). All visitors welcome.*

www.osnz.org.nz

Further information on meetings, venues and activities:

Mel Galbraith (Regional Representative) - mgalbraith@unitec.ac.nz / ph. 4801958 (AH)

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Monthly meeting 7.30pm:** Josie Galbraith (University of Auckland)
Urban appetites: feeding birds in the big city
- 5 Muriwai beach patrol: contact Mel Galbraith (4801958).
- 26 Shakespear Regional Park survey: contact Michael Taylor (8496336).

OCTOBER

- 3/4 Motutapu Island survey. Accommodation at Education Camp, contact Mike Graham (sharen.graham@ihug.co.nz or 8175537).
- 6 Monthly meeting 7.30pm: Sandra Morris (OSNZ)**
Sketching the highlights of Western Australia
- 10 Muriwai beach patrol: contact Mel Galbraith (4801958).

NOVEMBER

- 3 Monthly meeting 7.30pm: Paul Asquith (OSNZ Auckland)**
Birding in New Zealand's roaring forties
- 7 Muriwai beach patrol: contact Mel Galbraith (4801958).
14 Mangawhai Harbour wader census (HT 1004): contact Gwenda Pulham (4805535).
15 Firth of Thames wader census (HT 1044): contact Adrian Riegen (8149741).
28 Kaipara Harbour wader census (HT 1307): contact Adrian Riegen (8149741).
23 Manukau (HT 1349) & Waitemata Harbour (HT 1042) wader censuses: contact Adrian Riegen (8149741).

DECEMBER

- 1 **Monthly meeting 7.30pm:**
 Annual quiz (Michael Taylor, quiz-master) and Christmas festivities.
- 5 Muriwai beach patrol: contact Mel Galbraith (4801958).

2016

- Jan 19 Annual picnic – Ambury Regional Park: contact Chris Thompson (4789781).
 Meet at the car park at the end of Ambury Road, Mangere (Park entrance). Picnic from 6pm;
 walk along coastal walkway starts at 7pm. regionalparks.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/ambury



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OR ...



Find us on
Facebook

... go to www.facebook.com

... set up your own account, search for *Birding Auckland*
request to be added to the group!

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For further information on Birds New Zealand
please refer to **www.osnz.org.nz**