



NELSON REGION NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2014

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Last week in the McKenzie Basin I heard more greywarblers from more habitats than I've heard in previous years. From Twizel township with mostly exotic trees and garden shrubs with the odd native beech, from lakeside with pinus and larch sp, and from riverside with willows and alders. Information on *NZ Birds on Line* says I'm unlikely to find them on alpine tussockland. Perhaps I'll stop looking. Didn't hear a shining cuckoo though. Good news for grey warblers. As well as Amber hearing shining cuckoos at Tophouse late Sept, Paul F recorded hearing first of the season calls on 27 Sept at Hira, Don H in Teal Valley end of Sept, and Gillian P heard their distinctive call at Dominion Flats area on 4 Oct. On Ebird you'll find greywarblers under *gerygone*.

Amber spotted this beauty at Lake Rotoiti recently.

Photo by Amber Calman 2014.



Not often seen though an easy bird to identify, BUT have a look at this month's **mystery photo**.

You might have to think outside the square with this one, well, outside NZ anyway.



Photo: David Butler.

The **Godwit** Chasers have been to the Catlins and back retrieving dataloggers - one tiny bit of equipment held 21 months of data, (details next newsletter) and they're off to Foxton soon to catch and check out the private lives of more of these amazing waders.

But closer to home, on 30 Oct Paul F caught a lovely late afternoon sight from QEII Drive of c300 **godwits** feeding in the mid channels of the Haven, and on 1 Oct Willie and Don recorded a flagged **knot** 'CBC' at Bells Island.

Adrian Reigan sent the following on 'CBC's' history:

Banded at Miranda on 09.07.11 aged 3

Seen at these sites

CBC

20.08.11	Clarks Bay	Manukau Harbour	T Habraken
12.02.12	Clarks Bay	Manukau Harbour	T Habraken
16.04.12	Nan Pu - Bohai Bay	China	A Boyle/C Hassell/M Slaymaker
30.04.13	Nan Pu - Bohai Bay	China	A Boyle/C Hassell/M Slaymaker
30.04.14	Nan Pu - Bohai Bay	China	A Boyle/M Slaymaker etal
01.05.14	Nan Pu - Bohai Bay	China	A Boyle/M Slaymaker etal
01.10.14	Bells Island	Tasman Bay	Willie Cook and Don Cooper

PARISH NOTICES

For some years now our local branch has enjoyed holding meetings at the Solander Fishery Buildings, Port Nelson. This has been through the support and kind generosity of Mr Charles Hufflett giving us access to a warm and comfortable office. It is now time for a change. Monday **3 Nov** will be our last evening there. Many appreciative thanks go to Mr Hufflett.

Our **December** gathering will be a front lawn or a back yard under the skies, more on that closer to the time, but mark 8 Dec in your diaries. (2nd Monday).

January is a month without a meeting, and **February** will be the 2nd Monday at a venue yet to be decided.

PROGRAMME 2014

November's meeting, the 1st Monday of the month, at 7.15 pm, will be the last in the "Solander Fisheries Building", Cross Quay, off Akersten Street, Port Nelson (opposite the red Cruising Club building). All birders are welcome! Contact: Don Cooper 03-544 8109 or Gail 03-5450456.

Monday 3 November

Collating Baseline Information of Birds and Mammals in the Marine Environment. Rob Schuckard.

Indoor meeting

**Wader Count
7,8,9, November**

**Tasman and Golden Bays
contact Rob Schuckard**

**Monday 8 December
End of Year Gathering**

**October, November, December, January
Ongoing regional survey of red-billed gull colonies,
Part of a national scheme.**

Thank you to this month's contributors.

Contributions for November newsletter by 24th, please email, snailmail, or phone:
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