

ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND

HAWKE'S BAY NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2007

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2007 AGM and Conference. The 2007 conference and AGM will be held at New Plymouth during Queen's Birthday Weekend, 1st to 4th June 2007. Registration forms have been posted to members. Please note on the registration form the \$25.00 field trip fee has been duplicated in Section A and Section C. If you are planning on attending, delete section C when completing the registration form.

Census and Wader Banding checks have been carried out during 2006 during February, June, October and November. No NZ ringed/flagged migratory waders have been seen in the Hawkes Bay. The results of the census and wader counts are attached. I thank all members who assisted.

Bernie Kelly of Clive is our latest new member. Welcome Bernie to the Hawkes Bay Group and we look forward to your attendance at future field trips.

Recent sightings of note.

New Zealand Dotterel - 5 birds (possibly 3 breeding pairs) seen at Porangahau during November. One female had leg rings – was banded as a fledgling on Portland Island in January 2002.

Shore Plover – Porangahau Beach on 17 November 2006. Leg rings Blue over white on right leg – Green over orange on left leg. This bird was reared at Mt Bruce and released on Portland Island in 2002.

Large Sand Dotterel – Porangahau Beach on 17 Nov. 2006. (It was near a NZ Dotterel and the comparison assisted with identification.

Bar-tailed Godwit – with leg rings - orange over yellow on right leg, metal band on left leg (This bird was captured and banded in South Australia).

Reef Heron – 17 November 2006. A pair seen together on rock platform between Blackhead and Pourere Beaches

Whimbrel – 1 at Porangahau on 17/11/06; 6 at Mahia 30/12/06.

NZ Falcon – 1 has been present over summer at the Hastings Golf Course. A breeding pair observed at Boundary Stream in early January 07.

Grey-tailed Tattler – 1 seen with a group of Bar-tailed godwits on Pourere Beach on 17/11/06. 1 has been seen at different times at Ahuriri Estuary.

Godwits & Golden Plover – At time of writing the birds present at Ahuriri Estuary are starting to colour up.

Royal Spoonbill – 54 birds counted on the Napier Airport pond on 15/02/07

Chestnut-breasted Shelduck – A pair were present on the Southern Marsh in early January.

N.Z. Record- During the 2006 year, Brent Stephenson has seen 206 species of New Zealand birds. Its been interesting following your ramblings around N.Z. Well done from all in Hawkes Bay.

Upcoming Field Trips.

18 March 2007 –Boundary Stream. Meet at the Tutira School/Store at 10a.m. Bring your lunch/refreshments.

14 April 2007- Balls Clearing. Suggested this field trip be a late afternoon/evening visit to check out the bush birds present and at night fall look for Bats in the clearing and glow worms on the track back to the car park.

20th May 2007 – Afternoon visit to Lake Tutira and environs. Times to be arranged.

June 2007 – Census at Ahuriri, Waitangi/East Clive, and Porangahau. To be advised to work in with the tides. A suggested evening meeting following the census.

Regional Representative.

Murray announced his resignation as the R.R. on personal reasons. Members to please consider the appointment of a new R.R. Jim Hamilton thanked Murray for his services as the Regional Rep. during the past four years.

Attached are summer census results and wader counts.

I thank everyone for their support during the past four years.

Good birding and best wishes

Murray Jeffries.