# The Wrybill

## Newsletter of the Canterbury Region, Ornithological Society of New Zealand

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## February 2008

## Jan's Jottings

By Regional Rep Jan Walker

So much time has passed since the last newsletter that it's hard to know which happenings to leave out. Birds have migrated, nested, hatched, fledged, been preyed on, been predators, 'shown well' in birding parlance and stayed hidden when the spotters most wanted to tick them. No official twitchathon was organized nationally this January, but many people hunted out birds during their summer holidays and reports are trickling in.

Perhaps the most significant event to note from the last 6 months has been the new nestling in the Allen colony. Olivia Rose arrived on 5th January after a lot of anxious waiting by her Mum and Dad, Nick and Hyeza, and much interest in the happy event by the rest of us.



Photo: Jan Walker

A small committee has been very busy organizing the OSNZ Conference 2008, to be held in Kaikoura at Queen's Birthday. The booking form was included with the last two

issues of Southern Bird and is also on the website www.osnz.org.nz. A map is available on the website to help people decide where they want to stay. However accommodation bookings will not be handled by the committee, so make your decisions soon. It would be wonderful to have as big a turn-out as possible of Canterbury and West Coast folk and be able to meet some of you who don't often come to meetings. Both seabird and land bird field trips will be held and there will be a variety of talks and great socializing. All in a brilliant location which often has the most scenic and memorable weather during the winter. So don't delay, make your bookings right away!

Rob Schuckard came and gave us a talk about wader movements on our East Asian Flyway in October and was here again in November and December checking the banded Godwits at the Avon estuary with Sheila and me. The vast majority of the birds continue to put in an appearance and we have heard of one that is over-summering in Australia, so perhaps others are there too. Rob was impressed with the proportion of juveniles in the flock and counts of both Godwits and Knots have shown a big increase generally in the top of the South Island this year. This reverses the steep decline in the fortune of these waders for the first time in many years. The satellite-tracked Godwits were followed with amazement on our computers as they came south from Alaska this spring, direct to Miranda, Firth of Thames. E7 became a celebrity and was 'Googleable' on the Google search engine. Luckily for her, she landed in an inaccessible area of the Firth, and escaped the paparazzi hordes of cameras and reporters, as she became the bird who logged the longest continuously tracked flights ever. She has since been seen safe and well. To listen to a

fascinating series of radio talks about migration covering all sorts of species log onto:
 www.bbc.co.uk/radio4/worldonthemove/
in which Phil Battley of Massey does the Godwit story from NZ.

I went with five other members to the Pyramid Valley dig on Waitangi Day and had a fascinating, if frustrating day in the sun trying to sieve out quaternary and holocene plant and animal remains from thick sandy clay in Richard Holdaway's newly excavated pit. The bird-life there now is almost non-existent but before human colonization it must have been prolific, as the site had been a drinking-hole in thick mixed forest, dominated by Matai. We witnessed the excavation of a neck vertebra from a female Giant Moa that had been buried in the sediments formed over 3000 years ago. It was particularly interesting to talk to three generations of landowners who have been involved successive digs, one per generation, at the site. They are every bit as involved and fascinated as the experts and cherish their stewardship of this special place.

Could people please keep an eye out for Blackbilled Gulls wearing bands. A large banding programme was carried out by Sheila Petch and others some years ago and birds with bands are still around the waterways in Christchurch. Please note if the band is blue or white and which leg it is on. There should be a metal band on the other leg. It is sometimes possible to read the number on this, particularly if the birds are being fed by hand. Some have lost the colourband, so can only be recorded by this method. Andrew Crossland and Sheila are keen to get some results from this programme and would welcome anv reports. Send andrew.crossland@ccc.govt.nz

## The Wrybill on-line

Thanks to those who have arranged to receive the newsletter on-line. If others would like to be added to our electronic subscriber list rather than having their copy mailed please contact the Editor at robnann@paradise.net.nz

## What's on at OSNZ Canterbury: February to July 2008

#### **Indoor meetings**

25th Feb -- Members evening. An evening with members' contributions making up the talks and slideshows. Usually much enjoyed by all.

31st March -- Branch AGM [short] followed by a short presentation by Eric Spurr about the Garden Bird Survey and the Pros/Cons of feeding birds.

28th April -- Anita Spencer from the biosecurity group at DOC will talk about the Crested Grebe situation at Lake Ellesmere, Forsyth, and other lakes. Possibly also about other aspects of her work.

26th May -- Curator of Vertebrates at Canterbury Museum and OSNZ Councillor, Rare Birds Convenor and member of our committee, Paul Scofield, will give a highly respected talk about 'Old Bird Collectors' in New Zealand.

30th June -- Wader expert, bird study consultant, international jet-setter on behalf of birds, David Melville, from Nelson, has accepted an invitation to talk about Avian Flu and its ramifications with relation to NZ and other interesting topics. Also happily coincidental with the Godwit tides that he and Rob Schuckard are so fond of pursuing!

28th July -- Rosalie Snoyink, who masterminded the Crested Grebe survey of a few years ago will talk about its results and the ongoing situation. Mostly all good, we hope.

## **Field Meetings**

15th March -- Mount Herbert Scenic Reserve visit. This will involve a serious tramp, for possibly small birding and a long day out on Banks Peninsula. Please contact Jan for details. shesagreen@gmail.com

12th April -- Russell Langdon's Wildlife Centre and Ashburton River Mouth. Leave Hornby at 8.30am, park in Mall carpark near McDonalds and carpool.

17th May -- To be arranged... Kaikoura Conference and Fieldtrips starts on 29th June.

7th June -- Winter Wader Count, Lake Ellesmere and other locations. Contact Colin Hill, cherryhill@xtra.co.nz

19th July -- Ashburton lakes waterbirds census. Contact Ron Nilsson ronandsue@paradise.net.nz

## Victoria Trip Diary

By Ashley Wright

I made a couple of trips to Australia last year to visit some interesting places and find a few new birds. Both trips were low budget and low hassle – I hired a campervan (taking advantage of the \$40-50/day off-season rates) which was both transport and accommodation, and took advantage of cheap trans-Tasman airfares.

Here are a few highlights of my trip to Victoria in September 2007. I covered a lot of ground on this 8 day trip, starting and finishing in Melbourne.

#### Kinglake National Park

Mason Falls section (30min drive North of Melbourne)

Great early morning views of 3 male Superb Lyrebirds on the "Lyrebird Circuit" (Superb Lyrebirds are similar to the Albert's Lyrebirds but have even longer tails!). Also saw a female wandering around the Jehosaphat Gully picnic area.

#### Toorourrong Reservoir Park

(30min drive North of Melbourne, near Kinglake) As predicted by "Birdata" (see below) I found a male Musk Duck feeding on the Reservoir - Musk Ducks are endemic to Australia and are notable for the large expandable leathery lobe hanging beneath the bill of the male duck, which is used in his courtship displays.

#### Kooyoora State Park

Mellville caves area (2-3 hours drive North-West of Melbourne, near Bendigo)

Came across two stunning Bush Bronzewings (pigeon endemic to southern Aus. & Tas.) during an early morning walk. Also Varied Sitellas and a

good variety of Honeyeaters (Spiny-cheeked, Yellow-Tufted, Fuscous, White-Plumed, Brownheaded and New Holland). A noisy family of White-winged Choughs were resident in the campground.



Photo: Tom Tarrant New Holland Honeyeater

#### Middle Lake Ibis rookery

(3-4 hours drive North-West of Melbourne, near Kerang)

Although the 1000's of breeding Australian White Ibis were quite a sight I was more interested in the Clamorous Reed Warblers in the reeds here – I've been looking forward to catching up with this species after I missed the one that turned up in St Anne's lagoon, North Canterbury, a few years ago.

#### Goschen Bushland Reserve

(Mallee reserve 4 hours drive North-West of Melbourne, near Swan Hill)

Although I didn't find the Black Honeyeaters that this reserve is famous for there were a number of other interesting species here such as White-winged Trillers, Singing Honeyeaters, Rufous Songlark, Brown Treecreepers and Redrumped and Blue-winged Parrots.

#### Lake Tyrell

(a large salt lake 4-5 hours drive North-West of Melbourne, near Ouyen)

I had a great time here tracking down two gorgeous species – White-winged Fairy-wrens and Orange Chats – both of which happen to feature on the cover of my Field Guide to Australian Birds! I was particularly pleased to (eventually) get very close views of the Orange

Chats by standing perfectly still and using my "squeek bottle" to lure the birds to me – my field guide had indicated that this species tends to be "elusive".

#### <u>Hattah-Kulkyne National Park</u>

(4-5 hours drive North-West of Melbourne, near Ouyen)

#### Hattah Lake and Campground:

A family of Apostlebirds were collecting mud (for a nearby nest) in the campground. The lake had Wiskered Terns, Hoary-headed Grebe, a Musk Duck and a Darter, and Mallee Ringneck (large green parrots) fed in the brush nearby.

#### Lake Mournpall Area:

I was happy to find a few Blue-faced Honeyeaters in the Campground – striking birds with a conspicious patch of bare blue skin around their eyes. The Mournpall Lake loop track had many birds – bright blue Splendid Fairy-Wrens, Southern Whiteface, Weebills, many different species of Thornbill (Yellow, Yellow-rumped, Chestnut-Rumped and Inland), Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo, and best of all a Red-Capped Robin on a nest right beside the trail, with the brilliant male bird standing guard nearby.



Photo: Tom Tarrant Weehill

#### Nowingi Track:

The start of the Nowingi Track is famous for Mallee Emu-Wrens, a tiny bird with a very restricted range. I spent a long time searching the area and eventually found a small party of the tiny birds – they look rather like large brown bumble-bees!

#### Wyperfeld National Park

(4-5 hours drive North-West of Melbourne, near Ouyen)

An Emu and 6 striped young were feeding beside the road with a flock of Corellas as I drove into this park. I was unable to find Malleefowl here but did come across a large flock of beautiful Regent Parrots (bright yellow with a very long tail) and had good views of a Fan-tailed Cuckoo.

## <u>Long Forest Nature Conservation Reserve</u>

(30min drive West of Melbourne)

I wasn't able to find my "target species" Crested Shrike-tits or Diamond Firetails, but I did have nice views of a Specked Warbler here (another SE Australian endemic).



Photo: Tom Tarrant Horsfield's Bronze-cuckoo

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I would like to thank Tom Tarrant for his kind permission to use his beautiful photographs.

#### **RESOURCES:**

#### <u>Birdata</u>

This is an amazing resource for anyone planning a trip to Australia. The website contains the data that was used to make the official "Birds Australia/RAOU" Atlas of Australian Birds and can be used to get species distribution information for a particular area of interest and to generate bird lists for any part of the country. Non-members can zoom down to 6 km resolution, members down to 100 meters. Available at: http://www.birdata.com.au/maps.vm

<u>Complete Guide to Finding the Birds of Australia</u> R Thomas and S Thomas

This is a good book with detailed information about sites and species. Although it is out of print I was able to order it from an online bookstore in the UK that had copy left.

Ashley's Report on a trip to Queensland will be included in a future edition of Wrybill. Ed.

#### **Shoulder Mounts**

By Ashley Wright

If you have been on a field trip with me recently you may have noticed the unusual spotting scope arrangement that I have been using. Earlier this year I had read on "BirdForum" (a UK internet site with a ton of birding info) that people were having good results using small spotting scopes with shoulder mounts. Shoulder mounts are designed to allow you to hold a camera or spotting scope steady without using a tripod - you hold the mount with your right hand (if right handed), press it into your shoulder and focus/steady the scope with you other hand. After investing a large sum of money in a small Nikon spotting scope at the beginning of the year I thought I would try a shoulder mount, thinking that I wanted to get as much use as I could out of my scope.

I bought the shoulder mount over the internet US company called (http://www.bushhawk.com/ - they ship to NZ for about \$30US) and have been very happy with it. The extra magnification and higher quality optics of my spotting scope allows better views of distant (and close) birds, and the shake is comparable to my binoculars despite the higher magnification (I use a wide angle 20x eyepiece). Finding your target was initially a problem (as a higher magnification gives a smaller field of view) but I solved this by attaching a sight to the scope so it can be lined up before I start using it. The sight allows you to spot birds that are flying overhead - an impossible task using a tripod.

Since getting the shoulder mount I haven't needed to use my binoculars – they didn't leave my bag during my entire trip to Victoria. However there are a few things you should

consider before getting one:

- 1. The shoulder mount is not suitable for high magnifications the shake would become too noticeable.
- 2. You can't share a spotting scope with someone else like you can when using a tripod 3. If you are counting birds (eg. groups of waders) a tripod is also preferable, as you can more easily rest and take notes. I swap back to a tripod in these situations.
- 4. You need a reasonably lightweight scope for the shoulder mount to work altogether my scope, eyepiece and the shoulder mount weighs 955g, which is no more than my (rather heavy) binoculars.

## **Wrybill Odyssey**

From Nick Ledgard, Chairman, Ashley-Rakahuri Rivercare Group Inc

Initially the "odyssey" referred to a tiny, weekold wrybill chick which people may have read about via Nick's newsletters or Jan's E-Wrybill of 19th January. The chick was thought to have travelled with a parent bird 5 kms up the Ashley River from its original nesting site at the Golf Links to the Aerodrome site. Valiant travel. indeed, without the benefit of wings. however, the odyssey more appropriately refers to Nick's hard working team of birders who monitor the birds on the river, and put a tremendous amount of effort into protecting the birds from predators and unaware people. The group know every one of their birds, banded and non-banded, which led them to think the only way a new, unbanded wrybill chick arrived at the Aerodrome site was for it to have moved from elsewhere. However, this has produced information which is in itself very interesting, as Nick reports:

"Remember the 1-week-old chick that walked 5 km when the river dried up? Well, much as we all like such romantic tales, that story is probably not correct. Why? Because, one of the other pairs that I dismissed as parents was the Aerodrome pair (in whose territory the wandering chick was 'found'), as they already had two flying off-spring (both banded). But, John Dowding tells me that wrybills can 'double-brood' ie., they can lay a new clutch of eggs well before their first chicks fly. And

that is a more likely explanation for the late chick at the Aerodrome site. If one does the maths, it is possible - they must have been sitting on a new clutch of eggs within 2 weeks of hatching the first lot..." This chick "may well have survived, even though it was AWOL on a couple of visits since when first seen. Last Thursday (Jan 31) Geoff Swailes saw an unbanded juvenile (viewed at 10 m for several minutes) at the Aerodrome site, and it was capable of flying."



Photo: Nick Ledgard Nick's original "bumble-bee wrybill chick"

#### **Tasmanian Excursion**

By Marion Macbeth

In November 2007 six of us from the Canterbury branch, plus a couple from the North Island, were expertly guided on a fabulous circuit of Tasmania's special birding sites by Tony Crocker, our organiser, driver and occasional chef, whose enthusiasm inspired us all. From the moment we landed at Hobart it was full on – we were checking out the birds around the airport while finding our rental van and getting away to our accommodation.

Most of our overnight stops were in Cosy Cabins. They are a well-appointed chain of family-oriented accommodation and proved very suitable for our needs.

Hobart is a lovely city, with fine old sandstone buildings and extensive stretches of river. It is overlooked by Mt Wellington, which we drove up one day to admire the view. The summit (1270m) consists of alpine herbfield and rocky outcrops of columnar dolerite and there was a freezing wind up there. The road up has tall forest and we noticed waratahs, grevillias, hebes and beeches.

On Bruny Island we spent a lazy lunch spotting swift parrots through the telescopes as they fed from gum blossoms and we got good views of 40-spotted pardalote skulking in the Manna Gums.

We visited the Tasman Peninsula and Maria Islands. The latter is known for large populations of Cape Barren Geese. As the ferry landed, I noted the crystal clear water, but any thought of swimming was quickly dispelled by the large numbers of jellyfish. We did a walk on the island, stopping for our picnic lunch beside a beautiful reservoir in the bush. We were excited to see a pair of wedge-tailed eagles cruise overhead. There was a pair of nervous hooded plovers nesting near the island's jetty. They would run off whenever pedestrians stopped nearby, but we were relieved to find when we returned to the beach that they had resumed incubating.

Also while on the east coast we went on a pelagic trip from Eaglehawk Neck, near Port Arthur. We saw an albatross, lots of shy mollymawks and two giant petrels, as well as gulls and terns.

We then drove north to Launceston, then to Devonport, where we spent some time at the Tamar Island wetland, an extensive area of open water with walkways and hides. We saw seaeagle, little grassbird, reed warbler, great egret and a black-fronted dotterel pair with a nest of three eggs – just in the shingle on the side of the road. They didn't seem distressed when we moved in for a closer look.

Next day we visited Cradle Mountain National Park. It was a fine, warm day and the landscapes were spectacular. We ate our lunch overlooking Dove Lake (Bryan had his sandwiches snatched by a black currawong!) before walking round the lake. The National Park has huge numbers of visitors, necessitating several levels of carparks and traffic controls. On the way back to Devonport we came across the Tasmania Arboretum which, apart from lovely grounds and trees, yielded a grey goshawk and a platypus!

Then we headed for Strahan on the west coast where we began several sessions of fruitless



Photo: Bryan Woolley Black Currawong

hunting for ground parrots. These green birds are hard to spot, as they don't fly much, but occasionally hop up briefly above the vegetation, which is knee-high button grass in marshy heathland. We spread out along the quiet back road, eyes flicking from side to side, but no luck. However, we were enchanted by the profusion of wildflowers everywhere, an unexpected treat. In the evening after dinner we set off to Ocean Beach to see a colony of shearwaters. They were a magnificent sight silhouetted against an apricot sky, coming home from fishing and dropping down to their burrows by our feet.

We had discovered that there was a birthday due to happen, so at a very small village en route we managed to rustle up an improvised birthday cake and some sparkly candles so we could celebrate with Bev Alexander. We were mostly self-catering, but we did have one takeway and two restaurant meals.

On our very last day we finally caught up with the migrant waders Tony had been looking for all along – at Orielton Lagoon near Hobart. There we saw many red-necked stints, sharptailed sandpipers, 30 pacific golden plovers and 20 far-eastern curlews.

We were particularly pleased to be able to find the 12 Tasmania endemics – four honey-eaters, green rosella, dusky robin, yellow wattlebird, Tasmanian native hen, scrubwren, thornbill and scrubtit and the 40-spotted pardalote. Altogether it was a most successful trip and a lot of fun – many thanks, Tony!

## **Membership Matters**

#### Change of Personal Details

Could members please make sure that they inform Roger Sharp of any change of address, telephone number, email address etc. It may be that people are not receiving Southern Bird and Notornis because the society's records are not up to date. This also may explain why some people have not received their Renewal Notices. If this applies to you, please contact Roger.Sharp@xtra.co.nz

#### OSNZ Conference and AGM

A number of people did not receive the Registration Form for the AGM and Conference to be held in Kaikoura from 30 May – 2 June 2008 which were sent out with Southern Bird. If this happened to you, and you want a Registration Form you should be able to download an electronic version of the form from www.osnz.org.nz by opening the 'Conference' link on the Home Page. Alternatively contact Jan Walker at shesagreen@gmail.com or Nick Allen at nick allen@xtra.co.nz

#### **Membership Directory**

We are updating the Membership Directory for the Canterbury Branch with the idea that it will be available to members who would like a copy. If you do not want to appear in the Directory could you please let us know by emailing robnann@paradise.net.nz, or write to OSNZ, PO Box 36-515, Merivale, Christchurch 8146.

## \*\*\* Conference Call \*\*\*

The programme is being compiled but is not yet available. Paul Scofield is keen to hear from more people interested in giving a paper at the Conference. Contact: pscofield@canterburymuseum.com

#### Answers to Quiz on Page 8

- 1. 1940; 2. Blackbird; 3. John James Audubon; 4. Buller; 5. Black Robin; 6. 10,000; 7. Frigatebird;
- 8. Greenshank; 9. Bright blue; 10. Alula; 11. Flamingo

## Quiz

One of our evening meetings this year was a Giant Quiz organised by Nick Allen, with questions expertly designed to cater to all tastes. Thanks, Nick, for a very entertaining and informative evening which only occasionally threatened to become disorderly when the Woodpeckers felt their "buzzer", a quietly spoken woodpecker, was regularly drowned out by the racuous tones of the opposition's sheep. And thanks also to Phyllis for, as usual, quietly and calmly ensuring the visuals appeared at the right moments.

Test yourself on a sample of Nick's questions:

- 1. In which year did the Ornithological Society of New Zealand hold its inaugural meeting?
- 2. What was singing in the middle of the night according to the Beatles' song?
- 3. Which Haitian-born artist has a network of bird organisations named after him?
- 4. Who has a mollymawk, shearwater and gull named after him?
- 5. What endangered passerine is named after Henry Travers?
- 6. Around how many species of birds are there in the world? 800; 10,000; 20,000; 5,000
- 7. Which bird has a skeleton weighing less than its feathers? Frigatebird; Hummingbird; Condor; Swift
- 8. Which of these birds uses its own body heat to incubate its eggs? Megapode; Shining Cuckoo; Greenshank; Scrubfowl
- 9. What colour is a Dunnock's egg?
- 10. What is the more correct term for the bastard wing? Secondaries; Scapula; Retrices; Alula
- 11. Which bird stands in an upright position to eat, but with its head upside down? (Not in Nick's quiz but seen recently in a cross-word puzzle!)

Answers: Page 7

#### The Southerill Family

We have been contacted by an Englishman, Graham Southerill, who is doing a search of all Southerills in the world. He found mention of E. H. Southerill and Mr and Mrs Southerill of Christchurch in a Notornis booklet from the 1960's which he is keen to follow up. If anyone has information on any members of the Southerill Family, could they please contact Jan Walker.

#### **Beach Patrols**

Beach patrols generally take place on the first Saturday of the month. They involve a group of members getting together in the morning and spending a few hours working their way up a designated stretch of beach and finding any dead birds that have been washed up, classifying them and filling in a report card to be sent to the national office. This valuable information is collated to reveal clues about what is happening out at sea.

Please contact Jan Walker at shesagreen@gmail.com or Phone 03 322 7187 to get details of the next patrol.

## **Contacting The Wrybill**

The Wrybill is issued to members of the Canterbury Branch of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand, and to other branches of the society, every four to five months.

Ideas, suggestions and contributions are welcome. If you have been involved in any birding activity within the region or in some far-flung corner of the country or the globe, please consider writing us something about it. Your information will certainly be worth placing on the record. Digital photos are welcome.

The advertising rate is \$15 for a half A4 page.

Contact Editor Ann Sherlock, 03 355 4194

email robnann@paradise.net.nz

#### Acknowledgement

This Newsletter was produced using free opensource software - the Scribus desk-top publisher, GIMP image processor and OpenOffice wordprocessor running under a Gnu-Linux operating system. We are grateful to the open-source community for providing such excellent tools.

#### Ashley River Bird Count, November 2007

The annual November Ashley River bird count was held on 24 November 2007. Counts of most species this year were about average (Table 1). However, pied stilt, banded dotterel, and spur-winged plover numbers were above average, whereas the number of blackbilled gulls was below average. The number of black-billed gulls was a lot lower than last year, because there was no large breeding colony this year. We found only isolated pairs nesting, including one bird that had a white plastic band on its right leg. The number of black-fronted terns was also much lower than last year. We found only small groups nesting this year. The number of wrybills was about average. We found four banded birds and five non-banded ones.

Table 1. November bird counts, Ashley River, 2000–2007

Species	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Average	Median
Black Shag	18	3		8	7	2	2	10	7	5
Little Shag	3	6		4	7	6	2	4	5	5
SI Pied										
Oystercatcher	25	22		22	37	22	5	26	23	22
Variable										
Oystercatcher					2	0	0	0	1	0
Pied Stilt	229	82		138	140	137	68	164	137	138
Black Stilt					2	1	1	1	1	1
Banded Dotterel	199	130		169	213	245	84	237	182	184
Wrybill	17	7		16	9	7	5	9	10	8
Spur-winged Plover	18			13	27	149	37	116	60	27
Black-billed Gull	314	3		0	10	1	213	13	79	7
Black-backed Gull	26			10	27	3	5	12	14	10
Black-fronted Tern	74	44		102	28	26	180	89	78	59
Caspian										
Tern	0	0		4	0	0	1	0	1	0

No count 2002 because of flood

The river level was 0.4 m and the flow was 3.71 cumecs at the Ashley Gorge. (This compares with 1.12 m and 42.1 cumecs when we tried to do the October survey!). The weather was fine, originally overcast with a light southerly, though the sun did come out later. Thanks to members of the Ornithological Society, Forest & Bird, Rangiora Tramping Club, Environment Canterbury, and Ashley/Rakahuri Rivercare Group who turned up to do the counts (Nick Allen, Janice Bathurst, Grant Bawden, Peter Gibbons, Dave Henley, Sue Hoyle, Nick Ledgard, Diane Loader, Andrew MacBeath, Steve McCready, Margaret Reilly, Kate Roughan, Barbara Spurr, Eric Spurr, Emma Woods, Simon Woods). Your help is much appreciated. I think everyone enjoyed their morning.

Eric Spurr, 25 November 2007

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SUMMER WADER COUNT 2007 CANTERBURY																									
SUMMER WAD	EK COU	IV I Z	JU / CA	MINIENE	JUNI																				
							4																		
Species	Ashley RM/Saltwater Greek	Kalapoi SF	<sup>B</sup> rooklands Lagoon	Travis Wetland	Avon-Heathcote Estuary	Tip Kaitorete Spit	Mid-Kaitorete Spit & Crescent	Соорs	Kaituna-Halswell R	Greenpark-Jarvis	Jarvis-Embankment	Embankment Rd	<sup>Y</sup> arrs & Colin's Pools	Upper LII Pools	Lower LII Pools	Selwyn Huts Lag	Selwyn RM	<sup>Hart</sup> s Creek	Johnstons Rd	Ponds near Taumutu	Fishermans Pt	Subtotal Lake Ellesmere	<sup>R</sup> akaia RM	Cooper's Lagoon	SPECIES TOTALS
Notes																			no mud						-
Date counted	16-Dec	3-Dec	3-Dec	3-Dec	26-Nov	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec	8-Dec			8-Dec	8-Dec		29-Nov	8-Dec	
Date counted	10 Dec	3 000	3 Dec	3 000	20 1101	0 DCC	0 Dec	0 Dec	0 DCC	0 Dec	0 Dec	O DCC	0 000	0 Dec	0 Dec	0 Dec	O Dec	O Dec	0 000	0 Dec	0 000		23 1101	0 Dec	+
Aus Crested Grebe								2														2			2
Royal Spoonbill								_					5	21								26			26
Mute Swan							1	5	5				1								7	19		13	
Chestnut-breasted Sheldu										2												2			2
Pied Oystercatcher	375		38		674		2	5			25	5										37			749
Variable Oystercatcher	10				67																	0			67
Hybrid Oystercatcher	18																					0			0
Pied Stilt	15	33	8	10	145	14	12	423	69	800	4	13	60	98	12	55	2	7		3		1572			1768
Hybrid Stilt								1						1								2			2
Banded Dotterel	16		8			73	10	62	7	40	29	67			10	12	3					313			331
Black-fronted Dotterel																						0			0
Wrybill						1					21											23			23
Pacific Golden Plover	70	-	14	24	7.0		14	40	125	300	21			15								785		_	918
Spur-winged Plover Turnstone	70		14	34	76	17	14	40	135	300	142	114	9	15	4	3			- 4			17			26
Lesser Knot	2					1/				1												1			1
Curlew Sandpiper	2					1				- 1												4			1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper						1									3	5						9			- 4
Pectoral Sandpiper				2		-																0			2
Red-necked Stint						43					q	6										58			58
Eastern Curlew	3																					0			0
Whimbrel	3																					ŏ			Ö
Bar-tailed Godwit	114		92		1502					140	21		3									164			1758
Black-tailed Godwit					2																				
Hudsonian Godwit										1												1			1
Siberian Tattler	1																					0			0
Alaskan Tattler			1																						
White-winged Black Tern																						0			1
Caspian Tern	4					9	87	1				6			2							105	4		109
Site totals	631	40	161	46	2466	167	126	539	216	1286	251	211	78	135	31	75	5	7	- 1	3	7	3141	24	15	5893
Site totals	031		101	70	2400	107	120	333	210	1200	231	211	,,,	155	31	,,,						3141	2.7	13	3033
Notes																									
Hybrid Stilt upper LII pools	s was G node																								
Whimbrels at Ashley 2 huc	dsonicus and	1 variega	itus																						
Hybrid Stilt lower Kaitorete	e was F node																								
NB Some sites omitted																									