

The Wrybill

Canterbury Regional Newsletter



August 2019

What's on at Birds NZ Canterbury: August to October 2019

Field Trips

The next three field trips will all be Atlas related. As such the exact details and locations won't be decided until closer to the time. Squares which currently need more of an effort may well change between now and the trip date.

August 17 - We'll be heading north of Christchurch for this one. Book by August 13.

September 14 - This trip will most probably be in the Oxford area. Book by September 7.

October 19 - This trip will be to the mid-Canterbury area. Book by October 12.

For all these trips please book with Sandra (birds.canterbury@osnz.org.nz) by the given date. This allows time to sort out the logistics of the trip which may well vary depending on the number of participants.

Rambles

Tuesday August 13 - Opawaho track (Forest and Bird's Calder Green Reserve), Ferrymead Park. Meet in the car park by the entrance to the Ferrymead golf club off Ferrymead Park Drive.

Wednesday September 18 - Tutaepatu Trail. Meet on the roadside by Woodend Beach Holiday Park, Woodend Beach Road.

Wednesday October 16 - Lower Selwyn Huts, meeting at the end of Spackman Ave at the Lower Selwyn Huts village.

All trips begin at 9:30 am. As usual please contact Bev if you are going or have any queries, 027 3184713 or 03 313 7009. All rambles are weather dependent and usually last for about 1 1/2 hours. All are welcome.

Indoor Meetings

Evening meetings take place at 7.30 pm on the last Monday of the month at Mahaanui Area DOC Office, 31 Nga Mahi Road, off Blenheim Road, Sockburn. Plenty of parking is available.

August 26 - Grant Davey from the Ashley Rakahuri River Care group will be updating us about the work of the group and what is happening on the river. Richard Holdaway will also give a short presentation.

September 23 - Our speaker will be Emma Williams, who has done a lot of work with bittern and other cryptic wetland birds including Marsh Crake and Spotted Crake.

October 28 - No meeting due to Labour Day.

November 4 - Peter Jahn, the inaugural winner of the Marj Davis Scholarship, will talk to us about his research into acoustic monitoring and occupancy analysis for Great Spotted Kiwi.

New Zealand Bird Atlas Update

The New Zealand Bird Atlas was officially launched on 1 June. Since then 46 observers have submitted 1403 checklists for the Canterbury region. Nearly 38% of the grid squares in Canterbury have at least some data submitted and 98 different species have been recorded. On the West Coast 38 checklists have been submitted by 8 different observers. Fifty three species have been sighted and just under 7% of the West Coast squares now have some data recorded.

Submitting data to the atlas project is one way you can make your birding count. Without data like this we don't have an accurate idea of what species are where, and which species most need our help. This video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcqWSAlj8gl>) is well worth a look. It'll give you a good idea of the scope and value of the New Zealand Bird Atlas. For the project to be a success we need as many people participating as possible. To get started the New Zealand Bird Atlas website (<https://birdatlas.co.nz/>) has all the resources you need - a handy help guide, maps, videos showing you how to get started on eBird or paper record sheets if eBird isn't for you. And if you are still having problems or have questions get in touch with the friendly folk on the atlas team. Or ask Sandra - she's been known to make house calls to walk you through the process!

In case you need an extra incentive to get started we have a couple of \$25 gift vouchers up for grabs. All you need to do to enter is be a Canterbury based Birds NZ member and submit a minimum of 5 complete Canterbury checklists via the New Zealand Bird Atlas portal on eBird between now and the end of August.

Conference Report

Friday morning dawned bright and clear and – despite the pilot warning of turbulence over Cook Strait – our flight to Wellington was an

especially smooth one. Clearly deciding to fly on Friday rather than Thursday was an inspired choice. Tales abounded of flights that were practically at Wellington before being turned back and others that were cancelled before they even got off the ground. We arrived at the conference venue just in time for Eleanor to head off to her meeting. I took the opportunity to wander around Kilbirnie where I had lived 30 years previously. Verdict – the suburb had changed, and not necessarily for the better, while my old house looked exactly as it had then (also not a good thing). Back to the venue for lunch and then it was time for the Regional Representatives' Meeting. First up was a joint meeting with Council where the nuts and bolts of the atlas project were discussed, especially how it would impact on the RRs' role. Given Canterbury is the largest region in the country, and when the West Coast is also factored in there are practically twice as many squares as the next largest region, I was relieved to discover the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the area gets covered doesn't rest with me. Thank goodness for the New Zealand Bird Atlas team! The perennial topic of health and safety was also on the agenda with reminders of our responsibilities in this regard. We also discussed ways to raise awareness of Birds NZ and hopefully increase membership. It's always good to chat with fellow RRs and get their perspectives on different issues.

The conference proper got underway on Saturday morning with the official launch of the New Zealand Bird Atlas. A really positive and upbeat start. This conference differed from the previous couple that I've attended in the number of longer talks that were included. I especially enjoyed the session on Kākāpō. The news was both good (bumper breeding season) and bad (aspergillosis). What was really interesting was the peek ahead into the next challenge. Kākāpō numbers have increased to the level that there is no longer space for them on existing islands nor the resources to monitor them as intensively as is current practise. So planning is underway looking at how and where monitoring can be reduced and where some

The Wrybill - August 2019

could be relocated, including places not totally predator free. There was also a series of talks focused on the Auckland Islands, a session looking at old bones and DNA, many interesting talks on seabirds, and a whole lot more besides.

Saturday's AGM was a fairly smooth affair although the vexed issue of conservation and the extent to which Birds New Zealand can and should be active in the area continues to divide the membership. Three Council positions became vacant this year. Congratulations to Eleanor Gunby, one of the new Council members. The presentation of awards is always one of the highlights of the AGM, all the more so this year when two Canterbury members were recognised. Congratulations to Jan Walker who was awarded a Meritorious Service Award, recognising her ten years service as Regional Representative.



Jan Walker, recipient of a Meritorious Service Award.
Photo credit: Peter Reese.

Extra special congratulations to Andrew Crossland who was awarded the prestigious Robert Falla Memorial Award for his contributions to the study of birds in New Zealand and the South Pacific, as well as his sustained service to OSNZ.



Andrew Crossland, recipient of a Robert Falla Memorial Award. Photo credit: Kirk Hargreaves, Christchurch City Council.

The conference wound up with the formal dinner on Sunday night. Congratulations to David Thomas whose sartorial splendour (a witty Petrel Station T-shirt) was recognised in the T-shirt competition. Apart from great food and plentiful chats, the evening also featured a cake to mark the society's 80th AGM and a challenging quiz.

Monday was the day of field trips and I opted for a visit to Zealandia. A good choice as it happens – the first field trip I've been on where I managed to spot every bird I was hoping to find. Kākā were in abundance everywhere, Red-crowned Parakeets, saddleback, Brown Teal, robin and even Stitchbird were easily spotted. I was resigned to missing out on Whitehead when a small flock conveniently came into view just a few meters from the exit.

I was beginning to relax on the flight back to Christchurch, until I remembered that the next conference is being held in Christchurch and that I'll be heavily involved in making sure it all happens. Lots of work ahead for sure but I'm looking forward to having a conference in our own backyard. Without travel and accommodation costs to worry about I'm hoping many of you will take the opportunity to attend this annual highlight of the Birds NZ year.

Sandra Wallace

Colour Banded Silvereyes in Beckenham Area

As part of a project set up by Emma Williams and Colin O'Donnell, we helped colour band some silvereyes in the Beckenham-St Martins area, and would be interested to know of any sightings of these birds to determine how widely they range in winter. A total of 65 silvereyes were banded, mostly in June this year. Of these, 52 were caught at our house in Martin Avenue in the Beckenham Loop, and 13 in St Martins about 500 m away. We are putting out sugar water feeders and usually get >100 silvereyes coming in each morning until the feeders are empty. If anyone else has a feeder, we would appreciate any sightings of banded birds coming to your site.



Colour banded Silvereyes at a feeder. Photo credit: Dave Kelly.

The birds all have two colour bands on the left leg, and on the right one is one colour band above a numbered metal band (except for two birds, one of which has only a metal band on the right, and one having only yellow + metal on the right). On the right leg most birds have yellow, orange or red above metal, but 8 birds, all from St Martins, have purple.

One of the things we are interested in is to what extent birds stay around in a very local area, or

move more widely, over the winter when they are feeding in town. We have been watching them since 22 June and have resightings for 44 of the 52 banded at our house, and at least 4 of the 13 banded in St Martins. So they clearly do move at least 500 m, but are also mainly quite local, with a much higher resighting rate for birds banded at our house (85%) than those from St Martins (31%). Also, we have resighted "our" birds on average on 5.7 different days (out of 14 days of serious observation) compared to the St Martins ones resighted on 3.0 days.



Colour banded Silvereye feeding on apple. Photo credit: Dave Kelly.

Another remarkable finding is that, despite having banded 52 birds at our house, it seems less than 1 in 20 of the birds now coming to the feeder has colour bands. So there must be an awful lot of silvereyes out there. I was amazed to hear from Peter Reese that his best-travelled silvereye went from Kaikoura to Wellington, and that some of the silvereyes he banded (I think in Wellington) lived 11 or 12 years, so I guess we might have to plan on a long spell of watching for colour bands in the Loop.

I would appreciate any information about sightings of colour bands, or returns of metal bands if the poor wee fellas expire, to dave.kelly@canterbury.ac.nz, or 027 255 1537.

Dave Kelly

Birds NZ Seeking a New Membership Secretary

We are seeking a new Membership Secretary. I am about to begin travelling away from Christchurch and can no longer continue with this role. I have listed the requirements below and I am willing to assist a new person to transition into the role. Ideally, someone from Christchurch would be preferable for ease of learning what is required. I have notes on the various tasks and how to perform them.

Currently our PO Box is at the Barrington Post Office and there is a BNZ branch there also.

Summary of job requirements

- Access to a computer and internet. A printer is provided by Birds New Zealand.
- The membership role has a Gmail account for communications.
- General computer and internet browsing skills. Familiarity with Excel is necessary to keep track of expenses, banking, new members and mailing lists for the publications. I have templates for all of these functions which I can pass on.
- 2-4 hrs per week available to process membership requests and to do the banking. The time required will vary during the year. More time is needed during membership renewal cycle (Sep-Apr) but less during the rest of the year (May-Aug).
- Access to your home or work place for couriers for the delivery of extra Notornis four times a year.
- Access to a branch of the BNZ for banking cheques.
- Access to a Post Office box and a Post Office for buying stamps (we have an account for this).
- A small storage area to hold a few boxes of current Notornis and Birds NZ for distribution to new members.

If you think you can help please email me at membership@osnz.org.nz

Jill West

Atlassing Trip

After meeting up with Sandra, Eleanor, Janet and Anthea, Peter and I decided to head off towards the Springfield area and cover some Atlas squares there. Visits were made to Kowai Bush, farm land, rivers and down side roads or anywhere we thought we might see something different to add to the atlas totals. The most interesting sighting was of a NZ Falcon standing in a paddock on Perhams Rd, plucking and eating its catch. We saw a Spur-winged Plover nest on the side of Rubicon Road, and a pied oystercatcher on a nest on Curve Rd. All in all we added information to 5 squares (there's only 486 squares in Canterbury!) – a few more outings to go yet. It was an enjoyable day out.

Bev Alexander



Peter admiring a Spur-winged Plover nest. Photo credit: Bev Alexander.

Recent Happenings

At May's evening meeting, Archie MacFarlane spoke to us about genetic rescue on South Island Robins. Birds had been translocated between two inbred robin populations, one on Motuora Island and the other on the Allports.

The Wrybill - August 2019

While this translocation improved fertility in the short term, Archie's research was looking into the long-term impacts. He found that after a decade there was an increase in the number of eggs being hatched, and that more chicks were surviving to a month old. This suggests that if no outbred birds are available to be translocated into a population, it may be worth bringing in inbred birds from a different population.

Our ramble to the Ashley Estuary, also in May, turned up an excellent tally of 39 species, composed of a good mix of birds. While only four people attended the trip, those who did were treated to views of a Sanderling and a Black Stilt. Other highlights included some Black-fronted Terns, one of which was banded, and a large group of 240 Spotted Shags in their usual haunt at the river mouth.



Spotted Shags seen on May's ramble. Photo credit: Janet Burton.



Ramblers exploring the Ashley Estuary on May's ramble. Photo credit: Janet Burton.

Our field trip in June was the annual Winter Wader Count at Lake Ellesmere. Thanks to everyone who gave up their morning to come along. It was heartening to have so many non-members lend a hand. The excellent turnout meant that the whole lake was able to be surveyed despite the challenging weather – fog, some rain, and even a spot of hail! Birds were a bit thin on the ground (maybe they didn't like the weather either), but four Red-necked Stint were found by the City Council rangers on Kaitorete Spit. Pied Stilts were the most numerous species at the lake, with 749 seen. See the attached spreadsheet for full results.

Our June meeting started off with some special presentations. Jan Walker was presented with her Meritorious Service Award, and Andrew Crossland with his Robert Falla Memorial Award. Congratulations to them both! After a break for a spot of supper Sandra walked us through the New Zealand Bird Atlas scheme, which was launched on June 1st. The atlas runs for five years and, once completed, should provide us with an up-to-date picture of bird distribution in New Zealand. We can all contribute by doing what we already enjoy – getting out and finding birds! – and submitting your completed checklist to eBird. If you need a refresher on some of the few protocols, check out page 8.

Carrying on from June's meeting, we held two field trips in July to people get out and become familiar with atlassing. The first trip, led by Nick Allen, was held on Sunday 14. Members spent the morning exploring around Marshlands, in Atlas Square CW49. Highlights included a Cirl Bunting at the Brooklands Lagoon Walk and three Cape Barren Geese on Lower Styx Road. The second trip was held a fortnight later, and the six attendees split up. Four members of the party atlassed around CX44, near Darfield. We investigated McHughs Forest Park before driving around the area to check out some of the farmland. A variety of passerines and most other usual suspects were spotted, including some South Island Pied Oystercatchers in several paddocks. The other two birders

explored some squares a little further afield, as can be read in Bev's report on page 5.

July's ramble was to Styx Mill Reserve, recording a total of 28 species, predominantly waterfowl and passerines. The most numerous species was Eurasian Coot, followed by Canada Geese and then New Zealand Scaup.

For our evening meeting that month, Birds NZ President Bruce McKinlay spoke to us about 5-minute bird counts being conducted in the Dunedin town belt. While these are a good way for local members to develop their birding skills, it was especially great to hear about the community involvement. Hopefully the schools, preschools and other groups continue utilizing the town belt, whether it's for conducting bird counts or learning about nature in another way!

Health and Safety

In order for everyone to have an enjoyable time on field trips and other activities we first need make sure everyone stays safe. Here's how you can do your bit.

1. Wear clothing appropriate for the activity such as plenty of warm layers, hat and gloves in winter; sunhat and sunglasses in summer. Bringing a raincoat is always a sensible option. Footwear needs to be suitable as well – think sturdy soles and good ankle support for many walks especially on hills, something that can get wet and muddy especially at Lake Ellesmere in winter. Walking poles could be helpful to some on steep and/or uneven ground.

2. Be honest and open about your physical abilities. Not all trips will be suitable for everyone. If you have a preexisting medical condition that could impact the trip (such as – but not limited to - asthma, allergy to bee stings, diabetes) please notify the trip leader of the condition, any problems that could arise and

what the trip leader and others may be required to do to assist you. This information will be kept confidential unless a medical event requires it being shared. Make sure you bring whatever medications you may need.

3. Bring enough food and drink for the event plus a little extra in case the trip takes longer than planned. Fresh water is not always available and dehydration can be a concern in summer so bring your own drinking water.

4. Listen to the health and safety briefing given at the beginning of each trip. Keep your eye out for any unexpected hazards and talk to the trip leader and others if you have any concerns along the way. Let the trip leader know of any accidents or near misses.

5. Stay with the group at all times unless you have talked to the trip leader and have their okay.

6. The trip leader reserves the right to decline participation in any trip if they have concerns about anyone being unable to participate safely or not being suitably equipped.

7. Any health and safety incidents or concerns must be reported to the trip leader or RR immediately.

NZ Bird Atlas Tips

- Make sure your eBird account is set to New Zealand Bird Atlas. See the Facebook posts on the NZBA page <https://www.facebook.com/NZBirdAtlas/> for 2nd and 4th August. eBird lists not set to the atlas will not be included in the atlas.

- Keep your travelling list distances short, preferably 1 km or less. This way they are less likely to cross atlas square boundaries or cover more than one habitat. Mapping software and

The Wrybill - August 2019

GIS will be used to automatically assign habitat and travelling lists that cross habitats (or square boundaries) will likely be filtered out, meaning they are wasted effort.

- If walking a distance longer than 1 km it is probably best to finish one list and start another for the next kilometre, and so on. If you cross into a new habitat, finish the list for the old habitat and start a new list for the new habitat. If you are on an out and back route then record separate lists for the outward and return legs: two lists (or sets of lists) for the price of one route. You usually get extra species on the return leg that would be missed if the return leg was just walked without recording. I often walk a 500 m transect along a road in farmland, submit that list, then start a new list for the walk back to my car.

- Using the phone app the distance travelled is displayed, even when out of mobile reception. A hand-held GPS unit will usually do the same, and have better battery life for longer trips. Otherwise, recording for a certain amount of time whilst walking a route will give an idea of distance travelled – for example 15 minutes is roughly 1 km if you usually walk at about 4 kph when birding.

- Travelling lists usually provide a larger number of species and individuals of those species. It is best to use travelling lists to get maximum results for effort. This is especially so in closed habitats such as forest, but also habitats with small species that are in low density. Farmland with hedgerows is best covered using travelling lists as small passerines hide in the hedge, or behind it.

- Stationary counts are useful where the habitat is open, such as seawatching, a lake with no track round it and totally open farmland.

- For more information on travelling and stationary lists see <https://help.ebird.org/customer/en/portal/articles/974012-how-to-make-your-checklists-more-valuable?t=401194> . Note that the atlas is only using the travelling and stationary protocols

(not area, historical, etc). This article also explains when a driving list is considered complete and when it is considered incidental. Driving at the low speed required for a complete list would be a hazard to you and other road users on many roads.

- For the atlas project complete lists are by far the best. Incidental lists are unlikely to provide the presence/absence and population density data that the atlas team is seeking. Counts normally have to be 5 minutes duration or longer to be considered complete lists. When driving through an area if you see something interesting stop and either do a 5-minute stationary count (recording all the species you see or hear), or a short walking travelling list.

- There are lots of useful help pages on eBird – on the NZ Bird Atlas eBird homepage <https://ebird.org/atlasnz/home> the gateway to help is on the right hand side of the same line as the submit/explore/my eBird etc. Otherwise contact the Atlas team via the online form near the bottom of the NZ Bird Atlas webpage <https://birdatlas.co.nz/>

Nick Allen

Pheasant Photo



This photo of two male pheasants was taken by William Harland at Rakaia Huts. William reports that the pheasants were displaying aggressive behaviour and would occasionally fight.

Recent Sightings

**Canterbury and West Coast Bird Report
May to July 2019**

This report covers the period 1st May to 31st July 2019 and is compiled from reports posted onto eBird, the Birding NZ internet discussion site, and New Zealand Birders Facebook page. Your regional recorder would welcome news of any interesting bird sighting, unusual behaviour or searchable sources of other sightings. Email christchurchnzbirders@gmail.com.

Key to letters after bird names:

A = all reported occurrences (for rare/scarce species or escaped/released species etc)

S = significant numbers/occurrences (for species regularly encountered in the regions)

V = vagrant

Great Spotted Kiwi (A) N of Waimangaroa: 1 6/5 RN.

Cape Barren Goose (A) Lower Styx Road: 3 14/7 Birds NZ Canterbury. A Lower Styx Road resident commented that the species here is increasing in number and spreading through the nearby area. Travis Wetland: 1 4/5 DH, 5/5 A&CD, 25/6 PC. Rakaia RM: 4 6/7 MA.

Mute Swan (A) Ashley Estuary: 2 21/5 Birds NZ Canterbury. Taranaki Creek, Waikuku: 2 12/7 BA, 2 20/7 BA. Taranaki Paddocks, Waikuku: 2 1/5 BA, 4 2/5 EG, 2 5/6 BA. Pegasus Wetlands: 4 4/5 BA, 2 5/5 BA, 4 6/5 BA, 5a 1imm 7/5 JB, BA, 6 18/5 ACo, 4 ads 2 imms 23/5 BA, 3 8/6 PM, PR, BA, 2 29/6 BA, 2 9/7 BA. Bromley WTP: 2 1/5 VDP, PSc, 1 3/5 PD, 1 7/5 NA, 1 29/6 JB, 1 29/7 JB. Lincoln Wetlands: 4 4/5 KR, 4 24/5 PR, 4 17/6 PR, 2 3/7 PR. Lake Forsyth: 2 1/5 PC. Halswell Flats: 6 16/6 KR, LM. Jarvis-Embankment Roads: 4 16/6 BD, IW. Yarrs Bay: 6 17/5 JB. Harts Creek: 1 ad 1 imm 2/6 BA. Timberyard Road: 1 25/7 JB. Coopers Lagoon: 9 25/5 BA, 4 16/6 BA, JB, AR. Rakaia RM: 3 6/7 MA, 2 27/7 WH. Washdyke Lagoon: 3 ads 1 imm 23/5 PS.

Muscovy Duck (A) The Groynes: 1 4/5 BA, 1/6 NA. Riccarton House: 1 16/7 RS, 2 20/7 RS. Westlake Reserve: 2 6/5 NA, 2 11/5 PR, 4 24/5 BA, 2 15/6 PR,

3 2/7 PR. Inaka Street Wetlands, Lincoln: 2 25/6 WH. Lincoln Wetlands: 2 24/5 PR. Ashburton Domain: 2 7/7 NA.

(American) Wood Duck (A) Halswell Quarry Ponds: 1m 1f 16/6 PR.

Northern Shoveler (V) Bromley WTP: 1m 1/5 JW, VDP, PSc, GB, AC, 5/5 GM, 7/5 NA, 12/5 BD, 20/5 ACo. Halswell Flats: 1 16/6 MR, DM, MQ.

Helmeted Guineafowl (A) Upper Buller Gorge nr Lyall: 4 9/5 DT.

Peafowl (A) Inwoods Road, Sedgemere: 7 25/5 BA.

Chukar (A) Mt John, Tekapo: 13 26/5 DT, 8 6/7 KR, 6 30/7 FG. Godley Peaks Rd nr Mt John: 1 28/7 PC, NMu.

Turkey (A) Timberyard Road: 5 11/5 KR, 26 19/5 BA, 15 24/6 PR.

Australasian Crested Grebe (A) Lake Peason: 1 20/7 RC. Roto Kohatu: 3 27/5 JB, 4 13/6 BA, 2 21/6 JB, 2 30/6 RG, 2 1/7 EG. Lake Forsyth: 5 4/5 JW, BA, 1 at outlet lagoon 12/5 NA, 33 6/6 BA, PM, PR, 4 22/6 PC, 1 14/7 JB. Kaituna Lagoon: 1 16/6 AC. Halswell Flats B: 2 16/6 MR, DM, MQ. Halswell Flats A: 2 16/6 KR, LM. Lake Tekapo SE bay: 2 28/7 PC, NMu. Kelland Ponds: 1 22/7 JWe. Wairepo Arm, Lake Ruataniwha: 4 22/7 JWe, 2 28/7 PC, NMu. Sailors Cutting, Lake Benmore: 9 28/7 PC, NMu. Glenburn Bay, Lake Benmore: 5 28/7 PC, NMu. Lake Waitaki: 7 28/7 PC, NMu.

Soft-plumaged Petrel (A) Murrays Mistake Headland: 1 taken into care and released 19/5 AC, PC.

Mottled Petrel (A) High on Tasman Glacier: 2 taken into care in good condition for release on West Coast 14/5 DS.

Little Black Shag (A) Pegasus Wetlands: 1 8/6 PM, PR, BA. Styx River, Brooklands: 2 14/7 NA. Bexley Wetland: 13 flew over going NE 13/5 NA. Westlake Reserve: 1 15/6 PR.

Otago Shag (A) Ashburton RM: 1 bronze phase 1/5 AC. Waitaki RM: 2 26/7 PC.

Spotted Shag (S) Ashburton RM: ~7360 1/5 AC.

Australasian Bittern (A) Travis Wetland: 1 8/7 NMu.

White Heron (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 2/5 EG, 4/5 BA, 5/5 NA, 18/5 BA, 21/5 Birds NZ Canterbury, 13/7 KR. Waikuku township playing field: 1 8/6 PR. Tulls Road, Waikuku: 1 17/6 JM, 5/7 BA, 19/7 BA, 21/7 BA. Northbrook Pools, Rangiora: 1 23/6 KR. Pegasus Wetlands: 1 6/5 BA, 18/5 ACo. Flaxton Road, Flaxton:

The Wrybill - August 2019

1 8/7 BA. Seafield Lagoon, Brooklands: 1 14/5 AW.
 Brooklands Lagoon: 1 11/6 AC. Linwood Canal: 1 1/5
 JW, AW, 5/5 GM. Little River: 1 20/7 JD. Lake
 Forsyth: 1 28/7 GN. Kaituna Lagoon: 2 30/5 PC, 1
 24/7 PC. Birdlings B: 16/6 AC. Halswell Flats: 1 16/6
 MR, DM, MQ. Yarrs Bay: 1 17/5 JB. Selwyn RM: 1
 16/6 NA. Harts Creek: 1 11/5 KR. Timberyard Road,
 Lakeside: 1 19/5 BA, 1 2/6 BA, 2 24/6 PR. Lower Lake
 Road: 1 16/6 BA. Lake Wainono: 1 18/6 PS.

Reef Heron (A) Point Kean, Kaikoura: 1 7/6 PM, PR,
 BA.

Cattle Egret (A) Drain Road, Doyleston: 5 19/5 BA, 6
 3/6 KR. The Lake Road, Lakeside: 1 3/5 PC, 5 16/6
 BA, JB.

Marsh Crake (A) Waimakariri River near Kaiapoi
 Sewage Ponds: 1 11/7 BA, 1 25/7 GM, 28/7 RH.

Spotless Crake (A) Harts Creek: 1 11/5 KR.

Black Stilt (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 4/5 BA, 5/5 NA, 12/5
 JO, 18/5 BA, 21/5 Birds NZ Canterbury, 31/5 BA 8/6
 PM, BA, PR, 17/6 JM, 23/6 NA, 30/6 RG, 3/7 EG,
 13/7 KR, 15/7 RC, 20/7 BA, 2 25/7 BA. Isleworth
 Road, Hinds: 2 in a ploughed paddock 27/7 NMo.
 Lake Tekapo SE Bay: 2 28/7 PC, NMu. Tasman Fan: 3
 10/6 MP, 6 24/7 JWe. Ahuriri Delta, Lake Benmore:
 2 28/7 PC, NMu.

Black-fronted Dotterel (A) Waipara RM: 3 23/6 NA,
 2 26/7 KRo. Ashworths Lagoons: 2 3/7 EG. Taranaki
 Paddocks: 2 3/6 ACo, 5 5/6 BA, 3 7/6 PM, PR, 3 8/6
 PM, PR, BA, 3 19/6 BA, 2 3/7 EG, 5 25/7 BA.

Ashburton RM: 1 20/6 AC, 1 30/6 NA. Washdyke
 Lagoon: 6 23/5 PS, 7 17/6 PS, 6 26/7 PS.

Wrybill (A) Ashley Estuary: 3 25/7 BA.

Turnstone (A) Point Kean, Kaikoura: 1 7/6 PM, PR,
 BA, 2 15/6 MP, 11 6/7 PCr.

Red-necked Stint (A) Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 4 16/6
 PC.

Sanderling (V) Ashley Estuary: 1 21/5 Birds NZ
 Canterbury, 23/6 NA.

Grey Phalarope (V) Albatross Encounter pelagic: 1f
 in full breeding plumage 17/7 RC.

Little Tern (V) Lake Forsyth: 1 22/7 NMu.

Barbary Dove (A) Bottle Lake HQ: 2 25/7 PC.
 Marshland Road between QE2 Drive & Prestons Rd:
 1 14/7 NA, 3 27/7 NA.

New Zealand Falcon (A) Buller Gorge nr Lyall: 1 6/7
 NM. Clarence Valley SE of St James Stn: 1 26/7 PCr.

Perhams Rd, View Hill: 1 27/7 BA. Christchurch
 Botanic Gardens: 1 11/6 BA. Witch Hill, Port Hills
 Summit Road: 1 22/7 PC. Misty Peaks: 2 28/5 PC.
 Glentui Car Park: 1 6/7 BA. Woolshed Creek Hut: 2
 2/6 JB. Waihi Gorge Road: 1 29/7 P&JS. Mt John: 1
 30/7 FG.

Kea (S) Nina Hut area: 2 15/7 TD. Okarito-Forks
 Road: 1 14/6 MP. Fox Glacier Village: 1 29/7 SN.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (A) Prices Valley: 12 4/5
 JW, BA, 22 11/5 DT, at least 100 6/6 PM, PR, BA, 40
 14/7 JB.

Yellow-crowned Parakeet (A) Harper Pass: 2 7/6 KR.

Rock Wren (A) Otira Valley: 1m 1f 5/5 KR, 2 14/6
 MP, 1 5/7 BS.

Tui (S) Prices Valley: 1 4/5 ACh.

Common Myna (A) Cnr Owles Tce & Hardy St, New
 Brighton: 1 23/6 'PaulG', 12/7 JSt.

Cirl Bunting (A) Cnr Waikoruru & Tuahiwi Rds,
 Tuahiwi: 1m 28/6 BA. Spencerville-Brooklands
 Lagoon lookout: 1f 14/7 Birds NZ Canterbury. Bexley
 Wetland: 1m 1f 13/5 NA. Godley Head: 1m 1/7 PC.
 Victoria Park: 1m 1f 3/7 PC. Halswell Quarry Park: 1
 18/6 NA, 1f 30/7 NA. Little River Rail Trail, Ataahua:
 2m 13/6 PC.

BA Bev Alexander, NA Nick Allen, MA Mark Ayre, GB
 Grahame Bell, JB Janet Burton, ACh Annette Ching,
 ACo Adam Colley, AC Andrew Crossland, RC Richard
 Crossley, PCr Patrick Crowe, PC Philip Crutchley, JD
 John Davey, BD Brian Darlow, VDP Vanessa De Pietri,
 TD Tony Doy, A&CD Alistair & Carmen Drake, PD
 Petrina Duncan, RG Ross Geredien, EG Eleanor
 Gunby, FG Fraser Gurney, DH Don Hadden, WH
 William Harland, RH Richard Hurt, NM Nikki
 McArthur, PM Peter McClelland, DM DaleMcEntee,
 GM Greg McKenzie, JM Joanna McVeagh, LM Laura
 Molles, NMo Nathan Moutardier, NMu Niall Mugan,
 RN Richard Nichol, SN Stuart Nicholson, GN Graham
 Norton, Joanne Ocock, MP Mathieu Pélissié, MQ
 Mike Quartley, PR Peter Reese, AR Anthea Reynolds,
 KRo Kenny Rose, MR Matt Rose, KR Kieran Rowe, DS
 David Sagar, JS Joy Sagar, PS Paul Sagar, RS Richard
 Schofield, PSc Paul Scofield, BS Bradley Shields, JSt
 John Stewart, DT David Thomas, JW Jan Walker, AW
 Alice Waterhouse, JWe Jill West, IW Ian Williams.

Submissions

The next edition of *The Wrybill* is due out in early November. The editor invites members to submit their contributions - articles and/or photos - by October 20 for inclusion in the next issue. Submissions don't have to be about exciting trips overseas or about finding rare birds - even reports from our monthly field trips, rambles and meetings are much appreciated. Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this edition of *The Wrybill*.

Canterbury Region Contacts

Regional Representative: Sandra Wallace

31 Westmont Street, Christchurch 8041
Ph 358 5706

Email: birds.canterbury@osnz.org.nz

Regional Recorder: Nick Allen

11 Seagrave Place, Christchurch 8041
Ph 03 358 5994

Email: nick_allen@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer: Jan Walker

305 Kennedys Bush Rd, Christchurch
8025

Ph 322 7187

Email: shesagreen@gmail.com

The Wrybill Editor: Eleanor Gunby

31 Westmont Street, Christchurch 8041
Ph 358 5706

Email: eleanor.gunby@gmail.com

Additional Committee Members:

Bev Alexander

63 Golding Ave, Rangiora 7400

Ph 03 313 7009

Email: birdiebev@xtra.co.nz

Ron Nilsson

Ph 942 6484

Email: kokakodreamingstill@gmail.com

CANTERBURY WADER COUNT for June 2019

Species	Waipara RM	Ashley/Saltwater Ck Est	Taranaki Creek paddocks	Waimakariri Bridges	Brooklands Lagoon	Travis Wetland	Avon-Heathcote Estuary	Lyttelton Harbour	Pura-Ripapa Island	Port Levy	Pigeon Bay	Okains Bay	Akaroa Harbour	Lake Forsyth	Tip of Kaitorete Spit	Kaitorete Spit	Birdings A	Birdings B	Kaituna Lagoon	Halswell Flats B	Halswell Flats A	Osbornes	Greenpark Huts-Jarvis Road	
Counters/NC	NA	NA	NA	AC	AC	AC PC Jsk KR DR	AC	AC	AC	AC	AC	AC	AC	nic	PC	PC	AC	AC	AC	MR DM MQ	KR LM H	KR LM H	JW AW KR LM SA ST JD	
Notes																								
Date counted	23-Jun	23-Jun	23-Jun	11-Jun	11-Jun	26-Jun	23-Jun	16-Jun	13-Jun	13-Jun	19-Jun	19-Jun	19-Jun		16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	
Aus Crested Grebe																								
Mute Swan																								
Northern Shoveler																								
Otago Shag																								
White Heron					1																			
Royal Spoonbill					3		24	4					1											
Pied Oystercatcher					139		1468	414	40	59	32	65	240										96	
Variable Oystercatcher					8		85	6	6	6	6	16	45											
Hybrid Oystercatcher																								
Pied Stilt	2	63	9	21	99	21	180	24				16	21		3	2				38	144	188	48	47
Black Stilt																								
Hybrid Stilt																								
Banded Dotterel					58		92																	
Black-fronted Dotterel	3																							
Wrybill					5																			
Spur-winged Plover	2		15	2	35	32	83	84		18	6	47	32		24	54	15	24	88	4	1	76	15	
Red-necked Stint															4									
Sanderling																								
Bar-tailed Godwit					18		161	3																
Black-billed Gull																								
Black-fronted Tern	1			2	4		6																	
Caspian Tern				2	2		12			1														
White-fronted Tern																								
Site totals	8	282	42	27	372	53	2111	535	46	84	44	145	339	0	125	82	20	121	222	173	213	225	70	
Wader site totals	7	189	42	23	362	53	2069	531	46	83	44	144	338	0	107	81	19	120	219	148	203	221	70	
% of total count	0.11	2.92	0.65	0.36	5.60	0.82	31.98	8.21	0.71	1.28	0.68	2.23	5.22	0.00	1.65	1.25	0.29	1.86	3.39	2.29	3.14	3.42	1.08	
# wader species at site	3	8	3	2	7	2	6	5	2	3	3	4	4	0	4	3	4	2	5	2	4	4	3	

Note: Lake Ellesmere water level high, so some sites east of Selwyn River inundated with water

Counters

Nick Allen = NA Jan Walker = JW Andrew Crossland = AC Matt Rose = MR Sandra Wallace = SW Eleanor Gunby = EG Bev Alexander = BA Phil Crutchley = PC Kenny Rose = KR Dale McIntee = DM Paul Sagar = PS Joy Sagar = JS Steve Atwood = SA Anthea Reynolds = AR Janet Burton = JB Martin Daly = MD Gretchen Perry = GP Joseph Pollacco = JP Mike Quartley = MQ Stefan Thomson = ST John Davey = JD Brian Darlow = BD Ian William = IW Laura Molles = LM J Skilton = JSK D Rate-Smith = DR Hannah ? = H

Species	Jarvis-Embankment Rds	Embankment Rd-Yarls	Yarls Flat	LII RM to Selwyn Huts	Boggy Creek	Irwell RM	Drain Road	Harts Creek	Timberyard Point	Johnston's Bay	Lower Lake Road Flats/Paddock	Fishermans Point	Subtotal Lake Ellesmere	Coopers Lagoon	Ashburton RM	Spider Lagoon	Ophi RM/Milford Lagoon	Washdyke Lagoon	Ki-Wainono	TOTAL	
Counters/NC	BD IW	EG SW MD GP	EG SW MD GP NA JP	n/c	n/c	n/c	n/c	n/c	BA JB AR	n/c	BA JB AR	BA JB AR	BA JB AR	BA JB AR	PS JS AC	PS JS	PS JS	PS JS PS			
Notes																					
Date counted	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun					16-Jun		16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	20-Jun	14-Jun	14-Jun	15-Jun	18-Jun		
Aus Crested Grebe													5								5
Mute Swan	4												10	4							14
Northern Shoveler													1								1
Otago Shag													0		2						2
White Heron				1							1		4							1	6
Royal Spoonbill			1										24							4	66
Pied Oystercatcher		4	27										137	25		2	2	6			2707
Variable Oystercatcher													2	3	2	5	29				224
Hybrid Oystercatcher													1								18
Pied Stilt	219	58										2	749			21	17	80	377		1698
Black Stilt													0								1
Hybrid Stilt													8								8
Banded Dotterel	159	3	52										510					26	56		780
Black-fronted Dotterel													0	1				7			11
Wrybill													0								5
Spur-winged Plover	21	27	34										383	5	18	12	15	37			826
Red-necked Stint													4								4
Sanderling													0								1
Bar-tailed Godwit													0								184
Black-billed Gull		120							11				134				3	12	3		189
Black-fronted Tern													8			14			1		41
Caspian Tern			1										15	4		1	1	1	3		50
White-fronted Tern													1			12					51
Site totals	403	212	0	116	0	0	0	0	11	0	1	2	1996	4	40	41	66	177	482		6894
Wader site totals	399	92	0	113	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1794	0	34	41	36	163	470		6469
% of total count	6.17	1.42	0.00	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	27.73	0.00	0.53	0.63	0.56	2.52	7.27		100.00
# wader species at site	3	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	0	4	3	4	6	3		13

Note: Lake Ellesmere water level high, so some sites east of Selwyn River inundated with water

Counters

Nick Allen = NA Jan Walker = JW Andrew Crossland = AC Matt Rose = MR Sandra Wallace = SW Eleanor Gunby = EG Bev Alexander = BA Phil Crutchley = PC Kenny Rose = KR Dale McIntee = DM Paul Sagar = PS Joy Sagar = JS Steve Atwood = SA Anthea Reynolds = AR Janet Burton = JB Martin Daly = MD Gretchen Perry = GP Joseph Pollacco = JP Mike Quartley = MQ Stefan Thomson = ST John Davey = JD Brian Darlow = BD Ian William = IW Laura Molles = LM J Skilton = JSK D Rate-Smith = DR Hannah ? = H