



Birds New Zealand
PO Box 834, Nelson 7040
www.osnz.org.nz

Regional Representative: Mary Thompson
197 Balmacewen Rd, Dunedin 9010
maryt@actrix.co.nz 03 4640787

Regional Recorder: Richard Schofield,
64 Frances Street, Balclutha 9230
cluthaphotos@gmail.com

Otago Region Newsletter 4 /2020 April 2020

Ornithological Snippets

Perhaps not surprisingly, a rather quiet month. On 23rd March, Dawn Palmer counted 830 Shoveler at the Shotover WTP. During regular garden counts from his home in Balclutha, the compiler has recorded both Black-fronted Tern and NZ Pipit during the second week of the lockdown.

Jill Hamel thinks that the two Pied Shags that Maree saw in Shag Bay in March are probably a mated pair. There were a pair doing ritual neck twining and bill fencing on the roost in the Andersons Bay Inlet on 22nd February. She has seen one or two Pied Shags there irregularly for about a year.

Finally a White Heron was seen at Papatowai on 5th April, reported by Diana Noonan and others, and another was seen at Tomahawk Lagoon by Bruce McKinlay on 10th April.

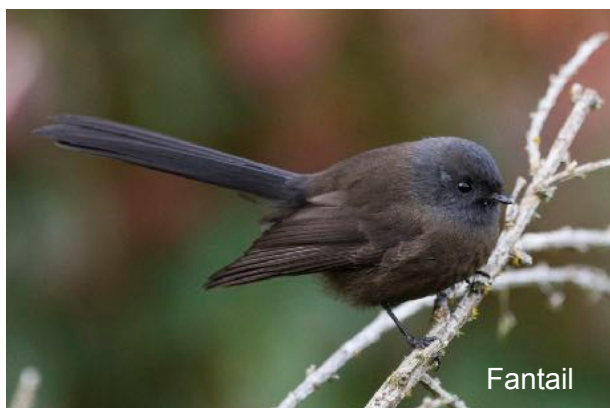
Please send any interesting reports to cluthaphotos@gmail.com

Richard Schofield

Yesterday afternoon (14th April) at about 5pm there was a visitation, in fact a murmuration, a small one, consisting 200 or so of starlings...not as amazing as some video clips I've seen online but spectacular nonetheless. As one they flew over my house and above my neighbour's trees before landing in an oak and a eucalyptus tree. Then they left, the visit having taken less than 30 seconds!

Maree Johnstone

I have been staying at Aquinas College in Dalmore for the duration of lockdown and had a few pretty cool sightings in that time. Locally, we have had large numbers of Kereru, Bellbirds, and NZ Fantail (which I assume is typical for Dunedin, but it has certainly been noticeable in my 2 months here). Yesterday we had at least 8 Fantail in a feeding flock behind the building, and I saw 13+ on the university campus the other day including a couple of black ones.



Fantail

At Signal Hill I came across 5 Tomtit and 5 Brown Creeper. My first visit to Ross Creek Reservoir turned up a pair of Rifleman, 5 Brown Creeper, a Tomtit, and I heard the local famous South Island Robin. On a second visit I heard another Tomtit, saw a different flock of at least 6 Brown Creeper, and saw and photographed the SI Robin.



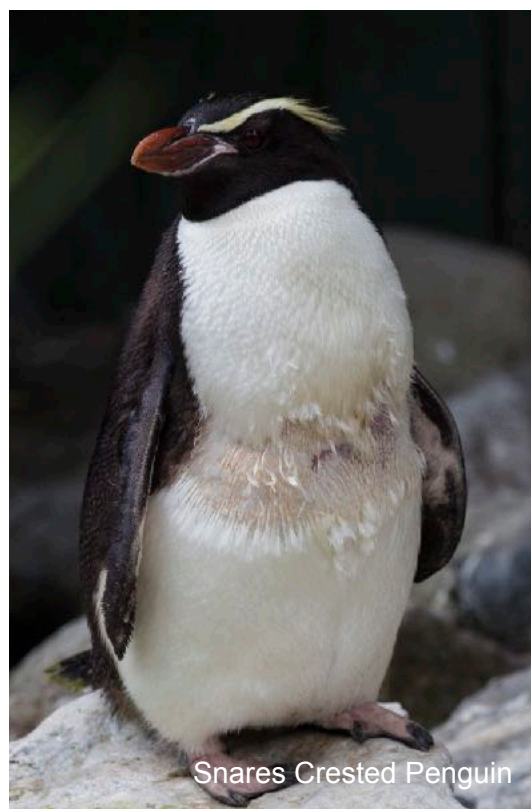
Brown Creeper



South Island Robin

I keep my telescope pointed at the Otago Harbour, where I regularly observe sizeable Spotted Shag flocks feeding inshore, as well as Black-backed and Red-billed Gulls, Little Shags and White-fronted Terns.

With the strong winds I recently decided to check out St. Kilda, which is at the edge of my range being 7km away! Nevertheless, I was able to pick out several Sooty Shearwaters zooming over the waves and a minimum of 6 Mollymawks. While they were distinctive at such a distance, it would be useless to try to assume the species. I would put White-capped Mollymawk as my best guess if I had to, but what really gets me is not being able to go to the



Snares Crested Penguin

beach from here during lockdown! If anyone lives along the coast, I recommend a walk down at the moment or even just checking it out with your binoculars or scope, as they were quite close in.

Prior to lockdown I was lucky to visit Penguin Place for the first time and observe the release of a Snares Crested and Erect-crested Penguin, as well as some wild moulting Hoiho.

Oscar Thomas

eBird News

In the current situation, it's great to see that people are still getting out and watching/counting/atlassing. You will probably have heard from the Atlas team that all Atlas data, including backyard birding, is valuable, and given that many of us now have spare time on our hands, what better way to spend it than by contributing sightings. Just remember, please stay safe and stay local.

Although it is a bit frustrating to have limited access, there are various ways to keep yourself occupied on a birding theme at the moment. If you are not already involved, add your garden to the eBird Yard List. Go to <https://ebird.org/newzealand/site/yard> to register your yard or garden. Anything you see or hear from your property can be included, so things flying past are fine.

Other ways to keep yourself entertained during the lockdown.

- Enter old checklists on to eBird (hopefully all checklists from June 2019 have already been uploaded to the Atlas). If you have all the relevant effort and location information, you can submit them as complete checklists, otherwise you can use the historical protocol, if you just have date & location.
- Participate in the Atlas webinars. The final one is scheduled for Friday 24th April, but previous ones are available to watch. There's something for everyone to learn.
- Go through the Macaulay Library. Every photo (along with audio & video) that is added to an eBird checklist becomes part of the Macaulay Library. To enhance the value of this resource, you can rate all the media by going to "Explore" > "Search Photos and Sounds", and then select New Zealand (or anywhere else you'd like to look at). You then have the option to rate each photo. And if you find an image that is misidentified, you can click "Report...", fill in the details and the record will be sent to the relevant reviewer to be dealt with.
- Do the eBird Photo + Sound Quiz. This is down at the bottom of the "Explore" page, and can be customised for anywhere in the world, and by season.
- Write an article. Something for the newsletter, maybe Birds NZ magazine, or perhaps even Notornis!

Richard Schofield cluthaphotos@gmail.com

Outside Orokonui Robins: 2019 season summary

2019 was the fourth year that Birds NZ members have monitored the robins in a privately-owned mixed forestry block adjacent to Orokonui Ecosanctuary, and the first year that we were operating under a licence to band robins with unique colour band combinations.



Black-Orange/Blue-Metal

© Maureen Howard

In total, 10 Birds NZ members helped with the monitoring, visiting the site every 2 weeks between 18 August and 8 January 2020. We located a minimum of 6 robin pairs, with an unknown number of other birds, likely single males, 'floating' around also. Because most birds are unbanded we could not be certain of the exact number of robins at the study site. We focussed our efforts on monitoring the nesting attempts of four pairs. In total, we found six nests, two of which fledged young and four of which failed before fledging. In addition, we were fairly sure that one of the robin pairs had a nest at the beginning of the season that we did not find before it failed. We could not establish the cause of failure of 4 out of 5 of the failed nests, but a nestling with a broken skull was found outside the fifth failed nest, suggesting predation was the likely cause of failure there.

Robin pair	Nest ID	Nest outcome
1	A	Fledged 2 chicks. One fledgling banded after 10 weeks
	B	Failed at late nestling stage; 1 nestling found dead outside nest, probable predation
2	A	Failed at nestling stage; nest too high to see inside
	B	Failed at later nestling stage; nest found empty
3	A	Fledged 2 chicks. Both fledglings seen 1 month later
4	A	Pair known to have nest; nest failed before being found
	B	Failed at egg or early nestling stage; nest too high to see inside

How does this compare with the 2018 season? We found and monitored a similar number of pairs and nests in 2019 as 2018, although we think that more robins were present at the study

site in 2019. Increasing the numbers of banded birds should help improve our estimates of numbers in future years. The raw data suggest that nests might have been slightly more successful in 2019 with 2/7 nests fledged compared with 1/6 in 2018. In addition, nests in 2018 seemed to fail more quickly compared with 2019 nests. Back of the envelope calculations of daily nest survival rates lead to estimates of a 4% chance of nests fledging in 2018 compared with a 27% probability in 2019 (assuming the nest incubation and nestling period takes about 39 days (NZbirdsonline.org.nz) and daily survival rates do not change over time). However, given the improbable assumption of constant daily survival rates, the small number of nests monitored and the low frequency of checks, these results should be treated with caution.



Nestlings c.7 days © Jess Cripps

	2018	2019
Daily survival rate (Mayfield method)	0.922	0.967
Probability nest survives 39 days	0.042	0.274

Banding

We started banding robins at the site in 2019 in order to identify individual birds and to collect data on survival rates. Five robins were banded with unique colour combinations – one adult bird from each of the 4 pairs we were monitoring nests of, and one fledgling from one of the nests. Although covid-19 means field work plans for the 2020 season remain uncertain for now, we hope to continue banding in 2020 with the intention that Level 1 banders on the project will receive training to catch and band robins.

Robin	Left leg	Right leg
Adult male	Yellow – Black	Blue - Metal
Adult male	Black – Orange	Blue - Metal
Adult female	Pale green – Pale green	Blue - Metal
Adult female	Pale green – Orange	Blue - Metal
Juvenile	Blue – Pale green	Blue - Metal



Some of the 2019 robin monitoring team

A huge thank you to all the Birds NZ folk for their enthusiasm helping with the monitoring in 2019 and for taking amazing photos. Special thanks to Nick Beckwith for ensuring a constant supply of mealworms, and to Jill Hamel and Ruth Houghton for permission to access their property. A BirdsNZ grant generously covered equipment and travel costs for this project.

Georgina Pickerell

BirdsOtago Out n About

Wild Dunedin

The Wild Dunedin festival has been postponed till 2021, but there is a created/curated online offering of stories, films, activities and images called Your Wild Bubble

[YOUR WILD BUBBLE](#)

Andrew Austen

11 March, 7.09 pm and on 15 March 2.07pm - a bit outside lockdown but noteworthy none-the-less; marsh crake coming out from raupo on edge of Upper Tomahawk Lagoon behind the community hall, where he was sitting at the picnic table; ripples followed by the bird appearing.

Regularly sees white heron in his driveway.

Adrienne Mulqueen

3 Bullers Mollymawk at Portobello Bay, 4 April; still around, 8 April

Ann Charlotte

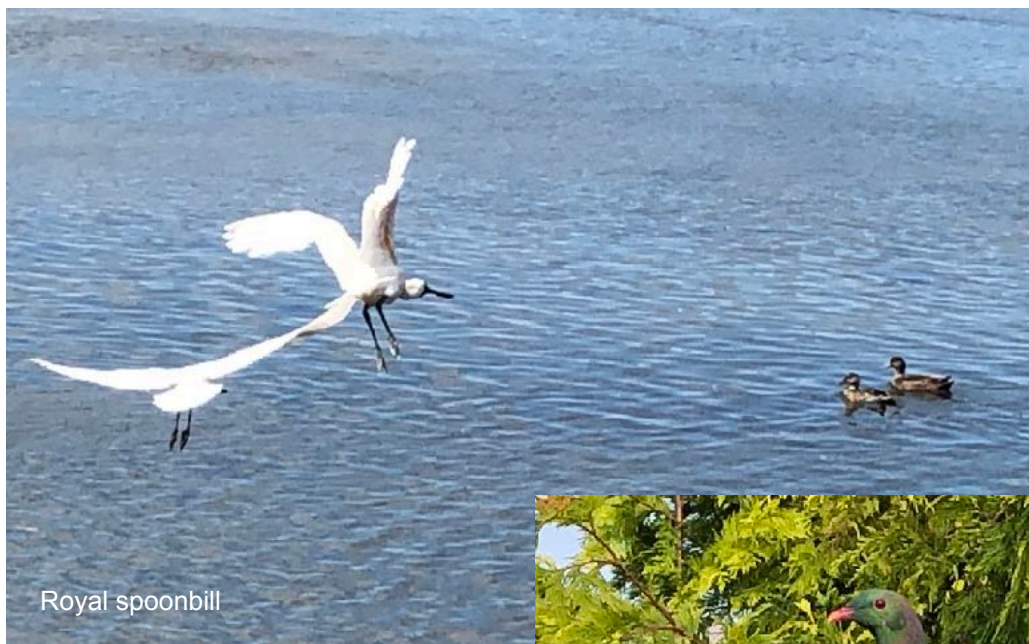
Sickly juvenile giant petrel on Waikouaiti Beach, 9 April, taken to Wildlife Hospital.

Zhu Lei

I still try to do some birding along the Leith River (just behind my flat). Yesterday, 17 April, I got a big surprise - a NZ falcon (trying to catch a blackbird but failed).

Bruce McKinlay

Pipits on Chisholm Park Golf course

**Martine Darrou**



Bruce McKinlay

Dip Creek Productions

<https://youtu.be/06sBooBiAnc>

Buller's Albatross Swooping on the Otago Peninsula



Warren Jowett

https://youtu.be/7_yYcBFE6-8

Elton's diary - day two!

Xena the legendary Kākāpō!!!

#RoyalCam- New Zealand Dept. of Conservation | Cornell Lab

<https://youtu.be/uTVtiO0yhj0>

Albatross Chick Goes on Walkabout

Chick or Rabbick?



Warrington Beach birds Pt 1

Full moon midweek before Easter weekend produced several days of 2.3m high tides, they were extremely high, perhaps atmospheric pressure also contributed. Whether it was a consequence of these high tides or a combination of several factors there were high numbers birds roosting on Warrington Beach. For several days 700 or more SIPO made up the bulk of them with high counts for other species on various days being 49 VOC, 154 godwits, 50 stilts, 29 Caspian terns. Other species present over the few days were white fronted terns, banded dotterel and small numbers of little, spotted, pied and Otago shags.



On the 19th of Dec satellite tagged Eastern bar-tailed godwit 4RYRY travelled from the Ohau Estuary in the Horowhenua to Karitane (info Phil Battley) then a few days later onto Blueskin Bay. According to the tracking map it has been in the area since then. The reading points on the map are graded according to accuracy of signal, and demonstrate it has been on a few forays inland, out to sea and also a trip to Aramoana.

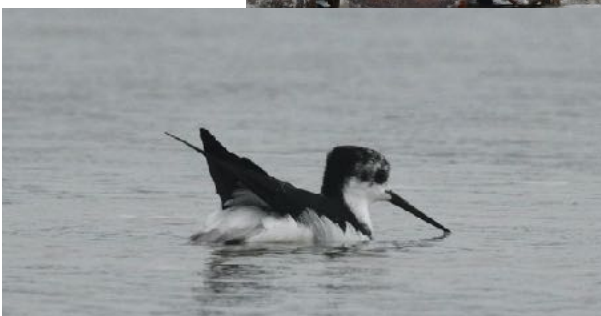




The first time I observed the bird was during these recent high tides. This presented the challenge of getting a photograph. Over several days I spent hours crawling around on wet sand through puddles and finally got a couple, all good fun.



At the top of the tide the odd wave would come up onto the beach and run across through the birds putting them into the air, not ideal when half way through an awkward count. In this photo you can just see the godwits out distant behind the oystercatchers, phone photo and not very clear.



In the mix of stilts there were a few hybrids, I have never noticed one here before but I have never seen as many on the beach before either.



This pied shag I found just above the high tide mark when returning back up the beach one evening, it would have had a horrible ride in through the surf this day. Very rough onshore surf. It would have been a prime target for a dog. Couldn't find it the next day, maybe the next high tide took it? I don't think it could get away itself, it could barely stand and looked to have a serious problem with one wing.



Another interesting sighting was a group of pied shags. I was sitting watching a white faced heron on the rocks at the north end of the beach one morning when a group of two adults and two juveniles came in and landed in the shallows inside the main surf break and started diving.



Otago shag on Warrington spit on 1st April. There are often 3 or 4 there in the same place.



This small unknown bird is about 280 - 300mm long . First seen by George, I found it a few days later for this photo.



Caspian terns



Banded dotterel

Sugar water feeder and sightings

The greatest delight of lockdown has been seeing a female falcon along the Cargill's Castle cliffs two days running, pursuing rock pigeons, harassed by black-backed gulls. One kereru is attending the ripening karaka fruit in our garden but they seem most attracted to the lush purple fruit of mahoe nearby.

This is my latest iteration of a sugar water feeder that does not supply bees and wasps and sparrows.

The red sugar water dish (lid of highly valued yeast pottle) and mouth of the feeder is completely sealed by a wrap around piece of stainless steel woven mesh. The gap is big enough and the sugar water is near enough for tongues of tuis and bellbirds to reach a quick fix.

It is woven stainless steel mesh, 0.9mm wire thickness, 3.2mm square holes. The lip of the dish is 3.2mm wide and the sugar water is about 4mm below the lip so that a reach of about 8-9mm is needed to suck up the nectar. It is clearly a close fit because the birds are very particular which holes they use. It does not completely deter the bees and wasps because the birds are always shaking their bills and creating spillage.



It does defeat the sparrows and most silvereyes. Our pet domestic rats now take no interest. They used to guzzle the sugar water overnight. It is essential to keep your feeder out of reach of all your mammals.



Correspondents to the ODT suggest putting out alternate sugar water supplies nearer to their hives for the bees. A Facebook friend suggests putting some vinegar into the mix. The first is a waste and the second I have not yet tried.



I only started feeding at the beginning of the month and was instantly rewarded with two of Murray's banded tui, Both have been seen in prior years. Light blue / Orange, Dark blue over metal in the one in the pic.



It has been pleasing to see Margaret Stanley's (ex Sawyers Bay, now Biol Sci U Auck) work on bird feeding and other bird issues in the media. One of her student's findings is that high numbers of sparrows reduce the numbers of grey warblers.

My mix is pure sugar plus ten parts water. Half a litre is consumed every two or three days at present.

Graeme Loh



Danni Thompson @scottishseabird · Apr 16

Feeling bored or a bit blue? Doodle on animals: hats, hair, costumes, but most importantly, draw [#BirdsWithArms](#). Endless joy



@WildlifeMag #COVID19 #birds





Coast to Coast: three weeks around Costa Rica

Just before the world went mad Dinah and I got our holiday in Costa Rica. About eight months in the planning it was everything you could ask for.

We travelled from the Caribbean to the Pacific and back to the centre through some spectacular landscapes. Driving ourselves was the way to go and the GPS only let us down once and although the roads are narrower than New Zealand with some amazingly deep water tables the traffic is not as intense.



The Protected areas in Costa Rica cover about 40% of the country and there are a number of private conservation reserves which have spectacular forest on them. In some places it seems that cattle farmers can make more money out of protecting areas than they do from cattle farming.

The birds were spectacular with whole families of passerines which were completely new. It's completely different with very few shags and gulls. But many raptors soaring through the sky.

After a very long trip through Houston the first remarkable event was that Glenda Rees was having breakfast in the restaurant. After breakfast out into the garden for a poke around. With hummingbirds, sparrows, motmots, doves, woodpeckers and orioles all on tap in the first hour, the culture of the trip was soon set.

We then headed to the Caribbean and endured the only real rain for the trip, but we were dry in the bus. After a river boat trip we arrived at the coast and settled in and got used to a new set of shorebirds egrets, kingfishers and toucans on offer. After some days we headed into the lowland forests and expanded the bird list again. This was our first hotel with a specific bird feeding table at the end of the dining room Here, a new set of warblers, saltators and tanagers were on tap. The sexual dimorphism in some species has to be seen to be believed! Heading on into the mountains we started to run into Curassows and larger ground birds. The way to see these birds is to get into the canopy on bridges so you can look down on the forest.

Then on the road again, across the main divide and down to the Pacific coast. Here it was hot and very dry but still the list of birds carried on growing. The drylands had new species such as an ani, thickknees and ground doves were able to be observed. As we headed down the coast the forests changed from dry savannahs to dryland forest to full tropical rainforests. All the way there were national parks, private reserves, and boat trips to get the best views of birds. It was a struggle to cope with the heat in some places. It was also a struggle to keep up with all the birds that were around every day.

Eventually we got down to the Corcovado National Park which required another boat trip to a lodge without road access. Here we could visit the Park and go snorkelling off a local island as well as seeing a booby. From here we headed into the high mountains and cloud forest to complete our circuit. This was a place to see toucanet, grosbeaks and redstarts. As well a resplendent quetzal nest was near the road and so along with large numbers of bird watchers we saw what is a very spectacular bird. That was a theme on the trip. There were (at that time) large numbers of tourists wherever we went. Tourism is big business in Costa Rica. As the storm clouds of the virus gathered around the world we headed back to San Jose, dropped off the rental car and started to contemplate air travel, again. However it all worked and we got back to New Zealand just before the lockdown started.



Costa Rica is a spectacular, easily navigated, friendly place to travel. The bird life is amazing and continues to surprise even to the very end. No shortage of sloths and coatimundis either.

Bruce McKinlay

Impacts from COVID-19 lock downs on bird conservation projects – a perspective from two sides of the Pacific

While in many ways the natural world is experiencing less human disturbance during this time of unprecedented global scale lock downs on human activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic, at the same time many threatened species, which are now reliant on human intervention, are suffering. Many of the most vulnerable species are those threatened by introduced species which in many cases, as a result of countries enforcing lock downs and curfews, has resulted in field teams being unable to conduct introduced species control and/or hands on management of the threatened species. In my current roles with both Forest & Bird (F&B) in New Zealand and the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF) in Galapagos, Ecuador, the COVID-19 crisis has come at a critical time for two of the species I work with.

In Otago, F&B Dunedin Branch has been leading a conservation project which focusses primarily on enhancing remnant seabird colonies at priority sites throughout the region. One of our key sites is in the Sandfly Bay Wildlife Reserve (DOC) where there is a regionally significant colony of tītī sooty shearwaters. Since 2016 we have been trying to protect this cliff top colony from introduced predators however to date no successful fledging has been recorded and our trail camera monitoring of active nest burrows has documented chick predation – we were aware our trapping efforts were not sufficient to help the chicks. This season, with additional funds from the Otago Regional Council EcoFund we were able to purchase additional traps and employ a contractor and thanks to generous donations from many individuals we bought more trail cameras to increase our monitoring and better assess nesting success. We had planned to monitor nesting success and chick survival with the increased trapping effort this season to be able to determine whether it is feasible to protect the sooty shearwater colony by ground trapping. The season was off to a good start and following the conservation dog survey in early December 2019 we had 16 burrows to monitor, of these two had failed by the time I left overseas in February. Graeme Loh has been leading the field work, along with volunteers, since mid February. On the 20th May, his last visit prior to the lock down, Graeme reported that five cameras had recorded regular tītī activity in and out of the burrows, therefore we can assume these burrows still contained live chicks. However most of the cameras also showed single visits from stoats on different days with tītī activity normal afterwards... is/are the stoat/s scoping out chicks for a future meal? Graeme also found a couple of dead little blue penguins down by Sandfly Bay and we hope that a ferret he found caught in a trap close by was the culprit – caught before it committed further damage. The lock down, as necessary as it is for human health reasons, has fallen at a critical time for the sooty shearwater chicks. The chicks do not fledge until the first days of May and will start to come out of their burrows at night and wander around on the surface during the last couple of weeks before they fly away. We do not know whether the increased predator control this season would have been sufficient to enable chicks to fledge but I know that Graeme and our volunteers would have done everything possible to try and protect the chicks. Not only is it likely that the no chicks will fledge this season but we also run the risk of not knowing what happens. The trail cameras will run out of batteries before anyone is able to return to the field site so any predation events will go undocumented. F&B are currently trying to obtain approval to have the trapping around seabird colonies classified as an essential activity which would enable Graeme to get back out there as soon as possible and if nothing else manage to burrow scope and see whether he can find any evidence of predated chicks. While sooty shearwaters still number in their millions they are threatened and in decline, so while the loss of all chicks from the Sandfly Bay colony does not have an impact at a population level, it represents complete breeding failure at a local level of a regionally significant remnant colony.

Meanwhile on the other side of the Pacific I was almost completely out of contact, camping on an isolated beach on the north west of Isabela Island in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, conducting intensive conservation management for the Critically Endangered mangrove finch. We were a team of six and had gone into the field on the 24th February at which time there were no COVID-19 cases confirmed in either Ecuador or New Zealand. We were heartened this season to find 14 breeding pairs, an increase from only 10 in 2019 and 12 in 2018. With an estimated total population of 100 individuals and fewer than 20 breeding pairs all restricted to just 30ha of habitat and threatened by introduced species, the mangrove finch is the rarest bird in the Galapagos and in Ecuador (the only resident bird species with lower numbers in continental Ecuador are found near the international borders with the majority of their much larger populations in neighbouring countries).

We had set off into the field to spend nine weeks primarily focussed on increasing nestling survival by accessing nests high in the canopy and injecting a permethrin based insecticide carefully into the nest base in order to reduce the number of *Phylloscopus downsi* fly larvae which parasitise the chicks and cause extremely high mortality. The larvae from this introduced fly are present in high numbers in all mangrove finch nests. In order to be effective at ensuring chicks fledge we need to inject the nests up to three times in addition to supplementary feeding the chicks and removing any parasite larvae from the chicks' nares.

Via poor reception on our satellite phone, rather late, we became aware of the worsening global crisis as a result of COVID-19 and at the same time realised how serious the local impacts were when we stopped seeing any tourist boats appear on the horizon. The next day we got a message from the Galapagos National Park Directorate, under order from the Ecuadorian Government, to abandon all work, close our field camp and that they would send a boat to get us a day later. All we could do on our last day was inject as many of the mangrove finch nests as possible, some contained eggs and some chicks. No chicks had fledged before we left the field. Based on several seasons results from untreated and partially treated nests, without a team there to continue with the additional intensive management, it is unlikely that chicks will survive this season especially as *P. downsi* larvae were found to be prevalent in nests. This represents a disaster at the population level for mangrove finch breeding success this season and although the birds are long lived (a male over 14 years old was breeding this year and the pair produced fertile eggs), the potential loss of any fledglings in 2020 is a serious blow to the species and related conservation efforts. While New Zealand has Lou Sanson as the Director General for DOC able to determine which species conservation projects are "essential activities" and therefore able to continue at some capacity during lock down, there is no such system in Ecuador. As a result even for one of the most threatened birds in the world there was no way to continue with any conservation activities during the COVID-19 lock down, which is to continue until beyond the end of the mangrove finch breeding season.

By the time we got out of the field and back to town, late at night on the 19th March, Ecuador, including Galapagos, was under military enforced curfews and there were no longer flights off the islands to the mainland. With 2500 temporary visitors in the Galapagos the municipality worked with the mainland government to enable flights to get people back to the mainland. I am relieved that apart from myself and family, all of our team managed to get home, to places as far away as USA and Austria and our local team members back to their families in Quito and Guayaquil. However by the time we were back on the mainland there was no longer a way to get us to New Zealand and there are no immediate plans for any repatriation flights to get and remaining New Zealanders out of Ecuador. The closest NZ Embassy know of our situation and have been very supportive and provided us with documents to enable us to travel between provinces to get to our little house here in Salasaca, Jorge's community. We are comfortable, mostly self sufficient with all the produce grown around us and day to day things are tranquil. As with other indigenous communities in the country, Salasaca blocked all road access in and out of the community when COVID-19 was first reported in Ecuador and long before authorities stepped in to try and reduce movement. We have completed our 15 days of self isolation and are now able to move around more freely and interact with the family and community. We are lucky to have green space around us and we can walk around in the valley without breaking curfew restrictions. Salasaca is located at 2800m altitude although we are a bit lower down the side of the valley in a village called Churumanga. The snowy summit of Chimborazo Volcano (6268m) rises above us to the south. I have been using this time to become more familiar with the birdlife and am working with a designer friend in Quito to make a poster of local birds. The school children are taught about toucans and macaws from the Amazon Basin down the hill but do not know the names of the beautiful species that live

locally. We hope to be able to print several copies and give them to the local children who have a keen interest in learning what is around them and love looking through my binoculars. I am very aware of the terrible human suffering, including extreme financial stress on society's most vulnerable, as a result of COVID-19 but I think it is also important to highlight, in addition to the positive outcomes for nature while the human world is brought to a standstill, that there are many vulnerable and threatened species that will be suffering without field teams able to be on the ground conducting conservation management.

Franny Cunningham 15 April 2020

Churumanga, Salasaca, Tungurahua Ecuador

**Franny Cunningham's
Lock down bird list 25 March – 16 April 2020**
Photos - Roger Ahlam

Black chested buzzard eagle
Aplomado falcon
American kestrel
Eared dove
Ecuadorian ground dove
White-bellied woodstar (hummingbird)
Sparkling violetear (hummingbird)
Black tailed trainbearer (hummingbird)
Sword billed hummingbird
Streak throated bush tyrant
Black capped tyrannulet
Vermillion flycatcher
Chiguanco thrush
Plain tailed wren
Blue and white swallow
Streak throated whitestart
Blue and yellow tanager
Blue grey tanager
Black backed grosbeak
Ash breasted sierra finch
Rufous collared sparrow
Hooded siskin
Band tailed seed eater
Azara's spinetail
Nightjar spp. (heard)



Black capped tyrannulet



Aplomado falcon



White-bellied woodstar



Black tailed train bearer



Sparkling violetear

Birding websites



New Zealand

<https://youtu.be/t9XNKQY4tQc>

Live Royal Albatross Cam - [#RoyalCam](#) -
New Zealand Dept. of Conservation | Cornell
Lab



Japan

https://youtu.be/zRn_HHDL9IM

Swallow Live 24 hours 【MAIN】 CAM
5 eggs in nest ★ April 28 hatching forecast



<https://youtu.be/CvEUI8HYZDM>

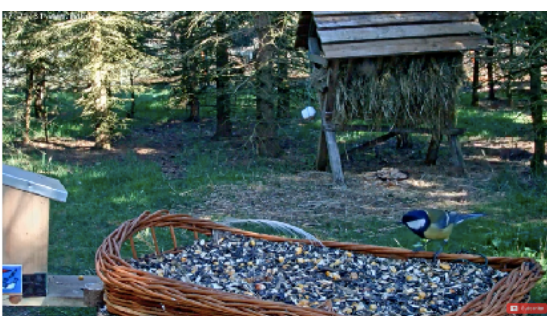
Swallow Live 24 hours 【SUB】 Infrared
CAM



https://youtu.be/Pm_RPOVlbGQ

Karuizawa Bird Lover Love birds 2

A water and feeding area in Mikasa Forest,
installed on the balcony of the mountain hut
in Karuizawa Town, Japan.



Czech Republic

<https://youtu.be/xqHWG1mYol8>

LIVE birds from Europe!
Bird cam from the Makov Animal Rescue
station in the Czech Republic.

NZ Bird Atlas – Webinars



During the Covid-19 lockdown we continue to Atlas from the safety of our homes with **Live Atlas Webinars** – **every Friday at 1pm**

24 April - **Webinar 4: “Exploring the Atlas Portal to plan Atlasing”** is now open for [registration](#)! If you missed previous webinars you can find the links to watch them [here](#).

Daily checklists of the birds seen or heard from our backyards provide valuable data to the Atlas!

Additional links and media releases are available on the [eBird Atlas Portal](#). You can find details about the NZ Bird Atlas scheme [here](#). To find out how to take part, visit www.birdatlas.co.nz.

This is an exciting and ground-breaking citizen science project that will guide the management of New Zealand's birds for decades to come, so we do hope you'll join us!

The latest magazine of Birdlife International is available free to download [here](#)

The 64 pages include articles related to the Pacific and Australia and provide great lockdown reading!

<https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/news/birdlife-international-magazine-free-to-download/>



World Migratory Bird Day

Bringing Good Connections to Life

Live Webinar

Wednesday April 29

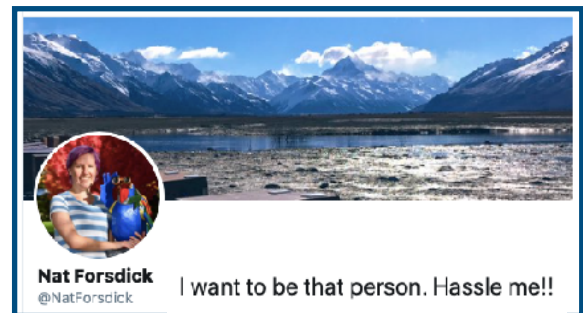
7PM - 8PM NZST



Prof Theunis Piersma

Register at bit.ly/34N2OHV





Offers and suggestions for talks or topics for Indoor Meetings would really be appreciated, please contact Mary
maryt@actrix.co.nz

Please send all contributions for the May newsletter to: Sue Odlin
sodlin@gmail.com

Many thanks to all who contributed.

Final date for copy for next newsletter:
19 May

