The Wrybill

Canterbury Regional Newsletter





February 2021

What's on at Birds NZ Canterbury: February to April 2021

Field Trips

Saturday February 20 - The annual bird survey of Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere, organized by the Waihora Ellesmere Trust. To find out more or if you would be interested in helping out with the count, contact Denise Ford (denise.ford@selwyn.govt.nz).

Saturday March 27 - Birding around some atlas squares in the Hurunui area. Meet in the carpark behind the Belfast Hotel at 8:45 am. Please let Bev (027 318 4713 or birdiebev@xtra.co.nz) know if you intend on coming so suitable transport can be arranged.

Sunday April 18 - A visit to Russell Langdon's Riverbridge Centre in Ashburton. Contact Jan (shesagreen@gmail.com or 322 7187) for all the details and to let her know if you would like to attend.

Rambles

February 16 - Liffey Stream, Lincoln. Meet at the corner of North Belt and Liffey Place at 9:30 am.

March 9 - Southshore Spit, South New Brighton. Meet at the end of Rockinghorse Road at 9:30 am.

April 13 - Clearwater. Meet in the carpark just before entering the resort area (near the practise green for golf) at 9:30 am.

As usual if you have any queries, are planning to attend, or would like to go on another day please get in touch with Bev (birdiebev@gmail.com or 027 318 4713).

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.

22 February - Terry Greene from the Department of Conservation will speak on "Kaka conservation – 1994-2000: I've still got 10 fingers!"

29 March - Our AGM and member's night. If you have a short bird-related presentation you would like to share during member's night, please get in touch with Sandra

(birds.canterbury@birdsnz.org.nz or 03 358 5706).

3 May - Sonny Whitelaw, Manager of BRaid (Braided River Aid), will speak to us about the likely impacts of climate change, especially on braided river birds.

Members' Bird Photos



Banded Dotterel (Pohowera) (female), Okuru, Westland. This female dotterel was foraging alongside several others on a field next to the Okuru Lagoon. These dotterels came rather close to us, within 5 metres away! This female especially let me get some great photos, such as this. Photo by William Harland.



Fiordland Crested Penguin (Tawaki) about to enter the sea, Monro Beach, Westland. Getting to see these birds for my first time was truly splendid, and Monro Beach is definitely a great place to see them! Due to these penguins being very shy and easily disturbed, combined with a 'do not go past this point' sign, we made sure to keep a good distance from them and admired them from a distance. Photo by William Harland.



Pacific Reef Heron (Matuku moana), Jackson Bay, Westland. Now this was an unexpected sighting! While my parents and I were looking out for Fiordland Crested Penguins at the Jackson Bay heads, I suddenly saw a Reef Heron fly past us, followed by a few others. It seemed to be two pairs that were in the midst of a territorial confrontation, though at least one of the herons seemed to keep its distance from the others at most times. After a little while one of the pairs flew off further up the coast, while the victors flew back to a vegetated rock stack, where they landed and presumably nest. Thankfully at that time my dad and I were doing an ebird checklist, so this was recorded down for all to see! Photo by William Harland.



Buff Weka, Mou Waho Island, Lake Wanaka. Buff Weka of course were the distinct Weka population that used to inhabit the eastern regions of the South Island, including the area most applicable to us, what is now Canterbury. Unfortunately due to a variety of factors such as overhunting, habitat loss and invasive mammalian predators, Buff Weka were nearly entirely wiped out. In 1905 some Buff Weka were introduced to the Chatham Islands, where they thrived, and still continue to do so. For at least a few reasons, there have been few attempts to reintroduce Buff Weka back to their native eastern South Island range. However, the population on Mou Waho Island, a pest-free

island in Lake Wanaka, is an excellent example of one of these reintroduction attempts. In 2004, 30 Buff Weka were brought there from the Chatham Islands, and subsequently released. The Buff Weka population on Mou Waho Island thrived, and had their first breeding season there the following year in 2005. There is now a stable population of about 200 to 300 Weka inhabiting the island. Photo by William Harland.

appeared and would sit and walk among us, hoping to find something to steal. Despite our vigilance she eventually snagged a used teabag, and ran into the bush with it, but came back out shortly after once she realised that teabags are inedible! Sally is possibly the most confiding wild bird that I've ever met, as she would literally stand mere centimetres from us. Overall, Sally was a lovely bird to meet, and we got some unparalleled views and photographic opportunities thanks to her! Photo by William Harland.



A special Buff Weka female, named Sally, Mou Waho Island, Lake Wanaka. Sally is a great example of the fact that many of the island's Buff Weka individuals have distinct names. Sally is a reasonably old female, who is 15 years of age as of 2020. She was one of the first Weka chicks to have hatched on Mou Waho Island, being one of the 2005 generation chicks. Since then she has done very well for herself, and over the years has been the mother of 28 chicks, thus meaning that a decent percentage of the island's Weka population are her descendants. Sally used to associate with an 18 year old (as of the first half of 2020) male, named Wally, who was one of the original birds that was brought to this island from the Chathams. Wally has not been seen for several months, and so he has likely passed away. All of Mou Waho Island's Buff Weka are inquisitive and bold, with Sally being particularly so. While we had some tea and biscuits at the edge of her territory, Sally



Australasian Crested Grebe (Puteketeke/Kamana), Lake Wanaka, Otago. Normally these beautiful birds nest in quiet and secluded places, but at Wanaka something interesting has happened. Anchored around the town's marina are several wooden nesting platforms, which have been placed there in order to encourage the grebes to nest within the vicinity of the town itself. Despite the area being rather noisy and busy, these grebes seem to have taken quite a liking to this prime nesting real estate, and are now a rather frequent sight around the town's lake front. These townnesting grebes have definitely accustomed to the ever present people and noise quite well indeed, and actually a motor boat passed (slowly) only about 2 metres away from a nesting grebe, and the grebe didn't budge! These comparatively tame grebes gave some great opportunities to get photos and to view some interesting behaviours and details. Photo by William Harland.



California Quail chicks, Christchurch Botanic Gardens. We were very surprised to find a California Quail family in the busy botanic gardens out of all places! The family contained both parents and 7 chicks, as well as another male which seemed to be tagging along for one reason or another. I was surprised by the fact that many people did not seem to notice the quail family, as several people walked right past them, and someone even almost walked right through them. Photo by William Harland.



A fantail at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens in mid-July. Photo by Christian Cosgrove.



This photo of a Little Owl was taken at Kaiapoi Pa Road in November. Photo by Janet Burton.





Tomtits passing food taken on our trip to Washpen Falls. Photos by Janet Burton.

Marj Davis Scholarship

Applications for the Marj Davis scholarship are now open. One scholarship may be awarded annually with a maximum value of \$1,500. The scholarship is intended to provide financial support to a full-time Masters or PhD student conducting research in ornithology. Eligible research projects must clearly be of benefit to ornithology in New Zealand and to New Zealand birds. Preference will be given to proposals for ornithological research that are expected to contribute to a greater knowledge of birds in the Canterbury/ West Coast region. For more information or to apply, visit https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/funding/marj-davisscholarship/. Applications for the David Medway Scholarship are also open. All the details are on the Birds NZ website.

Voluntary Bird-Related Work Request

I am a Vocational Advisor, currently assisting a young, visually impaired man, Morgan, who is seeking voluntary work. Because of his avid interest in native birds, Morgan is keen to assist with any research or recordings that any members of Birds NZ may be undertaking. Morgan has a BSc degree (majoring in biology), is a touch typist with previous experience in transcribing scientific field notes and has dictaphone typing skills. Morgan is also adept at identifying a range of native and exotic bird calls. For further information please contact: Brenda Rainsbury, Vocational Advisor, mobile: 027 6737728, email: brainsbury57@gmail.com.

Covid-19 Influence on Birdwatching

The following survey is part of an ongoing study that investigates the influence of Covid-19 on birdwatching in different countries. To help and take part in this short survey, please answer the questions on

https://www.soscisurvey.de/birdwatchers/.

Results from the previous study are available for open access on https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/17/19/7310. The study is hosted by the University of Tuebingen (Germany) and run by a team of birders led by Christoph Randler (University of Tuebingen, Germany), Jukka Jokimäki (Arctic Centre, University of Lapland, Finnland), Piotr Tryjanowski (University of Life Sciences, Poznan, Poland) and Maria de Salvo (Univ Catania, Italy).

2021 New Zealand Bird Conference

The 2021 NZ Bird Conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Birds New Zealand will be held at the Thames War Memorial Civic Centre in Thames from 5 to 7 June 2021 (Queens Birthday Weekend). The conference will comprise two days of scientific presentations plus several field trip options. Registration and programme details can be found at https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/nz-bird-conference/2021-conference-registration-details/.

Predator Trapping Methods Workshop

DOC and NMIT will be running a 2-day Predator Trapping Methods course on the 10-11 March in Christchurch (venue TBC). This is the face-to-face version of this very successful course that introduces current trappers and would-be trappers to numerous trapping methods, monitoring and how to go about setting up your own trap line. It's not to be missed and you come out with a micro-credential that you can add to your CV or build on later. Its \$168 for the full two days and great value to upskill your current skills, looking to develop your own trap line or for future employment opportunities. For more information or to enrol now please go to https://www.nmit.ac.nz/study/shortcourses/prt301-predator-trapping-methods.

Recent Sightings

Canterbury and West Coast Bird Report September to November 2020

This report covers the period 1st September to 30th November 2020 and is compiled from reports posted onto eBird and the Birding NZ internet discussion site. Your regional recorder would welcome news of any interesting bird sighting, unusual behaviour or searchable sources of other sightings. Email christchurchnzbirder@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) Heaphy Hut: 1 26/11 ST. Kohaihai Campground: 1 18/9 EF. Punakaiki Inland Packtrack: 3 14/11 MM, FG, LR, 1 20/11 DD. Bullock Creek Road: 2 20/11 DD, 3 23/11 HB, JG, DH, 5 24/11 DH, JG, HB.

Cape Barren Goose (A) St Annes Lagoon: 1 22/9 BA, PM, 2 23/9 BA, PM, 1 29/9 DGe, 1 30/9 BT, 2 11/10 NA, 1 18/10 PR, 1 29/10 WHa, NM, 1 9/11 P&RP. Travis Wetland: 2 7/10 KR, CC, MM, FG, 2 9/10 BA, 1 20/10 BD, 1 20/11 DH, 1 27/11 HB, JG. Washdyke Lagoon: 1 26/10 GH.

Mute Swan (A) Blacks Ave, Waipara: 2 23/9 BA. Ashley Estuary: 1 imm 19/9 BA, 1 21/9 PM, BA, PR, 1 12/10 BA, 1 7/11 BA, 1 12/11 BA. Taranaki Stream, Waikuku: 1 2/9 MD, 2 5/9 BA, 1 16/9 BA, 2 30/9 JB, 1 17/10 BA. Pegasus Wetlands: 1 7/9 BA, 1 9/9 BA, 1 23/9 CC, 1 29/9 DGe, 2 8/10 PS, 4 17/10 BA, 4 20/10 BA, 1 1/11 CC, 3 2/11 DTa, 4 6/11 BA, 1 9/11 CC, 5 10/11 P&RP, 6 12/11 CC, 1 25/11 CC, 5 28/11 JB, BA. Vernon Drive Wetlands, Lincoln: 3 19/11 BA, EG. Liffey Stream, Lincoln: 1 25/10 BA, 1 19/11 EG, BA. Lincoln Wetlands: 2 2/10 PR, 1 13/10 JW, 2 4/11 PR. Kaituna Lagoon: 8 18/9 AC, 8 20/9 FG, AC, 2 10/10 AC, OT. Embankment Road: 2 2/9 DT, 2 30/10 DG, 2 29/11 FS. Wolfes Road: 2 30/9 EG, SW, 1 18/10 GT, 1 17/11 LR, FG, 1 19/11 EG, BA. Lower LII Ponds: 4

29/11 DG. Lower Selwyn Huts: 2 29/11 DG. Selwyn RM: 2 12/11 P&RP. Harts Creek: 3 27/9 FT, 1 28/9 FG, 4 7/10 DGe, 3 14/11 P&RP, 6 20/11 WHa, NM, 2 21/11 AC. Johnstons Road, Lakeside: 4 8/9 BT. Irrigation pond @ 288 Dromore Methven Road: 1 1/11 NA. Pyes Corner Irrigation Ponds: 2 25/10 NA. Blue Duck (A) Oparara Basin: 1 18/9 EF. Kaiwhaka Creek: 2 21/10 MT, 2 15/11 FG, MM, LR, 1 21/11 DH, FG, JG.

Muscovy Duck (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 11/11 NA.

Darfield Domain: 1 29/11 BA. Riccarton House: 2
and one 'mullard' hybrid 1/9 NA. Worsleys Road
wetland: 1 23/9 FG. Westlake Reserve: 1 29/9 JP, 1
4/10 DT. Liffey Stream, Lincoln: 1 25/10 BA.
Otanerito Bay: 1 14/10 PC. Ashburton Domain: 4
6/10 CC. Tinwald Domain: 3 15/10 DG.
Golden Pheasant (A) Pannetts Road near Coes Ford: 1 27/9 FT.

Helmeted Guineafowl (A) Hursley Terrace Road, Amberley: 5 17/10 BA, 4 14/11 BA, SW. Timberyard Road, Lakeside: 7 28/9 FG.

Peafowl (A) Factory Road, Sefton: 1m 20/9 BA, 9 17/10 BA, 2 14/11 BA. Roto Kohatu: 1m 4f 14/9 JB. Metro Place: 2 18/11 CC. Flea Bay: 2 13/10 PC. Cnr Hoattens & Cochranes Rds, Elgin: 2 1/10 DG. Chukar (A) Godley Peaks Road nr Mt John: 2 1/10 DGe, 1 26/11. Mt John: 3 13/9 WA. Te Akatarawa Road, Lake Aviemore: 2 27/9 NA.

Turkey (A) Timberyard Road, Lakeside: 1 7/10 DGe. Australasian Crested Grebe (A) St Anne's Lagoon: 2 28/11 EB, PG-R. Lake Pegasus: 2 9/9 BA, 1 12/9 CC. Kaiapoi Lakes: 2 12/10 OT, 2 14/10 CC, 2 17/10 FG, MM. Roto Kohatu: 3a 2ch 23/9 NA, 3 8/10 DGe, 3 13/10 BA, 4 17/11 BA, 1 26/11 CC. Styx Mill Reserve: 2 5/9 SLLT Bird, WA. Lake Lyndon: 1 7/11 NW. Lake Forsyth: 1 20/9 HR, 8 13/11 P&RP. Kaituna Lagoon: 3 29/10 AT, DR. Kaituna River: 2 13/11 P&RP. Jarvis Road: 2 21/10 FG, ACh. Wolfes Road: 2 18/10 GT. Harts Creek: 12 28/9 FG, 2 14/11 P&RP, 2 20/11 NM, WHa, 1 21/11 AC. Lake Ida: 2 20/10 DA. Lake Coleridge: 4 7/11 DG. West Maori Lake: 2 13/11 DG. Lake Alexandrina: 18 21/9 R&ST, 5 1/10 DGe. Lake McGregor: 4 20/9 R&ST, 3 30/9 NA, 2 1/0 DGe. Lake Tekapo SE bay: 2 29/10 WHa. Kelland Ponds: 2 6/10 DGe. Lake Ruataniwha Wairepo Arm: 5 (nest on raft by salmon shop contained 4 eggs) 29/9 NA, 3 11/10 JW, 2 6/10 DGe, 4 14/11 JW. Haldon Boat Harbour,

Lake Benmore: 2 29/9 NA. Lake Benmore nr Black Forest Sta: 2 29/9 NA. Waitangi Campground, Lake

Aviemore: 2 27/9 NA.

New Zealand Dabchick (V) St Annes Lagoon: 1 1/10 SB, 11/10 NA.

Australasian Little Grebe (V) Haldon Boat Harbour, Lake Benmore: 1 29/9 NA.

Yellow-eyed Penguin (A) South Bay, Kaikoura: 15-10/9 AS, 9/10 DGe, 12/10 AS. Shell Bay: 1 14/10 PC. Otanerito Bay: 2 14/10 PC. Scenery Nook: 1 12/10 PC.

Little Black Shag (A) Lake Poerua: 1 15/11 LR, FG, MM. Ashley Estuary: 9 9/11 P&RP, 7 11/11 NA, 1 12/11 BA, 10 28/11 BA, JB. Taranaki Creek wetland: 3 5/10 BA, 1 23/11 BA. Pegasus Wetland: 1 29/9 DGe, 1 20/10 BA, 1 1/11 CC. Tutaepatu Lagoon: 1 18/10 SA. Kaiapoi Lakes: 2 28/9 BA, 4 17/10 FG, MM, BA, 2 5/11 BA. Roto Kohatu: 3 13/10 BA. Styx Mill Reserve: 1 17/11 BA. Bromley WTP: 10 29/11 AC. Takamatua: 1 12/9 GT. Harts Creek: 4 28/9 FG, 2 7/10 DGe, 2 14/11 P&RP.

Otago Shag (A) Damons Bay: 1 29/10 ACr, PC. **Australasian Bittern (A)** Kaiapoi RM: 1 8/10 ASp. Te Rauakaaka Reserve: 1 29/11 MF, ASp. Harts Creek: 1 27/9 FT, 4 28/9 FG, 1 8/10 FS, 2 14/11 P&RP, 1 21/11 AC.

White Heron (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 19/9 BA, 21/9 PM, BA, PR, 30/9 BA, 3/10 BD, 5/10 BA, 12/10 BA. Tulls Road, Waikuku: 1 5/9 BA. Taranaki Stream, Waikuku: 1 2/9 MD. Pegasus Wetlands: 1 9/9 BA, 21/9 CC. Kaiapoi RM: 1 8/10 ASp. Seafield Lagoon, Brooklands: 1 3/9 BA. Travis Wetland: 1 27/11 JG. Bexley Wetland: 1 5/9 ASp, MF. Kaituna Lagoon: 1 10/10 AC, OT. Nursery Lakes, Ashburton Lakes: 1 26/9 DG. Reef Heron (A) Half Moon Bay: 1 22/9 BA, PM. Albatross Enconter pelagic: 1 24/9 EK, 1 22/10 EK, 1 28/10 EK, SL, 1 12/11 EK, 1 14/11 EK, 1 16/11 EK, 1 20/11 EK. Near Ripapa I, Lyttelton Harbour: 1 23/10 PC. Pukerauaruhe I, Port Levy: 1 23/10 PC. Jackson Head: 4 20/10 WH.

Glossy Ibis (V) South Bay, Kaikoura: 1 3/10 BS. Travis Wetland: 1 7/10 KR, CC, FG, MM.

Australian Coot (S) Lake McGregor: 113 1/10 DGe. Marsh Crake (A) Fernside Road #469: 1 18/9 BA. Travis Wetland: 1 15/9 KR. Halswell River, Lake Ellesmere: 1 29/11 MF, ASp.

Spotless Crake (A) Harts Creek: 1 28/9 FG.

Weka (S) Lyell Hut, Rakaia Headwaters: 1 8/10 DG. Black Stilt (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 5/9 BA, 1 8/9 MD, 2 13/9 CC, 1 16/9 AC, BA, 1 19/9 BA, 1 21/9 PM, BA, PR, FG, 1 23/9 AC, 1 30/9 BA, JB, CC, 1 3/10 BD, 1 5/10 BA, 1 12/10 BA. Rangitata River, Mesopotamia: 2 29/10 DT. Macaulay River/Godley River confluence: 1 29/10 NM. Cass River: 4 20/9 R&ST. Lake McGregor: 3 30/10 WHa, NM. Lake Tekapo SE Bay: 2 1/10 DGe, 3 7/10 DGe. Swan Pond, Braemar Road: 2 24/9 R&ST. Patterson's Ponds: 2 23/9 PD. Acland Lagoon: 2 2/10 DGe. Tasman River, Jollie River confluence: 2 23/9 R&ST. Tasman Fan: 2 31/10 DTa.

Pacific Golden Plover (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 9/11 P&RP, OT, 12/11 BA, 13/11 BA. Greenpark Huts: 15 28/11 FG, AC. Jarvis Road: 20 20/10 AC, 12 21/10 ACh, FG, 6 30/10 DG, 19 20/11 DG, 7 23/11 AC, 49 28/11 AC, FG.

Large Sand Dotterel (V) Ashley Estuary: 1 19/9 BA, 21/9 FG, 23/9 AC.

Black-fronted Dotterel (A) Ashley River at Tulls Road: 2 17/10 BA. Kesteven Place, Ravenswood: 3 9/9 BA, 4 16/9 AC, 1 21/9 PM, BA, PR, 1 12/10 OT, 1 24/10 CC. Ashburton River S Branch nr Walkhams Road: 1 24/10 DG. Ashburton River adjacent Lake Hood: 1 13/9 DG, 3 10/10 DG. Ashburton River at Gibsons Road: 3 26/10 DG. Ashburton RM: 3 25/10 DG. Rangitata River at Inland Scenic Route: 2 14/11 JB, 2 17/11 FG, MM, LR. Pond nr true right bank Rangitata River, Old Main South Road: 1 20/10 FS. Opihi RM: 1 24/10 FG, MM, LR, 4 17/11 P&RP. Washdyke Lagoon: 3 22/9 PS.

Wrybill (S) Ashley Estuary: 100 30/9 CC.

Marsh Sandpiper (V) Embankment Road: 1 2/9 DT, 4/9 AC, 8/9 ACh, 18/9 WA, AC, 23/9 FG, 24/9 BA, PR, PM, 10/10 AC, OT.

Bar-tailed Godwit (S) Wolfes Road: 284 23/9 FG, 285 24/9 PR, BA, PM.

Black-tailed Godwit (V) Jarvis Road: 3 21/10 ACh, FG. Wolfes Road: 3 23/9 FG, 3 24/9 AC, 1 30/9 SW, EG.

Hudsonian Godwit (V) Embankment Road: 1 5/11 AC. Wolfes Road: 1 30/10 AC, WA.

Whimbrel (A) Te Whanga Lagoon Mouth: 1 24/10 MB

Turnstone (A) Fyfe Quay: 2 24/11 WHa, NM. Point Kean, Kaikoura: 5 27/10 SL, 14 28/20 SL, 15 24/11

NM, WHa. Ashley Estuary: 1 30/9 BA, 1 3/10 BD, 1 17/10 BA, 2 21/10 AC, 2 24/10 BA, 2 10/11 AC, 2 12/11 BA, 3 13/11 BA, 3 21/11 CC. Jarvis Road: 2 30/10 DG, 39 30/10 DG, 7 20/11 DG, 2 23/11 AC, 10 27/11 HB, JG, 17 28/11 AC, FG, 1 29/11 FG, AC. Embankment Road: 2 28/10 AC, 3 30/10 DG, 4 1/11 AC, 2 2/11 AC, 12 10/11 AC, 17 18/11 ZC, 2 19/11 BA, EG. Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 1 20/9 AC, FG, 12 25/9 WA, 4 10/10 AC, OT, 17 7/11 AC, FG, 20 29/11 PC. Ashburton RM: 3 25/10 DG. Maori Lake, Wainono: 1 25/10 FG, MM, LR. KB. Te Whanga Lagoon Mouth: 1 24/10 MB.

Lesser Knot (A) Orowaiti Lagoon: 1 25/11 HB, JG. Ashley Estuary: 6 21/9 PM, BA, PR, 10 21/10 AC, 2 7/11 BA, 2 9/11 OT, 1 10/11 AC, 3 12/11 BA, 4 13/11 BA, 3 16/11 CC, 2 21/11 CC, 2 28/11 BA, JB. Jarvis Road: 13 14/10 AC, 34 21/10 ACh, FG. Embankment Road: 5 14/9 ACh, 2 23/10 AC, 13 28/10 AC. Wolfes Road: 2 15/9 AC, 5 18/9 AC, 6 23/9 FG, 9 24/9 AC, 12 30/10 AC, 9 5/11 AC, 7 7/11 AC, FG, 13 17/11 FG, LR. Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 12 29/11 PC. Washdyke Lagoon: 2 12/10 PS, JS. Maori Lake, Wainono: 1 25/10 FG, MM, LR. KB.

Sanderling (V) Ashley Estuary: 1 10/11 AC, OT, 14/11 BA, 16/11 AC, 28/11 JB, BA.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (A) Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 1 7/11 AC, FG. Near Forest Creek, Mesopotamia: 1 juv 13/10 DT. Maori Lake, Wainono: 1 25/10 FG, MM, LR. KB.

Red-necked Stint (A) Jarvis Road: 23 14/10 AC, 1 20/11 DG, 25 23/11 AC, 9 27/11 AC, 36 28/11 FG, AC, 47 29/11 AC, FG. Embankment Road: 7 4/9 AC, 15 8/9 ACh, 15 9/9 AC, 14 14/9 ACh, 14 18/9 AC, 23 10/10 AC, OT, 24 23/10 AC, 21 25/10 AC, 38 28/10 AC, 25 30/10 DG, 28 1/11 AC, 2 2/11 AC, 19 5/11 AC, 41 7/11 FG, AC, 47 10/11 AC, 6 13/11 P&RP, 7 18/11 ZC, 19 20/11 DG, 39 27/11 JG, FG, HB, 1 29/11 FS. Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 4 20/9 FG, AC, 3 25/9 WA, 4 10/10 AC, OT, 2 7/11 AC, FG, 8 28/11 FG, AC. Pectoral Sandpiper (A) Jarvis Road: 2 20/11 DG, 3 23/11 AC. Embankment Road: 1 23/10 AC, 25/10 AC, 2 10/11 AC.

Grey-tailed Tattler (V) Jarvis Road: 1 21/10 FG, ACh, 29/11 FG, AC. Embankment Road: 1 4/9 AC. Wolfes Road: 1 15/9 AC, 30/9 EG, SW, 1 5/11 AC, 1 7/11 AC, FG.

White-winged Black Tern (A) Rangitata River near

Hwy 72 bridge: 1 15/11 P&RP, 16/11 P&RP. **Caspian Tern (S)** Jarvis Road: 191 30/10 DG.

Little Tern (V) Jarvis Road: 1 14/10 AC. Embankment Road: 1 10/11 AC, 19/11 EG, BA. Wolfes Road: 1 23/9 FG, 24/9 BA, PR, PM, AC, 25/10 AC, 30/10 WA, 17/11 FG, LR, 27/11 FG, JG, HB.

White-fronted Tern (S) Ashley RM: 1000 25/10 CC. Barbary Dove (A) Coldstream Road, Rangiora: 1 3/11 BA, 2 20/11 BA. Mainpower Oval: 1 6/11 GT. Kippenberger Avenue, Rangiora: 3 5/9 CC, 3 10/10 BA. Bottle Lake Forest: 3 19/9 CC. Marshland Road #400: 1 17/10 FG, MM. Cave Township: 1 4/10 PC. Shining Cuckoo (S) The Groynes: 1 6/10 WA. Travis Wetland: 1 7/10 KR. Victoria Park: 1 5/10 PC. Hoon Hay Scenic Reserve, Summit Road: 1 1/10 GN. Long Bay Road: 1 25/9 TT. Prices Valley: 2 24/9 Birds NZ Canterbury. Kakahu: 1 3/10 PC. Widespread from 2nd week of October.

Long-tailed Cuckoo (S) Opihi River upstream nr SH1: 1 21/10 DG.

New Zealand Falcon (A) Upper Kowhai Hut: 1 17/11 GTa. Inangahua Valley nr Rotokohu: 1m 1f 22/10 RN. Fuchsia Creek: 1 7/9 JH. Bushy Corner Gully, Lake Guyon: 1 13/11 KRo. Hanmer Forest: 1 30/10 NM. Loburn Terrace Road: 1 1/11 RW, DW. Summit Rd near Sign of the Bellbird: 1 19/10 PC. Canoe Cove Walk, Lake Kaniere: 1 15/10 ASp, MF. Tai Tapu: 1 17/9 PC. Temple Basin: 1 18/9 FG, 19/9 FG. Flea Bay: 1 12/10 SK. Rakaia Headwaters: 1 8/10 DG. Redcliffe Stream, Rakaia Valley: 1 22/9 JS. Pleasant Valley Road: 2 23/9 PS, JS. Homebush Road, Raincliff: 1 19/9 JS, PS. Okarito Township/Trig Track: 1 21/11 DD, FG, DH. Tasman Glacier terminal: 1 8/9 DG. Tasman Valley Road: 1 13/10 DS. Mount Cook Township: 1 2/10 DGe, 1 3/11 DS.

Kea (S) Oparara Basin: 1 2/9 RN. Matiri Range, Kahurangi NP: 1 1/10 EM. Berlins, Lower Buller Gorge: 1 19/9 EF. Upper Pororari Valley: 1 6/10 RN. Upper Kowhai Hut: 2 16/11 GTa, 3 19/11 GTa, 1 20/11 GTa. Hawdon Valley: 1 13/11 LR, MM, FG, 1 14/11 LR, MM, FG. Kawhaka Water Race top: 1 13/11 JH. Mt Enys: 2 9/10 MP. Lyell River, Rakaia Headwaters 1 9/10 DG. Lyell Hut, Rakaia Headwaters: 1 7/10 DG, 1 8/10 DG. Barlow River, Perth catchment: 1 19/11 RH-N. Okarito-Forks Road: 2 21/11 HB, DH, FG, JG, 3 22/11 HB, FG, JG, DH. Franz Josef township: 2 7/10 ACz, 3 21/11 HB, DH,

FG, JG. Godley River: 6 8/10 LR. Hooker Terminal Lake: 2 19/9 R&ST. Kea Point: 1 6/11 DW-J. White Horse Hill Campground: 2 1/11 DTa. Haast Township: 2 11/11 NM, WHa. Turnbull River Mouth: 1 9/11 WHa, NM.

Kaka (A) Inangahua River nr Rotokohu: 2 22/10 RN. Waiuta: 2 19/10 MT. Opposite Hawdon Hut: 2 14/11 LR, MM, FG Andrews Valley: 1 18/9 FG. Lake Wombat: 1 21/11 HB, DH, FG, JG. Knights Point: 1 9/11 NM, WHa.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (A) Prices Valley: 1 20/9 HR, 4 24/9 Birds NZ Canterbury, 1 1/11 PR, 4 14/11 GT.

Yellow-crowned Parakeet (A) Pororari River upstream of Cave Creek confluence: 1 5/10 RN. Inangahua Valley nr Rotokohu: 1 22/10 RN. Hawdon Shelter: 1 14/9 EF.

Rainbow Lorikeet (A) Orawaiti Lagoon: 1 25/11 JG. Rock Wren (A) Sefton Biv Ridge: 1 12/9 TS.

Tui (S) Te Wanahu Flat, Peel Forest: 1 15/10 JS, PS. **Yellowhead (A)** Opposite Hawdon Hut: 3 13/11 FG, MM, LR, 3 14/11 FG, MM, LR. Hawdon Valley true right: 1 14/11 FG, MM, LR.

Tree Swallow (V) Wainono Lake Road: 1 25/10 FG, MM, LR, WA, 26/10 GH, DT, KRo, 27/10 DR, AT. Fernbird (A) Wainono Lake Road: 2 28/9 NA, 2 25/10 FG, MM, LR, 2 8/11 OT, 6 23/11 PS, RH. Yellowhammer (S) Ferrymead Park: ~400 late September GH.

Cirl Bunting (A) Kiwa Road, Hapuku: 1 23/9 PM.
South Bay, Kaikoura: 1m 3f 1/9 AS, 2m 3f 12/9 AS.
Lower Flat Road, Waiau: 1m 11/10 PC. Leamington
Road, Lowry Hills: 1 11/10 NA. Old Main Road,
Domett: 1m 1f 12/10 NA. Motunau Beach township:
1 12/10 NA. Northbrook Ponds, Rangiora: 1m 1f
24/11 BA. Victoria Park: 1 10/9 AC, 2f 11/9 AC, 1m
25/9 NA, 1m 18/9 PC, 2 10/10 AC, OT, 1 11/10 OT,
1m 2f 15/10 AC, 1m 29/10 AC, 1m 3f 9/11 AC, 1
10/11 GT. Quaifes Road Subdivision: 2 22/9 PR.
Halswell Quarry Park: 3 19/10 NA, 1 2/11 NA.
Summit Road near Worsleys Road: 1 27/9 PC. Quail
Island: 1m 1f 20/9 NA. Algidus Road, Lake Coleridge:
1 11/11 AC.

Observers: BA Bev Alexander, NA Nick Allen, WA Warwick Allen, SA Samuel Amaris, DA David Anderson, EB Elizabeth Bell, MB Mike Bell, HB Harry

Boorman, KB Kyle Bryers, JB Janet Burton, SB Scott Butcher, ACh Annette Ching, AC Adam Colley, ZC Zion Cooper, CC Christian Cosgrove, ACr Andrew Crossland, PC Phil Crutchley, ACz Alissa Cz, MD Martin Daly, BD Benjamin Davis, DD Donavin de Jager, PD Peter Doyle, MF Malcolm Foster, EF Esteban Fredes, PG-R Paul Garner-Richards, DG Don Geddes, DGe Darron Gedge, JG Jesse Golden, EG Eleanor Gunby, FG Fraser Gurney, RH-N Rose Hanley-Nickolls, WHa Wendy Hare, WH William Harland, GH Geoff Harrow, GH George Hobson, RH Richard Holdaway, DH Dave Howes, JH John Hughes, EK Encounter Kaikoura, SK Stefan Kopec, SL Stuart Laurenson, PM Peter McClelland, MM Marissa McDonald, EM Emma McCool, NM Nigel Milius, RN Richard Nichol, GN Graham Norton, JP Jo Pomare, MP Micah Pomare, P&RP Pauline & Ray Priest, PR Peter Reese, LR Luke Richards, DR David Riddell, HR Heather Rogers, KR Kenny Rose, KRo Kieran Rowe, DS David Sagar, JS Joy Sagar, PS Paul Sagar, FS Frances Schmechel, PSc Paul Scofield, AS Alan Shaw, BS Bradley Shields, ASp Anita Spencer, TS Tom Spencer, FT Fanny Tale, DTa Dean Tasker, AT Annette Taylor, GTa Graeme Taylor, DT David Thomas, OT Oscar Thomas, MT Mary Thompson, GT Gregor Tims, R&ST Robin & Sandy Toy, ST Shelley Trotter, TT Tina Troup, BT Bill Twiss, SW Sandra Wallace, NW Noel Ward, JW Jill West, DW-J David Williams-Jones, DW Deborah Woodcock, RW Rachel Woodcock.

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 the trip leader's 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.

Submissions

The editor invites members to submit articles and/or photos - by April 20 for inclusion in the next issue of *The Wrybill, wh*ich is due out in early May. Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this edition of *The Wrybill*.

Scopes for Loan

If you are in Canterbury and wish to borrow a scope, contact Sandra (birds.canterbury@birdsnz.org.nz). If you are on the West Coast and wish to borrow a scope, contact Liz Meek (ronmeek555@gmail.com).

Canterbury Region Contacts

Regional Representative: Sandra Wallace

31 Westmont Street, Christchurch 8041 Ph 358 5706

Email: birds.canterbury@birdsnz.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, Chrirstchurch 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

Banded Dotterel Event

THE BANDED DOTTEREL GROUP

extends a warm welcome to you to celebrate the end of the dotterel season with us on Saturday afternoon, February 13. We have invited Kiritapu Allan, the Minister of Conservation, to join us and she has accepted.

Our end-of-season event consists of a short Conservation Hui which the Minister will attend, where participants will discuss the roles of environmental stewardship and advocacy. This event has been generously sponsored by the Kaikoura District Council. Attendance is free but please RSVP to ail-saweta@gmail.com with numbers, as food and drink will be provided.

Following this is the Public Premiere of the Documentary "Nest 38" at Kaikoura's new Mayfair Theatre. This event includes a Behind the scenes Q&A with the filmmakers, a short update on our dotterel season, and a keynote speech delivered by our Minister of Conservation.

Tickets for this screening are \$7 each, and can be purchased at the Mayfair, or online at Eventbrite where there is a small booking fee: https://www.eventbrite.-co.nz/e/nest-38-kaikoura-film-screening-ga-tickets-139792933427

In SUMMARY:

On Saturday February 13.

3pm -3:45pm Informal Conservation Hui.
Memorial Hall supper room: 32 Esplanade,
Kaikoura. RSVP to ailsaweta@gmail.com
for catering numbers.

4pm "Nest 38"

The Mayfair Arts and Culture Theatre: 80 Esplanade Kaikoura. Tickets are available at the Mayfair Theatre, or seats can be booked online with the link above.

Black-fronted Dotterel Photos





These photos, taken by Grant Davey of the Ashley/Rakahuri Rivercare Group, show Black-fronted Dotterels on the Ashley River. There seems to be an increase in numbers of these birds on the river, with six being seen recently.

CANTERBURY WADER COUNT for November-December 2020

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Species	Hurunui RM	Waipara RM	Kowai RM	Ashley/S'w ater Crk Fo	Taranaki Creek Paddocks	Waimakariri Bridges	Brooklands Lagoon & Kajanosi e	Travis Wetland	Avon- Heathcote Estuary	Lyttelton Harbour	Port Levy	Pigeon Bay	Okains Bay	Le Bons Bay	Akaroa Harbour	Lake Forsyth	Tip of Kaitorete Spit	Kaitorete Spit	Birdlings Flat A	Birdlings Flat B	Kaituna Lagoon
Counters/NC	NA	NA	ACr	NA	NA	ACr	ACr	KR	ACr	ACr	ACr	ACr	ACr	ACr	ACr	ACr	PC, NT	PC, NT	ACr	ACr	ACr
Notes					nil count																
Date counted	6-Dec	2-Dec	12-Nov	2-Dec	2-Dec	16-Nov	26-Nov	7-Dec	19-Nov	29-Nov	2-Nov	2-Nov	2-Nov	2-Nov	29-Nov	11-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov
Mute Swan																					
Northern Shoveler							1														
Australasian Bittern								1													
Reef Heron											1										
Royal Spoonbill				20			98	6	34	5					3		3	4		24	18
Little Black Shag				1																	
Pied Oystercatcher			1	11			58		809	59	4	4	2		32		2	4	2		7
Variable Oystercatcher			1	15			11		64	8	6	9	6	6	24	2					
Hybrid Oystercatcher				13																	
Pied Stilt	4		6	32			96	17	53				4		3		13	35	529	32	97
Hybrid Stilt				2															1		
Banded Dotterel	1	2	2	8		18	4										54	22	95	17	23
Black-fronted Dotterel			4																		
Wrybill				5													5				
Spur-winged Plover			6	9		8	32	8	48	17	4	8	29	10	25	8	5	13		25	47
Turnstone																	20				
Lesser Knot				5					1								12		2		
Curlew Sandpiper																			1		
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper																			1		
Red-necked Stint																					
Bar-tailed Godwit				155					1302	306								160		151	
Grey-tailed Tattler																					
Greenshank																				1	
Black-billed Gull	80			32																9	
Black-fronted Tern	2			12																	
White-fronted Tern	62			600																	
Caspian Tern	1	1		2			3		9				1		3		42			2	
Site totals	150	3	20	922	0	26	303	32	2320	395	15	21	42	16	90	10	156		631	261	192
Wader site totals	5	2	20	255	0	26	201	25	2277	390	14	21	41	16	84	10	111	234	631	225	174
% of total count	0.07	0.03	0.27	3.38	0.00	0.34	2.67	0.33	30.21	5.17	0.19	0.28	0.54	0.21	1.11	0.13	1.47	3.10	8.37	2.99	2.31
# wader species at site	2	1	6	10	0	2	5	2	6	4	3	3	4	2	4	2	7	5	7	4	4

Notes: (1) Lake Ellesmere level 0.9m; (2) Hybrid Stilt Birdlings A E node; (3) Hybrid Stilts Ashley Estuary 1 G & 1 D node Counters

Nick Allen = NA Jan Walker = JW Andrew Crossland = ACr Matt Rose = MR Sandra Wallace = SW Eleanor Gunby = EG Phil Crutchley = PC Kenny Rose = KR Paul Sagar = PS Joy Sagar = JS Anthea Reynolds = AR Janet Burton = JB Brian Darlow = BD Anit Spencer = AS Malcom Foster = MF Don Goodale = DGo Adam Colley = ACo Fraser Gurney = FG Francis Schmechel = FS Des Smith = DS Don Geddes = DGe Harland Family = HF Nathan Trent = NT Alice Whitehouse = AW Andrew Christie = ACh John Fitch = JF Peter McClelland = PM

Species	Kaituna Valley Paddocks	Halswell Flats B	Halswell Flats A	Osbornes	Greenpark Huts - Jarvis Road	Jarvis- Embankme nt Road	Yarrs Flat	Wolfes Road	LII RM to Selwyn Huts	Rennie's Bay	^{Inve} ll RM	Boggy Creek	Drain Rooad	Harts Creek	Timberyard Road	Johnstons Road	Lower Lake Road nr Taumum,	Fisherman' S Point
Counters/NC	ACr	MR, AW, ACh, Acr		AS, MF	JW, DGo, SW, EG	ACo, FG	FS, DS	FS, DS	DGe, BD	n/c	JB, AR	JB, AR	JB, AR	JB, AR	JB, AR	HF	HF	HF
Notes															nil count			
Date counted	9-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov
Mute Swan			7	1	1		2		6					2				2
Northern Shoveler																		
Australasian Bittern																		
Reef Heron																		
Royal Spoonbill		326	9	11	7	16	6	1	175		10	3	1			100		8
Little Black Shag														5				
Pied Oystercatcher	20				60	2												1
Variable Oystercatcher	17																	
Hybrid Oystercatcher																		
Pied Stilt		174	97	59	262	400	67	13	147					2			6	
Hybrid Stilt																		
Banded Dotterel		13	6	17	10	24	2		11									
Black-fronted Dotterel																		
Wrybill						26												
Spur-winged Plover	93	27	4		2	10	1		25			3						
Turnstone					6	1												
Lesser Knot																		
Curlew Sandpiper																		
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper																		
Red-necked Stint						47	1											
Bar-tailed Godwit		55				15												
Grey-tailed Tattler						1												
Greenshank																		
Black-billed Gull				1	9	1			1									
Black-fronted Tern																		
White-fronted Tern		2																
Caspian Tern		2		2	150		1	4	4			2						
Site totals	130	599	123	91	507	543	80	18	369	0	10	8	1	9	0	100	6	11
Wader site totals	130	269	107	76	340	525	71	13	183	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	6	1
% of total count	1.72	3.57	1.42	1.01	4.51	6.97	0.94	0.17	2.43	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.01
# wader species at site	3	4	3	2	5	8	4	1	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1

Notes: (1) Lake Ellesmere level 0.9m; (2) Hybrid Stilt Birdlings A E node; (3) Hybrid Stilts Ashley Estuary 1 G & 1 D node Counters

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Species	Subtotal Lake Elles	Coopers Lagoon	Ashburton RM	Spider Lagoon	Opihi RM/Milford Lagoo	Washdyke Lagoon	Normanby Lagoon	Ki-Wainono	TOTAL
Counters/NC		HF	ACr	PS, JS	PS, JS	PS, JS	PM	PS	
Notes			AOI	1 0, 00	1 0, 30	1 0, 30	1 101	10	
Date counted		29-Nov	19-Nov	7-Dec	7-Dec	27-Nov	7-Dec	3-Dec	
Date counted		25 1101	13 1404	7 000	7 000	27 1101	7 000	3 DCC	
Mute Swan	21	16		3					40
Northern Shoveler	0								1
Australasian Bittern	0								1
Reef Heron	0								1
Royal Spoonbill	722			1		3		31	923
Little Black Shag	5								6
Pied Oystercatcher	98		12	4	6	1	1	5	1107
Variable Oystercatcher	17		2			24			195
Hybrid Oystercatcher	0								13
Pied Stilt	1933	2	21	21	20	51	13	627	2899
Hybrid Stilt	1							2	5
Banded Dotterel	294		50		17	1		21	417
Black-fronted Dotterel	0		6		4		2		16
Wrybill	31		3						39
Spur-winged Plover	255		6	17	16	7	4	2	519
Turnstone	27		10					2	39
Lesser Knot	14								20
Curlew Sandpiper	1								1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1							6	7
Red-necked Stint	48								48
Bar-tailed Godwit	381					9		59	2212
Grey-tailed Tattler	1								1
Greenshank	1								1
Black-billed Gull	21			6	160			226	445
Black-fronted Tern	0				2				14
White-fronted Tern	2	1		2	16	5	1	4	631
Caspian Tern	209		1		1	1			231
Site totals	4083	19	111	54	242	102	21	985	9832
Wader site totals	3101	2	110	42	63	93	20	724	7537
% of total count	41.14	0.03	1.46	0.56	0.84	1.23	0.27	9.61	100.00
# wader species at site	15	1	8	3	5	6	4	8	17

Notes: (1) Lake Ellesmere level 0.9m; (2) Hybrid Stilt Birdlings A E node; (3) Hybrid Stilts Ashley Estuary 1 G & 1 D node Counters

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