

*Newsletter of the Northland Region of the  
Ornithological Society of New Zealand - trading as Birds New Zealand*

## **July 2021 Amokura 131**

(Published in February, July and October of each year)

**MEETINGS** of the Northland Branch of Birds New Zealand are held each month on the second Thursday, for the period FEBRUARY to DECEMBER. TIME: 7-30p.m.

**VENUE:** Founders Room, Alzheimer's Society, 148 Corks Road, Tikipunga, Whangarei.

**COST:** A donation of \$3-00 per person per meeting is requested toward the cost of  
Hall hire, supper and the production and distribution of "Amokura".

Or you can pay an Annual fee of \$30.00 to the Northland Branch bank account **12-3099-0614160-00**.  
Payment Due after the AGM

**Be sure to include your Surname and the word Sub in the details.**

**ALL WELCOME**

### **PROGRAMME TO OCTOBER 2021**

#### **JULY**

- 8** MEETING – 7-30p.m.  
WEST COAST BEACH PATROL – Contact Prue Cozens Ph. 09 4377760  
**13** EAST COAST BEACH PATROL (Meet at the Kensington Carpark 12:30pm)

#### **AUGUST**

- 12** MEETING – 7-30p.m.  
WEST COAST BEACH PATROL – Contact Prue Cozens Ph. 09 4377760  
**17** EAST COAST BEACH PATROL (Meet at the Kensington Carpark 12:30pm)

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- 9** MEETING – 7-30p.m.  
WEST COAST BEACH PATROL – Contact Prue Cozens Ph. 09 4377760  
**14** EAST COAST BEACH PATROL (Meet at the Kensington Carpark 12:30pm)

#### **OCTOBER**

- 14** MEETING – 7-30p.m.  
WEST COAST BEACH PATROL – Contact Prue Cozens Ph. 09 4377760  
**19** EAST COAST BEACH PATROL (Meet at the Kensington Carpark 12:30pm)

#### **REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

#### **SECRETARY**

#### **TREASURER**

#### **REGIONAL RECORDER**

#### **REGIONAL REPORTER**

#### **AMOKURA EDITOR**

**Ilse Corkery**

**022 597 0271**

**Heather O'Brian**

**(09) 437-0085**

**Bev Chitty**

**022 635 3193**

**Tony Beauchamp**

**(09) 436-2224**

**Vacant**

**Hilton Ward**

**(09) 946-0074**

Previous Issues of Amokura <https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/publications/regional-newsletters/>

**Health and Safety** – It is a request from the Birds New Zealand Council that:

- Any incidents that result in harm need to be notified to President and EO immediately, so they can be acted on.
- Don't hesitate to call 111 in incidents, even if they appear minor.
- Safety briefings need to be held on all field trips.

## **FEBRUARY**

Nigel Miller from TH Department of Conservation informed us all about the Pāteke with an interesting talk and slideshow - one of the rarest waterfowl in the world!

In particular he spoke of the importance of suitable habitat for breeding and flocking.

## **MARCH**

The AGM resulted in little change to our officers and are as listed on the previous page.

Anne McCracken's Regional Representative Report follows.

### **2021 -03-11 Northland Birds NZ Regional Representative Report to AGM**

The Northland Branch meetings of Birds NZ continue to be held 7.30pm on the 2nd Thursday from February to December at the Alzheimers Society rooms, Corks Rd, Tikipunga, Whangarei.

This last year's meetings and birding activities including Atlas project recording, were curtailed by Covid 19 and the ensuing Lockdown leading to the cancellation of the April and May meetings. However talk topics at the remaining meetings included: Heather O'Brien's photo show of the Lake Drive pond species thriving there despite housing development all around it now; A 'welcome back from Covid' meeting with sweets provided by Prue as we shared the varied accounts of our birding observations during Lockdown; Ayla Wiles' presentation on the intensive work by the very hard working team to protect the most endangered endemic species in NZ – the Fairy Tern; the shag species of Northland were discussed and identified as a 'warm-up' activity before Heather O'Brien's photo show of the shag species she observed in the Golden Bay area during her post Covid get-away; and a heartening talk by Ilse Corkery about the progress being made by the Kokako Recovery project throughout the North Island; and also two zoom meetings as we made use of the excellent facilities in the Alzheimers Society Boardroom, when we participated in the Hihi Conservation Trust Science Talks and an interactive talk by Mel Galbraith on the changing feeding habits of Black Backed Gulls in the Auckland region.

Members this year expressed sincere thanks to Kevin Hayes as he resigned as our long-serving Treasurer, and for the business acumen he brought to the excellent service he has given to the Branch. We were very grateful when Bev Chitty immediately stepped up to fill this vacancy. The usual December Christmas meeting this year was a pot-luck meal at Anne McCracken's home followed by watching the DVD Travelling Birds. The year ended with Anne's resignation as RR and with Ilse Corkery picking up this role in January 2021. We have continued to enjoy Hilton Ward's Amokura editions and the postings on the Northland Birds Facebook by many birders.

Of concern there has been a dwindling number of people available for the various regular bird counts in our region, as well as Beach Patrols over recent years, which will all need to be reviewed in the near future. However several members participated in the Tiakina Urban Birds Survey late December, and we look forward to Dai's analysis of the numbers in due course. Finally once again, a big thank-you for the enthusiastic involvement by many members, and especially to Heather O'Brien for her support and assistance in her role as Branch Secretary.

## **APRIL**

Wendy Ambury gave an interesting talk on the Kaka and Bellbird surveys carried out over the summer by the Kiwi Coast Conservation Trust. These counts have been taken every five years with the intention of extending the outcome monitoring of the birds.

## MAY

At the May meeting Dai Morgan gave a very interesting presentation on the results of Myna surveys done over past years. Of particular note was the fact that from the surveys undertaken it was not conclusively proven whether the Myna is harmful or not to other bird populations.

## JUNE

Anne McCracken This year's NZ Bird Conference and Birds New Zealand AGM held in Thames (Coromandel) from 5-7 June 2021. Photo below of all the Regional Representatives.



## Stories - Adventures – Yarns – Sightings

Heather O'Brians "Big Friday Out" with the Godwit, Knot at Waipu Johnson Point.

What time is hightide? 7:50am. It's now 8am the day is a stunning blue-sky day. I really need some bird time, camera, binoculars and all the other stuff that "I might need" are dumped in the car and I'm on my way to Waipu Johnson Point Estuary.

I want to see the colourful, plump Godwit and Knot. They are nearly ready to begin their migration north for breeding. Also keen to see if there is anyone else unusual in residence.

I'm also very interested in what has happened to the estuary. According to an article on the Northern Regional Council web site; "a red algal bloom has been washed into the estuary and is now decomposing, consuming much of the oxygen in the water. This in turn will cause stress and mortality to other marine plants and animals. The dead and decaying plants and animals will also fairly rapidly cause an unpleasant smell."

I observed a couple of small pockets of black stagnant water at the entrance to the estuary at the end of Johnson Point road. In the upper estuary things were very different. The smell of decay reached me long before I got to the water's edge. Here the water was black and extremely smelly, a very distressing sight. Many black backed and red billed gulls were present. The recent tidal surge caused by the Tsunami has resulted in big changes to the location of sand at the river mouth which further complicates the natural flushing process of the estuary. I hope there is enough rain soon to flush out the estuary so that there is time for the invertebrate's to repopulate before the Godwit and Knots come back next year.



Back to the birds; I arrived at 9:20am and made my way to the first high tide roost. I observed good numbers of NZ Dotterel, Banded Dotterel, a single wrybill, 10 ruddy turnstones, many VOC with a few SIPO, white faced heron, little shag, pied shag with a fly over by 2 black shag. I watched the local godwit and knot flock circling, they disappeared behind the breakwater.

As I made my way along the rocky break water. The change in sand distribution became much clearer. I walked to the end of the rock and just stepped off the left side onto a large sand area. The end of the breakwater has always been a deep-water channel for as long as I can remember.



New sand spit on the left.



New sand spit on the left.



Looking back into the estuary from the new sand spit.



The sand area to the right.

The birds that were roosting on the new sand spit were a combination of 80 Godwit, 42 Knot and 210 White

Fronted Tern. Pied Shag, VOC, NZ Dot, Caspian Tern, Black backed gull and red bill gulls also present.

I made a slow walking approach toward the birds up to approximately 60m from them. Where I sat down on the sand and over the next 2.5 hours, I did the bird watcher/ photographer “bum wiggle” to creep closer to the birds without disturbing them. This was such a beautiful day, one out of the box. Conditions were so good, with both the breeze and the sun at my back. This position gave me the opportunity to photograph birds taking off into the wind. As the tide fell the birds started to drift off to feed in small groups or just ones and twos. I was able to capture a good number of flight shots, some of the best Godwit shots I’ve ever captured!

My challenge is to stay attentive, both to changing light conditions to ensure my camera settings are correct and watch for the pre-flight limbering up, preening and stretching. Some just birds take off and some go very soon after their pre-flight work out. Others tricked me by looking like they would depart any second only, it seemed to me, they’d look up and say “yeah nah” then proceed to tuck their head back around for another sleep.

Here are some of my favourite godwit and knot shots from this day.



A take-off of a female godwit







Take off sequence of a beautifully coloured up male godwit





More godwit







#### White Fronted Tern

There were a large number of White Fronted Terns roosting beside the Godwit and Knot. With quite a few juveniles constantly begging for food. I observed a number of fresh fish deliveries by the parent birds. The parent with fish in bill, would fly over the roosting terns calling, the matching juvenile would take off to be fed away from the main group. I observed the parent bird drop the fish into the water for the juvenile to recover as well as do the transfer while both birds where sitting on the water.









## Taurawhata Grey Faced Petrels

During mid April the Oi started returning to mate and clear burrows in preparation for the next breeding season. We counted 24 active burrows in mid May. The highest early season number to date. I expect it will be somewhat fewer at the next count in August after egg laying. It seems that some of the returning birds, although active about the burrows in the early part of the season do not mate so don't come back that season. As of June 26<sup>th</sup> the burrows were quiet as the birds have returned to sea. We expect them to return to the colony during July to lay the one egg.

## Australasian Gannet – Taurawhata Startup Colony

For the past month there have been no visiting gannets. The one Gannet that seemed to be resident has also departed. We await its return....?

## Old Mill Ln Wetland

On April 1st Ngunguru School Year three and four children visited and spent their day at "The Ngunguru School Wetland Classroom". This is the wetland at our place in Old Mill Ln, Ngunguru. There were 58 children plus parents and teachers. There were five stations that the children rotated round. Their stations were: Wetland plants and water quality, Wetland birds, Migratory fish and life in the wetlands, Exploring the



kauri forest structure and Te Ao Maori in wetlands.

We were also blessed with the arrival of Matuku - an Australasian Bittern. It is one of New Zealand's rarest birds and everyone got to see it. We were extremely lucky to have seen it today. Two years ago a Bittern also arrived on the day the school visited as if it needs to tell us a message. It really was a great day. Matuku arrived for all to see.

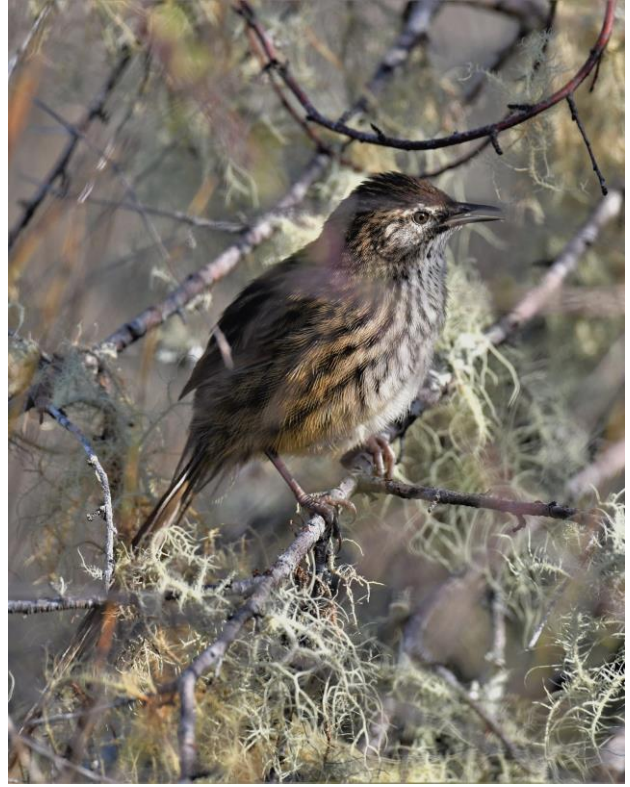
Below – The Importance of Wetland Plants Station



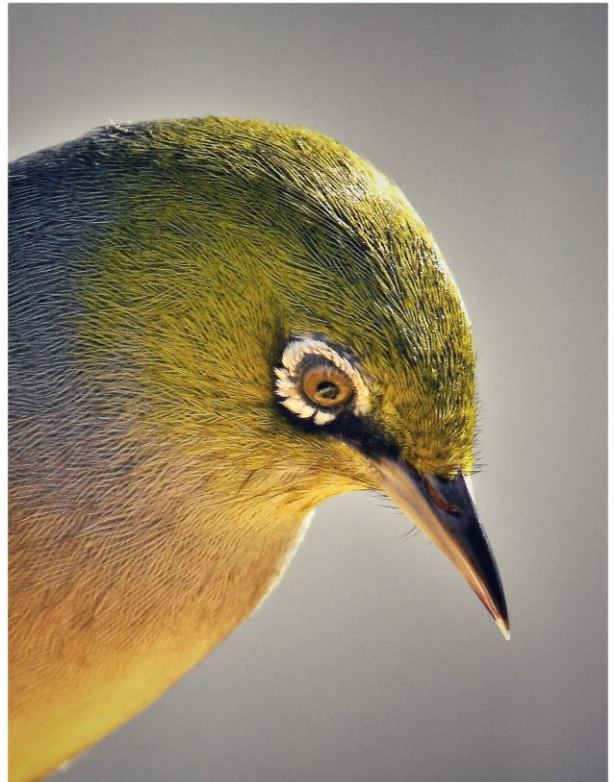
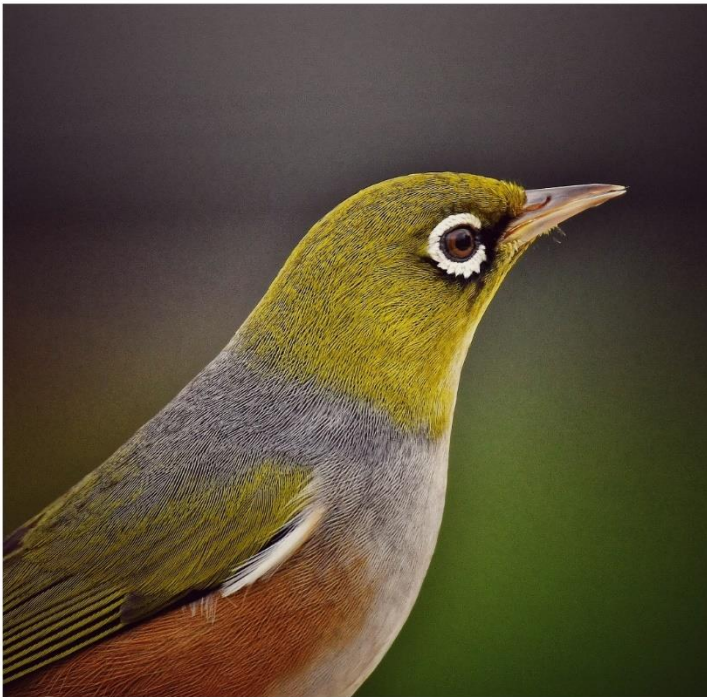




**Steven Collins** visited the wetland on several occasions and secured a number of Mātātā (Fernbird) photos that are arguably the best I have seen of these cryptic bird. This portrait is one of them.



Here are more of Steve's recent photos.  
Tauhou - Silvereye and "Poise" on the right.





## The Petrel Station

Had another great day out at the 'Petrel Station' on the 20th February 2021 on the latest Tutukaka Pelagic Seabird trip. Conditions were fine, with a small swell and a very light wind which dropped right off by the end of the day.

The highlights of the trip were:

- 2 White-necked Petrels - great views of both very close to boat
- 61 Grey Ternlets
- Lots of marine mammals including big pods of Pilot Whales and Oceanic Bottlenose Dolphins cruising together and putting on a great show for us, a large whale close by, and a Fur Seal. We also had a Hammerhead Shark.

During the trip we saw 18 different seabird species, and 9,000 seabirds in total. An awesome day out.

Cheers

Scott Brooks

Tutukaka 'Petrel Station' Pelagics organiser

---

Here's the full trip results:

2 x White-Necked Petrel  
50 x Cook's Petrel  
2 x Pycroft's Petrel  
50 x Black Petrel  
1 x Sooty Shearwater  
20 x Flesh-footed Shearwater  
50 x Fluttering Shearwater  
8000+ x Buller's Shearwater  
6 x Little Shearwater  
16 x New Zealand Storm-Petrel  
14 x White-faced Storm-Petrel  
61 x Grey Ternlet  
40 x White-fronted Tern  
350 x Australasian Gannet  
300 x Silver Gull (Red-billed)  
8 x Black-backed Gull  
62 x Pied Shag  
1 x Little Pied Shag  
Other marine life included:  
40 x Pilot Whales  
35 x Oceanic Bottlenose Dolphins  
1 x Large Whale (unidentified)  
1 x Fur Seal  
1 x Hammerhead Shark

## Jan Doak

This juvenile male Miromiro or North Island tomtit has been appearing round our house and visiting our bird bath on the deck. He hasn't yet developed the little white patch above his beak yet. Very cute!

The Miromiro, while tiny in size, played an important role in old Maori rituals, from birth to death. The verb "miro" or "mimiro", perhaps gives a key to the import of the bird's name, for it means "to twist or twirl rapidly", "to move quickly". Its sharp sight in seeking out insects and grubs is recalled in the saying about an observant person, he karu miromiro, a tomtit's eye. It can spot an insect 10 metres away.

It is endemic to NZ and found from the top of the North Island to Stewart Island, and have several names. They are curious towards humans. So much so that the Māori also called tomtits "torotoro", as they appear from nowhere in the forest like spies. Similar to fantails, tomtits are attracted to humans as they disturb insects for them to feed on.

There has been so much written about this little bird and is easy to find on Google.



## **Kermadec Islands Seabird Adventure REPORT – By Scott Brooks - 26th March to 5th April 2021**

On Friday 26th March 2021, 13 very keen birders and 5 crew headed out of Tauranga onboard the mighty 'Braveheart' for an amazing 11 day pelagic seabird adventure to the rarely visited seabird mecca that is the New Zealand's Kermadec Islands. Onboard were Scott Brooks (organiser), Tim Barnard, Harry Boorman, Dave Howes, Brent Stephenson, Sav Saville, Igor Debski, Richard Fenner, Phil Hammond, Steve Wood, Hennie Peters, Fraser Gurney and John Kyngdon.

The Kermadec Islands are located approx 800km north east of New Zealand and take approx 2.5 days to get to by boat. The string of tiny Islands are spread over 240km, and their isolation has made them the perfect location for literally millions of breeding seabirds.

As we headed north on the first day we saw many of the usual northern NZ petrels, shearwaters and albatrosses and also picked up our first great birds for the trip, Providence Petrel, Antarctic Prion, New Zealand Storm Petrel and Gould's Petrel. On day 2 it was interesting to see the change in species as we left the mainland species behind and they were replaced with the more sub-tropical Black-winged and White-naped Petrels (which became the commonest species for our journey north).

On day 3 we reached our first chum spot, the Star of Bengal Banks (a famous fishing location). Prior to the trip I'd created a list of all the potential birds (including some hopefully new to NZ) that we may encounter with most being hugely unlikely but potentially feasible if conditions were right. The aim of the trip was to try out 5 different locations (at prominent seamounts and banks) well away from the main breeding islands to see if some of these outsider seabirds may be present in the area. The closest was the Star of Bengal Banks, and furthest were some seamounts 140km north east of Raoul island. Over the next few days we visited all 5 offshore spots and had some big chum ups, but interestingly they were all fairly quiet with mostly the local seabirds present (White-bellied Storm Petrel, White-naped Petrel, Kermadec Petrel, Wedge-tailed Petrel), but ... these locations did deliver some of the best birds of the trip including multiple Gould's Petrel, another Providence Petrel, a South Polar Skua and the highlight of the entire trip a stunning 'MAGNIFICENT' COLLARED PETREL, which came in briefly at the back of the boat displaying well.

The rest of the trip was spent around the various islands which are simply mind-blowing for the sheer volume of seabirds present. Here's some of the highlights...

The first of the Kermadec Islands is a small rock in the middle of nowhere call L'Esperance Rock. This was our first real taste of the sub-tropical seabirds we would encounter around the breeding islands for the rest of the journey. Huge groups of Grey Ternlets were out feeding on the water or roosting on the rocks, with Black and Brown Noddies, Masked Boobies, Red-tailed Tropicbirds, White-bellied Storm Petrels, Kermadec Petrels, Gould's Petrel and more also present.



After leaving L'Esperance for another offshore chum we then headed for Macauley Island (the second largest in the group). There is a small island just to the east called Haszard Island which is the only confirmed breeding location in the world of the very rare Kermadec Storm Petrel (estimated at approx 500 birds). This was one of the local species we most hoped to find, but as it was outside their breeding season (Aug to Dec) our chances were not that great. When we got to Macauley we circled slowly around the island surrounded with vast numbers of seabirds (including Red-tailed Tropicbirds, Masked Booby, Brown Noddys, Sooty Tern), often hovering just off the back of the boat – another truly spectacular place. After we went around the island we headed a few kms out to an underwater bank area hoping to see the Kermadec Storm Petrel. We hadn't gone too long before Brent called Storm Petrel which was very likely a Kermadec but no-one really got onto it enough to confirm. We spent the next hour circling around the area until dark hoping to spot one amongst the 50 odd White-bellied Storm Petrels and thousands of other birds in the immediate area but sadly with no luck. We then set off towards Raoul Island.

As we arrived at Raoul Island (the largest island in the group) we could see a bunch of large slips which were the first indications of damage done by the two massive earthquakes that hit the Kermadec Islands in early March. Not many seabirds currently breed on Raoul (it has recently been cleared of all pests so that should change) so we headed for a bunch of islets that sits to just north east called the Meyer, Chander, Napier and Nugent Islands group (and NZ's northern most point). Thankfully these small islets seemed to have fairly minimal earthquake damage from what we could see.

As we neared the Meyer Islands the volume of birds began increasing rapidly, and it wasn't long before we could pick out our first glimpse of a Frigatebird hovering over an island and eventually we had a count of at least 43 Greater Frigatebirds! The most Frigatebirds previously seen together in New Zealand was about 16 so this was a huge increase. It wasn't long before these massive black prehistoric looking birds were hovering all around us, swooping down gathering things from the water, and even picking off the odd wedge-tailed shearwaters (which luckily got away). An awesome experience to witness. Also up in a tree on Napier Island in the same spot that were first sighted in 2016 were a pair of Red-footed Boobies. While all this was going on there were literally hundreds of thousands of other seabirds feeding or flying around over and between all the little islet groups. Kermadec Petrels were everywhere, Grey Ternlets were having feeding frenzies with Black and Brown Noddies mixed in as well, and the occasional delightful White Tern making an appearance too. Masked Boobies and Red-tailed Tropicbirds came and went, and we even sighted a Wandering Tattler on the shore. This location really is unbelievably special and something none of us will ever forget.

Later we headed back down to Macauley Island again to try for the Kermadec Storm Petrel again but after 2 hours searching sadly our chances of finding one faded as the sun began to go down. But that's when one of the greatest spectacles of the entire trip took place. As the sun set behind Macauley the silhouettes of a million or so seabirds that had returned at dusk to roost for the night were highlighted against the warm golden glow. The island looked like it had a swarm of mosquitos all over it as the seabirds buzzed around all everywhere and has to be one of the greatest things I've ever witnessed'. As Tim said 'it warms your heart to know such places can still exist in the world'.

We had planned to stay around Macauley Island overnight to try for the Kermadec Storm Petrel the next morning but with a very unfavourable weather forecast ahead we decided it was best to start heading south to avoid some of the storm so as the sun's glow disappeared we said goodbye to the Kermadec Islands as this was the last time we would see them, before we head toward the impending storm. It looked like we'd have to save the Kermadec Storm Petrel for another time.

In the morning we woke to a nice fine day, and good news that the storm hadn't developed and it was clear sailing from here on – great news! We were close the Star of Bengal Banks so thought we'd give it another shot there to see what might turn up. Several people had a go at fishing and pulled in a bunch of bass, groper, kingfish and trevally, while the rest of us looked for seabirds. We were once again back in black petrel, and grey-faced petrel country with black-winged and white-naped petrels coming through. Not much else was happening and with only about 1 hour left at our final chum spot excitement erupted when Igor, up on the helipad, called out KERMADEC STORM PETREL! ... Everyones binos turned in the direction of the bird, which was a long way off, as it did a couple of jumps before disappearing quickly off into the distance. At last we had a confirmed sighting of this scarce bird – though unfortunately missed by 5 of the 13 people, including myself and Harry who is doing a 'Big Year'. After about half an hour Harry was still desperately staring at the open sea in vain for the tiny bird. With

not much time left we decided to head up the chum trail to see if we could find it and boom, within 3 minutes we had it off the front of the boat. It then did a bunch of great passes alongside the ship, and this time everyone got to see it! A fantastic last minute addition for the trip. We then decided to hang around a bit longer and put out the rest of the chum out just as the wind rose to 20kn and it wasn't long before we were surrounded by a mixed flurry of 200 black seabirds (Black Petrels, Grey-faced Petrels, Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and a Flesh-footed), as well as Kermadec Petrels, 3 Wandering Albatross and 3 Campbell Mollymawks all soaring around – a great spectacle, made even better when a Long-tailed Skua turned up and put on an amazing aerial display behind the ship, and the Kermadec Storm Petrel came back within a few metres of us for another fantastic farewell showing.

Then, sadly, we had to leave and begin our 2 day journey home.

During the trip we also had great encounters with some large pods of dolphins, but were surprised not to see any whales close by (although we did see several spouts). We often had sharks hovering off the back of the ship whenever we stopped – mostly these were schools of up to 10 Galapagos Sharks, but we also had a couple of good sized Hammerheads, a fiesty Mako, and a stunning Oceanic White-tipped Shark. And we had a Green Turtle at the Meyers.

Over the 11 days we saw an impressive 48 sea bird species, and a few shorebird and other bird species. We were very lucky to have favourable conditions for most of the journey with generally good steady winds and fine or overcast days. A fantastic result, outstanding seabirds, an awesome team of talented birders, and a super friendly and helpful ship's crew all made this an unforgettable adventure for all onboard in this most wonderful of sea birding locations.

For me personally the award for the 'Best Bird of the Trip' goes to the Collared Petrel, the 'Outstanding Performance Award' goes to the Greater Frigatebirds, and without doubt the award for the 'Most Dramatic Role' goes to the Kermadec Storm Petrel.

Here's the full list of seabirds we counted on the trip – this doesn't include the million + seabirds we saw over Macauley, and the 500,000 + seabirds over the Meyer Island group. We had in the range of 2,000,000 + seabirds seen during the trip! Simply staggering. WHAT A PLACE!

-----  
 1 x Royal Albatross (Southern)  
 2 x NZ Wandering Albatross (Antipodean)  
 2 x NZ Wandering Albatross (Gibson's)  
 10 x NZ Wandering Albatross sp.  
 4 x White-capped Mollymawk  
 1 x Black-browed Mollymawk  
 12 x Campbell's Mollymawk  
 1 x Antarctic Prion  
 1 x Fairy Prion  
 3 x Prion sp.  
 1,000 x White-naped Petrel  
 9 x Gould's Petrel  
 50 x Cooks' Petrel  
 1 x Pycroft's Petrel  
 10,000 x Black-winged Petrel  
 1 x Collared Petrel (Magnificent)



10,000 x Kermadec Petrel  
 250 x Grey-faced Petrel  
 3 x Providence Petrel (Solander's)  
 200 x Black Petrel  
 1 x White-chinned Petrel  
 1 x Sooty Shearwater  
 2,500 x Wedge-tailed Shearwater  
 100 x Flesh-footed Shearwater  
 150 x Buller's Shearwater  
 30 x Fluttering Shearwater  
 1 x Little Shearwater  
 2 x Kermadec Storm-Petrel  
 1 x White-faced Storm-Petrel  
 25 x Wilson's Storm-Petrel  
 2 x New Zealand Storm-Petrel  
 200 x White-bellied Storm-Petrel  
 5 x Common Diving Petrel  
 5 x Australasian Gannet  
 200 x Masked Booby  
 1 x Brown Booby  
 3 x Red-footed Booby  
 300 x Red-tailed Tropic Bird  
 43 x Greater Frigatebird  
 200 x Brown Noddy  
 500 x Black Noddy  
 15,000 x Grey Noddy (Ternlet)  
 40 x White Tern  
 100 x Sooty Tern  
 15 x White-fronted Tern  
 1 x South Polar Skua  
 1 x Long-tailed Skua  
 1 x Skua sp.  
 2 x Little Pied Shag  
 25 x Pied Shag  
 50 x Red-billed Gull  
 50 x Black-backed Gull  
 1 x Wandering Tattler  
 5 x Ruddy Turnstone  
 3 x Red-crowned Parakeet  
 2 x Kingfisher  
 1 x Welcome Swallow  
 1 x Pukeko  
 3 x Starling  
 1 x Song Thrush





# Ngunguru Shorebird Count – February 2021

OSNZ REGION YEAR MONTH CENSUS DATE	Northland				Ngunguru		
	2021				Hilton Ward		
	February	Tide Height, Time, Weather					
	13-Feb-21	2.7m	09:30am				
	TIDE TIME >	09:46 Marsden Point					
LOCAL SITES >	Sandspit - NW	Sandspit - NE	Ngunguru Shore	Te Maika Spit	Papaka Rd	Tongatu Road	
SITE TOTALS >	30	195	38	115	21	4	
SPECIES v TOTALS							
Bar-tailed Godwit	38		38				
Caspian Tern	2		2				
House Sparrow	27			19		8	
Little Black Shag	1			1			
Little Pied Shag	2			1	1		
Mallard	12				12		
New Zealand Dotterel	44	8	5		31		
Pied Shag	13	4				9	
Pied Stilt	3					3	
Sacred Kingfisher	2			1		1	
Silver Gull	26		2	12	12		
South Black Backed Gull	50		45	2		3	
Terek Sandpiper	0						
Tui	0						
Variable Oystercatcher	44	18	17	2	7		
Welcome swallow	2				2		
Whimbrel	1		1				
White-faced Heron	1					1	
White-fronted Tern	135		85		50		
403							

# Ngunguru Shorebird Count – June 2021

OSNZ REGION		Northland		Ngunguru		
YEAR		2021		Hilton Ward		
MONTH		June				
CENSUS DATE		26-Jun-21				
		TIDE TIME > 08:23 Marsden Point				
LOCAL SITES >		Sandspit - NW		Sandspit - NE		Tongatu Road
SITE TOTALS >		42		26		32
SPECIES v TOTALS						
Barbary Dove		1		1		
Caspian Tern		2		2		
Common Myna		5		5		
Eurasian Blackbird		7		6		1
European Starling		3		3		
House Sparrow		41		9		30
Little Black Shag		2		2		
Little Pied Shag		4		3		1
Mallard		6		2		4
New Zealand Dotterel		28		18		10
Paradise Shelduck		6		4		2
Pied Shag		4		3		1
Pied Stilt		32				32
Royal Spoonbill		1				1
Sacred Kingfisher		11		7		4
Silver Gull		83		8		1
Song Thrush		4		4		26
South Black Backed Gull		3		2		28
Spur-winged Plover		3		2		20
Tui		3				3
Variable Oystercatcher		44		11		7
Welcome swallow		3		3		11
White-faced Heron		1				2
297						