



THE WRYBILL

Canterbury Regional Newsletter

MAY 2023

Field Trips:

Please Note that Janet Burton's trip to Kurow to tick off atlas squares in May will not be going ahead.

May 14 - A trip out to Pegasus Wetlands and Ashley Estuary. Searching for the NZ Dabchick, Northern Shoveler, Little Egret and Sanderling. Meeting at Tiritiri Drive at 9:00 am. Contact Don Goodale (breadmandon@gmail.com) if you are interested.

June 18 - Our annual wader count at Lake Ellesmere. Make sure to wear suitable clothing and footwear. Meeting at the end of Embankment Road at 9:00 am. Contact Don Goodale before the 14th of June if your interested (breadmandon@gmail.com)

July 22 - Ashburton Lake annual count. Contact Don Geddes for more details and meeting place (don.geddes@fireandemergency.nz)

Further trips are to be announced at a later date. (Contact Don if you would like to host a trip).

Indoor Meetings:

Evening Meetings will 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 available,

May 29 - Anthony Shadbolt speaking on *Progress on native forest restoration in Ōtautahi*

June 26 - Speaker TBC

July 31 - Speaker TBC



New Zealand Bellbird - Mount Somers- Samuel Amaris

RR's Report

We have had some interesting meetings this year. We had Fraser Gurney give us a talk of his study of Black Fronted Terns. Ariel-Micaiah Heswall gave us a talk on her work on seabirds and understanding their hazards. Then we had Kurien Yohannan with an interesting talk on his photography. With most meetings being well-attended in person and on zoom.

On April 24 we had our annual AGM. With all committee members being reelected except our Regional Representative (RR). Due to my health and the fact that I will probably not be in Christchurch next year I will resign as of December 31, 2023. Would anyone like to be the next RR? If so contact me at breadmandon@gmail.com.

Lots of interesting sightings from around Canterbury. Little Egrets at Ashley and Lake Forsyth. A New Zealand Dabchick and Northern Shoveler at Pegasus. Red Necked Stint, Marsh Sandpiper and some other migrants at Ellesmere.

Some of the newer sightings in Christchurch are a Marsh Crake at Wigram and a New Zealand Falcon at Ilam.

I need help with speakers and trip hosts for June onwards. Any trip suggestions would also be greatly appreciated. Please keep an eye on the BirdsNZ website (birdsNZ.org.nz) for all the latest information including the latest newsletters around the country.

Don Goodale,

Influx of the Little Egret

There is currently a large influx of Little Egret sightings all over New Zealand, with several reports being seen in the Canterbury region. Recently, three Little Egrets have been seen at Lake Forsyth, one at the Avon Estuary and another was spotted at Ashley Estuary.

These birds are scarce annual migrants to New Zealand and to find three in one location is quite rare. If you are planning on a bird trip anytime in the near future I would definitely recommend going to the Lake Forsyth area for a look for these rare birds.

They use stealth to stalk and hunt their prey in ambush and eat a variety of fish, small mammals and crustaceans.

When out looking for these birds make sure not to confuse them with the native White Heron (Kōtuku) which they have been seen associating with. Little Egrets have black slender bills, greenish-black legs and dull yellow feet. They are much smaller than White Herons and have a shorter neck as well.

It is likely that these birds have come from Australia and will probably depart once winter is over.

Good luck birding.

Samuel Amaris



White Heron - Catons Bay - Janet Burton



White Heron (Right) and Little Egret (Left) - Steve Attwood

Rambles with Bev Alexander

Rambles are “unofficial” birding field trips hosted by Bev Alexander. All are welcome to participate and most rambles are at accessible locations.

Upcoming Rambles:

17 May - Birding along the Liffey Stream. Meeting at 9:30 am; on Liffey Place, (just off North Belt) Lincoln.

14 June - Out and about to add info to the NZ Ebird Atlas squares for winter.

If you can't make these dates but would still like to go on an alternative trip you can let Bev know. Also let her know if you plan to come on either of these rambles.

Email: birdiebev@xtra.co.nz Phone: 027 3184 713

Birding sites in Northern Pegasus Bay

Winter bird highlights in Pegasus Bay between the Waipara and Waimakariri River Mouths include numerous wildfowl, gulls and terns, scarce waders such as Black Stilt and Black-fronted Dotterel and scarce herons like White Heron and Cattle Egret.

The Waipara River Mouth is a compact site best visited when the water level is low as then Black-fronted Dotterels are easiest to find. Access is north through Amberley Beach township, from where a road runs along the back of the beach (sometimes the road is washed away) and skirts coastwards past Amberley Golf Course. Park before the golf course finishes. Walk past the end of the golf course and pick your way north through the ruts left by off-road vehicles to the rear of the lagoon. Gumboots are usually the best footwear. The Black-fronted Dotterels usually prefer the muddy channels/river margins. Other birds of interest are small mixed flocks of terns and gulls.

Central between the Waipara and the Waimakariri the Ashley Estuary holds the greatest avian diversity of this area. A Black Stilt often overwinters at the estuary, often in the bay closest to Waikuku Beach township, though when last I saw one it was further north, and before that north of Saltwater Creek (the creek that enters the northern part of the estuary). In winter the northern part of the estuary has flocks of Pied Oystercatchers with smaller numbers of Variable and Pied x Variable Oystercatcher hybrids. Lower double figures of Bar-tailed Godwits overwinter. The area where the Ashley River enters the river has areas of gravel islands beloved of roosting terns (White-fronted with smaller numbers of Black-fronted and Caspian). This area is also favored by Banded Dotterels, White Heron and Black-billed Gulls. If something unusual turns up it is usually in this part of the estuary (recently Sanderling and Little Egret). The southern bay has smaller numbers of waders but more wildfowl, with Australasian Shoveler and Grey Teal giving close views. Pied Stilts and Royal Spoonbills favor this part of the estuary. The estuary is best visited on a low or half tide. Birds can be more difficult to find when the tide is in.

The above parts of the estuary can currently be viewed from the spit that extends north from Waikuku Beach township. During very high river flows the river often punches through the spit, limiting viewing to the area up to the gravelly section. In such cases the northern part of the estuary can be accessed via Raupo Berm. To get to Raupo Berm turn west off SH1 into the rest area just north of the river bridge, go over the stop bank, then left under SH1 and back onto the stopbank. Then follow the gravel road to its end and a small parking area. A footbridge crosses a side creek, then follow the obvious track to a new fence. Access is around the right-hand edge of the fence then the track works its way left to a shallow creek at the rear of the estuary.

The gravel areas where the river enters the river can be better viewed via the Kings Avenue entrance. Drive straight over the stopbank at the end of this road and follow the gravel track to a second stopbank then right along this to a parking area. Then walk to the rear of the mouth, checking for waders along the way. This latter access often gives better views of scarcer birds that often seem to hide in the creeks between areas of gravel.

At the rear of the estuary just downstream of the Kings Avenue entrance and between the two stopbanks is a marshy area with abundant rushes. Marsh Crakes are usually present here and are best searched for at dusk. Bittern has also been seen here.

Inland from the estuary the dairy pastures along Tulls Road have been a regular haunt of small numbers of Cattle Egrets over recent decades. Two have been present for a number of months this year. The paddock they are in can vary along with the herd of cows to which they follow. Most often they are south of the road on the middle section between SH1 and Smarts Road.

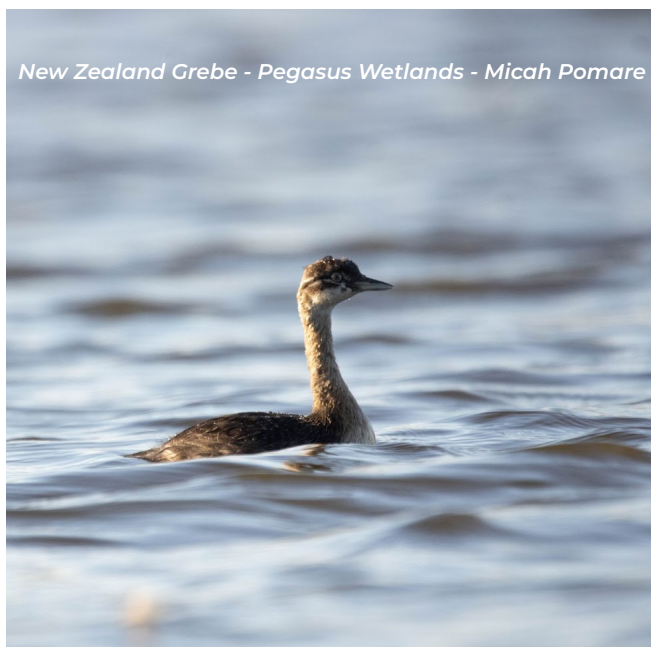
At the new subdivision of Ravenswood, a shallow wetland in its northwest part has attracted Black-fronted Dotterels in recent years. Access is via Clayton Place near a preschool or Kesteven Place

around the rear of the supermarket. The deeper wetlands in the same area have small numbers of waterfowl.

The Pegasus Wetlands have become a haven for wildfowl and are attracting scarce/rare species on a regular basis, often for extended and repeated stays. Respectable numbers of Australasian Shovelers, Black Swans and New Zealand Scaup occur, their numbers swelled in winter. Smaller numbers of Coot, Grey Teal and Mute Swans are also present. In summer Royal Spoonbills breed next to the ponds north of Tiritiri Moana Drive, and they seem to be lingering all year. This winter a Northern Shoveler and New Zealand Dabchick have been in this northern area of the wetlands. A path goes up the eastern side of the larger pond here, there is good viewing from a causeway, and there is access over lawns on the western side of the ponds to the northernmost extent of the ponds. The waterfowl often disappear under willows at the northernmost pond and multiple visits or patience may be needed to see the rarities.

Waterfowl are also prominent at the southern part of the wetlands accessed off Pegasus Main Street and Te Kohanga Drive. The marshier southernmost part has provided good viewing of Australasian Bittern in the past. Pegasus Lake, which is the waterbody west of Te Kohanga Drive, and adjacent to the shops and playground in the town center is the most reliable place to see Australasian Crested Grebe, though they can be seen on any of the wetlands by the township.

Nicholas Allen



Bird Banding at the Avon-Heathcote Estuary

In Canterbury, New Zealand, the Avon-Heathcote Estuary is a great location to see birds. The Bar-tailed Godwit and the South Island Pied Oystercatcher are two species that are commonly seen there.

The Bar-tailed Godwit is a long-distance migrant that spends the non-breeding season in New Zealand and Australia. These birds are marked as part of the Arctic Wader Color-Banding Scheme. One bird, which is one of the oldest godwits in New Zealand, was banded as a first-year bird back in 2004 and is now in its 20th year of visiting the estuary.

Another fascinating species is the South Island Pied Oystercatcher. In an effort to better

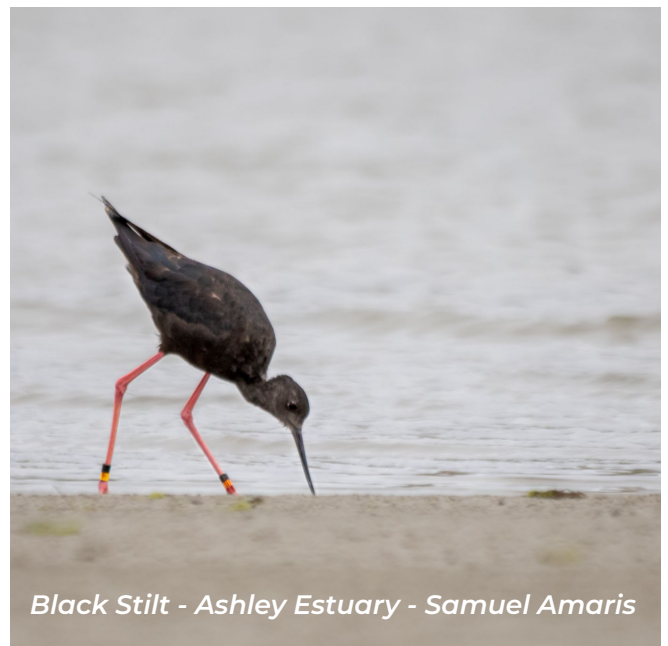
understand the population dynamics, movements, breeding and wintering sites OSNZ/BirdsNZ, DOC, and Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research have marked many of these intriguing birds.

These marked birds not only provide researchers with useful data, but also an exciting chance for birdwatchers to get involved and able to contribute to scientific research. The Avon-Heathcote Estuary is simple to get to, making it a great place for birdwatchers of all ages and abilities to visit. Birdwatchers can contribute to ongoing studies and help us better understand the movements and survival of these wonderful birds.

A Little Egret has recently been spotted in the Avon-Heathcote Estuary, in addition to the Bar-tailed Godwit and South Island Pied Oystercatcher. So why not pick up a pair of binoculars and go down to the estuary? You never know what you'll encounter or what valuable data you might be able to offer the scientific community.

Samuel Amaris

Suggested by David Melville



Recent Sightings

Canterbury and West Coast Bird Report December 2022 to February 2023

This report covers the period 1st December 2022 to 28th February 2023 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 behavior 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) Bullock Creek Road: 3 6/12 RL, JT. Creche du Bois Gentil, Ararau: 1 20/12 TP. Roa Road NW of Blackball: 1 16/12 GA. Lake Poerua: 1m 2/1 FG. Camp Creek Hut near Inchbonnie: 1m 3/1 MO. Otira Village: 1 18/2 AM, NB. Arthur's Pass village: 1m1f 28/12 FG, 2m 2/1 SD, 1m 18/1 JG, ATo, 1 25/1 LT, TH, 1 31/1 PG, 1 1/2 PG. Edwards Hut: 1m1f 29/12 FG, MM. Greyneys Shelter: 1f 12/2 PY, MS. Upper Hawdon Valley: 1 27/1 KW, 1m 1f 28/1 KW. Hawdon Shelter: 1 4/1 MD, LL, 1 31/1 AC.

Cape Barren Goose (A) Travis Wetland: 5 18/1 HN, 1 26/1 TC, 3 30/1 KB, MY, 2 31/1 B&MJ, 4 10/2 DG, 4 18/2 BP, 4 21/2 BCu. Englishs Road: 2 4/12 DG, 1 19/12 AC, 3 28/12 BA, 2 12/2 DG, WH, NMi. Washdyke Lagoon: 2 19/1 PM, 2 9/2 DT, MDe, SF, 2 12/2 JHo, DHo, 1 16/2 BHe, ES, MSc, FG, JeH, KK, TPe, 1 23/2 BSt, AK, JL, PPe, 1 27/2 JoS, PS.

Mute Swan (S) Radcliffe Road Ponds: 1 4/2 SLLT Bird. Rhodes Lagoon: 19 2/1 PS.

Blue Duck (A) Edwards Hut: 1 28/12 MM, FG. 600 m upstream of Edwards Hut: 2 29/12 FG, MM. Kawhaka Creek: 2 3/2 DT, MDe, SF.

Muscovy Duck (S) Birchfield (N of Waimangaroa): 1 1/1 FG. Water Walk Road, Greymouth: 1 7/12 MC.

Helmeted Guineafowl (A) Domett Road, Domett: 1 2/2 MDe. Timberyard Road: 3 6/1 HP.

Peafowl (A) Factory Road, Sefton: 6 17/12 BA, PR, 2 14/1 EGu, SW, 2 28/1 BA. Metro Refuse Station: 1 24/12 GA, 3 1/1 NF.

Chukar (A) Godley Peaks Road: 6 23/2 BSt, AK, JL, PPe, AE. Mt John: 1 12/12 MA, DM, DH, JSa, CR, 2 18/1 AB, 2 9/2 DT, MDe, SF, 1 17/2 BHe, ES, MSc, FG, JeH, KK, TPe.

Golden Pheasant (A) Karamea Highway: 1m 28/2 JBu.

Turkey (A) Tulls Road, Waikuku: 4 10/12 BA, 4 11/1 FG. Timberyard Road: 2 19/12 AC.

Australasian Crested Grebe (S) Ferrymead Stormwater Basin: 1 4/12 DL.

Wandering Albatross (S) Little River Rail Trail: 1 juv 25/1 via SA. It or another juv of this species group was taken into care at Waimairi Beach on 26/1.

Chatham Albatross (S) Albatross Encounters Pelagic: 1 6/2 BL.

Yellow-eyed Penguin (A) Flea Bay: 1 3/2 J&CW.

Erect-crested Penguin (V) South Bay, Kaoikoura: 1 23/2 PCr, 24/2 SD, 25/2 GK, MO.

Little Black Shag (S) Rhodes Lagoon: 1 2/1 PS.

Australasian Bittern (A) Travis Wetland: 1 20/1 KR, 1 31/1 KR. Halswell Canal near Greenpark Huts: 1 4/12 SL, 2 4/1 OT, NF. West Maori Lake: 1 17/12 DGe, 1 23/12 DGe. Waterwheel Wetland: 1 15/12 GV, FG, PB, PP, RG.

White Heron (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 2/12 BA, 6/12 BA, 1 11/12 NA, R&JF, 1 5/1 BA. Lake Forsyth: 1 14/2 IC. Kaituna Lagoon: 1 18/2 KRo. Irwell RM: 1 12/2 BA, CC. Otematata Wetlands: 1 8/1 BM.

Little Egret (V) Bridge Street, Karamea: 1 29/12 AQ.

Reef Heron (A) Albatross Encounters Pelagic: 1 29/1 WP, 2 30/1 J&CW, 1 6/2 JP, VH, 1 8/2 FG et al. Raramai: 1 8/12 CT. 1 9/1 MW, KM. Paia Point: 1 11/1 LP. Purau Bay: 1 26/2 JB.

Cattle Egret (A) Tulls Road, Waikuku: 1 27/12 BA, 2 29/12 BA, 2 2/1 BA, 2 5/1 BA, 2 11/1 BA, 2 3/2 BA, 2 10/2 BA, 2 18/2 BA, 2 21/2 BA, 2 23/2 BSt, AK, JL, PPe, AE. Kaituna Lagoon: 1 18/2 KRo. Lower Lake Road: 2 31/1 PR.

Royal Spoonbill (S) West Maori Lake: 2 17/12 DGe. Other records well inland were from the Tasman Delta at the northern end of Lake Pukaki where 10 birds were seen together, and up to 3 at the eastern end of Lake McGregor and adjacent Lake Tekapo.

Marsh Crake (A) Travis Wetland: 1 23/12 KR, 1 14/1 FG. Cahmere Road ephemeral wetland: 1 1/2 DG. West Maori Lake: 8 8/1 DGe, 1 27/2 DGe. Ohau C Ponds: 1 13/12 MA, DM, DH, JSa, CR. Otematata Wetlands: 1 9/2 NMi, WH.

Spotless Crake (A) Travis Wetland: 2 3/12 NF.

Black Stilt (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 28/1 EGu, SW, TC, 1 2/2 DT, MDe, SF, 1 5/2 JP, 1 8/2 CC, 1 12/2 NA, F&SM, 1 17/2 TC. Lake Tekapo, SE bay: 1 5/1 HG. Stilt Lane Pond: 1 16/12 FG, 2 17/12 SR, 1 18/12 SS. Lake Murray: 2 9/12 MF, 2 28/1 GA, 1 9/2 DT, MDe, SF. Ephemeral wetland S of Lake Murray: 2 9/2 DT, MDe, SF. Pierce Pond, Lake Tekapo: 2 12/12 MA, DM, DH, JSa, CR. Lake McGregor: 2 1/2 B&MJ, McGregor Bay, Lake Tekapo: 2 4/1 EG, 2 5/1 CK, SB, JTh, 5 7/1 UC, 5 17/1 JJ, 5 19/1 JG, ATo, 2 26/1 LT, TH, 2 28/1 GA, 1 7/2 DHo, Jho. Jimmey's Lagoon: 1 16/2 BHe, ES, MSc, FG, JeH, KK, TPe, 1 19/2 PY, MS, 2ad 4juv 23/2 BSt, AK, JL, PPe, AE. Tasman Islands Wildlife Refuge: 5 13/12 MP. Tasman Fan: 6 17/12 GV, 3 18/12 SR, 9 21/12 MP, 3 19/1 EF, 7 27/1 GA, 7 28/1 JHa, 2 31/1 WP, 5 7/2 BL, 10 16/2 BHe, ES, MSc, FG, JeH, KK, TPe, 7 19/2 PY, MS, 13 25/2 JJ. Kaki Lagoons: 3 15/1 TW. Ohau C area: 2 8/12 BT. Ahuriri River E of SH8: 4 14/12 MP.

Pacific Golden Plover (A) Jarvis Road: 36 24/12 SA, ACo, FG, 35 25/12 DG, 67 26/12 NF, FG, 20 29/12 ACo, 8 4/1 OT, ACh, NF, TB, 23 10/1 SRo, 4 14/1 BH, 1 18/1 JC, 3 21/1 GT, 1 23/1 GT, 1 24/1 TC, 41 25/1 NF, 64 1/2 ACr, 38 9/2 SW, EGu, 52 10/2 DT, MDe, SF. Clarks Road: 88 NF, BS, 1 14/1 DGe. Northern shore Te Whanga Lagoon: 8 27/1 EF, FA, 6 4/2 THi, 7 12/2 THi.

Black-fronted Dotterel (A) Waipara RM: 2 18/12 NA, 2 2/1 NFo, 1 3/1 AG, 1 8/1 BA, 1 12/2 NA. Lower Kowai River: 2 6/1 NM. Ashley River nr SH1 Bridge: 2 8/1 DN. Ashburton RM: 1 16/12 SR, 1 17/12 SR, 2 3/1 KW, 1 5/1 SB, JTh, 4 6/1 DGe, 4 18/1 ACr, 2 5/2 DGe, 2 14/2 TC. Rangitata River @ SH1 Bridge: 1 9/1 FG. Rangitata River @ Ferry Road: 1 16/12 DGe, 1 4/1 DGe. Rangitata RM: 1 12/12 FG, 1 22/12 FG, 1 24/1 FG, 1 21/2 FG. Orari River @ Milton Rd: 2 17/1 DGe. Washdyke Lagoon: 2

Shore Plover (S) Pitt Island (Glory Bay-Waipaua Bay): 1 "1 of a known pair on Pitt Island" 18/1 PSm.

Greater Sand Plover (V) Jarvis Road: 1 8/1 JR, FG.

Wrybill (S) Karamea Estuary: 2 31/12 FG.

Turnstone (A) Avoca Street Bay, Kaikoura: 14 24/2 SD. Armers Beach: 17 9/1 DB, JB. Point Kean: 11 4/2 DBu, 2 12/2 DBu, 2 24/2 SD. Kaikoura Peninsula Walkway: 2 1/2 SK. Ashley Estuary: 3 1/12 EG, 1 12/1 EGu, 1 2/2 DT, MDe, SF, 1 5/2 DHo, 2 11/2 CC, 1 17/2 TC, 1 18/2 BA. Jarvis Road: 16 23/12 KW, 17 24/12 SA, ACo, FG, 22 25/12 DG, 36 26/12 FG, 8 29/12 ACo, 20 4/1 OT, ACh, NF, TB, 2 5/1 SB, JTh, 5 8/1 KW, 1 9/1 SRo, 6 10/1 SRo, 10 13/1 IS, 9 14/1 ACo, 5 17/1 PM, BA, FG, PH, 1 23/1 GT, 4 24/1 TC, 4 25/1 NF, 17 1/2 ACr, 5 9/2 EGu, SW. Clarks Road: 9 28/12, 5 14/1 DGe. Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 6 4/12 PC. Waiho RM: 3 11/1 BS. Washdyke Lagoon: 1 19/1 PM. Cape Pattinson, Chatham I: 14 4/1 MB. Northern shore Te Whanga Lagoon: 17 27/1 EF, FA, 1 4/2 THi, 1 5/2 THi, 51 19/2 THi. Stilt Pond, Te Whanga Lagoon: 64 29/12 MB, 34 12/2 THi.

Lesser Knot (A) Ashley Estuary: 5 1/12 ME, BT, JS, 1 12/1 EGu, 1 15/1 EGu, SW, 1 17/1 SA, MPo, 1 8/2 CC. Jarvis Road 8 24/12 NF, ACh, GA, 14 25/12 PC, 3 1/1 KRo, 3 8/1 KW, 5 17/1 PH, FG. Northern shore Te Whanga Lagoon: 2 4/2 THi, 67 12/2 THi.

Curlew Sandpiper (A) Jarvis Road: 2 23/12 KW, 1 24/12 SA, ACo, FG, 2 25/12 DG.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (A) Ashley Estuary: 2 17/1 SA, MPo, 1 11/2 CC. Jarvis Road: 2 23/12 KW, 2 24/12 NF, ACh, GA, 3 25/12 PC, 3 26/12 NF, 2 28/12 BA, 4 3/1 OT, NF, 4 4/1 OT, ACh, NF, TB, 4 8/1 FG, JR, 2 9/1 SRo, 4 10/1 SRo, 3 12/1 IS, 3 13/1 IS, 4 14/1 TC, 6 17/1 BA, PM, 3 18/1 JC, 1 21/1 GT, 6 1/2 TC, ACr. Clarke's Road: 4 4/12 MK, FG, 2 5/1 BS, 4 14/1 DGe. Embankment Road: 1 12/2 DHo, Jho.

Pectoral Sandpiper (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 15/1 SW, EGu. Jarvis Road: 3 24/12 SA, ACo, FG, 3 25/12 ACr, DG, 3 26/12 FG, 3 1/1 KRo, 2 3/1 NF, OT, 3 4/1 OT, ACh, NF, TB, AC, 2 8/1 FG, JR, 1 9/1 SRo, 1 10/1 SRo, ACr, PC, 2 12/1 IS, 2 13/1 IS, 3 14/1 ACo, 2 17/6 PM, BA, 2 18/1 JC, 4 21/1 GT, 1 1/2 TC, ACr. Clarks Road: 2 28/12 NF, BS, 3 5/1 BS, 1 14/1 DGe. Embankment Road: 2 12/2 Jho, DHo. Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 1 20/1 KRo.

Sanderling (V) Ashley Estuary: 1 18/2 DGe.

Long-toed Stint (V) Jarvis Road: 1 24/12 SA, ACo, FG, 25/12 ACr, RHu, DG, ACh, PC, ID, 26/12 NF, FG, GA, KRo, 29/12 ACo, SAt, 1/1 KRo, 3/1 NF, OT, 4/1 OT, ACh, NF, TB, 8/1 JR, FG, 10/1 SRo, 12/1 IS, 14/1 ACo, 17/6 FG, PH, 18/1 JC, 21/1 GT, 24/1 TC. Clarke's Road: 1 29/12 DGe, 5/1 BS, 14/1 DGe.

Red-necked Stint (A) Ashley Estuary: 1 2/2 DT, MDe, SF Jarvis Road: 4 23/12 KW, 18 24/12 SA, ACo, FG, NF, ACh, GA, 16 25/12 DG, 22 26/12 NF, 16 29/12 ACo, 6 1/1 KRo, 25 3/1 OT, NF, 45 4.1 OT, ACh, NF, TB, 19 8/1 FG, JR, 15 10/1 SRo, 27 14/1 ACo, 42 17/1 PH, FG, 15 18/1 JC, 3 21/1 GT, 4 23/1 GT, 12 24/1 TC, 14 1/2 ACr. Clarke's Road: 28 4/12 FG, MK, 15 28/12 NF, BS, 8 29/12 DGe, 32 5/1 BS, 17 14/1 DGe, 38 30/1 MY, KB. Embankment Road: 6 10/12 SH, 11 14/1 DGe, 25 7/2 SW, 26 12/2 DG. Tip of Kaitorete Spit: 1 4/1 KRo. Ki-Wainono: 1 1/12 PS.

Whimbrel (A) Stilt Pond, Te Whanga Lagoon: 1 29/12 MB. Rangatira/SE Island: 1 7/2 JFi.

Marsh Sandpiper (V) Jarvis Road: 1 25/12 ACh, PC, ID, 26/12 NF, FG, GA, 29/12 ACo, SAt, 4/1 OT, ACh, NF, TB, 10/1 SRo, 13/1 IS, 17/1 BA, PM, FG, PH, 21/1 GT, 1/2 TC, ACr. Clarks Road: 1 28/12 NF, BS. Embankment Road: 1 14/1 DGe.

Wandering Tattler (V) Cape Pattinson (Chatham I): 2 28/12 MB, 2 4/1 MB.

Pomarine Skua (A) Lake Ellesmere opening, Taumutu: 1 20/1 KRo. Ross Beach: 1 12/2 HS.

Black-billed Gull (S) Rangitata RM: 3000 22/12 FG.

White-winged Black Tern (A) Clarence River nr Jollies Pass Road: 1 11/12 AC. Lake Ruataniwha: 1 10/12 SA.

Little Tern (V) Birdlings Flat: 1 6/1 DN, 8/1 FG, TB, 9/1 NF, 10/1 SRo, 17/1 BA, PM, 22/1 JR, 27/1 PR, 28/1 RHu, 29/1 TR, 30/1 DGe, 17/2 BHe, ES, MSc, FG, JeH, KK, TPe, 18/2 ACo, JC.

Common Tern (V) Lake Ellesmere opening, Taumutu: 1 8/1 FG.

Barbary Dove (A) Grey View Grove, Rangiora: 1 13/1 BA. Kippenberger Avenue, Rangiora: 3 11/12 BA, 2 14/12 BA, 3 4/2 BA. Waterstock Way, Burwood: 1 31/1 KR. Cameo Grove, Burwood: 1 19/12 ACr. Marshland Road #400: 33 mass feeding 5/12 NF.

Spotted Dove (A) Charing Cross area: 7 6/1 ACr, 4 12/1 RHu, 13 16/1 ACr, 1 16/2 BA.

Long-tailed Cuckoo (S) Puhi Peaks Sta: 1 22/2 SRa.

Kea (S) Camp Creek Hut near Inchbonnie: 3 3/1 MO. Mt French near Hohonu: 2 3/1 AH. Griffin Range near Turiwhate: 6 14/1 SS. Tara Tama: 3 18/1 SS. Hawdon Valley: 1 28/1 KW, 3 29/1 KW. Sunny Bight, Lake Kaniere: 1 10/12 EC. Goldminers Hut: 1 6/12 BS. Okarito Township: 1 3/12 JN. 5 4/12 JN, 2 25/12 LS, 5 29/12 AH, 4 2/1 MMi, 5 3/1 MMi, 5 17/1 PL. Okarito Forks Road: 4 17/1 MR, 8 21/2 RB. Lake Mapourika: 5 28/2 JCr. Franz Josef Township: 6 8/12 RL, 1 25/12 LS, 1 11/2 JeH. Callery Gorge Walk: 4 20/1 VR, 3 28/2 MBr. Franz Josef Glacier Walk: 2 4/12 BC, 2 17/12 MG. Watchdog Hut, Clyde Valley: 4 12/1 FG, 1 13/1 FG. NW of Whympers Hut: 5 14/1 AC. Mueller Lookout Walk: 1 3/12 AL. Kea Point: 2 10/12 MF, 2 15/12 JF. Hooker Valley Track: 2 20/12 DD, 1 13/1 AT, 3 3/2 DZ, 3 20/2 AGr, 2 22/2 HB. Upper Red Tarns: 5 4/1 CK. Aoraki Mt Cook Township: 2 18/2 PS. Tasman Glacier lookout: 1 8/2 CKo. North of Lake Mapourika: 2 10/1 BS. Fox Glacier Village: 1 8/12 JT, RL, 1 2/1 DN. Diamond Harbour: 1 8/2 TC. Mahitahi River: 2 12/1 AC. Lake Moeraki area: 1 11/2 BF, TBl. Landsborough Valley: 13 10/2 StR, 1 12/2 StR. Roaring Billy Falls: 1 9/2 B&MJ.

Kaka (A) Oparara Basin: 2 6/12 DP, 1 29/12 AQ, 1 31/12 SD, 1 18/2 DDa. Mt Peel tops: 1 24/1 R&ST. Large Matai Carpark, Karamea Highway: 2 31/12 FG. Upper Buller Gorge: 1 19/2 FG. Moonlight Pack Track: 4 12/1 PC. Pororari River Track: 2 28/2 MBr. Kangaroo Creek: 2 19/2 JH. Mt Norma Track: 2 22/1 DS. Lewis Tops Track: 1 29/1 NF. Nina Valley: 1 6/1 PC. Hawdon Valley: 2 30/12 MM, FG, 1 4/1 MD, LL. Okarito Township: 2 8/12 JN. SH6 near Karangarua: 1 19/12 IK. Haast-Paringa Cattle Track: 6 2/1 DPa. Landsborough River: 3 12/2 StR. Jackson River Road: 2 1/1 DPa. Haast Pass: 1 15/12 RH. Hope River nr Barn Bay: 1 9/1 AC.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (A) SH75 @ Bayleys Road: 8 5/12 PC. Prices Valley: 8 17/1 PM, BA, 14 20/1 TBo, 3 27/1 PR. 11 28/1 RHu, 14 17/2 BHe, ES, MSc, FG, JeH, KK, TPe.

Yellow-crowned Parakeet (A) Oparara Basin: 1 29/12 AQ. Four Mile River, Charleston: 2 11/2 RN. Palmer Hut: 2 22/1 DS. Mt Norma Track: 1 22/1 DS. Nelson Creek N of Hochstetter: 2 20/1 JH. Edwards River: 1 28/12 FG, MM. Upper Waimakariri Valley (Harman Pass Route): 1 1/1 MO. Hawdon Valley: 1 28/1 KW, 1 29/1 KW. Totarakaitorea River/Alpine Lake area: 3 10/1 BS, 6 13/1 BS. North of Lake Mapourika: 1 10/1 BS, 2 13/1 BS. Lake Matheson: 1 9/2 AU, CJ. Landsborough Valley: 1 10/2 StR. Haast Pass lookout: 1 3/2 RH.

Orange-fronted Parakeet (A) Hawdon Valley: 4 27/1 KW, 3 29/1 KW.

Rock Wren (A) Otira Valley: 1 17/12 RL, 1 8/2 JP, 2 26/2 GP. Avalanche Peak, Arthur's Pass NP: 1m1f 11/2 PC. Edwards Hawdon Route near Tarn Col: 1 29/12 FG, MM. Tara Tama: 7 18/1 SS. NW of Whympers Hut: 1 14/1 AC. Landsborough Valley: 7 10/2 StR.

Tui (S) Travis Wetland: 1 seen well 6/1 UC.

Tomtit (S) Sugarloaf Reserve 1m1f 8/2 MFr.

Yellowhead (A) Hawdon Hut: 2 30/12 FG, MM. Hawdon Valley: 9 30/12 FG, MM, 3 4/1 MD, LL, 5 27/1 KW, 6 29/1 KW. Haast Pass: 1 15/12 RH.

Fernbird (S) Lake Wainono: 2 17/2 NF.

Cirl Bunting (A) Kaikoura Sewage Ponds: 2 14/12 IK, 1 25/1 LT, TH. Scarborough Street, Kaikoura: 1 1/2 DT, MDe, SF, 2 24/2 BSt, AK, JL, PPe, AE. Kaikoura Lookout: 2 18/2 BHe, ES, MSc. Hurunui R near The Peaks: 1 5/1 MW, 1m 12/1 MW, KM. Leamington Road, Lowry Peaks: 1 22/1 NA. Halswell Quarry Park: 1 16/1 AB. Kaituna Lagoon: 1 18/2 KRo.

Observers: BA Bev Alexander, NA Nick Allen, SA Samuel Amaris, FA Frank Antram, GA Georgie Archibald, SAt Steve Attwood, MA Mark Ayre, NB Nev Ball, KB Kate Beer, MB Mike Bell, AB Alfie Benbow, TBI Tom Blackburn, PB Phillippe Blain, HB Howard Blanks, SB Stefany Boleyn, TBo Tom Bomadil, MBr Maggie Brahm, DB Dave Brewerton, JB Jess Brewerton, TB Tom Broughton, RB Rebecca Brunner, DBu Dan Burgin, JBu Justin Busbridge, BC Brad Carey, UC Ulises Cabrera Miranda, AC Arna Carlson, EC Evan Centanni, ACh Annette Ching, ACo Adam Colley, JC Jack Colley, CC Christian Cosgrove, MC Marilyn Court, JCr Jonathan Creel, ACr Andrew Crossland, PCr Patrick Crowe, IC Ian Cruickshank, PC Philip Crutchley, TC Tony Cummins, BCu Brett Curry, DDa Dylan Davies, ID Igor Debski, SD Sarah Dietrich, MDe Murray Delahoy, MD Maria del Castillo, DD Donavin de Jager, ME Merryl Edelstein, AE Ann Esmas, JF Johanna Farkas, NF Noah Fenwick, JFi Johannes Fischer, MF Matt Fischer, NFO Natalie Forsdick, EF Erik Forsyth, BF Brenda Frank, MFr Matt Francke, R&JF Richard & Janet French, SF Steven Fuller, EG Ezra Garfield, PG Paul Garner-Richards, RG Raymond Garrett, DGe Don Geddes, JG Janis George, HG Hannah Germantse, AG Aaron Gomperts, DG Don Goodale, AGr Andre Gratto, MG Mark Griffin, EGU Eleanor Gunby, FG Fraser Gurney, PH Phil Hammond, BH Birgita Hansen, WH Wendy Hare, JHa JJ Harrison, VH Vivienne Hastie, BHe Bill Hebner, AH Annemieke Hendriks, SH Scott Heppel, THi Tom Hitchon, DH Dion Hobcroft, JeH Jeff Hopkins, DHo Dave Howes, JHo Janet Hoyne, RH Rachel Hufton, JH John Hughes, TH Ting Wei Hung, RHU Richard Hurt, CJ Colin Jensen, B&MJ Brian & Meg Johnson, JJ Jessie Johnson, KK Kathleen Keef, MK Moya Keighley, CK Charles Kerby, GK Glenn Kincaid, IK Ian Kirkham, AK Anne Kohlhaas, SK Stefan Kopek, CKo Carl Kostol, SL Sharon Lake, LL Leon Lalk, AL Andrew Langford, PL P Langley, RL Richard Littauer, JL James Livaudais, DL Don Lovett, BL Benjamin Luneau, PM Peter McClelland, MM Marissa McDonald, BM Bruce McKinlay, AM Ashley May, DM Debbie Metler, MMi Michelle Miles, NMi Nigel Milius, F&SM Floramay & Steve Miller, KM Keegan Miskimmin, NM Niall Muga, HN Harriet Neill, DN David Newell, JN Janet Newell, RN Richard Nichol, MO Mats Olsthoorn, WP Wayne Paes, DPa Dawn Palmer, HP Hannah Palmer, LP Laura Parkhouse, GP Gareth Pellas, TPe Timothy Pendill, TP Todd Pepper, PPe Pierre Perret-Gentil, JP James Petersen, BP Brad Phillips, MPo Micah Pomare, MP Mathieu Poot, PP Pierre Poulin, DP David Price, AQ Abi Quinnell, CR Carol Ray, SRa Samantha Ray, PR Peter Reese, SRo Sharon Roberts, SR Shaun Robson, StR Stephen Robson, KR Kenny Rose, MR Matt Rose, VR Victoria Rothman, KRo Kieran Rowe, JR Jesse Rubenstein, TR Tim Rumble, JSa Jill Sadler, JoS Joy Sagar, PS Paul Sagar, IS Ian Saville, MS Matthew Schaut, ES Erin Schwenne, MSc Max Schwenne, BS Bradley Shields, HS Harry Smit, DS Des Smith, PSm Phil Smith, LS Lonnie Somer, JS Jane Stavert, BSt Brent Stephenson, SS Sebastian Stiebl, GT Graeme Taylor, JTh Jake Tholen, DT David Thomas, OT Oscar Thomas, ATo Abram Tompkins, R&ST Robin & Sandy Toy, AT Amanda Triplett, JT Julia Tsang, LT Lisa Tseng, CT Christopher Tuffley, BT Becky Turley, AU Antonia Ulle, GV Gerrit Vyn, J&CW J & C Wall, SW Sandra Wallace, TW Tim Ward, MW Marcia Welch, KW Kely Withington, PY Peter Yendle, MY Mel Young, DZ Diana Zorrilla.

Health and Safety

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

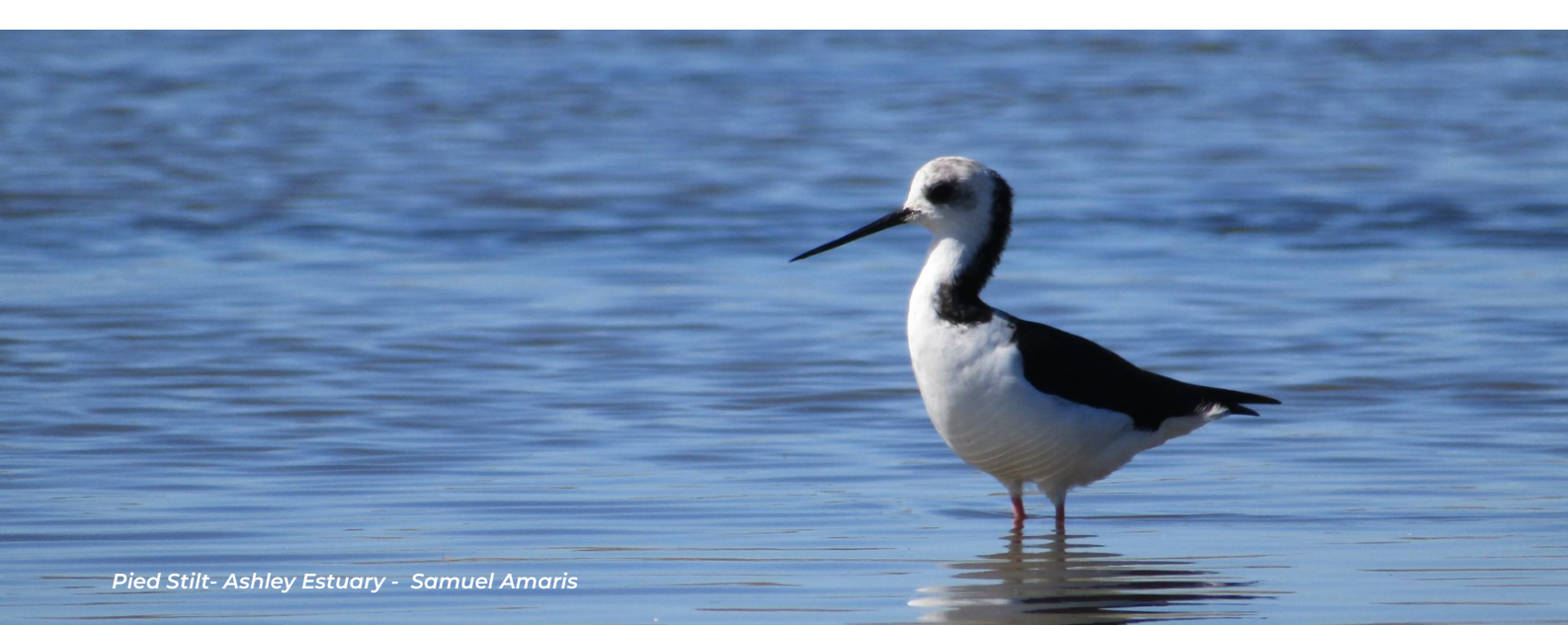
1. Wear clothing appropriate for the activity such as plenty of warm layers, hat and gloves in winter; a sunhat and sunglasses in summer. Bringing a raincoat is always a sensible option. Footwear needs to be suitable as well - think sturdy soles and good ankle support for many walks, especially on hills, 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 pre-existing 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. Health and safety incidents or concerns must be reported to the trip leader/RR immediately.

Scopes for Loan:

If you are in Canterbury and wish to borrow a scope contact Sandra (sandraw67@gmail.com). If you are on the West Coast and wish to borrow a scope, contact Liz Meek (ronmeek555@gmail.com).

Submissions:

The editor invites members to submit articles and/or photos for the next issue of *The Wrybill*. Please email any contributions through to samuel.amaris.home@gmail.com. Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this edition of *The Wrybill*.



Pied Stilt- Ashley Estuary - Samuel Amaris

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