



Birds NZ Waikato Branch September Newsletter



September 20th Meeting Using e-bird to help you find birds and how to use it to its maximum potential

September Meeting

eBird is a powerful tool used by birders. Join Dan Burgan of Wildlife Management International for an evening on how eBird can help you plan trips, find birds, assist with citizen science and look at patterns on the bird data that has been collected. Bring along a smart phone or laptop so you can put into practice what Dan shows us. Dan will be joining us via zoom for the meeting and you can too.

The meeting is on Wednesday 20th September 7.30 pm at 5 Northway Street, Te Rapa at the DOC building. If you wish to join via Zoom use the information below.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88626243860?pwd=dVJYSGRaVjllWHVPeUdjMWlOZE0zdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 2624 3860

Passcode: 475372

Bruce Postill stepping down as Regional Representative (chair)

After many years serving as the head of the Waikato Branch Bruce Postill will be leaving Hamilton for Christchurch. Nominations for his replacement are now open until Sunday 17th of September. This is your chance to help lead the Branch in a new direction. Don't be shy! If you wish to be nominated please contact birdsnzwaikato@gmail.com

August Meeting Recap

Members were treated to an interesting evening on banding which in NZ is mainly done to measure bird longevity and internal migration. Mist netting and canon netting are the 2 methods used and Andrew explained the need to extract birds from mist nets in the same direction they entered. Banders need to remain calm at all times to prevent bird injury as parrots are particularly susceptible to brain haemorrhages when netted. Captured birds are weighed, aged and banded before being released. You can apply to band birds as a level 1 bander but must be under supervision by a level 3 bander of which there are very few, For more on banding information to to

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/bird-banding/>

Photo:
Banding
pliers.
Next page
photo:Kaye
& Abi with
banding
equipment





Trips and upcoming meetings

The trip calendar is now out (see page 3) so mark the dates in your diary.

Our next trip is Sunday October 8th, Pirongia Kokako walk, a joint trip with Forest and Bird. Join our local experts Dave Bryden and Amanda who will take us up to kokako territory. Walk over farmland and (hopefully) amazing sunrise views before walking some of the Wharaurua route where several pairs of Kokako have set up their territory. The walk requires good levels of fitness involving gentle uphill before a steeper section once we enter bush. About a 5.5 km return trip. There is limited car parking at the site so carpooling from Hamilton is encouraged. RSVP to Katherine 021 267 2773.

Share your bird news

We'd love to have more member contributions to the monthly newsletter. Please send in any observations, photos, birdy anecdotes, trip reports, book reviews, or anything birds related to share with our members. Send them to birdsnzwaikato@gmail.com



Hamilton Lake census

Barry welcomes people to join him on the monthly census counts. Contact birdsnzwaikato@gmail.com for more details.

Regional Newsletters

- South Auckland
birdsnz.org.nz/news/south-auckland-newsletter/
- Otago
birdsnz.org.nz/news/otago-newsletter/
- Canterbury
birdsnz.org.nz/news/canterbury-newsletter-wrybill/

Other non Birds NZ events of interest coming up

- Tiritiri Matangi Dawn Chorus trip. Here is your opportunity to experience the dawn chorus of this amazing island. Saturday 30 September departs 4am downtown Auckland to get you to the island in time to hear the dawn chorus.
- [Dawn Chorus | Tiritiri Matangi Island | Hauraki Gulf | Explore Group NZ](#)
- Saturday 9 September Festival in the Tron. Free. Aotearoa's Predator Free 2050 goal is to eradicate our three most damaging predators (rats, stoats and possums) and we all have a role to play. Come along for free talks, conservation displays and kids activities - all focused on predator free communities to protect our native species. For more info, or to be involved email hello@goeco.org.nz
- [Festival in the Tron 2023 - Hamilton - Eventfinda](#)
- Sunday 22 October Pukorokoro/Miranda Spring Migration Day with Claire Fearnely former NZ ambassador to China and Korea.



What's coming up - Meetings

Pop these dates in your diary so you won't miss these informative meetings.

- October 18th Ariel Hesswell Exploring threats to seabirds from their sensory perspective via Zoom
- November 15th Carolyn (Kim) King What did it cost to save Pureora forest from logging in 1978 and was it worth it?
- December - no evening meeting but on December 3rd join us for afternoon tea at the Hamilton Gardens
- January - no meeting
- February 21st the making of natural history films - a documentary
- March 20th Graham Saunders - Birdwatching on the Northumberland Coast

Trips & events coming up

Members in a recent survey said they wanted more trips and events planned, so we've listened and organised the following trips for you. Please support them. For planning purposes please RSVP if you intend to come.

- October 8th, Sunday Pirongia Kokako walk, RSVP to Katherine 021 267 2773
- November 18 Harbour census RSVP birdsnzwaikato@gmail.com
- December 3 Christmas social event - afternoon tea in the Hamilton Gardens 3pm RSVP to Jeanette 0212032982
- January - no event
- February 24th Field trip to Maungatautari - an opportunity to see how our native birds thrive in a predator-free bush environment.