

Insufficient sightings of finches were made, except during November when *Poa annua* was seeding, and their origin remains conjectural.

Four new bird species (Black Shag, Rock Pigeon, Shining Cuckoo and Long-tailed Cuckoo), and one new breeding species (Chaffinch) were recorded for the Snares Islands during the 1976-77 expedition. There are now 23 breeding species out of a total of 57 bird species recorded from the Snares Islands.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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#### A G M 1977: A LATER REPORT

##### FIELD INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

No requests for assistance or guidance have been received throughout the year.

Current national surveys:—

##### *Completed* —

- Nankeen Kestrel — *Nctornis* Dec.  
 Caspian Tern — *Notornis* Dec.  
 Australian Herons — Records being plotted and map compiled.  
 To be written up early 1978.

##### *In progress* —

- Reef Heron — completed and being written up but additional material still being received.  
 Shag Breeding Survey — information still being gathered. So far some information has been received from Northland, Auckland, Waikato, Hawkes Bay and Wairarapa in North Island; from Marlborough, Westland, Canterbury and Otago in the South Island. None of these returns is exhaustive and there is still much to be done. This survey has a further 2 years to run.

B. D. BELL, Convener