



BIRDS NZ CONFERENCE & BIRDS NZ AGM

WĀNAKA, OTAGO, 30 MAY - 1 JUNE 2026

(Lake Wānaka Centre, 89 Ardmore Street)



REGISTRATION FORM

A separate registration is required **for each person attending** and must be accompanied by the payment of specified costs. Registration for the Conference closes Friday 15 May 2026. Online registration is available on birdsNZ.org.nz/nz-bird-conference-2026/

Title / Name _____

E-mail _____ Region _____

Address _____

Member ☐ Non-member ☐ Phone (____) _____

A Registration and Meals

A1 Conference Registration - Covers attendance at one or both days, lunch, morning and afternoon tea

Member Registration

- | | | |
|---|-------|----------|
| <input type="radio"/> Early - both days (until 31 March) | \$290 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Late - both days (from 1 April to 22 May) | \$350 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 Day - Saturday 30 May only | \$185 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 Day - Sunday 31 May only | \$185 | \$ _____ |

Student/Young Birder registration

- | | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| <input type="radio"/> Both days | \$185 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 Day - Saturday 30 May only | \$100 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 Day - Sunday 31 May only | \$100 | \$ _____ |

Non Member Registration

- | | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| <input type="radio"/> Both days | \$475 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 Day - Saturday 30 May only | \$255 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 Day - Sunday 31 May only | \$255 | \$ _____ |

A2 Meals - closing May 15 2026

- | | | |
|---|------|----------|
| <input type="radio"/> Saturday informal dinner | \$75 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Saturday informal dinner - guest (max. 1) | \$75 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Sunday conference dinner | \$80 | \$ _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Sunday conference dinner - guest (max. 1) | \$80 | \$ _____ |

Sub-Total A: Registration and Meals:

\$ _____

Please specify any special requirements:

Access: _____

Our menu will have vegan/vegetarian options and these will be labelled.

☐ I prefer a vegetarian or vegan menuDietary Intolerances: Please select items to be *excluded*☐ lactose; ☐ gluten; ☐ meat; ☐ poultry; ☐ fish; ☐ eggs; ☐ animal-derived;

Other dietary notes: _____

Name of dinner guest: _____

Dietary preferences of dinner guest: _____

B Field Trips - Monday 1st June

Choose ONE option only. For details see the following page. Please note that space is limited - if an option is not available then that trip has been fully subscribed. In the event of cancellations, we will re-open booking; you can select to be waitlisted in the meantime. *All trip costs include transport, however participants will be responsible for their own lunch.*

- | | | |
|--|-------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Wānaka Wetland Tour | \$45 | <input type="radio"/> Waitlist me |
| <input type="radio"/> Blue Pools Forest Walk | \$50 | <input type="radio"/> Waitlist me |
| <input type="radio"/> Rob Roy Glacier Hike | \$60 | <input type="radio"/> Waitlist me |
| <input type="radio"/> Mou Waho Island Visit | \$95 | <input type="radio"/> Waitlist me |
| <input type="radio"/> Tiel Valley Discovery Flight | \$450 | <input type="radio"/> Waitlist me |
| <input type="radio"/> Mist Netting Workshop | \$35 | <input type="radio"/> Waitlist me |

Sub-Total B: Field Trip:

\$ _____

C Fledgling Fund for Students - Donation

The Society administers a 'Fledgling Fund for Students' to be used specifically to support the participation of student members for presenting papers or posters at Birds NZ Conferences. The fund will be accumulative and dispersed in subsequent years. Members and non-members are invited to make a contribution of \$20, or more, to this fund when registering. Payment is optional and appreciated. The allocation of funds will be determined by Council each year.

Sub-Total C - Fledgling Find:

\$ _____

TOTAL for A+B+C:**Please pay this amount:** \$ _____

Payment Options

- 1) The preferred option is to **register online** at <https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/nz-bird-conference-2026/> and pay by **direct deposit** to:
Ornithological Society of New Zealand - Otago Branch
03-0903-0392455-000 - be sure to include your surname in the particulars/reference code.
- 2) You can also **register online** at <https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/nz-bird-conference-2026/> and pay via Credit Card; please note that this incurs a management fee payable to the service provider.
- 3) If unable to register online, Contact Gary Heaven 021 896698, he will assist you with your registration and payment.

Please note that your registration will not be confirmed until payment is received. Confirmation of your registration with a printable GST receipt will be made by e-mail. Our GST number is: 49-411-928. All prices are GST inclusive.

Refunds: Following registration, if you are unable to attend, a full refund will be made for cancellations advised up to **1 May 2026**, after which no refunds will be made. In the event of cancellation and consequent re-selection of field trips, refund of price difference will be made after the conference.

Scientific Presentations and Posters

Expressions of interest from members or non-members who wish to present a paper or a poster are welcomed. Abstracts of talks and posters should be submitted to conference@birdsnz.org.nz by **28 February 2026**. Oral presentations will take place across the first two days of the conference, and posters will be on display for the duration. These may cover any aspects of ornithology. Full details are available at: <https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/nz-bird-conference-2026/conference-details/call-for-abstracts/>

- ☐ I wish to make an **oral presentation** at the NZ Bird Conference 2026.
- ☐ I wish to **present a poster** at the NZ Bird Conference 2026.

Field Trips

On Monday 1 June, a variety of exciting field trips will be available. These trips are weather-dependent and may be cancelled at short notice. Any refunds will be subject to any deposits made.

1. Wānaka Wetland Tour

We will depart the Wānaka I-site at 9:15am, arriving at Butterfields wetland at 9:30am for a short walk around the springs and along the Clutha River/Mata-Au to count waterfowl and search for kārearea/falcons. Next we will visit the Diamond Lake Conservation Area for a short walk and lunch, listening for ngirungiru/tomtits while admiring glacier-carved valleys with stands of native forest nestling into bluff systems. We will return to Wānaka by 2:30pm, potentially via Emerald Bluff wetlands en route.

Cost: \$45 per person (limited to 36 participants)

2. Blue Pools Forest Walk

We will depart the Wānaka I-site at 8:15am for the Blue Pools walk, an easy 3km return track through silver beech/tahina to a swing-bridge overlooking the pristine pools at the mouth of Blue River. Kākāriki/yellow-crowned parakeets and mohua/yellowhead can be found in the forest, as well as tītipounamu/rifleman. Lunch will be at Cameron Flat campsite before an afternoon walk to either Cameron lookout or Haast Pass lookout. We will arrive back at Wānaka by 4:00pm.

Cost: \$50 per person (limited to 36 participants)

3. Rob Roy Glacier Hike

We will depart the Wānaka I-site at 7:45am for Raspberry Flat, the starting point for the 10km return hike. This will provide the chance to see kea, kākā, kakarua/robins and if lucky mohua/yellowhead in addition to some spectacular scenery. Lunch will be at the lower lookout, which will likely be our final stop due to avalanche conditions. This trip is recommended for members with a high level of fitness. We will arrive back at Wānaka by 16:30.

Cost: \$60 per person (limited to 26 participants)

4. Mou Waho Island Visit

We will meet at the Wānaka Marina at 9:45am, and take a water taxi to Mou Waho keeping an eye out for pūteketēke/crested grebes en route. Enjoy two hours to explore the scenic island at your leisure in search of the translocated buff weka, ngirungiru/tomtits and kārearea/falcons. We will return to Wānaka Marina by 1:30pm.

Cost: \$95 per person (limited to 12 participants)

5. Tiel Valley Discovery Flight

Transport to Makarora to arrive at the Backcountry Helicopter base for 8:50am check-in. Short heli ride into the Tiel Valley followed by a 2.5h return interpretive walk (easy/intermediate) within this pristine valley home to breeding whio and many other birds. Lunch follows at the local Cafe (optional). *Proceeds go back into ABT Threatened Species protection and restoration in Makarora & Wilkin Valley*

Cost: \$450 per person (BirdsNZ price, limited to 5 participants)

Workshops

Possible workshops we are considering running are listed below. Please tick any of these workshops that you would be interested in attending. This is to help in planning and does not commit you to attending at this stage (or us to offering this workshop).

☐ **Mist Netting Workshop, Monday 1st June from 7am**

☐ Waitlist me

An ideal opportunity for level 1 banders to gain some experience in setting mist nets, extracting and banding birds. Level 3 banders welcome to help with training. Restricted to 10 people, it will be weather dependent.

☐ **Faunatech Workshop, Monday 1st June from 9am**

☐ Waitlist me

Bioacoustics is increasingly becoming a valuable tool for biologists, environmental scientists and researchers to survey and monitor wildlife populations. Faunatech, a proud part of Wildlife Acoustics, will be hosting a workshop showcasing how their Song Meter Acoustic Recorders can be integrated into projects as a non-invasive, cost effective, and unbiased tool. For those present on Friday, a short session demonstrating deployment in the field is planned. On Monday, Faunatech will run a data analysis workshop using Kaleidoscope software to discover what birds are present in the local area. To maximise workshop time, Faunatech will also arrange free online training in Kaleidoscope prior to the conference. Learn more at faunatech.com.au

☐ **eBird Methods update Dan Burgin**

eBird tutorial/ discussion, Q&A session

Accommodation

The conference will be held at the Lake Wānaka Centre, 89 Ardmore Street, Wānaka.

Venue location: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/HHDjFj6GB4c4WVXw7>

About the venue: <https://www.qldc.govt.nz/venues/lake-wanaka-centre/>

Wānaka isite have secured a selection of accommodation options for our members that are currently on hold for us, this includes the whole accommodation capacity at the Wānaka Hotel next door to the conference venue. Their reservations cover the period of 28 May 2026 to 2 June 2026 (5 nights).

Other accommodation options secured include:

- Wānaka Luxury Apartments
- Oakridge Resort Wānaka
- Alpine Resort Wānaka - Managed by THC Hotels & Resorts

To secure your accommodation booking, please email hello@wanaka.co.nz or call them at (+64) 03 443 1233 (available 9 AM – 5 PM daily) and let them know you are booking for the **BirdsNZ 2026 Conference**.

A deposit of one night's accommodation is required immediately after the Wānaka isite confirms your booking.

Wānaka isite Accommodation Cancellation Policy:

- 90% refund of deposit available until: 28 February 2026
- Full payment due: 1 March 2026
- 90% refund of full payment available until: 24 April 2026
- No refunds after: 25 April 2026

Travel

Please book flights to arrive in Wānaka early. The Wānaka isite have both shared and private shuttle options available, and all need to be pre-booked. As the local ticketing office for all companies, they can assist with bookings.

- Pre-booked shared shuttle from Queenstown Airport
 - Departs daily: 9:15am, 11:15am, 2:45pm & 5:00pm
 - Price: \$40pp

Booking details again: please email hello@wanaka.co.nz or call at (+64) 03 443 1233 (available 9 AM – 5 PM daily).

Application for Fledgling Fund Grant

Student members of Birds New Zealand are invited to apply for a grant from the Fledgling Fund to cover their conference registration fee and attendance of the conference dinner.

Applicants must have been a student member of Birds New Zealand for two or more years and enrolled full-time at a NZ tertiary institution or secondary school. A grant from the Fledgling fund shall only be made once to each student member.

Download the criteria and application form [here](#).

Applications should be submitted to eo@birdsNZ.org.nz by **28 February**.

Photo competition

Conference attendees are invited to enter their best photos into the 2026 Birds NZ photo competition.

Full details are available at <https://www.birdsnz.org.nz/nz-bird-conference-2026/conference-details/photo-competition/>

Contacts

If you have any queries, you can contact the conference organiser via conference@birdsnz.org.nz

Notes

Health & Safety

The Society is committed to hosting a safe conference where all registrants can enjoy each other's company and actively support the [Health and Safety Policy](#) and health regulations in force at the time of conference.

Disclaimer

In the event of unforeseen circumstances (industrial or otherwise) that disrupt the conference, the organisers accept no responsibility. The information on the conference website and in the printed material is correct at the time of publication. However, the conference organisers reserve the right to change information if required and to adjust the conference programme accordingly.

Privacy Act

The information on this form will be used solely for the purposes of organising and planning the conference. If you do not wish to have your name published as part of this conference or made available to other delegates, please advise us of this here.

☐ I wish to have my name removed from all conference publications.

Updated: October 2025