

The Wrybill

Newsletter of the Canterbury Region,
Ornithological Society of New Zealand

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February 2018

What's on at OSNZ Canterbury:
February - April 2018

Field Trips

10 February – This is the annual bird survey at Lake Ellesmere. The teams have already been formed so you'll need to contact Denise (manager@wet.org.nz) to take part.

17 February – Our friends from the Otago branch will be coming up to explore Lake Ellesmere with us. Hopefully we'll know where all the good birds are to be found – they are relying on our expertise!

25 February – We'll be heading to Southshore to show kids from the Kiwi Conservation Club the Bar-tailed Godwits. This will start in the early afternoon and we need volunteers with scopes so the kids can enjoy close up views of the birds.

2 March – Farewell to the Godwits. This is the 20th annual event and once again members with scopes are required to share our knowledge with members of the public.

7 April – We'll travel to Hinewai Reserve or Banks Peninsula in search of native bush birds.

To find out all the details and let us know that you'll be attending, contact Sandra on 358 5706 or sandraw67@gmail.com. Make sure you are prepared for the conditions - drinks, sunblock, lunch or snacks, hats etc.

Evening Meetings

Evening Meetings 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 is available.

26 February- Our first meeting of the year is traditionally Member's Night, where we give you a chance to share any recent birding experiences. If you'd like to give a short presentation (10 minutes or so) please let Sandra know.

26 March – Our meeting will begin with a short AGM. This is where we elect our Regional Representative and Treasurer. If you would like to nominate anyone for these positions, please contact Sandra. The AGM will be followed by a short talk. Details to follow.

30 April – Andrew Crossland and some fellow birders will give a talk on their recent trip to Asia. There will be ID tips and challenges to keep us on our toes.

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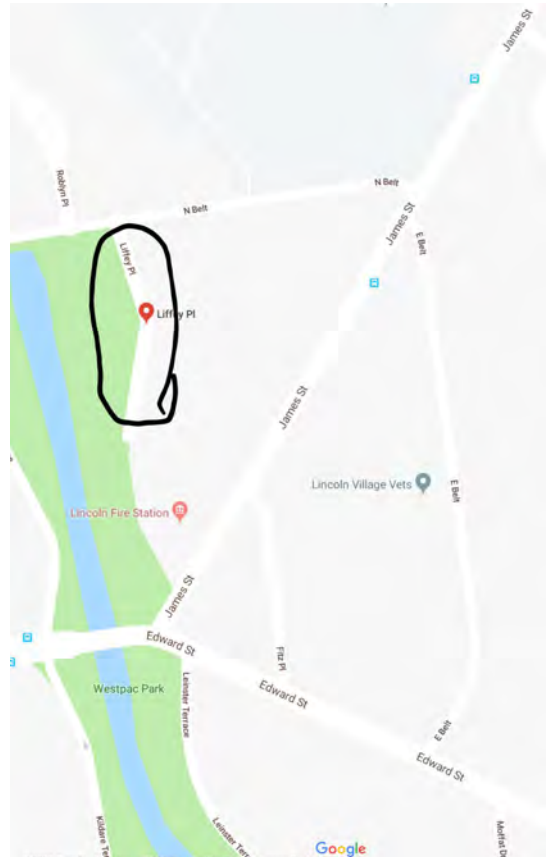
Rambles

All rambles begin at 9:30 am. Please remember to let Bev (birdiebev@xtra.co.nz or 03 313 7009) know if you are going to attend. Make sure you come prepared - bring hats, sunblock, a drink, and a raincoat depending on the conditions.

20 February – Roto Kohatu. Meet at the north end of Sawyers Arms Road and park by the Action Kart Raceway.



13 March – Liffey Stream at Lincoln. Meet at Liffey Place off North Belt, Lincoln. Car pooling could be arranged, so let Bev know if you are keen.



10 April – Sandy Point. Meet at the Windsurf Carpark off Humphrey's Drive.



Remembering Sheila Petch



This picture was taken by Bev Alexander and published in August's Wrybill. It shows Sheila and a birding friend, Andy, out birding together.

Sheila was amazing. She wouldn't have thought that though. She was a small lady from Sheffield who had no particular career and worked as a cleaner at the University of Canterbury. But her drive and determination puts people like me to shame. She never stopped; always gardening, crafting things, thinking about others – not herself, cycling everywhere, dancing, loving swing music, cooking and most of all finding out about and watching her beloved birds. In her 90 years she lived through a world war where she and her 5 sisters were evacuated to the country, after her Mum had died when they were young and Dad had to cope by himself. Sheila had 2 husbands [the first died soon after they were married] and Tom, her remaining partner, plus 4 children [one dying in infancy].

In 1966 Sheila, Dennis and 3 school-aged children came by ship as 10 pound Poms to settle in Christchurch. She joined Forest and Bird and through friends in that and people at Canterbury University, Sheila went on a course about birds run through Extension Studies by Peter Harper in the early 1980s. She was already on the committee of the Native Forest Action

Council, which eventually got logging stopped on the West Coast. After joining OSNZ, Sheila set about getting proficient in finding and counting birds and became an excellent observer, having a number of first records for NZ to her name. Little Stint, Long-toed Stint and Stilt Sandpiper are some of hers. She had a good eye for detail which she used for cake decorating, card-making, seed raising and bird identification above all else. She also contributed data to many schemes, projects, field trips and other activities during the 1980s.

In 1991, with tutoring from Peter Reese, the then RR, Sheila ran the passerine banding project in Landsdowne Valley in an apple orchard. Many birders began their interest as a result of this and parents today ask if this is something we still do, as they remember it so vividly from their childhood. Banding projects were also happening with Black-billed Gulls, oystercatchers and Pied Stilts, led by Sheila, who was keen to investigate the ongoing populations of these birds. The oystercatcher project at the Ashley Estuary was particularly interesting as interbreeding between SIPO and VOC seemed to be happening. Birds were caught and banded using noosemats at the nests and the chicks were also banded when old enough. Later it was shown that the chicks were fertile and breeding with either species in the next generation. The results of this study were published in *Notornis* 57 (1) 2010 pp27-32. It is not clear if this mixing is continuing because safe breeding areas are no longer available as the island became a spit and vehicle access is allowed.

In 1993 Sheila became Regional Representative for Canterbury when Richard Holdaway stepped down. She did this for 3 years and cycled around posting newsletters by hand, organising local conferences and the IOC meeting in 1990. She gave talks at WEA courses and at local meetings, she washed oiled ducks, had her phone number in the book under OSNZ and got calls from all over NZ. She often took visiting birders home to stay as unexpected visitors.

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Birders have paid tribute to Sheila's endless patience, sharing her knowledge and experience with any new birder and especially with children and young people. Andrew Crossland, Scott Butcher, Peter Langlands, and Bruce Kirkman are all people who worked with Sheila during their teens and still have birding interests. Sheila's unfailing support of other birders, whoever and wherever from, was quite extraordinary but she was like that – selfless, caring, enthusiastic and so very much missed.

By Jan Walker



This picture was taken at Sheila's last trip with us, November's ramble to the Ashley Estuary. Photo by Janet Burton.

The following article is adapted from the February 2013 edition of *The Wrybill*.

Sheila became interested in birds after she moved to New Zealand in 1966. Initially Sheila joined Forest and Bird because of an interest in plants. It was here that she met Kathleen Harrison, who was to become her companion birder for many years. After starting work as a part time cleaner at the University, Sheila met Phil Howell. He became a member of OSNZ and got her interested in birds, and she later joined the Society.

As she became more involved Sheila was keen to learn all she could and she attended courses at the Extension Studies Department at the University of Canterbury. Members of our Society (some of them students), put on excellent bird courses, sometimes with field trips. Sheila's husband, Dennis, accompanied her and they gradually learned to identify species. Often they visited the "bird museum" to check on the birds they had seen that day.

Trips to Lake Ellesmere introduced Sheila to the migratory waders and she was hooked. So much more of a challenge! They had no scopes in those days and were just using binos. Going weekly, Sheila gradually improved (with the help of books and then the purchase of a scope) until she was able to identify a wader which was the first sighting of a Little Stint in New Zealand. Sheila's husband, Dennis, developed an eye problem and was ordered not to use binoculars again, but he accompanied Kathleen and Sheila, taking them in their 10ft dinghy down the LII river to the mouth, where they could observe the birds on the south side of the river, or across the Lake to the bottom of the spit.

After Phil Howell passed away Kathleen and Sheila birded together every week. Sheila recalled many an outing when they got lost on the way to the birding spot in the confusing network of roads on the approach to Lake Ellesmere. And of several occasions when she got stuck in the greasy mud around the Lake with Peter Reese, Blue Booth and Don Hadden.

Sheila said "I have found that to get proficient at identifying waders you have to regularly visit them. The rewards are to ID by yourself a bird that has not been seen before." Her observations at Lake Ellesmere, a key area in New Zealand for waders, include identifying birds such as Little Stint (twice), Little Whimbrel, Long-toed Stint (another first sighting in NZ), Ruff, Marsh Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope and Pratincole on the same day, Greenshank, Black-tailed and Hudsonian Godwits and Little Terns. Sadly Sheila documented a decline of Red-necked Stints at the Lake. Her diary of 20th

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January 1985 indicated 56 birds were seen; on 26th January 2013 the count was 2, with the lake being the lowest she has ever seen it. But on a happier note she was excited at the increase of Crested Grebes on Lake Forsyth and their breeding on or near Lake Ellesmere.

Sheila spent three years as Regional Representative of the Society. She helped organize OSNZ Conferences in Christchurch twice and the International Congress in 1990. With her strong interest in waders, Sheila, along with Jan Walker, regularly checked on the Bar-tailed Godwits at the Avon Heathcote Estuary for any birds with colour bands, birds which Sheila had originally helped to band during David Melville and Rob Schuckard's banding trips to Christchurch. This banding of Godwits commenced in 2005. She was involved in banding Silvereyes at Horitani Valley and banding Black-billed Gulls on the Ashley River and Peacock Springs, helped with surveys of nesting colonies on local braided rivers and even had a trip to Stephen's Island to band Fairy Prions.

With Tony Crocker, Sheila conducted an important study on the inter-breeding of Variable and Pied Oystercatchers at Ashworth's Beach, with a view to finding out whether the offspring of these birds were capable of breeding. Interbreeding pairs were banded, as were their chicks, which enabled them to establish the offspring were breeding. The results of the study were published in *Notornis* 2010 57 (1) pp27-32.

Birders paid tribute to Sheila's endless patience. She was happy to share her knowledge and experience with new and young birders. Andrew Crossland and Peter Langlands, both men who now have a career involved with birds, are just two of the many who have benefited from time spent birding with Sheila. Another example of her willingness to help other people was on beach patrols when she was always prepared to explain to less experienced birders the way in which to identify birds found.

Sheila hadn't kept a life list of her New Zealand sightings but there are not many birds on the NZ Checklist of Birds that she has not seen. Her early diaries reveal the interesting people she met and exciting outings enjoyed, accounts of biking to the Estuary or taking her scooter to Lake Ellesmere.

Sheila was a remarkable person. For a lady in her 80's she had an amazing enthusiasm and energy and was able to don her gumboots and walk considerable distances, carrying scope and pack, in pursuit of the next sighting.

By Bev Alexander

Ashley Estuary Ramble



A Wrybill seen on November's ramble.

On November 14th a group of seven people met at the Ashley Estuary on a cool sunny day to see what feathered delights were around. We passed a young shag sitting contentedly on driftwood, a community of terns chattered and bustled noisily, quite a few godwits were away on the sand banks, and Wrybills were scratching around at the waters edge. We saw Variable

Oystercatchers, a pair or two were nesting over to the right hand side amongst the sand and driftwood, keeping their distance and crying noisily if me with my camera got too close. Bev pointed out where the female was sitting well disguised between driftwood and brush. On the way back to our cars we saw a young Banded Dotterel scurrying close to us looking for insects, then its parent turned up looking a bit concerned and hurried it away.

We drove over the Waikuku bridge to pull in beside Taranaki Stream where a pair of Crested Grebes were spotted, possibly with a youngster on mother's back. Three young ungainly shags were sharing a nest in the nearby trees and one was floundering about in the lower branches, I suspect it had fallen out.

Photos and text by Janet Burton



The pair of Great Crested Grebes.

November's Evening Meeting

For November's meeting, we were treated to a talk by Kerry Weston about her work with Rock Wren. Among other things, she spoke on their nesting behaviour, including the big difference that predator control makes to their nesting success, with 1.53 chicks fledging per nest compared to 0.23 chicks per nest without predator control.

David Medway Scholarship

If you are a Masters or PhD student studying full time on a topic related to ornithology, then the David Medway Scholarship could be for you. Applications close on 30 March so don't miss out. All details on the website - <https://www.osnz.org.nz/>.

Birds NZ Conference 2018

This will be held at Waitangi in the Bay of Islands over Queen's Birthday Weekend, 2-4 June. Early bird registration of \$125 is available until 31 March so don't miss out. All the details are on the website.

Summer Wader Counts

The results of this count are in a spreadsheet attached to the back of this newsletter. Turnout was very low – many thanks to those who did participate and to Andrew Crossland and his team of City Council rangers who agreed to take on a section normally covered by Birds NZ. The wader counts are one of OSNZ's largest running projects. If we want Canterbury to continue to be involved we must get more volunteers out on the day. With only one person covering each section safety and accuracy become an issue. Hopefully more people will be able to lend a hand in June's count.

Scope for Loan

Did you know that we now have a scope available for members to borrow on a short term basis? To find out more contact Sandra on 358 5706 or sandraw67@gmail.com.

Black-billed Gull Colony in Hawke's Bay

To read all about this colony of over 300 nests check out the website.

Northern NZ Seabird Trust

If you are interested in learning more about the work of the trust in 2017 and its plans for this year, check out their latest newsletter on the website.

Public Forest and Bird Talk

"Living by and off the sea: Challenges for Kaikoura's marine birdlife".

In the words of presenters Ailsa Howard and Lorna Deppe, 'this is a story of loss and hope and the dedication of those who care'.

Ailsa and Lorna will outline challenges faced by Hutton's Shearwater and Banded Dotterel, conservation efforts undertaken, and of course earthquake effects.

7:30pm, Tuesday 13 February 2018

WEA, 59 Gloucester Street (op. Art Gallery)

2017 Banding Roundup

After a slow start for our banding project, we switched sites to a different location within Halswell Quarry and have been catching considerably more birds. By the end of 2017 we had banded a total of 79 birds of 13 species and made 6 recaptures of 4 species. For those interested, a more detailed list is below.

House Sparrow: 38 banded, 1 recapture

Chaffinch: 8 banded, 1 recapture

Blackbird: 6 banded

Goldfinch: 5 banded

Silverye: 5 banded

Greenfinch: 4 banded

Fantail: 3 banded

Starling: 3 banded

Welcome Swallow: 2 banded with 1 bird recaptured 3 times.

Grey Warbler: 1 banded

Dunnock: 1 banded

Bellbird: 1 banded

Song Thrush: 2 banded

Membership Status

Your 2018 Birds NZ membership fees should now have been paid. If you have not paid these, this will be your last edition of *The Wrybill*. If you are unsure of your membership status, please contact Sandra and she will be happy to find out for you.

Book Launch

Yolaska the Godwit by Marlene Bennetts, illustrated by Trish Bowles, is a children's book. You are invited to the launch at the New Brighton Museum, 8 Hardy Street (off Seaview Street). The book will be on sale for \$15 and light refreshments will be available.



Checking the wing of a Greenfinch. Photo by Sandra Wallace.

Recent Sightings

**Canterbury and West Coast Bird Report
November 2017**

This report covers the period 1st November 2017 to 24th (30) January 2018 and is compiled from reports posted onto eBird, the Birding NZ internet discussion site, and New Zealand Birders Facebook page. Your regional recorder would welcome news of any interesting bird sighting, unusual behaviour or searchable sources of other sightings. Email christchurchnzbirders@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) Near Heaphy Hut: 1f heard 17/12 WC. Bullock Creek Road, Punakaiki: at least 3m & 2f calling 5/1 DC, 7 15/1 MBr. Arthur's Pass village: 1 heard 10/12 WC.

Canada Goose (S) Sandy Point, Avon-Heathcote Est: 1200 26/12 PC.

Cape Barren Goose (A) St Annes Lagoon: 2 3/11 J&MH, 1 5/11 NA, 2 25/11 WH, 1 3/12 NR. Lower Styx Road: 7 19/11 KR, 7 20/11 BR, 9 14/1 AI, 5 16/1 AI, 4 21/1 EK, 10 23/1 MBr. Riverbridge Reserve, nr Ashburton: 8 ads 4 chicks 5/11 DM & WJ.

Mute Swan (A) Taranaki Creek lagoon, Waikuku: 2 ads 1 chick: 9/12 BA. Pegasus Wetlands: 1 6/11, 16/11 BA, 4 16/12 BA, 1 20/12 AI, 4 28/12 EG, 2 ads 4 juvs 29/12 BA, 2ads 3 imms 6/1 SG, 1 12/1 BA. Lincoln Wetlands: 2 19/11 JW, 2 21/1 PR, 2 23/1 MBr, 1 27/1 EG. Harts Creek: 7 16/12 DC, 4 NL 26/12, 9 7/1 BA. Johnstons Bay, Lakeside: 5 29/11 BA. Fishermans Point Lagoon, Taumutu: 2 29/11 BA. Coopers Lagoon: 7 3/1 BA. Riverbridge Reserve nr Ashburton: 8 5/11 DM & WJ. Rhodes Lagoon, Clandeboye: 6 2/11 PS. Spider Lagoon: 1 4/12 PS.

Blue Duck (A) Oparara Basin nr Mirror Tarn: 2 7/1 DC. Kawhaka Creek: 2 16/1 MBr, 2 30/1 EG.

Northern Pintail (V) 2 seen in flight Washdyke, Timaru 12/11 JM.

Grey Teal (S) Washdyke Lagoon: 482 28/12 PS, 853 24/1 PS.

Muscovy Duck (A) The Groynes: 6 (4 ducklings) 18/11 EG, 2 2/1 EG, 2 27/1 BA. Horseshoe Lake Reserve: 1 28/1 AG. Riccarton House: 1 19/1 NA, SC. Christchurch Botanic Gardens: 2 12/11 DE, 2 6/1 EG. Westlake Reserve: 2 7/11 PR, 4 10/11 BA, 3 5/12 PR, 3 13/12 PR, 4 1/1 EG, 3 26/1 PR. Lincoln Wetlands: 2 27/1 EG.

Peafowl (A) Red Swamp Road, Kaikoura: 1 16/12 GCl, Factory Road, Sefton: 1m 24/11 BA, 5 3/1 EG.

Chukar (A) Mt John: 1 11/12 NR, 1 20/12 DW&DP. Lake McGregor: 2 23/11 BT.

Wild Turkey (A) Fisherman's Point, Taumutu: 1 8/1/18 AI.

Helmeted Guinea fowl (A) The Lake Road, nr Doyleston: 3 27/1 BA.

Australasian Crested Grebe (A) Lake Ianthe: 1 3/11 BR. Taranaki Stream Lagoon, Waikuku: 2 nest-building 7/11 BA, 2 14/11 BirdsNZ Canterbury, 1 ad 1 chick 24/11 BA 2 16/12 BA. Pegasus Wetlands: 1 20/12 AI. Kaiapoi Lakes: 2 29/11 BA, 1 10/12 BA, 2 3/1 EG, 2 nesting 5/1 BA, 2 renesting 10/1 BA, 2 29/1 AG. Wigram Retention Basin: 2 21/11 NA, TT. Lake Lyndon: 2 18/12 DI, 2 30/1 EG. Caton's Bay, Lake Forsyth: 12 6/12 JD&KB, 2 15/12 DC, 1 9/1 AI, 14 17/1 EG, PC. Kaituna Lagoon: 2 20/11 BT. Harts Creek: 1 16/12 DC. Lake Tekapo southern end: 2 4/11 J&MH, 1 19/11 BD, 2 22/11 GC, 2 27/12 NL, 4 27/12 JC, QH, 1 25/1 ARu. Lake Alexandrina: 2 20/12 DW&DP, 2 (nesting) 21/1 NA. Lake McGregor: 19 ads 8 chicks 21/1 NA. Lake Tekapo, McGregor inlet bay: 5 28/1 BD. Wairepo Arm, Lake Ruataniwha: 3 21/11 CC, 4 29/11 GL, 2 14/12 SS, 2 7/1 DI, 3 ads 2 chicks 21/1 NA. Kelland Ponds: 1 4/12 JD&KB. Lake Middleton: 2 7/12 RE. Lake Moeraki: 1 12/12 JO.

Yellow-eyed Penguin (A) Atia Point, Kaikoura Peninsula: 1 5/11 NA. Albatross Encounters pelagic: 1 3/1 AE.

Chatham Albatross (S) The Pyramid: 5000 on land and 2000 on sea nearby 24/1 WMIL.

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White-naped Petrel (V) Albatross Encounters

pelagic: 1 5/1 GM.

Broad-billed Prion (S) Rangiora: 1 19/12 picked up in a weak state Oxford Bird Rescue.

Fluttering Shearwater (S) Albatross Encounters

pelagic: flock of 200 in flight 2/12 NR.

Little Black Shag (A) Kaiapoi Lakes: 3 29/11 BA, 2 10/1 BA, 2 29/1 AG. Horseshoe Lake Reserve: 1 28/1 AG.

Pied Shag (S) Rhodes Lagoon, Clandeboye: 17, including 2 birds on nests (breeding range extension) 2/11 PS.

Australasian Bittern (A) Travis Wetland: 1 11/12 JS & KR. Harts Creek: 1 16/12 DC. Paringa River Valley from SH6: 1 in wet meadow 28/11 WHO.

White Heron (A) Ashley RM: 1 4/11, 11/11 BA, 14/11 BirdsNZ Canterbury, 3/12 NR, 11/12 BA, 16/12 BA, 2/1 BA, 9/1 BA. Taranaki Stream, Waikuku: 1 7/11 BA.

Reef Heron (A) Albatross Encounters pelagic: 2 15/1 DC. South Bay, Kaikoura: 1 25/1 AH. South Kakikoura Coast: 4 21/1 SA.

Cattle Egret (A) Tulls Road, Waikuku: 1 11/12 BA. Drain Road, Lakeside: 13 (2/3 of the birds in breeding plumage) 5/11 BA.

Royal Spoonbill (S) Halswell Flats B: 392 2/12 RHe & KM.

Pied Stilt (S) Kaituna Lagoon: 578 2/12 AC & MR. Embankment Road: 335 20/1 EG. Wolfs Road Bay: 345 19/12 PR, 316 7/1 EG. Johnston's Bay, Lakeside: 358 29/11 BA. Ki-Wainono: 781 28/11 PS.

Black Stilt (A) Ferry Road, Woodend Beach: 1 (unbanded) 3/11 BA. Lake Forsyth: 2 25/11 TM. Lake Tekapo southern end: 2 ad 2 chicks 4/11 J&MH, 4 9/12 NR, 3 11/12 NR, 1 27/12 JC. Lake Murray: 2 10/12 NR. Lake McGregor: 2 23/11 BT, 2 20/12 DW&DP. Lake Tekapo McGregor stream inlet bay: 3 21/1 NA, 2 28/1 BD. Pond intersection Tekapo Canal & SH8: 1 21/1 NA. Tasman Fan: 3 4/11 BF, 1 30/11 KR, 5 imms 4/12 JD&KB, 3 imms 13/12 SS, 5 14/12 SS, 6 27/12 QH, 4 27/12 NL, 4 1/1 DC, 3ads 7imms 4/1 CS, 7 7/1 DI, 25-30 17/1 MBr, 4 21/1 RS, 18 25/1 ARu. Kaki Lagoons, Twizel: 2 imm 28/12 SG, 2 31/12 DC. Swan Lagoon, Ohau: 1 14/11 RH. Ahuriri Bridge Conservation Area: 2 14/11 ND, 1

21/11 CC.

South Island Pied Oystercatcher (S) Ashley/Saltwater Creek Estuary: 205 24/11 BA. Avon-Heathcote Est: 754 28/11 AC.

Chatham Island Oystercatcher (S) Cape

Pattison/Waitangi West Beach (Chatham I): 21 'large numbers for this site' 2/1 MB & DB.

Pacific Golden Plover (A) Greenpark Sands: 98 22/1 AC. Jarvis Road: 3 31/12 SW & MBo, 2 7/1 EG.

Embankment Road: 4 12/11 KR, 66 16/1 KRo.

Crescent I, Kaitorete Spit: 36 2/12 KR & PC.

New Zealand Dotterel (V) Point Kean, Kaikoura: 1 probably North Island race 16/11 ID.

Banded Dotterel (S) Embankment Road: 415 20/1 EG.

Black-fronted Dotterel (A) Ashburton RM: 4 21/11 AC.

Wrybill (S) Greenpark Sands: 370+ 22/1 AC.

Embankment Road: 50 6/11 JW, 127 20/1 EG.

Washdyke Lagoon: 2 28/12 PS, 3 24/1 PS. Tasman Fan: 15 4/1 CS, 2 7/1 DI.

Grey-tailed Tattler (A) Ashley RM: 1 4/11 BA, 10/11 PC, KR, 17/11 JT & DP, 6/12 MD, 9/12 NA, 11/12 BA, 16/12 BA.

Wandering Tattler (V) Cape Pattison (Chatham I): 2 2/1 MB & DB.

Marsh Sandpiper (V) Wolfes Road Bay: 1 2/12 AC & MR.

Bar-tailed Godwit (S) Ashley/Saltwater Creek Estuary: 86 (a little bit low) 9/12 NA. Brooklands Lagoon: 116 4/12 AC. Avon-Heathcote Est: 1339 28/11 AC. Head of Lyttelton Harbour: 258 13/11 AC. Okarito Lagoon: 250 29/11 JD&KB.

Hudsonian Godwit (V) Wolfes Road Bay, Lake Ellesmere: 1 2/12 PC, AC & MR, 4/12 EG. Selwyn Huts-LII: 2 2/12 CO

Turnstone (A) Kaikoura New Wharf-Fyffe House: 2 28/1 JWa. Point Kean, Kaikoura: 6 11/1 BM. Ashley RM: 1 11/11 BA, 14/11 BirdsNZ Canterbury, 2 16/12 BA. Embankment Road: 1 6/11 JW. Crescent I, Kaitorete Spit: 7 2/12 KR & PC. Ashburton RM: 1 21/11 AC. Cape Pattison (CI): 71 2/1 MB & DB.

Lesser Knot (A) Ashley RM: 1 16/12 BA, 2 9/1 BA. Southshore Spit Reserve: 1 12/11 MB. Crescent I, Kaitorete Spit: 7 2/12 KR & PC. Okarito Lagoon: 3

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16/11 AB.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (A) Jarvis Road: 1 7/1 EG.

Embankment Road: 1 6/11 JW, 1 2/12 JW, 2 20/1 EG. Wolfes Road Bay: 1 2/12 JW, 2 31/12 SW & MBo, 1 20/1 MD. Crescent I, Kaitorete Spit: 2 2/12 KR & PC, 11 20/1 MD. Ki-Wainono: 2 28/11 PS.

Curlew Sandpiper (A) Embankment Road: 2 6/11 JW, 2 20/1 MD. Crescent I, Kaitorete Spit: 1 2/12 KR & PC, 2 20/1 MD.

Red-necked Stint (A) Jarvis Road: 6 7/1 EG. Embankment Road: 50 6/11 JW, 50 2/12 JW, 20+ 16/1 KRo, 30+ 20/1 MD. Wolfes Road Bay: 50 2/12 JW. Crescent I, Kaitorete Spit: 6 2/12 KR & PC, 4 20/1 MD.

Sanderling (V) Embankment Road: 1 6/11 KR, 1 2/12 JW. Wolfes Road Bay: 1 2/12 JW.

Pectoral Sandpiper (A) Embankment Road: 1 12/11 KR. Kaitorete Spit tip: 1 2/12 KR & PC.

Pomarine Skua (A) Off West End, Kaikoura: 1 18/12 CS.

Red-billed Gull (S) Kaikoura Peninsula: approx. 1100 in colony between Rhino's Horn & Point Kean 5/11 NA. E203088, a gull banded in 2007 was found dead at Woolgoolga Headland, Coffs Coast, Australia in September.

White-winged Black Tern (A) Waimakariri R nr McLean's I: 1 23/1 EG. Cass River Delta: 1 carrying food 2/12 BW, 1 10/12 NR, IS.

Gull-billed Tern (V) Greenpark Huts-Jarvis Road: 1 2/12 SWa.

White-fronted Tern (S) Okarito Lagoon mouth: 300 21/12 CS.

New Zealand Pigeon (S) West Melton: 4 together in a eucalypt tree 24/1 AR.

Chatham Island Pigeon (S) Tuku Camp Paddock: 100 3/1 DB.

Barbary Dove (A) Roydvale Ave: 1 3/1 EG. Russley Golf Course: 1 singing by 9th tee 2/1 NA.

New Zealand Falcon (A) Hanmer Springs: 1 6/12 PC. Loch Katrine: 1 17/11 KR. Castle Hill: 2 3/11 BR. Okarito-Forks Road: 1 22/11 SP. Hooker Glacier Track: 1 15/12 KH, 2 31/12 DC, 2 26/1 ARu. Sealy Tarns: 1 26/1 ARu. Mount Cook township: 1 26/1 ARu. Tasman Fan: 1 25/1 ARu. Lake Ruataniwha: 1 4/11 JH. Lake Ohau Lodge: 1 15/11 RH. Franz Josef

Top 10 HP: 1 18/12 KH. Clay Cliffs, Omarama: 1 20/12 DW&DP. Lake Moeraki area: 1 12/12 JO, 1 26/12 SG.

Kea (S) Tops between Lake Lyndon & MacFarlane Stream: 1 3/11 KR. Franz Josef Glacier Walk: 3 18/12 KH, 1 21/12 DI. Mueller Hut: 2 21/1 RS, 3 22/1 RS.

Kaka (A) Bullock Creek Road, Punakaiki: 1 15/1 MBr.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (A) Prices Valley: 3 17/1 EG.

Eastern Rosella (A) Victoria Park: 1 7/1 PC.

Rock Wren (A) Otira Valley: 1 30/12 MA. Mueller Hut: 1 22/1 RS.

Tui (S) St Annes Lagoon: 1 3/11 J&MH. Waikari: 1 31/12 JL. Ashley Gorge Holiday Park: 1 1/11 BR. Mount Cook Village: 1 29/11 RB. Lake Ohau Lodge: 1 15/11 RH. Lake Middleton Camp Ground: 1 7/12 RE.

South Island Robin (S) Kawhaka Creek: 1 (range expansion) 16/1 MBr, 1 30/1 EG.

Cirl Bunting (A) Kaikoura Peninsula Walkway: 4 19/12 CS. South Bay, Kaikoura: 1f 5/11 NA, 1 heard 17/11 CC, 1 2/12 NR, 2 15/12 DI. Inland Kaikoura Road nr Kowhai R: 2 18/12 CS. Moncks Spur Road: 1m 1/1 PC. Victoria Park: 1 21/11 PC. Halswell Quarry Park: 1 heard 21/11 PC, 1 singing 28/11 NA, 1 singing 7/1 NA, 2 23/1 MBr. Timberyard Point, Lakeside: 1 29/11 BA. Manuka Point Homestead (Upper Rakaia R): 1 26/11 PR.

AE Albatross Encounters, BA Bev Alexander, NA Nick Allen, MA Michael Ashbee, SA Steve Attwood, MB Mike Bell, RB Ray Bellringer, MBo Mike Bowie, DB Dave Boyle, MBr Max Breckenridge, AB Andy Bridges, SC Stan Chapman, CC Colin Clark, GCI Gary Clewley, WC Will Cornwell, DC David Crexcrex, JC Jesse Cripps, AC Andrew Crossland, PC Philip Crutchley, GC Gerard Cyr, BD Benjamin Davis, JD&KB Jill Duncan & Ken Bissett, ID Igor Debski, MD Matthias Dehling, ND Nick Dunckley, RE Rowena East, DE D England, BF Bert Frenz, SG Steve Gross, EG Eleanor Gunby, AG Alan Gutsell, KH Kevin Hannah, RHe Robbie Hewson, WHO Wayne Hochstetler, AH Ailsa Howard, WH Wendy Howes, QH Qin Huang, J&MH Joanie & Mark Hubinger, RH Rachel Hufton, AI Ann Inouye, DI David Irving, WJ Warren Jowett, EK Euan Kennedy, JL Joy Lines, NL Newton Liu, GL Graeme Loh, TM Tyler McBeth, KM Kristina MacDonald, BM Bruce

The Wrybill - February 2018

McKinlay, JM Jack McLennan, GM Gary Melville, DM Dan Murphy, CO Colin O'Donnell, JO John O'Donnell, DP Don Parrish, SP Sarah Preston, BR Brian Ratcliff, PR Peter Reese, BR Bob Rigter, NR Neil Robertson, KR Kenny Rose, MR Matt Rose, AR Alastair Rothwell, KRo Kieran Rowe, ARu Ashwin Rudder, PS Paul Sagar, CS Chris Sanderson, IS Ian Saville, SS Sam Scheibel, RS Richard Schofield, JS John Skilton, JT Jeremy Taylor, TT Tina Troup, BT Bill Twiss, JW Jan Walker, SWa Sandra Wallace, JWa Janet Washbon, DW&DP Duncan Watson & Dianne Parker, BW Ben Weatherley, SW Steve Wratten, WMIL Wildlife Management International Ltd.

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CANTERBURY WADER COUNT NOVEMBER 2017

Species	Waipara RM	Ashley/Swater Crk Est	Taranaki Creek paddocks	Waimakariri Bridges	Brooklands Lagoon	Travis Wetland	Avon-Heathcote Estuary	Lyttelton Harbour	Okains Bay	Le Bons Bay	Gough's Bay	Akaroa Harbour	Lake Forsyth	Tip of Kaitorete Spit	Kaitorete Spit	Birdlings Flat A	Birdlings Flat B	Kaituna Lagoon	Halswell Flats B	Halswell Flats A	Osbornes	Greenpark Huts 'east bay'	Greenpark Huts - Jarvis Road	Janvis-Embankment Roads	Embankment Rd
Counters/NC	NA	NA	NA	AC	AC	JS,KR	AC	AC	AC	AC	AC	n/c	AC	PC,KR	PC,KR	AC,MR	AC,MR	AC,MR	RH,KM	NM,CC	AC,MR	AC,MR	SW	EG	JW
Notes			no waders																						
Date counted	9-Dec	9-Dec	9-Dec	4-Dec	4-Dec	11-Dec	28-Nov	13-Nov	27-Nov	16-Nov	16-Nov		4-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec	2-Dec
Aus Crested Grebe																									
Mute Swan																									
Australasian Bittern						1																			
Royal Spoonbill		3			18		21	2						1	5	1	6	9	392	1			2		1
Pied Oystercatcher	1	175		2	96		754	47	6				3	1	5	3		5	5						
Variable Oystercatcher	1	15			10		33		8		2		9												
Hybrid Oystercatcher		10																							
Pied Stilt	11	18		2	33	38	54	4	4	4	1		372	52	167	1	172	578	110	46	25	81	77	36	107
Black Stilt																									
Hybrid Stilt		1																1							
Banded Dotterel	10	1		1										51	74	11	48	27	82	25		19	39	38	77
Black-fronted Dotterel																									
Wrybill																									18
Pacific Golden Plover															36										
Spur-winged Plover		1		7	17	33	60	19	14	15	15		185	39	38	14	22	16	17	54	2	4	13	3	43
Grey-tailed Tattler		1																							
Marsh Sandpiper																									
Turnstone															7										
Lesser Knot																									
Curlew Sandpiper															1										
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper															2										1
Pectoral Sandpiper														1											
Red-necked Stint															6										50
Sanderling																									1
Eastern Curlew																									
Hudsonian Godwit																									
Bar-tailed Godwit		86			116		1339	258							16		1	6					6		
Black-billed Gull	14	63																							
Gull-billed Tern																							1		
Black-fronted Tern	3	2		5	1																				
Caspian Tern		5			3		10	3	2					1					1				262		2
White-fronted Tern		12												14	12										
Site totals	40	393	0	17	294	72	2271	333	34	19	18	0	569	160	369	30	249	642	607	126	27	104	400	77	300
Wader site totals	23	308	0	12	272	71	2240	328	32	19	18	0	569	144	352	29	243	633	214	125	27	104	135	77	297
% of total count	0.27	3.63	0.00	0.14	3.20	0.84	26.39	3.86	0.38	0.22	0.21	0.00	6.70	1.70	4.15	0.34	2.86	7.46	2.52	1.47	0.32	1.23	1.59	0.91	3.50
# wader species at site	4	9	0	4	5	2	5	4	4	2	3	0	4	5	10	4	4	6	4	3	2	3	4	3	7

Counters

Nick Allen = NA Eleanor Gunby = EG Bev Alexander = BA Jan Walker = JW Andrew Crossland = AC Matt Rose = MR Joy Sagar = Jsa Paul Sagar = PS Robbie Hewson = RH Hugh Cable = HC Uschi Cable = UC Phil Crutchley = PC Kenny Rose = KR Sandra Wallace = SW Anthea Reynolds = AR Colin O'Donnell = CO John Skilton = JS Kristina MacDonald = KM Nigel Morrill = NM Cate Clerkin = CC

- Notes:
- (1) Ashley Estuary hybrid stilt G node
 - (2) Kaituna Lagoon hybrid stilt E node
 - (3) Yarrs Bay Marsh Sandpiper recorded later same day by AC & MR
 - (4) Wainono hybrid silts all node E

Species	Yarrs Flat (Wolfe Road)	LII RM to Selwyn Huts	Rennie's Bay	Irwell RM	Drain Road	Harts Creek	Johnstons Road	Lower Lake Road nr Taumutu	Fisherman's Point	Subtotal Lake Ellesmere	Coopers Lagoon	Ashburton RM	Spider Lagoon	Opihi RM/Milford Lagoon	Washdyke Lagoon	Otipua Wetland	Ki-Wainono	TOTAL
Counters/NC	AR,HC,UC	CO	n/c	BA	BA	EG	BA	BA	BA		BA	AC	PS	PS	PS,JSa	PS	PS	
Notes																		
Date counted	2-Dec	2-Dec	29-Nov	29-Nov	26-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov	29-Nov		29-Nov	21-Nov	4-Dec	4-Dec	27-Nov	20-Nov	28-Nov	
Aus Crested Grebe										0								0
Mute Swan						3	5		2	10			1					11
Australasian Bittern										0								1
Royal Spoonbill		53		4	1	3			1	480				1	1	5	7	538
Pied Oystercatcher	1	1					4			25		5	20	4	5		6	1149
Variable Oystercatcher										0					25	1		104
Hybrid Oystercatcher										0								10
Pied Stilt	119	179		23	2	60	358	24	28	2245	5	22	3	1	37	18	781	3653
Black Stilt										0								0
Hybrid Stilt										1							3	5
Banded Dotterel	8	43								542		17		4	10		21	606
Black-fronted Dotterel										0		4						4
Wrybill										18		3					4	25
Pacific Golden Plover										36								36
Spur-winged Plover	27	28				9	2	6		337		5	4	3	29		136	880
Grey-tailed Tattler										0								1
Marsh Sandpiper	1									1								1
Turnstone										7		1						8
Lesser Knot										0								0
Curlew Sandpiper										1								1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper										3							2	5
Pectoral Sandpiper										1								1
Red-necked Stint		1								57								57
Sanderling										1								1
Eastern Curlew										0								0
Hudsonian Godwit		2								2								2
Bar-tailed Godwit	46	61								136			1				3	1939
Black-billed Gull	1								8	9	5		9	51	21		35	207
Gull-billed Tern										1								1
Black-fronted Tern										0								11
Caspian Tern										266				3	1		2	295
White-fronted Tern									15	41				37	2		3	95
Site totals	203	368	0	27	3	75	369	30	54	4220	10	57	38	104	131	24	1003	9647
Wader site totals	202	315	0	23	2	69	364	30	28	3413	5	57	28	12	106	19	956	8488
% of total count	2.38	3.71	0.00	0.27	0.02	0.81	4.29	0.35	0.33	40.21	0.06	0.67	0.33	0.14	1.25	0.22	11.26	100.00
# wader species at site	6	7	0	1	1	2	3	2	1	16	1	7	4	4	5	2	8	20