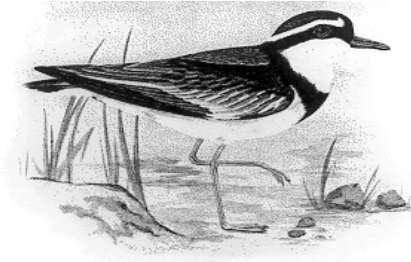


Ornithological Society of New Zealand  
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**JULY 2008 NEWSLETTER.**

**THURSDAY, JULY 10 MEETING**

at 7. 30 p.m. 4 Clara Anne Grove, Greytown,

**NARENA OLLIVER** will give an educational presentation on  
**PUKEKO.**

This will be a stimulating evening, and we hope to welcome those who expressed an interest in OSNZ, at Greytown's Greentown celebrations.

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**SATURDAY, JULY 12 FIELD TRIP.**

1 30 p.m. meet at Farmlands, Greytown for a follow-up to the July Meeting's topic, **PUKEKOS**. We will seek out habitats and do some observations in the Lake Wairarapa region, possibly Lake Reserve or Barton's Lagoon. Details to be decided at the prior Thursday meeting.

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**REPORT ON THE OSNZ AGM & CONFERENCE  
.KAIKOURA, QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND.**

At the June meeting, Colin Scadden, Miles King, Brian Boeson and Barbara Lovatt ( Narena Olliver was unable to be present at the meeting ) spoke of their impressions and highlights. Pelargic bird obs from the ferry. The grandeur of the scenic clifftop walk around the Kaikoura Peninsula. The amazing close-up experience of pelargic birds with Ocean Wings' ALBATROSS ENCOUNTER. The varied papers at the Scientific Day, and, of course, the opportunity to meet old friends, make new friends and to generally enjoy the company of fellow-birders.

## OSNZ MERITORIOUS AWARDS 2008

At the AGM, four members received awards this year, two of whom were from our own region, **Brian Boeson and Betty Watt**. Hearty congratulations to Brian. Sadly, Betty did not live to receive her award, but her husband Norman, was justly proud to receive it, on Betty's behalf, when it was brought back from Kaikoura. Former Wairarapa recipients of this Award have been Colin Scadden and Tenick Dennison. You may recall a profile of Betty Watt that appeared in the July, 07 Newsletter. This was submitted when our Region nominated her for the Award. The following is the profile submitted for Brian Boeson's nomination.....

The nominator was Miles King and the seconder was Tenick Dennison.

On behalf of the Wairarapa OSNZ members, I would like to nominate Brian Boeson for the Meritorious Service Award.

Brian, with his interest in birds spanning 50 years, has been instrumental in our continued strong membership. Joining the OSNZ in Wellington in 1957, he moved to the Wairarapa in 1962.

Being first drawn to an interest in birds while walking on Waikanae beaches where he was perplexed by the number of dead seabirds. This led to contact with the late Peter Bull, who Brian describes as his mentor, which began a "life long" fascination with birds, especially seabirds.

Beach patrols led onto record keeping. He assisted Peter Bull with the records which had lapsed during WW2, updating and recording from 1939 through to 1961 when Brian took over the job solely for two years.

Frequently beach patrolling was made more interesting by returning with rare and unusual specimens in the boot of his car. Unfortunately, at that time he owned a Volkswagen with the boot in the front, which made for very aromatic trips. This brings a whole new meaning to the expression "suffering for ones sport".

Brian was a member of the Mt Bruce National Wildlife Trust Board for 11 years. He has introduced many people to bird watching through numerous talks and was Regional Rep in the 1960's. He also helped create the local field guide, "Where to Find Birds in The Wairarapa"

.....  
Editor's note: Jenny Whyte, DOC Biodiversity Ranger, in Masterton has recently made contact with Colin Scadden and also with Brian Boeson. This has rekindled Brian's interest in sea birds . Jenny had some info. and pics re. various sea birds found dead in our Region. If any other members would like to learn more about this, your editor can email you the details.

## BACKYARD BIRD SURVEY July 12-20.

This is an annual Landcare research project, in which we are invited to participate. It is not demanding, and is fun to do, especially with grandchildren. You can access all info. and return your survey results on their website ( just type in the above title) or obtain the survey forms from Barbara Lovatt, or email

<spurr@landcareresearch.co.nz>

# REGIONAL RECORDER'S MONTHLY REPORT

Sitings reported at June Meeting.

10 Grey Teal were seen at Henley Lake along with Tui and Bellbird, Kingfishers were seen in Greytown while 1 Dunnock was reported by Jenny Doring plus a pair of Chaffinch. Barbara's lone Greenfinch was topped by the 50/60, along with a Rosella seen by Emile at Eketahuna. Miles wasn't left out, seeing both Tui and Bellbird as well as 3 Rook. Jack had been to Wrigley's lagoon where he saw 12 Caspian Tern, 6 Banded Dotterel, 6 Spur Winged Plover, 6 Grey Teal & 4 Oystercatchers (possible VOC). The previous month Jack had seen 18 Dabchick at the mouth of the Pigeon Bush Stream and 22 Scaup at Barton's lagoon.

## Greater Wellington Regional Authority's GREENTOWN .

Along with various other organisations, our OSNZ Wairarapa Region mounted a static display, in the Greytown Town Centre. A number of people signed up to obtain further OSNZ information, and your R.R. will respond to all enquirers.

On Wednesday June 25 Narena Olliver, at the request of the GWRA, spoke on Greytown's Birdlife, as part of "No More Extinctions Please, an informative chat about some of Wairarapa's fish, eels, bats and birds."

Narena presented a delightfully refreshing word-picture of a walk around the village and the wide variety of birds encountered.

This event was part of the Greentown Events Calendar.

## OSNZ FREE LISTING IN YELLOW PAGES.

Our CEO, Ingrid Hutzler, has organised this, nationwide, and our Region will be listed under **ASSOCIATION & CLUBS**, in the **Wairarapa Phone Book**. Your R.R. has consented to her ph. no. being used for this purpose.

## FOR SALE

Your R.R. is holding supplies of **occasional cards for sale @ \$2 a pkt**. Each pkt contains 10 cards and envelopes. Each card depicts a NZ bird, and a brief description of it, and OSNZ is printed on the back. These are very attractive cards, and are offered at this special price. The proceeds go towards our regional funds, and will be used to fund petrol vouchers / gifts for speakers, printing and posting of the monthly Newsletter etc.

Copies of our very own "**Where to Find Birds in the Wairarapa**" are still available, and cost only \$5. All these items will be available for sale at the monthly meeting so please remember to bring some cash, and so boost our coffers.

## REPORT ON THE JUNE FIELD TRIP

As the OSNZ contribution to June Greentown celebration, eleven people visited the MEMORIAL RESERVE in Kuratawhiti St, and the TATE RESERVE, on Papawai Rd. Greytown. BUSH BIRDS observed or heard were .....

MEMORIAL RESERVE. 2 Fantails, 4 Tui, 12 Grey warblers, and random Silvereyes, Sparrows & Chaffinch

TATE RESERVE A BLACK Fantail, Grey Warblers, Silvereyes, Harrier & Magpies.

As well as the Bush Bird obs. there was some serious botanising, especially in the Memorial Reserve. Jenny Doring pointed out a rare mistletoe which Emile

Schmieg confirmed as being.....

*Cortalsella Salicornioides* (See pic below) The host branch, on right is *Lophomyrtus Obcordata*. The mistletoe is in the left foreground.





Another mistletoe, *Lleostylus Micranthus*, was found in great profusion on host Tataras. It had droops of sticky yellow fruit. These were originally disseminated by *PIOPIO*, the extinct native Thrush, but this is now done by Bellbirds and Blackbirds.



Posing under the *Lleostylus Micranthus* ( no kissing, though !! ) Emile Schmiege, Colin Scadden, Helen Cook, Shirley Scadden, Geoff Doring, Des Lovatt, Jenny Doring & Brian Boeson. Beth Andrews was present but absent in this pic. Pics. taken by Barbara Lovatt.

Beth and Emile, recent attenders at meetings and field trips, have already proved to be valuable, with their broad knowledge of botany and birding etc. They are already known to some of us through their years of volunteer work at Mt. Bruce / Pukaha Wildlife centre. Welcome Beth and Emile !

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**We welcome GLEN HOLLAND as our latest new financial member.** Glen has plenty of expertise to share with us . He is currently leading a birding safari in Africa and will soon be joined there by two of our other members, Geoff and Jenny Doring

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This Starling was seen, in the company of other Starlings, in the gardens of No. 6 and No.4 Clara Anne Grove, Greytown, during April. The pic was taken in haste on April 30, and is not in focus. It was the last sighting of this bird. It appeared to be a leukistic starling. i.e the white feathers lacked the normal dark pigment .