

Southern *Bird*

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Rare Birds Committee - 6 monthly report

The following sightings have been accepted by the Committee since preparation of the report in *Southern Bird* 12: 6-7.

UBR 76/02 - Report from Paddy Latham of **Grey Ternlets** (*Procelsterna cerulea*) seen at Volkner Rocks, Bay of Plenty, by himself, K.L.Owen, A. Garrick, W.M.Hutton, J.A.Brierly, B.M.Stephenson, & I. Saville on 10/3/93, 25/1/97, 13/12/97, and 9 & 13/3/02.

UBR 77/02 - Report and photograph from Colin Miskelly of a **Fiordland Crested Penguin** (*Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*) seen by Clayson Howell & Chris Edkins at Kapiti Island on 23/11/02.

UBR 78/02 - Report and photograph from Brent Stephenson of a **Yellow-eyed Penguin** (*Megadyptes antipodes*) seen off Kaikoura on 27/10/01.

UBR 79/02 - Report from David Lawrie of a **Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) seen by himself, Tony Habraken & Brent Stephenson at Kidds shellbanks, Manukau Harbour on 14 & 20/4/02 and 20/5/02.

UBR 81/02 - Report from Karl Evans of a **Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) seen by himself and Scott Butcher at Lake Grassmere on 8/11/02.

UBR 82/02 - report from Gary Melville of a **Chinstrap Penguin** (*Pygoscelis antarctica*) seen by himself, Ian Saville and others at Kaikoura on 29/11/02. An account of this bird by Ian Saville, and photographs of it by David Jackson, appeared on Brent Stephenson's website. This sighting constitutes only the 3rd record of the species from mainland New Zealand (see *Notornis* 47 (2000): 66).

UBR 83/02 - Report and photographs from Barry Hartley of a freshly dead **Spine-tailed Swift** (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) found on the coast near Rahunu on 10/12/02.

UBR 84/02 - Report from Alan Collins (via Nick Allen) of 3 **Cape Barren Geese** (*Cereopsis novaehollandiae*) seen at Lake Wainono on 21/10/02 & 5/11/02.

UBR 85/02 - Report from Alan Collins (via Nick Allen) of a **Ruff** (*Philomachus pugnax*) seen at Lake Wainono on 30/10/02.

UBR 86/02 - Report from Alan Collins (via Nick Allen) of a **Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) seen at Lake Wainono on 20/11/02.

UBR 87/02 - Report and photograph from Chris Petyt of a **Red-necked Phalarope** (*Phalaropus lobatus*) seen at Swan Lake, Farewell Spit by himself on 10/10/02 and by himself & Peter Field on 28/10/02.

UBR 88/02 - Report from Pat Quin of a **Channel-billed Cuckoo** (*Scythrops novaehollandiae*) seen near Mangawhai Heads on 26/10/02.

UBR 1/03 & UBR 2/03 - Reports from Suzanne Moore and Phil Battley (via Bill Lock) of a **Brown Teal** (*Anas aucklandica chlorotis*) and 2 possible **Brown Teal - Mallard hybrids** seen at Waikanae Estuary & Waimanu Lagoon on 5/2/02, and of a **Brown Teal** (*Anas aucklandica chlorotis*) and 2 possible **Brown Teal - Mallard/Grey Duck hybrids** seen at Waikanae Estuary on 24/11/02.

UBR 3/03 - Report from Rob Schuckard of at least 4 **Spine-tailed Swifts** (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) seen by himself, Henk Heinekamp, Moira Tilling, and Anneke & Esther Schuckard at Farewell Spit on 11 & 12/12/02.

UBR 4/03 - Report and photographs from Brent Stephenson of a **Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*) seen by himself and Ian Saville at Manawatu Estuary on 20/1/03.

UBR 5/03 - Report and photograph from Colin Hill of 2 **Sanderlings** (*Calidris alba*) seen at Embankment Road area, Lake Ellesmere from 3-5/11/02.

UBR 6/03 - Report and photograph from Colin Hill of a **Japanese Snipe** (*Gallinago hardwickii*) seen on his farm adjoining Lake Ellesmere from 16-20/12/02.

UBR 7/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of 11 **Grey Ternlets** (*Procelsterna cerulea*) seen on rocks near Kawau Island on 11/1/03.

UBR 8/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a **Siberian Tattler** (*Tringa brevipes*) seen at Ihumatao Beach, Manukau Harbour on 24/11/02.

UBR 9/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a **Broad-billed Sandpiper** (*Limicola falcinellus*) seen at Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant by Ray Clough in early 11/02, and by himself on 21 & 27/11/02 and 13/12/02 and 5/1/03.

UBR 10/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a **Pectoral Sandpiper** (*Calidris melanotos*) seen at Mangere Wastewater Treatment Plant on 24/11/02, 13/12/02, & 19/1/03.

UBR 11/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a **Common Sandpiper** (*Tringa hypoleucos*) seen at Waikato River mouth on 12/1/03.

UBR 12/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a **Mongolian Dotterel** (*Charadrius mongolus*) seen by himself & Gwenda Pulham at Papakanui Spit on 8/12/02.

UBR 13/03 - Report from John Simmons of a brown phase **Oriental Cuckoo** (*Cuculus saturatus*) found recently dead by himself and Simon Chamberlin on Muriwai Beach on 14/12/02, now preserved as a spread wing and remaining bones in Auckland Museum under B11049.

UBR 14/03 - Report from Margaret & Wayne Twydale of a **Tattler** (species indeterminate) seen by themselves and others at Ahuriri Estuary on 3 & 19/1/03.

UBR 15/03 - Report and photographs from Barbara Taylor of an **Asiatic Dowitcher** (*Limnodromus semipalmatus*) seen at Ohiwa Harbour, Ohope on 28/12/02.

UBR 16/03 - Report from Barbara Taylor of a **Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta*) seen at Clive on 29/10/02 & 9/11/02.

UBR 17/03 - Report from Barbara Taylor of a **Shore Plover** (*Thinornis novaeseelandiae*) seen at "Shelly Bay" near Whakatane on 30/12/02.

UBR 18/03 - Report from Nick Allen of a **Siberian Tattler** (*Tringa brevipes*) seen at Kaikoura Peninsula on 30/11/02.



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UBR 19/03 - Report and photograph from Paul Sagar of a **Gentoo Penguin** (*Pygoscelis papua*) seen by himself, Rob Murdoch & Matthew Sagar at Antipodes Island on 18 & 19/12/02.

UBR 20/03 - Report from Paul Sagar of a **Fork-tailed Swift** (*Apus pacificus*) seen by himself, Rob Murdoch & Matthew Sagar at Antipodes Island on 14/12/02. This would seem to be the 1st record of a Fork-tailed Swift at Antipodes Island.

UBR 21/03 - Report from Margaret Twytle (with photograph by Brent Stephenson) of a colour-banded **Shore Plover** (*Thinornis novaeseelandiae*) seen by herself, Wayne Twytle, John Cheyne & Brent Stephenson at Westshore Lagoon, Ahuriri Estuary on 27, 28 & 29/12/02.

UBR 22/03 - Report from Colin Miskelly of an immature **Snares Crested Penguin** (*Eudyptes robustus*) seen and photographed by Alex McKillop at Waitangi, Chatham Islands between 28/1 and 10/2/03.

UBR 23/03 - Report from Murray Jeffries of a **Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*) seen by himself and several others at Porangahau Beach on 16/2/03.

UBR 24/03 - Report and photograph from Colin Miskelly of an **Erect-crested Penguin** (*Eudyptes sclateri*) seen by the principal and pupils of Akitio School at Akitio Beach, northern Wairarapa from 5/2/03 until at least 20/2/03. This bird featured in an illustrated article, which appeared in the *Dominion Post* at that time.

UBR 25/03 - Report from David Lawrie of **Pomarine Skuas** (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) seen by himself, Tony Habraken and Ted Hoogendorn at Taramaire-Kaiua, Firth of Thames on 17/2/00 (1), and by himself at Miranda Spit, Firth of Thames on 7/4/02 (1).

UBR 26/03 - Report from Ian Armitage (via Bill Lock) of a pair of **Chestnut-breasted Shelducks** (*Tadorna tadornoides*) seen beside State Highway No. 1 at Te Horo on 24/12/02.

UBR 28/03 - Report from Peter Schweigman and photograph by Tony Hocken on 5/3/03 of a **White-necked Heron** (*Ardea pacifica*) seen by Tony Hocken and others beside State Highway 1 near Totara Historic Reserve south of Oamaru on 24/1/03. This appears to be the 5th accepted record of the species in New Zealand.

UBR 29/03 - Report and photographs from Mike Twyman of a **Common Sandpiper** (*Tringa hypoleucos*) seen by himself and Gavin Grant at Whangarei Harbour from 6/12/02 to 6/1/03.

UBR 31/03 & UBR 31A/03 - Reports from Nigel Milius & David Lawrie of a **Wandering Tattler** (*Tringa incana*) seen at Karaka shellbanks, Manukau Harbour by David Lawrie & Gillian Vaughan on 4/1/03 and, what was almost certainly the same bird in breeding plumage, by those observers, Nigel Milius, Wendy Hare, & Adrian Riegen on 2/3/03.

UBR 32/03 - Report from Allan Munro & Janice Woon (via Bill Lock) of a **Cape Barren Goose** (*Cereopsis novaehollandiae*) seen at Greendale, near Paraparaumu on 6/10/02.

UBR 33/03 - Report from David Lawrie of a "black-tailed" godwit (species indeterminate) seen by himself and Gillian Vaughan at the Karaka shellbanks, Manukau Harbour on 4/1/03.

UBR 34/03 - Report from David Lawrie of a **Broad-billed Sandpiper** (*Limicola falcinellus*) seen at the Karaka shellbanks, Manukau Harbour on 4, 5 & 21/1/03, 8/2/03 & 2/3/03 by (variously) himself, Gillian Vaughan, Adrian Riegen, Brent Stephenson, Ian Saville, Steve Wood, Tony Habraken, Gwenda Pulham, Graham Saunders, Nigel Milius, & Wendy Hare.

UBR 35/03 - Report from David Lawrie of 2 **Marsh Sandpipers** (*Tringa stagnatilis*) seen at the Karaka shellbanks, Manukau Harbour on 16/9/00 by himself, Tony Habraken & Ken Bond, and again at the same place by himself and Tony Habraken on 15/10/00.

UBR 36/03 - Report from David Lawrie of a banded juvenile **Fairy Tern** (*Sterna nereis*) seen by himself, Tony Habraken, and others at the Miranda shellbanks, Miranda on 24/3/02. The history of the bird involved in this sighting is discussed by Gwenda Pulham in *Miranda Naturalists' Trust News* No. 45 (2002): 8.

UBR 37/03 - Report from David Lawrie of a **Great Knot** (*Calidris tenuirostris*) seen at the Karaka shellbanks, Manukau Harbour on 24/2/01 by himself, Tony Habraken, Bev Woolley, Ian Reid, Stuart Chambers, and John & Stella Rowe.

UBR 38/03 - Report from Chris Robertson of a **White-capped (Shy) Mollymawk** (*Diomedea cauta cauta*) banded at Mewstone Island, southern Tasmania as a pullus on 1/5/1987 (280-011054), found dead just south of Manukau Heads on 30/7/1989. This is the 1st New Zealand record of this taxon.

UBR 39/03 - Report from Audrey Williams & D. Carter (via Richard Parrish) of a **Hudsonian Godwit** (*Limosa haemastica*) seen at Mangawhai Spit on 4, 13 & 24/2/03.

UBR 40/03 - Report from Audrey Williams (via Richard Parrish) of a **Black-tailed Godwit** (*Limosa limosa*) seen at Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour on 5/3/03.

UBR 41/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of two **Mongolian Dotterels** (*Charadrius mongolus*) seen by himself, Elaine Lagnaz, Bruce Connelly, Gillian Vaughan & others at Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour on 22/3/03.

UBR 42/03 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a **Black Kite** (*Milvus migrans*) seen at Whangamarino Wetland Reserve near Mercer on 15/3/03. This was probably the same individual which has been seen a number of times since April 2000 at various South Auckland locations, and reported to the Committee by Ted Wnorowski (UBR 76/01) and by David Lawrie (UBR 50/02) - see *Southern Bird* 12 (2002): 6.

UBR 43/03 - Report from Allan Munro & Janice Woon (via Bill Lock) of a **Cape Barren Goose** (*Cereopsis novaehollandiae*) seen at Paraparaumu Airport on 20/5/01.

UBR 44/03 - Report from Colin Miskelly, with photograph by Tony Matheson, of a **Fiordland Crested Penguin** (*Eudyptes pachyrhynchus*) seen by the latter at Ocean Beach on the South Wairarapa coast in 2/03.

DAVID MEDWAY
Convenor, Rare Birds Committee
4 May 2003