



Southern *Bird*

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*Passerine Banding
at Wellington Zoo*

Annual Reports 2003-2004

The Touring Wrybills

CHRISTCHURCH WETLANDS • BIRD MITES • RECORD TERN-UP

RARE BIRDS COMMITTEE - SIX MONTHLY REPORT

The following sightings have been accepted by the Committee since preparation of the report in *Southern Bird* 16: 4-5.

UBR 69/03 - Report from Brent Stephenson and Ian Saville of Soft-plumaged Petrels (*Pterodroma mollis*) seen by Brent Stephenson off Foxton Beach on 27/5/02 (2), by Ian Saville off Foxton Beach on 28/5/02 (2), and by Brent Stephenson at Palmerston North Showgrounds on 29/5/02 (1).

UBR 70/03 - Report and photographs from Brent Stephenson of a Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) seen at Waitangi, Ngaruroro/Clive River mouths, Hawkes Bay on 18/8/03.

UBR 71/03 - Report and photographs from Brent Stephenson of a Chatham Island Mollymawk (*Diomedea cauta eremita*) seen by himself, Steve Wood, Hadoram Shirihai and Les Battersby off Kaikoura on 3/9/03.

UBR 81/03 - Report and photographs from Gordon Gorbey of a Little Whimbrel (*Numenius minutus*) seen by himself and Gwenda Pulham at Kidd's shellbanks, Manukau Harbour on 27/10/03.

UBR 82/03 - Report from Tim Barnard of a Chestnut-breasted Shelduck (*Tadorna tadornoides*) seen by himself and Wendy, Ruth and Matthew Barnard at Lake Rotomahana on 19/4/03.

UBR 83/03 - Report from Martin Snowball of two adult and one juvenile Australasian Little Grebes (*Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*) seen by himself and K. Snowball at Lake Rotoehu on 28/10/02 (For other reports of Australasian Little Grebes at this locality see UBRs 61/02 & 61A/02 - *Southern Bird* 12: 7).

UBR 84/03 - Report from Richard Parrish of a Wandering Tattler (*Tringa incana*) seen at Spirits Bay on 4/11/03.

UBR 85/03 - Report and photographs from Alan Collins of a Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) seen at Lake Wainono on 25 and 26/10/03.

UBR 86/03 - Report and photographs from Alan Collins of a Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) seen at Lake Wainono on 30/11/03.

UBR 88/03 - Report from Richard Parrish of two Siberian Tattlers (*Tringa brevipes*) seen by himself and Kevin Rideout at Mangawhai Harbour on 28/11/03.

UBR 89/03 - Report from Richard Parrish of a Mongolian Dotterel (*Charadrius mongolus*) seen by himself and Kevin Rideout at Mangawhai Harbour on 28/11/03.

UBR 90/03 - Report from James Lee of a Darter (*Anhinga melanogaster*) seen by himself and Marian Lee-Hesper at Wellington Harbour on 20/12/03. This is only the third New Zealand record of the species.

UBR 1/04 & 1A/04 - Reports from Christine McRae and Jim Hamilton and Ian Saville of a Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) seen at Wanstead Lagoon, near Waipukurau on 2 and 3/1/04.

UBR 2/04 - Report from Christine McRae and Jim Hamilton of a Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) seen at Porangahau Estuary on 2/1/04.

UBR 3/04 & 3A/04 - Reports from Jim Moore and Ian Saville, with photographs by Jim Moore and Brent Stephenson, of up to four Great Knots (*Calidris tenuirostris*) (3 juveniles and 1 adult) seen by themselves, Roger Slack, Lindsay Davies, Brent Stephenson, Tim Barnard, and many others at the Manawatu estuary on various occasions between 11/11/03 and 14/12/03.

UBR 4/04 - Report from Ian Saville of a Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) in breeding plumage seen by himself and Brent Stephenson at the Manawatu estuary on 27/10/03. This may be the first reported sighting of a Sanderling in breeding plumage in New Zealand.

UBR 5/04 - Report from Ian Saville of a colour-banded adult male Shore Plover (*Thinornis novaeseelandiae*) seen at the Manawatu estuary on 1/11/03. This bird had been released on Portland Island in Hawke Bay in May 2003, and was last seen there on 2/10/03. This is the second sighting of a colour-banded Shore Plover at the Manawatu estuary. The first sighting was on 3/1/00 (UBRs 7/00 & 25/00) - see *Notornis* 48 (2001): 61. The bird involved in that sighting had also been released on Portland Island, and later wandered away from there.

UBR 6/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of nine Nankeen Night Herons (*Nycticorax caledonicus*) seen on the Wanganui River on 28/12/03 and 1 and 2/1/04.

UBR 7/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a Broad-billed Sandpiper (*Limicola falcinellus*) seen at Mangere sewage ponds on 6 and 7/1/04.

UBR 8/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a Common Sandpiper (*Tringa hypoleucos*) seen at Raetihi oxidation ponds on 26-28/12/03. This would appear to be the first inland sighting of a Common Sandpiper in New Zealand.

UBR 9/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*) seen at Miranda on 16/11 and 4/12/03.

UBR 10/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of Siberian Tattlers (*Tringa brevipes*) seen at Manukau Harbour sewage ponds on 23/11/03 (with Ted Kitching) and 5/1/04 (1), and at Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour on 12/12/03 (1).

UBR 11/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of Mongolian Dotterels (*Charadrius mongolus*) seen at Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour on 22/11 and 12/12/03 (2), Mangere sewage ponds on 15/12/03 and 5/1/04 (2), and Wanganui (South Heads) on 2/1/04 (1).

UBR 12/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of two Red-legged Partridges (*Alectoris rufa*) seen near Taumarunui on 22/12/03.

UBR 13/04 - Report from Ted Wnorowski of a Nankeen Kestrel (*Falco cenchroides*) seen at Elsthorpe, south of Hastings, on 28/10/03.

UBR 14/04 - Report and photographs from Graham Don of a Common Sandpiper (*Tringa hypoleucos*) seen at Rosedale Wastewater Treatment Plant, North Shore City on 11/11/03.

UBR 16/04 - Report from Richard Guest of a Spine-tailed Swift (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) seen by himself and Sam Stuart-Weeks on the open tops in the Kaimanawa Ranges on 29/12/03.

UBR 17/04 - Report and photographs from Margaret and Wayne Twydale of two Marsh Sandpipers (*Tringa stagnatilis*) seen by themselves and others at Westshore Lagoon, Ahuriri Estuary on 6 and 7/2/04.

UBR 18/04 - Report from Derek Bettesworth of a Cirl Bunting (*Emberiza cirlus*) seen at Waipu Estuary, Northland on 24/1/04.

UBR 19/04 - Report and photographs from Barry Hartley of 40 Grey Ternlets (*Procelsterna cerulea albivitta*) seen by himself and others on Maori Rocks, Mokohinau Islands on 8/2/04.

UBR 22/04 - Report, photograph and specimen from Peter Fryer of a Common Noddy (*Anous stolidus*) found freshly-dead on the coast at Epiha Road, near Waitara on 17/6/02. There have been very few records of the Common Noddy from mainland New Zealand.

UBR 23/04 - Report and photograph from Peter Fryer of a tern seen by himself and Julie Fryer at the Waiongona River mouth, near New Plymouth, on 23/1/04. This was accepted as a young Black-fronted Tern (*Sterna albostrata*), a species that is seldom recorded on the North Island west coast north of Manawatu Estuary.

DAVID MEDWAY - CONVENOR, RARE BIRDS COMMITTEE
8 MAY 2004

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Subject to official acceptance, Detlef Davies is the new Regional Representative for the Far North region. Many thanks to Anthea Goodwin for acting as RR in the interim after Alison Howell's move south to Whangarei.

Detlef's address is Waipapa Lagoon, Landing Road, Kerikeri 0470. Phone (09) 407 3874. Email detlefdavies@yahoo.com

The Waikato region has a new Regional Representative after the departure of Paul Cuming to Tauranga. Roger Day has taken over managing the region's affairs. Contact him at 42A Hillcrest Road, Hamilton. Phone (07) 859 0272. Email rogerjday@xtra.co.nz

The Regional Representative for the new and very active Bay of Plenty/Volcanic Plateau region is Tim Barnard, 5 Larcy Road, Lynmore, Rotorua. Phone (07) 345 3433. Email tim.barnard@xtra.co.nz. Paul Cuming has taken over responsibility of Regional Recorder for this region - as well as continuing his responsibility for OSNZ sales goods. His new contact details are 2/7 Robins Road, Judea, Tauranga. Phone (07) 571 5125, fax (07) 571 5126. Email birdo@post.com

The Northland region's regional recorder is Gerry Brackenbury. His contact details are 53 Kauika Road West, Whangarei. Ph (09) 438 4188. Email brackenbury@xtra.co.nz

As reported in the last issue of *Southern Bird* the OSNZ was seeking a new back issues co-ordinator. Roger Sharp has now taken on this role, in addition to that of membership secretary. Contact Roger for your requirements of *Notornis* and *Southern Bird*, or if your journals get lost in the mail.

I believe Roger is holding one or two issues of the forerunner of *Notornis*, *New Zealand Bird Notes*, from the 1940s, and all issues of *Notornis* to the present day. So if you have any gaps to fill in your collection please contact him at P.O. Box 12-1039, Henderson, Auckland. Phone 09 836 9931, email Roger_Sharp@xtra.co.nz

