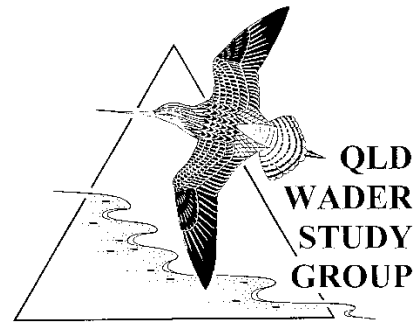


# QUEENSLAND WADER



Issue number 079

March, April, May 2012

---

Newsletter of the Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG), a special interest group of  
Birds Queensland Incorporated. [www.waders.com.au](http://www.waders.com.au)

---

## Queensland Wader Study Group Chairperson's Report, AGM 2011

By Andrew Geering

Another year has flashed by but I think it has been a successful one. For me, it will be my last year as Chairperson for at least a little time. I have had two reincarnations as Chairperson so it is possible that there may be a third!

A highlight for me this year was publication of the research paper "Analyzing variability and the rate of decline of migratory shorebirds in Moreton Bay, Australia" by Howard Wilson *et al.* (2011) in the international journal *Conservation Biology* (a copy of this paper can be downloaded from the web site <http://www.fullerlab.org/latest-paper-analyzing-variability-and-the-rate-of-decline-of-migratory-shorebirds-in-moreton-bay-australia/>). *Conservation Biology* is a highly ranked journal in the field of Biodiversity Conservation (ranked second out of a field of 33) and thus the paper will get a lot of exposure. I would rate this paper and the GIS mapping work of roost sites as the major outputs of the QWSG count program over the last 20 years. Raw count data has little value until it is summarized and analysed as it is only when this happens that the data can be used by policy makers such as the federal government.

Unfortunately the news in the publication by Wilson *et al.* was not good: 7 species of migrant shorebirds in Moreton Bay were shown to be significantly declining and declines in migrant abundance over 15 years were 43–79%. Nevertheless, the message is now out for all to read and hopefully this will result in some changes that benefit shorebirds in the Flyway. Only a select few can be authors of publications like this but hopefully anyone that has ever contributed count data to the QWSG database can feel some ownership of the paper and take pride in reading it. I look forward to seeing more publications emanating from staff whom are employed on the ARC-Linkage Project *Understanding and Reversing the Declines in Australia's Shorebirds*, of which the QWSG is a core industry partner.

The other prominent highlight this year was the attachment of geolocators to a number of Grey-tailed Tattler by Jon Coleman and his banding crew. This project is jointly funded by the QWSG and the Wild Bird Society of Japan (Chiba Branch). The birds have now returned to Australia after the breeding season and some individuals have been recaptured and the geolocators retrieved – I have my fingers crossed that the devices have worked and good data has been obtained. The utilization of geolocators elsewhere is providing information on migration of unprecedented precision. Leg flags are good but still depend on people sighting the birds for the migration routes to be determined – this cannot be done in remote regions such as the Arctic.

As in previous years, the QWSG has financially supported causes that we believe to be worthwhile for shorebird conservation. For example, we donated \$5,000 to the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) Spoon-billed Sandpiper Appeal (this money was donated via Birds Australia as they are registered as a charity and are therefore tax-exempt). The Spoon-billed Sandpiper is critically endangered (fewer than 100 breeding pairs left in the world) and the WWT is attempting to establish a breeding population in captivity at Slimbridge Reserve, UK, to supplement the wild bird population.

The QWSG also donated \$2,000 to the Australasian Wader Studies Group to support the maintenance of the leg-flag database. Finally, \$6,000 was used to purchase shorebird roosting and feeding interpretation signs, which were installed at sites around the Great Sandy Strait.

I thank everyone that has contributed the QWSG's activities in the last year, in particular the members of the committee. I have been fortunate as Chairperson to have such a dedicated and talented group of people working with me. To quote Scott McKinnon, Senior Environmental Coordinator in the Port of Brisbane Corporation, "I am continually amazed at the level of expertise and passion that the members of the Queensland Wader Study Group possess, the birds are lucky to have you on their team." This year, I would like to single out Sheryl Keates for special praise, as she is stepping down from the role of treasurer after 15 years of continual service. As my wife Margaret would attest, financial management is not my strongest point and I have been lucky to have Sheryl in the treasurer's position. Sheryl has been proactive in the position, always reminding us when term deposits are due and providing advice on the best actions to take. She also has always been incredibly efficient and organised in the job, issuing invoices within days of a request and following up when invoices have not been paid. Sheryl has also doubled as Membership Officer. On behalf of the QWSG, I thank you Sheryl.

My final word as Chairperson is that I believe that the QWSG has achieved a good balance of scientific, lobbying and extension activities. Lobbying and extension activities need to be predicated by good scientific data and *vice versa*, scientific data is of no value unless it is used in some way to inform public opinion.

I hope 2012 is a good year for you.

## Treasurer's Report

### Queensland Wader Study Group

#### Statement of Profit and Loss for the year ended 30 September 2011

	2011	2010
<b>INCOME</b>		
<b>Contract Income</b>		
BA Shorebird 20120 Project	5,000	-
EPA/Data/Surveys	-	1,466
Geolocator Project	12,480	-
Port of Brisbane Surveys	10,535	13,496
Courses	-	2,375
Donations	798	629
<b>Fundraising Income</b>		
Books/reports	490	1,150
Shirts	210	105
Other	22	30
Interest	7,287	5,860
Membership	2,020	2,595
Miscellaneous Income	3,049	-
Sale of Data	1,500	4,700
Postage Income	57	-
Royalties on Book	587	1,762
Survey Income	2,000	-
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>46,036</b>	<b>34,168</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Bank Charges	55	15
<b>Contract Expenses</b>		
ARC Linkage	20,144	-
EPA Data Surveys	1,829	6,510
Port of Brisbane Surveys	1,232	1,160
BA Shorebird 2020 Project	2,000	-
Course Expenses	-	919
Depreciation Expenses	655	388
Donation Expenses	10,500	-

Education & Publicity Material	1,258	4,085
Fundraising Expenses	-	164
Insurance/Rego	890	870
Nigel Roberts Student research	5,000	-
Geolocator Project	6,471	-
Computer Equipment	1,584	-
Membership Refund	-	25
Miscellaneous Expenses	797	8,587
Mist Netting	-	324
Newsletter Expenses	1,630	1,610
Printing and Stationery	752	397
Subscriptions	104	45
Signage Expenses	6,000	-
Survey Expenses – Mackay	6,934	-
Website Expenses	329	2,611

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>68,164</b>	<b>27,710</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</b>	<b>(\$22,128)</b>	<b>\$6,458</b>

Opening Retained Profits	169,837	163,379
Net Profit / loss attributed to the group	(22,128)	6,458
Closing Retained Profits	\$147,709	\$169,837

**CURRENT ASSETS**

Cash at Bank	34,858	30,085
Term Deposit	105,265	133,767
Inventories		
Stock of Goods for Resale	3,140	3,699
Plant & Equipment	1,450	1,143
Total Current Assets	144,713	168,694

**NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

Property, Plant and Equipment		
Plant & Equipment – at cost	50,178	47,977
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(47,182)	(46,834)

**CURRENT LIABILITIES**

nil nil

<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>147,709</b>	<b>169,837</b>
------------------------	----------------	----------------

## FRASER ISLAND BIRD WEEK

13-18 May 2012

Don't miss your unique opportunity to enrich your birding knowledge during Fraser Island's Annual Bird Week.

Daily programs include picturesque dawn bird walks, rainforest, beach and open woodland 4WD excursions, RAMSAR wetland cruises, mangrove and wallum walks or photography and art workshops.

Stay from one to five nights at Kingfisher Bay Resort.

Call now or go online to view the full program and register.

☎ 61 7 4120 3311

or for more information go to:  
[birdwatching.kingfisherbay.com](http://birdwatching.kingfisherbay.com)

## Wader survey of Great Sandy Strait 7 – 11 January, 2012

A small band of dedicated Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG) members undertook another survey of the Great sandy Strait region between Point Vernon and Tin Can Bay in early January 2012. The survey was assisted by Queensland Marine Parks staff who provided boats that enabled QWSG members to access roosts on Fraser Is and islands in the straits. This survey also had the benefit of an aerial survey by Peter Driscoll and Arthur Keates in Peter's ultralight on the Friday before the main survey. During their aerial survey, they found over 6,000 waders that were not subsequently counted from the ground due to our inability to access these roosts. The overall count of 34,500 waders of 20 species was very pleasing and substantially higher than we found on our previous survey in October 2009 (about 22,000 birds). Over half the migratory waders seen were Bar-tailed Godwit (51%) and the next most abundant species was Eastern Curlew (9%). This is one of the highest Bar-tailed Godwit counts that has been made in the Great Sandy Strait (Table 1).

**Table 1.** The summary total counts of each species seen during the QWSG survey of Great Sandy Strait in January 2012.

Wader Species	Count	Waterbird Species	Count
Pacific Golden Plover	239	Darter	12
Grey Plover	195	Pied Cormorant	26
Lesser Sand Plover	2099	Little Black Cormorant	58
Greater Sand Plover	1019	Little Pied Cormorant	13
Latham's Snipe	2	White-faced Heron	42
Black-tailed Godwit	4	Eastern Great Egret	5
Bar-tailed Godwit	17076	Little Egret	63
Whimbrel	1746	Intermediate Egret	1
Eastern Curlew	3110	Cattle Egret	54
Terek Sandpiper	658	Striated Heron	2
Grey-tailed Tattler	1638	Black-necked Stork	1
Wandering Tattler	6	Brolga	2
Common Greenshank	241	Australian White Ibis	8
Marsh Sandpiper	4	Royal Spoonbill	6
Ruddy Turnstone	25	Black Swan	120
Great Knot	1182	Pacific Black Duck	88
Red Knot	201	Grey Teal	20
Red-necked Stint	1947	Wandering Whistling Duck	34
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	195	Eastern Osprey	11
Curlew Sandpiper	177	Brahminy Kite	9
Unidentified Small Wader	820	Whistling Kite	8
Unidentified Medium Wader	615	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	2
<b>Total Migratory Waders</b>	<b>33199</b>	Nankeen Kestrel	2
		Wedge-tailed Eagle	2
Beach Stone-curlew	11	Pacific Baza	1
Aust Pied Oystercatcher	448	Silver Gull	164
Sooty Oystercatcher	9	Gull-billed Tern	609
Black-winged Stilt	255	Caspian Tern	59
Red-capped Plover	491	Common Tern	13751
Black-fronted Dotterel	1	Little Tern	1182
Masked Lapwing	71	Crested Tern	266
Comb-crested Jacana	16	Purple Swamphen	120
		Dusky Moorhen	16
<b>Total Resident waders</b>	<b>1302</b>	Australasian Grebe	12
		Eurasian Coot	6
		Unidentified Egret	60
		Unidentified Heron	230
<b>TOTAL WADERS</b>	<b>34501</b>	<b>TOTAL WATERBIRDS</b>	<b>17065</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL BIRDS</b>		<b>51566</b>	

Other species seen in above average numbers included Lesser and Greater Sand Plovers and Red-necked Stint. On the downside, the numbers of Eastern Curlew, Whimbrel, Terek Sandpiper and Grey-tailed Tattler are less than half those reported by Peter Driscoll during his earliest surveys in the late 1980s.

Work by University of Queensland researcher analysing our count data from Moreton Bay have also shown similar declines in Moreton Bay for some of these same species.

During the survey, members saw some of the regulatory signs placed with QWSG advice at highly disturbed roosts to improve public awareness of waders. These signs were co-funded by a donation from QWSG. The Marine Parks staff were very appreciative of our contribution and acknowledged that these signs would not have been made without the financial assistance of QWSG. Let's hope they make a difference to the level of disturbance to roosting waders in the region.



The count instructions to Felicity, Lisa, Chris and Nev said to cross this **DRY** creek bed on the way to their roost count at Shark Inlet – Hmmm !!

**By David Milton and Sandra Harding**



A wader information sign at Inskip Point that was funded with a donation by QWSG.

## Joondalup Hudsonian Godwit banded in Chile

**From:** John Graff

**Date:** Sat, 18 Feb 2012 10:21:11 +0800

G'day everyone, Latest Hudwit update is that it was showing reasonably well from Picnic Cove yesterday arvo, and well enough for several people to see the colour band on it's other leg, accompanying the red leg flag.

Dimitris, Wayne Merritt and others are confident that the colour band is green - I was also able to get some more rubbish photos that show both the flag and the colour band (attached for those on the BirdsWA list)

This was passed on to the American researchers, who report that this confirms that the bird was banded on Chiloe Island, Chile, in January 2010! The bird was still associating with the breeding plumage Blackwit.

Also around Picnic Cove were 3 White-winged Black Terns, and 2 Gull-billed Terns were seen from Neil Hawkins Park

Cheers, John

## IMPORTANT NOTICE - CHANGE OF COUNT DATE FOR APRIL

Please note we have changed the April count date.

**New count date is: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April Tide height 2.01m at 09:21**

Due to comments received from counters about the fact that the original count date was on the Easter weekend we have moved the count day to the next most favourable tide.

We understand that some people are not available over the Easter weekend, but the date we originally picked to do the count is the most suitable date to get numbers of waders on their northward migration just before the birds leave. The March count will pick some up, but the count is four weeks earlier and we had hoped that April would give us more data.

If you are around for the original count date (Sat 7<sup>th</sup> April) and are able to do a count, or can do one a few days before the Easter weekend, we would appreciate your commitment to the programme, which would add greatly to our knowledge of the difference in departure dates among species.



## Spoon-billed Sandpiper Plans for 2012

From: Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force News Bulletin No. 7, February 2012

In summer 2012, outdoor breeding aviaries will be constructed at Slimbridge in time to settle the birds into them before they are first due to breed in summer 2013.

Another expedition will be mounted to Chukotka in 2012 to collect eggs and export 20 fertile eggs/chicks to the UK to supplement the captive population. Ideally we would export eggs from Meinopylgino to Anadyr in late June using a helicopter and fly them to the UK via Moscow. This would reduce the time and expense of rearing chicks in Anadyr and would avoid a prolonged period of quarantine in Moscow Zoo. This strategy would reduce the length of the time in Russia by over 4 months compared to 2011.

However, we will also prepare a back-up plan in case any chicks hatch en route. This would be to rear the chicks in the Moscow Zoo off-site breeding centre before exporting them to the UK. This way, the birds' quarantine period would begin as soon as they hatch and mean we could transport the birds to the UK in early August, again much sooner than in 2011. A second contingency plan, in case bad weather prevents helicopter flights (a real possibility), is to repeat a similar exercise to that undertaken in 2011.

Assuming there are sufficient nests and eggs found, we also plan to "head-start" another cohort of Spoon-billed Sandpiper. This would involve taking eggs from incubating birds and raising chicks to fledging age at Meinopylgino, before release back into the wild. This could massively increase the number of juveniles produced at the site which holds at least 10% of the world population. Productivity is ~0.6 fledglings per breeding pair at present as predation from species such as skuas, stoats and American Ground Squirrels is currently very high. Extracted and head-started 4-egg clutches are likely to lead to at least 3 fledglings per nest based on 2011 experience. To this 500% increase would be added the fledglings produced by re-laying as females that 'lose' clutches early in the breeding season can re-lay (at least one female was known to have re-laid and successfully reared chicks in 2011). With post-fledging survival so low in recent years, head-starting would have had limited beneficial impact. However there are several major strategic benefits of initiating this programme now:

**Firstly**, hunting mitigation in Myanmar and Bangladesh is showing significant progress. Within two years juvenile survival could start to recover significantly and at that point increasing the number of fledglings will become extremely valuable, as it can increase the rate at which the population stabilises and recovers. Initiating head-starting now means we will not miss the opportunity to accelerate recovery.

**Secondly**, the Spoon-billed Sandpiper is a difficult bird to monitor throughout the flyway so it will not be easy to determine the point at which juvenile survival starts to recover. Releasing a significant number of leg-flagged fledglings will enable us to detect increases in recruitment at Meinopylgino in future years, allowing us to monitor the effectiveness of conservation actions on the non-breeding grounds and adjust conservation strategies accordingly. We also plan to attach radio-tags to a small number of birds to determine post-fledging movements and potentially key sites in the early stages of migration.

**Thirdly**, head-starting will allow us to fine-tune in the field the methods needed for reintroduction. We currently do not know the full extent of the wintering areas, and even if current actions on the wintering grounds are successful, it is quite possible that reintroductions may be necessary to supplement the wild population if it drops too low to be sustainable. Similarly, reintroduction may be necessary at some stage to permit re-colonisation of parts of the historic breeding range from which the species is now thought to be extinct.

### Acknowledgements

The Spoon-billed Sandpiper conservation breeding programme is a collaboration between WWT, Birds Russia, Moscow Zoo and the RSPB working with colleagues from the BTO, BirdLife International, ArcCona and the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force.

The project is funded by WWT and the RSPB, with additional financial contributions and support from BirdLife International, the East-Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership, the Convention on Migratory Species, Heritage Expeditions, the Australasian Wader Study Group of Birds Australia, the BBC Wildlife Fund, the Mileage Company, the Olive Herbert Charitable Trust, the Oriental Bird Club and many generous individuals.

## LONG DISTANT TRAVELLER

In the Wader Watch section of this newsletter we have been reporting on yellow flagged Pied Oystercatchers for some time. This banding and flagging is conducted by Greg Clancy in New South Wales. Apart from the oystercatchers, Greg is also banding Beach Stone-curlew. As with the oystercatchers, they have a yellow engraved leg flag (ELF) on the left tibia

We received word from the counters in Rockhampton that a Beach Stone-curlew sporting a yellow flag with black letters **A1** on the left tibia and a metal band on the right tibia had been seen and photographed by Tom Sjolund. While most counters would think this was a north-west Western Australia flagged bird (according to the protocol), we knew straight away that this was a NSW bird because the flag was on the left tibia and we also were aware that Greg had been banding this species too.

A1 was banded at Marshall's Creek, Brunswick Heads on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011. The photograph shown here was taken by Tom at Lammermoor Beach, south east of Yeppoon on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011.



Of the small number of Beach Stone-curlew that have been banded, **A1** has travelled the longest distance. According to the Australian Bird & Bat Banding Scheme (ABBBS) website, records show that the minimum movement for the species is 1 km and the average is 117kms. **A1** travelled a distance of 658kms! Although the distance travelled by **A1** took just over 10 months, this is quite a remarkable record.

## WADER WATCH Linda and Phil Cross, Joyce Harding

Can everyone please remember to use the 'Leg Flag Observation Report' form?

Can we also please ask people to carefully check which leg the flag is on. If you are not sure, or just see the colour, and do not know which leg it is, please do not make it up. We do record the sighting on the database, even if we do not know which leg it was on. Recording information that you have not seen, or do not know creates extra work for Phil, I and other people who this information goes to. We would appreciate your cooperation on this issue.

### **Green leg flag sightings**

In each Qld Wader issue there is quite a number of green leg flag sightings recorded within Moreton Bay, which is where the bird was banded originally. As we are now seeing more leg flag combinations from other states and countries, and have limited space available for sightings, we will not be listing each individual sighting of green flag records in Queensland unless there is a significant movement of the bird. Instead, we will list the number of flags for each species and the period in which they were seen.

Sightings in Moreton Bay & Environs between 10.11.11 and 12.02.12

5 Eastern Curlew, 1 Whimbrel, 78 Bar-tailed Godwit, 11 Pied Oystercatcher, 4 Great Knot, 3 Ruddy Turnstone, 3 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, 71 Grey-tailed Tattler, 2 Terek Sandpiper, 1 Greater Sand Plover, 6 Lesser Sand Plover, 3 Curlew Sandpiper and 5 Red-necked Stint.

The birds sighted above included some of the individually marked flags that QWSG have been fitting and are listed below.

Eastern Curlew – **AR**.

Bar-tailed Godwit – **AB, AE, CV, DE, EE, ES, HF, HJ, HL, JA, JB, JE, JH, JL, JM, JN, JY, NN, NP, NV, PA, PC, RJ, RP, RV, RX, RZ**.

Pied Oystercatcher – **AP, BC, EY, FB, A9, B3, B7, and C4**.

Ruddy Turnstone – **ES**.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – **HP, HS**.

Grey-tailed Tattler – **AL, AX, BZ, C3, CN, CT, DD, DJ, DN, EJ, EL, HT, HU, J2, JE, JV, JX, JY, K5, K8, KB, KE, KJ, KL, KO, KP, KR, KS, KT, KV, KX, LB, LD, LE, LJ, LM, LS, RH, RM, RN, RV, RY**.

Grey-tailed Tattler - **A7, B5, C5, RX**. (All four Tattlers have green flag right tibia, yellow flag and geolocator on left tibia and metal band left tarsus).

Terek Sandpiper – **DP, EE**.

Lesser Sand Plover – **DL, FC, HZ**.

Red-necked Stint – **DA, JT**,

Greater Sand Plover – Cairns Esplanade – Todd Pepper – 13.11.11

**Interstate & overseas Green leg flag sightings**

1 Pied Oystercatcher (**A8**) – Meldrum Park, Ballina, New South Wales – John Rawlinson – 23.11.11

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Mullet creek to lagoon, Farewell Spit, Nelson region, South Island, New Zealand – David Melville – 12.01.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Motueka Sandspit, Nelson, South Island, New Zealand – Rob Schuckard – 27.12.11

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Rugemuk village, Pantai Labu Deli Serdang, Sumatera Utara – Hasri Abdillah – 20.11.11

1 Bar-tailed Godwit (**HC**) – Motueka Sandspit, Nelson, South Island, New Zealand - Julia Melville – 16.10.11

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Motueka Sandspit, Nelson, South Island, New Zealand - Julia Melville – 16.10.11

**Orange (Victoria) leg flag sightings**

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Harbour – David Milton & Sandra Harding – 14.01.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Tuan, Great Sandy Strait – Linda Cross – 07.01.12

2 Bar-tailed Godwit – Boonooroo, Great Sandy Strait – Chris Barnes – 16.11.11

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Boonooroo, Great Sandy Strait – Chris Barnes – 19.10.11

2 Bar-tailed Godwit – Toorbul – Jeremy Barker – 17.10.11

1 Great Knot – Toorbul – Arthur Keates et al – 17.12.11

1 Great Knot – Toorbul – Jeremy Barker – 17.10.11

**White (New Zealand) leg flag sightings**

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – white flag right tarsus, red band right tarsus, white band over yellow band left tarsus – Toorbul – Jeremy Barker – 17.10.11

**Blue (Japanese) leg flag sightings – use four combinations**

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Fisherman Islands – David Edwards – 15.01.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Harbour – Jon Coleman – 02.10.11

(The above two birds had blue flag right tibia)

2 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates & Linda Cross – 07.02.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Harbour – David Milton & Sandra Harding – 14.01.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates, Sandra Harding & Joanna Morgan – 10.12.11

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Tryon Island, Capricornia Cays – Andrew McDougall – 13.10.11

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Toorbul – Paul Wallbridge – 26.09.11

(The above six birds had blue flag left tibia and metal band right tarsus – flagged Lake Furen or Shunkunitai, Hokkaido, Japan)

**Black over white or white over black (Shanghai, China) leg flag sightings**

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – Michael Strong – 08.01.12

1 Great Knot – Toorbul – Dez Wells – 14.01.12

1 Great Knot – Maaroom – John Bell – 08.01.12

2 Great Knot – Toorbul – Arthur Keates & Linda Cross – 17.12.11



1 Great Knot – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – Michael Strong – 11.12.11

1 Great Knot – Wynnum Esplanade – Brian Russell – 04.12.11

1 Greater Sand Plover – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – Michael Strong – 08.01.12

### **Black (Alaska USA projects) leg flag sightings**

1 Bar-tailed Godwit (4H) – Mathieson Homestead, Hervey Bay – Arthur Keates – 07.01.12

### **Other wader leg flag sightings**

1 Beach Stone-curlew – yellow flag (A1) on left tibia and metal band on right tibia – Lammermoor Beach, south east of Yeppoon – Tom Sjolund – 19.12.11 (flagged in New South Wales)

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – green flag over orange flag right tibia, white band over red band right tarsus, yellow band over red band left tarsus and metal band left tibia – Toorbul – Jeremy Barker – 17.10.11 (flagged at Yalu Jiang Nature Reserve, Liaoning Province, China)

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – green flag over orange flag right tibia, white band over red band right tarsus, yellow band over red band left tarsus and metal band left tibia – Toorbul – Rob Schuckard – 03.10.11 (flagged at Yalu Jiang Nature Reserve, Liaoning Province, China)

1 Greater Sand Plover – white flag over blue flag left tibia – Bushland Beach, Townville – Dez Wells – 29.12.11 (flagged at Hsia-Pu Ilan County, Taiwan, China)

1 Curlew Sandpiper – blue flag over yellow flag right tibia and metal band left tibia – Fisherman Islands – Arthur Keates & Floss Wainwright – 12.02.12 (flagged at Bohai Bay, China)

1 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – blue flag over yellow flag right tibia – Bundaberg Port – Chris Barnes & Nev Capell – 18.12.11 (flagged at Cangzhou, China)

1 Red-necked Stint – yellow flag right tibia, white flag right tarsus and metal band left tarsus – Cairns Esplanade – Don Hadden – 23.11.11 (Flagged at Sakhalin Island, Russia)

### **Pied Oystercatcher 2 digit Yellow leg flag sightings**

**The following sightings of yellow flagged oystercatchers are not birds flagged in North West Western Australia, as per the flagging protocol. They are another project being run from Victoria and New South Wales. Birds flagged in Victoria will have a yellow flag on the right tibia and inscribed with two digits. New South Wales birds will have the yellow flag on the left tibia and inscribed with two digits.**

Seven NSW birds seen as follows:

**J4** – Toorbul – Dez Wells – 14.01.12

**J6** – Oyster Point – Katya Thompson – 20.01.12

**K3** – Manly Harbour – Sheryl Keates, Stuart Pickering & Tony Cotter – 12.11.11

**K3** – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 12.02.12

**K7** – Oyster Point – Katya Thompson – 20.01.12

**L8** – Oyster Point – Katya Thompson – 20.01.12

**N4** – Maaroom – Chris Barnes – 07.01.12

**P2** – Oyster Point – Katya Thompson – 20.01.12

**P2** – Manly Harbour – Sheryl Keates, Stuart Pickering & Tony Cotter – 12.11.11

### **Other leg flag sightings and banded birds**

1 Roseate Tern – blue flag left tarsus and metal band right tarsus – Bylund Cay, Swain's Reef, Great Barrier Reef – Andrew McDougall – 28.01.12

1 Roseate Tern – blue flag left tarsus and metal band right tarsus – Thomas Cay, Swain's Reef, Great Barrier Reef – Andrew McDougall – 27.01.12

1 Roseate Tern – blue flag left tarsus and metal band right tarsus – Gannet Cay, Swain Reefs, Great Barrier Reef – Andrew McDougall – 20.01.11

(All above flagged Katsuren Ginogi, Okinawa, Japan)

1 Caspian Tern – orange flag right tarsus – Brisbane – Chris Martinez – 01.11.11 (flagged Victoria)

### **Interesting wader sightings**

**Please note these sightings are not authenticated records.**

\* = to be submitted to BQ RAC \*\* = to be submitted to BARC

20 Black-fronted Dotterel (includes 2 immature) – Deception Bay claypan – 11.02.12

2 Red-kneed Dotterel – Deception Bay claypan – 11.02.12

470 Black-winged Stilt – Kedron Brook Wetlands – 19.01.12

12 Broad-billed Sandpiper – Fisherman Islands – 15.01.12

1 Semipalmated Plover – Bundaberg Port Swamp – 06.01.12 \*\*

4 Grey Plover – Queens Esplanade Thorneside – 10.12.11 (unusual at this site)

1 Greater Sand Plover – Kinka Wetlands – 10.12.11 (unusual at this wetland site)

3 Little Curlew – on the Oval at Coen FNQ – 25.11.11  
2 Red-kneed Dotterel – Kedron Brook Wetlands – 20.11.11  
3 Painted Snipe – Qld Aluminium Ltd entrance mudflats – 14.10.11  
1 Common Sandpiper – Bribie Island – sighted since late January

**Not waders but of interest anyway**

1 Black Bittern – Endeavour River mouth, Cooktown – 14.01.12  
46 Wandering Whistling Duck – Garnet's Lagoon 2, Hervey Bay – 14.01.12  
2 Buff-banded Rail (1 adult and 1 chick) – Caboolture River mouth – 14.01.12  
1 Square-tailed Kite – Kedron Brook Wetlands – 15.12.11  
293 Black Swan – Toorbul – 13.12.11  
1200 Little Tern – Maroochy River sandbar – 10.12.11  
1 Spotted Harrier – Bundaberg Port Swamp – 13.11.11  
521 Chestnut Teal – Bundaberg Port Swamp – 13.11.11  
3 Glossy Ibis – Bundaberg Port Swamp – 13.11.11  
1 Baillon's Crake – Garnet's Lagoon 2, Hervey Bay – 12.11.11  
3 Black-necked Stork – Garnet's Lagoon 1, Hervey Bay – 12.11.11  
6 Great-crested Grebe – Garnet's Lagoon 2, Hervey Bay – 14.10.11

## Count Programme by Linda Cross

**Please note that due to comments received from counters and the fact that the original date was the Easter weekend, we have changed the April count date.**

**New count date is: Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April Tide height 2.01m at 09:21**

**Please amend your calendar.**

As the tide height for the March count is once again quite high (2.39m) please make sure you get to your site much earlier than you normally would do. If need be you can do the count as an incoming tide count, but remember you must stop at 09:15. After that time it then becomes a high tide count.

After many years in the count programme we say goodbye to Lois MacRae and Frank Bigg. Lois counted Dux Creek on Bribie Island from early 1992 until early 2002 before it was lost to development and she then promptly started counting Kakadu Beach roost that was built as an alternative roost. Lois will count Kakadu Beach roost for the last time in March this year making it 20 years that she has been involved with the count programme

Frank started counting in late 1992 also doing some counts in Dux Creek. In early 2003 Frank also counted with Lois at Kakadu Beach roost and continued to cover the site with Lois until January this year making it just over 19 years of involvement with the QWSG.

Both Frank and Lois are now in their elderly years and looking for a rest. We thank them both for their long term commitment to the QWSG count programme and wish them both well in their pursuit of relaxation. Let's hope we can find someone with the stamina that they have both shown over the last 20 years.

Michael Strong has offered to help out whenever he can to do the Kakadu Beach roost count, but work commitments do tend to take him away quite a bit. I am also waiting to hear from someone else that might be able to assist, but if any of our members would like to take over this site you will find that it is relatively easy (most times) and would be suitable for a first time counter. Please contact me if you are interested.

With autumn approaching remember to check flocks for our cross Tasman visitor (Double-banded Plover) due to arrive on our shores. There are no sightings for this species on the February count sheets that I have received so far.

If you want to improve your wader id skills on Tattlers, then March is one of the better months to do it when you can see them in breeding plumage.

The best sites to find them are Wickham Point and Point Cartwright on the Sunshine Coast, Point Vernon and Gable Point Rocks in Hervey Bay. The two sites on the Sunshine Coast also have regular sightings of Sooty Oystercatcher and Eastern Reef Egret. The two sites in Hervey Bay have a variety of wader species that also include the Sooty Oystercatcher.

Last month I wrote a paragraph regarding Red Knot and when the best time was to see them, which is normally during the southward migration. We don't usually get many records of this species during the summer months, but I have been surprised at the amount of sites that they have been recorded at, and a few with reasonable numbers. During November through to February they have been recorded at twelve sites. While most have around a dozen or less on the count, 154 were seen at Bushland Beach, Townsville on 29.12.11, another 150 were seen at Maaroom on 14.01.12, at Toorbul 52 were recorded on 13.12.11 and 30 at Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve on 10.12.11.

I keep a list of extracts from your count sheets to use when writing the newsletter articles and although the figures that I have kept during the last couple of months look promising for some species, as I go through the list I see I have only one extract for Marsh Sandpiper and it is for 17 seen at Maaroom on 14.01.12. The Red-necked Avocet is often recorded in the drier months along the coast, but they too have been in low numbers and absent from sites that they are normally seen at. One can only hope that the lack of sightings for these species may be because of the vast area of water that continues to be available in inland Australia since the end of 2010.

With the sighting of a good number of Black-fronted Dotterel and only the fourth record of Red-kneed Dotterel at the same site in February (see Interesting wader sightings), perhaps some of the nomadic resident waders will head toward the coast this autumn and winter.

In December Laurel Allsopp who counts seven sites in Tweed Heads NSW for us, contacted me regarding the sighting of a second Beach Stone-curlew seen during the counts. The area has only been recording one of this species for a long time, so they are excited that a second one has arrived that might make a pair for potential breeding.

High totals recorded for a few species during the last few months are listed below.

Eastern Curlew – some very good totals at a number of sites from December onwards. Reeder's Point Moreton Island (602), Mangrove Point south claypan Hervey Bay (467), Geoff Skinner Reserve (438), Cooloola (409), Mirapool Moreton Island (405) and King Street mudflat Thornlands (316).

Bar-tailed Godwit – during the last couple of months totals in excess of 2000 birds have been recorded at Maaroom, Cooloola, Toorbul and Reeder's Point Moreton Island with the highest total of 3150 at Kakadu Beach roost Bribie Island on 08.01.12

Black-tailed Godwit – 397 at Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve on 10.12.11 and 187 at Pine Rivers North side on 14.01.12

Whimbrel – 570 at Mathieson Homestead Hervey Bay on 08.10.11 and 300 at Shellgrit Creek entrance Mackay on 10.12.11

Pied Oystercatcher – 220 at Reeder's Point Moreton Island on 23.01.12

Pacific Golden Plover – 283 at Fisherman Islands on 15.01.12 and 216 at Skyring Estuary Bundaberg on 12.01.12

Great Knot – 905 at St Helens Beach north of Mackay on 08.02.12 and other good totals from Maaroom (700) on 14.01.12, Buckley's Hole Sandbar (690) on 05.02.12 and Bushland Beach Townsville on 29.12.11

Grey-tailed Tattlers – 689 at Manly Harbour on 10.12.11

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – 480 at Fisherman Islands on 12.02.12 and good totals from Kedron Brook Wetlands (440) on 20.11.11, Redcliffe Airport northside (370) on 10.12.11 and Nathan Road Redcliffe on 10.12.11

Curlew Sandpiper – 1735 at Fisherman Islands on 12.02.12

Red-capped Plover – 173 at Cooloola on 11.12.11 and 157 at Fisherman Islands on 12.02.12

Red-necked Stint – 1733 at Fisherman Islands on 12.02.12 and 1455 at Geoff Skinner Reserve on 10.12.11

Other wader sightings can be found in the 'Interesting wader sightings' section of this newsletter.

### **Breeding records.**

Beach Stone-curlew – one juvenile with two adults at Elliot River southbank sandbar (also known as Dr. May's Island) on 13.01.12 and one juvenile with two adults at Reeder's Point, Moreton Island on 23.01.12

Black-winged Stilt – nesting at Kedron Brook Wetlands on 13.11.11

Red-capped Plover – two chicks at Bundaberg Port Swamp on 15.01.12.

**Please send counts to me at our new email address as follows: [xenus69@bigpond.com](mailto:xenus69@bigpond.com)**

Snail mail: 40 Thompson Road, Bellmere. Qld 4510 Phone: 5495 2758

Send leg flag sightings to Phil Cross using either of the two above methods.

Happy counting.

Linda Cross.

## COUNTING – SOME FACTS

I often have to explain to counters some of the protocols of counting, so I thought it might be useful to put some of the facts in the newsletters.

The very first thing we should explain to counters is how we go about selecting count dates for the year. The following factors have to be taken into consideration:

- Preferably a tide height of around 2.2m.
- A suitable time of day.
- Counts spaced 4 four weeks apart.

A tide around the 2.2m ideally should push the birds onto most of the roosts so they can be counted. Of course, some roosts are classed as staging roosts as the birds use them on lower tides, whereas, other roosts are only used on very high or king tides. At these sites, the optimum height we choose is usually not ideal to count a reasonable number of birds.

Although there are lots of suitable tide heights each month, daylight hours are needed to do the count unless one has night vision binoculars and scope. Then finally we try to pick the dates four weeks apart. It is not always possible to get tides at a reasonable time of day on these weekends. We often have little choice but to use the nearest tide at an appropriate time from the annual predicated tides.

The January and February counts (as with March), had quite high tides for our count dates. I have mentioned numerous times before in our newsletter that you need to take a different approach to your count when we have the higher tide heights. If you usually turn up one and a half hours before the high tide on a smaller tide there is no problem. However, on the higher tides (depending on the actual height), if you take the same approach there is every likelihood that the site is flooded and there are no birds. On these higher than normal tides, counters need to arrive earlier at their roosts in order to count birds before they are potentially displaced by the tide. One can also do a count at other times of the day, but it will have to be recorded as either an incoming, outgoing, high or low tide count depending on the time you do the count.

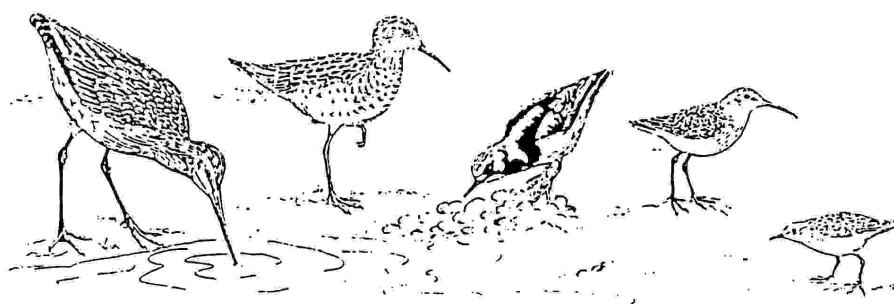
The upcoming March count is 2.39m at 10:47 at the Brisbane Bar. If Phil and I arrived at one of our sites in Deception Bay at 09:17 the area would be covered with water and no birds would be on site. What we would do is arrive much earlier, say 07:30 and do the count then. This would be classed as an incoming tide count and should be finished by 09:17. Doing the count earlier would mean that the birds would be recorded before they are pushed off the roost. If you stay at the site past 09:17 and all the birds are still on site within the high tide count time (+/- 1.5 hours o high tide), then you can make a note in the comments section of your count sheet that all birds still on site at beginning of high tide. If however some of the birds have left, then you have to fill in another count sheet and record that as a high tide count.

If birds do leave or arrive at your site during the count it would be good to record the time this happened and in what direction they came or went. This is most helpful if someone is counting a site next to yours so that when we look at the overall numbers in a region, they are not over counted.

Again, on numerous occasions I have said if you do not understand what I am saying, then please contact me and I will explain.

More facts on counting will appear in the next issue.

Linda.



## Wader ID Days

### **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March at Manly Boat Harbour**

**As this is on private property we need to know numbers. See details below.**

High tide at 09.26 of 2.49m. Meeting time 07.30.

This is your chance to legally get behind the fence and check out the waders with our group. Meet at the end of the road, east of the Royal Queensland Yacht Clubhouse, Manly. UBD map 164 A6. **Gates will be locked after we enter and late arrivals will not be able to access the site. Therefore, we need to know if you are planning to attend this id day. Please ensure you contact the people below and have your name put on the list. We would also like to keep the numbers at a reasonable quantity, so book early.**

Please contact any of the following people if you have any questions. Arthur & Sheryl Keates 3843 1874, Phil & Linda Cross 5495 2758,

### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March at Toorbul (Wave the waders goodbye)**

High tide at 10.53 (plus 30 minutes later for Toorbul 11:23 pm) of 2.03m. Meeting time 10.00.

Take the Bruce Highway north from Brisbane to the Donnybrook/Toorbul exit. Turn off here and head east over the highway overpass. Continue on this road to Toorbul. Turn right at the T-junction then first left and then right, which brings you onto the Esplanade. Follow this road to the end (approximately 2kms); we will be on the left.

Bring water, food and a chair. It is a good idea to have a hat, sunscreen and insect repellent. Most importantly bring your binoculars or telescopes. Hopefully we can provide the answers to all your questions.

Please contact any of the following people if you have any questions. Phil & Linda Cross 5495 2758. Arthur & Sheryl Keates 3843 1874.

## Wader ID Days Reports

### **TOORBUL WADER ID DAY REPORT 17<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

After joining the morning BQ outing at Sheepstation Creek Morayfield we continued onto Toorbul and arrived early for lunch, but other people had the same idea and were already waiting. Six other BQ members from the morning outing took advantage of the good weather and also came along. In total 34 people, including two visitors from Victoria, attended this ID day.

Weather conditions were fine, dry and sunny with a moderate south-easterly wind.

The first surprise was a Beach Stone-curlew at the southern end of the roost, which was a new species for one of the visitors. A large flock (248) of Black Swans congregated on the water in front of the roost and some also stood on the sand in front of it. While most of the wader enthusiasts were busy looking through the waders for leg flags Sarah Beavis sighted a red band on one of the swans and after a short time the letters on the engraved band were recorded.

Fourteen species of waders were present at the roost giving us a good variety for people to learn. However some of the smaller species were in very low numbers and surprisingly no Grey-tailed Tattler or Terek Sandpiper made an appearance. The Common Greenshank were seen at one of the other roosts along the Esplanade after the outing.

Some time was spent looking for leg flags, but only four were seen:

- 1 Bar-tailed Godwit with plain old green flag on right tibia (Moreton Bay)
- 1 Great Knot with plain orange flag on right tibia (Victoria)



2 Great Knot with plain black flag over plain white flag on right tibia (Chongming Dao, Shanghai, China)

1 Black Swan with red band and engraved letters (XTB)

Unfortunately, we did not conduct a count as we spent a lot of time helping people identify the species; however, we did note numbers for some species.

Birds seen at Toorbul Roost and environs:

248 Black Swan, Australian Wood Duck, Spotted Dove, Crested Pigeon, Australasian Darter, Little Pied Cormorant, Little Black Cormorant, Australian Pelican, Eastern Great Egret, Cattle Egret, Striated Heron, White-faced Heron, Little Egret, Australian White Ibis, Royal Spoonbill, Eastern Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, 1 Beach Stone-curlew, Australian Pied Oystercatcher, Black-winged Stilt, 1 Pacific Golden Plover, Masked Lapwing, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, 440+ Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew, Common Greenshank, Great Knot, Red Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, 1 Little Tern, Gull-billed Tern, Caspian Tern, Silver Gull, 4 Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo F/O, Mangrove Honeyeater, Noisy Miner, Blue-faced Honeyeater, Pied Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Torresian Crow, Magpie-lark, Welcome Swallow,

A quick stop at Bishop's Marsh by two of the leaders produced Intermediate Egret, Black-shouldered Kite, Brolga, Black-winged Stilt and Masked Lapwing. Around 50 Plumed-Whistling Duck could be seen on the dam wall in the paddock to the west of the marsh.

My thanks to the QWSG and BQ members who came to this outing and ended up helping other people identify the waders.

Linda Cross.

## **MANLY WADER ID REPORT 7<sup>th</sup> February 2012**

Seventeen people took advantage of the opportunity to access the Manly wader roost on an early morning mid-week outing.

The weather conditions were ideal for wader watching, a clear sky with a gentle cooling easterly breeze, giving observers good views of 20 wader species.

Apart from the locally banded birds, 2 Grey-tailed Tattler sporting blue leg flags signifying they had been banded in Japan were seen. Among the c 400 Grey-tailed Tattler was a single Wandering Tattler, the highlight of the day for most observers.

Several birds showed traces and, in some cases, advanced traces of breeding plumage, particularly some of the Bar-tailed Godwit. A pair of the resident Red-capped Plover had a pair of "runners" while several Black-winged Stilt appeared to be sitting on nests on the island.

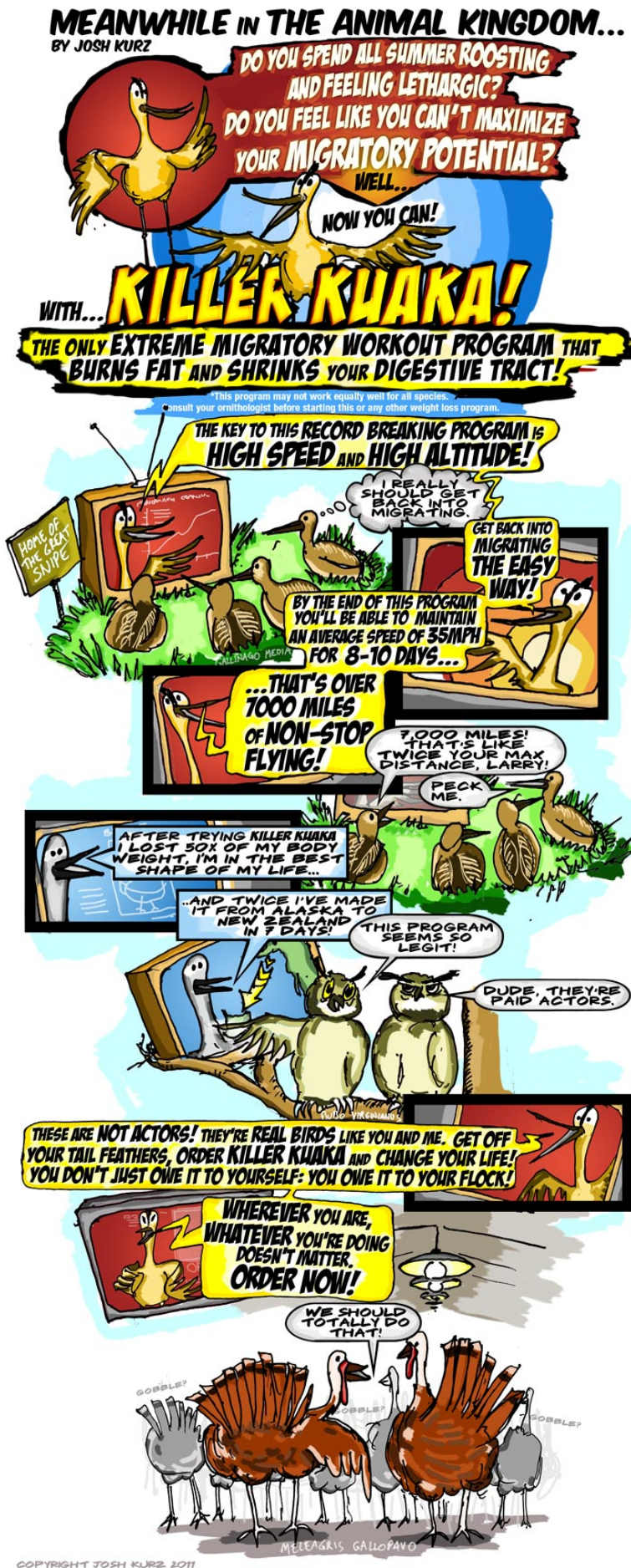
A thorough search of the birds failed to reveal the early arrival of Double-banded Plover, the east-west migrant from New Zealand.

Our thanks to Pamela Pavey, Marina Manager, Wynnum Manly Yacht Club Marina, for allowing access to the site.

Species seen at the roost include the following:

Little Pied Cormorant, Chestnut Teal, Pacific Black Duck, Australian Pelican, Eastern Osprey, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Brahminy Kite, Buff-banded Rail, Australian Pied Oystercatcher, Sooty Oystercatcher, Black-winged Stilt, Pacific Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Red-capped Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Greater Sand Plover, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew, Terek Sandpiper, Grey-tailed Tattler, Wandering Tattler, Common Greenshank, Ruddy Turnstone, Great Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Little Tern, Gull-billed Tern, Caspian Tern, Silver Gull,

by Arthur Keates



## QWSG CONTACTS

### QUEENSLAND WADER

[www.waders.org.au](http://www.waders.org.au)

The Official Quarterly Publication of  
Queensland Wader Study Group

#### **MEMBERS of the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE of the QWSG**

<u>CHAIRPERSON:</u>	Jon Coleman	(07) 3299 2780
<u>ACTING TREASURER:</u>	Sheryl Keates	(07) 3843 1874
<u>ASSISTANT TREASURER:</u>	Dierdre Chrzescijanski	
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Peter Rothlisberg	(07) 3822 3759
<u>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</u>	David Edwards	(07) 3262 2017 or email <a href="mailto:gouldian@ozemail.com.au">gouldian@ozemail.com.au</a>
<u>COMMITTEE MEMBERS:</u>		

Robert Bush		Vicki Campbell	(07) 3378 2964
Peter Driscoll		Richard Fuller	
Andrew Geering	(07) 3376 1241	Joyce Harding	(07) 3488 0212
Sandra Harding	(07) 3390 2179	Andy Jensen	0404 348 638
David Milton	(07) 3390 2179	Richard Noske	
Ivell Whyte	(07) 3802 0757		

<u>COUNT COORDINATOR:</u>	Linda Cross	07 5495 2758	Email <a href="mailto:xenus69@bigpond.com">xenus69@bigpond.com</a>
<u>MERCHANDISE</u>	Vicki Campbell	07 3378 2964	Email <a href="mailto:vicki.campbell@cogentia.com.au">vicki.campbell@cogentia.com.au</a>
<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	All correspondence to:		

The QWSG Chairperson,  
22 Parker Street,  
SHAILER PARK  
QLD 4128

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please notify the Treasurer as soon as possible of any change of address so that your Newsletter can be dispatched correctly.

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Annual subscription rates:  
Single: \$15:00  
Student/Pensioner: \$10:00  
Family: \$25:00

Receipt will be forwarded with next edition of Queensland Wader.

Forward application to:

Sheryl Keates  
QWSG Acting Treasurer  
PO Box 1483  
CARINDALE  
Qld 4152

Members are reminded their membership expires on the date shown on the newsletter address label, and the membership joining/renewal form is now on the back page. **Note:** that your subscription will fall due twelve (12) months after date of joining the QWSG or date of renewal, and only one further newsletter will be sent after expiry of your subscription.

Copy Deadline for the next issue of Queensland Wader is **May 18<sup>th</sup> 2012**

Contributions should be addressed to:

David Edwards, The QWSG Editor, 54 Elliott Street, Clayfield, Qld 4011  
or E-mail to: [gouldian@ozemail.com.au](mailto:gouldian@ozemail.com.au)

Opinions expressed in Queensland Wader are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Queensland Waders Study Group, nor the Queensland Ornithological Society Inc.

Advertising Rates are \$20:00 for one-quarter page and \$25:00 for a third of a page.

**PRINTED BY: Mr Bob Durrington of J.R. Durrington & Sons Pty Ltd.**  
[admin@jrdsons.com.au](mailto:admin@jrdsons.com.au)

## QWSG MERCHANDISE

Should you wish to purchase any of the QWSG merchandise, items may be purchased at BQ Inc meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at the Royal Geographical Society Rooms, 237 Milton Rd, Milton.

**OR**

Contact Vicki Campbell Phone 07 3378 2964 or email [vicki.campbell@cogentia.com.au](mailto:vicki.campbell@cogentia.com.au)

Postage is not included in prices quoted.

### **Note price reduction on "Shorebirds of Australia"**

BOOKS	\$35.00	Shorebirds of Australia
METAL BADGES	\$5.00	Metal QWSG logo badges.
CLOTH BADGES	\$8.00	QWSG logo on rectangular bottle-green or sand background

POLO SHIRTS                \$35.00.

Our cotton polo shirts are now available.  
The locally made shirts are plain bottle or sky  
with contrast collar in sand, or tri-coloured  
sand/cocoa/sky and sand/cocoa/bottle.

Men's sizes: SM - XL

Women's : XS - M



## Other Conservation Activities of Interest



QWSG is a special interest group of the Birds Queensland Inc. whose object is:  
"To promote the scientific study and conservation of birds by all means possible, with  
particular reference to the birds of Queensland".

Separate membership is required. Contacts: President, Richard Noske;  
Secretary, Rae Clark; Treasurer, Colleen Lock

**New Committee to be elected after publication of this issue.**

Monthly Meetings        Birds Queensland - 7.45pm  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month except January, when there is no meeting.  
Royal Geographical Society Meeting Room, 237 Milton Road, Milton.  
Arrive after 7:15pm for a 7:45pm start.

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new member who have joined recently:

**Sarah Beavis, Mary Boyce, Malcolm & Judith Campbell**  
**Lori Floden, Coral Johnson, Mike & Linda Lewis**  
**Elizabeth MacKenzie, Kelly Matthews, Richard Noske**  
**Jan Olley, Geoff Skoien, Lisa Turner, Robert Westerman**

A reminder to all members, please let the Treasurer know if you change your email address.

Many thanks too to those who have included a donation with their renewal or membership fee. This is greatly appreciated as such donations make on-going work possible.

## Electronic Newsletter ??

Are you interested in receiving your "Queensland Wader" by email?

If you are interested email me on [gouldian@ozemail.com.au](mailto:gouldian@ozemail.com.au). Could you use the subject line as "Electronic Newsletter"? Editor





## Count Activities – 2012

### QWSG High Tide – Monthly Count Program – 2012

Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.39m at 10:47	Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1.98m at 09:47
<b>Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Apr</b>	<b>2.01m at 09:21</b>	Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> Sep	2.03m at 08:43
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> May	2.19m at 08:26	Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.02m at 07:34
<b>No Count in June</b>		Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	2.19m at 11:54
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> Jul	1.90m at 10:47	Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	2.33m at 10:58

**National Winter Count**

### Port of Brisbane Count Dates – 2012

Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2.26m at 11:29	Meet	09:40	Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	2.04m at 10:29	Meet	08:40
<b>Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr</b>	<b>1.96 at 09:53</b>	<b>Meet</b>	<b>08:00</b>	Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> Sep	2.14m at 09:26	Meet	07:35
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> May	2.13m at 09:17	Meet	07:25	Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.18m at 08:20	Meet	06:30
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	2.00m at 08:04	Meet	06:15	Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	2.13m at 12:33	Meet	10:40
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jul	1.93m at 11:29	Meet	09:40	Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	2.29m at 11:34	Meet	09:45

The Port of Brisbane is a work site and we are doing the survey for the Port and ourselves. Unfortunately we cannot accept people who turn up on the day for a bird watching day.

## PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR RENEWAL IS DUE!

**A reminder to members:** please let the Treasurer know if you change your contact details.



## MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION

I / We wish to join / renew: (Single \$15; Family \$25; Student/Pensioner \$10)

Title..... First name: ..... Surname Name:.....

Address:..... Membership: \$.....

..... Postcode:..... Donation: \$.....

..... Payment enclosed: \$.....

Phone: (Home) ..... (Work) .....

Fax / e-mail: .....

Receipt issued on request TOTAL \$.....

How did you hear about QWSG .....

Are you a member of Birds Queensland?.....

What activities do you wish to participate in? (Please circle)

WADER COUNTS, FIELD TRIPS, SCIENTIFIC DATA COLLECTION, SURVEYS, CLERICAL,

OTHER (specify.....)

Would you like to receive your newsletter by E-mail.....

SIGNATURE: ..... DATE:.....

**Post to: QWSG Acting Treasurer, PO Box 1483 CARINDALE, Qld 4152**

Cheques to be made out to: Queensland Wader Study Group

For a direct credit, please use the following details.

Account name: Qld Wader Study Group  
 Account number: 08305297  
 Financial Institution: mecu Limited  
 BSB: 803 140

An email advice to Sheryl Keates **2tattlers@gmail.com** would be appreciated.