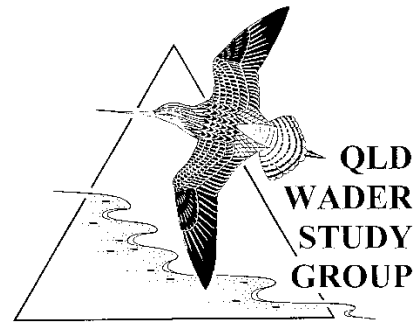


# QUEENSLAND WADER



Issue number 080

June, July, August 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)

## Geo-locators and Grey -tailed Tattler migration

What do we know about Grey-tailed tattler migration? Well many thousands of Grey-tailed Tattlers have been banded in Australia, primarily in Queensland and North West Australia. The majority of these birds have been banded with both a metal coded band and a plain coloured leg flag, which identifies to observers where the bird was banded. The flags are important as they can be seen easily without having to catch the bird so large amounts of information can be collected without having to recatch the bird.

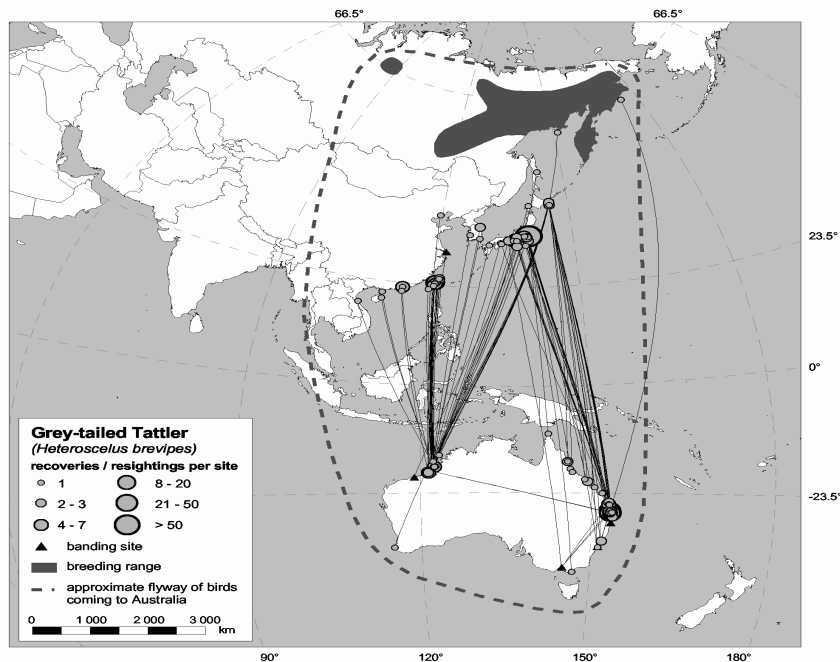


**Grey-tailed Tattlers with plain leg flags on migration in Japan ©Queensland Wader Study Group**

For example, if the bird you are looking at has a green flag, it was banded in Queensland, Orange is Victoria, light blue is Japan and so on. You can have a look at the flag combinations used across the Pacific flyway at this link: <http://www.awsg.org.au/flagging.php>

So what have we learnt from all this banding? If we're going to make the effort to catch these birds and interfere, all be it briefly in their daily routines there has to be some value there that ultimately benefits those birds, or why do it? Most people will be aware that our shorebird populations are declining and this was highlighted in a recent paper using data from Moreton Bay (Wilson *et al* 2011). Various causes are being cited, with habitat destruction top of the list and supported by several high profile examples recently including the Saemengeum estuary destruction and the ongoing environmental damage in the Yellow Sea.

Leg flags have helped focus effort in this fight by identifying the most important areas that these remarkable birds use on their migration. A flagship paper by Clive Minton and a number of other authors (Minton *et al* 2006) summarised this remarkable volume of data based on plain leg flag sightings, which culminated in a series of maps, such as this one for tattlers:



Flag sightings of Grey-tailed tattlers banded in Australia (from Minton *et al* 2006)

This paper showed that West coast and East coast tattlers migrate slightly differently. Both populations appear to use Japan for staging on their migration but whereas Queensland birds appear to fly direct to Japan on northward migration, West coast birds appear to take a more leisurely and westerly route along the Asian coastline. This kind of data is extremely important in identifying those areas the birds use on migration so investigation and lobbying can be focused on the areas that matter. It's also important to continue doing this so any changes over time are identified and monitored. However this doesn't tell us anything about the individuals involved, do they do the same things every year, do they return to the same sites in Australia.

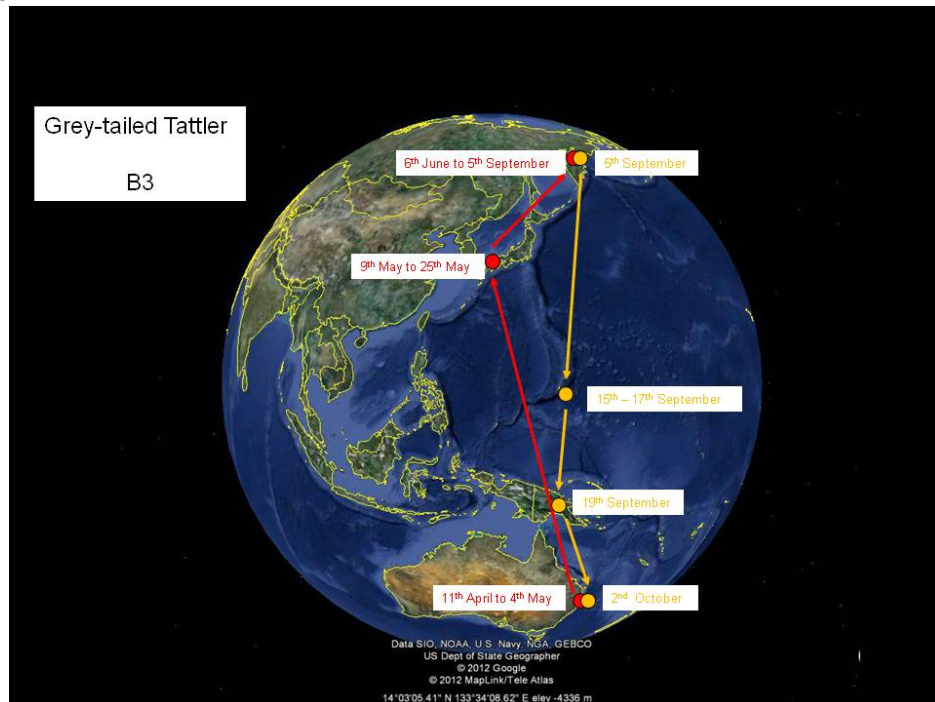
More recently many leg flags have had individual codes inscribed on them, allowing researchers to find out more about what individuals do. We now know from those flags that many shorebirds are very site faithful. Of the Grey-tailed tattlers banded on Moreton bay, individually coded leg flags tell us that almost all birds return not only to Moreton Bay for the Austral summer but also use the same roosting and feeding locations year after year so the leg flags give us important information on both a local and international scale.

Leg-flags have limitations; they require people to see them, so sighting records are biased to areas of population. What if there are important areas these birds use that we don't know about, where they aren't seen? We also only have a few breeding sightings and far less information about the southward migration of Queensland tattlers. Geolocators, small 1gram light sensing devices use regular light readings to calculate daylight hours for every 24 hour period for the life of the battery in the device. They can be glued to a leg flag and the data retrieved by recatching the bird to download the information. Software then helps to translate the daylight data into latitude and longitude and this allows far more detailed and unbiased data to be collected about individual birds movements.

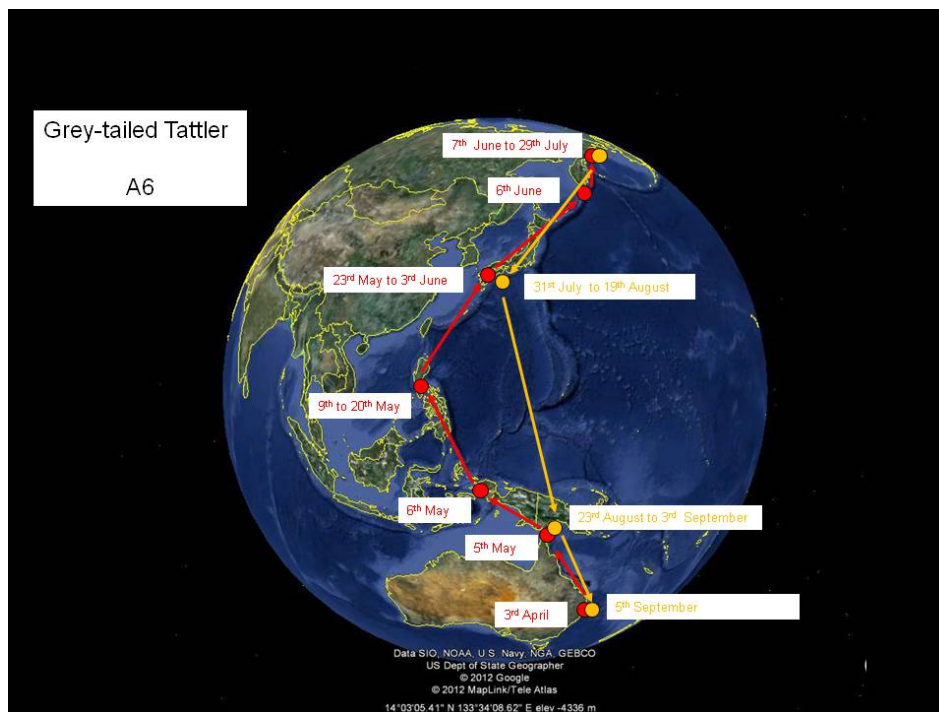


Grey-tailed Tattler at Wynnum, Moreton Bay with a leg flag and a geolocator © Brian Russell

In April 2011 Queensland Wader Study Group, with the Wild Bird Society of Japan in Chiba and with financial support from the Port of Brisbane placed 21 geolocators on Grey-tailed tattlers at Manly Boat Harbour. Two of the returning birds have been caught and the data downloaded providing very detailed information on both the northward and southward migration routes for the two birds. Both birds did very different things.



**B3** left manly in early May and flew direct to Japan where the bird remained for nearly three weeks before heading up to the Kamchatka peninsular where it remained until early September. The return journey was very direct with brief 2-3 day stopovers in Guam and New Guinea before arriving back in Brisbane in late September/early October.



In contrast **A6** took a much more westerly track in its routes travelling north through Indonesia and spending time staging in both the Philippines and Japan before moving up to the Kamchatka peninsular where the bird presumably bred. This bird left Kamchatka much earlier than **B3** and took a more westerly and leisurely route, staging in Japan for over 2 weeks and stopping briefly in new Guinea on its return to Australia.

What does this tell us, it tells us that while leg flag data has been and remains a highly important information source for conservation, geolocators will now complement this and add considerably more detail in the fight to protect our shorebirds.

Data from the Victoria Wader Study Group on Ruddy Turnstone migration has already demonstrated this and many more species in our flyway are currently under investigation using this technology.

Geolocators will also help us understand individual variation in migrating birds as well as highlighting new areas, important for these remarkable birds that we don't currently know about and which may also be threatened. Most of all these new technologies teach us yet again that no matter how much we thought we knew, the variability and complexity of these remarkable birds will continue to surprise, amaze and teach us new things as we learn ways of looking at them in more and more detail.

Hopefully we will retrieve more of the remaining geolocators when the birds return in August/September and will get similar detailed information, which will allow us to understand the variation in migration of our east coast tattlers. We will also be deploying some more geolocators this season to increase our dataset.

Many people have helped and given their time to get this project off the ground with the core banding team working long hours to catch and recapture birds. Many recorders in the field have been identifying birds with geolocators and reporting these so that we have known birds with geolocators were present. In some cases, such as at Wynnum, we've had almost daily updates which has been extremely useful in planning catching trips, as well as providing some extraordinarily useful information on faithfulness to sites. I and QWSG are extremely grateful to everyone who has helped in catching, or has taken the time to record and tell us about either a leg flagged bird or a bird with a geocator.

Jon Coleman, Queensland Wader Study Group.

## Port of Brisbane Count Results for 2011 by Linda Cross

The ninth year of extensive counting has been completed by the QWSG for the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL) at the Port of Brisbane complex (formerly known as Bishop or Fisherman Island). As with previous years, the counts were conducted the day after the scheduled monthly count set for the QWSG count programme.

The same methodology for the counts has continued as before with numbers being listed under the appropriate habitat that the birds were observed using (dry open area, wet margin, broken ground and bund wall). The overall count for the complex in 2011 was 40,841 waders, 5,134 terns and 6,034 waterbirds and raptors, which do not include the figures for the Visitors Centre Lake (54 waders and 4,044 waterbirds). No counts were completed in January, March and December due to bad weather and unstable conditions within the complex. Obviously, if these extra counts had taken place the figures would have been higher. However, these figures of course are not the number of birds using the site at any one time, but the aggregate of the monthly totals.

The following table is the total migratory and resident waders recorded at the Port of Brisbane over the last nine years. Note: these figures do not include the Visitors Centre Lake site.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Totals
2011	No count	10173	No count	8108	2112	1552	1236	1488	2004	5430	8738	No count	40841
2010	7345	7099	6709	2864	1256	2145	1648	2568	5205	6942	5904	NC	49685
2009	10072	13243	7192	2293	NC	1200	1245	2439	4372	6478	6182	8003	62719
2008	5179	8935	4394	4204	2202	2793	2700	2724	5468	4069	6617	8286	57571
2007	8853	5264	8307	1120	1989	1543	1752	1629	3885	7609	6165	5664	53780
2006	12323	10573	7055	4230	2142	1969	2250	2635	5296	8051	8995	7514	73033
2005	4751	5609	3572	3317	2162	3034	2436	2096	3790	6173	6745	7731	51416
2004	11650	4528	7398	1607	2416	1617	1328	2410	2974	6026	5976	8194	56124
2003	7445	6922	6126	4021	2286	2107	2041	1720	4466	4118	8054	7996	57302



The following table provides the waders, terns, waterbirds and raptors numbers for the Port areas and Visitors Centre Lake each month for 2011.

2011 Month	Port Waders	Port Terns	Port Waterbirds/Raptors	Lake Waders	Lake Terns	Lake Waterbirds/Raptors	Totals
January	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count
February	10173	899	204	2	0	60	11338
March	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count
April	8108	682	945	4	0	193	9932
May	2112	652	893	3	0	328	3988
June	1552	273	880	3	0	339	3047
July	1236	126	719	0	0	612	2693
August	1488	175	718	17	0	728	3126
September	2004	131	561	7	0	686	3389
October	5430	700	410	6	0	550	7096
November	8738	1496	704	12	0	548	11498
December	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count	No count
Totals	40841	5134	6034	54	0	4044	56107

A brief comment on individual count sites for 2011 follows, but it should be remembered that the three months when counts did not take place were during the summer months when many migratory waders would have been present. This would also have affected the overall use of the paddocks within the complex.

**S3A & S3B** – As in 2010, all that remains of these two paddocks are two drains that attracted a very small number of waders in November. Two Black-fronted Dotterel were recorded on the site in June.

**R1** – Only a small portion of this riverside site close to the compound is all that remains since 2007. It attracts small numbers of waders in pools that form after rain. The best record for the site is 466 Red-necked Stint seen in February.

**R3** – This large riverside paddock was still favoured by many species for most of the year, but from October onwards the numbers dropped as birds appeared to favour the central 'C' sites. Some of the early records included 1,447 Red-necked Stint and 200 Pacific Golden Plover in February. April was the best total for the year that included 877 Curlew Sandpiper, 864 Lesser Sand Plover, 450 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and two Broad-billed Sandpiper using the site. A total of 129 Red-capped Plover used the site in May and 74 of the same species were recorded in August. This site was also favoured by Double-banded Plover during their overwintering period with three being recorded in April, 31 in May, 20 in June and 29 in August.

**C1** – Although this central paddock is nearly reclaimed and only attracted a small number of waders for most of the year, a large number were recorded in October and November. Some of the interesting totals were 428 Lesser Sand Plover in February and 272 Red-necked Avocet in September. In October 750 Lesser Sand Plover, 300 Lesser Sand Plover and 208 Pacific Golden Plover used the site to roost, while November saw 1,074 Curlew Sandpiper and 274 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper also roost here.

**C2** – Unlike 2010, when this middle central paddock failed to attract large numbers of waders, 2011 was used by a large selection of birds, particularly during the summer. February records include 2,392 Red-necked Stint, 1,413 Curlew Sandpiper, 293 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and one Broad-billed Sandpiper. Other good totals included 1,333 Red-necked Stint in April, 210 Red-necked Avocet in July, 1,720 Lesser Sand Plover, 162 Greater Sand Plover, 1,058 Red-necked Stint, 285 Pacific Golden Plover and 159 Eastern Curlew in November.

**C3** – This last central site failed to attract any large number of birds all year. Only totals of interest were 137 Black-winged Stilt in May, 978 Red-necked Stint in September and 791 of the same species in October.

**BS1** – The first of the bay-side paddocks continued to hold little interest for most birds, with the exception of 184 Red Knot and 157 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper in October and 683 Grey-tailed Tattlers in November. The site did record some good totals of Chestnut Teal and Little Tern a couple of times during the year and those details are listed further in this report in the interesting sightings section.

**BS2** – Apart from 96 Red-necked Avocet in August, this middle bay-side pond that attracted so many waders in 2010 failed to interest anything other than Chestnut Teal all year.

**BS3** – The last of the bay-side paddocks once again held no attraction to the birds, with the only significant record of 30 Ruddy Turnstone in August.

**FPE Outer** – The outer rock wall is still a favoured site for Grey-tailed Tattler, Ruddy Turnstone and Australian Pied Oystercatcher. Tattler numbers of interest are 1,056 in April, 493 in September and 410 in November. Among the flock of Grey-tailed Tattler in February and November was one Wandering Tattler. There was a significant number of 155 Ruddy Turnstone recorded in April, 100 in September, 104 in October and 79 in November. Our resident Australian Pied Oystercatcher was recorded on site every month, although not in large numbers, with the largest count being 88 in February. Disappointingly the two Sooty Oystercatcher that used the site last year have not been recorded within the entire complex for all of 2011.

**PBAR** – (Port of Brisbane Artificial Roost). Although this site is used by waterbirds and some resident waders, it still fails to attract migratory waders, particularly on count day. Only interesting numbers are 162 Black-winged Stilt and 53 Red-necked Avocets in November. In October, it managed to attract a lone Black-tailed Godwit.

**Claypan** – Numbers and species using this roost continued to be low, although there were a few interesting records. Unusually, 33 Red Knot were counted in February and increased to 62 in April, but only 14 remained on site in May. Also in May, 5 Black-tailed Godwit and 286 Black-winged Stilt were seen, but a much higher total of 350 stilt were counted in June. The highest total of Eastern Curlew was 154 in October. In November the claypan was totally dry and there were no birds of any species on the site.

**Visitor Centre Lake** – Only two wader species were recorded at the lake all year, Masked Lapwing and Black-winged Stilt, and they were both in low numbers. There was one breeding record for Masked Lapwing in September. As one would expect, the site continues to attract a good selection of waterbirds with Dusky Moorhen being by far the largest number of any species using the site. In July there were 128, which increased to 150 in August, then 189 in September and dropping to 149 in October before increasing again to 161 in November. There were numerous breeding records for Australasian Grebe, Dusky Moorhen, Eurasian Coot, Purple Swamphen, Black Swan and one record of a Little Pied Cormorant on a nest.

**Leg flag sightings:** There were 20 green leg-flagged birds seen during the counts, but because these birds have been flagged by our group in Moreton Bay, and have not travelled any significant distance, they have not been included in the leg flag sightings. Other leg-flagged birds seen throughout the Port of Brisbane area are as follows:

April	Blue flag left tibia on Grey-tailed Tattler.
May	Yellow flag left tibia ( <b>C1</b> ) on Australian Pied Oystercatcher.
June	Orange flag right tarsus on Caspian Tern.
August	Blue flag right tibia on Red-necked Stint.
October	Blue flag over yellow flag right tibia and white flag over blue flag left tibia (white flag engraved with number <b>35</b> ) on Curlew Sandpiper and orange flag right tibia on Bar-tailed Godwit.
November	Yellow flag left tibia ( <b>C1</b> ) on Australian Pied Oystercatcher.

(Leg flag colour code regions can be found in the "Wader Watch Section" of this newsletter).

#### **Breeding records:**

Red-capped Plover – two runners in **R1** in February – one chick in **R3** in February – two immature in **R3** in May – two immature in **C2** in June.

Masked Lapwing – four chicks on Visitor Centre Lake site in September.

Some other interesting sightings (not waders) during the counts were:

February	340 Little Tern in <b>R3</b> .
April	227 Silver Gull in <b>R3</b> – 494 Chestnut Teal in <b>BS2</b> – one Eastern Reef Egret in <b>FPE Outer</b> .
May	270 Silver Gull in <b>C3</b> – 391 Chestnut Teal in <b>BS1</b> – one Eastern Reef Egret in <b>FPE Outer</b> .
June	One Brown Goshawk on <b>S3A</b> – 192 Chestnut Teal in <b>BS1</b> – 1 Eastern Reef Egret in <b>BS3</b> – 199 Chestnut Teal in <b>Claypan</b> .
July	351 Chestnut Teal in <b>C2</b> .
August	360 Chestnut Teal in <b>BS2</b> – one Australasian Gannet off <b>FPE Outer</b> .
September	two Australasian Gannet off <b>FPE Outer</b> – 143 Chestnut Teal in <b>Claypan</b> .
October	454 Little Tern in <b>BS1</b> .
November	1,160 Little Tern in <b>BS1</b> .

A table showing wader species and numbers at the complex during 2011 (with the exception of the Visitors Centre Lake), have been included. Many other waterbirds were also recorded using the sites; however, lack of space in the newsletter does not allow the printing of them.

A table showing wader species and numbers at the complex during 2011(see note at end of table)

Month for Year 2011	06Feb	03Apr	15May	05Jun	17Jul	07Aug	04Sep	16Oct	13Nov
Species									
Bush Stone Curlew									
Australian Pied Oystercatcher	101	52	68	48	40	53	31	26	42
Sooty Oystercatcher									
Black-winged Stilt	3	199	457	500	297	234	206	107	176
Red-necked Avocet			3	35	210	145	276	33	53
Pacific Golden Plover	201	134		3			1	293	431
Grey Plover	45	6						25	34
Red-capped Plover	67	196	279	86	94	142	87	64	107
Double-banded Plover		7	31	20	5	29			
Lesser Sandplover	833	1030	204	223	42	105	119	494	1905
Greater Sandplover	146	22			50		9	110	168
Black-fronted Dotterel			2	2				2	2
Red-kneed Dotterel									
Masked Lapwing		2	17			10	3		2
Latham's Snipe									
Black-tailed Godwit			5					1	
Bar-tailed Godwit	422	309	274	113	84	67		266	201
Whimbrel	13	197	18	29	16	3	17	3	1
Eastern Curlew	129	7	61	61	30	31	96	158	200
Terek Sandpiper	5				2			4	1
Common Sandpiper									
Grey-tailed tattler	551	1056	63	4	2	38	493	409	410
Wandering Tattler	1								1
Common Greenshank	1	6						5	13
Marsh Sandpiper								1	2
Ruddy Turnstone	136	185	15	27	27	30	101	115	93
Great Knot	160	126	14		1			31	685
Red Knot	33	62	14					184	10
Sanderling									
Red-necked Stint	4791	2822	364	294	318	435	228	1694	2381
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	446	454	8		1	1	93	362	464
Curlew Sandpiper	2086	1234	215	107	17	163	241	1043	1356
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1	2							
Unidentified Wader	2					2	3		
<b>Total Wader Species</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Total Wader Numbers</b>	<b>10173</b>	<b>8108</b>	<b>2112</b>	<b>1552</b>	<b>1236</b>	<b>1488</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>5430</b>	<b>8738</b>

No columns for January because of Brisbane floods, March because of unstable conditions around the sites in the Port complex, and December due to work undertaken on the site and the bad weather.

The QWSG would like to sincerely thank the PBPL for their ongoing support to the group and supplying their staff, vehicle and equipment during the counts.

Scott McKinnon, Environmental Coordinator, Matthew Howe, Environmental Officer, Alison Brunott, Sustainability Officer and Rachael Attard, Environmental Advisor for the PBPL all shared the role in looking after our welfare and needs during the counts.

Matthew Howe and Alison Brunott resigned early in the year followed by Scott McKinnon who resigned towards the end of the year to take up new positions elsewhere and we wished them all success in their new endeavours.

We would like to sincerely thank our committed regular counters and other members and friends, whose names appear below for helping us obtain the results for the PBPL and the QWSG database in 2011. Without people like you this would not have been possible. My apologies if I have omitted anyone from the list.

Rachael Attard (PBPL), Francesco Bancala, Alison Brunott (PBPL), Michele Burford, Robert Bush, Vicki Campbell, Deirdrie Chrzesciajanski, Rae Clarke, Lyn Cole, Ken Cowell, Linda Cross, Phil Cross, Andy Eacott, David Edwards, Richard Fuller, Andrew Geering, Marion Grover, Joyce Harding, Sandra Harding, Matthew Howe (PBPL), Andy Jensen, Pete Jones, Arthur Keates, Sheryl Keates, Scott McKinnon (PBPL), David Milton, A. Moss, Glen Pacey, Stuart Pickering, L. Rodriguez, Peter Rothlisberg, Peter Ryan, Rebecca Ryan, Brenda Smith, Graham Smith, Floss Wainwright, Ivell Whyte and Jim Whyte.

The contract with PBPL is continuing in 2012 and as over half of the regular counters are now retired and taking off on extended holidays we need a bigger support group to help spread the workload, particularly during the spring and summer months. As the PBPL insurance only covers their employees you will need to be either a QWSG or BQ member to attend these counts so their liability insurance will cover you. Please also note that these counts are not recreational outings, but we are always looking for committed counters to join our team. Please contact Peter Rothlisberg or myself if you would like to participate. The dates and meeting times for the counts are listed at the back of this newsletter.

Peter Rothlisberg email: [peter.rothlisberg@csiro.au](mailto:peter.rothlisberg@csiro.au) Home: 3822 3759 Work: 3833 5960

Or

Linda Cross email: [xenus@big.net.au](mailto:xenus@big.net.au) Home: 5495 2758 Mobile: 0404 916 047

## 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.

Ruddy Turnstone (**HB**) – Lady Elliot Island – Andrew McDougall – 03.05.12

Sightings in Moreton Bay & Environs between 11.02.12 and 07.05.12

1 Eastern Curlew, 3 Whimbrel, 35 Bar-tailed Godwit, 11 Pied Oystercatcher, 1 Masked Lapwing,  
4 Great Knot, 2 Ruddy Turnstone, 2 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, 97 Grey-tailed Tattler,  
3 Curlew Sandpiper, 5 Lesser Sand Plover, 3 Curlew Sandpiper and 2 Red-capped Plover.

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

Eastern Curlew – **AR**.

Whimbrel – **EM, FX, UM**.

Bar-tailed Godwit – **AE, AZ, BC, BV, CX, EE, FE, HJ, HL, HR, JE, JX, NL, NN, NP, PD, PE, RV, AAA, AAB, AAH, AAK**

Pied Oystercatcher – **AH, BC, B4, C4, C6, D3, D8, AAE, AAK**.

Masked Lapwing – **AAA**.

Great Knot – **AAM, AAP**.

Ruddy Turnstone – **EZ**.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – **AAC, AAK**.



Grey-tailed Tattler – **AV, AY, BH, C3, CD, CH, HT, HU, HV, HY, JE, JH, JJ, JN, JX, KB, KK, KP, KR, KS, KT, KY, KZ, RM, RV, RZ, AAB, AAD, AAE, AAH, AAZ, ABA, ABB, ABH, ABJ, ABL, ABW, ABX, ABZ, ACA, ACB, ACD, ACE, ACJ, ACM, CAN, ACP.**

Grey-tailed Tattler – **A2, AB, B5, B7, C4, RX.** (All six Tattlers have green flag right tibia, yellow flag and geolocator on left tibia and metal band left tarsus).

Curlew Sandpiper – **AAD, ABC.**

Lesser Sand Plover – **DZ, EA.**

#### **Interstate & overseas Green leg flag sightings**

2 Bar-tailed Godwit – Aphae Island (south), South Korea – Dr Kim Seok-Yee & Andreas Kim – 06.05.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Aphae Island (south), South Korea – Andreas Kim – 28.04.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Aphae Island (south), South Korea – Dr Kim Seok-Yee & Andreas Kim – 22.04.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Aphae Island (south), South Korea – Andreas Kim – 15.04.12

2 Bar-tailed Godwit – Aphae Island (south), South Korea – Dr Kim Seok-Yee & Andreas Kim – 11.04.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Aphae Island (south), South Korea – Andreas Kim – 08.04.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Clifton Beach, Whitford, Auckland, North Island, New Zealand – Simon & Morag Fordham – 15.03.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Clifton Beach, Whitford, Auckland, North Island, New Zealand – Simon Fordham – 15.03.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit (EP) – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Gwenda Pulham – 10.03.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Clifton Beach, Whitford, Auckland, North Island, New Zealand – Tony Habraken – 06.03.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Tony Habraken – 19.02.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit (EP) – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Tony Habraken – 18.02.12 & 19.02.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit (FX) – Clifton Beach, Whitford, Auckland, North Island, New Zealand – Tony Habraken – 14.02.12 & 06.03.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Waimea Inlet, Best Island, Nelson Airport Island, South Island, New Zealand – David Melville, Don Cooper & Pam McConell – 11.02.12

2 Bar-tailed Godwit – Motueka Sandspit, Nelson, South Island, New Zealand – Jesse Conklin – 10.02.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Motueka Sandspit, Nelson, South Island, New Zealand – Rob Schuckard – 10.02.12

1 Bar-tailed Godwit (EP) – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Gwenda Pulham – 26.11.11

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Sioux Plowman – 30.10.11

1 Red Knot – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Gwenda Pulham & Ian Southey – 08.04.12

1 Red Knot – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Tony Habraken – 18.02.12

1 Red Knot – Chukotka Laguna Pikhin, Kosa Dvukh, Pilotov, Russia – unknown observer – 20.06.11

#### **Orange (Victoria) leg flag sightings**

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – West Geoff Skinner Reserve – Peter Rothlisberg & Michele Burford – 05.04.12

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

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 29.04.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 24.04.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Harbour – Sandra Harding – 21.04.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Toorbul Sandfly bay – Phil & Linda Cross – 20.04.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Cairns Esplanade – Jun Matsui – 19.04.12

3 Grey-tailed Tattler – Shellgrit Creek entrance Mackay – Marlis Schoeb – 11.04.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 01.04.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Poinsiana Drive, Seaforth Beach north of Mackay – Marlis Schoeb – 30.03.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Queens Esplanade, Thorneside – Kristy Currie – 27.03.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Shoalwater Bay – Andrew McDougall – 09.03.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Harbour – Arthur Keates – 08.03.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Wynnum Esplanade – Brian Russell – 02.13.12

1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Toorbul – Arthur Keates – 26.02.12

(All the above tattlers – flagged Lake Furen or Shunkunitai, Hokkaido, Japan)

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – blue flag left tibia, white flag left tarsus, metal band right tarsus – Boonooroo – Chris Barnes – 09.03.12 (flagged Yatsu Tidal Flat, Narashino, Chiba, Tokyo, Japan)

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

1 Great Knot – Boonooroo – Chris Barnes – 03.04.12

1 Great Knot – Maaroom – Chris Barnes – 27.03.12

2 Great Knot – Toorbul – Arthur Keates – 26.02.12

1 Lesser Sand Plover – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – Michael Strong – 25.03.12 (possibly lost, or not seen black flag, as only white flag seen)

**Other wader leg flag sightings**

1 Bar-tailed Godwit – green flag over orange flag right tibia – St. Helens Beach north of Mackay – Marlis Schoeb – 05.03.12 (flagged Yalu Jiang Nature Reserve, Liaoning Province, China)

1 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – blue flag over yellow flag right tibia, metal band left tibia – Bundaberg Port – Chris Barnes – 11.03.12 & 17.03.12 (flagged at Cangzhou, China)

1 Great Knot – yellow flag right tibia, orange flag right tarsus – St Helens Beach north of Mackay – Marlis Schoeb – 05.03.12 (flagged south west, Western Australia)

1 Red Knot – yellow flag right tibia – Pine River Wetland Reserve – Vicki Campbell – 05.05.12 (flagged north west Western Australia)

**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:

C4 – Manly Harbour – Linda Cross – 08.03.12

C4 – Manly Harbour – Sandra Harding – 10.03.12

J4 – Buckley's Hole sandbar, Bribie Island – Dez Wells – 09.04.12

J6 – Manly Harbour – Sandra Harding – 10.03.12

H1 – Wynnum Esplanade – Brian Russell – 01.03.12

K3 – Wynnum Esplanade – Tony Cotter – 24.04.12

K3 – Manly Harbour – Linda Cross – 08.03.12

L9 – Wynnum Esplanade – Brian Russell – 01.03.12

? – Bishop Island – Robert Bush – 11.03.12 (unable to read engraved flag)

**Interesting wader sightings**

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

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

10 Sanderling – Mirrapool Beach, Moreton Island – 23.04.12

1 Sanderling – Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island – 22.04.12

3 Broad-billed Sandpiper – Bishop Island – 11.03.12

3 Latham's Snipe – Poverty Creek behind Mission Point, Bribie Island – 10.03.12

2 Wandering Tattler – Fisherman Island – 11.03.12

1 Wandering Tattler – Manly Harbour – 08.03.12

1 Red-kneed Dotterel – Kedron Brook Wetlands – 09.04.12

1 Red-kneed Dotterel – Bermuda Avenue Deception Bay – 09.03.12

1 Wood Sandpiper – Bundaberg Port – 12.02.12 & 11.03.12

**Not waders but of interest anyway**

Errata. In newsletter No. 79 the report of 6 Great-crested Grebe at Garnet's Lagoon 2, Hervey Bay on 14.10.11 is incorrect. It was a line entry error and was in fact 6 Australasian Grebe.

5 Buff-banded Rail (2 adult and 3 young) – Nathan Road, Redcliffe – 10.03.12

5 Buff-banded Rail (1 adult and 4 chicks) – Manly Harbour – 08.03.12

390 Black Swan – Toorbul – 10.03.12

2 Glossy Ibis – Kinka Wetlands – 05.05.12

1 Grey Goshawk – Donnybrook – 09.13.12

1 Peregrine Falcon (immature) – Fisherman Island – 11.03.12

1 Spotted Harrier – Bundaberg Port – 12.02.12

1 Swamp Harrier – Bundaberg Port – 12.02.12

1 Wedge-tailed Eagle – Kinka Wetlands – 10.03.12

2 Pink-eared Duck – Kedron Brook Wetlands – 09.04.12

1 Yellow-billed Spoonbill – Kinka Wetlands – 05.05.12

2 Rajah Shelduck – Willar-Weber Reserve, Queens Esplanade, Thorneside – 26.02.12

1492 Common Tern – Maroochy River sandbanks – 15.02.12

462 Little Tern – Fisherman Island – 11.03.12

2 Black-necked Stork – Redcliffe Airport – 10.03.12

1 Yellow-billed Spoonbill – Kinka Wetlands – 05.05.12

The counters who cover a number of Bundaberg sites headed off to count the waders on Lady Elliott Island and recorded some great numbers of other species that appear below. The count date was 29.02.12

50,000 Black Noddy, 5,000 Common Noddy, 7,500 Bridled Tern, 1,800 Crested Tern, 70 Great Frigatebird, 20 Lesser Frigatebird, 20 Brown Booby, 200 Buff-banded Rail

Thanks to Chris Barnes, Nev & Jann Cappel, Trevor & Annie Quested, Bill & Jack Moorhead for their efforts.

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

There have been a small number of flag sightings on terns, which will appear in the next newsletter.

## **Count Programme by Linda Cross**

June is a rest month for the count programme because tides are not suitable for counts. It is important that you do the July count as this is the National Winter Count. If you are unable to do it please let me know, as I might be able to get a standby counter to cover the site for you.

We take this opportunity to welcome Geoff Skoien to the count programme and hope he finds that wader counting enjoyable and at times quite addictive. Geoff has taken over Crabbe Creek count in the Tin Can Bay area for Dorothy Pashniak, while she takes a break from counting at present due to ill health, but she may come back to the programme in the future. Crabbe Creek is counted by kayak and required quite an effort to count, particularly during windy conditions and we thank Dorothy for all her efforts in supplying us with data for this area.

First autumn record for our cross Tasman visitor (Double-banded Plover) were three birds at Manly Harbour on 01.03.12, and this species has also turned up at twelve other sites since then. If you want to get a look at this species through the winter months you may find them at:-

Mirrapool Beach Moreton Island

East Geoff Skinner Reserve

Manly Harbour

Redcliffe Airport

Noosa River sandbanks

Shellgrit Creek Entrance Mackay

Reeder's Point Moreton Island

King Street mudflat Thornlands

Fisherman Islands

Sandbank No 2 Caloundra

Cooloola roost Tin Can Bay

Garnett's lagoons Hervey Bay

The best totals have been 71 at Mirapool Beach on Moreton Island on 23.04.12 – 56 at East Geoff Skinner Reserve on 05.05.12 – 36 at Manly Harbour on 21.04.12 – 25 at Fisherman Islands on 06.05.12 – 24 at Shellgrit Creek Entrance Mackay on 17.04.12.

As I stated in the last newsletter Red Knot sightings during the northward migration are still being recorded, which is quite unusual. Records came from five sites as follows:-

54 at Toorbul on 11.02.12

40 at Maaroom on 07.04.12

10 at Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve on 21.04.12

4 at Cairns Esplanade on 20.04.12

7 at Fisherman Island claypan on 11.03.12

65 at Maaroom on 21.04.12

25 at Pine Rivers Wetland Reserve on 05.05.12

c110 at Pine River opposite Osprey House on 28.03.12

I mentioned in the previous newsletter the good number of Black-fronted Dotterel recorded in February at one of the Deception Bay sites, and that perhaps some of the nomadic resident waders would head toward the coast this autumn and winter. Looking at the count sheets for the last couple of months, it is looking like that might be happening. Black-fronted Dotterel have been recorded at eleven sites. In March 38 were recorded at Bermuda Avenue Deception Bay, but this total was nearly doubled on the May count with 68 of them on site (an all time record). King Street mudflat count site had 28 on the March count, and Kinka Wetlands had 24 on their May count.

Black-winged Stilt have been recorded at eighteen sites in good numbers.

Some of larger totals in April were:-

583 at Deception Bay south

408 at Lytton

227 at Pine River northside

In May totals were:-

484 at Lytton

440 at Fisherman Islands

328 at Maaroom

Only three sites had records for Red-necked Avocet. 74 at Fisherman Islands on 06.05.12 – 25 at Deception Bay south on 21.04.12 and one at Luggage Point on 10.03.12

Extracts totals recorded on count sheets for a few species during the last few months are listed below.

Eastern Curlew – 316 at Mathieson Homestead Hervey Bay on 10.03.12 and 2339 at Lytton claypan on 09.03.12

Bar-tailed Godwit – 1790 West, Geoff Skinner Reserve on 10.03.12 and 1,100 at Maaroom on 05.05.12

Black-tailed Godwit – 405 at Dohl's Rocks, Pine River on 28.03.12

Whimbrel – 420 at Mathieson Homestead Hervey Bay on 13.04.12

Pied Oystercatcher – 246 at Manly Harbour on 11.02.12

Grey Plover – 16 at Fisherman Island on 10.03.12

Great Knot – 1034 at St. Helens Beach north of Mackay on 05.03.12 and 710 at Maaroom on 21.04.12

Grey-tailed Tattlers – 761 at Manly Harbour on 21.04.12 and 746 at Toorbul Sandfly bay on 20.04.12

Ruddy Turnstone – 300 at Lady Elliott Island on 29.02.12 and 50 at Manly Harbour on 10.03.12

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – 603 at Fisherman Islands on 11.03.12 and 349 at Bundaberg Port on 11.03.12

Curlew Sandpiper – 549 at Fisherman Island on 11.03.12

Greater Sand Plover – 432 at Fisherman Island on 11.03.12 and 185 at Gables Point Rocks Hervey Bay on 10.03.12

Lesser Sand Plover – 1458 at Fisherman Island on 11.03.12

Red-capped Plover – 115 at Fisherman Island on 22.04.12

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 St. Helens Beach north of Mackay on 05.03.12

Masked Lapwing – bird sitting on nest with 3 eggs at Maaroom on 11.02.12 – nesting at Kakadu Beach roost, Bribie Island on 22.04.12

Black-winged Stilt – one runner at Manly Harbour on 08.03.12

Red-capped Plover – two chicks at Manly Harbour on 10.03.12 – nest with 2 eggs Seaforth Beach creek-mouth north of Mackay on 04.04.12 and 16.04.12

**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.

## **Vehicle access returns at two Moreton Island beaches**

Minister for National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing The Honourable Steven Dickson 02/05/2012

The government is fulfilling its commitment to facilitate greater access to National Parks, with the announcement today that drivers on Moreton Island will be able to access two formerly vehicle-free beaches. National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing Minister, Steve Dickson, said the beaches at Comboyuro Point and North Point would be open to vehicles for a three-month trial starting from 4 May. A 20km/hr speed limit will apply during the trial.

"The feedback received from many residents and tour operators prior to the election was that vehicle-free zones at Comboyuro and North Point caused major disruption, resulting in detours and difficult pedestrian access to popular visitor sites," Mr Dickson said. "During the trial, there will be a 20km/hr zone from near Bulwer to the northern end of Comboyuro Point, and along the beach at North Point. At North Point, the popular Champagne Pools and Honeymoon Bay will be more accessible to people with limited mobility and visitors on guided tours of the island. Visitors will be able to drive close to the access point instead of having a long walk. The long-standing no-vehicle zones in front of Tangalooma and Cowan Cowan have been retained as is."

State Member for Redcliffe and strong advocate for the trial, Mr Scott Driscoll, whose electorate encompasses Moreton Island, welcomed the initiative. "Not only is there a direct recreational benefit to reopening these beach access points to vehicles, but there is a very practical reality that this will again improve access and safety in times of natural disaster," Mr Driscoll said.

Mr Dickson said that the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) was liaising with Moreton Island organisations, publishing an update on the NPRSR website, and amending signage on the island to advise of the changes. "Public safety remains a key priority. Rangers will talk to island campers, particularly families with children, to make them aware that the beach closures have been lifted at Comboyuro and North Point. Queensland Police will also assist in spreading the safety message to drivers on Moreton's beaches. We expect all drivers to be cautious, drive to the conditions, and keep in mind that families use these beaches, so everyone can have a safe and enjoyable time on the island. QPWS will evaluate and review the impacts of the beach sections being reopened to traffic."

Mr Dickson reminded visitors that a vehicle access permit was needed to drive on the island and camping permits were also required, with funds going back into management of the national park.

More information is at [www.nprsr.qld.gov.au](http://www.nprsr.qld.gov.au) [ENDS] 2 May 2012 Media Contact: Peter McCarthy 0408 835 548

## Wader ID Days

### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September at Toorbul**

High tide at 9:52 a.m (plus 30 minutes later for Toorbul 10:22 a.m.) of 2.05 m. Meeting time 9:00 am

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.

## Wader ID Days Reports

### **TOORBUL WADER ID DAY REPORT 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2012**

After overcast conditions and heavy rain the previous few days it was nice to have some sunshine for this identification meeting. There were some clouds around and the threat of rain at the beginning of the outing, but nothing eventuated. We had a southeast breeze making viewing pleasant.

Thirty-five people attended the outing with members coming from Boonah, the Sunshine Coast and a couple of visitors from the north island of New Zealand. A few attendees were new members and needed plenty of help identifying the waders.

Once again a Beach Stone-curlew was in attendance at the southern end of the roost and although there was a large flock of waders at the roost, the number of species (11) was disappointingly low. However, we did have the two godwit and knot species to help show people just how to tell them apart and a few were showing signs of breeding plumage. One Bar-tailed Godwit was quite stunning in nearly 90% breeding plumage. One Black-fronted Dotterel and some Common Greenshank were seen at the other two roosts along the Esplanade.

Leg flags were seen on four birds during the viewing.

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

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

1 Grey-tailed Tattler with blue flag left tibia (Japan)



A few of the QWSG members carried out a count during the viewing. Numbers are in brackets before the species.

**Birds seen at Toorbul Roost and environs:**

(83) Black Swan, Australian Wood Duck, Pacific Black Duck, Spotted Dove, Crested Pigeon, Little Pied Cormorant, (13) Australian Pelican, (1) White-faced Heron, (1) Little Egret, Australian White Ibis, Royal Spoonbill, (1) Eastern Osprey, (1) Whistling Kite, (1) Brown Goshawk, (1) Beach Stone-curlew, (5) Australian Pied Oystercatcher, Black-fronted Dotterel, (2) Masked Lapwing, (48) Black-tailed Godwit, (1350) Bar-tailed Godwit, (80) Whimbrel, (6) Eastern Curlew, (c340) Grey-tailed Tattler, Common Greenshank, (152) Great Knot, (18) Red Knot, (1) Gull-billed Tern, (8) Caspian Tern, Silver Gull, Galah, Pale-headed Rosella, Laughing Kookaburra, Sacred Kingfisher, Dollarbird, Mangrove Honeyeater, Noisy Miner, Blue-faced Honeyeater, White-breasted Woodswallow, Pied Butcherbird, Australian Magpie, Magpie-lark, Welcome Swallow, Mistletoebird.

Some people saw 2 Black-necked Stork and 2 Brolga in the paddock opposite Bishop's Marsh on the way to the meeting. The leaders decided to stop at the marsh after the meeting and do a quick count. The marsh was full of water after the recent rains, but there was no sign of the Stork or Brolga.

The following birds were recorded in the marsh, and more Plumed Whistling Duck, along with Australian Wood Duck could be seen at the dam to the west of the marsh.

(H) Brown Quail, (14) Plumed Whistling Duck, (2) Black Swan, (1) Pacific Black Duck, (6) Australasian Grebe, (3) Little Pied Cormorant, (1) Little Black Cormorant, (1) Black-winged Stilt, and (1) Willie Wagtail.

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

Linda Cross.

**MANLY WADER ID REPORT 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2012**

After some persistent wet weather earlier in the week, 20 people were greeted by a clear sky and sunshine providing ideal conditions for wader watching.

Twenty wader species were observed including Double-banded Plover but missing were the two species of sand plover and Grey Plover both of which were recorded at this site a month earlier.

Apart from locally banded birds, a Grey-tailed Tattler that had been banded in Japan was observed along with a single Wandering Tattler among c 300 Grey-tailed Tattler.

Quite a few of the Bar-tailed Godwit were in advanced breeding plumage and some in near full breeding plumage while many of their cohorts showed traces of breeding plumage. The agitation on the part of a pair of Black-winged Stilt was presumably due to the presence of two runners. An adult Buff-banded Rail was also observed with its four young.

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

Please remember that this is a private area, plus being a construction site.

Species seen at the roost site included the following:

Little Pied Cormorant, Australian Pelican, Eastern Great Egret, Striated Heron, Eastern Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Brahminy Kite, Buff-banded Rail, Australian Pied Oystercatcher, Sooty Oystercatcher, Black-winged Stilt, Masked Lapwing, Pacific Golden Plover, Double-banded Plover, Red-capped Plover, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew, Terek Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Grey-tailed Tattler, Wandering Tattler, Common Greenshank, Great Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Gull-billed Tern, Caspian Tern, Crested Tern, Silver Gull.



by Arthur Keates

### **TOORBUL WADER ID DAY REPORT 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2012**

It was a fine sunny morning with a light southeast wind when we arrived at the Toorbul roost to wave the waders goodbye. Only a couple of QWSG members took advantage of the wader identification morning, but ten Toowoomba Bird Observers had noted the date in their diary and came down to join us making a total of twenty, which was just enough for Phil and I to assist.

Although the total number of birds on the roost was good it was unfortunate that there was only eight species of waders and lacking a couple of the ones needed to show people how to identify between similar species. Interestingly, no birds with leg flags were seen.

Phil and I did a wader count of the birds at the roost and the numbers appear in brackets before the species.

#### **Birds seen at Toorbul Roost and environs:**

(85) Black Swan, Australian Wood Duck, Spotted Dove, Crested Pigeon, Little Pied Cormorant, (7) Australian Pelican, Eastern Great Egret, Cattle Egret, (1) White-faced Heron, Little Egret, Australian White Ibis, Eastern Osprey, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Whistling Kite, Nankeen Kestrel, (19) Australian Pied Oystercatcher, (6) Black-winged Stilt, (2) Masked Lapwing, (1057) Bar-tailed Godwit, (134) Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew, (200) Grey-tailed Tattler, Common Greenshank, (102) Great Knot, Red-necked Stint, (10) Caspian Tern, (4) Silver Gull, Galah, Little Corella, Pale-headed Rosella, Sacred Kingfisher, Mangrove Honeyeater, Noisy Miner (H), Australian Magpie, Welcome Swallow, Common Starling and Mistletoebird (H).

by Linda Cross.

### **QWSG Treasurer: Goodbye to Sheryl and Welcome to Deirdre**

We have had the great privilege and good fortune to have had Sheryl Keates as our Treasurer for the last 15 years. Sheryl has been the best Treasurer we could have had. Always on time with all her reports, managing to make sense of all the figures at the end of the tax year and been able to keep us on the straight and narrow. Not only has Sheryl done this work but is able to remember things that have happened many years ago, that are relevant to today's actions plus attend our ID outings etc.

QWSG committee warmly welcomes the new treasurer Deirdre Chrzescijanski. Please be gentle with her. Deirdre was wondering why the committee was so eager to accept her nomination; it was because she will make such a great replacement for Sheryl.

Deirdre would like to thank Sheryl for all the help and understanding she has provided to make the handover so smooth.

Note the changes that have resulted in a new contact address for membership

## 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**

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<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

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A receipt will be forwarded if required.

Forward application to:

Dierdre Chrzescijanski  
QWSG Treasurer  
39 Barrinia Street,  
MANLY  
Qld 4179

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 **November 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)

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## 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            \$42.00.

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:

**Ms Rae Clark, Prof Lyn English,  
Ms Kiran Dhanjal-Adams,  
Mrs Judith Lattawa, Mr John Little,  
Ms Kay McLennan, Mr Andrew Moore, Mr William Price  
Mr Jeff Rabbidge, Ms Joy Scott,**

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). Please could you use the subject line as  
“Electronic Newsletter”? Editor



## Count Activities – 2012

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

#### No Count in June

Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> Jul	1.90m at 10:47	<b>National Winter Count</b>	Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.02m at 07:34
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1.98m at 09:47		Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	2.19m at 11:54
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> Sep	2.03m at 08:43		Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	2.33m at 10:58

### Port of Brisbane Count Dates – 2012

Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jun	2.00m at 08:04	Meet	06:15				
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jul	1.93m at 11:29	Meet	09:40	Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2.18m at 08:20	Meet	06:30
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	2.04m at 10:29	Meet	08:40	Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	2.13m at 12:33	Meet	10:40
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> Sep	2.14m at 09:26	Meet	07:35	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: \$.....

Do you require a receipt? Yes / No

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

Fax / e-mail: .....

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 (colour version) by E-mail.....

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

**Please post this form to: QWSG Treasurer, 39 Barrinia St., Manly Qld 4179**

Cheques to be made out to: Queensland Wader Study Group

**Or** Direct funds transfer to:

For a direct credit, please use the following details.

Qld Wader Study Group

BSB: 313 140

Account number: 08305297

Please email this form to: treasurer@wader.org.au