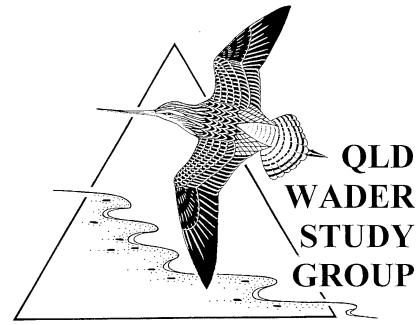


# QUEENSLAND WADER



Issue number 42

Summer 2003

*Newsletter of the Queensland Wader Study Group (QWSG), a special interest group of the Queensland Ornithological Society Incorporated.*

## Investigating the Waders of the Mackay Region

The Queensland Wader Study Group is working in partnership with the World Wide Fund for Nature who is administrating the WWF Shorebird Conservation Project. The Mackay region is one of five sites across Australia that has been selected. The QWSG aims to identify important shorebird areas in and around Mackay, in particular, feeding and roosting areas and migration staging sites. To do this, three surveys will be conducted to identify important staging sites on the southward and northward migration, and a summer wader survey. The QWSG will seek assistance from the broader Mackay community to participate in the surveys and will provide training in shorebird identification, shorebirds in general, and survey techniques. Members of the community who participate in these initial surveys will be encouraged to under take regular monitoring of important sites that are identified.

The pressures on the wetlands and intertidal areas in the Mackay region include:

- Rural and residential development
- Expansion of industry
- Introduced pests
- Potential for large-scale tourism resorts.

This project (Mackay Wader Surveys) will be undertaken in partnership with the Mackay Conservation Group and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), Mackay. Expected outcomes of the project are:

1. Areas of importance to shorebirds (roost sites, feeding habitat) identified and mapped.
2. Increased community awareness and understanding about shorebirds and their habitat needs.
3. QWSG support for Mackay shorebird activities.

Four sites in the Mackay region, the Mackay area, along with Bakers Creek – Far Beach, Armstong's Beach and Finlaysons Point (Seaforth) were identified as having important numbers of certain wader species in Doug Watkins's 1993 *A National Plan for Shorebird Conservation in Australia*. Later, Peter Driscoll in his 1996 report, *The Distribution of Waders along the Queensland Coastline*, identified 14 key roost sites in the same area between Carmila and the Proserpine River. Some of these important sites had only been counted once. The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) with the assistance of bird watchers from Mackay, has done some counts but very little has been published.

To develop a full understanding of the importance of the bays and beaches in the region, it is necessary to conduct a number of comprehensive counts. This will establish the ecological units most important to waders.

### What do we already know?

Before the QWSG launches the new project to count the waders of the Mackay coast, it is important to have a look at what we know about the waders in the region. Questions like how many roosting and feeding sites are known? What species do we know occur there in significant numbers? Answers to these questions can all be found in the existing QWSG count database. Although most counts are several years old, with most coming from the early-mid 1990s, the results were surprising.

A total of 37 species of wader and six species of tern have been recorded for the Mackay region. Seven species of wader occur in internationally significant numbers (> 1% of the Flyway population) and another five species are in nationally important numbers (> 1% of Australian population). Among the most abundant species are Eastern Curlew and both Lesser and Greater Sand Plovers. The numbers of all three species are of international significance, along with the large number of the vulnerable Little Tern. Many of the most abundant species are found in the Mackay region during migration. The Sand Plovers seem to use the region on northward migration. Whereas, the Bar-tailed Godwit, Eastern Curlew, Whimbrel and Grey-tailed Tattler stop over in larger numbers on southward migration. So, if QWSG is to ensure we count and identify all the important sites for these species, we need to visit Mackay during the summer non-breeding residence period as well as when the birds are migrating north and south. This means that a minimum of three counts will be necessary to be sure we have identified all the important sites.

**Table 1.** The maximum counts of all wader and tern species seen in the Mackay region. (I = internationally significant; N = nationally significant based on the criteria of Watkins (1993); periods refer to migration times: South = September-October, North = March-April).

Common name	Maximum count	Period	Significance
Eastern Curlew	1850	South	I
Common Tern	1700	-	-
Bar-tailed Godwit	1400	South	-
Lesser Sand Plover	1300	North	I
Little Tern	1000	-	I
Greater Sand Plover	1000	North	I
Red-necked Stint	800	-	-
Great Knot	740	South	-
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	460	-	-
Unidentified Wader	447	-	-
Marsh Sandpiper	440	-	N
Grey Plover	400	-	I
Curlew Sandpiper	300	-	-
Pacific Golden Plover	300	-	N
Black-winged Stilt	280	-	-
Grey-tailed Tattler	250	North	-
Whimbrel	230	North	N
Terek Sandpiper	200	North	N
Crested Tern	200	-	-
Pied Oystercatcher	160	-	I
Red-capped Plover	150	-	-
Red Knot	150	-	-
Caspian Tern	75	-	-
Gull-billed Tern	65	-	-
Common Greenshank	60	-	-
Masked Lapwing	40	-	-
unidentified Tattler	35	-	-
Common Sandpiper	31	-	N
Snipe sp.	30	-	-
Lesser Crested Tern	27	-	-
Red-necked Avocet	26	-	-
Black-fronted Dotterel	22	-	-
Double-banded Plover	20	-	-
Sooty Oystercatcher	16	-	-

Common name	Maximum count	Period	Significance
Beach Thick-knee	12	-	I
Bush Thick-knee	11	-	-
Little Curlew	11	-	-
Broad-billed Sandpiper	10	-	-
Red-kneed Dotterel	8	-	-
Sanderling	4	-	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	3	-	-
Painted Snipe	3	-	-
Wandering Tattler	2	-	-

**Table 2.** The maximum number of birds seen at each site counted on the Mackay coast, the month the birds were seen and the number of times each site has been counted. Sites are ordered by the maximum count.

Site	Date	Number of birds	Number of counts
Town Beach Mackay	November-93	4267	107
Slade Bay	February-02	3366	17
Pioneer River mouth south bank	April-00	2533	29
Armstrong Beach	December-93	2043	20
Far beach Bakers Creek	February-92	1401	16
Shellgrit Ck Mackay	October-01	1094	24
McEwan's Beach Swamp	June-94	1037	1
McEwans Beach east	February-96	851	2
St Helens Beach	November-93	846	5
Finlayson Point Seaforth	February-95	826	20
Proserpine River mouth	February-94	594	1
McEwans Beach west	March-94	526	1
Ince Creek	March-94	401	2
Williamson's Beach	June-94	398	1
Tedlands wetland	November-93	334	1
north St Helen's Bay	March-94	244	1
O'Connell River mouth	October-94	238	1
Shoal Point	March-94	212	2
Repulse Bay north	October-93	150	1
Armstrong Beach south	November-92	147	2
Sandringham NE bank	March-93	98	2
Belmunda Beach south	November-93	95	2
Bakers Ck mouth	March-93	82	1
Habana wharf	November-93	71	1
north Rabbit Is	March-94	63	1
Belmunda - freshwater	March-93	62	2
West Hill south	March-94	56	1
centre south of St Helens	March-94	43	1
cove north of Midge Point	March-94	28	1
north entrance Port Newry	March-94	28	1
Marion Creek mouth	November-93	24	1
east Ince Bay	March-94	23	1

Site	Date	Number of birds	Number of counts
Midge Point	March-94	22	1
Carmilla Creek mouth	November-93	12	1

You can see from Table 2, that there are a surprisingly large number of sites in the Mackay region where waders have been counted (37 sites). However, despite this large number of sites that have been counted at least once, there are only eight that have been counted more than 10 times. This is less than the number of counts a site in south-east Queensland gets in one year. It means that we are not really sure of the importance of most sites and cannot answer questions like how are the birds distributed in the region at a single high tide?

### What happened on the reconnaissance survey in November 2002

Sandra Harding, Peter Driscoll, Linda Cross and David Milton visited the Mackay region from 14 – 17 November 2002 in reconnaissance for the major surveys in 2003. During the reconnaissance, Peter Driscoll flew the entire coast in his Ultralight aeroplane and counted all birds he could see from the air. Sandra, Linda and David visited sites that Peter identified from the air and counted the birds on the ground. Many sites were inaccessible from the land and will need to be surveyed from a boat. QPWS Officer, Derek Ball and local conservationist, Maureen Cooper provided great logistical support during the visit. Their help and local knowledge enabled the group to plan a feasible survey of the entire coast during 2003. Data from this preliminary survey are still being entered into the QWSG database. However, Peter counted in excess of 10,000 waders in the region and he had large counts of Eastern Curlew, Whimbrel and Great Knot, confirming the region's importance for these species. Another interesting result was the large number of Grey Plover present compared with south-east Queensland. Grey Plovers were found at several sites and some sites had over 50 birds.

### Future Surveys

From the reconnaissance trip, we determined the main roosts and how they could be counted. To enable all the identified sites to be counted, we need 14 counters, but by counting on both Saturday and Sunday all sites can be counted with only 7 counters. The budget can afford to cover the costs of the counters. It will be important that there are skilled counters to ensure that all sites are well counted.

We invite QWSG members who would be interested to participate in the surveys.

If possible the counters should participate in all three surveys. Seven counters are needed, but there will be scribes available from Mackay. It is intended that we count south of the Pioneer River on the Saturday and the same counters will count the north side on the Sunday. We can stay at Padaminka (the property of Maureen Cooper) and the project will provide the basic food, bread, milk and probably have a barbeque on the Saturday night.

We have set the dates for the Mackay wader surveys and they are:

summer - January 18 and 19, 5.82m at 1053 hours and 5.92m at 1130 hours

northward - April 13 and 14, 5.24m at 0728 hours and 5.64 m at 0814 hours

southward - September 13 and 14, 4.73m at 1215 hours and 4.85m at 1245 hours.

Remember it can be hot in summer, could be up to 44 deg C and common sense is required regarding crocodiles, which occur in the area. If possible it would be good to do the whole coast in the one day and repeat on the Sunday, we would need extra people to do this, possibly this could be done on the April trip.

Given the time to get to the roost sites, it would be preferable for people to fly up on the Friday. Currently, the cheapest Qantas flight for the Friday 17 January is at 11.20 am.

If you are interested in participating in any of the three surveys please contact Sandra Harding by phone on xxxx xxxx at home or 3225 1974 at work or via email on xxxx xxxx @ xxxx xxxx.au

Sandra Harding and David Milton.



## QWSG 2002 Wader Workshop Report

QWSG's one-day introductory workshop on the waders of Australia and Moreton Bay this year was held on 12 October at the Port of Brisbane Visitors Centre at Fisherman Islands.

The workshop attracted 36 participants from a variety of backgrounds to learn more about the waders of Moreton Bay, including Birds Queensland and QWSG members and staff of the Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service, Caboolture Shire Council and Port of Brisbane Corporation. Positive feedback indicates participants found the workshop interesting, well structured and informative.

The format of the workshop was slightly different to that of last year. The workshop started with a general introduction by Dr Andrew Geering, QWSG chairperson, followed by a welcome by Brad Kitchen, Environment Manager, Port of Brisbane Corporation.

After giving an overview of waders, QWSG newsletter editor David Edwards talked about the waders of south-east Queensland, with particular emphasis on their identification. Andrew followed this up with an interesting talk about migration of waders, a fascinating subject and one which elicited several questions from participants. Finally, QWSG committee member Paul Finn presented some detailed information about the feeding ecology and life of the Eastern Curlew, based on studies in Moreton Bay.

After an enjoyable lunch in the Eco Café overlooking the lake at the centre, participants and QWSG members went to the artificial roost under construction at Fisherman Island. Here good views were had of Red-necked Avocet, Red-necked Stint, Curlew Sandpiper and Pied Oystercatcher before heading off to the high tide roost site at Lytton where 12 species of wader were observed.

QWSG members, pointed out distinguishing features of the species present to participants. As is usual at the Lytton site, we were able to compare the Eastern Curlew with the Whimbrel and Bar-tailed Godwit with Black-tailed Godwit. Unusually, there were no Common Greenshank roosting there and the lone Marsh Sandpiper was not active. Unfortunately, the 3 Great Knot were quite a distance from the viewing spot and so it was less than an ideal view of this species. However, excellent views were obtained of Red Knot, Grey-tailed Tattler, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (including juveniles), Curlew Sandpiper and Pacific Golden Plover.

Thanks to all for their dedication and help in making the day a success.



## Japan names two new Ramsar sites

The Government of Japan has designated two new Wetlands of International Importance, both chiefly because of their great value for migratory shorebirds.

Miyajima-numa was listed on the East Asian Anatidae Site Network in 1999 and more information is available on <http://www.jawgp.org/anet/>

Fujimae-Higata (Aichi prefecture, 323 hectares, 35°04' N 136°50'E) is tidal flat at the mouths of the Shonai, Shinkawa, and Nikko rivers as they flow into the port city of Nagoya. The site is an important staging site along the East Asia-Australia Flyway with one of the highest shorebird counts in Japan - some seven species of shorebird surpass the 1% threshold in the area, and more than 20,000 waterbirds have been counted frequently. The wetland is also visited by a number of endangered species, including the birds *Tringa guttifer*, *Botaurus stellaris stellaris*, *Tadorna tadorna*, and *Sterna albifrons sinensis*, among others, and the endangered fish *Chaenogobius macrognathos*. Once part of extensive tidal flats in the northern part of Ise Bay, the site remains relatively unaltered itself amid widespread transformation of the surrounding areas for development.

## Strange leg flags

*From part of an E-mail from Clive Minton to Arthur Keates. Sightings reported in Wader Watch.*

As you have subsequently correctly worked out, the green over orange leg flags were put on in China. They were in fact applied at the end of April this year at Yalu-Jiang, at the northern end of the Yellow Sea, during a training course for Chinese banders run on behalf of the AWSG by David Melville (from NZ) and Pete Collins (from Vic).

Overall, they flagged about 100 waders, mostly BTGS. A Great Knot they flagged was recently sighted near Newcastle, NSW. Another Godwit they flagged was reported from Alaska in September. A good rate of return.

## Great news from Chung Yu in Taiwan

*From an E-mail*

I can't wait to share all these waders for you. This is the first time to see so many waders with various flags at the same time. Today is a real nice day. Yesterday night, we had a banding work, we caught 24 birds, include 11 Greater Sand Plovers, 9 Kentish Plovers, and 3 Common Sandpipers. One Greater Sand Plover and one Kentish plover were recaptured, both from Taiwan at last time.

The 6 waders were:

Yellow flag (NW Australia) 1 Grey-tailed Tattler, 1 Terek Sandpiper, 1 Ruddy Turnstone.

Orange flag (Lower leg = South Australia) 1 Sanderling.

Orange/Yellow flags (SA) 1 Ruddy Turnstone

White/Orange flags (South Korea) 1 Ruddy Turnstone

Best wishes,  
ChungYu

## Your Own Web Site

We are hoping to have our own web site up and running by the end of December!

The address will be [waders.com.au](http://waders.com.au)

Please bear with us as we upload and iron out the bugs. The site is operated by volunteers so please be patient. As with many sites we will be enlarging the site by updating as we have the time and info. At present we are not having an E-mail address from the site and merchandise will only be available via the present arrangements.

## THE UNKNOWN WETLAND

As stated in the last newsletter, I will now continue with the rest of my reports on visits with counters.

We left off where Donald & Lesley Bradley were going to try to find the owners of the wetland we had spotted from the road and air. With the owner contacted, and counts already underway at the site, we made arrangements to return to Hervey Bay after the Boonooroo Campout that Phil and I led for Birds Queensland on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March earlier this year.

Two other committee members decided to join us for the trip, Joyce Harding and Ivell Whyte. The rain and gloomy conditions did not make for a pleasant trip from Boonooroo, but the forecast of clearing weather the next day made us feel better. We made a slight detour into 'Tandora', just north of Maryborough to visit Lindsay and Noela Titmarsh to arrange the date for a campout to be held on their property in June. It was nice to catch up with them again.

The evening accommodation in Hervey Bay was the house of Bob & June Gleeson, members of the Hervey Bay Birdwatchers, QWSG and Birds Qld. They had very kindly offered to put all four of us up for the night, instead of pitching tents in the rain. The rain held off enough to let Bob cook on the BBQ, but we ate indoors where Robert and Rosina Franklin (also members of Hervey Bay Birdwatchers) joined us.

The next day we woke to sunshine and only the forecast of a shower or two. We headed off for an early start to meet John Knight at the gate to the property, which belonged to Garnet Bengsten. After the previous days rain, we were unsure if we could get the vehicles down to the wetland area, but with a couple of 4WD vehicles, we managed to save ourselves a lengthy walk. We could see we would need our strength for the walk around the site, which was quite big. The site name given for this wetland was Garnet's Lagoons and the site split into two.

Site one is a lagoon approximately 500 metres long and its width varied from a minimum of 25 metres at the northern end to 400 metres across and was L-shaped at the southern end. The lagoon has sedge on some edges with a series of small islands at the southern end. The area around the lagoon is cleared grazing land. Bunding on southern end reduces tidal influence from an offshoot of the Susan River. This lagoon is freshwater at the northern end (run off from paddocks after rain), with brackish influence at the southern end and the substrate was mud.

Site two is a series of linked ponds surrounded by cleared grazing land. The total length of area covered by the ponds is approximately one kilometre. It has a natural drainage area that forms a freshwater marshland with sedges, bulrushes and waterlilies. Several ponds have been deepened artificially. One pond is up to 350 metres across and the remainders are smaller. The substrate is mud at this site too.

Both wetland systems are artificially ponded for grazing and would therefore, "before alteration", have been tidal flats on extreme high tides.

This site is a great addition to our database of the waders of Great Sandy Strait. It supports some the wader species that are not commonly found at other sites throughout the region, such as Black-tailed Godwit, Latham's Snipe, Red-necked Avocet Comb-crested Jacana to name a few. In addition to waders there are a variety of water birds using the site.

Although weather conditions were a bit humid, we had a wonderful time checking out the lagoons. One this day, (4<sup>th</sup> March), some of the highlights were: 10 Latham's Snipe, 3 Black-tailed Godwit, a lone Avocet, Red-capped Plover with chicks, Jacana with chicks, Pacific Black Duck with chicks, 2 Brolga, an adult Black-necked Stork and 2 juveniles.

Since the surveys started in January this year, John and the Hervey Bay Birdwatchers have recorded more exciting bird species visiting the lagoons. Australasian Shoveler, Freckled Duck, Pink-eared Duck, Glossy Ibis, Oriental Pratincole, Square-tailed Kite, Baillon's Crake, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Long-toed Stint (unconfirmed) and the latest reported in the 'interesting sighting section' of this issue are: Whiskered Tern, Australian Crake, and Black-tailed Native Hen.

I am certainly jealous that John and his group have got such a great place to survey. Of course, none of this would be possible if it were not for the co-operation and hospitality of the owner, Mr. Garnet Bengsten and his family. They are to be congratulated on having an environment that supports so many bird species.

The Queensland Wader Study Group would like to sincerely thank them for their support and we look forward to a continued relationship with you.

To round off the trip, we had lunch at Mathieson Homestead roost, which again produced good numbers of waders. Highlights were 54 Common Greenshank and 108 Terek Sandpiper. From here we said our thanks and goodbyes and headed home.

A personal thank you to Bob and June Gleeson for being such wonderful hosts and looking after the four of us, and John Knight for organising the trip into the lagoons.

Linda Cross.

## NEW SHOREBIRD PUBLICATION

### Shorebirds of the Yellow Sea: Importance, Threats and Conservation Status

This monograph, written by Mark Barter, was published in August 2002 by Wetlands International (as No. 9 within their Global Series) and the International Wader Study Group (as International Wader Studies 12). The monograph comprising 118 pages, contains eight tables and seven figures, and has English, Chinese and Korean language summaries

Surveys conducted during the last 12 years in China and South Korea have significantly improved our understanding of shorebird distribution and abundance in the Yellow Sea and of how the different species use the region. The results to date show clearly that the coastal area of the Yellow Sea is the key migration staging region in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway for many shorebird species. It also supports important concentrations of some species during the non-breeding season. Unfortunately for the shorebirds, the wetlands they use have been very much reduced in size during the last 50 years and they continue to be threatened by ongoing reclamation, pollution, human disturbance and the insidious effects of reduced river flows.

The purpose of the monograph is to provide up-to-date information from the Yellow Sea on:

- its importance for migratory shorebirds;
- key shorebird sites; and
- threats to shorebird habitat.

in order to assist governments and non-government organisations to develop effective conservation policies and plans for shorebirds and their habitats.

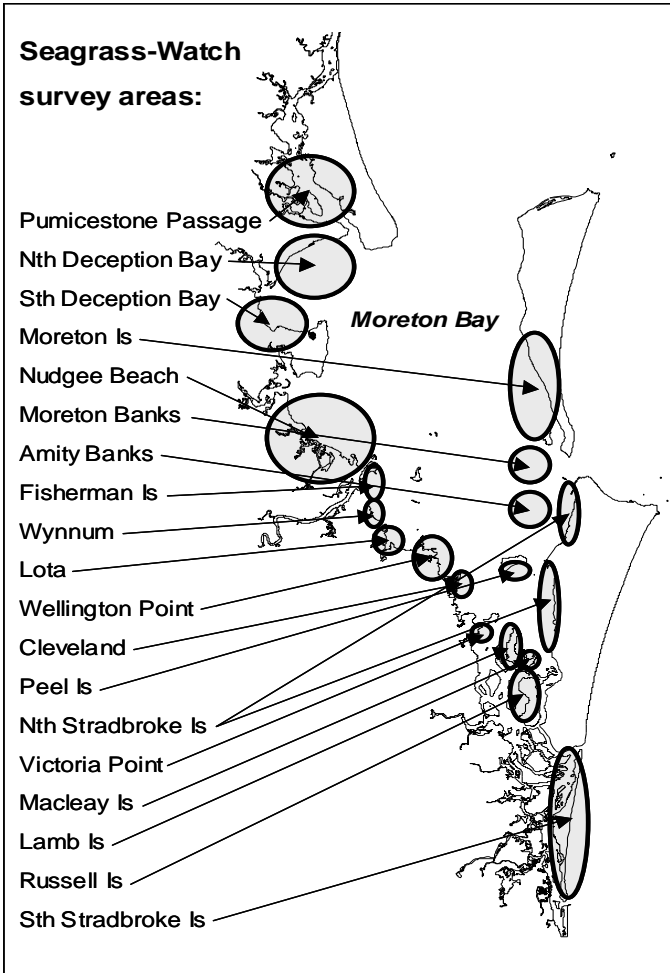
The monograph:

- describes the physical geography of the Yellow Sea and its shorebird habitats;
- provides detailed information on the abundance and distribution of the 36 shorebird species which have so far been found to occur in internationally important numbers;
- identifies and lists the significance of the 27 sites currently known to support internationally important shorebird concentrations;
- lists the threats to, and discusses the conservation status of, shorebirds and their habitats in the Yellow Sea; and
- in addition to a list of cited references, also provides a bibliography of shorebird-related papers which are based on work carried out in the Yellow Sea.

This publication is available free-of-charge as a CD-ROM and those interested in obtaining a copy should contact:

Warren Lee Long  
Wetlands International-Oceania  
GPO Box xxx  
Canberra ACT 2xxx  
Tel: 02- xxxx xxxx  
Email: xxxx xxxx @ xxxx xxxx.au





# MORETON BAY MARINE PARK Seagrass-Watch

Join the team



**A team keeping an eye on Moreton Bay's vital seagrass beds is looking for volunteers to adopt a patch of seagrass and monitor it three times a year.**

Seagrass is one of Moreton Bay's most valuable resources. It provides food and shelter for a multitude of species, including prawns, fish, sea turtles, dugongs and shorebirds. The health of our seagrass is under constant threat from both natural and human impacts, and we need your help to monitor its condition. By joining the seagrass watch team of volunteers, you can be trained to do just that, and at the same time contribute to the management of the Moreton Bay Marine Park.

Seagrass-Watch is an award winning, community based, habitat assessment program. Survey methods are scientifically rigorous but simple and easy to learn and the results help guide decision making in areas such as Marine Park planning and ecosystem health monitoring.

If the idea of an afternoon with nature, and the knowledge that your participation assists in the management of our natural resources appeals to you, then join the seagrass watch team. It's a fun activity and provides a great opportunity to get to know the Bay and its wildlife including many interesting birds and invertebrates and the chance to spot turtles and dugong. Call the coordinator (ph: 3821 9029) to find out how you can get involved with this program.



**Queensland Government**  
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service  
Department of Primary Industries



Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland  
Bayside Branch (Old) Inc



## MUDFLATS, TIDES and WADERS

During the summer in South-east Queensland we experience some very high tides, in January and February 2002 high tides were well over 2.5 metres with one of 2.68 metres. I have often wondered where the waders that leave Thornlands roost site on extreme high tides go. Visits to likely mudflats nearby had some success but not enough birds were on them. For example, the large flats at Pt. Halloran Environment Reserve, supported some Pacific Golden Plover on a reasonably high tide but only a few Eastern curlew and Bar-tailed Godwit. Eastern Curlew and Bar-tailed Godwit are the most abundant waders roosting at Thornlands.

With most roost sites under water, the extreme high spring tide of February 27, at 2.66 metres was the opportunity for another visit to Pt. Halloran. The tide had covered the flat completely, extending to the west among the grasses near Erapah Creek. Eastern Curlew, 230 seen, were scattered across the water covered flat. Towards the west among grasses and samphire were 600 medium waders, mainly Bar-tailed Godwit and Great Knot. These were in two massed flocks with some uncounted Eastern Curlew and also many small and medium waders. Without a scope and relying on binoculars, it was impossible to accurately count and identify them at this distance. However, by the size of the massed flocks I would be very surprised if there were not 1000 to 1500 roosting waders.

Even though other visits on normal high tides had failed to reveal a great number of birds, it is evident that this mudflat is used when the preferred roost is unavailable. Similar unused mudflats and salt pans, even if only used once or twice a season in extreme conditions, are of great overall importance to waders in the Flyway. Environmental Impact Reports and studies commissioned over a short period of time by authorities and developers cannot give a true picture of a mudflats importance for waders. This requires studies over time and many different tides and conditions.

During this summer's spring tides, a visit to 'unused' flats near you could be surprising.  
Joyce Harding

**WADER WATCH** - Linda and Phil Cross, Peter Driscoll, Joyce Harding**Leg Flag Banding Legend** (colour = where banded)

- Green n Brisbane/Queensland
- Orange = Victoria
- Yellow = Northern Western Australia
- White = New Zealand (some species banded in New South Wales)
- Blue = Japan

There are more leg flag sightings detailed in the Wader ID Day reports included in this newsletter.

**Green leg flag sightings**

- 2 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.9.02 and again on 28.9.02  
2 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
2 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02  
3 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.10.02  
2 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates & David Edwards – 20.10.02  
1 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Connolly – 26.10.02  
2 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates, David Milton & Sandra Harding – 2.11.02  
2 Eastern Curlew – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates et al – 9.11.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 28.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.10.02  
2 Bar-tailed Godwit – Toorbul – Gavin Goodyear – 25.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Connolly – 26.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates, David Milton & Sandra Harding – 2.11.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Kakadu Beach Roost, Bribie Island – Jill Denning – 4.11.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates et al – 9.11.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Caloundra Sandbanks – Peter Driscoll – 10.11.02  
1 Great Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates & David Edwards – 20.10.02  
1 Great Knot – Toorbul – Gavin Goodyear – 25.10.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.9.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates & David Edwards – 20.10.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Connolly – 26.10.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates, David Milton & Sandra Harding – 2.11.02  
1 Lesser Sand Plover – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02

**Interstate & overseas Green leg flag sightings**

- 4 Bar-tailed Godwit – Tutakoke River, Central Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska, USA – Dan Ruthrauff and Marin Sardy – 17.8.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Tern Mountain, Village of Chefornak, Yukon Delta, Alaska, USA – Chadd Fitzpatrick et al – 18.8.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Big Sand Island, Kaipara Harbour, North Island, New Zealand – Gwen Pulham – 6.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Matarangi, Coromandel, New Zealand – Bruce Mackereth – 10.10.02  
1 Great Knot – Okku, Mangyeong, Korea – Nial Moores – 23.8.02

**Orange leg flag sightings**

- 1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 1.9.02 & again on 8.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Lytton Roost – Dawn Beck & Chris Bollar – 10.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Toorbul – Gavin Goodyear – 25.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 28.9.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Toorbul – E. Townsend – 4.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Toorbul – Jill Denning et al – 5.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Deception Bay – Phil Cross – 12.10.02

- 1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates & David Edwards – 20.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Lytton Roost – Bobbie Bevan – 20.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Connolly – 26.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates, David Milton & Sandra Harding – 2.11.02  
1 Great Knot – Toorbul – Phil & Linda Cross – 8.9.02  
1 Great Knot – Caloundra Sandbanks – Jill Dening et al – 12.9.02  
1 Great Knot – Toorbul – E. Townsend – 4.10.02  
1 Great Knot – Toorbul – Jill Dening et al – 5.10.02  
1 Great Knot – Toorbul – Gavin Goodyear – 26.10.02  
1 Great Knot – Kakadu Beach Roost, Bribie Island – Jill Dening – 4.11.02  
3 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 1.9.02  
1 Red Knot – Toorbul – Phil & Linda Cross – 8.9.02  
1 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 8.9.02  
3 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.9.02  
1 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
1 Red Knot – Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
1 Red Knot – Thornside Esplanade – Joyce Harding – 26.9.02  
1 Red Knot – Toorbul – Harry Briggs – 30.9.02  
1 Red Knot – Toorbul – E. Townsend – 4.10.02  
1 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02  
2 Red Knot – Deception Bay – Phil Cross – 12.10.02  
1 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.10.02  
2 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates & David Edwards – 20.10.02  
1 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Connolly – 26.10.02  
1 Red Knot – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates, David Milton & Sandra Harding – 2.11.02  
1 Red Knot – Kakadu Beach Roost, Bribie Island – Jill Dening – 4.11.02  
1 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Lytton Roost – Brian Ryan – 20.9.02  
1 Curlew Sandpiper – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02

#### **Blue leg flag sightings**

- 1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 8.9.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Toorbul – Gavin Goodyear – 25.9.02  
2 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & Dawn Beck – 6.10.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.10.02

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

- 1 Bar-tailed Godwit with green flag immediately above an orange flag – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates & David Edwards – 20.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit with green flag immediately above an orange flag – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Connolly – 26.10.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit with green flag immediately above an orange flag – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates – 2.11.02  
1 Bar-tailed Godwit with green flag immediately above an orange flag – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates et al – 9.11.02  
*The above bird was flagged in Yalu Jiang Nature Reserve, Liaoning Province, China during 24 to 28 April 2002.*  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler with white flag on left tibia and blue flag on left tarsus – Cape Tribulation, NQ – Judith Wadham – 25.9.02  
*This tattler was flagged in Taipei, Kaohsiung, Taiwan (exact flagging date is not known).*  
1 Red Knot with white flag – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates – 1.9.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler with blue and white flags – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 13.9.02  
1 Grey-tailed Tattler with blue and white flags – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Edwards – 28.9.02

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

- 1 Crested Tern with orange band – Caloundra Sandbanks – Jill Dening – 15.8.02  
1 Caspian Tern with orange flag – Toorbul – E. Townsend – 4.10.02  
1 Little Tern with dark blue, light blue, dark blue and green flags – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur Keates & David Connolly – 26.10.02

**Interesting sightings**

1 Latham's Snipe – 10km east of Ravenshoe, NEQ – Russ Lamb & Maria Dam – 13.8.02  
2 Latham's Snipe – Hastie's Swamp, Atherton, NQ – Russ Lamb & Maria Dam – 17.8.02  
3 Latham's Snipe – Banorah Sewage Plant, Tweed Heads – Ian Watson – 2.10.02  
2 Wandering Tattler – Noah Creek, Daintree NP, NQ – Russ Lamb & Maria Dam – 27.8.02  
4 Common Sandpiper – Hinchinbrook Passage, NQ – Russ Lamb & Maria Dam – 6.9.02  
300 Red-necked Avocet – Deception Bay Roost – Phil & Linda Cross – 8.9.02  
287 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper – Lytton Roost – Arthur Keates – 21.9.02  
2 Grey Plover – Buckley's Hole area, Bribie Island – John Noyce – 1.11.02

**Not waders but of interest anyway**

78 White-faced Heron – Mathieson Homestead, Hervey Bay – John Knight – 29.8.02  
2 Australasian Shoveler – Toorbul Roost – Jean Corney – 8.9.02  
11 Australasian Shoveler – Garnet's Lagoons, River Heads – John Knight – 28.9.02  
18 Great Crested Grebe – Ewan Maddock Dam – Jill Chamberlain – 8.9.02  
8 Wandering Whistling Duck – Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon – Rob MacFarlane – 8.9.02  
33 Wandering Whistling Duck – Kingscliff Sewerage Plant, Tweed Heads – Ian Watson – 11.9.02  
1 Australian Crake – Garnet's Lagoons, River Heads – John Knight – 15.9.02  
3 Black-tailed Native Hen – Garnet's Lagoons, River Heads – John Knight – 15.9.02  
1400 Grey Teal – Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon – Rob MacFarlane – 6.10.02  
17 Glossy Ibis – Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon – Rob MacFarlane – 6.10.02  
5 Radjah Shelduck – Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon – Rob MacFarlane – 6.10.02  
22 Whiskered Tern – Garnet's Lagoons, River Heads – John Knight – 6.10.02  
5 Whiskered Tern – Deception Bay – Phil Cross – 12.10.02  
37 Whiskered Tern – Manly Boat Harbour – Arthur & Sheryl Keates & David Edwards – 20.10.02  
Whiskered Tern (first record for site) – Trutes Wetlands, Tweed Heads – Ian Watson – 19.10.02

**Count Programme by Linda Cross**

With most of the spring count sheets now in, I have extracted some records of interest.

Rob MacFarlane recorded two Double-banded Plover fighting at Young Avenue, Kinka Beach, Yeppoon on 8.9.02. A late record for this species this season.

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.**

Lytton Roost – 287 on 21.9.02  
 Manly Boat Harbour – c100 on 28.9.02  
 Deception Bay Roost – 61 on 6.10.02  
 (Hardly ever recorded at this site)

**Terek Sandpiper**

Manly Boat Harbour – 75 on 26.10.02

**Whimbrel**

Mathieson Homestead – 162 on 8.9.02  
 (Unusually high number for site)  
 Toorbul – 160 on 8.9.02  
 Lytton – 175 on 21.9.02

**Eastern Curlew**

Mathieson Homestead – 620 on 29.8.02  
 Mathieson Homestead – 720 on 15.9.02  
 Toorbul – 427 on 22.9.02

**Red Knots**

Manly Boat Harbour – 145 on 1.9.02  
 Toorbul – 45 on 8.9.02  
 Lytton Roost – 30 on 8.9.02  
 (Increased to 134 on 21.9.02)  
 Maaroom – 60 on 4.10.02  
 Deception Bay Roost – 68 on 6.10.02  
 Mathieson Homestead – 40 on 8.10.02  
 Deception Bay Esplanade – 360 on 12.10.02

**Pacific Golden Plover**

Shellgrit Ck, Mackay – 190 on 7.10.02

As I type this article for the newsletter, the November count has just been completed and I do not have the count sheets yet. If there are Red Knots still on the move I will give you the details in the next issue.

The inland drought factor has again been noted, with some interesting records appearing on counts sheets. I have recorded these in the interesting sightings section of Wader Watch. There are a couple of records for Glossy Ibis and Australasian Shovelers.

Whiskered Terns have been seen at a number of sites, and you know the drought continues when Black-tailed Native Hens show up on the coast. Today (10<sup>th</sup> November) Phil and I observed a Black Falcon over Bellmere. Another sure sign that the drought is pretty bad. Remember to keep your eyes open for anything else unusual during this period.

**PLEASE NOTE THE DATE FOR THE NATIONAL SUMMER COUNT UNDER THE WADER COUNT DATES IN THE BACK SECTION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.**

The tide heights and times for some months in 2003 are really unsuitable for high tide counts, but unfortunately I have had no other choices.

Both Phil and I would like to thank you all for your continued effort during the past year and wish you and your families a merry Christmas and a happy, peaceful and healthy 2003.

The Unknown Wetland article appears separately.

Happy counting.

Linda Cross.

## ID Day Reports

### **TOORBUL WADER ID DAY REPORT 22 SEPTEMBER**

A total of 42 members and guests, assembled at the Toorbul roost. Weather conditions were fine, dry and sunny, with calm conditions early on, followed by strong north-easterly winds, which felt quite chilly in the shade.

We had only just commenced viewing the waders when a light aircraft came over and disturbed all the birds at the roost. Unfortunately we were not able to show anybody the Lesser and Greater Sand Plovers as they took off towards the new man made roost on Bribie Island, which appears to be attracting the smaller plover species of waders.

The large number of Black Swan being seen in the Pumicestone Passage during the last month or two is probably due to the inland drought.

The following leg flagged birds were observed: -

- 3 Red Knot with an orange flag (banded in Victoria) on the upper right leg.
- 1 Red Knot with a white flag (banded in New Zealand) on the upper right leg.
- 1 Great Knot with an orange flag (banded in Victoria) on the upper right leg.
- 1 Great Knot with a green flag (banded in Moreton Bay) on the upper right leg.
- 1 Grey-tailed Tattler with blue flag (banded in Lake Furen, Hokkaido, Japan) on the upper left leg.
- 1 Caspian Tern with orange flag (banded in Victoria) on the lower right leg.

Individual species counts were done for most birds.

Species seen at and around the main Toorbul roost: -

1 Australian Brush-turkey, 138 Black Swan, Pacific Black Duck, Chestnut Teal, 1 Darter, 3 Australian Pelican, 1 White-faced Heron, 1 Little Egret, 1 White-necked Heron, 1 Striated Heron, 6 Australian White Ibis, 1 Straw-necked Ibis, 1 Osprey, 1 Whistling Kite, 1 Brahminy Kite, 1 White-bellied Sea-Eagle, 1 Peregrine Falcon, Bar-tailed Godwit, c40 Whimbrel, 427 Eastern Curlew, 14 Common Greenshank, 1 Terek Sandpiper, c80 Grey-tailed Tattler, c50 Great Knot, c50 Red Knot, 35 Red-necked Stint, 1 Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, 20 Curlew Sandpiper, 2 Pied Oystercatcher, c100 Black-winged Stilt, Lesser Sand Plover, Great Sand Plover, 3 Masked Lapwing, 1 Silver Gull, 6 Gull-billed Tern, 1 Caspian Tern, Spotted Turtle-Dove, Crested Pigeon, 3 Galah, 1 Corella spp, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly-breasted Lorikeet, Pale-headed Rosella, Common Koel (H), 2 Laughing Kookaburra, 1 Sacred Kingfisher, 2 Rainbow Bee-eater, 2 Striated Pardalote, 5 Mangrove Gerygone, Noisy Miner, 4 Mangrove Honeyeater, Magpie Lark, 2 Willie Wagtail, 1 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike, 1 Olive-backed Oriole, 6 Figbird, 1 Grey Butcherbird, 4 Australian Magpie, 4, Torresian Crow, 1 Mistletoebird, Welcome Swallow and Tree Martin.

*No waders were present at Bishops Marsh.*

Linda Cross.

**TOORBUL WADER ID DAY REPORT 27 OCTOBER**

What a difference a day makes. The day before this outing we were sweltering in high thirties temperature with a storm late in the evening bringing a cooler change. That change gave 23 hardy members some miserable weather to contend with. Overcast skies, cool south-easterly winds, showers and a maximum temperature of twenty-two degrees for the day.

The birds were very flighty and lifted a number of times at the main Toorbul roost. We ended up following them to Sandfly Bay roost where the lone Grey Plover was observed still sporting some black blotches on its belly. There was quite a number of Sharp-tailed Sandpipers feeding in the salt marsh.

The birds lifted again at the Sandfly Bay roost, so we headed to Toorbul 1km north roost. As we arrived so did the thunder, lightening and rain, which saw the group retreat to the cars and head home

The following leg flagged birds were observed: -

- 1 Great Knot with orange flag (banded in Victoria) on the upper right leg.
- 2 Great Knot with green flag (banded in Moreton Bay) on the upper right leg.
- 4 Bar-tailed Godwit with green flag (banded in Moreton Bay) on upper right leg.

Eighteen species of wader were recorded for the outing, but no individual counts were conducted.

Species seen as follows: -

Black Swan, Australian Wood Duck, Grey Teal, Chestnut Teal, Australian Pelican, Australian White Ibis, Straw-necked Ibis, Royal Spoonbill, Osprey, Brahminy Kite, Bar-tailed Godwit, Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew, Common Greenshank, Terek Sandpiper, Grey-tailed Tattler, Ruddy Turnstone, Great Knot, Red Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Curlew Sandpiper, Pied Oystercatcher, Black-winged Stilt, Grey Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Great Sand Plover, Masked Lapwing, Silver Gull, Gull-billed Tern, Caspian Tern and Crested Tern.

Bishop's Marsh was dry – no birds present.

Linda Cross.

**WADER ID DAYS for 2002****Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2003 at Toorbul**

High tide at 1.85m at 1338 hours (40 mins later for Toorbul). Meeting time will be 1200 (mid-day). Bring lunch.

Take the Bruce Highway north from Brisbane to the Donnybrook/Toorbul turn-off near the Big Fish. 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. Phil & Linda Cross 07 xxxx xxxx or David Edwards 07 xxxx xxxx

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2003 at Lytton**

High 2.05m at 1325 hours Lytton. Meeting time will be 1200 (mid-day). Bring lunch. Meet in the car park for a prompt start

To get to Lytton, drive east along Lytton Rd following the signs to the Port of Brisbane, follow Pritchard St from the turn off to Fort Lytton National Park, turn left into Wynnum North Rd, continue to the end of the road and park in the car park. UBD 143 F11.

Contact David Edwards 07 xxxx xxxx

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2003 at Toorbul**

As yet this date is not locked in but add it to your diary just in case. If it goes ahead the details are:

High 1.84m at 1304 hours (40 mins later for Toorbul). Meeting time will be at 1200 (mid-day). Bring lunch.

Check this date in the next Queensland Wader or ring Phil & Linda Cross 07 xxxx xxxx or David Edwards 07 xxxx xxxx

**AWA Position Paper**

We have an electronic copy of the AWA Position paper. This paper is large and we do not have the room in the Newsletter, however, if you would like a copy could you E-mail xxxx xxxx @ xxxx xxxx.au with the subject as AWA position paper. You must have this, if not the message will not be opened!!

## Other Conservation Activities of Interest



QWSG is a special interest group of the Queensland Ornithological Society 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:** Peter Crow, President (07) xxxx xxxx; Rod Cox, Secretary (07) xxxx xxxx; Treasurer, Rhelmae Hebbard (07) xxxx xxxx

### Monthly Meetings

**Birds Queensland** - 7.45pm Queensland Museum Brisbane

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday each month except January.

Entry via Dinosaur Garden in Grey Street. Doors open between 7.30 and 8.00pm.

## QWSG MERDCHANDISE

Should you wish to purchase any of the QWSG Merchandise, items may be purchased at QOSI meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at the Queensland Museum **OR**...

Contact Linda Cross on 07 xxxx xxxx or E-mail at xxxx xxxx @ xxxx xxxx.au

Postage is not included in the prices quoted.

**Polo Neck Shirts**      \$30:00 Bottle Green, Maroon, Jade, Navy, Royal Blue, Cream.

**Books**      \$19:80 Shorebird Conservation in the Asia-Pacific Region.  
                  \$24:00 Simpson & Day Field Guide (2000 print)  
                  \$14:00 Birds of Bribie Island, Pumicestone Passage and Environs  
                  \$15:00 Wildflowers of Bribie Island  
                  \$15:00 Kingfishers and Kookaburras by David Hollands  
 \$ 3:30 A Guide to Waders of Moreton Bay  
                  \$14:00 A Birdwatcher's Guide to Redcliffe, Pine Rivers and  
                  Caboolture Shire. Wildlife Preservation Society of Caboolture.

**CD**      \$22:00 Bird calls of the Broome region (includes 42 Wader Species).

**Cloth Badges**      \$8.00 We now have the new white cloth badges, made to same design that appears on our Polo Shirts. They can be sewn onto your cap, hat, jacket, jumper & bag. If you are interested please contact Linda.

Our QWSG logo Polo Shirt stock is very low and we are looking at purchasing more stock in the New Year. A number of members missed out on the size and colour of their choice when we obtained the last stock and asked that we advise them when new stock was to be ordered so they could choose the one they wanted. Here is your chance to get the colour you want in your size by placing an order in advance.

At this point in time we envisage continuing with the colours we had previously: - Bottle Green, Jade, Navy, Royal Blue, Maroon, Grey Marle and Cream. However, if you have a favourite colour that we did not have there is a possibility that we can get it for you. Sizes varied from small through to XXXL in the last stock, but larger sizes were available.

If you are interested in placing an order, or wish to discuss the matter further please contact me by phone or email.

## Yellow flagged Curlew Sandpiper update

There seems to have been some unfortunate confusion about a yellow flagged Curlew Sandpiper. When I heard about a resighting in Langebaan, I checked the European colour ring web pages and did not find anything. A suggestion was made that it could have been an Australian bird. Only later I heard that birds were being colour flagged in Senegal. So the South African bird must have been one ringed in Senegal. For more details see my email correspondence on our web page at:

<http://www.uct.ac.za/depts/stats/adu/safring/yellow.htm>

Regards Dieter Oschadleus      NOTE NEW E-MAIL: xxxx xxxx @adu.uct.ac.za



## Activities 2002

PLEASE NOTE - TIDE HEIGHTS FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS COUNTS ARE HIGH. IT IS **VERY IMPORTANT** THAT YOU GET INTO YOUR SITES **WELL** BEFORE THE PEAK TO ENSURE YOU GET A FULL COUNT OF THE WADERS BEFORE THEY ARE PUSHED OFF THE ROOST (PARTICULARLY SO FOR THE NATIONAL SUMMER COUNT). IF YOU ARE UNSURE ABOUT THE TIME YOU SHOULD BE AT YOUR SITE PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR ADVICE.

WE HAVE VERY LITTLE INFORMATION ON SITES THAT BIRDS ARE USING DURING VERY HIGH OR KING TIDES. SO IF THE BIRDS WERE PUSHED OFF THE ROOST BEFORE, OR AT THE PEAK, IT WOULD BE A GOOD EXERCISE TO TRY TO TRACK WHERE THEY GO. IDENTIFYING KING TIDE ROOSTS WOULD ADD VALUABLE INFORMATION TO OUR DATA ON WADERS.

PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT WE HAVE TWO COUNTS FOR MARCH IT HAS BEEN QUITE SOME TIME SINCE WE DID THIS EXERCISE, WHICH WILL GIVE US MORE INFORMATION ON SITE PREFERENCE, AND WADER NUMBERS DURING THE NORTHWARD MIGRATION.

Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> January	High Tide of 2.46m at 11.20am
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> February	High Tide of 2.49m at 09.43am <b>NATIONAL SUMMER COUNT</b>
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	High Tide of 2.39m at 09.21am
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> March	High Tide of 2.23m at 07.32am
Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> April	High Tide of 1.91m at 11.18am
Sat 17 <sup>th</sup> May	High Tide of 1.98m at 10.06am
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> June	High Tide of 1.87m at 08.59am <b>NATIONAL WINTER COUNT</b>
<b><u>NO COUNT IN JULY</u></b>	
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> August	High Tide of 2.01m at 11.16am
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> September	High Tide of 2.16m at 10.14am
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> October	High Tide of 2.25m at 09.08am
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	High Tide of 2.25m at 08.00am
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> December	High Tide of 2.25m at 12.13am

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new member who have joined since March 2002 was printed :

Michael Willis, Judy Caughley, Ulrike Zimmermann,  
Harry van Heusden, Gavin O'Meara and Judith Hoyle

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.



## QWSG CONTACTS

### QUEENSLAND WADER

The Official Quarterly Publication of  
Queensland Wader Study Group

#### MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE QWSG

<u>CHAIRPERSON:</u>	Andrew Geering	(07) xxxx xxxx
<u>TREASURER:</u>		(07) xxxx xxxx
<u>MINUTE SECRETARY:</u>	Margaret Bernard	(07) xxxx xxxx
<u>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</u>	David Edwards	(07) xxxx xxxx
<u>COUNT COORDINATOR:</u>	Linda Cross	(07) xxxx xxxx

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Lindsay Agnew	(07) xxxx xxxx	Michele Burford	(07) xxxx xxxx
Peter Driscoll	(07) xxxx xxxx	Jill Dening	(07) xxxx xxxx
Paul Finn	(07) xxxx xxxx	Joyce Harding	(07) xxxx xxxx
Sandra Harding	(07) xxxx xxxx	Arthur Keates	(07) xxxx xxxx
David Milton	(07) xxxx xxxx	Ivell Whyte	(07) xxxx xxxx

#### CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence to:  
The QWSG Chairperson,  
28 Peppertee Street,  
  
Sinnamon Park,  
Q 4073

#### 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: \$12:00  
Student/Pensioner: \$ 9:00  
Family \$22:00

Receipt will be forwarded with next edition of Queensland Wader.

Forward application to:  
QWSG Treasurer,  
X xxxx xxxx Street,  
xxxx xxxx ,  
Q 4xxx

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. Only one further newsletter will be sent after expiry of your subscription.

**Copy Deadline** for the next issue of Queensland Wader is February 18<sup>th</sup> 2002

Contributions should be addressed to:

David Edwards, The QWSG Editor, x xxxx xxxx Street, xxxx xxxx, Qld 4xxx  
or E-mail to: xxxx xxxx @ xxxx xxxx.au

Computerised contributions should be in IBM Word, ASCII or Rich Text.

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.

**AGM of the QWSG**

**When** Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2002.  
**Time** 12 noon for a prompt start  
**Where** The Bar-B-Que area at the Brisbane Port Visitor Centre, Fisherman's Island  
As you enter the Port Authority take the right turn that takes you over the main road. You will see the visitor centre on your left hand side (you will be looking at the birds in the lake area in front of the centre at this stage). There is a left side road that leads to the Bar-B-Que area.  
Please ring Editor on 07 xxxx xxxx if you need any further directions

We are saying goodbye to some valued members of the committee this year and we would be most grateful if you would consider joining the committee to help in the running of this active group.  
All welcome.

**NOMINATION FOR POSITION ON QWSG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Name of Nominee: .....  
Position: .....  
Name of Proposer: .....  
Name of Seconder: .....

(Note: Nominees, proposers and seconders must have current QWSG membership).  
I accept the nomination for the position on the management committee of the Queensland Wader Study Group as indicated.

Signature of Nominee: ..... Date: .....

(Please post to: Mr Andrew Geering, Chair QWSG, x xxxx xxxx Street, xxxx xxxx, Q 4xxx

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



**MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION**

I/We wish to join/renew: (Single \$12; Family \$22; Student/Pensioner \$9)

Title.....Name:.....

Address:.....

..... Postcode:.....

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

Fax / e-mail: .....

Membership: \$.....

Donation: \$.....

Payment enclosed: \$.....

TOTAL \$.....

How did you hear about QWSG .....  
What activities do you wish to participate in? WADER COUNTS, FIELD TRIPS, SCIENTIFIC DATA COLLECTION, SURVEYS, CLERICAL, OTHER (specify.....)

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

**Post to: QWSG Treasurer, x xxxx xxxx Street, xxxx xxxx, Q 4xxx**

Cheques to be made out to: Queensland Wader Study Group